

THE WAVE



VOLUME 13, ISSUE 12

DECEMBER 2014

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Hangings of the Greens, November 30



Joy, joy, joy, joy, joy. On Sunday, November 30 we'll gather at 7:00pm to decorate our sanctuary and sing the songs of the season during our festive "**Hangings of the Greens**" service. Got kids? Come early (5:00) to enjoy **Christmas crafts** with them.

Bake Sale, December 13

A **Christmas cookie-bake** fund raiser for missions will be held **Saturday, December 13** from 9:00am to 3:00pm. Organized by our own United Methodist Women.

Christmas Musical to be Offered December 14

We all enjoy the beauty of Christmas — the music and candles, the greenery and crimson flowers, the holy symbols of the manger, and the star. These symbols draw us into the story of Christmas, reminding us of the power, simplicity, and awesome significance of the birth of the Christ Child. Our Traditional Choir, youth and children will explore these reflections of Christ through the memorable tunes and colorful harmonies of **Images of Adoration**, celebrating the Child in a thoughtful, jubilant way. **Sunday, December 14 at 9:30 and 11:00.**

Our bell choir will offer "**Joy to the World**" at both services!

Christmas Eve



We'll worship at **4:00, 5:30 and 7:00pm** on Christmas Eve with candlelight at each hour. The nursery will be available.

Upcoming Messages

November 30 **Christ's Second Coming? Keep Awake!** (Mark 13:24-37)

December 7 **Confession & Repentance: The Least Popular (and Most Needed) Sermon** (Mark 1:1-8)

December 14 **Images of Adoration** (a Christmas musical)

December 21 Luke 1:26-38

December 24 **Is Jesus Enough?** (Luke 2:1-20)

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



Last year's **Giving Tree** was popular with both our generous church family and with those served by BEAM. (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry). To participate, take a Publix gift card from *The Giving Tree* in the sanctuary and have Publix "charge it up" in an amount of \$15, \$20 or \$25. Place it in the offering plate the following Sunday and we will get the cards to BEAM which utilizes them to support its pantry with fresh fruits and vegetables not grown onsite and when client needs can't be met (formula, baby food, etc).

If you forget to get a card from the tree and you'd like to participate, any Publix or other grocery store will sell you a card that you can give to BEAM through the church.

(Please don't put more than \$25 on a single card; a gift of multiple cards is preferred.)

Change for Cuba

Feliz Navidad ~ Merry Christmas from Cuba

A group from Heritage UMC delivered a small package from us to Pastor Bianco and his family in La Sierra. He sent a heartfelt thank you email to everyone at PVUMC from his new phone (part of the package) the next day!



Crop Hunger Walk

Ponte Vedra UMC had **14** representatives who walked for hunger on November 23. You have made a difference for many of the 1 in 6 people in the United States for whom hunger is a reality. God bless you!

A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism

Sing lustily and with a good courage. Beware of singing as if you were half dead, or half asleep; but lift up your voice with strength.

– *United Methodist Hymnal, vii.*

Operation Christmas Child

Many thanks to you who prepared shoe boxes for Operation Christmas Child. We prepared **120 boxes** this year, a fabulous showing! What a blessing those boxes will be to 120 children! Thank you for your support of this mission! Thanks too to **Rita and Andy Andreu** for receiving and transporting the boxes.

Florida United Methodist Children's Home Visit

Our Florida United Methodist Children's Home visit is **March 13-15**. PVUMC is looking for **six women** and **six men** for our annual visit to Enterprise, Florida. We will be helping FUMCH prepare for their *Day On Campus* March 21. The trip includes two nights, a work day and worship on Sunday, March 15. Cost is \$30 a person for 5 meals. If interested contact **George Garcia** at george.garcia@pv-umc.org or 904 249-3382. Hurry, this trip fills up quickly!

Christmas Offering

We will be receiving a special Christmas offering in November and December. Gifts designated "**Christmas Offering**" will be split between two organizations serving children in need. **Faithful Servant Missions - Costa Rica** will use its half for educational materials and resources for education and ministry programs serving over 400 children, youth and adults. Closer to home, the balance of the funds will be used to continue to develop the **Madison Youth Ranch**, the "north campus" of the Florida United Methodist Children's Home. (The Youth Ranch, which received half of last year's offering, opened in September.) Watch for more information in the coming weeks on how your gift can truly reflect the meaning of "gift" at Christmas. Last year's offering totaled over \$15,000!

Welcome New Members!

We were pleased to welcome, **Nelson & Priscilla Johnson** and **Holly Young** into membership on November 23. Welcome, new members!

2015 Altar Flower & Snack Calendars

The new **2015 altar flower** and **snack calendars** have been posted on the bulletin board in the hallway outside the infant nursery. Sign up soon to reserve the Sundays that have special meaning for you. The price of altar flowers is \$45. Please place your check in the offering plate and mark them "altar flowers." Sunday morning snacks are available in the foyer from 10:30-11:00am and may be home made or purchased. Please mark both calendars using the pencils provided.

