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## SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

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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

Dear Friends,

I like the thought and writings of Bishop John Shelby Spong. I do not always agree with him but I believe he usually points in good directions for the church to think and focus for the future. Recently, he wrote a response to a question printed in his weekly newsletter. I include an excerpt:

*The certainties of yesterday are not viable today. Christianity is a journey into the future, the unknown, a journey beyond our familiar security patterns...Any church that does not confront the reality of this new world is not a church that will survive. To pretend that nothing has changed is a stance of disaster, but that is the stance in which most church life is lived today. It is not easy to be a Christian in the 21st century. It demands hard work, difficult thinking, the embracing of radical insecurity and the possession of a faith deep enough to know that God is real and to journey into the unknown in search of that reality.*

### “A New Christianity for a New World” (July 16, 2015)

Frankly, we do live in changing and uncertain times. Not surprisingly but thankfully, the church is not immune from what is happening locally and globally. Churches are challenged in some ways as much or more today than ever before – both internally and externally. Sadly, too many churches are focused on survival as an institution instead of doing mission and truly being the church Christ calls us to be. I am proud of our commitment to mission and celebrate with you what we have been able to do to help the needy both near and far. Still, we need 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. I will be leading a Study and Prayer Group in the Fall with Kay Russell. The focus will be on struggling with these questions in these exciting and anxious times. We 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. Borrowing from the thought of Rev. Mark Dyer, Tickle supports his thesis that every 500 years the church goes through what he called a “Rummage Sale” wherein old ways dissolve and new ways of thinking, worshiping, and witness evolve. Both believe we are in the middle of such an event. That’s why we feel anxious because we know we are changing but it does not yet appear what we may be. Let’s get together and explore the book and what the premise and promise may be for us. I am looking for 8-10 members to covenant and join me. Will you be one of them? Let me know.

*Pastor Bill*

## ASSISTANT PASTOR



Major disappointments can do a real number on you if you let them. Combine that with a major concern, and you have a major struggle. That's what happened to Tim and me last month when we were less than ten minutes into our drive to Jacksonville's Mayo Clinic for his open-heart surgery. Through a brief phone call from the surgeon's office, we were told Tim's surgery would be postponed ten days. UNBELIEVABLE was the first word out of our mouths. It had taken us months to prepare emotionally for this surgery, and it took just a moment to rip that strength

right out of us. We were instantaneously emotionally deflated. Oddly enough, when his mitral valve surgery in 2012 was postponed as he was being rolled into the OR, we took it much better; but a SECOND time? Give me a break!

Sometimes it is very difficult to accept God's timing and, I have to admit, it was a "bit" sluggish in coming for me this time; but I am now comforted and assured that "For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven." (Ecclesiastes 3:1) As children of God, we are blessed with a "back-up battery" that sustains us when all else is depleted. When we're dazed and slow to hook into that power, it's there for whenever we are ready, for "He gives power to the faint, and strengthens the powerless." (Isaiah 40:29)

Faithfully, *Pastor Beverly*

*NOTE: After another postponement, Tim's surgery is scheduled for Monday, August 3rd.*

## COMBINED SERVICE SCHEDULE

Please plan to join us at 9:45 AM on the following Sundays:

**August 2nd - Communion & Food Basket Sunday.**

**September 6th - Following the service we will have a Fellowship Picnic in the Jim Reed Room. Picnic Sign-up sheet will be posted on the bulletin board.**

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



Combined Services



## Financial Update

Operational Budget as 6/30/2015

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
	Jan.-June 2015	Jan.-June 2015
Income	\$ 83,935	\$ 81,030
Expenses	\$ 77,889	\$ 81,572
Net Income Actual	\$ 6,046	\$- 542

*We are still in the black through June, which is good news. I'm still optimistic that we can get through our summer months and remain in the black. Respectfully, Susie Greiff, Treasurer*

## OPERATIONS TEAM

Even though the Operations Team will not meet formally again until September, projects around the church continue to move forward.

- Sprinkler System - Repair and replacement continues thanks to Jim Eagan who has spent countless hours working on this project. Jim's time and hard work are greatly appreciated.
- Kitchen Renovation - City permit has been applied for and appliances have been ordered. 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.
- Renovation to Pastor Bill's Bathroom - Was approved by Operations and Jim Eagan has completed renovations. Again Jim, the congregation and especially Pastor Bill thank you for another great job!



