



Volume 37, Issue 6

June 2015

**Port Orange
United Church of Christ**
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SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

In this Issue:

Senior Pastor	1
Asst. Pastor & Deacons	2
Operations & Financials	3
Missions & Food Basket Sunday	4
Thrift & Gift Store, Terrific Tuesday & Congratulations	5
Pentecost Sunday, Fellowship & Summer Schedule	6
News & Notes	7
Birthday/Anniversaries & Prayer Concerns	8
Church Calendar	9

Staff

Senior Pastor:
Rev. Dr. Bill Wassner

Assistant Pastor:
Beverly Schafer

Pastor Emeritus:
Rev. Dr. Bill Ebbert

Office Manager:
Kathy Shaffner

Minister of Music:
Dr. Tom Naus

Media Communications:
Bob Brewster

Custodian:
DebViola



Dear Friends,

The picture on this page is of a Desert Rose on our back porch. When I was at Lowe's about two months ago, I saw this plant uprooted and lying on a pile by the cashier. I asked her about it and was told it was headed to the trash bin. I requested to purchase it and she said, "It'll never grow or bloom but if you want to try, I'll sell it to you for 50 cents." Next to the dying plant was an empty and chipped clay pot – also headed to the trash. I purchased it for another 50 cents. So, I invested \$1.00 in both and took them home. The plant was withered and shriveled but I planted it in new soil in the cracked pot. I watered and cared for it as best I could. The plant took root and began to sprout leaves and is now blooming! While Lisa says I have a "green thumb" – I think it bloomed because I did not give up on it. What a wonderful message of both what God does for us and what the Church is supposed to be about in loving mission! There is not a single one of us who is not bruised, beaten or battered by life. We may feel weak or defeated. Life can take a toll and we are drained and feel uprooted. We may have been given up on by others. We may have even given up on ourselves. Our God never gives up on us. God has redeemed our lives and Christ paid the price. As the Church, we need to be looking for and reaching out to those discarded souls the world may not view as important or worthy. Sure, we are not perfect, and have chips and cracks as an earthen vessel but God can still use us to bring new life and hope to others. People "planted" in a loving community and "watered" by the love of Christ will not only survive but thrive. They just need the attention they deserve as God's children. Thanks for serving and loving everyone!

Pastor Bill

ASSISTANT PASTOR



'Tis June -- time to plan activities around the daily thunderstorms. If you happen to suffer from "lightning phobia" like me, that can mean serious consideration before venturing out. When boating during the summer months, my consistent plea with Tim was to be sure we're back at the dock by 2:00 PM. (Okay, Pastor Bill and Joey -- quit your belly laughs!) My favorite choice of boating is kayaking. On one of our anniversaries -- gosh, I forget which one because we have been blessed with soon-to-be #53 -- we decided to kayak across the river from Ponce Inlet to do some fishing from one of the sandbars. No sooner had we geared up our fly rods when I spotted the ominous formation of very dark clouds to the west. "Okay, Beverly, stay calm," I whispered to myself. Well, that lasted about three minutes when I saw a flash of lightning. Aaaand, we're outa here! (Poor Tim. How on earth does he put up with me?!) Well, turns out that storm was traveling faster than Halley's Comet, so our little kayak sprouted wings! I never paddled so hard in my life! I swear we got airborne more than once during our record-breaking return to shore!

As I said, Tim and I are coming up on our anniversary which is the 28th of this month, and we are more aware than usual of how the "thunderstorms of life" can be even more frightening than the lightning phobia I described above. "Can be" are the key words here towards becoming unnecessary victims of an all-consuming fear. By allowing the Spirit of God through Jesus Christ our Lord to comfort and strengthen us during our most trying times, worry is greatly diminished -- not completely gone because, after all, we ARE human -- but certainly diminished. That's how Tim and I are approaching our next thunderstorm of life which is looming over our heads -- that of Tim's rather risky cardiac surgery on July 14th.

I have been honored to be with many of you through your thunderstorms of life; I have been honored to sit with you and listen; I have been honored to pray with you; I have been honored to share God's love with you; I have been honored to share with you God's peace that passes all understanding.

