

THE WAVE



VOLUME 15, ISSUE 03

MARCH 2016

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"The Passion and the Promise" Coming March 20

The many moods of Holy Week, followed by the triumph of Easter, are captured in this moving work. From the celebration of Palm Sunday to the despair of Good Friday to the triumph of the Resurrection, **The Passion and the Promise** presents fresh, dynamic words and music with creative narration. Under the direction of Elisabeth Crumrine, our traditional choir brings us this dramatic musical at both worship hours **Palm Sunday, March 20**.

Holy Thursday, March 24

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 (March 24) 7:00pm** to recall and participate in this very special meal.

Block Party & Easter Egg Hunt, March 26

We're having a **Block Party with Easter Egg Hunt Saturday March 26 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, March 27

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

- *Continue John: The Gospel of Light & Life message series* -
- March 6 **Stay Together** (John 17:6-11, 20-23)
- March 13 **Pilate's Trial** (John 18:28-19:16)
- March 20 **The Passion and the Promise** - A Musical for Easter
- March 27 **"I am the Resurrection and the Life"** (John 11:25-26)

OUR MISSION:

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



PONTE VEDRA
United Methodist
Church

**SPRING
FORWARD**

Sunday, March 13

Missions Corner

Family Promise News

Ponte Vedra UMC, you ROCK! Through our **Family Promise Ministry** YOUR church hosted three families: 4 adults and 10 children who had no place to call home. YOUR church became their home. Best estimate is that over 45 volunteers served throughout the week and many more donated items prior to our host week. You baked, cooked, brought food items, donated linens, cleaned, prayed, organized, smiled, hosted, played with children, played basketball, gave up your warm beds, did laundry, set up rooms, and served in many other ways, ALL in the name of Jesus. Because we opened our doors and hearts, our guests received delicious meals and a safe, warm place to stay together. Thank you for your participation in making our first host week a huge success. Mark your calendars! **Our next host week is May 15 – 22.** Contact **Jill Bennett** for more information at jill.bennett@pv-umc.org

Run With A Mission

The **Faithful Servant Missions “Run With A Mission”** is **Saturday, April 30** in **Nocatee**. This is a fun family event with great activities following the 5K, 10K, and 1 mile fun run or walk. We are gathering a Ponte Vedra UMC team of runners/walkers and cheer supporters. If have not ordered a Ponte Vedra Runners” t-shirt you may still do so by March 10. (Previously ordered t-shirts will be delivered soon.) **Registration is online.** Please let Pastor Donna or Jenn Smith know you registered. If you would like to attend as a cheer supporter, please let Pastor Donna know and we will make some support posters for the event.

As Paul wrote, we are all “running the good race” to and for Christ!

Register for “Run With a Mission” at tinyurl.com/FSMrun16

The Florida United Methodist Children’s Home News

Ponte Vedra UMC will make its **annual trip to The Florida United Methodist Children’s Home** in Enterprise on **April 2-3**. We still have room for 2 men and 4 women. The cost is \$20 per person. Please contact **George Garcia**, george.garcia@pv-umc.org, 904-707-2800 for more information.

PVUMC Mission Fair Sunday, April 17

The next Ponte Vedra UMC **Mission Fair** is **Sunday, April 17** before and after each worship service. The displays will be set up to provide valuable information on all our missions; local, national and international. Discover our mission projects and partners and how you can be a part of Christ’s mission for us on this earth!

One Great Hour of Sharing Special Offering March 6

Did you know that the United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) helped to make the construction of a preschool in Lebanon possible?

Yes, preschool.

That is because UMCOR goes to people in crisis and helps them in the ways that meets the community's needs. Recently UMCOR collaborated with American Near East Refugee Aid (Anera) and helped build a safe, sanitary, healthy learning environment for the preschoolers in refugee camps.

One Great Hour of Sharing, celebrated on **March 6** this year, covers the operating costs of UMCOR. We help continue efforts like this outreach when we give on this Special Sunday.



Lenten Prayer Service



We are offering a **Lenten Prayer Service** each Wednesday at **7:00** through Wednesday, March 16. This prayer opportunity will last 20 minutes or so. (Participating parents will be finished in time to pick up their children from C.I.A. and YCAM.) Meets in the sanctuary, front center section of seats.

Welcome Ponte Vedra UMC New Member!

