



Port Orange
United Church of Christ
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PASTOR'S MESSAGE



From the Pastor's Desk -

A number of years ago, I attended a conference entitled "Care and Kindness." It was offered by Jim Kok who worked at the Crystal Cathedral in Garden Grove, California before it was sold to the Catholic Diocese. I was quite impressed with his two days of presentations on the focus of *Kindness*.

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I hadn't heard much from his organization in recent years until the other day. I received a letter with some general information and it made me think more about different facets of kindness. The information I received included some of the following ideas on this topic.

The information began with a question - What is your "Kindness Quotient" There are a number of tests one can take to test our I.Q. There are tests called *Risk Quotient* Tests to check our financial stability, and often magazines offer *Emotional Quotient* Tests to check our emotional state. But I don't believe I've ever seen a test to check what our *Kindness Quotient* might be.

According to Kok here are some things you might find on such a *Kindness Quotient Test*.

- When was the last time you did something kind for someone in your family - e.g. cleared the table, made a cup of coffee, took out the trash - without being asked?
- At your school or workplace - which person is most overlooked or avoided? Is there a shy student? How about a grumpy coworker? Is there someone who doesn't fit in or speak the language? Are you kind to this person?
- Kind hearts are quietly kind. They let the car from the side road or the "on ramp" to the highway cut into traffic. They let the young mother with three small kids or the elderly man with only two items move up the checkout line. These are tough things for us to do aren't they?
- Kind hearts pick up the neighbor's trash can that rolled into the street.
- Kind hearts are especially kind at church. They understand that the neediest person they may meet all week is the one standing in the foyer all alone or sitting in the row behind them in worship. *(Continued on next page.)*

Staff

Pastor:
 Rev. Patricia Holcomb
Office Manager:
 Kathy Shaffner
Custodian:
 Ronnie Servant
Gift & Thrift Store:
 Emily McLeasn
Media Communication
 Bob Brewster

- As you consider some of the above thoughts, commit to reading this verse from Paul in the book of Galatians at least once each week during October: *“When we have the opportunity to help anyone, we should do it.”* (Galatians 6:10a). It just may improve your “Kindness Quotient.”

On another note: October is a month that I have always loved living in Vermont. The cooler air returns, the colors of the trees turn to brilliant yellows, oranges, and reds, and it’s “sweater weather!” Living here in Florida, I haven’t experienced these signs of fall the past few years so I am looking forward to heading north to New England on October 5th to officiate at my niece’s wedding. I will be gone a couple of weeks. If you need pastoral assistance, please call Kathy at the office and she will direct your call to the appropriate person to help you. See you when I return. Blessings,

Pastor Pat

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE



A Church is not just the buildings and the grounds. It is not just the missions and events it sponsors or promotes or even the church services held on Sundays. A Church is its people. Its members. Its friends. Its visitors. This is how I see our church here in Port Orange. Coupled with our mutual belief in God and the messages first taught to us by Jesus Christ our church’s foundation is very strong and based on a spiritual faith and love for each other. Part of this strength is the willingness of our people to do things for our church that in return also do things for other people. A form of “Pass it On”. And, I include all our Thrift Store volunteers in this, too. We all want to give, that is the human spirit. Giving can take many different forms to include our time, our skills, our talents and our money. Most giving by people goes unnoticed, not because it is not important but because most giving people do not want recognition. They give because they want to do something. Our church has many givers who donate their time and money. I thank everyone one of you for your time and gifts whether it is money or your talents. All of you are important! At this point, I want to single out a specific couple for recognition. Bob & Jackie Gaither have dedicated much to our church through the many years of their membership. Whether as Charter members, holding every leadership position possible, participating in our church events, singing or just “being there”, they have done it all. Special recognition must be given to both for the work they have done with our Church Thrift Store. It is no small statement, that if Bob Gaither had not stepped in to manage the Thrift Store when our first manager Barbara Pountain retired, we would have no Thrift Store today. Bob jumped in with both feet. He took much pride in growing the Thrift Store as witnessed with his reports each week. Then, Jackie jumped in with both feet. The success of our Thrift Store today rests completely on what this dedicated couple has given in their caring time, hard work and yes, with personal sacrifice. Our Thrift Store fills many roles. It is a mission in itself with what it supports within our local community and with those things it supports in helping people when in real need with clothing, furniture, household goods and yes, even sometimes with money when it is appropriate. Perhaps, the greatest of all benefits from our Thrift Store, is the opportunity for people to volunteer their time and be a part of what our Thrift Store is able to accomplish. Our church, in all likelihood through the Covid 19 shutdown and subsequent reduction in church attendance, owes its continued existence today to the Thrift Store, as it provided us the financial foundation to keep going. I want everyone to recognize Bob and Jackie. We as a church family, we owe them a great deal of gratitude. Thank you, Bob & Jackie, for all you have done and for the many hats you have worn over the years with our church. I hope you continue to find things that inspire you to help our church going forward in many other ways as you now turn over the Thrift Store management to Emily McLean. Also, thanks to all of you for what you do in our church and in our community. Prayerfully Submitted, *Bob Brewster, Moderator*

