

# THE WAVE



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SEPTEMBER 2012

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## Church-wide Study, Beginning September 30... "Not a Fan"

**Are you a follower of Jesus?** Don't answer too quickly. You may indeed be a passionate, fully devoted follower of Jesus. Or, you may be just a fan who admires Jesus but isn't ready to let him cramp your style. Then again, maybe you're not into Jesus, period. In any case, don't take the question—Are you a follower of Jesus?—lightly. Some people don't know what they've said yes to and others don't realize what they've said no to. But Jesus is ready to clearly define the relationship he wants with his followers.

Sunday mornings **September 30** through **November 4** we will consider the demands and rewards of being a true disciple. Kyle Idleman's book *Not a Fan* along with the Bible itself will inform our study. Go deep with the help of a small group. New groups will be forming for the 6-week study and existing groups will welcome you warmly!

## Suburban Legends Message Series Now Underway

**Urban legends** are untrue stories that circulate, often through email these days. Here's an oldie, but a goodie: Woman travels to Mexico and smuggles home a little stray dog she's become attached to. Takes it to a local vet who tells her it's not a dog she's been cuddling but a type of large Mexican rat! (Variations of this story have been circulating for at least 30 years.) In this message series we consider **spiritual myths** circulating among Christians that may sound wise and even biblical but are simply not the truth. We'll examine them in the light of Scripture for the whole truth.

## Upcoming Messages

Continue **Suburban Legends** message series...

September 2 **Faith Can Fix Anything** (Hebrews 11:32-38)

September 9 **God Will Never Give You More Than You Can Handle** (Numbers 11:4-15)

September 16 **Christians Shouldn't Judge** (Matthew 7:1-6, John 14:6)

September 23 **Dead People Go to a Better Place**

Begin **Not a Fan** message series...

September 30 **Fan or Follower?**

## OUR MISSION:

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



**PONTE VEDRA**  
United Methodist Church

## *Missions Corner*

### *La Sierra Methodist*

We are planning 2013 travel to Cuba. If you would like to visit our Cuba sister church, La Sierra please email **George Reed** at [george.reed@pv-umc.org](mailto:george.reed@pv-umc.org).

### *Hart Felt Ministries*

Hart Felt Ministries is a Christ-centered organization providing, at no charge, through a network of community volunteers, non-medical support services and companionship for the frail elderly who require assistance in living independently. Because they charge no fees for their services, they rely on contributions. A **dinner and silent auction** will be held October 13 at Hidden Hills Country Club. If you would like to attend this Hart Felt benefit please call **Ann Cook** at 285-0579 or **Loree Reed** at 571-3544.

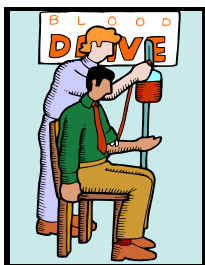
### *"Another Sign" the Musical*

**Mission House**, the homeless day facility at the beach, is proud to host an evening of the play "Another Sign" on **Thursday September 27 at 7:30pm at the FSCJ Wilson Center at the South Campus**. The play tells the story of the homeless and their plight. Please support Mission House and bring a friend. Tickets are on sale for \$30 at Mission House, 800 Shetter Ave, Jax Beach, 241-6767 or charge on the website [www.missionhousejax.org](http://www.missionhousejax.org) and memo: PLAY. **Lori Anderson**, Mission House Executive Director will be outside Ponte Vedra UMC on September 2, to answer any questions about this moving musical or the Mission House.

### *Did You Know?*

1. The United Methodist Women meet bi-monthly and have engaging speakers who discuss a variety of topics.
2. All the money raised from the Garage Sale and Christmas Bake Sale go to support missions and other outreach programs both locally and globally, as well as supporting our youth on service projects.
3. They provide Sunday morning snacks two months each year.
4. The quilting circle (who sew Christening quilts, donate quilts to the Florida United Methodist Children's Home and the Betty Griffin House) is a sub-group of the UMW.
5. The UMW sponsors social events which serve as an opportunity for members to invite friends, co-workers and neighbors to come and meet new friends. This fall UMW is hosting an Autumn Tea on November 2 from 3-5pm.
6. All women of the church are invited and encouraged to join them for meetings and events.

