



Volume 35, Issue 3

March 2013

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## Senior Pastor's Message



Dear Friends,

Frogs have been on my mind a lot lately. You may not be fond of frogs but we can learn something from them. They served to remind me of an important spiritual lesson by two recent incidents. First, a few weeks ago, as I was seated on the couch working on my laptop, I heard a loud plop on the carpet. Nina was upset and kept circling at the other end of the couch so I got up to see what was going on out of my sight. To my surprise a large frog (who had evidently been crawling on the ceiling) had fallen on the carpet. I quickly got Lisa's lizard net and relocated the reptile outside! Then a few days later, as I was driving on I-95 at Mario speed (private joke), a tree frog climbed up out from under the dashboard inside of the windshield in my truck. I thought, if he jumps on me, there's going to be a crash. I opened the passenger side window and eventually he jumped right out. I'm not sure he survived the landing but at least he was gone! Two things I am thankful for in the aftermath of these encounters. First, that Lisa was not around on either occasion. Second, that through them I was reminded me of a truth I needed to hold onto during difficult times. And I certainly did that last month during my health scare and subsequent hospitalization (BTW I am fine and receiving treatments). What is that truth? The letters to the word **FROG** stand for "**Fully Rely On God.**" I realize that this statement is not new to many of you – it wasn't to me either but its meaning was certainly punctuated! As I spent a day in the ER and three more days undergoing tests, I had a lot of time to think and reflect. I certainly had the opportunity to reconsider my life, my priorities and how little control any of us really have on what life will bring. A lesson remembered and perhaps relearned. Not a bad lesson for all of us to keep in our hearts and minds during all the times of our lives – not just the difficult ones.

May God Bless You All!

Fully  
Rely  
On  
God



Pastor Bill

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### Staff

**Senior Pastor:**  
Rev. Dr. Bill Wassner  
**Assistant Pastor:**  
Beverly Schafer  
**Pastor Emeritus:**  
Rev. Dr. C. William Ebbert  
**Office Manager:**  
Kathy Shaffner  
**Minister of Music:**  
Dr. Tom Naus  
**Worship Team Leader:**  
Terri Zinke  
**Dancing Angels Leader:**  
Bonnie Morisset  
**Media Communications:**  
Bob Brewster

# Staff Notes



January 27, 2013, will forever be a most memorable date for me as God, through my beloved church family, blessed me with the honor of ministry as Assistant Pastor of Port Orange United Church of Christ. I am sure you all "noticed" that I was absolutely overwhelmed by the magnitude of this service which I thought would be a modest recognition of my ministry among you. First off, unbeknownst to me, Pastor Bill and our Church Council changed my title from "Assistant Pastor for Education and Youth" to "Assistant Pastor", which means an all-encompassing ministry rather than a limited one. The impact upon my soul of this acknowledgement through a service of consecration and recognition of your faith and trust in me as your Assistant Pastor is beyond measure, and I thank you from the bottom of my heart for this honor.

While driving to church that morning, the thought came to me that for this very special service of recognition of the ministries of Rev. Bill Ebbert, Rev. Raymond Hargrove and myself, I would be the only one without a stole. Little did I know what was to come. When Sher presented me with your congregational gift of "The Stole of The Good Shepherd," I felt complete. Sher was unaware when she selected this particular stole that the name Schafer in German means "shepherd". Coincidence? Then Pastor Bill asked Sue Turner to come forward with yet another presentation -- a cross made of turquoise which she had made. Sue had no idea that turquoise is my birthstone, nor did she and Sher coordinate the color of embroidery on my stole with the color of the cross which match. More coincidences? I consider these "coincidences" as blessings and affirmations from God for becoming your Assistant Pastor! Praise be to God!

