

Port Orange United Church of Christ 651 Taylor Road Port Orange, FL 32127 Office 386-788-0920 Email: poucc651@gmail.com Website: portorangeucc.org

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Staff

Senior Pastor:
Rev. Glenn Rice
Pastor Emeritus:
Rev. Dr. Bill Ebbert
Minister of Music:
Dr. Tom Naus

Office Manager:

Kathy Shaffner

Custodian:

Ronnie Servant

Thrift Store:

Bob Gaither

Media Communications:

Bob Brewster, Trey & Van Thompson



Volume 42, Issue 7

July 2020

SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE



1

The ink you are interpreting as written text is black and the space around the black ink is white. No other colors ... just black and white. I'm surprised at how many people in all different walks of life see everything about their lives only in black and white.

God gave us many choices and options to live our daily lives and yet we tend to be placing our plethora of options into very few partitions within ourselves. So many of us have become either a

black or a white and leave so little room to appreciate not only a different opinion from each other but we've stopped allowing for the rest of the multitude of colors within our human spectrum to enter into our thought processes.

When this great country was being born, there were many opinions concerning how people needed their freedoms. Freedom of religion is the number one freedom history books give us as to why so many people fled their homes, family and friends to come to a new land so they could worship their God as they wished. There were as many, if not more people, who came to America to become rich and powerful. The point is people wanted more than their black and white, so they left all they knew and took a huge risk to make the long, treacherous voyage to find opportunities within the vast choice-spectrum this new country gave them.

Somehow history seems to be repeating itself. Little by little our forefathers' many cherished individual freedoms are being taken away from us. Government has become the number one employer in this country. More and more people seem to like having government bureaucracies looking out for their best interest. Worshipping God is being replaced by worshipping money and all the stuff money can buy.

I continue to hear people say they have so much but don't feel as though they have what they need. Guess what they're missing I know you already have the answer because you're reading a letter written by your pastor ... yes, GOD!

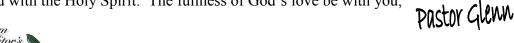
Believing money is the higher power will continue to leave you searching for the missing part of your life. Finding God and taking the time to worship Him through prayer, study and attending worship is where the hole in most people lives will be over flowingly filled.

I realize most people reading this article have already figured out how God is the only true answer to fill our inner needs. The way to let others in on this secret is to share the good news that we are forgiven sinners with our admission of sin through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Sharing the love of God, with everyone you know and meet, is the way toward taking this great country back to being an even greater country. (Continued on next page)

Sharing the love of God, with everyone you know and meet, is the way toward taking this great country back to being an even greater country.

I know this is still the best country in which to live. How many people have you heard of getting into a rubber raft and paddling towards another country? Do you hear of thousands of United States citizens being caught and deported back to the U.S. as they flee our borders for a better life?

Just because we have been blessed to live here doesn't mean we don't have to work hard at keeping this country a great one. Worship our one triune God and help others realize they too can have their emptiness filled with the Holy Spirit. The fullness of God's love be with you,





- I pray for all of you as you venture off for some time of relaxation during many of your vacations. Visit other church services while you're out of town. It's always great to worship God ... even when the service is different from ours.
- Summer time is a great time to recharge your inner batteries. I pray you have a restful and enjoyable time this summer. Remember there are always need for helpers within the church. This fall join in and become the newest member of any committee, council, the choir, maybe bring the bell choir back to life, lay reader, Sunday School class member, bible study group, etc. If you have an idea for a new group or day event, don't be bashful ... new ideas are always welcomed.

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

Kathy Cratin will continue directing as I am still convalescing, but I do wish to tell the congregation thank you so much for the help, cards, emails and words of encouragement. It means the world to me. Being able to be at first service last week was awesome and taxing as I am building up stamina for that to occur. Thanking everyone for adhering to mask and hand sanitized practices. It goes a long way towards keeping this pandemic at bay. God bless, *Joe Thompson, Moderator*