## Ponte Vedra UMC Blood Drive, Sunday, September 9



The next blood drive is **Sunday, September 9** with appointments available every 15 minutes from 9:15am to 12:15pm. Beat the crowds, sign up on-line and get the time that works best for your schedule. Just go to [www.igiveblood.com](http://www.igiveblood.com). Click on Give Blood then Make an Appointment, click on make an appointment at the bottom of the gold box, enter 7931 in the zip or fund code box, choose search and then click on the 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. 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 that have malaria within the past year are not eligible to donate blood.

## “Teaching Moment” Guest Teacher: Brett Merrill



Pastor Jimmy ([jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org](mailto:jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org)) answers your questions in this column so feel free to call the office, ask in person, or email him with your Bible questions. This month, we welcome **Brett Merrill** as our guest teacher.

**Question:** What is an “air-nasium”?

**Answer:** In Central America, and other places which are warm and wet, there is little need for a walled gymnasium, so one is built with a concrete floor and a high metal roof. The rain stays out, air flows through, and the basketball court and play area stays dry.

Now you know and here is why you needed to know:

We at Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church have partnered faithfully with **Faithful Servant Missions** ([www.faithfuleservantmissions.org](http://www.faithfuleservantmissions.org)) in many projects to help in the educational and spiritual development of over 350 refugee children, young people and family members at its facility in a barrio near San Ramon, Costa Rica. FSM needs to finance the construction of an “air-nasium” at that location. The play area where the air-nasium will be constructed was made possible by the extraordinary contribution of a local Ponte Vedra Beach Christian couple and preparations for the air-nasium have been completed; only its construction remains. The cost is \$15,500 and FSM has raised \$3,750 of the needed funds. Contributions should be made payable to PVUMC with “FSM air-nasium project” in the memo area.

## A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism

The founder of Methodism, John Wesley wrote,

If poverty contracts and depresses the mind, riches sap its fortitude, destroy its vigour, and nourish its caprices.

– *Letters*, V, 180.

# Financial Status

## General Fund Recap July 2012

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 61,386
Less Expenses	\$ 61,387
July Income/(Deficit)	\$ (1)
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ (19,911)

## August 2012 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
8/5	100	117	\$10,745	\$86	\$0
8/12	120	116	\$10,636	\$96	\$0
8/19	139	161	\$14,899	\$435	\$0
8/26	134	154	\$9,529	\$117	\$0

## Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$3,820
Enhancement Fund	\$506
Memorials	\$5,801
Building Fund	\$256,833
General Fund	Needed Weekly 2012
	\$ 12,824

Owed on Parsonage: \$127,759  
 Owed on Church Facility: \$2,236,141

## Money Matters



### Do good while earning 2.00%!

Any Florida resident may open a participation account in the The Florida United Methodist Foundation's Development Fund with a minimum investment of \$100. Money deposited in the Development Fund earns a higher rate of interest (presently **2.00%**) than most commercial savings, money market or certificate of deposit accounts. Interest is accrued from the time of deposit until the time of withdrawal. Money is available, without penalty, on demand. Earnings are reported quarterly.

Investors in the Development Fund also earn the satisfaction of knowing that their money is being used to further the work of the United Methodist Church. The Development Fund, with more than \$129 million in assets, supplies low-interest loans to churches and conference agencies. Since 1976, the Development Fund has loaned more than \$200 million in loans conference-wide, with no defaults. (Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church is among the borrowing churches.) Every loan has been repaid in full and no investor has lost a penny by investing in the Development Fund.

The interest rate is set by the Foundation Board of Directors and is subject to review and/or change on a quarterly basis. Savings and loan rates are posted at [www.fumf.org](http://www.fumf.org) and printed in the Foundation's newsletter, or may be obtained by calling the Foundation toll-free at (866) 363-9673, ext. 100, or by emailing them at: [Foundation@fumf.org](mailto:Foundation@fumf.org).

