



Port Orange
United Church of Christ
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Volume 44 Issue 12

December 2022

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE



To All POUCC Members & Friends - As I reflect on this past year, 2022, I have to admit that it seems like a fast-moving blur filled with Covid 19, Hurricanes, Politics, Economics, Inflation, Worldwide Crisis, the war in Ukraine, and so much more unrest that it is hard to comprehend. Even harder to grasp is that in the end all "this too will past" and in this year of worry, we still have happiness and much to be thankful for including many blessings of new lives born and the celebration of lives now lost. In December, we prepare ourselves through the four Advent Sundays for the coming of Christ's birth. In Advent, we reflect on four things – Hope, Love, Joy & Peace. Likewise, as we prepare ourselves for the Christmas Season, we cannot help but to remember those loved ones and friends we have lost. In many ways this reflection on loss may take away from the joy of Christmas. It may cause us to be less happy, even melancholy. Yet, in truth these losses are part of the Christmas Message. The birth of Jesus starts us on his journey to death and rebirth, which is his message to all of us that in the next life we will all meet again. To this point, while going through some of my mother's (Eva) things this past week, I came across the following poem that I believe sums up both the celebration of those we have lost and the celebration of Christmas.

MISS ME BUT LET ME GO

When I come to the end of the road
 And the sun has set for me,
 I want no rites in a gloom-filled room,
 Why cry for a soul set free!
 Miss me a little - but not for long
 And not with your head bowed low.
 Remember the love that we once shared,
 Miss me, but let me go.
 For this journey that we all must take
 And each must go alone;
 It's all a part of the Master's plan
 A step on the road to home.
 When you are lonely and sick at heart
 Go to the friends we know,
 And bury your sorrows in doing good deeds.
 Miss me, but let me go.
-Edgar Albert Guest

On behalf of the church council, Art & Barb Horton, Sharon Williamson, Jackie & Bob Gaither - Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to all of you, my brothers and sisters in Christ. *Bob Brewster, Moderator*

Moderator's Message	1
Annual Meeting, Thrift Store, Operation's & Financial Team Report	2
Operations & Finance Continued, Food Basket Sunday, Fellowship & Christmas Eve Altar Flowers	3
Calendar	5

Staff

Pastor:
 Rev. Patricia Holcomb
Office Manager:
 Kathy Shaffner
Custodian
 Ronnie Servant
Thrift Store Manager:
 Bob Gaither
Media Communications:
 Bob Brewster



ANNUAL MEETING



On **Sunday, January 29, 2023 following the 9:30 AM Service**, we will have our Annual Meeting. Topics to be presented are the 2023 Budget as well as nominations and election of officers for the year. A list of nominees will be posted prior to the meeting on the Sanctuary bulletin board. Annual Reports are due by **Friday, January 6th**. Please type your report in Microsoft Word for easy compilation and e-mail it to the Church Office. Mark your calendars and plan to attend.

THE GIFT & THRIFT STORE

Our Black Friday Sale was a huge success! Sales on Friday (\$757) and Saturday (\$380) were robust and 153 customers purchased items. Those totals plus our regular weekly sales (\$868) gave us a record weekly total of \$2,005. A big **THANK-YOU** to the volunteers who work tirelessly to make our Thrift Store one of the best in Port Orange. We still have plenty of Christmas merchandise for 50% off through the end of the month.
Bob Gather, Manager



OPERATION'S & FINANCE TEAM



Financial Update—Operational Budget as 10/31/22

	<u>OCTOBER</u>	<u>YTD ACTUAL</u>	<u>YTD BUDGET</u>	<u>YTD DIFFERENCE</u>
Income	\$ 13,859.65	\$ 110,108.26	\$ 110,528.00	\$ (419.74)
Expenses	<u>\$ 15,692.31</u>	<u>\$ 129,770.49</u>	<u>\$ 121,637.96</u>	<u>\$ (8,132.53)</u>
Balance	\$ (1,832.66)	\$ (19,662.23)	\$ (11,109.96)	\$ (8,552.27)

Once again our income is around \$2,000.00 per month less than our monthly expenses which leaves us with a year to date loss of \$19,770.49 at the end of October. Our rental income which began in October is very helpful but we still need to find ways to increase our income. Please fill out a 2023 Pledge Card as soon as possible to help us plan for the new year. As always our thanks go out to our Thrift Store team and all who support our church. With God's blessings, Respectfully Submitted, *Barbara Horton, Treasurer.*

MY PERSONAL GOAL TO GOD AND TO PORT ORANGE UCC

Out of gratitude for God's gifts and trusting God's enabling power, I/we have made the following faith-promise:

<input type="checkbox"/> \$125	<input type="checkbox"/> \$50	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 10	<input type="checkbox"/> Monthly _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$100	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35	<input type="checkbox"/> \$20	<input type="checkbox"/> Other	<input type="checkbox"/> Yearly _____
<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 75	<input type="checkbox"/> \$30	<input type="checkbox"/> \$15		<input type="checkbox"/> Weekly _____

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ Email _____

OPERATION'S & FINANCE TEAM



As I seem to start every article, welcome to the Holiday Season, Christmas, NeYear's. Cooler, dryer weather is on its way.

