

THE WAVE



VOLUME 12, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2013

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Change The World Church Wide Study begins September 22

Something is not working. Despite the church's place of prominence in American culture and the presence of churches in every American town, misconceptions about the faith of Jesus Christ run rampant today. Christians are known more for exclusivity than for love, more for potlucks than for solving world hunger.

It's time for churches to get over the cruise-ship mentality of being a program provider, and **reconnect with the true message and mission of Jesus:** to bring good news to the poor, release to the captives, and freedom to the oppressed. The church is called to be a mission outpost, living out Christ's ideals in today's world.

Change the World by UMC Pastor Mike Slaughter will challenge us to be about the mission of Jesus. If you'll be participating in a small group (we'll be starting new ones) doing this study, the study guide (\$5.00) will suffice. If your group is not participating consider buying either the study guide or the book. (\$10.00) Message series begins **September 22**.

\$100,000 Matching Gift!

Ponte Vedra UMC has received the incredible offer of a **matching gift of up to \$100,000** toward purchase of the 2.5 acres next to the church. Wow! This means that every dollar now given or pledged is matched, dollar for dollar, up to \$100,000. **On Sunday September 1 we report receiving \$219,400** in gifts and pledges, including \$62,400 of the match. Meet our \$310,000 goal we'll and purchase the property without incurring additional long term debt. Designate your gift "Building Fund". Want to give later instead? Find a pledge card at the Welcome Table in the foyer. For details of the purchase see www.tinyurl.com/pv-property.

Upcoming Messages

- September 1 "Once I Was Blind, Now I Can See" (John 9)
- September 8 "Why People Don't Listen to Us" (Luke 23:32-38)
- September 15 *To Be Determined*
– Begin the message series *Change the World* –
- September 22 "Follow Jesus" (Luke 4:14-30)
- September 29 "Love Our Neighbors" (Luke 10:25-37)

OUR MISSION:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist
Church

Missions Corner

Blessings In A Backpack



Ponte Vedra UMC's **Blessings in a Backpack** program ensures that impoverished elementary school children are fed on the weekends throughout the school year. Only \$80 provides one child with food items that include easy-to-prepare, ready-to-eat foods such granola bars, juice boxes, macaroni and cheese and oatmeal for the entire school year. You can be a part of this wonderful mission!

Volunteer - Assist in packing the backpacks any Thursday your schedule permits. This is done in the Future Preschool Room at the church.

Financial Support - PVUMC supports this program through the general offering but you can help maintain and even expand the program through your donations made directly to the church. Please mark your check or offering envelope "Blessings in a Backpack" to ensure proper credit.

Donate Food- Food donations are gladly accepted! Your food donations can supplement the limited items in the weekend backpack menu. Suggested items include, granola bars, peanut butter or cheese crackers, fruit cups, whole grain crackers and macaroni and cheese. Many of these items can be purchased in larger quantities at Costco or Sam's Club!

Hunger Doesn't Take Weekends Off

Contact Sharon Kehoe at 834-3765 or e-mail sharon.kehoe@pv-umc.org

School Supply Drive for St Paul's School of Excellence A Huge Success!!!



A note of thanks from Mary Davis, Principal at St Paul's School of Excellence:

"Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! Your support of our school means so much to us. The supplies will be made available to students at Open House on August 16. For parents with multiple children, the cost can really be up there. We will allow parents to take from the donations available whatever their child needs and leave it in their child's classroom during Open House."

Like us on Facebook; Follow us on Twitter!



@pv_umc



facebook.com/PonteVedraUMC

A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism

Whatever religion can be concealed is not Christianity.

– Works I, 540.

Wycliffe/JAARS Mission Trip

What is JAARS? JAARS is Wycliffe’s support group providing everything from housing, information technology, transportation and whatever else it takes to support Bible translators in the field. Fifty percent of the work at the JAARS facility is done by part-time volunteers. Anyone over the age of 14 (14-17 with parental/guardian supervision) can participate.

INFORMATIONAL MEETING Sunday, September 15 at 10:00am upstairs in room 209.

Trip Dates: October 11-18 Contact: dan.thomas@pv-umc.org

Estimated cost for lodging & transportation \$395 per person single occupancy; less if you share a room.



Disciple Bible Studies Begin Soon!