Joyfully and Faithfully, *PASTOR BEVERLY*

**SPECIAL NOTE:** We are shocked but supportive in receiving the resignation of Terri Zinke on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The decision had been coming for a long time and represents a faith step for her as she moves into a different career. Thankfully, she will be with us until May 19<sup>th</sup>. We have begun to make some inquiries as to new leadership and will keep you posted on our progress. Thanks to Terri for her years of service as Praise Team Leader. *Terri you will be missed!*



## Financial Update

Operational Budget as of 12/30/12

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
	<u>Jan. 2013</u>	<u>Jan. 2013</u>
<b>Income</b>	\$15,846	\$16,275
<b>Expenses</b>	<u>\$13,619</u>	<u>\$14,487</u>
<b>Net</b>	<b>\$ 2,227</b>	<b>\$ 1,788</b>

Our income was less than expected but fortunately so were our expenses. Therefore, our net income is a little higher than anticipated for the month of January. We are off to a good start. *Respectfully submitted, Susie Greiff, Treasurer*

## OPERATIONS TEAM



Thanks go to Dalen Mills for his leadership, as well as the rest of the team from last year for all they've done to keep your Church grounds up and make the best use of your resources. Thanks to all of you who keep an eye out for our property and handle the many things that must be done to keep it nice. It's been several years since we've had a custodian, so you're it!

The near future will bring several smaller projects such as closet construction and sprinklers that don't water your car mid-afternoon thanks to a new timer. The west property will be maintained for now as we make preparations to move in bigger ways in the Spring. We continue to ask you to park between lines rather than along the edges of the driving areas. Next Operations Meeting will be **Monday, March 11th at 6:30 PM.** *Tim Holby, Operations Chairman*

A big thank you goes out to Ric Pountain for cleaning out the garden shed and repairing the brick pathway in the Prayer Garden.

Thanks also to Russ Karel for his continual care of the church grounds. Russ your efforts are seen and appreciated by all of us.

And I'm sure you've noticed that the bench in the front of the church was replaced thanks to Dalen Mills.

***Great Job by All!***



Any use of the church facilities by members or outside groups must be presented to and approved by the Operations Team and the Church Council.

Also, due to insurance regulation and liability issues, we can no longer permit use of our parking lot by non-members for non-church events.

Lastly, our church owes the Florida Conference Dues the first of each year. The dues for 2013 are \$14.50 per each family member and the envelope can be found in your yearly offering envelope boxes.

## DEACON'S CORNER



### The Ministry of Deacons

Hello From the Deacons,

This month we are happy to announce the additions of three members to the diaconate: Bill Greiff, Bonnie Morisset, and Sher Buller. We have already met as a group and plan to have the new members in the mix during deacons functions. Returning deacons are Bob and Ruth Brewster, Tim Holby, Sandi Kransi, Tim Shafer, and Janna Thompson. We have a great group and are excited to make your worship service experience meaningful. As always, please see a deacon if you have any concerns with worship. *Joe Thompson, Chair of the Deacons*

Deacon Installation took place on Sunday, February 17th at both worship services. Thank you all for your service to the church!

## THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE



THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO DONATES TO THE THRIFT STORE.

With your help we are not only able to add to the income of the Church but help many others with your donated items. Some donated items remain within the church: dish towels, serving utensils and dishes are often needed to re-supply the kitchen; and various books and teaching materials are retained for use in our Christian Education program. Thanks to Jack Hilgenberg, items such as travel bags, suitcases, trash cans, pillows and bedding are delivered to Palmetto House.

We work with the Missions committee to supply yarn for shawls and afghans and books for Boggy Creek. Together we make great things happen for our congregation and our community! Year to date receipts total \$4,280.50 through the third week of February. *Barb Pountain*

## YOUTH NEWS



The Youth would like to thank all of you who came to our Carwash and Bake Sale. Your support has earned us \$391 towards our attending the Peace River Canoe and Camping Florida UCC Youth Event the first weekend in March. We would also like to thank Tracy Davis, Joey Thompson, Bob Gaither, Sue Turner, Lauren Tromley, Kathy Cratin, and Pastor Beverly for helping with the carwash. Sunday Schoolers Aidan Bryan, Aydan & Blake Buller, and Skylar Davis also pitched in with the carwash, which was much appreciated. A big thank you to Janna Thompson and

Lauren Tromley for working the Bake Sale, and Janna Thompson, Lauren Tromley, Cassie Higgins, Lauren Scalf, Sarah Bryan, Shannon Wierzbicki, June "Bug," Jeanette Campbell, and Sher Buller for all the super yummy goodies! Mark your calendars! Our next Car Wash is scheduled for **Saturday, March 9th, 10:00 AM-1:00 PM.**

