

THE WAVE



VOLUME 14, ISSUE 04

APRIL 2015

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Missions Corner	2
Financial Page	4
Children's Corner	6
H2O News	7

Holy Thursday, April 2

Too often we jump from the loud Hosannas of Palm Sunday to the resurrection of Easter morning, failing to experience with Jesus and the Twelve the Last Supper or the crucifixion. Gather with us **Maundy Thursday (April 2) 7:00pm** to recall and participate in the special meal shared at Passover so long ago.

Good Friday Community Event, April 3

The Third Annual **Social Justice Walk and Stations of the Cross** will be held in Jacksonville Beach on **Good Friday (April 3)**. Participants will begin the walk at **noon** at the offices of BEAM (850 6th Ave S) and conclude at the Seawalk Pavilion (75 North 1st Street). Stops will be made at various ministry and social services agencies along the way. This event is hosted by the Beaches Ministerial Association of which Pastors Jeff, David and Donna are members. (**Come walk with me! - Pastor Jeff**) Due to BEAM's limited parking, consider parking your car at Seawalk Pavilion and walking to BEAM. It's just a mile and takes about 20 minutes.

Block Party & Easter Egg Hunt, April 4

We're having a **Block Party with Easter Egg Hunt** Saturday **April 4th** at **4:00pm**. Our special guests will be everyone you choose to invite! We want as many of us present as possible to welcome our guests so please come, no matter your age. (It's a lot of fun!)

Easter, April 5

Easter Sunday we'll celebrate Christ's resurrection at our regular **9:30 Alive!** and **11:00 Traditions** worship opportunities. There's no better day to be in church than Easter Sunday. Who might you invite to join you?

Upcoming Messages

- April 2 Holy Thursday 7:00pm "**More Than a Suggestion**" (John 13:34-35)
- April 5 Easter "**I Am the Resurrection and the Life**": **Knowing God's Possibilities** (John 11:17-26)
- April 12 "**Faith: Easier for Some than Others... and that's Okay**" (John 20:19-31)
- April 19 "**A Real Resurrected Body**" (Luke 24:36b-48)
- April 26 "**In Whose Name Did You Do This? What Can We Say?**" (Acts 4:5-12; Luke 12:11-12)

OUR MISSION:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist Church



Missions Corner

Cell Phones for Cuba



George Reed recently spent time with Pastor Marcio in Santa Clara, Cuba. Marcio is District Superintendent in the Central District of the Methodist Church in Cuba where he supervises over twenty churches (in addition to pastoring his own large church). Few of his pastors have phones, making church communications very difficult. Let's help him out. If you have an old cell phone, please consider a donation to the Cuba church. Get it to George and he will have it delivered to Cuba with a young adult group traveling in early May. Muchas gracias!

Faithful Servant Missions Trip

COSTA RICA

Would you like to go to **Costa Rica July 18 - 25** to participate in work projects and spend considerable time with the young children from the Bajo? **Lanny & Sharon Benson** will be leading this mission trip for adults, college students and high school students. (High school students must be accompanied by one parent.) There is still availability for you to be on this trip! If you have questions contact Lanny or Sharon Benson, lanny.benson@pv-umc.org or sharon.benson@pv-umc.org.

The United Methodist Children's Home 5th Sunday Offering

We celebrated another awesome 5th Sunday offering for the Florida United Methodist Children's Home and Madison Youth Ranch. A total of **\$979** has been received. Our next 5th Sunday offering is May 31.

BEAM Grocery Collection

The mission of BEAM (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry) is to help families through emergencies and guide them to self sufficiency. Sometimes families just need groceries to help them get through the month. On **Sunday, April 26** we will be handing out grocery bags for our first food drive of the year for BEAM. Please bring your groceries back Sunday, May 3. We will have tables set up in the back of the church to place the grocery donations. Please join in this worthy local mission.

A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism

By salvation I mean . . . a present deliverance from sin, a restoration of the soul to its primitive health, its original purity; a recovery of the divine natures.

Mark Your Calendars! Variety Show with Silent Auction, April 12



See those who sit with you Sunday mornings in a whole new light at the church wide **Variety Show on Sunday, April 12 at 6:30pm** with Silent Auction beginning at 6:00. 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.)

Welcome Ponte Vedra UMC New Members!

