



Volume 37, Issue 9

September 2015

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## SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

Lisa and I started out our vacation in San Antonio on a stressful note. Thankfully, the flight was not delayed and our baggage arrived intact, but, when we walked to the rental car counter to pick up our reserved rental car, we discovered no one at the desk. When we asked a competitor, we were told they must be on a break. Then we were told that no cars were on the premises and that we had to go outside and wait for a shuttle bus to take us to the rental car lot several miles away. So we drug our luggage outside and waited in the afternoon sunshine and heat (some 95+ degrees) for the shuttle bus to take us to the assigned company lot. Lisa and I waited for some time as buses for other rental car companies came and left. Finally, one for our company (not to be fully named but it starts with an “H” – coincidence, I think not!) arrived. Then we traveled to the car lot, disembarked, and got in line to do our paperwork to get a car-only to discover that they had no car for us! The fact that I had made an online reservation several days before and I had prepaid with our credit card made no difference. Seems they had overbooked and we would have to wait for a car to be returned, processed, cleaned, and refueled. So, we sat and waited. I tried to change the car “reserved” and a few other ideas trying to speed up the process but to no avail. We were ready to start our vacation and drive to our wonderful relative’s home outside of San Antonio but instead we waited with a dozen or so of our newest “friends” – also waiting and fuming. One Gold Club Member was so mad that he went outside and loaded his luggage in the trunk of a car reserved for someone else and tried to drive away with it! The manager and the security officer had to stand in front of the car and threaten to call the police and have him arrested if he didn’t get out of the car. He grudgingly complied. An hour later a car came in, we signed the papers and we left in a car not fully fueled or washed. I think I handled the situation fairly well (Lisa may have a different opinion) and I used my best diplomatic skills. After all, the manager pleaded on the phone for a car on our behalf with the district and described me as having “the patience of Job.” Oh joy – I will never use “H” again! We had a great vacation albeit very hot. It was good to get away and see family and have some fun. Still, this initial event reminded me of the value of patience and the inevitability of disappointments, and the strong sense of consumer/ convenience orientation in our world. I literally had to set my mind on the right things and choose to be positive in a stressful situation. I cannot say that I am always successful at doing that or that I am a great role model in that capacity but what if we all tried a little harder. Perhaps - just perhaps - it’s not about us, others are not out to get us, and we are blessed beyond the struggles. We are all on this one-way trip called “life” and there are no “do overs.” God bless you in your journey and all of us as we endure with needed faith and courage.

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### 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:**  
Deb Viola  
**Thrift Store:**  
Bob Gaither

*Pastor Bill*

## PRAYER & STUDY GROUP

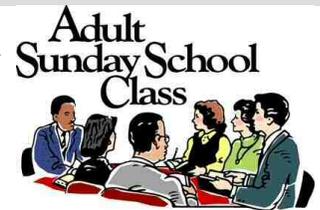


### Prayer & Study Group

As mentioned in last month's Newsletter, Pastor Bill and Kay Russell will be leading a Study and Prayer Group in the Fall to think and pray about what and where God needs us to be in the future. We need to be honest with ourselves in terms of what "business" we're in, who we're trying to serve, and how can we be faithful as the uncertain future unfolds. The focus will be on struggling with those questions in these exciting and anxious times. The group will be utilizing a book called The Great Emergence: How Christianity is Changing and Why by Phyllis Tickle. You can get a used copy of the book on Amazon or the local library. Pastor Bill is looking for 8-10 members to covenant and join him. If interested, contact Pastor Bill.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL PROGRAMS

Please remember that our Adult Class meets every Sunday (when we don't have a Combined Service) immediately following the 8:45 AM Service in Classroom #2. The class uses "The Wired Word" as curriculum and is ably taught by Erika Henderson and Kay Russell during the winter months. Come and join us!



**Youth Sunday School will begin on Sunday, September 20th, at 9:45 AM in Classroom #1 with Pastor Beverly.**

## SPECIAL MENTIONS



Reminder to all that area schools are in session. Please watch for children, school buses and obey the traffic laws so that we may all be safe. And to all the students, have a great year!



A silver hoop pierced earring was found at the entrance to the Sanctuary. If this belongs to you, contact the church office.