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid." (John 14:27)

In Peace and Love,

Pastor Beverly

DEACONS CORNER

Fellow POUCC Members and Friends,

The Deacons are evaluating options for an alternative hymnal (song book) that could be placed alongside the existing hymn books. We have discovered the old "blue" songbooks that were used in past summers. These song books could also be used for fellowship gatherings both formal and informal such as fellowship dinners or cookouts. We are still researching options for adding new paraments to our church sanctuary that can be both year round and for special seasons. Cost and presentation are the two key criteria.



FROM THE DEACONS

Our team is still in need of at least four more members to handle present duties as well as prepare for the future when existing deacon's positions may become vacant. If you are a POUCC member and would like to help, please contact me. *Bob Brewster, Chair of Deacons*

OPERATIONS TEAM



The Operations Team met on Monday, May 11th and the following topics were discussed.

Old Business:

- Winsemius Bequest – Council approved the use of bequest for kitchen renovations. There will be a dedication and a plaque in the name of Lois Winsemius placed there as well. Completion is scheduled by September with Jim Eagan to be our lead on this project.
- Re-Addressed the Charlie Mix building metal posts and downspouts repair – It was decided that the posts are not a structural problem at this time. When Team meets in the fall, Operations will reevaluate.
- Update on Parking Lot Repairs – Jim Eagan continues the repairs.
- Power Washing the Exterior – Completed on 04/27/15.
- Sprinklers Repairs – Jim Eagan to purchase new heads and install.
- AT&T Phone for Sale – iPhone 4S is not being used by church personnel (needs a SIM card) and will be offered in church bulletin for best offer with a minimum offer of \$50.00. Offer to end 6/30/15.

New Business

- Sanctuary Restroom Repairs – Completed.
- Repairs to the Clavinova Keyboard – Cost to repair is \$611 or more. To be further discussed.
- Replacement of Pine Tree on West Property – Replaced 5/22/15 with a Cypress Tree at cost of \$175.
- Painting of Wooden Cross on Outside Wall in Front of Church – Will be done by Tracy Davis.

Other Business:

- Outside Lights – Timers to be checked.
- Car Stop Repairs – Completed 5/14/15.
- Using our Parking Lot as a Throughway – Will inquire about having signs installed to alert people that our grounds are not to be used as a short cut. Concern is for safety.

The next Operations Meeting is scheduled for September 14, 2015 @ 6:30pm.

In Faith, Cindy Pierson, Operation Team Member

Financial Update

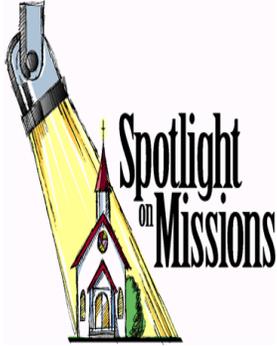
Operational Budget as 4/30/2015



	ACTUAL	BUDGET
	<u>Apr. 2015</u>	<u>Apr. 2015</u>
Income	\$60,369	\$54,453
Expenses	<u>\$54,102</u>	<u>\$54,992</u>
Net	\$ 6,267	-\$ 539

Our income through April was higher than anticipated and our expenses were just under what was budgeted. This is good news as we head into the summer months which are normally leaner with the absence of our "Snow Birds." Respectfully submitted by Susie Greiff, Treasurer

MISSION NOTES



Thanks to our generous support of Spruce Creek Elementary School through our Mission's projects and support of the Port Orange Music Academy, we have been chosen **Volusia County Schools Business Partner of the Year**. The plaque and certificate are on display in the Jim Reed Room. We also received a note from Todd Amani, Executive Director of Safe Passage, thanking us for our generous contribution in support of Dr. Deb Walter's kayaking mission to aid children living in a Guatemala City garbage dump.

Over 32 bags of food were collected this month which benefitted the Homeless Veterans Project. Prayer shawls and afghans for the Boggy Creek Mission are always needed as well as slightly used men's neckties. Keep in mind that we need to begin to collect items for the Palmetto House Christmas bags (list is on bulletin board and collection box on the table in front of Sanctuary). Also, remember the Mission Boxes that benefit Sophie's Circle, Sock's Box, can tabs and eyeglasses. Thank you for your support of all our missions projects. Your generosity continues to make a difference in peoples' lives. *Jackie Gaither, Chair of Missions*

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH COLLECTION "INVEST IN THE VISION": Thanks to your generosity to date we have collected \$220. Envelopes for this offering are on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary.



