

# THE WAVE



VOLUME 10, ISSUE 8

**AUGUST 2012**

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## *Global Leadership Summit, August 9-10*

Our ministry staff along with other leaders of our church will be participating in **The Global Leadership Summit** Thursday & Friday, August 9 - 10 from 10am to 6pm. The summit originates in Chicago but we'll be attending at a satellite site, CrossRoad Church UMC in Jacksonville. We'd love to have you join us. The 2012 faculty includes speakers from government, marketplace and church: Condoleezza Rice, Jim Collins, Patrick Lencioni, Craig Groeschel, John Ortberg and more.

There's space available at The Summit for you. Register online at [www.willowcreek.com/summit](http://www.willowcreek.com/summit); register under our church's name and the cost is \$169. If this is your first time going, PVUMC will reimburse you half the tab. Want to carpool from the church? Let Pastor Jeff ([jeff.bennett@pv-umc.org](mailto:jeff.bennett@pv-umc.org)) know you're coming!

## *SKY: Everything Is Possible With God A Huge Success... Twice!*

In June we offered our Vacation Bible School at 76 S Roscoe... *SKY: Everything Is Possible With God*. In July we took VBS on the road to bless the children of the under-served Lincolnville area of St Augustine. Kids and those who served them were blessed and the kingdom of God increased. Wow – Everything is possible with God!

## *Suburban Legends Message Series, Beginning August 26*

Urban legends are untrue stories that circulate, often through email these days. Like the story of people ambushed, anesthetized, and waking up minus one kidney, which had been surgically removed for transplantation. (You mean that's not true?!) In this message series we'll consider spiritual myths circulating among Christians that are simply not true. We'll examine them in the light of Scripture for the truth.

## *Upcoming Messages*

August 5 **Wounded: Releasing Your Regrets**

August 12 **Who's the Blind One?** (2 Kings 6:8-23)

August 19 **When the News Seems Too Good to Be True** (2 Kings 6:24-7:20)

August 26 **Suburban Legends: Everything Happens for a Reason** (Romans 8:28)

## OUR MISSION:

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



**PONTE VEDRA**  
United Methodist Church

## Missions Corner

### Did You Know?

The Inquirers Sunday School class has donated money to help with **the Faithful Servant Missions** newsletter costs. They decided to do this after **Cheryl Bradford** spoke to our church congregation during services on a recent Sunday morning. Thank you Inquirers for supporting this outreach ministry.

### Change for Cuba



Thank you, church! **Change for Cuba raised \$315.** A mixing board for the sound system and various other supplies were purchased for our sister church in **La Sierra**. Small amounts of money given by many can accomplish great things. --Loree Reed

## Saving Lives - Ponte Vedra UMC Blood Drive, Sunday, September 9



Beat the crowds, sign up on-line and get the best time that fits your schedule. Just go to [www.igiveblood.com](http://www.igiveblood.com). Click on *Give Blood* then choose *Make an Appointment*. Choose *Make an Appointment* and enter 7931 in the zip or fund code box and select our church name.

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 September 9. There is no upper age limit to donate, as long as your doctor says it is okay. Those who have visited Panama, Costa Rica and other countries known to carry malaria within the past year are not eligible to donate blood.

Remember, one donation can save up to three lives. Contact **Eleanor Snite** at [eleanor.snite@pv-umc.org](mailto:eleanor.snite@pv-umc.org) if you have any questions.

## A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism

The founder of Methodism, John Wesley wrote,

Ease bought by sin is a dear (expensive) purchase.

– *Works II*, 257.

## *"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:** So, what did the church team do on the recent international mission trip to Panama?

**Answer:** During the week of June 16-23<sup>rd</sup>, Ponte Vedra UMC sent seven international missionaries to Panama: **Mary Kay Ashby, Jeffery and Hilton Ashby, Shelia Epperson, Austin and Kathleen Patneau**, and yours truly. We worked at an orphanage called **Manos De Fe** ("Hands of Faith") on the campus of **Faithful Servant Missions**. We completed several projects on the orphanage grounds including building steps from one of the cottages to the multipurpose building and landscaping a portion of the campus. In addition, we participated in a feeding program by going out to the local community and offering food to those in need. The feeding ministry is designed to be temporary relief for people until they are better equipped to provide for themselves. Our focus is to give families a hand up not a hand out. We also took clothing with us on the trip and gave it out in several local neighborhoods. It was truly touching just how grateful the children were for a simple gift like a shirt or a pair of pants. The gratitude of the Panamanian people challenged me to be more grateful for the gifts I enjoy. And, one of those gifts is being your teaching pastor at Ponte Vedra UMC! Love to you all and enjoy your summer.

## *Men's Bible Study on Revelation Begins Thursday, August 2*

The **Thursday morning men's Bible study** begins a study on **Revelation** on **August 2**. This compelling study by Dr. James Efirm dispels the myths about end times and reclaims the hope for all Christians found in this most misunderstood book of the Bible. We'll learn about the conflict between good and evil and the meaningful symbolism used to help early Christians keep the faith during hard times. The Revelation study consists of 16 DVD video lessons lasting approximately 20 minutes each followed by conversation.