Both Barb and I wish to thank you for your thoughts and especially your prayers, they have worked. I am recuperating from a subdural hematoma; seems I had bleeding within the brain. Emergency surgery by a top-notch neurosurgeon at the UCONN medical center in Farmington, CT (yes, I was in Connecticut visiting family for Labor Day) and we are now on the med.

FPL has installed the new site lighting. They removed the old ineffective light and installed new LED fixtures to illuminate the front and east side parking lots as well as the front of the church and Thrift Store. The total outside area is illuminated much better, making it safer.

The A/C replacement project for the church proper is held up because of "supply chain issues", I hope to have the work commence early in 2023. Our landscaper has completed the extension of the concrete pad for the new HVAC units.

Ian and Nichole hurricanes impacted the church in two ways. First: three trees were blown down; Don's tree service came immediately and removed the branches and tree trunks to the curb for FEMA to remove. The root ball for one tree as well as the uprooted concrete curbing had to be removed to the curb by heavy equipment as well. Unfortunately, when FEMA removed the brush, they pulled up some of our irrigation system piping, Tuff Turf is attending to the repairs.

The flashing around the HVAC unit as well as the make up air units for the kitchen failed. Leaking is evident in the kitchen. Malibu Construction has provided a quote to remove the existing flashing, counter-flashing and replace with specified system. We are investigating to see if the insurance company will pay for the repairs. Our pavement sealing company continues to re-seal the paved surfaces that deteriorated rapidly.

All the kitchen cabinet door and drawer pulls have deteriorated to a point where they need to be replaced. New heavy-duty pulls have been secured. The old ones will be removed and the new ones installed over the next few weeks. Thanks again for your prayers. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Art Horton, Chairman

YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. Last month's collection of 42 bags benefited Halifax Urban Ministry's Food Pantry. Thanks to Chuck Konopsky and Mary Ann Stewart for delivering the food. **As a reminder, December 4th is our next collection.** Please make sure all donations have **NOT** passed their expiration dates.



SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER



Christmas Dinner

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

Our next Fellowship dinner is December 8th. It's our "Christmas Feast". Ham will be provided, you bring the sides. See Sign-up Sheet circulated during Worship Services.

ALTAR FLOWERS: We will be decorating our Sanctuary with poinsettias for the Christmas Eve Service (**December. 24th, 6:00 PM**). Please deliver your poinsettia with your name on them by **Monday, December 19th** (place in Jim Reed Room). Poinsettias may be taken home or donated after the Christmas Eve Service. Sign-up sheet will be circulated at Worship Services.



Poinsettias

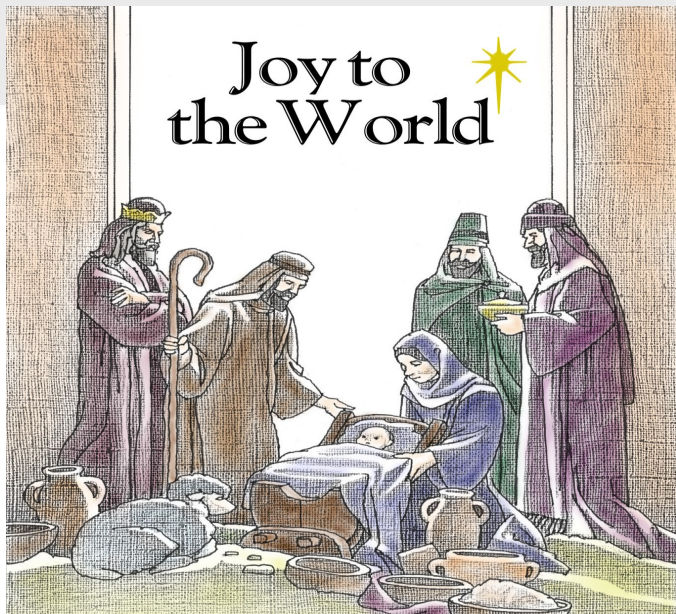


DECEMBER

Ted Batturs	12/4
Chuck Henderson	12/5
Grayson Osteen	12/6
Chuck Konopsky	12/10
Art Horton	12/11
Darlene Thomas	12/14
Susie Greiff	12/16
Erika Hobson	12/17

