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SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

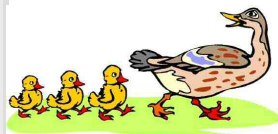


Dear Friends,

The last two months have been filled with celebrations and losses – some of them very difficult. Leaving here is a mixture of the inevitable feelings of gratefulness and grieving. We are excited about what the Lord has placed before us and also are sad at the same time. Lisa and I want to thank you for the love and support you have shown us for what has been more than five years. You will always be in our hearts and prayers. My wish and hope for you are beautifully portrayed in the aftermath of recent events. The horrible massacre in Orlando on Sunday June 12th will and should be on our minds and in our prayers. It was a tough day for God's people everywhere. My first response that morning was to want to go there as a first responder. Obviously, I had our services to lead that morning and the people on site were more than capable to address the needs. What could I do? I was further distressed that I was unable to join my Christian brothers and sisters from around the Florida Conference of the UCC the following Tuesday because I was in Evansville. It was not a matter of the ego but of the heart. Look at the outpouring of love and service done by so many people of faith. You are a loving and caring church. Continue to serve with such compassion as you have in the past! Also, the day after the shootings, our staff and lay leaders in the business office were delighted to see the Mallard hen, who had been nesting 8 eggs in front of our church, lead her ducklings around the building to the safety and nourishment of the retention pond behind our facilities. That morning was busy with the start of the POMA Band Camp, cars whizzing through the parking lot, etc. Still, she strongly and confidently led the parade through the dangers and to their new home. The ducklings trusted their mother to lead them where they needed to go. What a wonderful image and lesson as well. You have been serious about following God and have trusted God in the past. Continue to trust God as you enter this time of transition and change to bring you where you need to be. So my parting wish and hope for you as a beloved community of faith is to please continue to love others and to follow God!

Gratefully,

Pastor Bill



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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
Youth Leader:
Sher Buller

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

Good Times, Challenges, and the Opportunities Ahead



Sunday, June 26th the members and friends of Port Orange United Church of Christ celebrated the outstanding service, friendship, and gifts shared with us by Pastor Bill Wassner and Lisa Wassner. They are loved and will be missed. We wished them the very best in their new church and community. We will look forward to their visits in future years when they want to escape the Indiana winters for a period of time.

An exit interview committee of Janna Thompson, Jim Eagan, and Sher Buller was chaired by Bob Brewster and facilitated by Raymond Hargrove, our Regional Conference Minister. The interview was an important part of our searching for a new Pastor and providing Bill with helpful thoughts for his new church. Thanks are extended to all of the committee members and Bill for providing this insight.

The big challenge before us is that we need to search for an Interim Pastor who will work with us for 9 to 18 months while we also search for our new full time Pastor. That's a lot of searching! The good news is that we have a talented Interim Pastor search committee of Susie Greiff, Louise Eagan, and Bonnie Morisset that is chaired by Billy Wiggins. The committee has been meeting with Reverend Hargrove, developed a congregational sketch that describes our church, developed a list of questions for the interviewing process, and reviewed profiles of interested interim pastor candidates from across the country. The Interim Committee additionally reviewed the references submitted by the candidates.

Interviews were scheduled between June 23rd and June 30th. When possible, the interviews took place via Skype Conference calls which allow both the committee and candidate to hear and see each other via a computer link. The results of the interviews were not available at the time of this newsletter's distribution schedule. The results and a recommendation for an in-person interview with a selected candidate will be sent to the Church Council as early as possible in July.

Should the in-person interview, review of sermon presentations, and affirmation that the candidate is committed to serving our congregation all be positive, the Interim Search Committee will negotiate a contract for services with the candidate. The contract would then be submitted to the Council with recommendation to hire the individual as our Interim Pastor.

So, once the Council approves the candidate when will our Interim Pastor begin? We don't know. The search committee is committed to thoroughly vet the candidates in as timely manner as possible.

The above description allows an estimate that sometime in August/September is when we are most likely to have our Interim Pastor serving in Port Orange. During this "searching time" we are very fortunate indeed that Beverly Schafer serves as our assistant pastor and continues to assist with the many prayer concerns and celebrations of our church. Please thank her!

