

# THE WAVE



VOLUME 9, ISSUE 11

NOVEMBER 2011

## Sunday Serve Day

The Church has left the building. That's what they'll be saying of us **this Sunday morning, November 6**. We're all to arrive at **9:30am**, celebrate Holy Communion and then head out the door. What a fitting conclusion to our church wide study *The Hole in Our Gospel!* Return to church to swap stories and enjoy a noon-time meal together!

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## Attention: All Men 12 to 110



All men are welcome **gather for breakfast at 8:15am Sunday November 13** in the foyer, followed by a panel discussion with photos on the recent mission trips to Haiti and Mountain T.O.P. This is a great opportunity to fellowship with other men of the church.

Please RSVP to **Cooper Agent**, 273-2657 or [cooper.agent@pv-umc.org](mailto:cooper.agent@pv-umc.org). A donation of \$3 for breakfast is requested.

### OUR MISSION:

*Making fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.*



**PONTE VEDRA**  
United Methodist Church

## Hanging of the Greens



Joy, joy, joy, joy, joy. On **Sunday, November 27** we'll gather at **7:00pm** to decorate our sanctuary and sing the songs of the season during our festive "Hanging of the Greens" service. Got kids? Come early (5:00) to enjoy Christmas crafts with them.

## Christmas Musical To Be Offered December 4

Our Traditional Choir will be joined by the children of C.I.A. to bless God and those seeking the Christ of Christmas with **I Have Seen the Light: The Search for Christmas**. You'll experience the warmth and grandeur of songs familiar and new as we realize that in Christ, God has been seeking us. **December 4, 9:30 and 11:00.**



## Upcoming Messages

November 6 **The Church Has Left the Building** (Serve Day, beginning at 9:30am)

November 13 **Robbing God?** (Malachi 3:6-12)

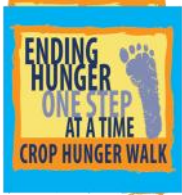
November 20 **Like Trees Planted by Water** (Psalm 1)

November 27 **Restore Us, O God** (Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19)

December 4 **I Have Seen the Light: The Search for Christmas** – A Christmas Musical

## Missions Corner

### *CROP Hunger Walk: 28 Walkers!*



We had an amazing turnout for the **CROP Hunger Walk** in October with **28 people** from Ponte Vedra UMC walking for hungry people. Wow! Funds received from our church's people exceed **\$1,600**. Good going, church! Thank you, **Sharon Kehoe**, for organizing us.

### *Operation Christmas Child*



**Operation Christmas Child** brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes and the Good News of God's love. This program of Samaritan's Purse provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on mission project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas – Jesus Christ. Our church will once again be sponsoring this mission by filling shoeboxes for the children. **Our collection of boxes will be received Sunday, November 20.** For more information visit [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org).

### *Missions Giving*

Over **\$33,000** given to missions so far this year from our tithes and general budget offerings. Wow! And another **\$48,000** in designated giving has been received. Awesome!



### *Discover Church at Ponte Vedra UMC*

Are you a new worshipper here at PVUMC? Maybe you are wondering what we are all about. On **December 4** you will have an opportunity to find out. We are having a brief, informal get together entitled "**Discover Church at PVUMC**" after each service. We will show a short visual presentation highlighting the wide range of spiritual growth, ministry, mission and fellowship opportunities available at PVUMC. Light refreshments will be served and members of our staff and lay leadership will be on hand to meet you and answer any questions you may have.

This gathering will be held in the **pre-school room** (last room on the right as you exit the sanctuary) **immediately following the contemporary service** and in the **sanctuary following the traditional service**. December 4 will also be our **Christmas Musical**. We hope that you will be able to join us for both! Please RSVP to the church office at 280-5141 or [susan.bowler@pv-umc.org](mailto:susan.bowler@pv-umc.org). Children are welcome. If you have an infant or pre-schooler that you prefer to stay in the nursery, let us know when you RSVP.

## *PVUMC Volunteer Opportunities*

We need help with the **Sunday snacks** served in the foyer each week. You can get together with friends or make it a family project, cook up your favorite snack recipe or bring it straight from the grocery. Just check the calendar over the table in front of the nursery for open dates. Sign up on the calendar or contact **Georgia** at [georgia.deroziere@pv-umc.org](mailto:georgia.deroziere@pv-umc.org).

If you are the plan ahead type, the **2012 flower calendar** will be arriving soon!

**Ushers are needed** for the **9:30 Alive!** service. **Max Stanley**, who coordinates the ushers, says it's the best volunteer job in the church - you can be the face of PVUMC. It's easy - just smile, be friendly and hand out bulletins. If you're interested, contact Max at [max.stanley@pv-umc.org](mailto:max.stanley@pv-umc.org).

## *Attention Contemporary Worshipers and Early Risers!*

Would you like to study God's word and connect with other members of congregation? Maybe you would but don't have time to be part of a week day small group. We have the solution for you! A **new Sunday School class is starting November 13<sup>th</sup> at 8:30** upstairs in Room 207 led by **Dave Schussler**. What better way to start the Lord's Day than by studying His Word followed by our awesome contemporary worship service? The scripture or topic of study will be announced soon. For more information contact Dave at 525-0837 or [dps42@comcast.net](mailto:dps42@comcast.net).

