

THE WAVE



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NOVEMBER 2012

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Consecration Sunday, November 11

Two good reasons not to miss church Sunday morning, November 11:

(1) It's **Consecration Sunday**; we'll have in Frances Jennings a guest speaker whom you'll not soon forget and an opportunity to discern what percentage of our incomes God is calling us to give. After each worship service we'll enjoy a catered meal together. You can read more about Consecration Sunday on page 3 in Pastor Jimmy's Teaching Moment.

(2) It's **Veterans Day**; we'll have opportunity to honor those who have served our nation through military service. A presentation of colors provided by a group of veterans will immediately precede each worship service. (Don't be late!)

OUR MISSION:

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

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, November 18**. Come enjoy breakfast, fellowship and prayer. RSVP to **Cooper Agent**, cooper.agent@pv-umc.org or 273-2657. A \$5 donation is accepted for breakfast if you have it!



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. **Elves are needed** for the crafting; see page 6 for how you can help.



Upcoming Messages

Conclude **not a fan** message series

November 4 **is Jesus enough?** (John 6:35)

November 11 **Joy in Stewardship** (Malachi 3:10, 1 Chronicles 29:14, 1 Peter 4:10)

November 18 **Remember Your Baptism... And Be Thankful** (Mark 1:4-11)

November 25 **How Should I Help Someone in Need?** (2 Thess 3:6-10; Luke 10:35; Romans 12:13; Prov 21:20)

Missions Corner

B.E.A.M. Food Drive

Thank you to all who participated in the B.E.A.M. (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry) food drive. We received **69 bags of groceries** and a \$50 cash donation.

Operation Christmas Child



Start collecting now for **Operation Christmas Child**. OCC brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes and the good news of God's love. Our church will once again be sponsoring this mission by filling shoeboxes for the children. **Collections will be received Sunday, November 18.** Gift box ideas include small toys, school supplies, hygiene items, hard candies (small cars, balls, dolls, stuffed animals, kazoos, harmonicas, yo-yos, jump ropes, pens, pencils and sharpener, crayons or markers, stamps and ink pad sets, writing pads or paper, solar calculators, coloring and picture books, toothbrush, toothpaste, mild bar soap (in a plastic bag), comb, washcloth, lollipops (please double bag all candy), mints, gum, sunglasses, hair clips, toy jewelry, watches and flashlights (with extra batteries). Please include a check for \$7.00 to Samaritan's Purse for shipping charges with your shoebox. For more information contact **Rita Andreu**, rita.andreu@pv-umc.org or visit <http://www.samaritanspurse.org>.

Missions Giving

Over **\$28,000** given to missions so far this year from our tithes and general budget offerings. Wow! And another **\$25,000** in designated giving has been received. Awesome!

Did You Know?

Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church goes to St. Augustine twice a month to feed the homeless and those living in shelters. We serve lunch the second Thursday of the month. To join us and serve lunch to the homeless contact **Pastor Jimmy Jones** at jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org. In addition, we serve dinner to the homeless in St. Augustine the second Friday of the month. To learn more about this experience and how to make a difference in the homeless community, contact **Debi Rusillo** at debi.rusillo@pv-umc.org.

A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism

The founder of Methodism, John Wesley wrote,

To retain the grace of God is much more than to gain it; hardly one in three does this.

– Jackson, XIII, 104.

“Teaching Moment”

by Pastor Jimmy Jones, Teaching Pastor



Pastor Jimmy (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.

Question: What is “Consecration Sunday”?

Answer: Recently, I came across a great definition of *consecration* on the internet: “a solemn commitment of your life or your time to some cherished purpose” (www.thefreedictionary.com) This year, Ponte Vedra UMC will celebrate our Consecration Sunday on November 11 by dedicating our financial gifts for the 2013 calendar year. I have often told people in churches that if you are going to give reluctantly, then don’t give at all. The Bible says in 2 Corinthians 9:7, “God loves a cheerful giver.” It’s true. God wants us to give not because we feel forced to give or because the church needs us to give. Rather, the Bible teaches us to give because it reflects the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. This year, as you consider your financial pledge for 2013, consider the relationships that you’ve built at Ponte Vedra UMC. Investing your life and your resources in the kingdom of God and in this community is the greatest investment you’ll ever make. And, the return? Well, it’s out of this world!

Please plan to join us for brunch either at 10:30am or at noon on Consecration Sunday, November 11, Veterans Day, as we celebrate the fact that our veterans have fought for the freedom and privilege that we have of giving!

Let’s celebrate on Consecration Sunday!