Financial Status

General Fund Recap October 2014

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 47,320
Less Expenses	\$ 72,645
October Income/(Deficit)	(\$25,324)
YTD Income/(Deficit)	(\$51,115)

Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$4,456
Enhancement Fund	\$1,673
Memorials	\$1,314
Building Fund	\$220,223
Capital Reserves	\$21,997
General Fund	Needed Weekly 2014
	\$ 15,518

November 2014 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
11/2	117	131	\$13,807	\$164	\$140
Connections	42				
11/9	142	155	\$26,884	\$192	\$300
Connections	45				
11/16	143	150	\$26,599	\$632	\$0
Connections	37				
11/23	91	139	\$ 9,300	\$596	\$0
Connections	31				

Owed on Church Facility: \$2,007,733

Owed on Parsonage: \$66,631

Cut along dotted line

PLEDGE CARD 2015



In response to God's love and as a concrete expression of my faith in and commitment to Christ and his church, I/we plan to give \$ _____ per _____ (week/month/year).

Prayerfully consider computing these numbers. Reporting them is optional.

This pledge represents _____% of my income*.
Giving to God's work beyond PVUMC will represent another _____% of my income*.

"Where your treasure is, your heart will be also." Matt. 6:21

Name (printed) _____ Phone _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Thank you for returning this card by mail or in Sunday worship. Your commitment may be revised or canceled at any time. If you have a question, please contact the church office at 280-5141.

Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church
76 S. Roscoe Blvd.
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Money Matters

Up to Date on Your Giving?

As of this writing our year to date deficit is **\$51,115**. How's your giving been in 2014? Your year-end gift is most welcome; it will help us meet our present obligations.

Pledge Online for 2015

Our thanks to those of you who have already completed your **pledge card for 2015**. It is so helpful for planning purposes to know what people think they'll give. There are blank cards on the welcome table in the foyer if you wish to complete one. Or cut the card from this newsletter. Or, for the first time ever, **make your commitment online at pv-umc.org/pledge**.

Online Giving Now Available

You may now give online using **bank draft, debit, or credit card**. You may give on a one-time basis, or set up a recurring gift schedule. To avoid having the church pay debit/credit card merchant fees (2.75% - 3.50% of your gift) consider using the **free bill payer feature** available on most bank accounts. See **pv-umc.org/give** for details (with links) on these and other ways to give.



Ready to go directly to the online giving page? Scan the QR code with your smartphone.

Staff Gift

Our pastors, staff and musicians have served us well this year. If you'd like to bless them with a monetary gift at Christmastime designate your gift "**Staff gift**" and turn it in **by Tuesday, December 16** to the office or through the weekly offering.

United Methodist Women News



Mark your calendars for **Saturday, December 13**. Our annual **Christmas cookie and bake sale** begins at 9:00am and ends at 1:00pm. Pecans have been added to our sale items this year so if you missed purchasing pecans during our annual pecan sale, it's not too late! Baked items will be received Friday, December 12 from 10:00am - 4pm and Saturday, December 13 beginning at 8:30am. This is indeed a "sweet time."

The UMW has begun a new mission outreach. **Note cards** featuring a painting of our church are now available for purchase. The artist is our own **Vivian Bolling**. These lovely cards are for sale through our UMW, the church office and at our Christmas bake sale. A package of 8 cards is \$10.

Our end of the year proceeds have been designated to various charities locally, nationally and internationally. To our church congregation we say "thank you" for your continued support of our mission outreach.

Our **next meeting** is **Saturday, January 10** at 10:00am in room 207.

May peace and goodwill abide with you during this holy season and throughout the new year.

-- Jo Miller, UMW President

Merry
Christmas

Ponte Vedra UMC Blood Drive, January 25



The next PVUMC blood drive is **Sunday, January 25** in the church parking lot. Appointments are available every 15 minutes from 9:00am to 12:30pm. Beat the crowds by signing up online and get the best time for your schedule. Go to www.igiveblood.com click on Find a Blood Drive, fill in the zip code 32082, check "Include Mobile Drives" type in 1/25/2015 as the start/end date and hit "search."

Anyone in good health, who is at least 17 years old and weighs at least 110 pounds may donate blood every 56 days. We are currently in the 56 day window for our next drive so please don't give blood between now and January 25. There is no upper age limit to donate, as long as your doctor says it is okay. Those who within the past year have visited Panama, Costa Rica and some other countries that have malaria are not eligible to donate blood.

Remember, one donation can save up to three lives. Contact **Eleanor Snite** at nflagal@aol.com if you have any questions.