## *Disciple I Class Begins Sunday, September 16*

**DISCIPLE I** 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. **Valerie Brown** will lead a class beginning Sunday, September 16 at 4:00pm. You may sign up Sunday, September 2 or contact **Pastor Jimmy Jones** (280-5141, [jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org](mailto:jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org)).

## *A Great Time to Start a Small Group!*

Do you have a group of friends you enjoy being with? Share the same interests with? Maybe you should start a **new small group** when our new church-wide study “**Not a Fan**” begins. You and those in your group will enjoy building relationships as you get to know each other better. (You can also join an existing small group and gain the same benefits!) Contact **Dotty Rashba** at [dotty.rashba@pv-umc.org](mailto:dotty.rashba@pv-umc.org) and she'll help you get started. It's a great joy to have a group of folks with whom to share life and grow in your faith. Try it; you'll like it!

## *New Small Group to Study, “Experiencing God: Knowing and Doing the Will of God”*

Are you searching for God's direction for your life? Do you desire more of the abundant life God promises in His word? Then join us for the powerful Bible study by Henry Blackaby entitled **EXPERIENCING GOD: Knowing and Doing the Will of God**.

In this study you will learn to: hear when God is speaking to you, clearly identify the activity of God in your life, believe Him to be and do everything He promises, adjust your beliefs, character, and behavior to Him and His ways, see a direction that He is taking in your life and what He wants to do through your life, clearly know what you need to do in response to His activity in your life, and experience God doing through you only what God can do!

This new small group is being formed by the Early Questors Sunday School Class. It will meet the **third Tuesday of every month** beginning **September 19** at **6:30pm** in various group members homes. It is open to everyone and suitable for all levels from new Christians to seasoned saints. For more information and to sign up contact **Austin Patneau** (904-613-9858, [apatneau01@comcast.net](mailto:apatneau01@comcast.net)).

## *September is National Name Tag Month*



Do you have a PVUMC name tag? Are you wearing it? If you don't have a name tag or yours has gone missing, please request one by way of the Welcome Card on Sunday morning and by the end of the month it will appear on the name tag boards in the foyer. We want to greet you by name so in honor of **National Name Tag Month** (yes, we're making that up), request your name tag Sunday! (Membership not required.)

## *Summer Mission Trip to Wycliffe Bible Translators JAARS Facility*

**Summer Mission Trip to Wycliffe Bible Translators JAARS Facility**--JAARS was originally known as the Jungle Aviation and Radio Service but now provides support needs to Wycliffe missionaries, such as housing, transportation, IT, Medical.

Our goal was to see the work JAARS does, develop relationships with JAARS staff members and find out how we could support JAARS in the future. We accomplished all of that and we also developed great relationships within our group.

So you may be asking, how we can use what we learned and the relationships we developed and to help them.

- ◆ We can pray for the work that is going on up there
- ◆ We can share what we know about JAARS and raise awareness of their work
- ◆ We can plan a week long service trip to the JAARS facility near Charlotte, NC summer 2013
- ◆ We can support them financially

Look for a planning meeting in the future to discuss how we can support JAARS and begin the planning for next summer's mission trip. Everyone is invited to join us and participate in the discussion. We have a place for anyone who wants to participate.

Here is what our team had to say about God spoke to them about the trip:

**Cynthia Jordan says,** I found that I could survive a four-wheel jungle drive!! Riding one of JAARS' planes or helicopters is nothing compared to that Jungle ride—a training course developed to teach people how to drive 4WD vehicles over rough terrain to bring missionaries and supplies to remote areas!! I met warm, caring people who know their mission in life is to support the spreading of the good news of Jesus!

**Dan Thomas says,** It is so easy, or at least it is for me it is, to focus on the work that JAARS does like the aviation, marine services, technology or linguistics. While watching a video during lunch with JAARS missionaries, Mark and Dorothy Ott, of a remote people group receiving their first New Testament and how they had gone from a war like tribe to a peaceful, joy filled group of people was when it really hit me, it is all about impacting people just as it is here.

