

Missions Corner

Box Tops for Education



In today's economy most school systems struggle to make ends meet. Since 1996, the **Box Tops for Education** program has helped schools across America earn cash for the things they need. You can help **St Paul's School of Excellence** (a charter school in the Lincolnville area of St. Augustine) by clipping Box Tops for Education. Hundreds of products participate in the program, and you probably already have several in your pantry, freezer and fridge. Every box top you clip is worth 10 cents. That may not sound like a lot, but it adds up quickly. Each school can receive up to \$20,000 per school year from clipped box tops! If you want to participate, there will be a Box Tops for Education collection box in the future preschool room. Contact **Laura Lovett** at laura.lovett@pv-umc.org for more information.

Saint Paul School of Excellence



St. Paul School of Excellence is a free charter school in the Lincolnville area of St. Augustine. Ponte Vedra UMC has partnered with this school in many areas with the goal of improving the educational outcomes of the children. While we provide every student in this school with a weekend backpack of food as part of our Blessings in a Backpack Ministry, we've recognized that we can do so much more to impact the lives of these children by providing some of the assistance and tools they need to succeed. Education and opportunity go hand in hand in helping children out of poverty.

Recently, the children's groups at Ponte Vedra UMC collected enough books to supply every student with a book at Christmas. **Laura Lovett** has worked with the library at a school in Ponte Vedra Beach to obtain books for the library at St. Paul's to help insure that they meet the common core standards. Additionally, **Phyllis Monie** has insured that St. Paul's received software that will assist these students in the development of math skills. And since St. Paul's does not have an art program, **Jenn Smith** assists the school by providing an art workshop to all of the grades whenever possible.

If you are interested in assisting in the many opportunities available to help influence the lives of these children at risk, please contact **Laura Lovett**, laura.lovett@pv-umc.org, **Sharon Kehoe**, sharon.kehoe@pv-umc.org or **Jenn Smith**, jenn.smith@pv-umc.org.

A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism

"To use the grace we have, and now to expect all we want, is the grand secret."



Change for Cuba

Fourth quarter coin collection for Cuba totaled **\$443.05**. Well done, PVUMC! The church bought clothes, shoes, hygiene supplies and a cymbal stand, which were delivered to La Sierra by **Dee & Van Beggarly**. **Loree & George Reed** will travel to Cuba on February 19. They are looking for a used **laptop computer**, **digital camera** and a **smart phone** to take to our sister church. The collection of clothing is going really well. Everyone at La Sierra says “Gracias!” for your continued prayers and support.

Costa Rica Mission Trip - August 2 - 9

PVUMC will send 20 missionaries to **San Ramon, Costa Rica** this year to host a Vacation Bible School and do some light construction projects in the area. We will work on the campus of **Faithful Servant Missions** as well as do projects in the local community. The trip is limited to the first 20 missionaries. Cost is approximately \$1500 and includes everything – your flight, housing, meals, and a two night side trip. A **brief information session** will be held on **Sunday, February 23rd** from 10:30-11:00am in room 209. Please RSVP for the information session by calling **Pastor Jimmy** in the office or by emailing him at jimmy.jones@pv-umc.org.

United Methodist Women News

Our sister church, La Sierra in Cuba has a mission outreach to a nursing home in their area. The ladies in that home are in need of house dresses such as **sundresses, shifts and casual beach type cover-up dresses**. There will be a box under the table in the hallway outside the infant nursery marked “Dresses - Cuba.” **Loree & George Reed** will take these items when they go to Cuba. Time is of the essence as the dresses must be collected by **Sunday, February 16**. Thank you for your continued support of this important mission outreach.

Our **garage sale/silent auction** is scheduled for **April 5**. Please start gathering your “attic treasures” remembering that all of our proceeds support missions. Thank you for your continued support.

The next UMW meeting is March 15 at 10:00am upstairs in room 207.