Your Very Happy Youth Group:

*Hunter & Payton Bryan, Elijah & Tommy Buller, Dallas Davis, Lauren Scalf, Trey & Van Thompson, and Kaylei Wierzbicki*



The youth mentioned above will ship out for the Peace River Outing on **Friday, March 1st at 3:00 PM and will return on Sunday.** Thanks to Sher Buller, Sue Turner and Tracy Davis for chaperoning the kids. We wish them safe travels and look forward to a full report upon their return. *Have a super time!*



**Update:** Beginning on **Tuesday, March 12th & 19th**, Pastor Bill will present a two-part DVD presentation entitled "The Crucifixion". The presentation and discussion will follow fellowship (6:00 PM) and will take place in the Sanctuary. The next presentation will take place on **April 9th** and is entitled "The Shroud of Turin". Mark

your calendars and plan to attend!

## MISSION NOTES



A new year with the opportunity to give more to those who need our help. Our closet is in need of prayer shawls and afghans for Boggy Creek Camp. Our Pregnancy Crisis Basket could use some diapers and whatever else a new baby requires. The first Sunday Food Project is going well. Sock Box is looking good, keep it coming.

We collected \$33 from the Mission Boxes and that may be the start of a new project introduced by a new mission team member (update to follow). The mission boxes are a great place to put all your loose change. It will lighten your purse weight and makes you feel really good. Remember, any ideas that you have about helping a special need in the community, we would like to hear about it. As a member of this church community, you are a very special part of the Missions team. Without your generosity, we would not be able to give to the areas we now help.

I hope you all take a moment to check the bulletin board for the Thank You cards from those we have given to. Their gratitude is abundant. I think that once you have given to a project, we have a tendency to put it aside, but the ones who have received want you to know they really do appreciate your thoughtfulness.

Some information about the feeding teams for Palmetto House: Each team feeds one time a month on the Second Wednesday. The food is prepared by the team members and taken to the Palmetto House and served to the residents. Each team determines what they want to cook and serve. This year we have made available \$50 to each team to help with expenses of buying the food. It is best if there were two or even three on a team. I hope you will consider being a part of this very important mission project. For more information, please contact me.

**Don't forget the One Great Hour of Sharing collection on *March 10th* (More information on this special mission offering below).** *Jackie Gaither, Missions Chairman*



**2013 CAMPAIGN: SHARING BRINGS JOY:** The UCC partners with Christians from eight other Protestant denominations and Church World Service in the ecumenical **One Great Hour of Sharing Offering**, thus multiplying our effectiveness and extent of our witness. In cooperation with Global Ministries, ACT Alliance, Interchurch Medical Assistance, Foods Resource Bank, Oikocredit, Freedom from Hunger and hundreds of local partners around the world, One Great Hour of Sharing is part of a remarkable network of service and caring that is efficient, effective and faithful. This mission collection will be taken up on ***Sunday, March 10th.*** Envelopes for the collection are in the rear of the Sanctuary.

## YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

We continue to collect food items to donate to the Episcopal Help Center. **Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday.** Over 27 bags of food were donated on the first Sunday last month. 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). There is a specific need for rice and peanut butter...PLEASE donate ONLY 1 pound bags of rice and 1 pound jars of peanut butter so they can be given to individual families. ***March 3rd is our next collection!***



## LENT 2013



We began our Lenten Season with a combined Ash Wednesday Service with Pastor Altemose and the New Smyrna Beach congregation. The service was well attended and Pastor Bill began our Lenten theme by exploring the first of the last seven phrases Jesus said when He was on the cross. These are referred to as the “seven words from the cross,” and were the last words of Jesus on the day of His crucifixion. In the past two weeks since Ash Wednesday, our worship services have centered on “Forgiveness”, “Paradise” and “Your Son”. Listed below are the four themes and readings that Pastor Bill will cover leading up to Christ’s Crucifixion and glorious Resurrection on Easter Sunday.

