



Port Orange
 United Church of Christ
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MODERATOR'S MESSAGE



“I AM AFRAID!”

Over my lifetime, I have been afraid of many things happening. I was afraid of not getting accepted to a college after having horrible grades in elementary school and mediocre grades in high school. When I was accepted to a college, I was afraid of failing and not graduating. After I graduated with a 4-year degree in Science Education during the Vietnam War draft period, I was afraid of what was going to happen if I was drafted. When I entered the service and was accepted to attend Army Infantry Officer Candidate School (OCS). I was afraid of not graduating and being sent to Vietnam. After I graduated from OCS and obtained a branch transfer to the Signal Corps, I was afraid of what I was going to be doing as a Signal Officer. After I received orders to attend Army Pilot Flight School Training, I was afraid of flying (really!) and doing the mandatory flight maneuvers required to graduate. After I graduated pilot flight training and received orders for Vietnam, I was afraid of the possible flying I would be doing in a combat zone. After I flew hundreds of hours in combat I was not afraid on each flight of dying but I was afraid of being captured and tortured like so many other pilots. After flying 299 combat missions in my one-year tour, I was afraid of where the Army was going to send me next and that it would be something I would not like. When I met my wife Ruth, I was afraid of the commitment that I was about to make. When I left military service to search for a civilian job, I was afraid of what was going to happen if I could not find a job. After our first son was born, then a second son, I was afraid of not earning enough money to pay all the expenses of owning a home, vehicles, and raising children. I was afraid of failing and even to this day at almost age 80, I can still say I am afraid of.....you name it.

Why am I sharing all this with you? It is because my story is no different than your story. Only the facts and circumstances are different. We all suffer from being afraid of something throughout our entire lives. That is the human experience. How we each overcome being afraid of what might happen could also be defined as FEAR. If you substitute the word FEAR for the word AFRAID, you can see they have the same definition. “I fear (you put your own something here) because of what might happen to me, or to others in my life who depend on me. FEAR can be a debilitating word. It can stop us from doing something or it can motivate us to do something. Zig Ziglar, the great motivational speaker, has defined FEAR as “False Evidence Appearing Real”. That means what we Fear in life comes from imagining consequences that may or may not be real or true.

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Staff

- Moderator:**
Bob Brewster
- Office Manager:**
Kathy Shaffner
- Custodian:**
Ronnie Servant
- Organist/Pianist:**
Daniel Weimer
- Missions:**
Jackie Gaither
- Thrift & Gift Store:**
Rachel Sitepu
- Media Communications:**
Bob Brewster

When it comes to the Bible and its teachings, or as Believers when we think about the next life after this life, do we FEAR what is going to happen when we die or do we FEAR not doing the right things in life to make it to heaven? A “Fire & Brimstone” preacher might say “you are going to Hell if you do not embrace all the Bible’s teaching and beg forgiveness now”. This can create Fear. Life here on earth is a testing ground. It is a teaching experience. It is constant learning. You do not have to pass every exam or conquer every challenge 100% of the time. Your grades are not measured on one single event or answer but based on your life’s collective events. We are here in the physical world on a mission given to us from the Spiritual world by God. In other words, God has given us an opportunity in our physical form similar to the same opportunity given Jesus. As perfect as Jesus was, he was still tested and likewise, so we are tested. Did Jesus Fear what was before him? Did his 40 days and 40 nights in the desert being tested by Satan cause him to Fear his future? The answer is clear. Jesus knew what his future was to be and why he was here to teach us what he knew. “So do not Fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand” (Isaiah 41:10). For all of us the difference between us and Jesus is that without Fear Jesus died for our sins so that all who believe in Him can live a life hereafter. Therefore, do not Fear doing the right things in this life or the mistakes you may make. This is why we are here! Prayerfully Submitted, *Bob Brewster, Moderator*

OPERATION'S & FINANCE TEAM



Welcome to February and hopefully some warmer temperatures. Thanks to Steve Burton and his crew the facility and grounds are in good shape. For a full Operation’s Report please see the Annual Report.

