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October 2014

**Port Orange
United Church of Christ**
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SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,
Anybody that knows me, knows that I love Halloween – it's still weeks away – but my indoor decorations have been up a couple of weeks already. I have a mask collection, love horror movies – the older classics are my favorite (did you know that 189 horror movies were made in the year 1972 and that does not include The Exorcist made in 1973?) – go to haunted houses, and listen to my music collections. Halloween has become big business. In fact, spending on Halloween items is second only to Christmas. Last year, Americans reportedly spent nearly \$7 billion on Halloween. Adults are buying more for themselves in the way of costumes and decorations. I guess we like to be scared and to party. As people of faith, however, we should go beyond the commercialism - be both informed and intentional about what we do, and why we celebrate and observe these seasonal and spiritual events. The name Halloween has Christian origin -- it means "All Hallows' Eve," or the night before All Hallows' Day, more commonly called All Saints' Day. But even though it has a religious title, Halloween has pagan roots that go deep into the Celtic festival of Samhain, which means "summer's end." Samhain was a time of transition, in which farmers prepared for the cold winter months that were coming; it was also a time when the physical and supernatural worlds were believed to be very close to one another. Magical things, were believed, could happen. Once Christianity became the dominant religion of Europe, these ancient beliefs took on a Christian flavor and the celebration was frankly co-opted by the Church. Children in churches would go door to door and promise prayers for deceased family members. In return, they were rewarded with treats and “soul cakes” baked by the inhabitants (hence, the origin of the practice of door to door “Trick or Treating”). I could go on with the history and comparisons, but for me, I can appreciate both the history and the deeper meanings of this festive time of fun. I know some people of faith disagree, but I see no danger in enjoying this festival and fun. As Christians, our focus on Halloween can remind us that "we are surrounded by so great a cloud of witnesses" (Hebrews 12:1), a heavenly congregation of faithful servants of God who have gone before us. On Halloween, we can remember that the barrier between the physical and spiritual realms is really quite thin every day of the year -- in the sense that God’s Presence is always with us and we can easily remember and celebrate the examples of the graceful and loving relatives, friends, colleagues and fellow church members who have entered everlasting life with God. On All Hallows' Eve, let's not focus so much on the living dead – like zombies that pop up on movie screens (isn't The Walking Dead show cool, though?). Instead, let's remember the saints of God who went before us, and those who are living today as inspirations to us. Even better, let's choose to be an example and inspiration ourselves.

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

ASSISTANT PASTOR



Not always, but for some reason last month while reading the News-Journal, my attention was drawn to the "Today in History" column on page two. In the realm of TV-Land for the month of September, "Friends" as well as "ER" celebrated their 20th anniversaries, "The Bill Cosby Show" its 30th, "Sesame Street" its 45th, and "Gilligan's Island" its 50th. What kind of memories are these conjuring up for each of you? Respectively I'm thinking: Grow up, already!; George Clooney!;

Little Rudy; Cookie Monster; "Just sit right back and you'll hear a tale, a tale of a fateful trip, that started from this tropic port, aboard this tiny ship." (A very sad note, however, is that the very first day of filming the pilot for this light comedy known as Gilligan's Island happened to be 11/22/1963 -- the day President John F. Kennedy was assassinated.) Continuing on, it has been 50 years since "Fiddler on the Roof" opened on Broadway, which has been immortalized by the song "Sunrise, Sunset." Additionally, celebrating 75 years as one of the greatest movies of all times is "Gone With The Wind," ending with Scarlett's vision of hope as she realizes: "After all, tomorrow is another day!"

How often in your lifetime have you had cause to express Scarlett's hopeful phrase? Without a doubt, we STILL need that vision of hope thirteen years after that horrific event which drastically changed the entire world on September 11, 2001, which is by far the most memorable anniversary during the month of September. If only that anniversary could represent a feat of fantasy like those of TV, stage and movies mentioned above; but alas, it represents reality. On that day in history, many cried out to God asking "Why?" Yet we continued on with our lives, periodically escaping to the world of fantasy which we should recognize as a true gift from God in times of deepest despair. So, yes, continue to celebrate those seemingly frivolous anniversaries, for they lift us up when we need it most.