DISASTER RELIEF



Help those in need

For the month of June, we will be collecting a special supplemental offering for the International Relief Fund of the UCC. Those funds go directly to help people in the Disaster Response Ministries. The Denomination's initial response to aid the victims of the Nepal earthquake was \$40,000. The UCC is cooperating with ACT Alliance and Fuller Center for housing to make a difference there. Our offering will specifically go to support Disaster Response and will help replenish funds already distributed to help in Nepal and other storm victims worldwide. Please be generous to those suffering around the world.

FOOD BASKET SUNDAY



Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. As a reminder, June 7th is our next collection day and will benefit the Grace Episcopal Food Pantry. If we all bring a food donation, we will fill the basket each month. Please be generous and make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates (clearly marked on all cans, boxes, and containers).

SPECIAL NOTE: On May 4th, Sharon Williamson, Bill and I delivered 32 bags of food to our 16 veterans at Haven Recovery. They were so happy to see us as we noticed their pantry was low. Unfortunately for the veterans, we have learned the program will be closing it's doors in June. Both Lisa Manning, Program Director, and the veterans want to thank the congregation for the generous food donations throughout the year.

Last fall our auxiliary at VFW #3282 was given the task of helping to raise money to buy these veterans new shoes. Through other VFW's, businesses, private donations and cans that were put on the bars for donations, two months ago we reached our goal. We raised over \$1,000 and now as you can see these veterans are getting new shoes (only permitted to show their feet). Again thanks for your support and generosity. *Leree Nicholls*



THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE



After years of dedicated service, Barb Pountain has retired as Manager of the Gift & Thrift Store. Both Barb and Ric have spent countless hours making the shop one of the cleanest and friendliest in Port Orange. Their commitment to the mission of the store has not only benefited the church but also the community. On Sunday, May 24th at the Combined Service we recognized and thanked Barb & Ric for their years of service with flowers and a plaque, which is displayed in the Thrift Store.

We are also thankful to announce that Bob Gaither has agreed to take over management of the shop on an interim basis. Thanks to all who support the Gift & Thrift Store as volunteers, shoppers and with your donations!

TERRIFIC TUESDAYS



We wrapped up our meetings for the school year on May 19th with "Serendipity" Game Night which was so much fun. Many thanks to Jackie Gaither, Sue Turner, Rev. Larry Deitch and Pastor Bill for making this weekly gathering fun as well as enlightening. We'll keep you posted on our start-up date in the fall.

SPECIAL RECOGNITION



Congratulations to our own Garrett Zinke who graduated on May 18th from Carnegie Mellon University with a major in Physics & Robotics. He has relocated to Lake Charles, Louisiana and we wish him well in his future ventures.

We also congratulate Kaitlyn Wheeler who graduated from Nixa High School in Missouri on May 17th. Best of luck Kaitlyn!



On Saturday, May 16th Tommy Buller participated in the State Special Olympics in Orlando and won a gold medal in the 500 meter cycling event and placed fourth in the 1K race. Thanks to Sue & Jim Turner who coached Tommy to his victories. Great Job Tommy, we are so proud of you!

And congratulations to the Pack Children. Delana attended a Royal Princess Academy for her Girl Scout Camporee. She was dressed as Queen Ravenna and had an awesome time. She also received her five year recognition pin for Girl Scouts.



Colten was once again elected as a Patrol Leader in his Boy Scout troop. He also gave a nice speech about his family heritage at the Court of Honor Dinner.

PENTECOST SUNDAY & CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC



On Sunday, May 24th Pentecost Sunday, we celebrated the birthday of the Church with a combined Service attended by 102 members. The service featured musical selections from the Contemporary Praise Team as well as traditional hymns of praise sung by the congregation with accompaniment by Dr. Tom. Pastor Bill's Youth Message on "Learning Like Harry



Potter" and his sermon on "The Gift of the Word" were powerful. The service also included special recognition of Barb & Ric Pountain for their years of service to the Gift & Thrift Store and the Church. It was a full house and a great Pentecost Celebration.



