

# THE WAVE



VOLUME 11, ISSUE 1

**JANUARY 2013**

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## *Upcoming Message Series: Soul Detox*

As followers of Jesus we are called to be in the world, but not conformed to its desires or values. This can be more difficult than we think. We often feel compromised by ungodly influences and emotions like anger, envy, fear, and unforgiveness that leak into our hearts and minds. When these feelings take up residence, like a musty house, our souls need a thorough spring cleaning.

**Beginning January 6** explore how to overcome the emotional and spiritual toxins that assault us daily. 9:30 *Alive!* and 11:00 Traditions worship services.

## *Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University Begins Sunday January 20*

We all need a plan for our money. Dave's 9-week workshop will show you how to get rid of debt, manage your money, spend and save wisely, and much more! Highly entertaining, with a unique combination of humor, informative financial advice and biblical messages. Pre-registration required; \$95 per person or couple. Read more on page 5. **Sundays from 2:00 - 3:30pm** beginning January 20.

## *Graceful Parenting with Love & Logic Begins Wednesday, January 30*

In this 6-week Jean Hoelscher-led fun and funny parenting workshop learn how to neutralize arguing and avoid power struggles, set and enforce limits in a loving way, get chores done without reminders, raise responsible kids, end lectures, threats and warnings, and battle sibling rivalry. Pre-registration required; attend first session with no obligation. \$75 per person or couple. (Previous participants may repeat for free. Bring your workbook. All new videos.) Nursery, children and youth activities available. Bring a snack supper if you like. **Wednesdays from 6:00 - 8:00pm** beginning January 30. Read more on page 8.

## *Upcoming Messages*

*Begin Soul Detox message series*

January 6 **Septic Thoughts: Overcoming the Lies We Tell Ourselves** (2 Corinthians 10:3-5)

January 13 **Lethal Language: Experience the Power of Life-Giving Words** (James 3:5-10)

January 20 **Bitter Roots: Digging Up the Destructive Source of Resentment**

January 27 **Green with Envy: Scratching the Poison Ivy of Comparison**

February 3 **Rage Rash: Neutralizing the Acid of Anger**

## OUR MISSION:

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



**PONTE VEDRA**  
*United Methodist  
Church*

## Missions Corner

### The Giving Tree

We're happy to report that through December 24 we've received 81 Publix gift cards totaling \$1,805 in value. These cards will bless many clients of BEAM (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry) in the months to come. Good going, church!

Haven't turned in your card yet? There's still time to get a card, charge it up (\$25 max per card, please) and turn it in through the collection plate.

### Mission House



As the cold weather sets in, we are reminded of the plight of the homeless served by the **Mission House** and their need for **hats and gloves, small blankets and sleeping bags**. Often the belongings of the homeless are stolen or discarded leaving them with only the clothes on their backs. During the month of January, PVUMC will be collecting items to help the homeless stay warm and dry during the upcoming winter months. Please consider this need and place your donated items in the bin in the church lobby. The collected items will be delivered to the Mission House.

## Ponte Vedra UMC Mission Trip to The Florida United Methodist Children's Home

PVUMC will be visiting the **Florida Methodist Children's Home** March 8-10. At present we have openings for six men and five women. The cost for the trip is \$50.00 per person (excluding transportation) but includes all meals and housing. We will be driving to Enterprise on Friday afternoon March 8. For more information please call George Garcia @ 904-249-3382 or email [george.garcia@pv-umc.org](mailto:george.garcia@pv-umc.org).

## Cuba... Opportunity Knocks!

The new year brings a number of opportunities to serve our brothers and sisters in Cuba. **United Methodist Volunteers In Mission (UMVIM)** will conduct **Team Leader training** in Mandarin on **January 12**. They will also send a group to Cuba in July. *Methodists United in Prayer* (our sister-church ministry) has already filled trips in January and February but plans to send additional groups in June (Cuba Annual Conference), July (young adults), September (women's groups) and November (men's groups). We hope to receive Pastor Damian from our sister church for another visit in the fall and will be looking for families to host his visit.

If you are interested in serving Cuba through any of these opportunities, contact **George Reed** at [george.reed@pv-umc.org](mailto:george.reed@pv-umc.org).

## *"Teaching Moment"*

*by Pastor Jimmy Jones, Teaching Pastor*



I answer your questions in this column so feel free to call the office at 280-5141, ask in person, or email me with your Bible questions.

**Question:** Who was St. Francis and what is the mission of the St. Francis House in St. Augustine?

**Answer:** Francis of Assisi was the son of a wealthy Italian cloth merchant. He lived from 1181-1226 AD. Growing up as a wealthy young man, Francis came to believe that the pursuit of wealth in and of itself was empty. So he decided to live among the poor and eventually founded a Catholic order that focused on ministry among "the least of these." He is also known for his concern for animals and the environment and was eventually canonized as a saint by the Roman Catholic Church.