-- Pastor Jimmy Jones, Teaching Pastor

Advent study coming in November



We will be starting a church wide Advent study in November, just in time to learn how Mary and Joseph traveled and lived. The book The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem by Adam Hamilton is accompanied by a DVD which shows actual footage of the places Mary and Joseph traveled. Many small groups will be doing this study together. You didn’t get to join a group during the last church wide study? Then, you still have a chance before the year is over! We will have a list of groups doing this study in upcoming church communications. No need to sign up, just show up! We’ll have copies of the book available for purchase, but you can also download the book to your Nook or Kindle. The Journey may be the best Christmas present ever!

Financial Status

General Fund Recap September 2012

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 52,866
Less Expenses	\$ 56,604
September Income/(Deficit)	\$ (3,738)
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ (30,077)

October 2012 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	6:30 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
10/7	144	140	61	\$13,536	\$230	\$21
10/14	124	140	58	\$12,692	\$95	\$0
10/21	127	136	53	\$13,074	\$235	\$0
10/28	128	158	38	\$18,132	\$447	0

Designated Totals

Mission Funds
\$5,976
Enhancement Fund
\$1,672
Memorials
\$4,560
Building Fund
\$247,941
General Fund
Needed Weekly 2012
\$ 12,824

Owed on Church Facility: \$2,220,802

Owed on Parsonage: \$123,831

Volunteer Opportunities

If you would like to provide **Sunday morning snacks** in the foyer, please sign the calendar on the wall next to the nursery. There are openings for November and December. Small groups or families or by yourself you can make food to serve or purchase it from grocery store. Thank you to all who have participated. The **2013 Flower and Snack calendars** will be posted soon, sign up quickly to get the weeks that are important to you.

Attention All Experienced Needle-pointers



I have been asked to organize a group of our church's creative ladies. We are needed to participate in a beautifying project for our church by volunteering our time and needle-pointing talents to create new kneeling pad covers. This will be a large and ongoing task and require the help of all who have skill in this lost art.

If you know how to needlepoint and are interested in helping to decorate the Lord's house, we could sure use your talent. Please call the church office 280-5141 or **Dixie Thalmueller** 273-4286. We will gather names then plan our first meeting.

-- Dixie Thalmueller

United Methodist Women

The next UMW meeting is **Saturday, November 10 at 10:00am**. Missions will be our topic and **Jill Bennett** will tell us about her journey to Haiti and **Sharon Kehoe** will talk about Mission In A Backpack. We also will be planning our 3rd Annual Christmas Bake Sale on December 8. We welcome your Christmas treats and encourage your friends and neighbors to visit us to supplement their Christmas. It's not too late to join us for our **Autumn Fling on November 3 from 3:00 - 5:00pm**. This is an opportunity for you to invite friends and introduce them to PVUMC. We will be serving tea sandwiches and desserts and the Sweet Adelines will sing for us.

PVUMC Charters Venturing Crew

Venturing is a program of the Boy Scouts of America for youth and young adults, men and women ages 14 through 20. We are proud to announce that our church received the charter for **Venturing Crew 288** Sunday morning, October 28. We are pleased also to be the chartering organization for **Scout Troop 288** and **Cub Pack 291** and to host **Brownie Troop 1445**.

Spiritual Types Study, Thursday, November 15

Did you know that not everyone connects with God through worship in the exact same way? There are four spiritual types that will help us understand that there are different strokes for different folks:

- ◆ Head (expository verse-by-verse preaching is an example of what connects with these folks)
- ◆ Feelings (preaching through the use of stories that connect emotionally is an example of what connects)
- ◆ Experiential/mystery (the use of incense, hands on working with materials are examples of what connects)
- ◆ Action oriented (worship in the context of hands on missions is an example of what connects)

The Reverend Donna Bowen will lead us in a study of spiritual types on **Thursday, November 15** from **5:30 to 6:30** in the sanctuary. (You're welcome to bring a snack supper if you like.) This study may help those who check out a service like *Connections* understand that what may not be their first language of worship connects well with some others. Perhaps some of us will find more meaningful ways personally to connect with God than what we've always experienced Sunday mornings.

It's especially important for local church leaders to be aware of the means by which people of a spiritual type different from their own might connect with God. This awareness will keep us from dismissing modes of worship that don't connect with us personally. (This dismissal has happened often with respect to styles of music in recent decades.) **All are welcome to participate** in what promises to be an engaging and enlightening hour together.



Children's Corner

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

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

C.I.A. will continue to meet every Wednesday in November **EXCEPT Wednesday, November 21**. We will be practicing for two big events this holiday season! We will be singing November 25 during the Hanging of the Greens service at 7:00pm and playing the bells during our Christmas Cantata on December 16. Bring your sack supper and join the fun on Wednesdays from 6:00 – 7:30pm.

5th Grade Girls Group

Did you know....A group of 5th grade girls meet twice a month on Sunday afternoons to grow and learn about God together?

