

THE WAVE



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JULY 2012

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Teaching Moment	3
Financial Status	4
Volunteer Opportunities	5
H2O News	7

Vacation Bible School A Huge Success!

Thank You to ALL the volunteers that helped setup and run VBS Sky: **Everything is Possible with God** this year! Your love for our children and willingness to serve made it a great success! Bless everyone who helped out, and thank you to all the families that trusted us with your precious children for the week. It was an amazing adventure of God Sightings and learning to trust God in everything we do and face.

Our outreach Vacation Bible School is coming up and volunteers are needed to make it a success. VBS Linconville (in St. Augustine) will be held Wednesday through Friday, July 18th - 20th from 10:00am-Noon. What a great opportunity to serve. Please email **Jenn Smith** at jenn.smith@pv-umc.org if you can volunteer.



OUR MISSION:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist Church

Elisha

Christians often neglect the Old Testament in favor of the New but truth be told, the Old Testament (or Hebrew Bible) has much to teach us about the nature of God. We're spending several weeks with the prophet Elisha Sunday mornings this summer. Expect to experience some wonder-filled miracle stories and be surprised along the way by the people whom God cares for.

Upcoming Messages

July 1 **Elisha: Shunammite Hospitality Repaid** (2 Kings 4:8-17)

July 8 **Going Right to the Big Dog: Elisha** (2 Kings 4:18-37)

July 15 **Pride & Humility: Elisha and Namaan the Leper** (2 Kings 5:1-14)

July 22 **Elisha and Greedy Gehazi** (2 Kings 5:15-27)

Missions Corner

Did You Know?

The Saturday morning study group has served our congregation by preparing snacks on Sunday morning. Jesus served his disciples. Thank you group for serving us.

B.E.A.M. (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry)



Thank you, PVUMC, for a very **successful food drive for BEAM**. We collected a total of **81 bags** of groceries. Thank you for being a blessing to those in need in our local communities.

Lending to the Poor through Kiva

From time to time I talk about how much joy I've gotten in the second half of my life through giving. Three years ago I discovered **the joy of lending**. I've lent money to third world entrepreneurs who farm, operate dairies, establish general stores, make shoes, expand their restaurants, sell fish and knit. 10 of my loans have been repaid in full; I have only one loan in my portfolio that ended with a loss. Everyone else is in the process of paying back their loans.

Bayanmunh was 44 when I lent her \$25 to start a shoe-making business out of her home in Mongolia. A bunch of us got together online to meet her total loan request of \$1,250 to be used for materials. (She already owned the equipment.) She paid off the 18 month loan early.

How did I connect with Bayanmunh and the other entrepreneurs? Through **Kiva** (www.kiva.org), the world's first person-to-person micro-lending website, empowering individuals to lend directly to unique entrepreneurs around the globe. Kiva's mission is to connect people through lending for the sake of alleviating poverty.

Organizations can't lend through Kiva, only individuals. **Would you like to join me in lending some of your resources to a person or group?** Sign on with Kiva and consider joining our team, aptly named *Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church*. Our 8 team members have lent \$1,250 in 45 loans. (As money gets repaid, we get to lend it over again.) If this intrigues you, sign on! We can make a difference in the world, \$25 at a time.

– Pastor Jeff



"Teaching Moment"

by Pastor Jimmy Jones, Teaching Pastor



I answer your questions in this column so feel free to call the office, ask in person, or email me with your Bible questions.

Question: Why do we take international mission trips? Why not just help out those in our local community?

Answer: As a pastor who leads teams on international mission trips to Panama and Costa Rica through Faithful Servant Missions, I am often asked, "Why do churches take international mission trips? Why not just help out those at home? Actually, there is a Biblical foundation for being involved in mission work both at home AND abroad. In Acts 1:8, Jesus says, "And when the Holy Spirit comes on you, you will be able to be my witnesses in Jerusalem, all over Judea and Samaria, even to the ends of the earth." In Jesus' day, Jerusalem represented the local community. Here at PVUMC, we are extremely active in local missions. I lead teams to St. Francis House in St. Augustine each month to feed the homeless. And many other people connected to our church serve in Hart Felt Ministries, BEAM and many other local ministries that have a huge impact here in the Jacksonville area. Moreover, in Acts 1:8, Jesus urges us to press on to "Judea and Samaria". During Jesus' lifetime, "Judea and Samaria" was a regional designation. In effect, he is saying that we should also be actively involved in the regions where we live. This year, our church will participate in several regional mission trips involving both adults and students. Now, the last part of Acts 1:8 mentions "the ends of the earth." By using this phrase, Jesus fully intends for us to be involved in ministry abroad. For many years, PVUMC has supported the La Sierra Church in Cuba. And this year we partnered with Faithful Servant Missions to send seven missionaries to Caizan, Panama to work on an orphanage campus called Manos de Fe (Hands of Faith). When it comes to ministry, Jesus doesn't call us to stop at the county or state line. Instead, he calls us out of our comfort zones where we realize that we must fully rely on him in order to accomplish the ultimate mission of making fully devoted followers of Christ.



