

THE WAVE



VOLUME 10, ISSUE 4

APRIL 2012

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Block Party & Easter Egg Hunt Saturday March 31, 4 - 6pm

We're having a **block party with Easter Egg Hunt Saturday March 31st at 4:00pm**. And anyone you choose to invite! We want as many of us present as possible to enjoy our neighbors so please come.

Holy Week Schedule

April 1: **Palm Sunday** 9:30 *Alive!*, 11:00 Traditions

April 5: **Holy Thursday** 6:30pm

April 8: **Easter** 8:00 Traditions, 9:30 *Alive!*, 11:00 Traditions

"The Power of a Whisper" Begins April 15

What might life look like when God's followers choose to hear from heaven as they navigate life on earth? Whispers that arbitrate key decisions, nudges that rescue from dark nights of the soul, promptings that spur on growth, urgings that come by way of another person, inspiration that opens once-glazed-over eyes to the terrible plight people face in this world... Our church-wide study **The Power of a Whisper....Hearing God....Having The Guts to Respond** begins April 15.

OUR MISSION:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist
Church

Variety Show with Silent Auction

See those who sit with you Sunday mornings in a whole new light at the church wide **Variety Show** on **Sunday, April 29** at **6:30pm**. Proceeds to help underwrite the cost of the youth summer mission trips. \$8 per ticket, or your entire family for \$20.

Also in this issue...

Men's Breakfast Sunday, April 15. See page 3.

"The Marriage You've Always Wanted" begins Wednesday, **April 11.** See page 5.

Upcoming Messages

April 1 **He Came Riding on a Donkey?** (Luke 19:28-40)

April 8 **Empty** (Mark 16:1-8)

New Message Series **The Power of a Whisper**

April 15 **How to Know You're Hearing from God**

April 22 **Light for Dark Nights of the Soul**

April 29 **God's Written Whispers**

May 6 **Whispers That Change the World**

Missions Corner

Did You Know?

A member of our congregation had long considered sponsoring a child in another country, but was not inspired to do so until after participating in the church wide study The Hole in Our Gospel. She felt God speaking to her and was moved to sponsor a child in Sri Lanka named Nivetha, through World Vision. When her granddaughter learned of this new ‘friend’ she wanted to help too, and now gives \$5.00 from her allowance *each month* to help support Nivetha and her family in their poor village. She has written her letters, sent a photo of herself, and is learning how to be the hands and feet of Christ in our world at a young age. All because her grandmother listened to God’s whisper!! What will He whisper to you? Join us in our study The Power of a Whisper.

“Teaching Moment”

by Pastor Jimmy Jones, Teaching Pastor



The nudge of the Holy Spirit (and a suggestion from Susan Bowler on our staff) inspired me to start a new monthly column called “Teaching Moment.” As a pastor, I often get questions about the Bible. Some are easy and some are not! I will answer your questions in this column so feel free to call the office, ask in person, or email me with your Bible questions.

Question: Did all the Jews in the Bible believe the same thing and practice their faith alike?

Answer: There were two types of Jewish followers mentioned in the New Testament. The largest group was called the Pharisees. They tended to have a literal interpretation of Jewish law. They were avid students of the Old Testament and memorized its over six hundred laws. In the New Testament they constantly challenged Jesus’ interpretation of Jewish law. The second kind of Jewish followers were called the Sadducees. They were generally wealthy and did not believe in the resurrection of the dead. Some scholars also point to a third sect of Jewish followers called the Essenes. The writings of the Essenes are found in the Dead Sea scrolls. They were a very strict community and lived in isolation in the caves on the outskirts of town. Because they were such a strict and isolated faith community, many scholars believe that their beliefs died with them.

Ponte Vedra UMC Blood Drive, May 6



It's that time again. Please join us on **Sunday, May 6** from 9:00am to 12:30pm. Contact **Eleanor Snite** at eleanor.snite@pv-umc.org to make an appointment. Starting **April 8**, Eleanor will be available after both services in the foyer to sign up donors. Do you have a special time that you want to donate? Beat the crowds, sign up on-line at www.thebloodalliance.com. Anyone who is in good health, at least 17 years old and weighs at least 110 pounds may donate blood every 56 days. We are currently in the 56 day window for our next drive, so **please don't give blood between now and May 6th**. There is no upper age limit to donate, as long as your doctor says it is okay. Please help. Remember, one donation can save up to three lives. A photo ID is required to donate.

