



**Port Orange
United Church of Christ**
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May 2025

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE



Football Hall of Fame coach Vince Lombardi turned the Wisconsin Green Packers professional football team from an also ran into Super Bowl Champs. He was often quoted while holding up a football as telling his team ...”Gentlemen, this is a FOOTBALL!” This he did before the first training session each season. Why did he do this? His players were not new to football.

Many were seasoned professionals, while others had been playing football from childhood up through their school years in high school and college. Obviously they knew it was a football, so why tell them something they already knew? He recognized that his players needed to go back to the basics. The basics of football and how to play the game. Without the basic understanding of the game, they would not be winners. And, only winners could accomplish winning the Super Bowl of football, commonly considered today to be one of the top sporting events in the world. Now what does Vince Lombardi, football or knowing the basics have to do with us at the Port Orange United Church of Christ? The answer is we have started a new journey of going back to the basics. When Pastor Javier Leon joined us last year (2024) in September, we had no idea that the message he would bring would be the Vince Lombardi message. That message was people, “This is a BIBLE!” Each Sunday since, Pastor Javier’s messages have come directly from the Bible to our waiting ears as he shares why this book is the “Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth”. Yes, the Bible, the basics for living life. This is why we are here on earth in Human form. Created from the Spirit in God’s image to live a life of learning, to be the best we can be and ultimately to return to our Father in Heaven having followed the teachings of his son Jesus. Jesus was sent to be with us because the world up to his birth had lost its way. God sent Jesus as a messenger that in human form we still had the power to be winners. And, as flawed as human beings can be, there is still a way to live a life full of success, goodness and love. Jesus, left us in death then rose again in life to prove that we too could follow him, if we learned the basics of life. The Bible provides us the basics or in other words the instructions for living life.. Pastor Javier is giving us the reasons why the instructions are there for us to use, if we choose. Not dissimilar to playing football and following the basics of the game to success, we are playing the game of life and following the basics of how to live so that we can get back home to our heavenly Father. *(Continued on next page.)*

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Staff

Moderator:

Bob Brewster

Office Manager:

Kathy Shaffner

Custodian:

Ronnie Servant

Missions:

Jackie Gaither

Thrift Store Manager:

Rachel Sitpu

Media Communications:

Bob Brewster

Further, like all instruction manuals, we are prone to not read every step. We are anxious to put to use what we are assembling or what we have purchased. In our eagerness we skip steps, key sentences and even whole sections of the instruction. The results are often parts left over or us taking apart what we built to do it right the second, third or more times. Also, in skipping steps, what we want to use so badly may not work at all. We become discouraged and think “this piece of junk”. I am going to return it and get my money back. Sometimes this is true but most of the time we failed to follow the instructions. Life is no different with one big exception. There is no return and get your life back. Time lost is time lost forever. Youth lost is lost forever. Opportunity lost may be lost forever. But, and this is a BIG “but”, in life we can use the BIBLE to go back to the basics. This is true no matter where we are on life’s path. Yes, everyone, going back to basics of living life in the BIBLE! The “***Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth***”. Pass the word around to others...**COME TO CHURCH ON SUNDAY AND GO BACK TO THE BASICS!**
The game of life can still be won!

Prayerfully written, *Bob Brewster, Moderator*

OPERATIONS & FINANCE TEAM



Hope everyone had a Happy Easter. Welcome to May and the beginning of heat and humidity! The facility and grounds are looking great and all is going well. We recently replaced the toilet in the Thrift Store which was badly needed. We also purchased and replaced two new door closures in the Thrift Store. Have a great month! Yours in the faith. *Art Horton, Chairman, Andy Stebenne*

Financial Update — Operational Budget as of 3/31/2025

	<u>March Actual</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>YTD Difference</u>
Income	18,057.00	48,741.58	50,998.78	(2,257.20)
Expensed	<u>12,140.85</u>	<u>41,672.93</u>	<u>40,143.89</u>	1,529.04
Profit/(Loss)	5,916.15	7,068.65	10,854.89	(3,786.24)

Other Income/Expenses as of 3/31/2025

YTD Interest Income:

MM & CD accounts	613.78
<hr/>	
Combined Profit/(Loss)	7,682.43



We had a profit of \$ 5,916.15 for the month of March and a profit of \$ 7,682.78 for the three month period which includes the interest income of \$ 613.78. As always our thanks go out to all our wonderful volunteer and to all who support our Church.