Many missions around the country focused on ministry to the poor are named for St. Francis. Our church has partnered with the St. Francis House in St. Augustine. Not only are they the only transitional housing facility in St. John's County, but they also serve meals to the poor, provide medical services, clothing, and give job placement aimed at making people financially independent. To learn more about their ministry visit them at [www.stfrancisshelter.org](http://www.stfrancisshelter.org).

We have two church teams going monthly to serve food at St. Francis House. Interested in volunteering? Contact me in the church office, 280-5141 or email me at [jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org](mailto:jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org). In addition, on the first Sunday of each month beginning in 2013, you will see bins located near our church entrance for the purpose of collecting canned food for St. Francis House. Your generous donations are appreciated! As we celebrate Holy Communion on the first Sunday of each month, let's not forget our friends and neighbors in need.

## *PVUMC Blood Drive*



The next blood drive is **Sunday, January 13** from 9:00am to 12:30pm. Anyone who is in good health, a minimum of 17 years old and weighs at least 110 pounds may donate blood. There is no upper age limit to donate as long as your doctor says it is okay.

Beat the crowds, sign up on-line and get the best time for your schedule. Go to [www.igiveblood.com](http://www.igiveblood.com). Click on Give Blood then choose make an appointment and enter 7931 in the fund code box. Select search and it will take you directly to our blood drive. Remember, one donation can save up to three lives. Contact Eleanor at [eleanor.snite@pv-umc.org](mailto:eleanor.snite@pv-umc.org) or 280-8026 if you have any questions.

# Financial Status

## General Fund Recap November 2012

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 57,365
Less Expenses	\$ 67,179
November Income/(Deficit)	(\$ 9,814)
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ (33,222)

## December 2012 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	6:30 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
12/2	129	153	30	\$17,061	\$635	\$250
12/9	144	159	42	\$17,713	\$100	\$2,460
12/16	179	174	30	\$13,767	\$637	\$3,175
12/13	128	150		\$13,734	\$503	\$370
12/24 4:00		202		\$19,220	\$140	
12/24 5:30		271				
12/24 7:00		210				

## Money Matters

British novelist, academic, and lay theologian C.S. Lewis wrote,

The only safe rule is to give more than we can spare. If our expenditure on comforts, luxuries, amusements, etc. is up to the standard common among those with the same income as our own, we are probably giving away too little. If our charities do not at all pinch or hamper us, I should say they are too small. There ought to be things we should like to do and cannot do because our charitable expenditure excludes them.

– C. S. Lewis [Mere Christianity, p. 82]

## Staff Gift

Thank you, Ponte Vedra UMC, for blessing us with a generous Christmas gift. You are always quick to share words of encouragement and now you have blessed us in this way too. You are a giving people and we are privileged to serve Christ through serving you.

– Your pastor, staff and contract musicians

## Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$7,875
Enhancement Fund	\$1,672
Memorials	\$3,002
Building Fund	\$242,397
General Fund	Needed Weekly 2012
	\$ 12,824

Owed on Church Facility: \$2,203,886

Owed on Parsonage: \$119,861

## *Financial Peace University*

**Financial Peace University** begins **Sunday, January 20** from 2:00 - 3:30pm. **Register by calling** Susan Bowler in the church office. The cost is \$95 (covers single or couple) payable to PVUMC and note FPU in the memo space. Partial scholarships available if needed. The topics will include;

**Week 1: Super Saving**

*Common Sense for Your Dollars and Cents*

**Week 2: Relating With Money**

*Nerds and Free Spirits Unite!*

**Week 3: Cash Flow Planning**

*The Nuts and Bolts of Budgeting*

**Week 4: Dumping Debt**

*Breaking the Chains of Debt*

**Week 5: Buyer Beware**

*The Power of Marketing on Your Buying Decisions*

**Week 6: The Role of Insurance**

*Protecting your health, Family and Finances*

**Week 7: Retirement and College Planning**

*Mastering the Alphabet Soup of Investing*

**Week 8: Real Estate and Mortgages**

*Keeping the American Dream from Becoming a Nightmare*

**Week 9: The Great Misunderstanding**

*Unleashing the Power of Generous Giving*

## *A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism*

The founder of Methodism, John Wesley wrote,

Meanwhile redeem the time, catch the golden moments as they fly.

– *Letters, VII, 241.*

## PVUMC 2013 Organizational Chart

### Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church

Organizational Structure 2013 The e-mail address of each leader and staff member is [firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org)

The **Church Council** provides for planning and implementing a program of nurture, outreach, witness, and resources in the local church.