A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism

One definition of holiness is to be set apart for God, for God's purposes. The founder of Methodism, John Wesley wrote,

But we must love God before we can be holy at all; this being the root of all holiness.

– *Works I, 274.*

Are you living out love toward God? Toward your neighbor?

Financial Status

General Fund Recap May 2012

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 50,672
Less Expenses	\$ 51,110
May Income/(Deficit)	\$ (438)
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ (6,186)

Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$3,433
Enhancement Fund	\$506
Memorials	\$5,801
Building Fund	\$264,904
General Fund	
Needed Weekly 2012	\$ 12,824

June 2012 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
6/3	122	116	\$13,030	\$36	\$125
6/10	127	102	\$14,270	\$221	\$0
6/17	97	115	\$10,597	\$122	\$0
6/24	140	115	\$11,423	\$642	\$9,249

Owed on Parsonage: \$131,662

Owed on Church Facility: \$2,251,386

Welcome Ponte Vedra UMC New New Members!



On **April 29** we received new members **Marc & Valerie Mouery**. On **June 17** we received new members **Andrew & Nicole Baltz**. On **June 24** we received new members **Bob Qualls, Angela Moss Dorn, Peg Cameron** and **Susan Gorman**. We are delighted to be serving Christ together with you!

On a Personal Note...

Elsie Griffin, member of Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church, died unexpectedly on Monday, June 11 at age 87 in her Ponte Vedra Beach home. Private services were held in Howey-in-the-Hills, Florida on June 14. Our hearts are saddened at the loss of this dear woman of God.

Volunteer Opportunities

After many awesome years of service as the Hospitality Committee co-chairs, the dynamic duo of Georgia de Roziere and Phyllis Monie are hanging up their aprons and taking a well-deserved rest. The hospitality committee is still alive and well with dedicated members. As part of this transition, the Council on Ministries has discussed spreading out the duties the hospitality committee had been performing. Individuals have stepped forward to take care of kitchen inventory and new member meeting snacks as well as other tasks previously handled by the hospitality co-chairs.

These are the basic church-wide events that the hospitality committee will be putting together: Celebration Sunday, Easter Egg Hunt and Block Party, Trunk-or-Treat, Hanging of the Greens, Serve Sunday meals (two), and an occasional movie night.

We need one or two people to provide leadership for this group. Some of the events, the Easter Egg Hunt and Block Party, will have the children's ministry involved and there are several very knowledgeable people on the committee already.

If you think this is something you would like to do or would like more information, please contact **Eleanor Snite** at eleanor.snite@pv-umc.org or 280-8026.

Food = Love. Does food equal love? Not exactly, but offering food is a way of expressing love, care, hospitality. You can demonstrate in a tangible way your love for the church and our guests by **providing refreshments in the foyer** some Sunday morning. Sign up on the calendar next to the infant nursery in the long hall off the foyer. Small groups, family groups, young groups, old groups, foodie groups and individuals... You can make the food or visit the grocery store. We can already feel the love!

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

The next church-wide **blood drive** will be Sunday, September 9 from 9am to 12:15pm.

United Methodist Women News

Once again we are sponsoring a “**Christmas in July**” to support **Operation Shoebox**. This program was established in 2003 to support troops deployed overseas. We are requesting donations of items listed on the insert in your Sunday bulletins. Currently personal sized hygiene items are desperately needed. There is a red, white and blue collection basket on the table in the foyer hallway by the infant nursery. In this basket you will find instructions for making Christmas stockings, ditty bags and helmet caps. Please support our brave warriors with our gifts and prayers.

The next UMW meeting is Saturday, July 14 at 10:00am in Room 207. Our guest speaker, **Kay Durham**, R.N. from Baptist Medical Center Beaches will bring us an interesting program on comfort care for the patients at the hospital. Please join us and continue to learn about our community and strengthen our fellowship with each other. All women of the church are welcome and invited to bring a friend.



On A Musical Note

Praise Choir

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

Traditional Choir

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

Stay up-to-Date!