On March 29 we delightedly received new members **Andy & Katie Stevenson** by baptism. Also baptized that morning were their children **William** and **Lilly**. It is our joy to be serving Christ together with you! (PVUMC now has 430 members.)

Church Office Volunteers Needed

Volunteers!

The church administrative assistant, **Susan Bowler**, needs several people for various duties on a rotating schedule basis. Jobs include assembling *The Wave* newsletter, stuffing Sunday bulletins on Friday afternoons and straightening the media in the back of the chairs in the sanctuary once per week. The more people on the list of helpers the less often you are scheduled to help. If you are interested please call or email Susan Bowler, susan.bowler@pv-umc.org, 280-5141.

PVUMC Blood Drives Save Lives!

The next **PVUMC blood drive** is **Sunday, May 3**. Appointments are available every 15 minutes from 9:00am to 12:30pm in the church parking lot. Beat the crowds, sign up online and get the best time for your schedule. Go to www.igiveblood.com and click on find a blood drive, fill in the zip code, check "include mobile drives" then enter 5/03/2015 as the start date and the end date. Click on "search" and our drive will come up. Anyone who is in good health, 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 May 3. There is no upper age limit to donate, as long as your doctor says it is okay. Those who have visited Panama, Costa Rica and some other countries that have malaria within the past year are not eligible to donate blood.

Remember, one donation can save up to three lives. Contact **Eleanor Snite** at eleanor.snite@pv-umc.org if you have any questions.

Financial Status

General Fund Recap March 2015

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 67,188
Less Expenses	\$ 66,743
February Income/(Deficit)	\$ 445
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ (13,588)

Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$6,443
Enhancement Fund	\$1,673
Memorials	\$1,539
Building Fund	\$221,578
Capital Reserves	\$32,318
General Fund Needed Weekly 2015	\$ 16,085

March 2015 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
3/1	110	165	\$16,974	\$114	\$11,020
Connections	35				
3/8	133	156	\$16,409	\$750	\$6,379
Connections	46				
3/15	117	153	\$17,674	\$113	\$4,799
Connections	18				
3/22	107	199	\$15,187	\$365	\$27,487
Connections	25				
3/29	169	204	\$9,742	\$832	\$13,806
Connections	25				

Owed on Church Facility: \$1,971,144

Owed on Parsonage: \$0

Money Matters

Double Down on Debt about to Conclude

In December PVUMC received a \$100,000 matching gift to be used to reduce the church's mortgage debt. As of March 29 we'd received \$91,822 of the \$100,000. Fully matching this gift pays off the parsonage and reduces the time needed to pay off the sanctuary building from more than 14 years to less than 11. This is a tremendous opportunity to free the church of the future for increased mission and ministry. Your gift designated "**Debt Reduction**" will be doubled! (Debt Reduction is a listed option in our online giving service. See pv-umc.org/give for details on online giving.) The final giving opportunity for *Double Down on Debt* is **Easter Sunday** with Pastor Jeff's final report coming April 12. Let's meet our \$100,000 goal for the full \$200,000 benefit!

Burning the Parsonage Mortgage, April 12



While matching gifts are being received through Easter Sunday some of the funds already received through the *Double Down on Debt* campaign have been used to satisfy the mortgage on the church parsonage, more than two years ahead of schedule. (Yay!) **We'll burn the mortgage in worship on April 12** at both morning services (half of the mortgage at 9:30 and half at 11:00). Let's celebrate God's faithfulness to us and your faithful response to God. **Coming soon: parsonage open house.**

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 to the online giving page? Scan this QR code with your smartphone:



United Methodist Women News

You'll want to mark your calendars now for the Ponte Vedra UMW May 2nd meeting. Our program will feature the "**Pace Center For Girls**" whose mission is to provide girls and young women an opportunity for a better future through education, counseling, training and advocacy. Our speaker will be Pace Center For Girls Development Director, **Stephanie Harden**. Stephanie will bring one of the young ladies from the Pace program with her. All high and middle school young ladies, along with their mothers, are invited and encouraged to attend. Come and hear about the center's work in making such a difference in these young lives. We will meet upstairs in Room 207 at 10:00am.

The UMW will be collecting clothing, shoes and accessories for the Pace Center for Girls beginning Sunday, April 12 through Saturday, May 2. Clothing of all sizes for middle and high school age girls will be accepted. Please look for the box located in the church foyer.