OPERATIONS & FINANCE TEAM REPORT



Reed Room Floor: Malibu construction provided a quote to remove the existing carpet and install LVT matching the product we are using in the hallway and bathrooms at a cost of \$14,118.00. We decided at the June council meeting to hold off on this project and see if we can find a willing “sponsor” to pay for this project. **Project “on hold”.**

Old Kitchen Area in the Church Sanctuary: The existing fluorescent lamps and ballasts were not removed and replaced with LED in this area when we completed the retrofitting of the other areas in the church, Reed and Mix buildings. **Project has been completed.**

APS Security Cameras: APS visited the site and enclosed you will find a proposal to add 3 additional cameras to the system, two in the Thrift Store and one on the end of the Mix building, adjust two of the existing cameras to cover the desired areas, install a long-range lens to cover the Veterans chapel. APS will complete a site visit and functional demonstration of the camera system to all council members. **Work is complete.**

APS Security System: APS visited the site to advise on adding the Thrift Store to the security system. The Thrift Store and Kitchen will be partitioned (separated from the existing system area) and a separate key pad will be installed in the receiving area of the Thrift store. **Work is complete.**

Security Lighting in the Back of the Thrift Store: It has become apparent with the expansion of the thrift store additional night lighting is necessary for the back area of the thrift store sidewalk, apron, parking lot and dumpster areas. I have ordered additional lighting to be mounted on the wall on the back side (paver area) and a larger wattage flood fixture to replace the existing pole fixture on the end of the thrift store. I am looking at possible options to illuminate the dumpster area. Installation will be as soon as I have time to do so. 4 of the 8 wall lights have been installed. Awaiting cooler weather to remove the existing flood light and replace with the new LED Flood light.

Irrigation System: Tuff Turf has yet to install the new pump and check out the system. We have had sufficient rain thus far. **System is operational.**

Additional work completed:

Air Techs of Volusia County installed a mini-split HVAC system in the kitchen. Electrical feed was installed in-house, with help from a “friend” for the permit.

Replaced electrical outlets in Jim Reed room.

Replaced non-GFI outlets in Sanctuary bathrooms with GFCI outlets.

Removed old Federal Pacific panel in Reed room and replaced with code compliant 200 amp rated panel.

Installed 2 self-luminous exit signs above the exit doors in the sanctuary.

Additional work on the “to do” list.

Three new exterior doors have been ordered and should be installed by Malibu Construction in the next two weeks.

Reed Room HVAC, It appears when the existing outside three phase condenser unit was replaced in 2017, it was not installed with a compatible three phase unit but with a single-phase unit. This has created a hazard, as the conductors (wired) from the service panel to the unit are undersized for the new single-phase unit. I checked the running amperage (18.1 amps) I have purchased 25-amp time delay fuses and will install them in the fused disconnect adjacent to the outside unit. More research is necessary.