In Faithful Hope, *Pastor Beverly*

SENIOR SHARPIE REMINDER: Don't forget to pick up your weekly Activity Sheets and Bible Readings which may be found by the main sanctuary door on Sunday mornings.

SPIRITUAL LIFE MESSAGE



In a comprehensive sense, the opening of the heart is the purpose of spirituality, of both our collective and individual practices. The Christian life is about . . . the opening of the self to the Spirit of God by spending time in "thin places" -- those places and practices through which we become open to and nourished by the Mystery in whom we live and move and have our being. (Marcus Borg, The Heart of Christianity)



Financial Update

Operational Budget as 8/31/2014

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
	<u>Jan.-August 2014</u>	<u>Jan.-August, 2014</u>
Income	\$ 119,187	\$114,288
Expenses	<u>\$ 130,441</u>	<u>\$113,320</u>
Net Income Actual	\$ -11,178	\$ 968

After a summer that saw the need for some major repair on the property, we continue to stay on course. Thanks everyone for your support. Respectfully, Susie Greiff, Treasurer

OPERATIONS TEAM



Your Operations Team met on September 8th and the following is a summary of the topics discussed at the meeting.

- The Sanctuary & Jim Reed Roof & Gutters were completed 5/30/14.
- Air conditioning unit in Finance office was completed 8/7/14. Project was fully funded by donations.
- The request for personalized bricks (**in Honor of or In Memory of**) for the Prayer Garden continues. The cost is \$35 each for the brick, engraving, and shipping with minimum order of five bricks.
- PayPal link to website is still in the implementation testing mode.
- Winsemius Bequest – Legal forms have been signed and returned to the attorney 9/12/14.
- Lightning Damages – damage claims have been filed with the insurance co. for the new office phones and irrigation pump. The new phones have been installed and the repairs to sprinklers were completed 9/15/14
- Our **Congregational Workday** including construction of a fire pit for Veterans Chapel has been scheduled for **October 11th at 9:30**. The annual **Pet Blessing** will precede the workday at **9:00 AM**.
- Approval was given to Spruce Creek High School to use our facility as a staging area for emergencies.
- The Team discussed the funding for the proposed Spiritual Life Retreat which is scheduled for January 24, 2015.
- Recommendation was made to have the food donations given to the families of children at neighboring Spruce Creek Elementary School and it was decided to present the proposal to the Missions Team.
- The committee approved having a CPR class conducted by Jack Barrick at our facility. Date TBA.

The next Operations Meeting is scheduled for October 13th @ 6:30pm.

In Faith, Cindy Pierson, Operations Team Member

DEACONS CORNER



Hello From the Deacons,

In order to keep growing as a congregation, a number of leaders will be attending the New Beginnings Seminar on October 4th in New Smyrna Beach. New Beginnings assesses a congregation's strength and challenges as it seeks to redevelop its ministry. The goal of the process is to put the congregation on a road to sustainable Christian witness and action within its community and gives leaders and members a realistic picture of your resources for ministry, demographic strengths, readiness for change, and potential for vital ministry. We'll be sure to share what we learn with you in the near future. *Bob Brewster, Chair of Deacons*

THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE



Thanks to all who have visited and patronized our shop. We are in need of donations and volunteers so that we can continue our mission to help others and our Church.

We accept kitchen items, linens, clothes (clean & pressed), shoes, jewelry, nik-naks, games and books. If you haven't visited the shop, make it a point to stop by; you'll be amazed!

MISSION NOTES



As always, the Missions Team thanks you for your continued support. Your generosity allows us to help all those in need. Please don't forget the Mission Boxes located in the Sanctuary and Jim Reed Room which benefit Sophie's Circle and aids God's very special creatures. Also with the cooler weather coming, there will be a greater need for socks. The Sock's Box is located at the rear of the Sanctuary.

CALLING ALL BAKERS for our Election Day Bake Sale which will take place on **Tuesday, November 4th**. We need cookies, cakes, pies and any other pastry creations you wish to donate. Proceeds will be used to purchase new Christmas decorations for the Sanctuary.



Also in November, we will again participate in the **CROP Walk, Sunday, November 9th**, by collecting jars of peanut butter and raising donations. Walkers needed!

Joe Thompson, Member of the Missions Team



NEIGHBORS IN NEED: This special mission offering of the UCC supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministries. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects. Please be generous.

YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. As a reminder, October 5th is our next collection date. Over 28 bags of food were collected last month for Veterans Haven House and they were grateful for your contributions. Thanks to Leree & Bill Nicholls and Chuck Konopsky for delivering the food.

If we all bring a food donation, we will fill the basket each month. Please be generous and make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates (clearly marked on all cans, boxes, and containers).



SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER



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

Our next fellowship dinner is October 9th. It's a "Pot Luck" Sign-up on Sanctuary Bulletin Board.

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

Schedule for the Fellowship Hour is as follows:

October - Thrift Store, November - Fellowship, December - Missions



LADIES LUNCHEON



Our Ladies Lunch Bunch will meet **Thursday, October 16th at Noon at Olive Garden**. Sign-up sheet is on the Sanctuary bulletin board. For more information, contact Jeanette Campbell at 788-4959.

SCES PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT

MENTORS

NEEDED



We recently received a note from Spruce Creek Elementary School (on Sanctuary bulletin board) thanking us for our generous donation of \$600 for the “Sneakers for Students” Program conducted throughout the month of August. As Tina Howard stated in the note, our generosity provided seven students to date with sneakers and also assisted other students with clothing. *Great Job!*

We have become aware of an additional need at the school, that of Adult Mentors. The school has provided the following description, responsibilities and qualification needed to participate in this vitally important program. Information and applications are available on the table in rear of the Sanctuary.

Youth Motivator Program

The Youth Motivator Program is designed to reduce the potential of a student dropping out of school by giving them support, promoting the values of education, increasing their self-esteem and performance, and teaching students to set and reach goals by modifying and improving their social skills, attitudes, attendance, and behavior.

How to Become a Mentor

1. Mentor's Responsibilities

The Youth Motivator meets one-on-one with an elementary, middle, or high school student at least **30 minutes a week** for a minimum of **12 weeks during school**.

- The volunteer encourages attendance.
- As a friend and role model, the volunteer listens to the student, helps with problem solving and demonstrates the values of punctuality and dependability.
- Develops a friendly, trusting relationship. CARES, LISTENS, ENCOURAGES, & GIVES.

2. Training

All applicants must complete an Application to Volunteer. Be sure to place an X in the Youth Motivator - Mentor box in the middle section of the application. Return the application to the school of your choice or to the district office at the address listed at the top of the application. Volunteers, including mentors, are not placed prior to the completion of the registration and clearance process.

All Youth Motivators/Mentors must attend an orientation/training session.

3. Mentor Training Schedule

Description: Volunteers receive orientation to the Youth Motivator Program and basic training in mentoring. This training and a background clearance is required of all mentor volunteers prior to placement with a student as a mentor.

The mentor training will be offered monthly at Spruce Creek Elementary School, on the last WEDNESDAY of each month. The school contact is Tina Howard, Counselor. (322-6200, extension 34250) Please call to reserve your spot.

4. Qualifications Needed

A warm and understanding personality, Patience, Sense of humor, Respect for others, Ability to be flexible, Dependable and Reliable, Sincerity, Good listener, Able to accept a young person as they are, Understand and know that each student is different and unique, Desire to motivate a young person and help them succeed in school.

TERRIFIC TUESDAYS & YOUTH NEWS



Terrific Tuesdays

On Tuesday, September 23rd, our youth kicked-off our weekly Terrific Tuesday Program of the new school year. They all enjoyed a great dinner thanks to Jackie Gaither followed by a meeting of all youth and parents to discuss our calendar of events for the year. A new highlight of the program will be the addition of Ed Clowers of the Port Orange Music Academy who has agreed to help with the formation of a youth band which would practice at the Tuesday night meetings. It was great to be back together and as you can see from the events listed below our youth are going to be very busy. Looks like great fun! Mark you calendars and plan to attend...Dinner is at 6:00 PM (\$2.00 @ person) followed by youth activity/worship and adult bible study.