Attention: All Men 12 to 110



All men are welcome to **gather for breakfast at 8:15am Sunday, April 15** in followed by a presentation by Renee Morris, Director, St. Francis House in St. Augustine. This is the only homeless shelter in the area that houses entire families in need. Come hear what progress they have made and what plans they have for the future.

Please RSVP to **Cooper Agent**, 273-2657 or cooper.agent@comcast.net. A donation of \$5 for breakfast is requested.



Why do you look for the living
among the dead? He is not
here, but has risen! Luke 24:5



A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism

Wrote John Wesley,

But I try every Church and every doctrine by the Bible. This is the word by which we are to be judged in that day.

Letters, III, 172.

Financial Status

General Fund Recap February 2012

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 54,410
Less Expenses	\$ 61,357
January Income/(Deficit)	\$ (6,947)
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ (3,633)

March 2012 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
3/4	139	145	\$17,904	\$184	\$500
3/7	62		\$113	\$0	\$0
3/11	123	138	\$13,909	\$139	\$0
3/14	42		\$124	\$0	\$0
3/18	127	165	\$10,331	\$70	\$0
3/21	45		\$36	\$0	\$0
3/25	160	176	\$10,612	\$295	\$0

Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$2,636
Enhancement Fund	\$1,166
Memorials	\$3,376
Building Fund	\$270,669
General Fund Needed Weekly 2012	\$ 12,824

Owed on Parsonage: \$137,436

Owed on Church Facility: \$2,273,461

United Methodist Women News

Thank you to everyone who helped with our garage sale! The UMW extends sincere appreciation for your donated items and baked goods and to the men who helped us set up and clean up. Our sale was a success. It provided us with an opportunity to visit with one another, to meet and talk with our customers and invite the children who visited to the upcoming Easter Egg Hunt. Also, the rain did not start until we were delivering the last of the left over items to the Goodwill. The money will be counted this week and since the percentage of the left over items was small, we are confident that the sale was also a financial success.

Our next meeting will be May 19 at 10:00am upstairs in room 209 and our speaker will be **Cheryl Bradford** from **Faithful Servant Ministries**. She will be telling us about their mission in Panama and Costa Rica. All women of PVUMC and their guests are invited to join us.

Volunteer Opportunities

We need help with the **Sunday snacks** that are served in the church foyer each week. There are several opportunities to provide snacks in the month of April and beyond. You can get together with friends or make it a family or class 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 using first and last names. **It would be sad to have no snacks for our guests on Easter Sunday, April 8.**

Shepherds are needed to greet visitors and those seeking information about our church before the 9:30 *Alive!* service. The visitor's information desk has all the information you need - you just provide the smiling face. Please contact Dixie Thalmueller at dixie.thalmueller@pv-umc.org or Sue Morris at sue.morris@pv-umc.org.

Sunday, **May 6** a **Ministries Fair** will be set up in the sanctuary before and after each service. Learn about the many missions that Ponte Vedra UMC supports and is actively involved in. Those interested in volunteering can sign up at the tables for more information.

Our quarterly **blood drive** is also on May 6. **The Bloodmobile will be in the parking lot from 9:00am to 12:30pm.** Previous volunteers can sign up on The Blood Alliance website. Watch your Sunday bulletins for more information.

Three New Small Group Opportunities

The Power of a Whisper study for **single adults** will be lead by **Eleanor Snite** on Sunday Mornings at 9:45am. This small group is open to all ages. Come and participate in the church wide study. Meeting in Room 209 starting April 15.

Pastor Jimmy will be leading a four week class based on Pastor Bill Hybel's book "The Power of a Whisper" on **Tuesdays beginning April 17th**. The class will be held at **10:00am** upstairs in room 207. The class explores the subject of when you know you are hearing from God and what to do about it. **Preregistration is absolutely required for this class. Call the church office or email Pastor Jimmy at jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org to sign up today!**

Pastor Jimmy will be leading a six week marriage class titled, "**The Marriage You've Always Wanted**" beginning **Wednesday, April 11 at 6:15pm** upstairs in room 205. Drop your kids off in the nursery or at C.I.A. (Children in Action) and come join us for this excellent marriage enrichment class based on a book by Gary Chapman. Cost of the class is \$12 to cover the workbook. **To reserve your workbook and preregister (mandatory) for the class, call the church office or email Pastor Jimmy at jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org.**



On A Musical Note

C.I.A. (Children In Action)

Kindergarten - 5th grade

Wednesdays 6:00

Rooms 201-203

Praise Choir

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

Traditional Choir

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

Children's Corner

C.I.A. (Children In Action) Briefs

C.I.A. resumes on Wednesday, April 11th at 6:00 pm! I am so excited to see everyone again. Bring a snack supper as we spring into action by celebrating a special birthday, Earth Day and God's Love for the world! See you all on Wednesday.