**George Reed** '15 (Chair)  
**Ralph Snyder** (Lay Leader) '14  
**Charles Lovings** (SPRC chair) '13  
**Nancy Noble** (Finance chair) '13  
**Carolyn Skordas** (Trustees rep) '13  
**Dolores Harrison** '13 (Council on Ministries Chair)  
**Ann Cook** (UMW rep) '13  
**Zack Murta** (youth min rep) '13  
**Tucker Holland** (young adult rep / Lay Member to annual conference) '13  
**Sherrill Brown** (Treasurer) '14  
**Jeff Bennett** (Pastor)

The **Staff Parish Relations Committee** guides, teaches, monitors, attends to conflict and organizes celebration of ministry of pastor, staff.

**Mary Ann Brandt** '15  
**Corrine Garrison** '14  
**Barry Durden** '15  
**Rita Andreu** '13  
**Charles Lovings** (Chair) '13  
**Vic Bernet** '14  
**Ralph Snyder** (Lay Leader) '14

The **Committee on Finance** provides financial direction, an annual funding program, program budget, and financial reports.

**Nancy Noble** (Chair) '13  
**Charles Lovings** (SPRC Rep) '13  
**Dolores Harrison** (COM Rep) '13  
**Ralph Snyder** (Lay Leader) '14  
**Max Stanley** (Trustees Rep) '13  
**Alan Lovett** '15  
**Jeff Bennett** (Pastor)  
**Sherrill Brown** (Treasurer) '14  
**Sandy Ostroski** (Fin Sec'y) '15  
**Jim Larsen** (Church Acct/non-voting)

The **Board of Trustees** keeps an inventory of property, maintains equipment and facilities and plans future capital needs.

**Carolyn Skordas** '14  
**Mike Elliott** '15  
**Dolores Harrison** (COM Chair/non-voting) '13  
**Tom Murta** '15  
**Max Stanley** '13  
**Ron Schaffield** '13  
**Rusty Russillo** '13  
**Randy Bringger** '14  
**Andy Andreu** '15

The **Committee on Nominations & Leadership Development** selects and recruits people with appropriate gifts to lead the church.

**Jeff Bennett** (Pastor, Chair)  
**Julie Bringger** '13  
**Phyllis Monie** '15  
**Sherrill Brown** '13  
**Sue Morris** '15  
**Ralph Snyder** (Lay Leader) '14  
**Ruth Murta** '14

The **Council on Ministries** enables and encourages various ministries to work in concert to fulfill the mission of the church.

**Dolores Harrison** (COM Chair) '13  
**Ralph Snyder** (Lay Leader) '14  
**TBD** (Hospitality)  
**Kelly Minter** (Youth)  
**Dotty Rashba** (Small Groups)  
**Jenn Smith** (Children)  
**George Reed** (Missions > 50 mi)  
**Sharon Kehoe** (Missions < 50 mi)  
**George Garcia** (Children's Home)  
**Dixie Thalmueller, Sue Morris**  
 (Shepherding)  
**Ann Cook** (UMW)  
**Mary Moyes** (Prayer)  
**Jimmy Jones** (Teaching Pastor)  
**Jeff Bennett** (Lead Pastor)

## Welcome PVUMC New Members

On December 9 we received **Bill Tinsley** into membership through baptism. On the 23<sup>rd</sup> we received **Neal & Donna, Laura and Samantha Price** into membership. We are delighted to be serving Christ together with you!

## New Member Orientation Offered Sunday, January 27

**Thinking about joining PVUMC?** Just like to learn more about us? Pastor Jeff would love to have you participate in the next New Member Orientation **Sunday, January 27** from 3 - 5pm. Contact the office (280-5141, [susan.bowler@pv-umc.org](mailto:susan.bowler@pv-umc.org)) and let us know you're coming. Childcare for 5 & under available with advance notice.

## Volunteer Opportunities

Now is the time to check the calendar for open dates to provide **Sunday morning snacks** and choose the Sunday that works best for you or has special meaning. To make it easier for volunteers, we are now serving the snacks from 10:30 to 11:00am, between the two services. The coffee service will still start before the 9:30 *Alive!* service. Small groups, families or individuals are encouraged to check the calendar on the wall next to the nursery. Thanks to all who have been participating.

## The Way of Forgiveness

This is an experience to learn to give and receive forgiveness. This is not an informational class but a transformational event. This training in spiritual formation explores Christ's call to live a forgiven and forgiving life. The *Way of Forgiveness* focuses on releasing shame, guilt and moving toward forgiveness and reconciliation. There are nine weekly sessions. Each session is two hours in length. The Way of Forgiveness is to begin mid January. The day and time of gatherings is to be determined by those interested in participating. Intrigued? Call **Donna Bowen**, 232-8596.

## United Methodist Women

Thank you to everyone who donated to and participated in our fund raising projects in 2012. Your generosity to our garage sale, pecan sale and to our bake sale helped to make it possible for us to donate over **\$4,700** to fifteen different ministries.