Financial Status

General Fund Recap December 2013

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 97,155
Less Expenses	\$ 56,100
December Income/(Deficit)	\$ 41,056
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ 9,488

January 2014 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
1/5	104	163	\$26,657	\$308	\$0
1/12	157	170	\$14,170	\$199	\$125
1/19	117	169	\$16,570	\$115	\$0
1/26	112	184	\$15,218	\$171	\$310

Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$7,305
Enhancement Fund	\$1,673
Memorials	\$3,555
Building Fund	\$221,884
General Fund	
Needed Weekly 2014	\$ 15,518

Owed on Church Facility: \$2,095,926

Owed on Parsonage: \$87,924

Money Matters

PVUMC Finishes 2013 "In the Black"

Through God's faithfulness and the generosity of many, **we ended 2013 in the black**, to the tune of **\$9,400**. December was a month of exceptional giving. We received over \$15,000 in our Christmas Offering, all of which went toward ministry partner FSM's Panama Feeding Program and the Florida United Methodist Children's Home Madison Youth Ranch. To all who gave during the final month of the year and to all who gave throughout the year, **Thank you and Praise God!**

Like us on Facebook; Follow us on Twitter!

Attention!



The Flamingos have escaped from Busch Gardens! One of the PVUMC students left the cage open during our annual visit, and now they are migrating toward us! At the current progression, they will be landing in the Ponte Vedra Beach area on **Saturday, March 1 between 10:00am and 3:00pm**. On that day they can land on ANY lawn they want, and they make a MESS!

In order to repent for their blunder, the youth of PVUMC have been taking classes in flamingo removal, and will be willing to help you out (for a small fee!) If, on March 1, your lawn happens to be “flocked” by the flamingos, you can call the flamingo removal hotline (and the youth will come out and remove them immediately (for a fee of \$30). Plus, for an additional \$3, you can choose where the flamingos go next!

Or, you can bypass the potential mess all together and buy flamingo insurance for your house. For just \$25, you can rest safely knowing you will not be bothered by these pink birds. (You will be given the opportunity to purchase your insurance on Sundays after worship from February 9, 16 & 23). Or you may buy insurance by emailing kelly1.minter@pv-umc.org. All proceeds go toward the summer 2014 mission trips for middle school and high school.



(For those who are confused: Every year we do a pink flamingo fundraiser. For 3 weeks we set up a table and people can buy insurance for \$25 (which means you WILL NOT be bothered on the day of the event) or they can write down the name of a friend (for a small fee) that they want to flock to be sent to. Then on March 1 the youth get together, most of them dressed up like flamingos, and they stand on the lawns of church members and friends. The homeowner is given a paper with a phone number on it (the flamingo removal hotline). Once they call them, the “removal team” shows up and collects the flamingos (and the removal fee of \$30). You may suggest the next place we go, too! This is a great fundraiser, and tons of fun!)

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February 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. (You can leave it there each week or take it with you; up to you.) We all 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.)

Suggestions for Making Our Guests Feel Welcome

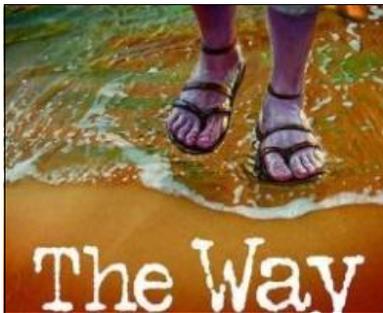
If you greet someone new, ask them if they've met our pastors yet. If they haven't, please bring them to me or Pastor Jimmy and allow us the privilege of meeting them. If you can't remember their name, that's okay. Jimmy or I will ask them in your presence and then we'll both know. ☺

If someone asks you for directions within the building (restroom, nursery, etc), walk them there yourself or take them to someone who can take them there. I always give high marks to stores whose employees invite me to go with them to the item I want. We can do even better than retail!