Saturday, October 11, 9:00 AM/9:30 AM – Pet Blessing and Church Workday

**Friday & Saturday, October 24 & 25 – Haunted House Project,
Silver Sands Bridle Club**



**Sunday, November 9, 1:30 PM – 26TH Annual Halifax CROP WALK
Drive-In Church, 3140 S. Atlantic Ave., Daytona Beach**

**Tuesday, November 25, 7:00 PM – POMA Community Thanksgiving
Service, Port Orange First United Methodist Church**



Sunday, December 21, 9:45 AM – Children's Christmas Program

Walk on Water

Friday-Sunday, January 16-18, 2015

Other Activities TBD: 1. Halloween Party, Cookout & Singing at Veteran's Chapel & Movie Night Fundraiser

CONGRATULATIONS: To Colten Pack who was named September's Scout of the Month.
Way to go Colten!

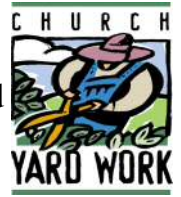


FAREWELL AND GOOD LUCK: On Sunday, September 21st, we bid farewell to Levi Zinke who is off to begin his college career at the University of California, Santa Barbara. Levi will major in biology. We will miss seeing him in the choir on Sunday mornings, but wish him the best of luck in his new adventure.

NEWS & NOTES



PET BLESSING & CHURCH WORKDAY: On *Saturday, October 11th* at *9:00 AM*, we will have our annual pet blessing for the very special members of our families followed by a *Church Workday to begin at 9:30 AM*. We need your help to weed, trim and spruce up the grounds for the fall and winter seasons. Sign-up sheet is on the Sanctuary bulletin board.



PRAYER GARDEN BRICKS: We would invite members of the congregation interested in ordering a personalized brick for the Prayer Garden to contact the Church Office. Your brick message can be a personal reflection or as simple as in memory of or in honor of a loved one. The cost is \$35.00 which includes a 4 x 8 x 2^{1/4} brick, engraving and shipping with a minimum of five bricks. If interested, please have your order in by *October 31st*. Production and delivery will take approximately 4-6 weeks.



In response to a number of member's request, Pastor Bill has created a questionnaire to share your final wishes with your loved ones. The questionnaire covers topics such as your executor and will, living family members, disposition of your remains, whether you would want a funeral service or committal service and what each of those services would contain, i.e., music, scripture, poems, etc. At a time of sadness and grief, having your wishes in writing will be of great comfort to your family and friends. Copies are available on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary. Completed copies should be returned to Pastor Bill and will be kept on file.

MEET YOUR HEROES: During the month of October and partially into November, Veterans from our congregation will be sharing with our Youth their stories of military service. If you are a Veteran who served in WWII, the Korean conflict, Vietnam War or one of the Mid-Eastern conflicts who has not been scheduled to meet with our Youth, but would like to do so, please contact Pastor Beverly at 295-6838. If you prefer, you could fill me in so I could share your story, but your presence still would be very important to the kids.



CHANGE ADDRESS Ruth Sheldon has moved from Port Orange and her new address is: 25 Glen Falls Drive, Ormond Beach, FL 32174 (her phone number remains the same) and Keith Zinke's new e-mail address is keith.zinke@gmail.com.

HANDMADE CRAFTS NEEDED: To sell on **Election Day, November 4th**, as a fundraiser to benefit the Spiritual Life Retreat scheduled for January. We will also need to schedule volunteers to manage sales. Contact Pastor Beverly if you are interested.



SPECIAL THANKS



PRAYER & SQUARES: I would like to thank everyone for your generous donations of material that will help me in making prayer quilts for those in need. So far, I have finished four quilts and they have been given to those who need prayers. If you know of anyone in need of prayers, please complete the form on the bulletin board and return it to me. Remember the quilt recipient must give their permission before we can proceed. If you have any spare time, I could use your help. Our ministry is not about the quilts - it's about the prayers offered to God for one person and I know from experience how comforting it is to wrap myself in prayers offered by loved ones. Thanks, *Marian Wolff, 386-316-1624*.