### **Fourth Word Matthew 27: 45-47 “Forsaken” March 3 Third Sunday**

About the ninth hour Jesus cried out to His Father with a loud voice, "My God, My God, why hast thou forsaken me?" Matthew 27:46

### **Fifth Word John 19: 28-29 “Thirst” March 10 Fourth Sunday**

Jesus, knowing that all things had already been accomplished, in order that the scripture might be fulfilled, exclaimed, "I am thirsty." John 19:28

### **Sixth Word John 19: 30 “I’m Done” March 17 Fifth Sunday**

The sixth word was a statement of triumph: "It is finished."

### **Seventh Word Luke 23: 44-49 “In God’s Hands” March 24 Palm/Passion Sunday**

Jesus cried out to His Father with a loud voice."Father, into Thy hands I commit my spirit." Having said this, Jesus breathed His last. Luke 23:46



Sunday, March 24 - Palm/Passion Sunday - 8:45 AM Contemporary Service

10:45 AM Traditional Worship

Thursday, March 28 - Maundy Thursday - 7:30 PM Worship Service with Communion

Friday, March 29 - Good Friday - 12:00-3:00 PM Service at Grace Episcopal Church

Sunday, March 31 - Easter Sunday - 7:00 AM Sunrise Worship at Winter Haven Park

10:45 AM Sanctuary Celebration

## SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER



### Easter Fellowship Dinner

Every Second Thursday at 6:00 pm, POUCC has a wonderful Fellowship Dinner in the Jim Reed room. If you have attended, you already know that we EAT, TALK, LAUGH, SING and ENJOY each other's company.

*Make your plans to come to the next dinner Thursday March 14th which will be our Easter Pot Luck. So plan to enjoy ham and all the fixings. You bring the sides. Sign-up on Sanctuary Bulletin Board.*

## SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER & TALENT SHOW



Wow, what a crowd (50 plus) we had on *Tuesday, February 12th* for our Pancake Dinner and Talent Show. Great pancakes and all the trimmings and super talent (trumpeters, a kazoo choir and singers) was enjoyed by all that attended. A big thank you to June Ferreri, Chuck Konopsky, Bob Russell and all those that helped to make this such a success.



## LADIES LUNCHEONS



Meets once a month to share a bite and fellowship. Join us on *Thursday, March 21st at Noon* at the Olive Garden. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary or contact Jeanette Campbell (788-4959). All are welcome.

**SPECIAL LADIES OUTING:** This Sunday, *March 3rd at Noon* all ladies are invited to meet at Golden Corral for lunch and we will then attend the 2:00 PM performance of "Godspell" at the First United Methodist Church in Port Orange. If interested, please contact Sandy Kransi (788-2392).



## COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

Schedule for the Fellowship Hour is as follows:

**March - Operations**

**April - Thrift Shop**

**May - Fellowship**



# NEWS & Notes

## **PORT ORANGE MUSIC ACADEMY: On Tuesday, February 5th**

Ed Clowers and his group of musicians entertained a packed house in the Sanctuary. The program included great musical selections and vocals and showcased some terrific soloists. *Thanks to Ed and his talented young artists!*



**CONGRATULATIONS TO COLTEN PACK** for two reasons: First, he finished his “God & Family” program with Pastor Bill last month and also moved into Boy Scouts. He will be recognized for his completion of the program on **Sunday, March 3rd**. Secondly, his basketball team, the “Grizzlies” (10-11 year olds) won the



City Championship. *Colten, we're proud of you!*

On another Scouting note, congratulations to Aydan and Blake Buller and Colten Pack on receiving the “Arrow of Light Award”. *Way to go boys!*



Congratulations to Trey Zinke on his graduation from an intense five week training course for Swift Boat Crewmen. He was one of 25 graduates out of a class of 55. *Great job Trey!*

**STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN:** To date we have received 42 pledge forms totaling \$85,674. If you have not returned your pledge form, please fill it out and place it in the collection plate or mail it to the church office. Many thanks for your past, present and future support.



## **DISASTER MANAGEMENT**



On **Wednesday, March 13th from 10:00 AM-3:00 PM** we will be hosting the regional UCC Disaster Management Team meeting. Also, on Tuesday, **April 16th from 1:00-3:00 PM** at the Union Congregational UCC, 1050 Daytona Ave., Daytona Beach, there will be a free informational meeting discussing “Wind Mitigation”.