Give your pastors space to greet guests. Sunday morning is our chief opportunity to do this. A greeting and a handshake are always welcome but if you need a lengthier conversation, we will welcome an email, phone call, or appointment during the week. Thanks!

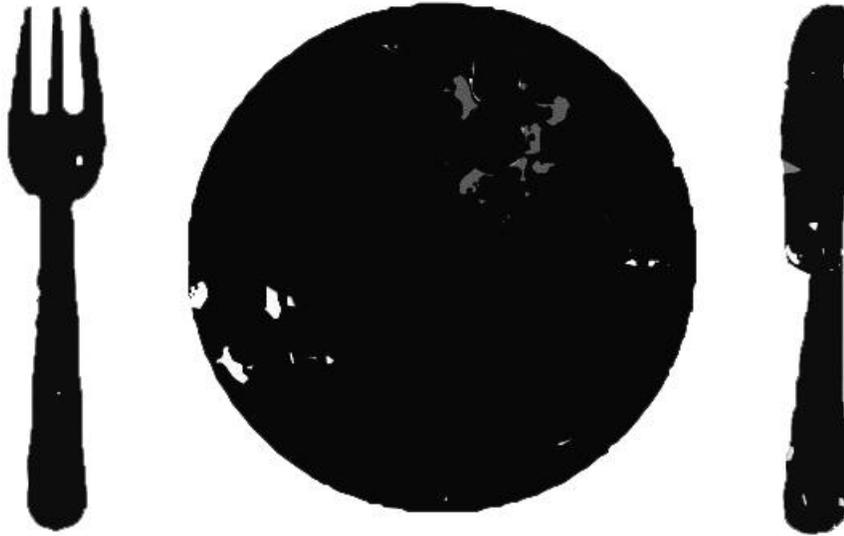
– Pastor Jeff

Spring Study: Adam Hamilton's "The Way"



I was a history major in college. Someone once asked, “If you could meet any historical figure, who would it be?” That was a simple question for me to answer. It would be Jesus. Though I admire President Abraham Lincoln and inventor Thomas Edison, it was Jesus who used his simple message and life to change the world. **This spring we have an opportunity to walk in the footsteps of Jesus by reading Adam Hamilton's “The Way”.** In his book, Hamilton, the pastor of the largest United Methodist Church in the United States, takes a look at some key moments in Jesus' life and ministry. When you read it you'll experience what it means to truly walk in the shadow of Christ and become more like Jesus. Some of our small groups will do this DVD based study together and you might also choose to read the book. In late February, we will begin selling the books on Sunday morning and signing up people to participate in a small group (if you don't have one already). The study itself kicks off the week of Sunday, March 2nd. Pastors Jeff and Jimmy will design messages around the themes in the book. You don't want to miss “The Way”! So, pick up a copy, connect with a small group, and walk in the footsteps of the most intriguing person in history - Jesus.

- Pastor Jimmy



THE HUNGER MEAL

Sunday, March 2

6:00 pm

PVUMC

Where will YOU sit?

Mark Your Calendars!

Variety Show with Silent Auction, April 13



See those who sit with you Sunday mornings in a whole new light at the church wide **Variety Show on Sunday, April 13 at 6:30pm**. Proceeds to help underwrite the cost of the youth summer mission trips. \$8 per ticket, or your entire family for \$20. (Rumor has it that **Pastor Elvis** will be making an appearance; please come anyway.)



The Flamingos have escaped! See page 5!



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

Kingdom Kids

February's Kingdom Kids theme will be **Love is...** Join us every Sunday as we learn all about God's love and how to share that love with others through games, music, drama, art and science!

Thank you, Lord, for your love, and for the way you share your love with us every day. Teach us to love others as you love us. Remind us to show love to all of the people we meet, even if we may not know them. Most of all, we thank you for the love of Jesus, your Son, who gave his life for us. It is in his name that we pray. Amen.

