

# THE WAVE



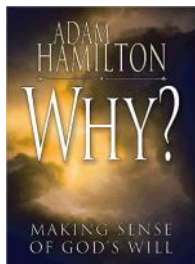
VOLUME 14, ISSUE 07

**AUGUST 2015**

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## Message series *Why?* Begins August 9



**Why do my prayers go unanswered? Why do the innocent suffer?** We'll seek to unravel the "problem of pain" and clarify common misconceptions about God. Good news: Our heavenly Father walks with us when we hurt – and seeks to work through us to heal others. **Begins Sunday morning, August 9.**

## Great Expectations for Boomers & Beyond

One of the fastest-growing population segments is those beyond 50. Churches are struggling to keep up with and address the unique needs and wishes of this group. A special statewide event to help local churches, **Great Expectations for Boomers & Beyond** is being held Oct. 22-24 at First UMC, Winter Park. It is especially for

- people 50 years of age and beyond;
- members of the clergy interested in starting or improving their 50-plus programs;
- laity involved in leading ministries for those 50 and older; anyone who wants to learn more about addressing the needs of this rapidly expanding population.

The early bird registration fee is \$100, good until September 1. After that, the cost per person rises to \$125. Pastor Jeff is interested in someone from PVUMC attending. Email him at [jeff.bennett@pv-umc.org](mailto:jeff.bennett@pv-umc.org) if that someone might be you!

## OUR MISSION:

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



**PONTE VEDRA**  
United Methodist Church

## Upcoming Messages

August 2 **Remember** (Exodus 16)

– *Begin Why? message series* –

August 9 **Why Do the Innocent Suffer?**

August 16 **Why Do My Prayers Go Unanswered?**

(Matthew 21:21-22, Psalm 22:2, John 15:7, Luke 22:42)

August 23 **Why Can't I See God's Will for My Life?**

(Colossians 1:9-10, Romans 12:1-2)

August 30 **Why God's Love Prevails** (Romans 8:28, 35, 37-39; Lamentations 3:21-23)

## Missions Corner

### Blessings in a Backpack

Over one half of public school students are poor enough to qualify for lunch subsidies, and almost one half of black children under the age of six are living in poverty. Ponte Vedra UMC's **Blessings in a Backpack** program ensures that impoverished elementary school children are fed on the weekends throughout the school year. \$100 provides one child with food items that include easy-to-prepare, ready-to-eat foods, like granola bars, juice boxes, mac and cheese, and oatmeal for the entire school year. There are many areas where you could help.

**Volunteer** - Assist in packing the backpacks any Thursday morning that your schedule permits. Packing will begin in August this year in the future pre-school room.

**Financial Support**- PVUMC partially supports this program through Mission Funds, but you can help maintain the program through your donation made directly to the church with a notation "Blessings in a Backpack". We currently feed over 110 children, but we need your help to continue.

**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, mac and cheese, pudding cups and juice boxes. 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](mailto:sharon.kehoe@pv-umc.org).

### Elementary School Clothing Needed

#### We Need Donations of Your Child's Outgrown Clothing

Did you know that Ponte Vedra UMC volunteers help maintain a clothing closet at Webster Elementary School? As you prepare for the upcoming school year please consider donating your children's gently used clothing (sizes 5-12). A collection bin is located in the future pre-school room. Please contact **Sharon Kehoe** at [sharon.kehoe@pv-umc.org](mailto:sharon.kehoe@pv-umc.org) for more information.

### Fifth Sunday Offering, August 30

Each 5th Sunday we receive a special offering for The **Florida United Methodist Children's Home** and **Madison Youth Ranch**. The Home's ministry includes residential care, emergency shelter care, therapeutic group care, independent living, foster care and adoption services. Children come because of abuse, abandonment or because of family breakdown due to divorce, drug abuse, illness or death of a parent. Checks may be made out to PVUMC and designated "Children's Home".

## *Church Ministry Fair, August 16*

Looking for ways to get involved? The Ponte Vedra UMC **Ministry Fair** is **Sunday, August 16**. Following each service visit the tables and see how you can serve in your church.