Following the service, 64 members celebrated the start of summer and Memorial Day with a great Church Picnic. Thanks to Jackie & Bob Gaither, Sue Turner and Jack Barrick for the great pulled pork and hot dogs. And what a great assortment of side dishes and desserts for all to enjoy. Pastor Bill reminded everyone of the significance of Memorial Day and the importance of remembering all those who have fought and died to protect our freedom. It was the perfect end to a great day of celebration. **Just as a reminder, due to the kitchen renovations, we will not have Fellowship Dinners in June, July or August. We'll see you in September!**

SUMMER COMBINED WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Beginning in June and continuing throughout the summer, Communion Sundays, we will have a Combined Service beginning at 9:45 AM. The services will blend contemporary and traditional music and gives all members the opportunity to worship together. Mark your calendars and plan to join us. The schedule for the Combined Services is as follows:



June 7th, July 5th, August 2nd & September 6th.

SUMMER SERMON SERIES



During the months of June through August, we will be taking a look at the life and struggles of David from the time he was called to be king through his reign when the tribes of Israel were united. We will also look at his death, the beginning of the reign of King Solomon and the building of the Temple. We'll be looking at the books of First and Second Samuel and the book of First Kings. Hope you will join us.

Pastor Bill

NEWS & NOTES



Lisa and Pastor Bill represented POUCC as delegates to the Spring Assembly of the Florida Conference held in Coral Gables on May 1st & 2nd. There were representatives from over 50 churches across the state and a total of over 100 delegates. Pastor Bill's workshop on Climate Change and Faith was well attended. In addition, the resolution he coauthored against fracking in Florida was overwhelmingly passed. The Worship Services were awesome, our own Rev. Raymond Hargrove preached and our new Conference Minister, John Vertigan, who will be visiting us on September 13th, was installed in the afternoon.

FLORIDA CONFERENCE DEMO DAY: Join us as we begin the renovation of the church property at **9300 University Blvd., Orlando on Friday, June 5th, starting at 9:00 AM.** We will begin by removing and recycling some walls, windows and other building components. Volunteers will help to reduce the cost of this renovation project and will help give them a vision for the Conference Center.



Beginning June 8th and continuing through the 18th, we will again host Ed Clowers and the Port Orange Music Academy's Summer Band Camp. This is an amazing two week program where young musicians have the opportunity to have one on one instruction and ends with a great concert on the last day of camp. We're happy to have Ed and his band of musicians!

WEBSITE UPDATE: The church website's donation section is still under development. The timing for its "turn-on" will be this Fall.



On **Sunday, June 14th at 3:00 PM,** Rev. Dr. Diane Langworthy will be installed as Senior Pastor of the New Smyrna Beach UCC. We wish her much success in her ministry!

Thank You



The Johndrow-Pack family would like to thank everyone for their love and support on our recent wedding. It was wonderful seeing so many people there. The love we felt from all was just amazing! Thank you Pastor Bill and Lisa for all your hard work to help make this an extra special day for us. We would also like to thank

Bob Brewster for working the video equipment. We finally figured out what went wrong with the music for the video. We have posted the video on youtube for those who asked since they were not able to make it and for those who expressed a desire to see it with the music. Go to (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1mdl6M9EpUY>)

Again thank you to everyone for making this an extra special time for our family. We love you all and feel truly blessed.

Cindy, Deb, Colten, and Delana

Have a safe & enjoyable summer!



Happy Birthday!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS*

Diane Kirlin	6/1
Bob Gaither	6/2
Ruth Brewster	
Delana Pack	
Liz Mills	6/5
Jack Rogers	6/6
Nancy Snow	6/7
Jeanette Campbell	
Madison Hobson	6/8
Trey Thompson	
Rowan Schafer-Ramoutar	6/10
Pam Protko	6/13
Joan Brown	
Lisa Wassner	6/15
Thomas Besaw	
Susan Bussard	6/19
Bill Greiff	6/21
Charlie Baskin	
Bill Ebbert	6/22
Elijah Buller	6/25
Tim Schafer	6/26
Louise Eagan	
Lauren Scalf	6/28

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES*

Roger & Shirley Harper	6/1/1948
John & Mary Ann Stewart	6/2/1951
Paul & Carole Neiss	6/7/1969
Bobby & Kimberly Dotson	6/10/2006
Bob & Kay Russell	6/12/1960
Pastor Bill & Lisa Wassner	6/21/2007
Bill & Doreen Wheeler	6/24/1972
Tim & Beverly Schafer	6/28/1962

Note: *Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your special date.