Our next UMW meeting will be on **Saturday, January 19 at 10:00am** and our speaker will be **Linda Scaz** from Haven Hospice. All women in our church are invited to join us in sharing our faith and fellowship.



### 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) Briefs



**Ring in the new year!** C.I.A. will be ringing in 2012 with an exciting menu of games, crafts, Bible adventures and skits! We begin meeting again on **Wednesday, January 9 at 6:00pm**. Bring your sack supper and join the new year fun!

**HAPPY NEW YEAR**

## Kingdom Kids

There's nothing that can help you understand your beliefs more than trying to explain them to an inquisitive child. ~ *Frank A. Clark*

As we begin a new year, I am asking everyone - men and women - to look into their hearts and see if it is time for you to volunteer a few hours a month to teach or assist in Kingdom Kids at PVUMC. We have an amazing group of teachers, some of whom have been volunteering for 5 or more years. Curriculum is provided, all you need is some time and love to share with the amazing children of our community. Please email **Jenn Smith** at [jenn.smith@pv-umc.org](mailto:jenn.smith@pv-umc.org) if you are interested in volunteering.

## Graceful Parenting

Join us on **Wednesday, January 30** for the complimentary session *Neutralize Arguing and Handle Misbehavior Without Breaking a Sweat*. 6:00 - 8:00pm. Parents may preregister by calling **Pastor Jimmy** at the church office, 280-5141, online or emailing [jean@sunshineparenting.com](mailto:jean@sunshineparenting.com).

Join us for the entire series for \$75, materials included. Spouses may attend for free. Continuing education credit available through *Florida Association for the Education of Young Children*.

- Feb 6            *Teaching Responsibility Without Losing Their Love*
- Feb 13          *Setting Limits Without Waging War*
- Feb 20          *Avoiding Power-Struggles*
- Feb 27          *Guiding Kids to Own and Solve Their Problems*
- Mar 6           *Teaching Kids to Complete Chores... Without Reminders and Without Pay*





## Round Of Applause



- 👍 For Our students who participated in Mission Blitz
- 👍 For all of our students making it through exams alright
- 👍 To our United Methodist Women for sharing the kitchen with us for our Christmas party preparation

## Upcoming Events

**Our summer 2013 mission trips have been chosen!** The Senior High group will travel to Queens in New York City June 22-29, and our Middle School group will go to Topsail Beach in North Carolina July 21-27. A non refundable deposit of \$60 is required to save a spot on the trip and spaces are limited. Deposits are due by January 13.

**Nerf War Night!** Sunday, January 6. Celebrate our return in the New Year! If you have a Nerf gun, bring it with you. If you do not, please bring \$5 to rent one for the night. Invite friends, and dress comfortably. We will meet at 5:00pm and begin the war from there. We will finish the evening with pizza and ice cream. Bring your friends!

**Busch Gardens trip** Saturday, February 2, 7:00am we will meet at the church and travel to Tampa for our annual Busch Gardens day trip. We will return on Saturday evening, but VERY late (more like Sunday morning). Students have a choice either to sleep at the church if they would like, or parents can pick up their kids between 1:00 - 2:00am. Cost of the trip is \$65/person, plus spending money for food for the day. A deposit of \$30 is due by January 13 to hold your seat!

**SIGN UP TO PROVIDE DINNERS!** We still 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:

**Did you get what you wanted for Christmas?** I'm writing this before Christmas Day so I don't yet know how my kids will answer that; I think they'll all say yes. Jill knows our children so well that one of them has told her, "I don't know what I want. I always like what you get me so you choose." Indeed, the second week of December my 8-year old son said at least three times he wanted an extension cord for Christmas. (No accounting for taste.) Jill had already bought one for him.

**Did you get what you wanted for Christmas?** By the end of the third Sunday of Advent I knew I'd received what I wanted. I worshiped in the morning. (This was greatly helped by not preaching, by our spectacular choir and by the kids playing the bells.) As we drove home from picking up trash at the zoo (our family's Serve Sunday project) Jill told me about the morning's early arrival at church for bell practice. "What are all these cars doing here?" 8-year old Sophie asked. Jill explained that the choir was practicing plus several youth had spent the night as part of Mission Blitz. "Slept at the church? Did they see God?" Jill repeated the question to our youth minister Kelly Minter whose response was, "I see God whenever we're together."

As I finished gathering my thoughts for my brief *Connections* talk on the incarnation that night, I realized that I had experienced the Christ of Christmas, which is all I really wanted from the season. Worship, being in some way the hands and feet of Christ, marveling again at the coming of Emmanuel, "God with us."

In the year ahead may you be similarly blessed by the God who knows what will delight your soul. You won't find it at the big box store but it's freely available through your local church.

– Pastor Jeff



### 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 Crumrine
Custodian	Sheila Epperson

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