## *Small Groups Continue to Meet*

If you have joined a new small group, don't despair that the church wide study is concluding. You are welcome to continue to attend your group and grow in your walk with Jesus. Serve Sunday will be Nov. 6<sup>th</sup>, which will be the culmination of the Hole in Our Gospel study. The following week your group will decide what they will study. In some cases they have been doing a study, put it on hold to do the church wide study, and will return to their original study. You are welcome to join them, switch groups and try a new one, or even start one of your own! It is our goal to have everyone involved in a small group study, to grow in Christ with each other. Thank you for participating. We pray you've been blessed through your small group.

## *From The Trustees*

Thank you **Karen Trotter** for adopting our memorial garden. The TLC you've already given it has made a huge difference in our garden's appearance. God bless you!

## *A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism*

Riches are equally a hindrance to the loving our neighbor as ourselves, that is, to the loving all mankind as Christ loved us.

*Works III, 522.*

# Financial Status

## General Fund Recap September 2011

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 40,986
Less Expenses	\$ 52,544
September Income/(Deficit)	\$(11,558)
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ (69,120)

## October 2011 Giving & Attendance

Date	Contemp. Attendance	Traditional Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
10/2	117	123	\$7,828	\$26	\$260
10/9	133	94	\$16,992	\$87	\$285
10/16	115	134	\$10,326	\$175	\$585
10/23	107	127	\$8,669	\$432	\$1,590
10/30	120	121	\$7,329	\$1,039	\$643

## Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$3,088
Enhancement Fund	\$350
Memorials	\$4,410
Building Fund	\$201,112
General Fund Needed Weekly 2011	\$ 13,287

Owed on Parsonage: \$146,888

Owed on Church Facility: \$2,309,028

## Annual Charge Conference, November 10

A brief charge conference will be held at **8:00pm** on **Thursday, November 10** in the sanctuary. Items of business are:

- Pastoral Compensation for 2012
- Report of the Committee on Nominations for Election of Officers for 2012
- Approval of Lay Servant Minister
- Closing Prayer and Adjournment

Our district superintendent has designated The Reverend David Spaulding as presiding elder of the charge conference. All are welcome to attend; members of the Church Council are entitled to vote.

## Receive Our Weekly Email

Interested in getting the latest on PVUMC happenings? Sign up at [pv-umc.org](http://pv-umc.org) or via the Welcome Card for **the weekly email**. (You may easily unsubscribe anytime.)

## Money Matters

### Affluenza: An Epidemic?

affluenza, n. - A painful, contagious, socially transmitted condition of overload, debt, anxiety, and waste resulting from the dogged pursuit of more.

affluenza, n. 1. The bloated, sluggish and unfulfilled feeling that results from efforts to keep up with the Joneses. 2. An unsustainable addiction to economic growth. [Wikipedia]

### Dynamite

“We must never for a single moment lose sight of the stark realization that whenever we deal with money, we are dealing with dynamite. What is one day that which we control, the next day becomes the controller. Such dynamite must be defused, and the greatest diffuser that we as Christians have at our disposal is the opportunity to take that which seeks to dominate us and simply give it away. Think about it. There is no greater expression of money’s total lack of dominance over us or of its low priority in our lives than when we can with joy and peace, give it away for the Lord’s work. You cannot worship the God of mammon and be a free and cheerful giver. Likewise, you cannot serve the living God and be a hoarder of his resources. Giving, both how we give and how much we give, is the clearest outward expression of who our God really is. Our check stubs speak more honestly of our priorities than our church memberships.” - R. Scott Rodin, Quoted in *The Hole in Our Gospel*

### United Methodist Women News

Our next meeting will be **Saturday, November 12** at 10:00am in Room 207. **Mary Lil McClure** will be presenting her program entitled, “What’s Your Story?” We will also be voting on the missions we will be financially supporting and will accept nominations for next year’s officers. As always, our time together will end with food and fellowship. All women are invited and encouraged to attend.

Our **Christmas Bake Sale** is **Saturday, December 3**. We will sell cookies by the pound as well as a variety of other Christmas treats. Of course, we gratefully accept cookie donations. We hope to use this event as an outreach to the community, similar to our Annual Garage Sale, so we will have flyers available for you to share with your friends and neighbors. More information will be provided in the Sunday church bulletin as the date draws nearer.

### Fill the Hole in Your Gospel

Included in your newsletter is a list of organizations through which you might fill the hole in your gospel. Remember: **No one can do everything but everyone can do something.** Thank you, **Ada Elliott**, for compiling this resource. Before giving you may wish to verify that the organization is a good steward of its resources through Charity Navigator ([www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org)) or similar website.