THE GIFT & THRIFT STORE



The Store has been open for five weeks and the first four weeks' sales averaged \$4,000. This week has been a little lower but we're still getting customers. The new room has been a big success and people love it! Thanks to Bob Brewster and Chuck Henderson for all their hard work. We are receiving so many clothes donations that we will at times stop taking them for a few days so that we can catch up. Other donations are welcome. Thank you for all your donations. We can still use volunteers. Please when you see our volunteers: Susie Greiff, Ruth Brewster, Sue Bussard, Judy Turcotte, Mary Anne Stewart, Sheila Fisher, Ann Tobin, Sue Batturs and Sharon Williamson thank them for a job well done. Couldn't do it without them! *Bob Gaither, Manager*

YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. As a reminder, July 5th is our next collection day and will benefit Halifax Urban Ministers. Over 25 bags of food were collected last month. Thanks to Chuck Konopsky and Mary Ann Stewart for loading and delivering the food. Please be generous and make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates (clearly marked on all cans, boxes, and containers).



OPERATION'S TEAM



Our church grounds and buildings are perhaps in the best shape that they have been in for decades. Your Operations Team is constantly looking at ways to improve maintenance of our church property in more efficient and less expensive ways. Here in Florida everything, trees, grass & weeds keeps growing – good and bad. Our landscaping has been done to be lower maintenance while also requiring less irrigation and trimming. You can see how the west property around the Veteran's Chapel is changing and becoming not only more attractive but more usable. Yes, "Usable". We

have a great property with a lot of room that we are not using. Making the west property more open will allow us to plan outdoor events such as outside church services, church picnics, perhaps fundraising activities and other possible uses that could involve other community groups that may want to rent outdoor space from us. All kinds of opportunities become available with these efforts. Expanding the Thrift Store has helped increase its income generating and mission support capabilities. This can happen with church grounds, too. In the past we have had outside groups rent space on a regular basis. Some of this rental was not in the best interest of our church because the expenses, wear & tear were not covered by the income. We are trying to be smarter about how we use our church facilities so that we can say "Yes" to its use without subsidizing this use from our church financial resources. We have been very fortunate that during the COVID-19 Crisis, we have a church structured to be very flexible such as having moveable sanctuary chairs versus unmovable sanctuary pews. This has allowed for "social distancing" as we return to in-person services. There are many ideas for what our church could be doing to grow, where we can involve more people and how we can be a place for growth both spiritually and educationally. A major part of our surrounding community includes older citizens that may be retired, empty nesters or living alone. This demographic has many needs and our church may be able to fill some of these needs, if we decide as a church that this is a direction that we want to go. Financially, we are in a very challenging position but your Operations Team is researching several funding ideas for moving our church forward that will multiply your giving many times over. Your giving as members and friends of POUCC is the key to much of this effort. Your giving is the financial foundation necessary to assure that these other resources can be made real. Your giving is the key to our future. In summary, our church has always been family orientated and while we may not be seeing younger children at present, we can certainly continue to fill the need for "adult" families and individuals. Something to think about! What are your thoughts? Ideas? We have so much to offer, let's figure out ways to do it! Respectfully submitted,

Bob Brewster Chair, Operations Team (Art Horton, Harold Kransi & Trey Thompson)

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Operational Budget as 5/31/2020

MAY ACTUAL YTD ACTUAL YTD BUDGET YTD DIFFERENCE

 Income
 \$ 8,248.67
 \$ 70,620.01
 \$ 51,447.24
 \$ 19,172.77

 Expenses
 \$ 10,579.13
 \$ 71,339.86
 \$ 67,333.43
 \$ 4,006.43

 Profit/(Loss)
 \$ (2,330.46)
 \$ (719.85)
 \$ (15,886.19)
 \$ 15,166.34



The month of May was the beginning of bringing our church family back together by resuming our Sunday Church services. We had not yet reopened our Thrift Store but we still managed to have \$1,227.00 in income from the Store. "Way to go" to Bob and his team. We are working very hard at controlling our expenses which allowed us to be under budget on our expenses by \$4,006.43. But, as you can see, we were way under budget on our income. Thankfully we were able to receive the Payroll Protection Plan money to offset that loss. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. *Barbara Horton, Treasurer*



JULY BIRTHDAYS*

Kristin Marshall	7/7
Teddy Yaeger	7/11
Nicholas Yaeger	7/21
Erika Henderson	7/22
Bonnie Morisset	7/24
Helen Holmes	
Leree Nicholls	7/26
Van Thompson	
Carol Rogers	7/27