On February 14 we delightedly received **Lenora Shields** into membership. Standing with Lenora was her husband, the Reverend **Larry Shields** who retains his membership in the Florida Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church. Welcome, Lenora & Larry! It is our joy to serve Christ together with you. (PVUMC now has 441 members.)

Mark Your Calendars! *Variety Show with Silent Auction, April 17*



See those who sit with you Sunday mornings in a whole new light at the church wide **Variety Show** on **Sunday, April 17** 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.)

Financial Status

General Fund Recap January 2015

Tithes & Offerings*	\$ 88,433
*including 2016 pre-paid pledges	
Less Expenses	\$ 50,020
January Income/(Deficit)	\$ 33,414
YTD Income/(Deficit)	\$ 33,414

Designated Totals

Mission Funds	\$8,451
Enhancement Fund	\$1,673
Memorials	\$2,640
Building Fund	\$226,328
Capital Reserves	\$32,901
General Fund	
Needed Weekly 2016	\$ 15,260

February 2015 Giving, Attendance

Date	9:30 Attendance	11:00 Attendance	General Fund Giving	Missions Giving	Designated Giving
2/7	122	170	\$14,902	\$1,064	\$65
2/10 <i>Ash Wednesday</i>	107		\$471	\$20	\$0
2/14	119	119	\$14,619	\$211	\$248
2/21	170	143	\$26,333	\$1,333	\$225

Owed on Church Facility: \$1,696,109

Money Matters

Online Giving 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.



A Word from John Wesley, founder of Methodism

[A]ll sin is of an infectious nature.

– Works IX, 260.

Mark Your Calendars!



Tree Climbing Adventure on Wednesday, March 23 from 10:00am – 4pm. This exciting day trip is for **5th graders through 7th graders**. Cost is \$40.00. Sign your child up today! See **Jenn Smith**, jenn.smith@pv-umc.org or **Kelly Minter**, kelly1.minter@pv-umc.org to sign up and for more info on location, see: <http://www.canopyclimbers.com/>

Faithful Servant Missions RUN/WALK 5k on April 30 in Nocatee. Join the PVUMC Team and let's go have fun and walk/run to help raise money for FSM. This is an incredible family serve opportunity. To sign up: tinyurl.com/FSMrum16

All the joy, excitement, music and good times of **Vacation Bible School** is coming to PVUMC **June 13 – 17!** Sign up online today to be a part of this amazing summer event.

The United Methodist Women

It was March 23, 1869 when a group of women gathered at Tremont Methodist Episcopal Church in Boston, Massachusetts and organized the Woman's Foreign Missionary Society, a United Methodist Women predecessor. The women raised money to send a doctor, Clara Swain and a teacher, Isabella Thoburn to India as missionaries to serve the women of that nation. What a heritage!

One of our goals as The United Methodist Women for this year is to be more involved with the Ponte Vedra UMC children's and youth ministries. The February 20 **Princess Tea** provided us just this opportunity. The table decorations and food were the responsibility of the UMW. It was a joy to be a part of this sweet and memorable occasion for our lovely princesses and their guests.

Our **March 5** meeting will be upstairs in room 207 from **10:00am-Noon**. **Jennie Dorsey** will have a special Easter devotion. Plans for our church cookbook will begin unfolding. Stay tuned for details on this exciting project. All ladies are invited. Please email **Jo Miller**, jo.miller@pv-umc.org for **nursery reservations** by March 2.

Our first **Easter bake sale** is **Saturday, March 26** from 4:00-6:00pm. This event coincides with the Easter Egg Hunt and Block Party. Save a place on your Easter dinner table for a special dessert.

Bell Choir Needs a Ringer



The bell choir is looking for one more ringer. If you can read music, you can ring bells. If you're not sure, please come and see if you would enjoy it. Rehearsals are Wednesdays from 6:30pm - 7:30pm Please contact **Eleanor Snite** at 280-8026 or nflagal@aol.com if you're interested.

Sunday Morning Snacks

Do you have a special event that deserves a special kind of celebration? A birthday, anniversary, a new grandchild? **Sunday morning snacks** is a great way to share your joy with your fellow church members. Snacks should be set up by 10:20am and are served between services. Please sign up on the snack calendar located on the wall outside the infant nursery.



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. has officially grown in "two"! Every Wednesday we now have: **C.I.A. Juniors** for ages 5 through 2nd grade from 5pm – 6:30pm and **C.I.A Seniors** for ages 3rd through 5th grade from 6pm – 7:30pm. Bring your sack dinner and join us in C.I.A. as we spend March preparing to participate in the Easter Cantata and celebrating Easter through fun activities and crafts! No C.I.A. spring break week, Wednesday, March 23.