A BIG THANK YOU to Jim Eagan for repairing the fence around the dumpster. *Great Job Jim!*





OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS*

Sara Bryan	10/1
Tom Summers	10/4
Cindi Harper	10/5
Levi Zinke	10/8
Ron Zinke	10/13
Roger Harper	10/17
Doreen Nicholls	10/18
Payton Bryan	10/19
Maurice Claunch	10/27
Jackie Gaither	10/28
Mary Ann Summers	10/29
Aidan Bryan	10/30

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES*

Bill & Leree Nicholls	10/11/1958
Tom & Judy Van Camp	10/27/1979
Todd & Alice Lynn Feldman	10/27/1985



PRAYER REQUESTS*

Ted & Sue Batturs	Members of POUCC
Delynn Brooks	Niece of Drew Knock
Nicholas Burnhart	Friend of Joanne Flatt
Jewel Carter	Daughter of Helen Holmes
Marilyn Chutjian	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Thea Cloutier	Member of POUCC
Heaton Cochran	Grandson of the Schweitzers
Kimberly Comfort	Friend of Beverly Schafer
Anthony Constanza	Student at Spruce Creek Elem.
James Crawford	Grandson of Joanne Flatt
F/F of John Coppolo	Husband of Faith Coppolo
Bobby Crosby	Uncle of Pastor Bill
Karen Donahue	Member of the Kransi Family
Amelia Dyer	Friend of Shelia & Bob Fisher
Louise Eagan	Member of POUCC
Rev. Bill Ebbert	Member of POUCC
F/F of Helen Fisher	Member of POUCC
Dwight Flatt	Son of Joanne Flatt
Susan Gustamachio	Friend of the Campbells
F/F of Scott Harper	Son of Roger & Shirley Harper
Cassie Higgins	Member of POUCC
Scott & Emily Hill	Val Hill's Nephew and his Wife
Rev. Richard Hills	Area Pastor & Friend
Joellen Hopkins	Member of POUCC
Nancy Hosford	Bill Wheeler's Sister
Steven Horsey	Doreen Wheeler's Brother
Russ Karel	Member of POUCC
F/F of Ruth Katz	Former Member of POUCC
Dwight Norian	Member of POUCC
Blanche Northcutt	Member of POUCC
Tim Schafer	Member of POUCC
F/F of Rev. James Reilly	Pastor of Deltona UCC
Robert Ross	Son-in-Law of Marian Wolff
John & Mary Ann Stewart	Members of POUCC
Patty Stoner	Daughter of Mary Ann Stewart
Alfred & Sara Wassner	Pastor Bill's Parents
Richard Woodsman	Son of Marian Wolff
Rose Williams	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 & Their Families

Broader Concerns

Victims of Area Flooding
Worldwide Terrorism Victims

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

POUCC October 2014

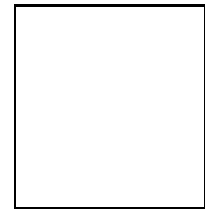
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	2 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	3	4 New Beginnings Seminar 9:00 am
5 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:55 am Traditional 10:45 am SLT #1 5:30 pm	6 Spiritual Life Team #2 Meeting 2:00 pm	7 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 pm	8 Palmetto House 5:30 pm CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	9 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm	10	11 Pet Blessing 9:00 am Church Workday 9:30 am
12 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:55 am Traditional 10:45 am	13 Operations 6:30 pm	14 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 pm	15 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	16 Ladies Luncheon 12:00 pm Line Dancing 6:00 pm	17	18
19 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am SLT #1 5:30 pm	20 Spiritual Life Team #2 Meeting 2:00 pm Council 7:00 pm	21 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 PM	22 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	25 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	24 Haunted House Project	25 Haunted House Project
26 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	27	28 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 PM	29 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	30 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	31  Happy Halloween	

Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 3 pm

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

Join us for Fellowship & Refreshments Each Sunday Between Services

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Church Staff

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Assistant Pastor: Beverly Schafer
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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

Sunday Worship

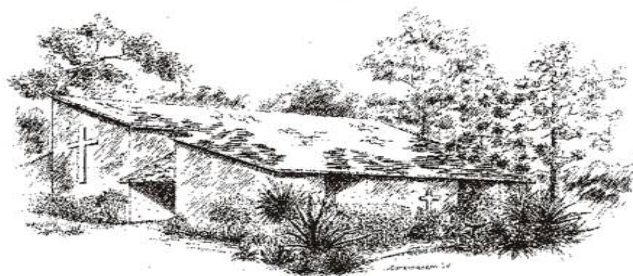
8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

Sunday School

9:45 AM

Terrific Tuesday

6:00 PM



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