## *PVUMC Blood Drive*

The next PVUMC **blood drive** is **Sunday, September 27**. Appointments are available every 15 minutes from 9:00am to 12:30pm in the church parking lot. If there is a time slot you prefer sign up online. Go to [www.igiveblood.com](http://www.igiveblood.com) and click on Find a Blood Drive, fill in the zip code then check "Include Mobile Drives", type in 9/27/2015 as the start date and the end date and choose search. Anyone who is in good health, at least 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. Those who have visited Panama, Costa Rica and some other countries that have malaria within the past year are not eligible to donate blood. On August 9 we enter the 56 day window so please don't donate blood after August 8. Remember, one donation can save up to three lives. Contact **Eleanor Snite** at [nflagal@aol.com](mailto:nflagal@aol.com) if you have any questions.

## *Same Sex Marriage - One Pastor's Reflection*

We know what the Supreme Court has declared regarding same sex marriage. Read our lead pastor Jeff Bennett's thoughts on the matter at <http://tinyurl.com/jbssm>. Call the office (280-5141) if you'd rather we mail you a paper copy of this document.

## *Memorial Garden - Thank You, Clyde Garrison*



Our thanks to master gardener **Clyde Garrison** who has begun tending the **memorial garden** located on the north side of the building at the entrance to the office. You can already tell it's being cared for. Thank you, Clyde!

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

John Wesley's mother was Susanna Wesley, his father Samuel Wesley was an Anglican priest. In John's possession was a letter Susanna had written to her husband Samuel after she had been criticized for teaching Christian faith in her kitchen to neighborhood women. She cared little about what people thought of the practice. Wrote Susanna, "I have long since shook hands with the world."

(Susanna Wesley to Samuel Wesley.)

*Journal, III, 33.*

# Financial Status

## General Fund Recap June 2015

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 58,604
Less Expenses	\$ 61,832
June Income/(Deficit)	\$ (3,228)
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ (16,141)

### Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$5,738
Enhancement Fund	\$2,282
Memorials	\$705
Building Fund	\$224,750
Capital Reserves	\$32,623
General Fund Needed Weekly 2015	\$ 16,085

## July 2015 Giving & Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
7/5	102	131	\$12,751	\$117	\$170
7/12	119	125	\$15,223	\$96	\$40
7/19	102	137	\$9,940	\$464	\$120
7/26	97	123	\$9,789	\$399	\$431

Owed on Church Facility: \$1,768,170

Owed on Parsonage: \$0

## Shop at Amazon?



When you shop at AmazonSmile, Amazon donates 0.5% of the purchase price to Ponte Veda UMC. (We'll be giving all proceeds to missions) Go to <https://smile.amazon.com/ch/20-0547559>

## Like us on Facebook; Follow us on Twitter!

@pv\_umc

facebook.com/PonteVedraUMC

## Looking for Bell Ringers



The hand bell choir will resume Wednesday, September 16 at 6:30pm and we are looking for additional ringers. Experience is not required, if you can read music, you can ring bells. If you have any questions contact **Eleanor Snite** at [nflagal@aol.com](mailto:nflagal@aol.com).

## Youth Ministry Needs Teachers

Our **youth ministry** is in need of **Sunday School Teachers!** Youth Sunday School meets during the 11:00am service every Sunday and each Sunday evening at 5:00 - 7:30pm. We are looking for some committed volunteers with a heart for teens and the Bible! Volunteers work on a rotating basis, and all materials are provided.

We are also looking for new **small group leaders for Sunday night**. If you believe you would be willing to serve our youth in this capacity, please contact **Kelly Minter**, [kelly1.minter@pv-umc.org](mailto:kelly1.minter@pv-umc.org)



## Memorial Service for Joey McLain

Our church family member and sound technician, Joey McLain passed away suddenly on June 3. A memorial service is scheduled for Saturday, August 8 at 10:00am.

## Thank you...

Dear Church,

Thank you all for your prayers, cards, phone calls, flowers and love and support for our family during this sad and very stressful time. We find peace knowing that Bill is with Jesus and walking tall - free from life support. Also, I want to thank the e-pray-ers along with the Tuesday morning prayer group for their prayers during Bill's illness. Even though Bill was Catholic, he always enjoyed the fellowship he received from our loving congregation.