PVUMC will be offering **DISCIPLE I** beginning **Wednesday, September 18** and **DISCIPLE II** beginning Sunday, **September 15**. **DISCIPLE I** will meet on Wednesdays from 6-8pm for 34 weeks. For more information on **DISCIPLE I** contact **Pastor Jimmy** in the church office at 280-5141 or email him at jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org. If you have taken **DISCIPLE I** you should consider taking **DISCIPLE II**. This class will meet on Sundays from 4-6pm for 32 weeks. For more information and to register, contact **Valerie Brown** at 254-3390.

Here are some comments from last year’s **DISCIPLE I** Class:

The Disciple 1 Study has given me a greater understanding of the Bible. The materials and people involved helped all of us to progress in our walk with the Lord.

-- Nancy Noble

During the course of Disciple 1 I learned a daily discipline of prayer and scripture reading. I know that I will continue this daily study of God’s word for the rest of my life - it is addictive.

-- Mary Moyes

Ponte Vedra UMC Blood Drive



The next blood drive is **Sunday, September 22** 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. Click on “sponsor name search” enter Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church and it will take you directly to our drive. Remember, one donation can save up to three lives. Contact Eleanor at eleanor.snite@pv-umc.org or 280-8026 if you have any questions.

Financial Status

General Fund Recap July 2013

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 52,780
Less Expenses	\$ 60,465
July Income/(Deficit)	\$ (7,685)
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ 860

August 2013 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
8/4	174	117	\$13,140	\$518	\$23,350
8/11	142	136	\$12,499	\$312	\$6,675
8/18	154	153	\$13,972	\$149	\$33,375

Designated Totals

Mission Funds
\$11,203

Enhancement Fund
\$1,673

Memorials
\$8,027

Building Fund
\$379,241

General Fund
Needed Weekly 2013
\$ 14,160

Owed on Church Facility: \$2,132,995

Owed on Parsonage: \$103,501

Being Admitted to the Hospital?



You'll likely be asked your church or other "religious preference" when being admitted to the hospital. Even though they ask this question, hospitals don't inform churches that their people are receiving care, so... If you want your church to know you're in the hospital (and we do like knowing) please be in touch with your small group leader or care person and/or the church office (904.280.5141).

New Member Orientation to be offered, Sunday, September 22

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**, September 22 from 3 - 5pm. Contact the office (280-5141, susan.bowler@pv-umc.org) and let us know you're coming. Childcare for 5 & under available with advance notice.

United Methodist Women

Christmas in August is almost over. But there is still time to make a donation to Operation Shoebox. This is a volunteer organization that sends requested care packages to members of the US military who are serving overseas. This is a way to let them know that America supports and appreciates them. A full list of commonly requested items is located on hallway table outside the infant nursery next to the red, white and blue Operation Shoebox basket. Thank you for all your donations and Merry Christmas!

Our next UMW meeting is Saturday, September 21 at 10:00am in room 207. We will be planning our October pecan sale and our Second Annual Tea which will be held on Saturday, November 9. Also, we will discuss how to best use our new facebook page and email address. Please join us to share our faith and fellowship.

UMW Fall Pecan Sale



It's that time of year again. United Methodist Women are selling our delicious pecans! The pecans are shelled naturally fresh and would make excellent and affordable gift ideas for Christmas or for your own personal use. All proceeds will go to the Altar Kneelers Needlepoint Project which the UMW is sponsoring. We also welcome individual donations for the needlepoint project.

We begin taking orders for pecans on Sunday, September 22. Look for your order forms in your Sunday bulletins or as any member of UMW. We will also make order forms available on the information table in the hallway outside the infant nursery. Please fill out the order form, attach your check made out to Ponte Vedra UMC-UMW and leave it in the collection plate. All orders must be turned in no later than Sunday, October 20. We hope for delivery before Thanksgiving depending on the pecan crop. Pick up will be at the church. If you have questions regarding pecan sales please contact **Suvan Shine** at 273-9667.

Fall Ministry Fair

The Ponte Vedra UMC fall **Ministry Fair** is **Sunday, September 8**. Visit each table, get your questions answered and see how you can make a difference in your local church through the ministry fair being held following each service. You'll be amazed by the ways God is using us together!

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.)

Sunday Morning Volunteer Opportunities



Coffee, juice and lemonade are a Sunday morning staple at our church. It's always there to enjoy while you greet your friends in the foyer before or after the worship service. Volunteers are now needed one Sunday per month to set out these refreshments before the 9:30 *Alive!* worship service. If you are willing serve your church family through beverage service please contact **Max Stanley** at max.stanley@pv-umc.org.