The Deacons and Council will be utilizing the services of area ministers (Pulpit Supply) who are available to assist our church with sermons and messages during this time of transition up until we have our Interim Pastor on board in Port Orange.

Please thank all of the volunteers who are serving on committees and serving any and all roles they are asked to meet during this process. I pray that we the members and friends of the Port Orange United Church of Christ will approach this process as a new opportunity and that we will do so sharing good humor, patience and love for each other.

Tom Besaw, Moderator

ASSISTANT PASTOR



As we sadly said our goodbyes to Pastor Bill and Lisa, we need also to be joyful both for them and for us for the volumes of goodness we shared and for the new chapter of wonderful opportunities which lay ahead.

The Deacons, Moderator and I had a very productive meeting on June 20th during which we discussed how to best handle this period of transition in which we now find ourselves. As you read in Tom Besaw's Report on the previous page, I will continue on with what spiritual leadership I can offer, and with my care giving ministry, albeit stepped up QUITE a few notches with Pastor Bill gone. The success of this ministry begins with YOU and the timing of your call! There is nothing worse for a Pastor than hearing about the hospitalization of a member or friend of their church a week AFTER their admission; so please, PLEASE notify me at 295-6838 ASAP when an emergency occurs -- and never, NEVER think, "Oh, the Pastor is too busy to be troubled with my problem." Caring for YOU -- those whom I love -- is my primary reason for living!

For Sunday mornings, we discussed Pulpit Supply in order to allow me to focus on care giving and whatever else may arise without the stress of preparing a weekly sermon. Pulpit Supply simply means hiring an experienced preacher for Sunday mornings. I will have a sermon prepared just for back up. We may also periodically have someone from our congregation provide a sermon. The rest of the service will be led by familiar faces such as me and those who already have been reading the scripture on Sundays. If all goes as planned, we should have an Interim Minister in place sometime in September. In the meantime, continue supporting POUCC with your prayers, your presence and your offering.

Faithfully yours,

OPERATIONS TEAM

Calendar schedule of Operations responsibilities throughout the year.

- AED fund amount to be raised has been increased from \$800 to \$1,200 due to the original price being outdated. To date, \$893 has been raised. Funds are still being collected.
- Youth Service Projects: paint both Sunday School Rooms, paint names of staff on car stoppers, paint exterior doors of Church.
- POMA (Band Camp) use of facility: Monday-Thursday for two weeks June 13th & 20th. Sanctuary Floors were stripped and waxed June 27 & 28, 2016.
- Organ Speakers were installed in the rear of the Sanctuary and antiphonal relays added to the organ.



Tom Buller, Chair of Operations



Financial Update - Operational Budget as 5/31/2016

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
	<u>Jan.-May, 2016</u>	<u>Jan.-May, 2016</u>
Income	\$ 76,998	\$ 70,379
Expenses	\$ 81,585	\$ 69,699
	\$ -4,586	\$ 680

Unfortunately, we are further in the red this month. The summer months are always a challenge with our "snowbirds" back up north. I am still hopeful that we can end the year in a good place.
Respectfully, Susie Greiff, Treasurer

MISSION NOTES



Your Missions Team continues to go about our work of reaching out to those in need. The Strengthen the Church Offering was received on May 15th and to date we collected \$195.

Again this year, our August Mission Project will be “Sneakers & Socks” for Spruce Creek Elementary School. Envelopes will be provided and we’ll begin this collection the first Sunday in August. **Please make your checks out to POUCC with “Sneakers” in the memo line.**



Please remember the Mission Boxes that benefit Sophie’s Circle, Sock’s Box, can tabs, and eyeglass collection. Together we continue to change lives.

Jackie Gaither, Chair of the Missions Team

THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE



I continue to be excited and pleased with how well the Thrift Store continues to grow. To date, our sales have topped \$11,500. Our success is due to your generous donations and the hard work of our very talented volunteers. Thanks to all who volunteer and please keep the donations coming. If you would like to join our team, please see me or give me a call at 290-2726, and make it a point to visit the store.