Please visit the United Methodist Women at their "**coffee filter butterfly**" craft station at the **Easter Egg Hunt and Block Party on Saturday, April 4** from 4:00 - 6:00pm. While you're crafting at the table please notice the lovely sign, reflecting our mission outreaches, created by Suvan Shine.

This Easter season may we be ever mindful of our Lord and Savior's unending love.

-- Jo Miller



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. is MC'ing our Annual Variety Show on April 12! You won't want to miss this fun event that raises money for our youth mission trips. It will be a "Hee Haw" good time! ;-)

Bring your sack dinner and join us in C.I.A. as we finish our church wide study discovering the "I AM" Sayings of Jesus. Upon finishing we will start planning our end of school year play.

Kingdom Kids

There will be **no Kingdom Kids April 5**, as families celebrate Easter together. Happy Easter!



Easter Egg Hunt and Block Party, Saturday, April 4th 4-6 pm

It's almost time for our annual **Easter Egg Hunt and Block Party!** Bring your Easter basket and a side dish as we welcome friends and neighbors! We hope everyone will come out and participate in this joyous Easter event filled with fellowship with our church family and our community.

Mark Your Calendars!

All the joy, excitement, music and good times of **Vacation Bible School** are coming to PVUMC **June 22 – 26th**! Sign up online today to be a part of this amazing summer event.

Way to go...

- ◇ We packed over **110** Easter treat bags for our blessings in a backpack children at our family retreat and in C.I.A. Thank you to everyone that donated items to make these children's Easter weekend filled with extra love!
- ◇ Thank you to all the families that made our All Around Easter Connections Service a beautiful faith filled walk through the Easter story!
- ◇ Kingdom Kids raised **\$30.00** for Heiffer International in February/March! That is enough to purchase a gift of honeybees! A springtime blessing.





Our youth ministry is in **need of Sunday School Teachers!** Youth Sunday School meets during the 11:00am service every week. We are looking for committed volunteers with a heart for teens and the Bible! Volunteers work on a rotating basis, and all materials are provided. Talk to Kelly Minter if you have any questions and, thank you!

Upcoming Events:



Sign up to Provide Sunday Night Dinners! A huge thank you to everyone who has signed up to provide dinners this spring and summer. We are currently signing up dinner providers for April and beyond. This is a great way to support our youth ministry! Contact Kelly if you want to sign up for this!



EASTER Sunday, April 5. There will be no evening youth group, celebrate the holiday with your family and friends!



Annual Variety Show and Silent Auction Sunday, April 12 at 6:30pm. We will be holding our annual variety show and silent fundraiser to benefit our summer youth mission trips. Tickets are on sale now!



Relay for Life Saturday, April 25. We will meet at PVHS at 10:30am, the event will begin at 11 and end at 11:00pm. Sign up to be part of our team or to help support our walkers! This is a great event for the whole family. Help us support the American Cancer Society.



A Note From Pastor Jeff.

The season of Lent is drawing to a close. Did you choose to “give something up” for Lent? Or to add a spiritual discipline, like participating in a *The God We Can Know* small group Bible study? If so, I trust you’ve been growing closer to Christ.

In the *Revive Us!* message series we talked about spiritual disciplines of worship, prayer, fasting, study and service. While I wouldn’t advocate taking on more than one new spiritual discipline at a time, I find it quite interesting how Christ leads us from one into another. Last fall I became very intentional about daily Bible reading and journaling; this came on the heels of a prompting to begin praying for revival. Then in December I began fasting one day each week. Lately I’ve discovered that what I listen to in the car is changing. I’d been listening to classic rock on the radio and by podcast Garrison Keillor of Prairie Home Companion fame. (I wonder how often you find those two tastes in the same person?) Now I most often listen to Christian radio. Each of these steps is bringing me closer to Christ. So much of our spiritual growth is incremental, isn’t it. Faith truly is a journey.

I won’t continue beyond Easter my Lenten discipline of foregoing the Sunday ads and surfing online for cool tech stuff, but I think I’ll find that this six-week “fast” has curbed my appetite for wanting and acquiring stuff. May you and I each find that we have taken another step closer to Christ. And through that step may Christ lead us to the next.

Glad to journey with you toward becoming fully devoted followers of the risen Christ,
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

CHURCH STAFF

Lead Pastor	Jeff Bennett
Teaching Pastor	David Moening
Arts & Spirituality Pastor	Donna Bowen
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

Staff email:
firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org