Last month the girls made ¼ cup rice bags that were given out at the October 14 services to drive home the fact that millions in our world are hungry each day, living on that bit of food or less. At the end of the services, the girls received gifts for Church World Service's CROP walk, which they participated in that afternoon. Thank you, church, for giving over \$500 to the hungry that morning. These girls are learning and living Jesus' call to serve those less fortunate. Our next meeting will be November 4 at 5:00pm.

Mark Your Calendars

Advent Craft Festival – Sunday, November 27 from 5-7pm (see below for more info)

Christmas Cantata – Sunday, December 16 at 9:30 and 11:00am worship services

Advent Wreath Lighting – One family lights the Advent Wreath at each service during the four Sundays in Advent (Dec. 2, 9, 16, 23) and on Christmas Eve (4:00, 5:30, 7:00). If your family would like to light the candles during one of the services, please contact Jenn Smith at jenn.smith@pv-umc.org.

Calling All Elves

Don't miss the **Advent Craft Festival** on **November 25 from 5:00 – 7:00pm**. 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 Jenn Smith at jenn.smith@pv-umc.org. Stay for *Hanging of the Greens* at 7!

ADVENT CRAFT FESTIVAL NOVEMBER 25, 5:00 - 7:00pm

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.



Round Of Applause



- 👍 For our rock star small group leaders, Tucker Holland, Reid Johnson, and Lisa Middleton
- 👍 For all of our students who helped out with the Trunk or Treat crafting!
- 👍 All of our families who came out to help us determine the locations and dates of our summer 2013 mission trips!

Upcoming Events

Looking for a way to worship with your teens, or a worship time that is interactive and different? Come check our Connections! Every Sunday night @ 6:30pm. We explore worship in a conversational, connective way. We'd love to see you there!

2ND ANNUAL BAKE-IN! November 16-17, 7:00pm-8:00am. We will hold a lock-in at the church where students will sign up in groups and be given 2 hours to bake in our kitchen! Choose your favorite cookie, brownie, or cupcake recipe and put it to the test! No a baker? That's ok, come to the lock-in anyhow and taste test! Baking groups must bring their own ingredients, including cupcake liners. Pans, measuring cups and spoons, and one stand mixer will be provided. Everyone should bring \$5 for snacks!

Hanging of the Greens and Kids Crafting

Sunday, November 25. Come out at 5:30pm to help some precious children AND get service hours! Then stay for the Hanging of the Greens service at 7:00pm!

WII WISH YOU A MERRY CHRISTMAS (PARTY)

Saturday, December 8. Come to the church at 12:30pm to participate in our annual youth group Christmas celebration! We will set up our wiis, play games, and participate in a white elephant gift exchange. If you want to participate in the exchange, bring a gift that costs **NOMORE THAN \$5**, wrapped, and let the fun begin! The more creative, the better. In fact, some of our favorite gifts have been things that we had lying around the house, so we wrapped it up!

Mission Blitz 2012

Friday, December 14-Sunday, December 16. We will be making a difference, here in our own community! This is an event for all ages, and we hope everyone participates. For the youth, there is an added overnight element! Friday evening will be a community wide children's party, where parents can drop off their children and go shopping for Christmas treasures. Saturday will be spent working on schools and homes in St Augustine, and Sunday will be spread out across Jacksonville with a church wide serve day! We will share a meal together every evening, and worship too! Keep your eye out for more information!

SIGN UP TO PROVIDE DINNERS We need families and church members who are able to help out our youth ministry by providing our weekly dinners. Right now we have many dates in January open! More details are available from Kelly. Thanks in advance for your help!

A Note From Pastor Jeff.

In this season of political debate (or vitriol, as the case may be) I hear a lot of people fretting over the state of our nation and how important it is to elect the right person as president. Frankly, I'm more concerned about "We, the people." Especially I am concerned about the church.

Jesus tells his followers that they are the salt of the earth and the light of the world (Matthew 5:13-16). In the U.S. 78% of adults identify themselves as Christian. Collectively I don't see us 78% throwing off much light nor providing much in the way of preserving or seasoning (two functions of salt in the ancient world). What gives?

I can only think that the "Are you a follower of Jesus, or just a fan?" question comes into play here. A few presidents back I heard myself badmouthing the man in office. Then I remembered the words of the apostle Paul who urged

... that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity.

– 1 Timothy 2:1-2

As a follower of Jesus I realized I needed to be praying for a president I didn't much care for. Interestingly, I found myself less able to malign the man. Didn't mean I suddenly agreed with his actions or policies, but I found it impossible to trash someone I was praying for. How much more civil would this election be if 78% of adults were praying for the president and the other candidate?

As close as the race is I expect that nearly half of voters will be disappointed following the election. What if you and I covenanted now to pray for whomever is elected rather than spend the next four years talking down the president or the elected leaders we perceive to oppose him? When we hear another Christian running down a leader, might we be so bold as to ask whether they are praying for him or her?

Looking for salt and light,

Pastor Jeff



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