**Mike and Ada Elliott say,** Our trip to JAARS was an eye opener on how to be a missionary without leaving the USA. What better way to help get God's Word to those who have never heard it than by helping the people who do, the Wycliffe Bible Translators..... The highlight of this journey for us was lunch in the home of the Otts, a missionary family who had just returned from Peru. We learned from Mark and Dorothy that prayer is the foundation of Bible translation work. The atmosphere at JAARS is so full of love that you can feel it. After attending the seminars and seeing videos of the volunteers who whole heartedly put themselves into strange places across the world with such commitment and energy in a manner of joy just blows my mind. To them this isn't work but a celebration as they labor diligently to help others whose situation in life are so low, but the help, friendship, and assistance has put smiles on their faces.

**Susan Gorman says,**

I am not sure that I can describe the impact of my recent experience at JARS. Our team made the experience all the better; I really appreciate the opportunity to observe The JAARS facility with a group of new friends in Christ. My appreciation for missionaries and their work is much greater now, and I am grateful for the brief exposure to so many wonderful volunteers that make JAARS a force that can reach a world that is hungry for the good news of Jesus Christ!

## *New Member Orientation, September 30*

Been thinking about joining Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church? Or just learning more about the church? Pastor Jeff is leading an orientation on Sunday afternoon, **September 30**, from **3 to 5pm**. Jeff promises it won't be two hours of him talking; we've got a fun activity thrown in there, plus you'll get to know some other fine folks during our time together. Call or email our administrative assistant Susan Bowler (280-5141 x12, [susan.bowler@pv-umc.org](mailto:susan.bowler@pv-umc.org)) to let us know you're coming. **Childcare available with advance notice; let Susan know!**

## *Men's Fellowship Breakfast*



**Attention: All Men 12 to 110 Years Of Age!** Please join us for Ponte Vedra UMC's Men's Fellowship Breakfast 8:15am **Sunday, September 9**. Come enjoy breakfast, fellowship, prayer and a panel discussion with **Gary & Julie Proctor, Pastor Jimmy Jones** and others that participated in the June Panama mission trip! RSVP to **Cooper Agent**, [cooper.agent@pv-umc.org](mailto:cooper.agent@pv-umc.org) or 273-2657. A \$5 donation is accepted for breakfast if you have it!

## *United Methodist Women News*

All women of the church are invited to join us for our **next meeting** on **September 15** at **10:00am** in Room 209. Our speaker will be **Yvonne Radcliff** who started a ministry to assist teenagers at Ponte Vedra High School. She will explain how we can become involved by providing lunches and befriending them on a one to one basis. We also will be finalizing plans for our **Autumn Fling** to be held on **November 3**. This will be an opportunity for all the women of our church to invite your friends, neighbors and co-workers to a tea featuring haute cuisine and entertainment by the **Sweet Adelines**.

During the month of **October** we will be **selling pecans** which will be delivered in time for Thanksgiving. Ordering forms and information will be in the church bulletins.

Please join us on Saturday, September 15 to share our faith and fellowship.

## *Attention Music Lovers!*



The **Traditions Choir** is looking for new members. We want you! If you're worried about getting started and feeling behind.....don't! This is the perfect time of year to start. I've had my "spies" out in the congregation all summer, listening to you sing. We know who you are. We want to see you on Thursday nights at 7:00.  
-- Elisabeth Callahan



### On A Musical Note

#### **Praise Choir**

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

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

Wednesdays 6:00-7:30pm

#### **Traditional Choir**

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

## Children's Corner

C.I.A. (Children in Action) will begin meeting on **Wednesday, September 5th** at **6:00pm** in **Rooms 201 and 203**. Children in Kindergarten through fifth grade are invited to bring their sack supper and enjoy a time of fellowship, music, games and Bible story adventures. We begin the fall season with celebrating the harvest - with "attitude"! Come and be apart of the excitement.