DECEMBER

Bill & Susie Greiff	12/12/1970
Ron & Sonnie Zinke	12/23/1958



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

PRAYER REQUESTS*

Jennifer Anderson	Family of the Batturs
Anthony & Tony	Friends of Sheila Fisher
Jordan Armbruster	Friend of POUCC
Charlie & Molly Baskin	Members of POUCC
Sue Batturs	Member of POUCC
Barbara Boon	Member of POUCC
Beth & Chris Brown	Family of Sheila Fisher
Bec Caller	Friend of Larry Janelle & Sheila Fisher
Rafael Castels	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Betty & Hank Clausen	Friends of POUCC
Pat Dalton	Friend of POUCC
Vince Doherty	Friend of Sharon Williamson
George Franklin	Friend of the Gaither Family
Steve Gaunt	Friend of Sheila Fisher & Larry Janelle
Gary Haines	Cousin of Bob Gaither
Brad Hansen	Friend of POUCC
Shawn Hansen	Friend of POUCC
Sgt.. Jack & Heidi Hearton	Family of Kay Schweitzer
Lisa K. Hearton	Daughter of Kay Schweitzer
Elmer Hodges	Friend of POUCC
Rocket Kearsch	Friend of Ann Tobin
Harry & Jim Manchester	Family of Sheila Fisher
Grace Manning	Member of POUCC
Tonya Montisano & Family	Friends of POUCC
Leslie Neese	Friend of the Stewart Family
Linda Panzarella & Family	Friends of Bonnie Morisett
Scott Powell	Son of Bob Gaither
Kay & Don Schweitzer	Members of POUCC
John Sedgwick	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Faith & Fred Shreck	Family of the Zinkie's
Mary Ann Stewart	Member of POUCC
Dr. Phillip Tomaselli	Son-in-Law of Kay Schweitzer
Grant Tobin	Friend of POUCC
Caroline Wallace	Family of Sheila Fisher
Seth Wanie	Family of Bill & Susie Greiff
Betty Weaver	Friend of POUCC
Lowin Willoughby	Friend of Sharon Williamson
Alhmet Wilson	Friend of Sheila Fisher
The Yaeger Family	Members of POUC

In Care Facilities

June Ferreri	Member of POUCC (Care Center in PA)
Margie Hoebing	Friend of POUCC (Care Center in PO)
Marge Monat	Member of POUCC (Care Center in DB)

Special Needs

Victims of Coronavirus & Those on the Front Line Fighting the Virus
All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families
Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide

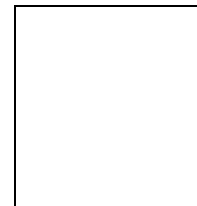
POUCC December 2022

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3
4 Worship Service 9:30 am Bible Study 11:00 am MOL* Worship Service 6:00 pm	5 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	6	7	8 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm	9	10
11 Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL* Worship Service 6:00 pm	12 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	13	14	15	16	17 Council Meeting 10:00 AM
18 Worship Service 9:30 am Bible Study 11:00 am MOL* Worship Service 6:00 pm	19 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	20	21	22	23 Office Closed	24 Christmas Eve Worship  6:00 pm
25  MOL* Worship Service 6:00 pm	26 Office & Thrift Store Closed MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	27	28	29	30	31  New Year's Eve

Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 2pm, Sat. 9 am – Noon
In observance of Christmas, the Thrift Store will be closed Saturday, December 24th and Monday, December 26th.
Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - 1 pm



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Office Hours

9:00 AM—1:00 PM

Monday—Friday

Thrift Store Hours

9:00 AM—2:00 PM

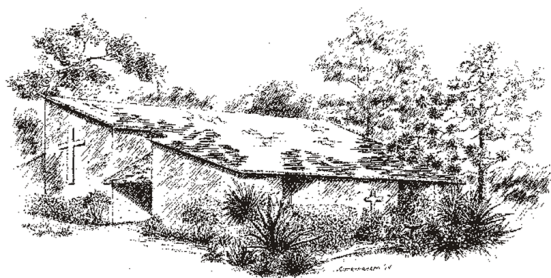
Monday—Friday

9:00 AM—Noon

Saturday

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM



Phone (386) 788-0920