Mission Blitz



Ponte Vedra UMC Holly Jolly Kids
Christmas Pajama Party

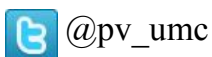
Friday, December 5
6:30 - 10:00pm

Come one, come all to this kids only event at Ponte Vedra UMC. Wear your jammies and join the fun! Children will begin the evening with crafts and a small service project. Then we will show a Christmas movie and have a fresh popped popcorn treat!

Invite your friends and neighbors, too! Ages 3 and up, please.

For more information, contact **Kelly Minter** at PVUMC at 280-5141.

Like us on Facebook; Follow us on Twitter!





On A Musical Note

Praise Choir

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

Traditional Choir

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

Children's Corner

C.I.A. (Children In Action)

C.I.A. will spend Christmas making cards for troops overseas, performing in the December 14 Christmas Musical and caroling at Vicar's Landing!

There will be no C.I.A. on December 24 or December 31. See you back on January 7!

Kingdom Kids

We will be celebrating the birth of Jesus this month through crafts, songs and games! There will be no Kingdom Kids on December 14 so everyone can enjoy the Christmas cantata.



Advent Festival



November 30 from 5:00pm - 7:00pm. Join us to celebrate Christmas with crafting, gift making and dinner! This is a wonderful way to kick off the Christmas season with your family. Stay after the Advent Festival for the festive **Hanging of the Greens Service** beginning at 7:00pm.

Holly Jolly Kids Christmas Pajama Party

Join us **December 5** from **6:30pm - 10:00pm** for the **Holly Jolly Kids Christmas Pajama Party** hosted by our amazing youth! Come one, come all to this kids only event at PVUMC. Wear your jammies and join the fun. Children will begin the evening with crafts and a service project. And end the evening with a Christmas movie and fresh popped popcorn treat! Invite your friends and neighbors, too! Ages 3 and up, please.

Random Acts of Christmas Kindness

This Christmas season, the Children's Ministry will be inviting everyone at PVUMC to participate in showing **Random Acts of Christmas Kindness**. Everyone will be given daily suggestions on Sunday, November 30 during both services. Families can also sign up for Christmas devotionals at <http://lecfamily.org/advent>. Check it out!

A big thank you to all the Serve Sunday volunteers and Advent Festival Volunteers!



Round Of Applause

- 👍 Our students and leaders and their help in advent crafting
- 👍 Belk Department Store and Jeff Timm for allowing our Costa Rica team to participate in their charity fundraising event.
- 👍 The winners of our annual bake-in; Faith Timm, Abby Bennett, Mackenzie Beane, Lydia Reimer, Sarah Reimer, Taylor Hall, and Natalie Lovett.

Upcoming Events:

Sign up to provide dinners We need families and church members who are able to help our youth ministry by providing our weekly dinners. Right now we have many dates in January and February available. More details are available from Kelly Minter. Thanks in advance for your help!

Mission Blitz December 5-7. Sign up in the foyer to participate in our annual mission extravaganza! Not available to go out during those days? Please consider providing a meal for our Mission Blitz workers. Seven meals are needed.

Christmas Caroling & Fast Food Progressive Dinner

December 10, 5:00pm - 8:30pm. We will meet at the church at 5pm and go to the homes of church friends and members to sing Christmas carols. Then we will participate in our annual Fast Food Progressive Dinner! Bring \$12 and be ready to have a great time!

Christmas Party 2014 December 13. We will be celebrating our annual Christmas party in a new and exciting way! We will travel around to a few homes, hanging out and eating, ending up in our final destination where we will participate in our annual white elephant gift exchange. Bring a wrapped gift that cost NO MORE THAN \$5! Of course, if you have something lying around your home that you want to wrap up and give, that's even better!



A Note From Pastor

I was registered to attend a two day clergy event in Leesburg. I decided to drive to Melbourne the afternoon before to spend some time with my old friend Kevin. While in town I also connected with my friend Audley. Each of these men came to mean a lot to me over the ten years I lived there. We were members of the same church (Palm Bay UMC) and small group Bible study. Kevin and I built a totally awesome (if I do say so myself) HO model railroad at his house. Audley and I were prayer partners, getting together to pray for an hour every Wednesday to pray. As I left Melbourne for Leesburg I realized that in a sense I had been checking on my investments. Over the years I had invested a lot in the lives of these two men and they in me. Perhaps my little trip had allowed them to check on their investment... me!

When Jesus returns there will be an accounting of how we have spent our lives. The time and money we spent entertaining ourselves will count for nothing. Our investment in others, in the work of God's kingdom, that will be the win. Those you invest in will be responsible for what they do with their lives; each is accountable for his or her own actions. The question is, in whom are you investing?

Sign me,
A long term investor
Pastor Jeff



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CHURCH STAFF

Lead Pastor	Jeff Bennett
Teaching Pastor	David Moenning
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	Jim McDonald

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