## Children's Corner

### On A Musical Note

**C.I.A. Children In Action**

Kindergarten - 5th grade  
 Wednesdays 6:00  
 Rooms 201-203

**YCAM**

Grades 6-12  
 Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm

**Praise Choir**

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

**Traditional Choir**

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

### Kingdom Kids Briefs

Make a commitment to fun and spiritual growth. Volunteer to help teach a Sunday morning Kingdom Kids class! Even joining us once a month is a great help! Contact **Anne Torgerson** about how you can share this wonderful hour with the children of PVUMC!

### C.I.A. Briefs

CIA will continue to meet every Wednesday in November **EXCEPT Wednesday, November 23**. We will be practicing for the upcoming Christmas musical, making Thanksgiving gift baskets, soup mixes and candy bags for people in need in our community, and preparing for Advent. Bring your sack supper and join the fun on Wednesdays from 6 – 7:30.

## Calling All Elves



Don't miss the **Advent Craft Festival** on **November 27 from 5 – 7pm**. We will be busy making crafts and gifts for the Christmas season. Supper will be available – an elf needs energy, right? Help us plan for supplies and sign up early. You may fill out the form below and return it to the church or contact Anne Torgerson at [anne.torgerson@pv-umc.org](mailto:anne.torgerson@pv-umc.org). Stay for *Hanging of the Greens* at 7!

### ADVENT CRAFT FESTIVAL NOVEMBER 27, 5 - 7pm

Name \_\_\_\_\_

e-mail \_\_\_\_\_

I will be bringing \_\_\_\_\_ children to make crafts. Ages \_\_\_\_\_

- \_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to help set-up.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to help prep crafts at home or at church prior to the event.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to help children with crafts on the day of the event.
- \_\_\_\_\_ I am willing to help clean up after the event.



- 👍 For everyone who participated in our Game-A-Thon event...we raised over \$500 for Child's Play Charities. Look for another event in January!
- 👍 For our high school volunteers, who gave up time during their weekend to support our middle school retreat
- 👍 To our students who very responsibly discerned dates for our 2012 mission trips.

## Upcoming Events

**Bake-in** November 10-11 (Thursday-Friday). Our annual November lock-in will be "baking" themed. Team up or go solo, every group will be assigned some time in the kitchen to make either cupcakes or cookies. After all of the groups are finished we will have a blind tasting competition to choose a winner! Participants must bring their own ingredients, but we will provide a mixer, measuring utensils, cookie sheets, and cupcake pans (but not wrappers). You do NOT need to be a baker to attend, but maybe you should give it a whirl!

**Hanging of the Greens!** Sunday November 27. On this Sunday we have a lot going on! There is a children's crafting event at 5:00pm and our Hanging of the Greens service in the sanctuary at 7:00pm.

**Will wish you a merry Christmas...party!** Saturday, December 11. Our annual Christmas celebration! 1:00pm-5:00pm at Kelly's house. We are working on carpools for the party, so remind your teen that registration is important! Bring a gift to exchange. Your gift must cost **LESS THAN \$5** (free is funniest) and wrapped so we can do a white elephant exchange.

**Mission Blitz** December 16-19. A 3-day mission experience, right in our back yard. This is a church-wide event, we will be doing mission work all day on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday, and joining together for food and worship every evening. Look for sign ups beginning at the end of November.

**\*\*Don't forget, every Sunday (except on the first Sunday of the month) at 11:00am we have Sunday school upstairs in the youth room! Come in and check it out!\*\***



## A Note From Pastor Jeff.

Over the years I've gotten more complaints about one story in the Bible than any other. It appears in Matthew, Mark and Luke and goes like this. A man falls on his knees before Jesus: "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus replies, "You know the commandments" and highlights several. The man tells him he's kept them all since childhood. **"One thing you lack,"** says Jesus. **"Go, sell everything you have and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."** (Mark 10:21) The man went away sad, because he had great wealth.

Does this mean Jesus is commanding each of us to give it all? My sense is that Jesus knows what comes between him and each of us and challenges us to choose him over that thing. The fact of the matter is that for people with wealth (and from what we've learned in *The Hole in Our Gospel* that includes us American Christians) our wealth is what gets in the way. Says Jesus, "How hard it will be for those who have wealth to enter the kingdom of God." Think this is not true of you? How do you react to Jesus saying, **"One thing you lack. Give away 10% of your income, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come, follow me."** You understand then when Jesus says it's easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle than for a rich man to enter the kingdom of God.

The disciples are incredulous too: Who can be saved, they ask. Jesus looks at them and says, "With man this is impossible, but not with God; all things are possible with God." My life and ministry are lived out of the belief that the gospel (the good news of Jesus Christ) is the power of God to change a life, even the lives of the rich. Do you think it impossible for you to give what Jesus challenges you to give? Think again. "All things are possible with God."

– Pastor Jeff



### PONTE VEDRA *United Methodist Church*

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#### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Jeff Bennett
Youth Minister	Kelly Minter
Children's Minister	Anne Torgerson
Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
Accountant	Jim Larsen
Music Contemporary	Scott Tinsley
Music Traditional	Elisabeth Callahan
Custodian	Jim Wooton

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