## Kingdom Kids

It's a new school year and a new year in Kingdom Kids! Won't you take a moment and thank the following volunteers for dedicating their time, love and creativity to the Kingdom Kids ministry at Ponte Vedra UMC?

9:30 K-2 **Jenn Smith & Jenny Howard/Corrine Garrison**

9:30 3-5 **Dawn Russell & Janet Rainer/Zach Murta**

11:00 K-2 **Nancy Noble & Mary Slaton**

11:00 3-5 **Jill Bennett & Alicia Bernet**

Kingdom Kids meets each Sunday immediately following Children's Time at both the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services. We are still looking for assistants to alternate Sundays during the 9:30 and 11:00 hour. If you are interested in serving, please contact Jenn Smith at [jenn.smith@pv-umc.org](mailto:jenn.smith@pv-umc.org).

## Third Grade Students to Receive Bibles

PVUMC will present all third grade students with a new Bible on **Sunday, September 30** at both worship services. Any fourth or fifth grade students who have not received Bibles are also welcome to come forth. If you would like your child to receive his or her Bible, please call the church office at 280-5141 and let us know the name of your child and which service you will be attending.

## Save the Date!



**Trunk or Treat** is just around the corner! We will be hosting Trunk or Treat for the community on **Saturday, October 27** from **6:30-8:00pm**. Be watching for details, you don't want to miss the fun!





## Round Of Applause



- 👍 For Valerie Brown, and her leading of the college Sundays school class for the past 6 months, and for Donna and Neil Price who will be taking it over this fall!
- 👍 For all of our students who have started a new school this year
- 👍 For our new 6<sup>th</sup> graders, Noah, Caleb, Cal, Emory, Emily, Lily and all of their friends!

## Upcoming Events

**Rock the Universe:** September 7-9, 2012. This is a senior high only event! We will meet at the church at 5:00pm on Friday and travel to Orlando to participate in Rock the Universe, a weekend event where Universal Orlando opens its doors to Christian bands and speakers. We will return to the church at 2:00pm on Sunday, September 9. Cost for this trip is \$97/person and spaces are limited!

**Back to School BASH** September 16. Come one, come all to our annual fall kick off! We invite all of our students and their whole families to attend our evening celebration. We will have a cookout and sundaes, a parent informational meeting, a bounce house, and games galore! We are asking each family to bring a side dish to share! 5:PM-730PM!

**NEW SCHEDULE BEGINS SEPTEMBER 16!** We will be changing the times and layout of our Sunday evening ministry. We will be beginning at 5:00pm with small groups. At 6:00pm we will eat dinner, and at 6:30pm we will worship together, ending at 7:30pm. For the first few weeks of this new structure (beginning September 23) we are inviting our teens, their parents, and the whole community to join in a Connectional style of worship! Check out the student ministry website for more information. We would love to see you there!

**Sign up to provide dinners** Beginning September 23, we need families and church members who are able to help out our youth ministry by providing our weekly dinners. More details are available from Kelly. Thanks in advance for your help!

## *A Note From Pastor Jeff:*

Twice yearly the hunt is on for a church wide study. We look for an engaging theme and a first-rate book with superb small group Bible study resources. The theme is important because we want to connect not only with you but also with your friends and neighbors. We want top-notch small group resources because we're always praying for people to try a small group Bible study for six weeks and have a good experience. Lastly, Pastor Jimmy and I want to be excited about the Sunday morning preaching!

We looked long and hard for a fall study and came up with what I believe are some good options for the more distant future but a study for this fall was proving elusive. Then from Bev Schaffield through the hands of Jimmy Jones came the book "**Not a Fan.**" I was hooked!

Kyle Idleman's book makes me look head on at a question I've often wrestled with and many times tried to ignore: **Am I follower of Jesus or am I just a fan**, an enthusiastic admirer of Jesus? I'm praying that each of us will ask this question of ourselves this fall.

Each chapter of the book concludes with a brief life story by someone who has chosen to become a completely committed follower of Jesus. I end this note with the same sentence used by each author:

**My name is Jeff Bennett, and I am not a fan.**



### **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)