God Bless,  
Marilyn Elston

## Bereavement Committee

Ponte Vedra UMC has recently assembled a **bereavement committee** and **bereavement fund** with the purpose of providing emotional support in the form of a reception following a memorial or funeral service for PVUMC families. Co-chairing this committee will be **Nancy Noble** and **Jenny Dorsey**. If you would like to serve on this committee by assisting with table decorations, preparing hors d'oeuvre or snack, setting or cleaning up or any other capacity please contact Nancy Noble ([nancy.noble@pv-umc.org](mailto:nancy.noble@pv-umc.org)) or Jenny Dorsey ([jenny.dorsey@pv-umc.org](mailto:jenny.dorsey@pv-umc.org)). If you would like to make a financial gift to this committee please make your check payable to Ponte Vedra UMC with bereavement fund noted on the check.

## *Expectations of Our Leaders*

In 2013 the Nominating Committee created and the Church Council approved the *Requirements for Leadership* document reproduced here. It's a good read and worth asking yourself, could I qualify?

### **Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church Requirements for Leadership**

PVUMC leaders will be committed to following Christ. Attention to individuals' skills and abilities for a particular area of ministry will be secondary to spiritual maturity and integrity. It is critically important that leaders be able to discern God's will in church matters; this requires a vital connection to God through the Holy Spirit.

The expectations of leaders align closely to the promises made upon joining the church:

- praying for the church, the community and the world
- participating regularly and frequently in worship
- participating in a small group
- giving generously to God, in proportion to one's income
- serving in the life of the local church and beyond the local church

The lives of leaders are to demonstrate the fruit of the Spirit as enumerated in Galatians 5:22-23: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control.

Leaders shall support the doctrine (what we believe) and polity (how we are organized) of The United Methodist Church, The Book of Discipline, 2012.

## *PVUMC Care Team*

Did you know that Ponte Vedra UMC has a team of people dedicated to extending the love and compassion of Christ to older adults who are unable to come to church due to hardship or health concerns? It's commonly referred to as **The Care Team** and its purpose is to call upon, pray for, serve and stand in the gap with those older adults from PVUMC needing an extra-special touch of care. **We are expanding the team**, so if you feel God nudging you to participate as a caregiver contact **Pastor David** at 280-5141 x307 or [david.moenning@pv-umc.org](mailto:david.moenning@pv-umc.org) to get connected. If you know of an older adult who is struggling and hurting please share their name and contact information with the office and one of our team members will follow-up with them immediately.



## United Methodist Women News

The United Methodist Women's gathering of items known as **Operation Shoebox** for our deployed troops is an on going mission outreach organization that sends requested care packages to members of the US military who are overseas. This is a way to let our soldiers know that America stands behind them. Lists of suggested donation items are located in the red, white and blue basket by the infant nursery. Please place your donated items in the same basket. God bless our troops as they are there to protect us and secure our freedoms. Thank you in advance for your contributions.

At our July meeting we sent checks for **\$250** each to Pace Center for Girls and Home Again St. Johns.

The annual UMW **pecan sale** will begin in **early September**. Be thinking about all those wonderful recipes that require pecans!

Mark your calendars for our **Autumn Tea** and Silent Auction **Saturday, October 17**.

The next UMW **meeting** is **Saturday, September 19** at 10:00am. Our program will feature highlights from the Costa Rica Faithful Servant mission trip.



### Round Of Applause

- 👍 Ruth Murta, Tucker Holland, and Reid Johnson for their help with the high school mission trip to Chicago!
- 👍 Laura Lovett and Cindy Camp for their leadership on the middle school mission trip to GA!

### 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 July and beyond. This is a great way to support our youth ministry! Contact Kelly if you want to sign up for this, or click this link! <http://tinyurl.com/kvdfqbg>

- ⇒ **Beach Days & Movie Nights** final farewell for the summer on Wednesday, August 5.
- ⇒ **St. Johns County Public Schools** are back in session **August 10!**
- ⇒ **Wednesdays 5:00 - 6:00pm** YOBE Marsh Landing for **planning Connections** for fall 2015. Come once or come every week!
- ⇒ **August 14**, Youth Ministry is providing the meal and manpower for **Home Again St. Johns**.
- ⇒ **Anchored 2015**, the **high school retreat** is September 11 - 13. **\$80 deposits are due Sunday, August 23**. Total cost for the retreat is \$135 per person.