Receive a mid-week update on what's happening at Ponte Vedra UMC via email. Sign up for the **Pastor's Pen** on our website www.pv-umc.org or write your email address on a welcome card and place it in the offering plate.

Have to Miss Church?

You Don't Have to Miss the Message



If you're away a Sunday, listen to the weekly message you've missed online at our website, www.pv-umc.org. The messages are also available as a podcast, giving you the option to select a message or automatically have messages downloaded to your iPod or other mp3 player. (Instructions may be found at www.pv-umc.org.) It's the next best thing to being here!

Committee on Nominations

The Committee on Nominations and Leadership Development is responsible for identifying the gifts and strengths of people in the congregation, developing their skills and deploying them in areas of service within the church, community and world. Members of the current Committee on Lay Leadership are: **Jeff Bennett** (280-5141), **Sherrill Brown** (285-3717), **Ruth Murta** (280-3055), **Dotty Rashba** (273-0527), **Ralph Snyder** (819-0011) and **Jim Wynn** (285-2157), .

If you know someone that you feel would be good in a leadership position, please pass that information along to one of the team members. Church membership is required to serve in an elected leadership position such as Staff Parish Relations Committee, Trustees and Finance. In addition to membership, one year of attending the church is preferred.

The New "E" Word

The old "E" word was evangelism, a word with frightening baggage for many. The new "E" word is *elbow*. Some 80% of people who visit a church, return to that church, and gradually become enfolded into that faith community, do so on the *elbow* of someone already connected to that church. **Who will you invite to worship or another church event?**



Round Of Applause



- 👍 For Zack Murta, Jackson Bernet, and Scott Lovett for your parts in helping the VBS activities run smoothly
- 👍 For Abby Reimer, Claire Brown, Emma Bennett, Catee de Roziere, Martine Gelb, Sarah Reimer, Ansley Brigman, Kayleigh Robare, Lydia Reimer, and all of the other students who were crew leaders and assistant crew leaders for VBS 2012
- 👍 For Graham Hancock, Brendan Day, Preston Sluder, Laura Boehner, Taylor Pyle, Holly Smith, and Caroline Straughan

Upcoming Events

Beach Day and Movie Nights on Wednesdays: We meet at Mickler's from 11:00am to 4:00pm on almost every Wednesday during the summer. Come when you can and leave when you must. Bring food if you plan to be there the whole time, and don't forget your sunscreen! You will find our group immediately off the boardwalk, to the left by the lifeguard stand. Also on Wednesdays, we will host movie nights in the sanctuary. From 8:00pm - 10:30pm we watch movies together and hang out! Our dates are: July 5, July 11, July 18, August 8, August 15.

Serving food in St Augustine: Friday, July 13. We will meet at the church at 4:45pm and travel to St Augustine for a hot meal service. We will return by 7:30pm.

COLLEGE GROUP SUMMER TRIP June 25 - July 2. Camping in the PA mountains while listening to today's biggest Christian Bands and speakers all week! Please pray for our group as this journey continues!

High School Mission 2012! We will leave on Saturday, July 21 and return on Saturday, July 28. We will be traveling to Beckley, WV to participate in a mission week with Youthworks. Check the students website or your email for the latest information. Please pray for us during this time! Check out our church's facebook page for mission blog updates!

Middle School Mission 2012! We will leave on Sunday, July 29 and return on Saturday, August 4. Our group will go to Carolina Coast, NC (Topsail area) and participate in a mission week with TEAMEffort. Check the student website and emails for the latest information, and pray for us while we are gone! Check out our church's facebook page for mission blog updates!

*A Note From
Pastor Jeff.*

The Sunday after Vacation Bible School, **Cooper Agent** served as liturgist at the 11:00 Traditions service. While thanking those who served during VBS, Cooper mentioned how much he had enjoyed Vacation Bible School as a child. This really resonated with me; I also have very fond memories of VBS in the church of my childhood. I'm delighted that my own kids, the other children of our church and guests from the community had the chance to experience God in this way through PVUMC.

Some things are too good to keep to yourself, Vacation Bible School, among them. So we're taking **SKY: Everything is Possible with God** on the road, to the **Cyprian Center of St. Augustine**, July 18, 19 & 20. Over the past year we've been serving the Lincolnville area in a variety of ways; it will be a joy to connect with the children there, many of whom live in poverty.

This is the church's business, isn't it. Celebrate God's goodness and share it. Celebrate and share. I'm eternally grateful for those who have shared with me. Now I ask, Who will be grateful for me? It's a question you might ask of yourself as well.

Celebrating what is and what has been. Looking forward to what will be.

– Pastor Jeff



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Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
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