Bob Gaither, Manager

YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

Communion Sundays are designated as “Fill the Food Basket” Sunday. As a reminder, **July 3rd is our next collection day and will benefit the local “Grace Episcopal Food Pantry.”** Over 27 bags of food were collected last month which benefited the Pantry. If we all bring a food donation, we will fill the basket each month. Please make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



NEWS & Notes



LINE DANCING

SPECIAL NOTE: There will be no Line Dancing on Thursday evenings throughout the month of July. Dancing will resume August 4th.

THANK YOU: To Lisa Wassner who served as guest organist in June while Dr. Tom was on vacation. *Great Job Lisa!*



In response to the tragic shootings in Orlando, the Florida Conference is suggesting the following option for donating to the victims and families. We are collecting a love offering made out to POUCC which will be forwarded to the conference office for distribution as a gift from the UCC Congregation in Florida to the LGBT Support Center in Orlando. Please mark you checks appropriately.

YOUTH CORNER

Celebrating Our Youth



Summer Job: Aydan Buller and Van Thompson are looking to pick up odd jobs over the summer. There is a sign-up sheet for Aydan in the back of the church for anyone who might need help around the house or in the yard.

National Youth Event: We have eight youth and two leaders that will be traveling to Orlando July 26-30, 2016 for the National Youth Event. Please pray for safe travels for all 4,000 attending this event.



Service Project: The youth will continue their service projects throughout the summer which includes the following:

- *Sunday school rooms: One room has been painted and one room is pending painting.
- *Names to be painted on the car stoppers for Church staff.
- *Painting all exterior doors of the Church.

T-Shirt and Polo Shirt Sale continued through the end of June and shirts will be ordered in July. Please make sure your name is checked off for payment on the sign-up sheet if you have already paid.

Sher Buller, Youth Leader

SPECIAL MENTIONS

CONGRATULATIONS: To Aydan Buller who was recently selected as Top Musician for the Port Orange Music Academy. Aydan plays the trumpet and will become a member of the Spruce Creek High School Band. *Way to go Aydan; we are very proud of you!*



Kudos to Colten Pack for another acting opportunity with YouTube Video. Stay tuned for more details.

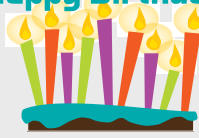
PORT ORANGE MUSIC ACADEMY



For the Port Orange Music Academy who on June 4th traveled to OrlandoFest Music Festival at Universal Studios. Continuing the tradition of excellence, the group, under the direction of Mr. Ed Clowers, earned Superior ratings for both Concert and Jazz Bands. *Congratulations!*

BAND CAMP: We recently hosted POMA's Summer Band Camp which concluded with a great concert on Thursday, June 23rd in the Sanctuary. Ed Clowers and his talented young adult assistants spent two weeks working with the group who were at different levels of ability. And by the end of the two weeks, a number of these young participants who had never played instruments were playing in the band. It was a joy to watch their progression and listen to them play. *Thanks for a great concert...you were all terrific!*

Happy Birthday!



JULY BIRTHDAYS*

Tommy Buller	7/2
Kristin Marshall	7/7
Teddy Yaeger	7/11
Dallas Davis	7/13
Arthur Van Nostrand	7/16
Michael Dotson	7/17
Erika Henderson	7/22
Bonnie Morisset	7/24
Helen Holmes	
Nicholas Yaeger	7/25
Leree Nicholls	7/26
Van Thompson	
Carol Rogers	7/27
Kimberly Dotson	7/28
Shawn Wheeler	7/30

JULY ANNIVERSARIES*

Billy & Peggy Wiggins	7/2/1977
Mo & Ingrid Claunch	7/5/1997
Don & Kay Schweitzer	7/7/2009
Reid & Mary Hughes	7/11/2009
Tom & Gail Besaw	7/18/1970
Jack & Pat Hilgenberg	7/19/1958
Rev. Raymond & Cora Hargrove	7/20/2001