### On A Musical Note

#### **Praise Choir**

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

#### **Traditional Choir**

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

### Children's Corner

#### Let's Go Bowling!

On **Wednesday, August 12**, let's celebrate back to school and **go bowling!** We'll meet after school, around 2:45pm at **Beach Bowl** on Beach Boulevard. Make sure you register for "Kids Bowl Free" and print out your coupons before arriving. This will be a fun Children's Ministry get together. I hope to see everyone there! Contact **Jenn Smith** (jenn.smith@pv-umc.org or 280-5141) if you have questions.

### Kingdom Kids

- **Thank you** to all our **substitute teachers** in July! You all were a huge blessing to the children and to the instructors.
- **Kingdom Kids instructors are needed** for both services for the school year. Make this the year to serve in Kingdom Kids!
- **Promotion Sunday is August 9.** All children moving up to Kindergarten will officially move to Kingdom Kids and join the Children's Ministry.
- Make sure you take a moment and **register your child online** so you won't miss out on any exciting spiritual activities the Children's Ministry does throughout the year, <https://seuresite.ministrytracker.com>

### C.I.A. (Children In Action)

**Children In Action (CIA)** starts back **Wednesday, August 26** at 6:00pm upstairs in rooms 201 and 203. Bring a sack dinner for food and fellowship from 6:00 - 6:30pm, followed by themed activities, serve projects and dramas throughout the school year.

**August 26** will be "**getting to know you**" night and we will play welcome games to get to know each other better.

### Acolytes

Calling all 4th - 7th graders! **Acolyte training** will be held **Sunday, August 15** at noon and **Wednesday August 26** at 5:00pm in room 207. This is a great opportunity to see and hear what being an acolyte is all about. Email Jenn Smith (jenn.smith@pv-umc.org) if you are interested.



## *A Note From Pastor David Continued From Back Page*

Additionally, we are wise to **be proactive rather than reactive with our thoughts**. This means being intentional to sow in to our minds life-giving thoughts, things that ignite our passions and creativity, as well as the promises and truths found in Scripture. It means being diligent to guard what we allow to occupy our thoughts. In *Philippians 4:8* the Apostle Paul writes, *“Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is worthy of respect, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is commendable, if something is excellent or praiseworthy, think about these things.”* Scripture, as well as good devotional readings, books, novels, articles, cd’s, dvd’s, movies and conversations are all things we can employ in our efforts to be proactive in shaping our thoughts.

Everyday we make choices. We choose the food we eat, the roads we travel, the things we read, the sights we see, the conversations we have, and the thoughts we think. And everyday we have to live with and walk through the consequences of the choices we make...for better or for worse. My prayer for all of us is that we would not only walk with an awareness of all that hinges on our thoughts, in short, our spiritual, emotional, relational and physical health, but that we would also think the kind of thoughts that produce good, positive feelings, leading to life-giving, God-honoring behaviors.

Keeping the Faith,  
Pastor Dave

## A Note From Pastor David:

William James is credited with having penned the words, “*As a man thinketh so is he.*” His words underscore the significant link that exists between the cognitive and the behavioral dimensions of our lives. It’s true that how we think influences how we feel and behave. In fact, in my personal life, as well as in my counseling work, one of the issues I come across more often than not involves **a thinking problem.**

It reminds me of the story about a grandfather who was watching his 9 year old grandson one day. After playing together outside for a while, the grandfather decided to take a short nap in his recliner, which gave his mischievous grandson time to think up a trick he could play on his grandfather. Finding some limburger cheese in the refrigerator, the grandson decided to gently spread some on his grandfather’s mustache while he slept. A short while later the grandfather woke up and said, “*Something sure stinks in this room!*” So he got up and walked in to the kitchen and said, “*Something stinks in this kitchen as well!*” He then proceeded to walk throughout the entire house and declared, “*This whole house stinks!*” The whole time the real stink was under his very own nose!

That’s the way it is with our thinking. Quite often, the way we think can make everything in our lives...our relationships, our feelings about the church, as well as our feelings about ourselves, the present and the future totally stink!

In order to correct our problem, we first need to step aside from all the busyness of life for a moment of solitude and **think about what we are thinking about.** What are the automatic or distorted thoughts and beliefs that we are allowing to assume squatter’s rights in our minds? Being conscious of these thoughts and naming them for what they are is the first step to overcoming them.

Continued on inside back page.



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#### 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

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