Kingdom Kids

TEACHERS NEEDED! Email Jenn Smith, jenn.smith@pv-umc.org if you are able to volunteer **just 45 minutes per month** teaching in Kingdom Kids. I promise you your faith will grow while growing the faith of our children.

Blessings Galore!

- Super job C.I.A. making welcome signs and lollypop greetings to our Family Promise families!
- Thank you, **Nancy Rice Hill** for helping to re-organize our Kingdom Kids rooms!
- Thank you to all the amazing **United Methodist Women** that gave their time, talents and Christian love to make our Princess Tea a fantastically royal event!

Easter Egg Hunt & Block Party

Saturday, March 26 from 4:00-6pm is the Ponte Vedra UMC annual **Easter Egg Hunt & Block Party!** Bring your Easter basket and a side dish as we welcome friends and neighbors! We hope everyone will be able to come and participate in this joyous Easter event. This is a community event so invite your friends and neighbors!

Volunteers Needed!



WE NEED YOU to help make our annual **Easter Egg Hunt & Block Party** a great success! Volunteers are needed for set-up, hospitality & food, egg hunt, craft/game stations and clean up. Please email **Jenn Smith** at jenn.smith@pv-umc.org if you can assist in any way! **We are also looking for folks to donate 1 to 2 dozen filled plastic eggs for the Egg Hunt (please do not fill eggs with chocolate).



Round Of Applause

- 👍 Alice and Bruce Morris, Ashley Sabol, Tucker Holland, and Isaac Newton for their leadership of the annual Busch Gardens Trip
- 👍 Our leadership team in their work on the new youth worship service (beginning in April)

NOTICE! We have **changed our Sunday night meeting times!** We will be meeting from **5:00 - 7pm** on Sunday evenings for dinner, games, announcements, and small groups. We will then have fellowship and recreation time from 7-7:30. Feel free to hang out after youth group, or head home at 7 and get ready for Monday!

Upcoming Events:

Sign up to Provide Sunday Night Dinners! A huge thank you to everyone who has signed up to provide dinners this summer. We are currently signing up dinners from December through June! 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/kvdfqbq>

TUESDAY TEEN BIBLE STUDY We meet on Tuesdays at PVUMC from 4:30-5:30pm in room 209. This bible study is for anyone in grades 6-12! Because of the release time for the high schools, any high school students who want to attend but need a ride should let Kelly know.

Gender Retreats March 11-13. The boys will be camping on Amelia Island, and the Girls will be camping in Anastasia State Park. Both trips will be \$100, and both are grades 8-12. Trip Balances are due March 6. For more activity and theme information, contact Kelly Minter, our Youth Minister.

Youth Ushers! We are looking for some students who like to smile! We are currently signing students up to join our weekly usher team. If you are interested, contact Kelly Minter.

Youth Worship begins in April. We are changing the Sunday morning

Sunday School into a **youth worship service**. We will use the same theme as our Sunday morning whole church worship services, with a slightly different format. In response to the Ministry Architects suggestions for renovating our Sunday morning youth offerings, the team has decided to create an opportunity for youth to worship together in the morning. By following the same themes as the rest of the worship services in our church, we are able to keep the continuity of worship, and potentially give our families some common ground talking points for the week! Come and check it out **beginning April 3, 11:00am** in the Youth Room.

A Note From Pastor Jeff.

The apostle Paul writes in Romans 12:1-2,

I appeal to you therefore, brothers and sisters, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God—what is good and acceptable and perfect.

Discerning what is the will of God? I'm interested! I came across this helpful word from retired (now deceased) Bishop Reuben Job:

Early in the life of the Christian faith persons seeking discernment were mentored in the discipline of *indifference*. That is, they were urged to come to the place of seeking only God's will as the result of their discernment. When we are closely bound to God in Christ this becomes our normal response. – Reuben P. Job

One of our challenges in seeking God's will is wanting God's will to go in the direction of self-interest. Can we grow to the place where we embrace God's will no matter what? This is what Christ desires for us and it requires us growing closer to him. It is the journey of the cross where self-sacrifice, not self-interest, is the order of the day. It's a journey worth making.

Seeking to become more closely bound to God in 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 Moenning
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