The group meets upstairs (enter by tower stairwell) on **Thursdays from 8 to 9am**. Men, we'd love to have you join us! Also, this curriculum will be available to other groups within the church if your small group or Sunday School class would like to study Revelation.

## *Disciple 1 Class Begins in September*

Disciple 1 is a thirty-four week class that **covers nearly 70% of the Bible**. It is a broad overview of the entire Bible and is a great course for either newcomers or for those who have taken it before and would like a refresher. The class will begin in mid-September and will be held either on Sunday from 4-6 pm or on Thursday from 5-7 pm. The class leader will be **Valerie Brown**. To sign up for Disciple 1 or to have your questions answered about this experience, please contact **Pastor Jimmy Jones** at 280-5141 or email him at [jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org](mailto:jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org).

# Financial Status

## General Fund Recap June 2012

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 49,489
Less Expenses	\$ 63,212
May Income/(Deficit)	\$ (13,724)
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ (19,910)

## July 2012 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
7/1	115	99	\$11,656	\$233	\$0
7/8	137	140	\$21,595	\$453	\$886
7/15	153	112	\$9,714	\$323	\$0
7/22	148	131	\$9,417	\$573	\$3,510

## Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$3,734
Enhancement Fund	\$506
Memorials	\$5,801
Building Fund	\$258,693
General Fund	Needed Weekly 2012
	\$ 12,824

Owed on Parsonage: \$129,720  
 Owed on Church Facility: \$2,243,895



## Volunteer Opportunities

Thanks to all who have been providing snacks for the Sunday services. The United Methodist Women have August covered but all Sundays in September are open. There are also a few openings for providing altar flowers. Both sign up sheets are on the wall over the table in the hallway outside the nursery.



## United Methodist Women News

The United Methodist Women thank each of you who contributed to our Operation Shoebox "Christmas in July" campaign. We'll report next month on the total of your contributions.

Our next meeting is **September 15 at 10:00am**. We will be finalizing our plans for the Autumn Fling on November 3. Please join us to share your ideas and to share in our fun and fellowship. Remember, bring a friend or two!



### On A Musical Note

#### **Praise Choir**

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

#### **Traditional Choir**

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

## Children's Corner

### C.I.A. Resumes September 5th.

#### Back to School Bowling Bash!

Join us **Tuesday, August 14** at 1:00pm for a back to school bowling get together. We will meet at **Beach Bowl** in Jacksonville Beach at 1:00. Parents can register their children for daily free bowling passes at: [https://www.kidsbowlfree.com/center.php?alley\\_id=562](https://www.kidsbowlfree.com/center.php?alley_id=562) . What a great way to get together for some fun, friendship and togetherness before school (and C.I.A.) begins!

Email **Jenn Smith** at [jenn.smith@pv-umc.org](mailto:jenn.smith@pv-umc.org) if you plan to join us. I will reserve lanes together based on our numbers. Hope to see you there!



## Kingdom Kids

### Want to work with amazing children for about 40 minutes a week?

**Volunteer at Kingdom Kids this Fall!** Teaching and assistant positions are available at both the 9:30 and 11:00 hours. PVUMC holds 40 minute classes for Kindergarten through second grade and third through fifth grade each Sunday during the worship hour immediately following the Children's Sermon. Planning materials and supplies are all provided. You will be amazed at how your own faith and understanding of the Bible will grow. You WILL be blessed just as you will BE a blessing for the children of PVUMC! Email **Jenn Smith** at [jenn.smith@pv-umc.org](mailto:jenn.smith@pv-umc.org) for more information.

## School Supplies for Lincolnville

Thank you to ALL the amazing volunteers that helped set up and participate in outreach VBS in Lincolnville! It was a huge success. Not only did the children learn about trusting God through wild Bible adventures, science projects and games but we learned just how amazing the children in Lincolnville are. To continue our mission with these children - we will be **collecting school supplies** to take to the Lincolnville AME Church (where the children go to day camp) over the next two week. School supplies are on sale all over town. It's a great time to collect them. **We will fill up our SUV with all collections on Sunday, August 12th!** Below is a list of supplies needed:

Hand sanitizer	Highlighters
Notebook paper (wide rule)	Crayons
Thin markers	Large markers
Colored pencils	Pencil sharpeners
Zippered supply pouch	Glue sticks (lots!)
Scissors	Erasers
Black/white composition books	3 prong folders
Spiral notebooks	Lysol wipes
Ziploc bags (gallon/quart)	Tissue boxes

## Message from Mrs. Jenn ~



This summer my family had the opportunity to go overseas to visit family in Germany and Holland. It was a great opportunity for our children to meet relatives they did not know and play with cousins (even when they could not speak the same language). I have been to Europe several times in my life, but this was the first trip with our children and to see the countries through their eyes. What struck me most was seeing God's presence everywhere we went. On the tops of the highest mountains in Bavaria there is a cross at every peak. Along the roads there are small altars made available for people to stop and pray. And everywhere you look there is evidence of God's love and creation. I also realized that these awe inspiring places were a great place to talk to our children about God and Jesus' love for us all. Below are some ideas for family devotionals in our own community.