PRAYER REQUESTS*

Amelia Allen	Friend of Erika Henderson
Denise Brewster	Family Member of The Brewsters
Delynn Brooks	Niece of Drew Knock
Fred Campbell	Member of POUCC
Jewel Carter	Daughter of Helen Holmes
Kimberly Comfort	Friend of Beverly Schafer
Richard Devins, Sr.	Friend of POUCC
Karen Donahue	Member of the Kransi Family
Sharon Ferrelli	Friend of POUCC
Kaela Harvey	Friend of the Bullers
Phyllis Heath	Wife of Rev. Steven Heath
Pat Hilgenberg	Member of POUCC
Mike & Tammy Hoffman	Family Members of the Wassners
Mike Hollifield	Friend of Tom Buller
Scott & Emily Hill	Family of Val Hill
Rev. Richard Hills	POMA Minister
Steven Horsey	Doreen Wheeler's Brother
Phyllis Johnson & Family	Friends of the Bullers
Drew Knock	Member of POUCC
Luella Kransi	Mother of Harold Kransi
Blanche Northcutt	Former Member of POUCC
Tim Schafer	Member of POUCC
John & Mary Ann Stewart	Members of POUCC
J. R. Thompson	Friend of Diane Kirlin
F/F of Rose Williams	Member of POUCC
Beverly Woodacre	Member of POUCC
Trey Zinke	Member of POUCC

In Care Facilities

June Ferreri	Member of POUCC (Care Facility in PA)
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Special Needs

All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families

Broader Concerns

Those in Peril Due to Flooding in TX & OK

Victims of the Earthquakes in Nepal

First Responders Everywhere

Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide

Refugees Fleeing Africa and the Middle East Due to Violence

**Please contact the Church office (788-0920) with your prayer requests.*

POUCC June 2015

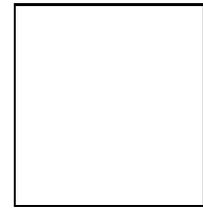
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 CPT 6:00 pm	4 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	5	6
7 Combined Service 9:45 am	8 POMA Band Camp 9:00-11:00 am Operations Meeting 6:30 pm	9 POMA Band Camp 9:00-11:00 am	10 POMA Band Camp 9:00-11:00 am Palmetto House 5:30 pm CPT - 6:00 pm	11 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	12	13
14 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	15 POMA Band Camp 9:00-11:00 am Council Meeting 7:00 pm	16 POMA Band Camp 9:00-11:00 am	17 POMA Band Camp 9:00-11:00 am CPT 6:00 pm	18 POMA Band Camp 9:00-11:00 am Line Dancing 6:00 pm	19	20
21 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	22	23	24 CPT 6:00 pm	25 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	26	27
28 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	29	30				

Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 3 pm Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - 1 pm

Join us for Fellowship & Refreshments Each Sunday Between Services

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE: JUNE - MISSIONS, JULY - DEACONS

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Office Hours

9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Monday—Friday

Thrift Store Hours

9:00 AM—3:00 PM
Monday—Friday

Sunday Worship

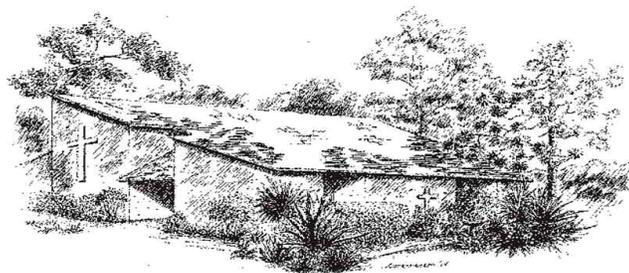
8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

Sunday School

9:45 AM

Terrific Tuesday

6:00 PM



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