Respectfully Submitted, Barbara Horton, Treasurer

THE GIFT & THRIFT STORE



Council members, Church family and Thrift Store volunteers team, how do you say thank you for the wonderful opportunity you entrusted to me. As the Thrift Store Manager, it is my time to step aside and I am pleased to announce Miss Rachel (one of our own) will be taking over all my duties as your new manager. She has a wide background in retail and finance and most important a super personality! Now that the weather is getting warmer, we have seen a huge increase in our donations! We are so blessed. We have many snowbirds that are leaving us so we are in need of a few cashiers to fill some shifts. We are a busy paced operation and so a people pleaser is a must. We look forward to all Miss Rachel will bring to help the Thrift Store continue to grow. *Emily McLean, Manager*

FOOD BASKET SUNDAY



Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. As a reminder, May 4th is our next collection day. Over 20 bags of food were collected last month which benefited a local food pantry. Thanks to Ruth Brewster and Pam Protko for delivering the food. **Please make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates.**

SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP

POUCC has a wonderful monthly Fellowship Dinner in the Jim Reed Room. Entertainment follows the monthly dinners.

Our Next Dinner is Thursday, May 8th, 6:00 PM.

It's a Pot Luck! See the sign-up sheet circulated at Worship Service.

As a reminder, Fellowship Dinners will be taking the summer off and will return in September. A big thank you to Sharon Williamson and you the members and friends for all the great dishes that are enjoyed by all.



*Mother's Day
Blessings*

Just as God
gives to each rose
a gentle touch of dew
and gives
unto each evening sky
the lovely sunset's hue

So may He give to you
from His enduring Love
Great happiness
and heart's content
and blessings from above.

Happy

*Mother's
Day*



Happy Birthday!



MAY BIRTHDAYS*

Jean Trawinski	5/2
Sonnie Zinke	5/5
Grace Kern	
Sue Batturs	5/7
Charla Manning	5/14
Richard Devins, Sr.	
Ingrid Claunch	5/31

MAY ANNIVERSARIES*

Jackie & Bob Gaither	5/08/1982
Kristin & Peter Marshall	5/16/2015



PRAYER REQUESTS*

Sue Batturs	Member of POUCC
Bob Gaither	Member of POUCC
Erica Henderson	Friend of POUCC
Chuck Konopsky	Member of POUCC
Jose León	Father of Pastor Javier
Liz Mills	Former Member of POUCC
Lydia Nevarez	Mother of Pastor Javier
Paul Shaffner	Friend of POUCC
Bob Traver	Friend of the Brewster's

In Care Facilities

Margie Hoebing Friend of POUCC (Care Center, PO)


Special Needs

- Victims of the Recent Tornados
- All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families
- Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide

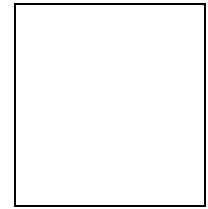


Note: *Please contact the church office to update our records and if we missed your special date, and with any Prayer Concern updates.

POUCC May 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
*Mountain of Light Church	<i>Office Hours: M-F—9 am –1 pm</i> <i>Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 2` pm 1 pm</i>			1 Weigh Watchers 9:30 am	2	3 Weigh Watchers 7:30 am & 9:30 am
4Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL* Worship Service 3:00 pm	5 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	6 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	7	8 Weigh Watchers 9:30 am Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm	9	10 Weigh Watchers 7:30 am & 9:30 am
11 Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL Worship Service 3:00 pm	12 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	13 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	14	15 Weigh Watchers 9:30 am	16	17Weigh Watchers 7:30 am & 9:30 am Council Meeting 10:00 am
18Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL* Worship Service 3:00	19 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	20 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	21	22 Weigh Watchers 9:30 am	23	24 Weigh Watchers 7:30 am & 9:30 am
25 Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL Worship Service 5:00 pm	26Office & Gift & Thrift Store Closed 	27 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	28	29 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	30	31 Weight Watchers 9:30 am

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Office Manager: Kathy Shaffner
Custodian: Ronnie Servant
Missions: Jackie Gaither
Thrift & Gift Store Manager: Rachel Sitepu
Media Communication: Bob Brewster

Office Hours

9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Monday—Friday

Thrift Store Hours

9:00 AM—2:00 PM
Monday—Friday

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM



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