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

## THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE

Thanks to your generous donations and the continued commitment of our outstanding volunteers, the Gift & Thrift Store continues to thrive. The addition of Saturday hours has been profitable and will continue. Please keep in mind, we are always in need of volunteers as well as donations especially small kitchen appliances, utensil, dishes and pots and pans. Your generosity helps our church as well as our community. *Bob Gaither, Manager of the Thrift Store*



## FLORIDA UCC CONFERENCE NEWS



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. Further information regarding the Conference will be in next month's newsletter.



## MISSION NOTES



Thanks to your generosity, we collected \$605 in support of our June Special Mission Offering for the UCC International Disaster Relief Fund to aid victims worldwide.

Again this year, “Sneakers & Socks” will be our August Mission Project. This monetary collection will provide required Physical Education sneakers and socks for families in need at neighboring Spruce Creek Elementary School. Last year, thanks to your donations, we presented the school with a check for \$600 for this worthwhile cause. Donations may be placed in the “Sneakers” box in the Sanctuary and if you are writing a check, please make it out to POUCC (special envelopes are on the table as well). As always, thank you for your continued support.



Keep in mind that we need to begin to collect items for the Palmetto House Christmas bags (list is on bulletin board). Also, remember the Mission Boxes, Sock’s Box, can tabs and eyeglasses.

Together we continue to change lives. *Jackie Gaither, Chair of the Missions Team*

## KAYAK FOR KIDS UPDATE FROM DR. DEB WALTERS



Dear Florida supporters of the Kayak for Safe Passage Kids Expedition, Thanks so much for your great support! We have exceeded our fundraising goal to convert 3rd and 4th grades from after school programs to all day programs. Now we are working on the funds for fifth grade.

You probably heard that I had to stop paddling and have spinal surgery after 1,507 miles. I carried on with the speaking engagements by car and sailboat. Once I recover, I hope to start paddling again in October and complete the remaining 1,000 miles.

I am humbled to be nominated for the Canoe & Kayak 2015 award for "Paddle with Purpose". There's one more small thing you can do to help Safe Passage, vote for me online at: <http://www.canoekayak.com/canoe-kayak-awards/vote/paddle-with-purpose/>

Please share this with your friends so they can vote as well.

Many thanks for your support! The children at Safe Passage say...



I thank you too!

Deb

## YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

**Communion Sundays are designated as “Fill the Food Basket” Sunday. As a reminder, August 2nd is our next collection day and will benefit “Grace Episcopal Food Pantry.”** Over 16 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.





## NEWS & NOTES



Colten Pack is a member of the cast of "Fame," the show that follows the final class of New York's celebrated High School for the Performing Arts from their admission in 1960 to their graduation in 1984, **Friday, August 7th & Saturday, August 8th at 7:00 PM and Sunday, August 9th at 4:00 PM at the Spruce Creek High School Auditorium.** Ticket prices, \$15-Adults, \$10-Youth and are available at Orbit Performing Arts Academy and at the door. *Break a leg Colten!*

**CHOIR PRACTICE:** Will begin on **Wednesday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 7:30 PM** and the first Anthem will be sung on **Sunday, September 6th.** All are welcome to join us! *Dr. Tom Naus*



If you are interested in reading Scripture at either of our Sunday Services, the sign-up sheets are on the Sanctuary bulletin board.

**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/centalflorida/teamtyler>.



## SPECIAL THANKS



I would like to thank Bob Brewster for serving as guest speaker on Sunday, July 6th and Rev. Larry Deitch for preaching on July 26th so that Lisa and I could enjoy some vacation time.  
*Pastor Bill*

Special thanks to Cindy Deitch who has been tending the newly planted garden in the front of the Church. What a beautiful addition to the property. *Great job Cindy!*



We recently received a note from Harriet Hill & Family (Shelley Stewart Hill's mother-in law) expressing their thanks to Pastor Bill and the entire congregation for the very moving tribute to John Stewart.

## SPECIAL MENTIONS



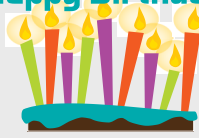
Congratulations to George & Sharon Milukas on the birth of their granddaughter Maya Jean who arrived on June 25th and weighed in at 8 lbs. 3oz.