Install emergency lights in all the thrift store rooms. Install emergency lights on both sides of the bathroom corridor in the sanctuary.

Install emergency lights in all the Thrift Store rooms.

Install emergency lights on both sides of the bathroom corridor in the sanctuary.

Purchase 4 new HC toilets and install in the sanctuary bathrooms.

Pastors' office: Patch the ceiling, finish the scuttle hole, paint the ceiling, paint the walls and trim. Obtaining quote.

Obtain quote to repair the ceiling, paint the sanctuary ceilings, hallway and bathrooms. Utilize the same color palate as we did in the Reed bathrooms? We have left over ceiling and blue wall paint.

Air Techs of Volusia County are going to remove the "handyman" ductwork in the Pastors office and install a professional HVAC supply duct and register in the ceiling.

Air Techs of Volusia County are also going to install a supply duct and tie into one of the existing ceiling registers in the Reed hallway. The existing supply registers were fed off the old kitchen system. This will provide A/C in the hallway so that the Mountain of Light may use the hallway for the children's projects.

Yes, it's been a busy summer at the church for sure. Until next time, God bless.

Art Horton, Chairman

Operational Budget to Actual as of 8/31/2023

	<u>August Actual</u>	<u>YTD Actual</u>	<u>YTD Budget</u>	<u>YTD Difference</u>
Income	4,284.70	112,329.31	73,416.08	38,913.23
Expenses	<u>11,259.44</u>	<u>91,942.44</u>	<u>95,221.36</u>	<u>(3,278.92)</u>
Profit/(Loss)	3,025.26	20,386.87	(21,805.28)	42,192.15

**Other Income/Expenses as of 8/31/2023
Capital Improvements**

	<u>YTD Actual</u>
Income	5,090.00
Expenses	<u>50,436.05</u>
Profit/(Loss)	45,346.05



Combined Profit/Loss) (24,959.18)

As of August 31st we have spent over \$50,436.05 on improvements to our property which includes installing the fence around the A/C unit, installing pavers behind the Thrift Store, improving outside security lighting, refurbishing the Jim Reed bathrooms and hallway, installing a mini-split A/C unit in the kitchen, expand and upgrade our security system to include the Thrift Store, replace our irrigation pump and wet ends and made a deposit payment to resod and add two French Drains to the lawn area outside the Church Office. We now have a combined loss of \$24,959.18 as of August 31st and hope to be able to continue doing improvements to our property. We are thankful for the income from our wonderful Thrift Store and from our rentals. Our thanks go out to our amazing volunteers and to all who support our Church. Respectfully Submitted, *Barbara Horton, Treasurer*

THRIFT STORE NEWS



The Thrift Store continues to thrive with new customers and donations that keep our sales growing daily! We are blessed to serve our Church and Community. As we head into the future may we be a glowing example of true Christian Love. *Emily McLean, Manager*

FOOD BASKET SUNDAY

Communion Sundays are designated as “Fill the Food Basket” Sunday. **October 1st is our next collection day and benefits “Halifax Urban Ministry”.** Over **20 bags** of food were collected last month . Thanks to Chuck Konopsky and Mary Ann Stewart for delivering the food. **Please make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates.** We recently received a note of thanks from the Ministry stating that thanks to your generosity they were able to provide food to **254 Households, 290 Food Bags, 647 Persons and 38 New Persons..**



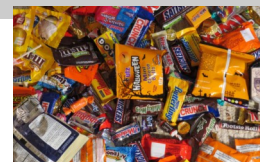
MISSION OFFERING



In 2023, the Neighbors in Need “**BEHOLD!**” theme continues. This year’s focus is on environmental justice. Plastics, electronics, and other non-compostable wastes are being shipped across, and even tossed into, our waterways, launched into space, and buried in landfills. As people of faith, we believe these egregious acts are sinful and unholy. We must be better stewards of our planet! *This offering will be received on October 1st and the envelope is in your boxed set.*

SPECIAL REQUEST

Denise Gates and Bridget Whittemore are co-chairing our participation in **Spruce Creek Elementary School’s ”Trunk & Treat” Night on October 26th** and are asking for bags of individually wrapped candy donations for the event.



SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP



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

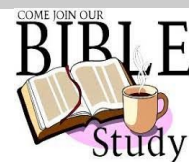
Make your plans to come and join us on Thursday October 12th, 6:00 PM.

It’s a “Soup, Salad , Bread & Dessert Dinner.

Sign-up Sheet will be circulated during Worship.

BIBLE STUDY

POUCC Bible Study: POUCC “Wired Word” Bible Study will always be held on the **1st and 3rd Sunday** of each month at **11:00 AM.** (right after church service 9:30 –10:30 AM). We hold the class at the church in the Sanctuary.

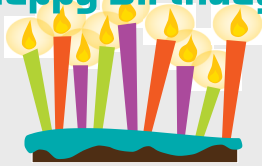


October 1st first Sunday: Maturity and how to make Decisions.

October 15, 3rd Sunday: Maui Wildfires and how does Tragedy affect Your Faith?



Happy Birthday!



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS*

Tom Summers	10/4
Ron Zinke	10/13
Cheri Yaeger	10/17
Jackie Gaither	10/28
Mary Ann Summers	10/29



OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES*

Bill & Leree Nicholls	10/11/1958
Todd & Alice Lynn Feldman	10/27/1985

Note: *Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your special date or you have a change to the Prayer Requests.

PRAYER REQUESTS*

Charlie & Molly Baskin	Members of POUCC
Deb Blink	Canadian friend of Sheila Fisher
Bob Brewster	Member of POUCC
Doug Brittain	Canadian Friend of Sheila Fisher
Beth & Chris Brown	Daughter & Son-in-Law of Sheila Fisher
Rafael Castels	Friend of Sheila Fisher
F/F of June Ferreri	Member of APOUCC
Lori Gillhooly	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Janie Janelle	Sister of Larry Janelle & Friend of Sheila Fisher
Harry & Jim Manchester	Family of Sheilas Fisher
Luanne Mauldin	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Liz Mills	Former Member of POUCC
Hollie Morgan	Family friend of Sheila Fisher
Howie Mumma	Friend of Sharon Williamson
Jeremy Parker	Canadian friend of Sheila Fisher
Carmella Potenza	Granddaughter of Don & Denise Gates
Kay & Don Schweitzer	Members of POUCC
John Sedgwick	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Renee Smith	Friend of Beth Brown & Sheila Fisher
Amy Stevens	Daughter of Jackie & Bob Gaither
Tammy & Danny	Friends of Ann Tobin
Seth Wanie	Family of Bill & Susie Greiff
Darlene Wolfson	Friend of Sheila Fisher
F/F of Eloise Wotke	Former Member of POUCC

In Care Facilities


June Ferreri	Member of POUCC (Care Center in PA)
Margie Hoebing	Friend of POUCC (Care Center in PO)
Marge Monat	Member of POUCC (Care Center in DB)

Special Needs

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

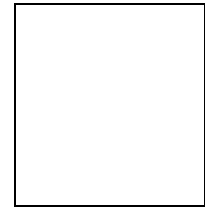


POUCC October 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 a Bible Study 11:00 am MOL Worship Service 5:00 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 am & 9:00 am
8 Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL* Worship Service 5:00 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 am & 9:00 am
15 Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 a Bible Study 11:00 am MOL Worship Service 5:00 pm	16 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	17 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	18	19 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	20	21 Weight Watchers 7:30 am & 9:00 am Council Mtg. 10:00 am
22 Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL Worship Service 5:00 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 am & 9:00 am
29 Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL Worship Service 5:00 pm	30 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	31 				

* Mountain of Light Church

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Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Patricia Holcomb
Office Manager: Kathy Shaffner
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Gift & Thrift Store: Emily McLean
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

9:00 AM—12:00 Noon

Saturday

Sunday Worship

9:30 AM

Fellowship Hour

10:30 AM



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