**The Zoo:** A showcase for God's creativity. Hunt for five of the most bizarre animal facts. Discuss God's purpose in His specific design of each animal. Try to find an animal for each letter of the alphabet. Make an A to Z book. Talk about Adam's job of naming the animals. What names would you have chosen? You could discuss Noah's faith in building the ark. Sing the "Rise and Shine" song and eat animal crackers. Upon your return, make monkey bread or decorate cupcakes to look like animals. Play a game of animal charades or animal races (hop like a kangaroo, slither like a snake, or walk like an elephant.)

**The Beach:** Another awesome display of God's handiwork. Fill a small container with sand. How many granules would you estimate are in there? Talk about Psalm 139:17-18, "*How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them! Were I to count them, they would outnumber the grains of sand.*" Go on a hunt for seashells and challenge your children to find two that are exactly the same. Find a recipe for a "sand dirt dessert" and make it when you get home.

**The Backyard:** Go cloud watching. Read Psalm 19:1, "*The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of His hands.*" Replicate the clouds with a cotton ball art project. Plant a vegetable or flower garden and take care of it daily. (Even dead plants are a great object lesson if things don't work out!) Read Mark 4:30-32, the parable of the mustard seed. Play games, have fun, and be silly. Jesus promises us life to the full. What does that mean? Hunt for bugs. Find a caterpillar and a butterfly. Discuss 2 Corinthians 5:17.

Enjoy and have a wonderful last month of summer!

-- Mrs. Jenn



## Round Of Applause



- 👍 All of our students who participated in the high school mission trip
- 👍 All of the students who participated in the middle school mission trip
- 👍 All of our family and friends who supported our mission efforts for summer 2012

## Upcoming Events

**Tubing in the Ichenetucknee River!** Monday, August 6. Meet at church by 9am. We will travel to Ft. White, have lunch and head to the river! Bring \$10 cash for tube rental and river entrance. Dont forget your sunscreen!

**Serving the needy in St Augustine.** Friday, August 10. Meet at the church at 4:45pm and we will head to the parking lot behind the Lightner Museum to feed a hot meal to those in St. Augustine who are hungry! We will return by 7:30pm. We are looking for lots of parents to help on this one, so please contact Kelly if you can go with us.

**Rock the Universe!** September 7-9 This is a senior high only event! We'll meet Friday to travel to Orlando for a weekend of Christian bands and speakers in Universal Studios. Total cost is \$97/person and a deposit of \$45 is required by August 19 in order to save your spot. Space is limited... so get your deposit in soon!

**Back to school bash!** Sunday, September 16, 5pm - 7:30pm. This is our annual fall kick off celebration so be sure to put it on your calendar! Bring your whole family. There will be games for the kids and an informational (and fun) meeting for the parents too! We ask that everyone bring a salad or side dish to share with our hamburgers and hotdogs!



## *A Note From Pastor Jimmy:*

Just the other day, Pastor Jeff asked me to write this column as he enjoys a family vacation to Tennessee and Ohio. It's truly a privilege to pen a few lines for you on his behalf this month. In the last nine years since I have known Pastor Jeff and lived in this community, I have often read this column. At times, he has used it to challenge us. At other times, he has used it to encourage us. And, many times, I have read it and shed a tear or laughed out loud. For a time, when

I served a church in Sanford, Florida, I would even go the church's website and read the WAVE just so I could read Pastor Jeff's note. I will confess to you that he is not only a colleague in ministry, he is also a friend.

When it comes to real friends in life, men often have few. Most men in your life could count them on one hand. My Facebook page tells me that I have nearly six hundred friends but I know the real truth. I only have a one handful. There's only a select few that I could confess my deepest secrets to or call to pick me up at the airport at midnight. In short, he's a person of deep character and someone I can always count on. Of course, we don't always see eye to eye on every issue but that is what makes our friendship so special. We're different! Recently, we joked at a pastor's meeting that we are on staff together at the church and we still like each other.

I felt compelled by the Holy Spirit to share one more thing with you this month. You know us preachers, we sometimes find it hard to be brief. Studies show that somewhere between 80-90% of new church starts never make it past the first five years. So, this spring, when there were over three hundred people in attendance on some given Sundays, I had to say, "Thank you Jesus." Ponte Vedra UMC has come a long way these last few years! But, I know that the best years for this church are yet to come. Please know that I feel honored and privileged to be in ministry with you and my good friend, Pastor Jeff.

Loving Jesus and You, Pastor Jimmy



### **PONTE VEDRA** *United Methodist Church*

76 S. Roscoe Blvd.  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Phone: 904-280-5141  
Fax: 904-280-0599  
[www.pv-umc.org](http://www.pv-umc.org)

#### CHURCH STAFF

Lead Pastor	Jeff Bennett
Teaching Pastor	Jimmy Jones
Youth Minister	Kelly Minter
Children's Minister	Jenn Smith
Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
Accountant	Jim Larsen
Music Contemporary	Scott Tinsley
Music Traditional	Elisabeth Callahan
Custodian	Sheila Epperson

Staff email:  
[firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org)