And Ron & Sonnie Zinke have a new great grandson. Bennett Patrick was born on July 10th weighing in at 9 lbs 5 oz. and was 20" long. Congratulations to all!



Best wishes and congratulations to Sierra Zinke and her new husband Isaac who were married on Daytona Beach at sunrise on Saturday, July 18th.

Happy Birthday!



**AUGUST BIRTHDAYS\***

Harold Kransi	8/1
Eva Brewster	8/5
Skylar Davis	8/7
Blanche Northcutt	8/8
Doreen Wheeler	
Sher Buller	
Rusty Ashley	
Janna Thompson	8/9
Harry Scharadin	8/10
Clyde Bussard	
Bill Nicholls	
Nancy Horn	8/11
Bobby Dotson	8/15
Joe Rogers	8/17
Joanne Flatt	8/19
Elaine Johnson	
Carol Strickland	8/21
Joellen Hopkins	8/22
George Milukas	8/24
Jeannie Taylor	8/27
Dr. Tom Naus	8/29

**AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES\***

Joe & Carol Rogers	8/5/1966
Joe & Janna Thompson	8/17/1990
Tom & Mary Ann Summers	8/26/1989
Jim & Louise Eagan	8/26/1965



**PRAYER REQUESTS\***

Chuck Arredia	Son-in-Law of the Zinkes
John Bachtell	Cousin of Sharon Williamson
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
Greg Goss	Neighbor of the Batturs-Deployed
Kaela Harvey	Friend of the Bullers
Keri, Chris & Baby Angelo	Friends of Bonnie Morisset
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
Douglas Keeler	Brother of Sue Batturs
Drew Knock	Member of POUCC
F/F Luella Kransi	Mother of Harold Kransi
Rev. Jim Langdoc	Pastor at Holiday UCC
F/F of Aaron Maze	Son of Rev. Donna Cooney
Rev. Shirley Martinson	Friend & Colleague of Pastor Bill
Tyler Moreno	Grandson of Dee Dardeen
Mark Pease	Friend of the Schafers
Tim & Beverly Schafer	Members of POUCC
Carol Strickland	Former Member of POUCC
Marty Thompson	Thompson Family Member
Diana Upcraft	Sister of Cindy Pierson
Alice Ward	Sister of Eva Brewster
Beverly Woodacre	Member of POUCC
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**

First Responders Everywhere  
Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide  
Victims of the Tennessee & Louisiana Shootings

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

# POUCC August 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 Tortugas' Baseball Outing 7:05 pm
2 Combined Service 9:45 am	3	4	5 CPT 6:00 pm	6 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	7	8 Committee on Ministry 9:00 am
9 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:55 am Traditional 10:45 am	10	11	12 Palmetto House 5:30 pm CPT 6:00 pm	13 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	14	15
16 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	17	18	19 CPT 6:00 pm	20 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	21	22
23 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45am Traditional 10:45 am	24	25	26 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	27 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	28	29
30 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	31					

*Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 3 pm*

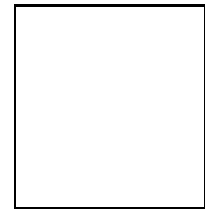
*Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - 1 pm*

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

**COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE:**

**AUGUST – TEACHING TEAM, SEPTEMBER – OPERATIONS**

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



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**Office Hours**

9:00 AM—1:00 PM  
Monday—Friday

**Thrift Store Hours**

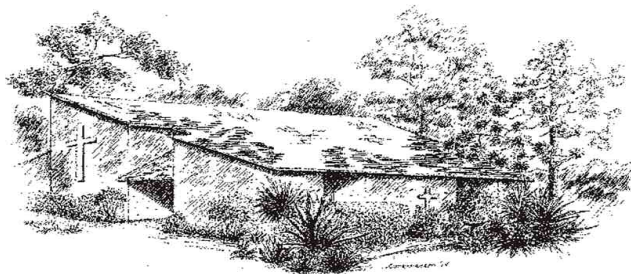
9:00 AM—3:00 PM  
Monday—Friday

**Sunday Worship**

8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

**Sunday School**

9:45 AM



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