JULY ANNIVERSARIES*

Billy & Peggy Wiggins 7/2/1977

Don & Kay Schweitzer 7/7/2009

Jack & Pat Hilgenberg 7/19/1958

Rev. Raymond & Cora Hargrove 7/20/2001

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

PRAYER REQUESTS*

Friends of Sheila Fisher Amy & Lamont Corinne & Jim Anderson Friends of Sheila Fisher Cathy Archer Friend of POUCC Linda & Al Blake & Family Friends of Sheila Fisher Brad Boon Member of POUCC Ruth Brewster Member of POUCC Beth & Chris Brown Family of Sheila Fisher Michelle Buonanno Family of Pat Kirkley Phil Bussard Brother of Susan Bussard Jewel Carter Daughter of Helen Holmes Faith Coppolo Member of POUCC Karen Coffey Family of Sandy Kransi Mike Conti Friend of the Kransi's Valerie Harper Sister of Darlene Thomas Pvt. Jack & Lisa Hearten Family of Kay Schweitzer Chuck Henderson Friend of POUCC George & Madison Hobson Family of Erika Hobson

Susan Jones Family of Bonnie Morisset Grace Kern Member of POUCC Friend of POUCC Sophie Kirtley Friend of Sheila Fisher Roger Kobert Teresa Leib Family of Erika Hobson Linda & Vaughn Long Friends of Sheila Fisher Bret McFarland Friend of the Batturs Family Liz Mills Friend of the Brewster Family

F/F of Deb Pack Member of POUCC

Archie & David Pickels Brothers of Bonnie Morisset

Gayle & Tom Reid Sister & Brother-in-Law of Kathy Cratin

Friend of the Stewart Family

Bruce Roberts
Carol Rogers
Member of POUCC
F/F of Karen Sanford
Oakley & Michele Solms
Priends of POUCC
Dale Speakman
Cousin of Faith Coppolo
Joe Thompson
Member of POUCC
The Wards

Joe Vogel Friend of the Kransi Family Lowin Willoughby Friend of Sharon Williamson

Rita Wren Friend of POUCC

In Care Facilities

Jeanette Campbell Member of POUCC (Care Center, MA)

June Ferreri Member of POUCC (Care Center, PA)

Margie Hoebing Friend of POUCC (Care Center, PO)

Nancy Horn Member of POUCC (Care Center, PO)

Marge Monat Member of POUCC (Care Center, DB)

Eloise Wottke Friend of POUCC (Care Center, WI)

Beverly Woodacre Member of POUCC (Care Center, NY)

Special Needs

Victims of the Caronavirus and Those on the Front Line Fighting the Virus
All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families
Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide
First Responders Everywhere

Leslie Neese

Fouce July 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1	2	3 Church Office Closed	4 Thrift Store Closed	
5 Communion Sunday 8:45 & 10:45 am Adult Discussion & CPT 9:45 am	6	7	Palmetto House 5:30 pm	9	10	11	
12 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion & CPT 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	13	14	15	16	17	18	
19 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion & CPT 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	20	21	22	23	24	25	
26 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion & CPT 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	27	28	29	30	31		

Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am - 3 pm, Sat, 9am - 12 pm Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - 1 pm

REMINDER: In observance of Independence Day the Church Office will be closed on Friday, July 3rd and The Thrift Store will be closed on Saturday, July 4th! Have a safe and happy holiday!

Port Orange United Church of Christ

651 Taylor Road Port Orange, FL 32127

Church Staff

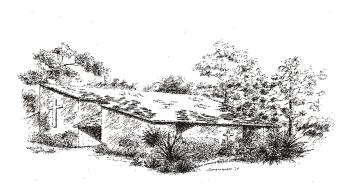
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Office Hours

9:00 AM-1:00 PM

Monday—Friday

Thrift Store Hours

9:00 AM—3:00 PM

Monday—Friday

Saturday

9:00 AM—Noon

Sunday Worship

 $8:45~{\rm AM}~\&~10:45~{\rm AM}$

Adult Discussion

9:45 AM