### Financial Update



Operational Budget as 7/31/2015

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
	<u>Jan.-July 2015</u>	<u>Jan.-July, 2015</u>
<b>Income</b>	\$ 94,657	\$ 94,535
<b>Expenses</b>	<u>\$ 91,187</u>	<u>\$ 94,813</u>
<b>Net Income Actual</b>	\$ 3,470	\$ -278

*Even though our net is less than prior months, we are still in the black and that is good news. The summer months are normally leaner than the rest of the year but we are still on track to end in the black. Thank you to everyone for your support. Respectfully, Susie Greiff, Treasurer*

## OPERATIONS TEAM

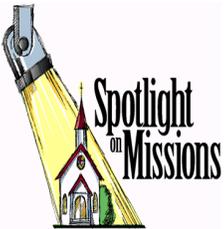
The Operations Team has been working hard over the summer repairing, renovating and maintaining the buildings and property. The kitchen renovations are complete. Thanks to Jim Eagan, Jim & Sue Turner, Bob Gaither and Ayden Buller. The new appliances have been installed as well as the gas line. Dedication of the newly renovated kitchen will be part of the **Combined Service on Sunday, September 13th at 9:45 AM**. The two stoves from the kitchen are for sale for \$75 each or “best offer.” Both are in working condition and you would be responsible for moving them. If interested, call the church office.



The grounds are looking great thanks to Sher Buller and Cindy Deitch’s loving care of the front flowerbed as well as Rich Thole’s care of the newly planted tree on the West Property. And thanks again to Jim Eagan for his tireless work in sweltering temperatures on the repair and replacement of the sprinklers.

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

## MISSION NOTES



Thanks to your generosity, to date we have collected \$685 for our “Sneakers & Socks” Project. We will be collecting donations through **Sunday, August 23rd** and you can place them in the box in the Sanctuary. Please make your check out to POUCC and mark “Sneakers” in the memo line. Your contributions will provide children in need with the necessary shoes to participate in the Gym Class.

Upcoming Mission projects include the Neighbors in Need Collection that will take place on **Sunday, October 4th which is World Communion Sunday**. More information on this special collection will be forthcoming.



Keep in mind that we need to begin to collect items for the Palmetto House Christmas bags. Items we are in need of include: travel size bottles of shampoo & conditioner, lotion & bath gel, small bars of soap and plastic soap dishes and small cosmetic bags. Donations may be placed in the box in the Sanctuary. Also, remember the two Mission Boxes which benefit Sophie’s Circle, the Pregnancy Crisis Center, Sock’s Box, can tabs and eyeglasses.

Thanks to all who contributed their time and talent knitting and crocheting. We will be delivering afghans to Boggy Creek in early November.

Your continued support of all our Mission Projects allows us to continue to help those in need within our community. *Jackie Gaither, Chair of the Missions Team*

## YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

**Communion Sundays are designated as “Fill the Food Basket” Sunday. As a reminder, September 6th is our next collection day and will again benefit Grace Episcopal Food Pantry.** Over 29 bags of food were collected last month for the 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). Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



## TERRIFIC TUESDAYS



### Terrific Tuesdays

Will begin on **September 22nd**. **Dinner will be served at 6:00 PM**. Following dinner, we will discuss the format for future meetings. We need your input so mark your calendars and plan to attend. Remember supper is \$2.00 @ person and please call the church office to make your reservation.

## THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE

The addition of Saturday hours has proven to be popular among our customers with sales to date totaling \$13,678 and we have provided five bags of clothes to the homeless. We presently have a large assortment of Polish Crystal (circa 1900) for sale at \$4 a piece. If you haven't visited the shop recently, check us out. I'm sure you'll find something you can't live without! Donations and volunteers are always welcome and greatly appreciated. *Bob Gaither, Manager*



## CONGREGATIONAL PICNIC



### Church Picnic

Please join us on **Sunday, September 6th** following the **9:45 AM Combined Service** for our **end of the Summer Picnic in the Jim Reed Room!** Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be provided, you bring the sides and desserts. This is sure to be a special event so mark your calendars. Sign-up sheet on the Sanctuary bulletin board. **Please note, the picnic will be our fellowship meal for the month of September.**

## SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER

Every Second Thursday at 6:00 pm, POUCC has a wonderful Fellowship Dinner in the Jim Reed room.

