



POUCC Impressions

Volume 41, Issue 9

September 2019

SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE



Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ,

Here we are, ready to get back into full church mode. The choir will begin rehearsing, monthly fellowship dinners will begin and the northern vacationers are coming back. It is great to see all the rested and smiling faces returning home.

During the past few weeks, I've been seeing too many societal issues which are requiring many prayers and continued help from our mission team.

I attended a sub-committee meeting of our Port Orange/South Daytona Chamber of Commerce. This meeting brought together administrators and teachers from Volusia County to discuss many issues with area pastors and church leaders. The school officials thanked all of the religious attendees for their continued help, especially helping with the homeless and unaccompanied youth in all levels of our public school system. Our congregation was thanked not only for the funds we continue to provide but also for all our Thrift Store continues to provide for these youth.

At first blush it all sounded good; being thanked, being lifted up, being asked to continue our mission work to these homeless youth. And then it hit me. Yes we can continue to help serve our community as these issues continue to grow but how we can also try to find a way to slow down (and prayerfully stop) these societal problems? How do we get to the root of the problem?

I firmly believe our society has been going backward due to the elimination of God in so many areas of today's society. Somehow we have allowed a very few to exclude God in our everyday lives. We have accepted flimsy excuses not to attend the worship of God, have found mindless ways to fill our time and we find ourselves not giving any effort to tell others about our love for Jesus Christ as our Lord and Savior.

How do we begin turning the tables on those who suppress and oppose God in any form? What has happened during the last 50 years or so? How do so many people say they are Christians but never read the Bible, don't pray on a regular basis (unless they need something for themselves) or attend worship? We've lost at least one if not two generations of people finding God in their lives.

These are the same people searching to fill 'the hole' in their lives. For some reason they refuse to look for God as the answer. They try making themselves look good (physically and socially), dedicate themselves into making megabucks and living the good-life, trying different substances (legal and otherwise) to find their inner-selves or finding their entire world revolves around no body but themselves.

The inner searching can be easily solved by allowing God into their lives. Once a person realizes they have a spiritual side within their physical self and there is a much greater power than they themselves, then they can begin to find the peace of God from within. *(Continued on next page)*

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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

SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE (CONTINUED)

God is always with us ... absolutely always. When we allow ourselves to know God, life gets better, not always easier, but better. Attending worship is a great place to start. Listening to the word, hearing different view points (other than yours) from scripture, praying and asking for God's forgiveness with a community of believers, singing praises to God, thanking God for all of our many blessings and finding a common mission of reaching out to help others in need. These are all part of meaningful worship.

I don't expect anyone attending the worship of God for the first time to understand any of what worshipping God can do for them. It takes time and effort to find our loving God within us. We as Christians are able to see God through the lens of Christ ... what a blessing we have been given!

We all have been given much and we need to go out of the four walls of our church to tell others of our abundance of God's love. Being a Christian is not easy. I know we are easy targets for the many who don't believe. Today's culture seems harsh towards Christians. The reality is, this is nothing new. We are the current Christians who need to get off our duffs and tell others of the joy and peace Christ provides for our daily living. We have all the same good and bad happening in our lives as those who choose not to believe. The difference is, we have an inner peace knowing Christ promised us eternal life.

I would love to be able to stop placing band-aids on our social issues of the day and change the root of the problem; finding God to allow an inner peace from within. I understand this is a huge task and it is a very difficult subject to discuss with others; even other Christians. Jesus told us following him was not going to be easy but in the end, it will be well worth our efforts. Go tell your story to others (called witnessing your faith), show your love to others, allow yourself to grow so others may too. Be a positive force for God. Worship with community of believers, listen for God's word, share together in Holy Communion and Baptism, experience God's loving grace and then share the Good News of Christ's love with others. God be with you.

Pastor Glenn

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE



News Flash — Many new things happening at POUCC!