Making mitigation happen can save you money on your home insurance and help you preserve your home and its content when disaster strikes and possibly save your life. For more information visit [www.FloridasFoundation.org](http://www.FloridasFoundation.org).



Lisa and I would like to thank you all for your prayers, calls and cards during my recent stay in the hospital. We appreciate your concern and are blessed to have you in our lives.  
*Pastor Bill*

We recently received a note from Rev. Dr. Raymond Hargrove expressing his thanks for your prayers, love and support.

Thank you for honoring us all at the special service in January. You guessed correctly that I enjoy the glass globe of the world. Sincerely and Thank You! *Very Emeritus Minister, Bill*

Thanks to Bob Brewster for posting last month's Recognition Service for Pastor Beverly, Rev. Ebbert and Rev. Hargrove on our website. Visit the website and you can see what a great job Bob did!

## WEST PROPERTY UPDATE



Dear Friends,

These are exciting days for our church as we upgrade our programs and expand our facilities. One of our current projects is the development of the west property. As you know, the property has been cleared over the last year and we are ready for Phase I of the building – which will be a 24 foot square concrete pad and a steel roof to create a Pavilion for use in worship, picnics, and other special events such as concerts and blessings for bikes and pets.

Ric Pountain shared an idea with me that I heartily agree with - that is, the naming and establishment of the Pavilion and property for our Veterans. By doing so, we not only honor those who have served and who still serve today, but also we remember those who gave their lives for the freedoms and opportunities we have today as well. Needless to add, that such a designation would also honor those who have gone before us as leaders and saints in the church as well. During our Root Party last December, when discussing where we could start our first building, Bob Brewster called the area later chosen for Phase I as “The Chapel among the Pines”. So, I would like to call it the Veterans Chapel. *The Church Council heartily and unanimously approved of this designation and fundraising effort at their February meeting.*

Where do you fit into this effort? I believe that those military veterans in our church can help us get this first Phase up and completed by the end of the summer. I have sent a letter to our veterans requesting a small (and over and above pledged) gift from each one to help make this happen. There are nearly 30 veterans active in our church and if each one could make a gift of \$200, Phase I will be 50% funded. Some may not be able to afford \$200, and some may want to give more! Whatever the gift amount, we would be most thankful and appreciative for their generosity. We are offering this opportunity to the congregation as well but I wanted our veterans to have the chance to lead us now as they have in the past. Please be generous in your contribution and mark your check Veterans Chapel.

While I recognize that these are trying times in our country, I also want to remind all of us that these are exactly the moments when we need to hold onto and lift up that which is good, pleasing, honorable, and worth celebrating. Please give prayerful consideration to your gift and do not hesitate to call me if you have any questions.

Pastor Bill

## SPIRITUAL LIFE

We now have two Spiritual Life Teams within the congregation. Team #1 meets every other Sunday of the month at **5:00 PM** and their next meeting is **Sunday, March 10th**. Team #2 meets every **Tuesday at 4:30 PM**. Pastor Beverly is coordinating the teams and would be happy to answer any questions.

# Happy Birthday!



## MARCH BIRTHDAYS\*

Ruth Gilbert	3/5
Faith Coppolo	3/6
Nick Stierli	3/9
Bill Wheeler, Sr.	3/16
Katie Wilson	3/21
Tom Van Camp	3/22
Molly Baskin	3/24
Jim Kirtley	3/25
Lauren Tromley	
Pastor Bill Wassner	3/27