*Our next fellowship dinner is October 8th. It's a "Pot Luck."*  
*Sign-up Sheet on Sanctuary Bulletin Board.*



## SPECIAL THANKS



Many thanks to all my family and friends at the Port Orange United Church of Christ for the cards and love you gave me in celebration of my 90th birthday. You are all very special to me. With love to all, *Eva Brewster*

We wish to thank everyone for their cards, calls, well wishes and especially your prayers for the success of Tim's surgery and recovery. Your care and concern are of great comfort to us and we are blessed to have you all in our lives. *The Schafer Family*



Pastor Bill recently received a note from Rev. Raymond Hargrove thanking us for the recent use of the facility by the Conference Regional Church and Ministry Committee Team and asking if the Team could continue to use the facility as their regular meeting site. Their next meeting is scheduled for November 7, 2015.

Cheryl Williams, Director of Philanthropy and Stewardship for the UCC Conference Denominational Offices in Cleveland sent us a note acknowledging and thanking us for our recent \$605 donation towards the worldwide Emergency Fund.



## NEWS & NOTES



Combined  
Services

**September 6th, 9:45 AM** - Following the service we will have a Fellowship Picnic in the Jim Reed Room. Hamburgers & Hot Dogs will be provided. Picnic Sign-up sheet on Sanctuary bulletin board.

**September 13th, 9:45 AM** - Our Conference Minister, John Vertigan will be here to worship with us and a reception will follow the service so that you can meet and greet Rev. Vertigan.

**ANNUAL TORTUGAS BASEBALL OUTING:** Unfortunately due to inclement weather, our annual baseball outing which was scheduled for Saturday, August 1st was canceled. Some of our members attended Sunday's double header and if you purchased a ticket for the game and still have it, you may use it at any remaining home games. Hopefully, we'll have better luck next year.



The Sanctuary Choir will practice every **Wednesday at 7:30 PM beginning August 26th** and will begin singing at our 10:45 AM worship service in September. All are welcome.

**ANNUAL PET BLESSING:** In honor of the Feast Day for St. Francis of Assisi on October 4th, Pastor Bill will host a Pet Blessing on **Saturday, October 13th, 10:00 AM at Veterans Chapel**. Mark your calendars and gather up your cherished family pets and meet at the Chapel for a very special blessing on God's special creatures.



The Fall Assembly of the Florida Conference will take place on **Saturday, October 24th** at the Congregational UCC Church of Winter Park. Pastor Bill will be leading a workshop on **GREEN ADVOCACY** which will include youth in an interactive forum. There will also be work events for youth and additional workshops all on the theme of taking better care of our planet and especially what we can do here in Florida. Pastor Bill will also be speaking at the Interfaith Alliance of Central Florida in Winter Park on **September 22nd** on his 2016 sabbatical topic of Climate Change and Interfaith Initiatives.



**CONGRATULATIONS AND WELCOME:** To the Bussard Family, Clyde, Emily and Susie, who recently joined the congregation by Reaffirmation of Faith and Transfer of Membership from the Corkran United Methodist Church in Temple Hills, MD. We're happy to have you!



Joanne Flatt recently called and sends her best to everyone. She is happy in her new home and her address is 770 W. French Avenue, Orange City, FL 32763.

**Saturday, November 14th, Seminole State College-Sanford/Lake Mary Campus.** Our own Kimberly and Tyler Dotson will be participating in this walk to help raise funds to support vital research and top-quality programs that are changing the future for those who struggle with autism. Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin boards or you can visit Kimberly's website: <http://www.walknowforautismspeaks.org/centralflorida/teamtyler>.



We just received sad news from Rev. Bonnie Lipton that Joyce Bresse is residing in an Alzheimers unit as a result of numerous strokes over recent years. Joyce can receive cards and they should be sent to: Joyce Bresse, c/o Rev. Bonnie Lipton, 19703 Wyndmill Circle, Odessa, FL 33556. Please keep them both in your prayers.