New staff at the helm of the Treasury Barbara Horton, Janna Thompson and Kathy Cratin. If you see them say hi and thank them they are doing a wonderful job. And so we also say good luck and God Bless to Sher Buller who is the new Pastor at Deltona UCC; outstanding job Sher. We have gotten a new roof, hallelujah, and our very capable team from Operations headed that up nicely. Thank you gentlemen for your tireless efforts. The Thrift Store remains wide open even though the roof construction caused a pause in the active trading. Missions is also taking care of business for kids from grade to high school. Deacons maintain a steady hand on colors and communion just to name a few things. Can you believe we have so many things going on it's wonderful! Thank God for all the wonderful persons that make this Church a place of worship. We are thankful to have our wonderful Pastor Glenn Rice, and appreciate his preparation and attention to our lessons. I am positive I have left out persons or more details please forgive me as I mean no disrespect. I don't have complete notes in front of me and a deadline to get this to our office manager. But I will say this it is a privilege to worship here and I know just like me you are thankful for that opportunity. *Joe Thompson, Moderator*

2019 UCC FLORIDA CONFERENCE ANNUAL GATHERING

The UCC in Florida comes together in Orlando Oct. 10-12th for the 2019 Annual Gathering at the Wyndham Orlando Resort International Drive, as staff, lay people, musicians, clergy and guests gather for fellowship and to worship, discern, deliberate, learn and serve together. We need two adults and one youth to represent our congregation and vote. See Joe Thompson if interested in attending.



OPERATIONS TEAM



The **Charlie Mix Building** that houses our Thrift Store and Classrooms has a **NEW ROOF** and **NEW GUTTERS!** It looks beautiful! Plus, we do not have to worry about the next big wind or storm blowing the shingles off where we have to fight the crowds for either repairs or a new roof. The gutters were all installed with high strength aluminum gutter guards which will prevent leaf and debris from collecting in them causing other problems in heavy rains. Also, through the extreme generosity of two POUCC Members, who wish to remain anonymous, we have been given a \$5,000 matching funds challenge to be exclusively used to maintain the church buildings and property. The challenge is that up to \$5,000 will be donated in a matching dollar for dollar campaign that officially began with the church council approval on 8/19/2019 running through December 31, 2019. Any donation made to this fund of any size will be matched equally dollar for dollar. The goal is to raise \$5,000 in matching funds for a total of \$10,000 by year end. We are already started with an anonymous \$500.00 donation to be applied toward the new gutters. When matched we already have a total \$1,000 toward our overall goal. As exciting as this news is to our church, we have also learned that we will be seeing several donations of time and labor for sprucing up our church property. This effort will focus on the church front, the

Prayer Garden and on the area near the Veteran's Chapel bordering Taylor Road. Anyone driving by our church will be able to see this work as it progresses and of course the image we want to convey with this work is that "we are alive and growing" both physically and spiritually. God is certainly working through many hands to keep our church & grounds looking beautiful. The results that this work will carry to all that see and who want to believe is "Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you." Luke 11:9

As always may God be with you during the coming month, *Submitted by Bob Brewster, Operations Team*

Financial Update—Operational Budget as 7/31/2019

	JULY	YTD	BUDGET	DIFFERENCE
Income	\$ 9,305.80	\$ 94,680.85	\$ 83,883.33	\$ 10,797.52
Expenses	<u>\$10,971.21</u>	<u>\$ 94,119.31</u>	<u>\$ 98,334.83</u>	\$ 4,215.52
Balance	(\$ 1,665.41)	\$ 561.54	(\$ 14,451.50)	



July is a month when many members are away which resulted in a lower than average income for the month. We have a year-to-date gain of \$561.54 at the end of July which is still good news since we budgeted a loss of \$14,451.50 for the same period. Our Operating Account balance at the end of July is \$8,367.85. We continue to have some challenges ahead and need your continued support to take us through to the end of the year.