C.I.A. Briefs

Calling all Olympians! Join us on Wednesday nights as we spend February participating in Winter Olympics – Bible Style!

And on February 6th – we will serve others by making blankets for the linus project! The mission of **Project Linus** is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer “blanketeers.” Thank you **Lauren Senecal** for leading us in this amazing service project!

The Acolytes Are Here!

Please join me in welcoming the following acolytes:

Hilton Ashby, Jeffrey Ashby, David Hall, Taylor Hall, Jack Harried, Natalie Lovett, Sonja Smith, Cameron Stagner, Jenna White and Laurel White. And a big thank you to our amazing acolyte leaders: **Dotty Rashba, Sharon Kehoe, Jane Ambler, Jenn Smith.** Thank you **Nancy Mingus** for making our Beautiful Acolyte Chair covers!

If you are interested in being an acolyte and are in 4th-6th grade – please see **Jenn Smith**, Children's Minister. We will have another acolyte training in March for new acolytes!

When you serve God by serving as an acolyte, you do more than carry a flame to the alter candles. You symbolically bring the light of Christ's spirit into the worship service and out into the world!

Vacation Bible School will be June 23 - June 27



Round Of Applause



- 👍 For our student Costa Rica 2014 team; Christy Timm, Samantha Price, Jasmine Senecal, Callie Brown, Ian Keller, Andrew Brown, and Jackson Bernet.
- 👍 For our students who have made a commitment to confirmation 2014
- 👍 For our superstar volunteer small group leaders; Holly Smith, Reid Johnson, Isaac Newton, Tucker Holland, Ruth Murta, and Ashley Sabol!

Upcoming Events

SIGN UP TO PROVIDE DINNERS Thank you everyone for signing up to provide dinners for our youth ministry this fall! We are currently signing people up for March. Contact Kelly if you would like to volunteer! This is a great way to support our youth ministry!

Busch Gardens Trip! Saturday, February 1 we will meet at the church at 7:00am and head to Tampa to hang out at Busch Gardens for the day! We will return at 1:00am Sunday.

Confirmation 2014 We will begin with a parent and student meeting on Sunday, February 9 at 9:30am in the youth room. February 21-23 we will attend a confirmation retreat, and begin our weekly lessons on Sunday, March 2. Confirmation Sunday will be June 8. Contact Kelly to register your student.

Dare to RISE February 14-16. We will travel to Leesburg Florida to participate in a weekend retreat with other youth from the Florida Conference. The weekend theme will center on rising to the challenge of student leadership. The cost for the weekend is \$80, with a \$40 deposit due by February 9.

Connections Worship Will be back Sunday, February 9! 6:30pm in the Sanctuary!



A Note From Pastor Jeff:

I've recently spent time with an old friend, "My Utmost for His Highest" by Oswald Chambers, available as a 30-day devotional through the app *YouVersion*. I wonder if Chambers' words might apply to any others of us who are not naturally (or more to the point, *supernaturally*) bold. Chambers writes,

And beware of exhibiting religious deceit by saying, "Oh, I have no misgivings about Jesus, only misgivings about myself." If we are honest, we will admit that we never have misgivings or doubts about ourselves, because we know exactly what we are capable or incapable of doing. But we do have misgivings about Jesus. ...

My misgivings arise from the fact that I search within to find how He will do what He says. My doubts spring from the depths of my own inferiority. If I detect these misgivings in myself, I should bring them into the light and confess them openly – "Lord, I have had misgivings about You. I have not believed in Your abilities, but only my own. And I have not believed in Your almighty power apart from my finite understanding of it."

Oswald Chambers has got my number! Perhaps you too will find the prayer he offers helpful: **O Lord, with what abundant relief I turn to You! I need You in unfathomable ways, and with what amazed relief and joy I find all I need in You.**

– Pastor Jeff



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Children's Minister	Jenn Smith
Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
Accountant	Jim Larsen
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