There are many dates available to provide **Sunday morning snacks**. The snacks are on the table in the foyer from 10:30 until 11:00am. **Please sign up** on the snack calendar on the wall by the nursery. Thanks to all who have provided snacks.

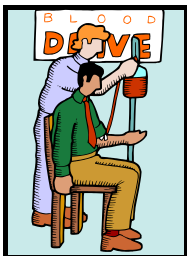
Small Groups Forming for Change the World Church Wide Study

Our fall church wide study: Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus is just around the corner. Small Group signup sheets will soon appear in the foyer so you may choose a day and time that works for you. Small groups are a great way to grow as a follower of Jesus and meet new friends as well. This study has a DVD which each group will view and questions in a study guide for conversation. Join a group and discover how we can reconnect with the true message and mission of Jesus. Books and guides will be available in the foyer. The book (but not the study guide) is available for Kindle and Nook. You can look forward to an exciting study! Contact **Jimmy Jones** (jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org) or **Dotty Rashba** (dotty.rashba@pv-umc.org) with questions.

Women's Bible Study to Resume Meeting!

We've had our summer break, the kids are back in school and we are settling into a new "normal". Block out some time each week and join us on **Thursday, September 5 at 10:00** for some light refreshments, fellowship and prayer time. We will discuss upcoming studies and our service to Mission House. All women are welcome! Contact **Jill Bennett** at jill.bennett@pv-umc.org.

Ponte Vedra UMC Blood Drive



The next blood drive is **Sunday, September 22** 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.

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On A Musical Note

Praise Choir

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

Traditional Choir

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

Children's Corner



Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are old they will not turn from it.

Proverbs 22:6 NIV

C.I.A. News

Calling all Kindergarten through fifth graders! Children In Action (C.I.A.) starts back Wednesday, September 4th. Bring a snack dinner and join us at 6:00pm to enjoy fellowship, followed by singing and

great fall Bible Activities! Join us each Wednesday as we grow in God's love and become the hands and feet of Jesus through service and missions.

Sept. 4 – Welcome back celebration.

Sept. 11 & 18 – Bible Memory Box Creation

Sept. 25 – End of summer pool party

Starting in October will devote the first Wednesday of each month to missions. That's why we are Children In Action! Come join us this fall and be a part of the action.

Kingdom Kids

PVUMC will present all third grade students with a new Bible on **Sunday, September 8** at both worship services. Any fourth or fifth grade students who have not received Bibles are also welcome to come forward. If you would like your child to receive his or her Bible, please call the church office at 280-5141 or email **Jenn Smith** at jenn.smith@pv-umc.org and let us know the name of your child and which service you will be attending.

Please Pray...

Pray for all children going back to school that they will have a successful, happy, confidence building year full of fun, learning and friendship. Also pray they will always know that God is with them every day watching and helping them along the way.

Mark Your Calendars!



TRUNK OR TREAT is **Saturday, October 26** from **6:00 - 8:00pm**.

There will be hotdogs, popcorn, face-painting, costume parade, bounce house, jack-o-lanterns, scarecrows and of course – vehicle trunks decked out with fun Halloween themes and candy for all of the little Trunk or Treaters! So tell your friends and neighbors so everyone can enjoy this fun fall community event. Start planning your Trunks now!! Contact **Jenn Smith** if you will be decorating your car, truck, SUV, trailer, bike, etc.. Anything goes – sign up today to make this event extra special.

*A Note From
Pastor Jeff:*

Parenting is tough duty. Often you're unsure of how well you're really doing. You invest yourself in your kids, you talk to other parents, you talk with God about your children. And once in awhile you see glimmers that encourage you.

This summer there's been a lot of conversation around our dinner table about the church buying the property next door. My youngest two (both just began 3rd grade) have become interested in how much things cost; of course they want to know that about the property. Also where the money to buy it will come from. On allowance day one of them decided to give their entire weekly allowance (the princely sum of \$1.00) to the church for the property. Then this child went and got another dollar from their bank to give that also. The other twin (also unprompted) decided to make a special gift toward our Lincolnville Vacation Bible School. How about that!

There are a lot of things I want for my kids that every parent wants for their child: nutritious food, safe neighborhood, good education. But it's the less tangible things that I'm most likely to neglect: nurturing their faith in the God who loves them, building character traits like compassion, empathy and generosity. These are the things that God desires and celebrates in us.

May we encourage these qualities in the lives of those we nurture and influence. And may we find them in increasing measure in ourselves.

Peace,
Pastor Jeff



PONTE VEDRA
*United Methodist
Church*

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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	JR Ross

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