## Happy Birthday!



### SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS\*

Harriet Rogers	9/2
Eloise Wottke	
Barb Pountain	9/3
Pamela Schafer	9/9
Kay Taylor	9/12
Ric Pountain	9/14
Bill Wheeler, Jr.	9/17
Colten Pack	9/21
Ernie Fodor	9/22
Sandy Kransi	9/23
Cassie Higgins	9/26
Mary Hughes	9/28
Marjory Monat	9/30

### SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES\*

Arthur & Helen Van Nostrand	9/15/1951
Ernie & Peggy Fodor	9/20/1980
Ted & Sue Batturs	9/23/1961
Billy & Erika Wheeler	9/29/2002



### PRAYER REQUESTS\*

Ameila Allen	Friend of Erika Henderson
Leon Axby	Friend of Joanne Flatt
Chuck Arredia	Son-in-Law of the Zinkes
F/F of John Bachtell	Cousin of Sharon Williamson
Emily Bussard	Member of POUCC
Fred Campbell	Member of POUCC
Kimberly Comfort	Friend of Beverly Schafer
Barb Covic	Friend of the Zinkes
Richard Devins, Sr.	Friend of POUCC
Karen Donahue	Member of the Kransi Family
Juan Faria, Sr.	Friend of the Thompsons
Sharon Ferrelli	Friend of POUCC
Kaela Harvey	Friend of the Bullers
Phyllis Heath	Wife of Rev. Steven Heath
Pat Hilgenberg	Member of POUCC
Mike Hollifield	Friend of Tom Buller
Scott & Emily Hill	Family of Val Hill
Rev. Richard Hills	POMA Minister
Steven Horsey	Doreen Wheeler's Brother
Drew Knock	Member of POUCC
F/F of Luella Kransi	Mother of Harold Kransi
Tyler Moreno	Grandson of Dee Dardeen
Blanche Northcutt	Former Member of POUCC
Tim Schafer & Family	Members of POUCC
Rev. Jean Simpson & Family	Punta Gorda UCC Pastor
Marty Thompson	Member of the Thompson Family
Jim Turner	Friend of POUCC
Diana Upcraft	Sister of Cindy Pierson
Alice Ward	Sister of Eva Brewster
Trey Zinke	Member of POUCC

### In Care Facilities

June Ferreri	Member of POUCC (Care Facility in PA)
Clyde Bussard	Member of POUCC (Port Orange Rehab)

### Special Needs

All of Our Military & Their Families

### Broader Concerns

- Victims of Typhoon Soudelor
- Victims of Wildfires in the Western US
- First Responders Everywhere
- Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide

**Note: \*Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your special date or to add a Prayer Concern.**

# POUCC September 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	3 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	4	5
6 Combined Service 9:45 am Fellowship Picnic 11:00 am	7  Office Closed	8	9 Palmetto House 5:30 pm CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	10 Line Dancing 6:00 pm POMA Parents Meeting 6:30 pm	11	12
13 Combined Service 9:45 am Rev. Vertigan Guest	14 Operations Meeting 6:30 pm	15	16 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	17 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	18	19
20 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	21 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	22 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 PM	23 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	24 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	25	26
27 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	28	29 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 PM	30 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm			

*Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 3 pm, Sat. 9 am – noon*

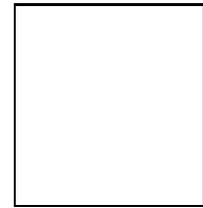
*Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - 1 pm*

*Join us for Fellowship & Refreshments Each Sunday Between Services*

**COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE:**

**SEPTEMBER – OPERATIONS, OCTOBER – THRIFT STORE**

**Port Orange**  
**United Church of Christ**  
651 Taylor Road  
Port Orange, FL 32127



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**Assistant Pastor:** Beverly Schafer  
**Pastor Emeritus:** Rev. Dr. C. William Ebbert  
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**Media Communications:** Bob Brewster  
**Custodian:** Deb Viola  
**Thrift Store:** Bob Gaither

**Office Hours**

9:00 AM—1:00 PM  
Monday—Friday

**Thrift Store Hours**

9:00 AM—3:00 PM  
Monday—Friday  
9:00 AM—Noon  
Saturday

**Sunday Worship**

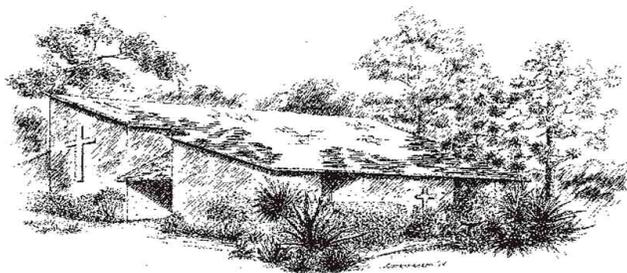
8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

**Sunday School**

9:45 AM

**Terrific Tuesday**

6:00 PM



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