Operating Budget to Actual as of 12/31/2025

	<u>December Actual</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>YTD Difference</u>
Income	17,856.00	202,459.18	190,042.60	12,416.58
Expenses	<u>10,687.39</u>	<u>171,546.40</u>	<u>159,226.25</u>	12,320.15
Profit/(Loss)	7,168.61	30,912.78	30,816.35	96.43

CD & MM Income as of 12/31/2025

YTD Interest Income: 2,490.43



Combined Profit/(Loss) 33,403.21

We had a profit of \$7,168.61 for the month of December and a profit of \$30,912.78 for the twelve month period. We has a combined profit of \$33,403.21 for that period which include the earnings on the CD and Money Market accounts. As always our thanks go out to all our wonderful volunteers and to all who support our Church.

Respectfully Submitted, Barbara Horton, Treasurer

NEWS & Notes

2025 ANNUAL MEETING WRAP-UP



On Sunday, January 25, congregation members and friends gathered for the Annual Meeting. The 2026 Budget, 2026 Slate of Officers were presented, voted on, and unanimously accepted. Copies of the 2025 Annual Report and 2026 Directory are available in the Church Office.

THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE

Dear Church Family,

Our Gift and Thrift store is the place to shop for quality clothing, housewares, books, décor and seasonal items. You can find amazing deals on tons of merchandise. Our store meets more than tangible needs, it meets emotional and spiritual needs as well. Through the dedication of hard-working volunteers, and the generosity of local community, the shop continues to thrive. If you're interested in volunteering or have items to donate, please contact the shop.



"Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatever things are noble, whatever things are just, whatever things are pure, whatever things are lovely, whatever things are of good report, if there is any virtue and if there is anything praiseworthy—meditate on these things." (Philippians 4:8)

Blessings, *Rachel Sitepu, Manager*

YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS



Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. As a reminder, February 1st is our next collection day. Over 15 bags of food were collected last month which benefited a local food bank. Please be generous and make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates.

SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER

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

*Our Next Dinner is Thursday, February 12h.
It's a "Soup, Salad, Sandwich & Dessert Dinner."
See sign-up sheet at Worship Service.*



Happy Birthday!



FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS*

Thea Cloutier	2/5
Kathryn Manning	2/10
Daniel Weimer	2/15
Steve Grant	2/16



FEBRUARY

Bob & Ruth Brewster	2/14/1971
Jim & Sharon Williamson	2/24/1967

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



PRAYER REQUESTS*



Sue Batturs	Member of POUCC
Larry & Susan Belzac	Canadian Friends of Shelia Fisher
Bob Gaither	Member of POUCC
Ingrid Claunch	Member of POUCC
Steve Grant	Friend of POUCC
Erica Henderson	Friend of POUCC
Chuck Konopsky	Member of POUCC
Jose León	Father of Pastor Javier
Pastor Yarisis León	Member of POUCC
Potenza Family Members	Family of Denise & Don Gates
Liz Mills	Former Member of POUCC
Lydia Nevarez	Mother of Pastor Javier
Bob Traver	Friend of the Brewster's
In Care Facilities	
Margie Hoebing	Friend of POUCC (Care Center in PO)

Special Needs




All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families
 Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide
 All Those Dealing with the Winter Weather.

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





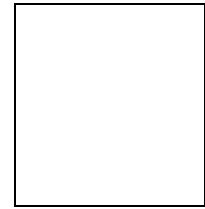
POUCC February 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 AM MOL* Worship Service 3:00 pm	2 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	3 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	4	5 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	6	7 Weight Watchers 7:30 & 9:00 am
8Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 AM MOL* Worship Service 3:00 pm	9 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	10 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	11	12 Weight Watchers 9:30 am Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm	13	14 Weight Watchers 7:30 & 9:00 am 
15Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL* Worship Service 3:00 pm	16  Bible Study 7:00 pm	17 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	18 	19 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	20	21 Weight Watchers 7:30 & 9:00 am Council 10:00 am
22Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL* Worship Service 3:00 pm	23 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	24 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	25	26 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	27	28 Weight Watchers 7:30 & 9:00 am
						*Mountain of Light Church



Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 2 pm, First Two Saturday's of the Month 9am—Noon
Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - 1 pm

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Moderator: Bob Brewster
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Custodian: Ronnie Servant
Organist/Pianist: Daniel Weimer
Missions: Jackie Gaither
Thrift Store Manager: Rachel Setipu
Media Communications: Bob Brewster

Office Hours

9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Monday—Friday

Thrift Store Hours

9:00 AM—2:00 PM
Monday—Friday

**First Two Saturday's of the
Month**

9:00 AM –Noon

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM



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