PRAYER REQUESTS*

F/F of Audrey Besaw	Mother of Tom Besaw
Fred Campbell	Member of POUCC
F/F of Sandy Cicero	Friend of the Gaither Family
Thea Cloutier	Member of POUCC
Mo & Ingrid Claunch	Member of POUCC
Drew & Linda Cochran	Friends of Bob & Sheila Fisher
Karen Donahue	Member of the Kransi Family
Ruth Gilbert	Member of POUCC
Russ Grose	Friend of Schafer-Ramoutar Family
Betty Heffner	Member of POUCC
Jack Hilgenberg	Member of POUCC
Carolyn Hoffman	Mother of Lisa Wassner
Betty Heffner	Member of POUCC
Russ Hooper	Brother of Mary McDonald
Larry & Fiona Janelle	Friends of Bob & Sheila Fisher
Cindy Johndrow	Friend of POUCC
F/F of Larry Jones	Father of Bonnie Morisset
Drew Knock	Member of POUCC
Dick Lindsey	Neighbor of Mary Ann Stewart
Liz Mills	Member of POUCC
Diana Mulley	Friend of POUCC
Susan Patterson	Sister-in-Law of Kathy Cratin
Paul & Carole Neiss	For Their Daughter Jennifer
Rosemary Sansevero	Sister of Tom Buller
Angelo & Helene Surace	Friends of Bob & Sheila Fisher
Jim Turner	Husband of Sue Turner
Lauren Tromley	Member of POUCC
Sara Wassner	Mother of Pastor Bill
Doreen Wheeler	For Loss of Younger Brother
Brady Yaeger	Member of POUCC

In Care Facilities

June Ferreri	Member of POUCC (Care Facility in PA)
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Special Needs

All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families

Broader Concerns

Victims of the Orlando Shootings
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 July 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			 HAPPY BIRTHDAY, AMERICA!			
3 Combined Service Of Patriotism 9:45 am	4  Office & Thrift Store Closed	7	6 CPT & Wacky Wed. 6:00 pm	7	8	9
10 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	11 Compassionate Friends 7:00 pm	12	13 Palmetto House 5:30 pm CPT & Wacky Wed. 6:00 pm	14	15	16
17 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	18 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	19	20 CPT & Wacky Wed. 6:00 pm	21	22	23
24 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	25	26 Youth Group Depart for National Youth Event in Orlando	27 CPT 6:00 pm	28	29	30

31
Contemporary
8:45 am
Sunday School
9:45 am
Traditional
10:45 am

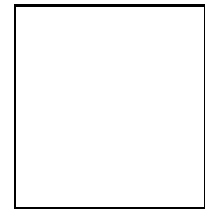
Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 3 pm, Sat, 9am – 12 pm

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

Join us for Fellowship & Refreshments Each Sunday Between Services

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE: JULY - DEACONS, AUGUST - TEACHING TEAM

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Church Staff

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Assistant Pastor: Beverly Schafer
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. C. William Ebbert
Office Manager: Kathy Shaffner
Minister of Music: Dr. Tom Naus
Media Communications: Bob Brewster
Custodian: Deb Viola
Thrift Store: Bob Gaither
Youth Leader: Sher Buller

Office Hours

9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Monday—Friday

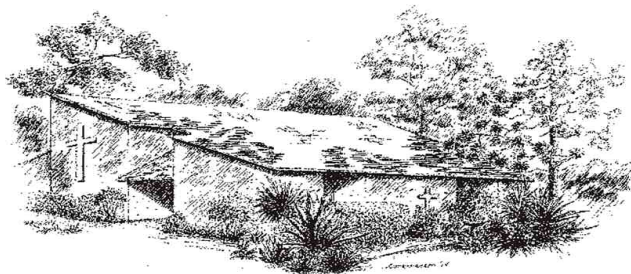
Thrift Store Hours

9:00 AM—3:00 PM
Monday—Friday
9:00 AM—12:00 PM
Saturday
9:00 AM—Noon

Sunday Worship

8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

Sunday School



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