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES\*

Charlie & Molly Baskin	3/3/1962
Richard & Vivien Devins	3/24/1984

**Note: \*Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your birthday or anniversary.**



## PRAYER REQUESTS\*

Beth & Chris Brown	Family of Shelia & Bob Fisher
F/F of Jim Brown	Family of Shelia & Bob Fisher
Linda Carey	Friend of Milissa Davis
Dee Carroll	Mother of Sher Buller
Thea Cloutier	Member of POUCC
Dan Dale	Friend of Pastor Bill
Delores "Dee" DeRonde	Mother of Suzette Wheeler (Home!)
Karen Donahue	Sister of Harold Kransi
Amelia Dyer	Friend of Shelia & Bob Fisher
Ernie Hegedus	Former Member of POUCC
Vicki Folar	Aunt of Jackie Clough
Tyler Graf	Grandson of John & Anne Shaw
Susie Greiff	Member of POUCC
Sue Gordon	Family of Shelia & Bob Fisher
Cheryl Harper	Daughter of JoEllen Hopkins
Nancy Hosford	Bill Wheeler's Sister
Robert Houghman	Friend of the Greiff's
Bernie Hunt	Member of POUCC
Gentile Ivey	Friend of Milissa Davis
Cecilia Kearney	Friend of Jeanette Campbell
John Lascor	Brother-in-Law of Sher Buller
Helen McGuffie	Member of POUCC
Bobbi Mitchell	Friend of Milissa Davis
Melodie Moore	Friend of Pastor Bill
Calvin Poole	Friend of Pastor Bill
Steve Sharp	Friend of the Grieff's
Shane Snodgrass	Son of Carol Strickland
Mary Ann Stewart	Member of POUCC
F/F of Shelby Thompson	Mother of Joe Thompson
Merrylin Trethewey	Friend of Pastor Bill
Walker Family	Sister of Doreen Wheeler
Martha, Barbara & Gene Ward	Friends of Carol & Joe Rogers
F/F of Jane Weed	Wife of UCC Minister Roy Weed
Katy Wilson	Friend of Brewster Family
Jean Wishart	Friend of Jeanette Campbell

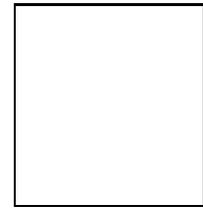
### In Care Facilities:

Rosemary Smith	Member (Sterling House)
Pat Hilgenberg	Member of POUCC (PO Rehab)
Beverly Woodacre	Grandmother of Shannan Wierzbicki (PO Rehab)

# POUCC March 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1 Youth Retreat Departure 3:00 pm CPT 6:30 — 9 pm	2
3 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	4	5 Terrific Tuesdays 6:00 pm	6 Chime Choir 6:15-7:15 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	7 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	8	9 Youth Car Wash & Bake Sale 10 am-1 pm
10 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	11 Operations 6:30 pm	12 Terrific Tuesdays 6:00 pm	13 Disaster Mgmt. 10 am-3 pm Palmetto House 5:30 pm	14 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm	15 CPT 6:30 — 9 pm	16
17 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	18 Council 7:00 pm	19 Terrific Tuesdays 6:00 pm	20 Chime Choir 6:15-7:15 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	21 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	22	23 CPT TBA
24 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	25	26 Terrific Tuesdays 6:00 pm	27 Chime Choir 6:15-7:15 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	28 Maundy Thursday Service 7:30 pm	29 Good Friday Service 12-3 pm Grace Episcopal Church	30 CPT TBA
31 Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 am Traditional 10:45 am	<p><i>Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 3 pm    Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - 1 pm</i></p> <p><i>Join us for Fellowship &amp; Refreshments Each Sunday Between Services</i></p>					

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**Dancing Angels Leader:** Bonnie Morisset  
**Media Communications:** Bob Brewster

**Office Hours**

9:00 AM—1:00 PM

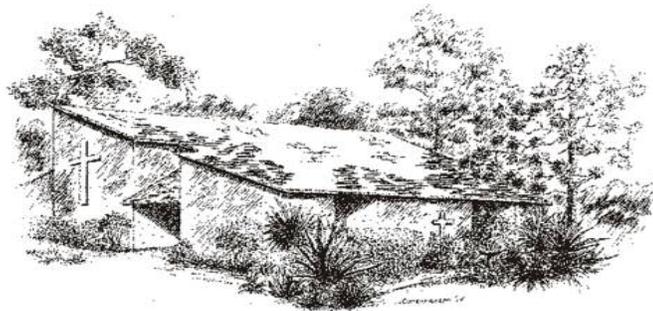
Monday—Friday

**Sunday Services**

8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

**Sunday School**

9:45 AM



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