Kingdom Kids Briefs

Kingdom Kids is in need for teachers and co-teachers for the 9:30am worship service. Curriculum and supplies are all provided. Great way to give back to the church and be apart of the spiritual growth of our youngest members! You will be amazed at how your own faith and understanding of the Bi-ble will grow. You WILL be blessed just as you will BE a blessing for the children of PVUMC! Contact **Jenn Smith**, jennmikesmith@comcast.net.

Save the date!

The PVUMC Children's Ministry invites all children to **SKY: Everything is Possible with God Vacation Bible School**. Children ages 4 through rising 6th grade will explore and discover that by trusting God, everything is possible! The fun begins **Monday, June 18** and ends Friday, June 22, from **9:00am to noon**.



Calling Singers!



Calling singers!! The **11:00 Traditions Choir** is looking for some new additions. No need to worry about experience.....we need singers with passion! Spring is the perfect time to give it a shot. Email Elisabeth Callahan if you have any questions. Spring rehearsals are on Thursday nights at 7 pm starting on April 12!



Round Of Applause



- 👍 For our counselors and their help in set up and clean up of Messy Olympics 2012
- 👍 For our gender retreat attendees and their time together
- 👍 For YCAM band and Connections Praise Band for the job they did at Connections worship this Lenten Season!

Upcoming Events

Game-A-Thon April 2-3. We will meet at the church at 4:00pm on Tuesday and game for 18 hours. At 10am the next day we will be dismissed. We are raising money to donate to **Sweet Sleep** an organization that builds beds and buys linens for children in other countries. We are asking that all gamers raise \$25 in order to participate. We will also invite students to attend as helpers to support our gamers. Everyone who attends is asked to bring \$10 to cover the cost of food for the event. Come out and support a good cause! Don't have a student? Contact Kelly if you want to donate!

Created and Called April 20-22. Beginning at 5:00pm current juniors, seniors, and college students will gather at PVUMC to begin an exploration of who they are created to be and who God is calling them to be in the future. The event is no cost, but registration is required.

Relay for life April 21-22. This fundraiser for the American Cancer Society will once again be held at Ponte Vedra High School. It will run from noon on Saturday to 6:00am on Sunday. Contact Kelly Minter (kelly.minter@pv-umc.org) if you want to be part of our team, or if you would like to donate money!

COLLEGE GROUP SUMMER TRIP June 25- July 2. Camping in the Pennsylvania mountains while listening to today's biggest Christian Bands and speakers all week! This trip is open to Class of 2012 and older. Total trip cost is \$130, deposit of \$50/person is due on March 1 to save your spot. Then an installment of \$40 is due on May 1, and the remaining \$40 is due in cash on June 25.

MISSION TRIP 2012! The high school will be traveling to Appalachia this summer for their mission trip, and the middle school will be returning to the Carolina Coast. The trips cost \$455 for the Senior High and \$450 for the Middle School.



A Note From Pastor Jeff.

Sometimes **life comes at you awfully fast**. Just ask Joe Mitchell and his daughters. On February 27 Joe had surgery for two bypasses and replacement of a heart valve. At the same time his wife Kate was moved to the memory unit of a local care facility due to her Alzheimer's Disease. Joe's surgery went well but Kate's health declined and *she* was admitted to the hospital. During rehab Joe was briefly re-admitted while Kate was dismissed to hospice care where she died a couple of days later, on March 25. Joe was dismissed to his rehab facility and expects to attend the March 29 funeral services for his wife. All I can say is, Wow.

This got me to thinking about Holy Week. Each year we take a good bit of time pondering the events from Palm Sunday to Easter. But when you think about living them as Jesus' followers did... Life came at them awfully fast. The triumphal entry on Palm Sunday, the solemn meal on Holy Thursday, the prayer in the garden, the arrest, the trial, the crucifixion of Jesus. Wow.

When life comes at *you* fast, keep alert for signs of God's grace, places where God reminds you of his presence. (The Mitchell family shared a couple of these with me.) And keep in mind the truth of the resurrection. As writer and theologian Frederick Buechner so beautifully put it, "**Resurrection means the worst thing is never the last thing.**"

Pastor Jeff



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