Thanks you for your continued generosity and support. *Barbara Horton, Treasurer*

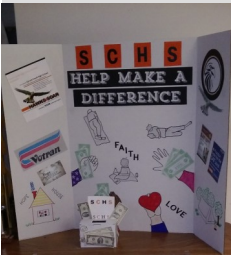
SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER



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

***Our next fellowship dinner is September 12th. It's a "Pot Luck" !
Sign-up Sheet will be circulated at Sunday Services.***

MISSION NOTES



Our Mission Team focus on **Spruce Creek High School's Homeless and Unaccompanied Youth (HUY)** continues this month. We will be collecting funds for these students' SAT/ACT test fees and Votran Passes for those that do not have a car or way to classes. **Also, we will be collecting personal care items such as toilet tissue, shampoos, conditioners, deodorants, men's new socks, and \$5 gift cards to McDonald's and Chick-Fil-A (cards used as a "Good Job Done" or "Goal Accomplished").**

POUCC presented **Spruce Creek Elementary School** with a check for \$441 to aid in providing students in need with a variety of necessities to aid in their education. The Mission Team thanks all who gave to the worthwhile cause.

As always, Sophie Circle, The Sock Box, Eyeglass Collection Basket and Aluminum Can Tab Jug Collection continues year round. *Your Mission Team*



Upcoming Mission offering is the **Neighbors in Need Collection** that will take place on **Sunday, October 6th which is World Communion Sunday**. This offering supports the UCC's ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries to fund a wide array of local and national justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE

Well another month has gone by and the Thrift Store is still doing well. Year to date sales are \$24,000 and if we're lucky we could reach \$25,000 by the end of the month. Many thanks to the congregation, community and especially our dedicated volunteers for their continued support. *Bob Gaither, Manager*



YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. As a reminder, **September 1st is our next collection day and will again benefit "Halifax Urban Ministry"**. Over 24 bags of food were collected last month for the pantry and two bags for Sophie's Circle. Thanks to Chuck Konopsky and Mary Ann Stewart 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. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.



NEWS & NOTES



Beginning Tuesday, September 3rd and every first Tuesday of the month from 6:00-7:00 PM there will be a "Wired Word" Bible Study at the Church. This month's lesson will deal with "How the Bible Sees Aging and how We can Better Present the Face of Christ".

LADIES LUNCHEON: For September will be held at **McKenna's on Wednesday, September 11th, 11:30 AM.** Sign-up sheet will be circulated at Services. See you there!



SPECIAL OFFERING: To help fund the Choir's Trip to New York to sing at Carnegie Hall will be received on **Sunday, September 8th**

SEPTEMBER 8TH is "Invite a Friend/Neighbor to Church Sunday".

YOUTH CORNER

Youth Group July & August Summer Fun

Summer has come to an end for our youth group. Friday, July 26th was our “lock-in” sleep over at the church. We all had a great night enjoying pizza, popcorn and movies...ALL NIGHT!



Saturday, August 10th we went to Go-Kart City. So much fun with go-karts, batting cages, and putt-putt golf.



This was our final activity for the youth group. Youth group officially dissolved as of 8/10/19. So sad to say goodbye to these kiddos. It has been a pleasure... We closed all meetings by reciting this prayer from Numbers. Thanks you Pastor Beverly for passing this tradition along to our youth!



Saying Goodbye

I want to thank POUCC for all of the wonderful memories over these past 13+ years. Tom and I said we wanted to raise our family in the church and we did from Dancing Angels to Chimes, Sunday School, Church Work Days, Operations, Deacons, Pastoral Search Chair, Moderator, Spiritual Life Leader, and Youth Leader POUCC has allowed me to spread my wings to grow in faith and service. Who knew that Pastor Bill Wassner calling to ask if it was OK to put my name forth for Pastoral Licensure over 3 years ago would bring me to Pastor Deltona UCC. Many of you may not be aware, but I started my quest for ministry over 23 years ago. God certainly does have his own timing and definitely works in mysterious ways. I will forever be grateful to my church family for all of your love and support. Thank you to my partners in crime Sue Turner and Tom Buller for all their support over the years. May God continue to Bless us All as we seek to Love God with all our heart, soul, strength and mind and Love our neighbors as ourselves. Moving Forward In Faith, *Pastor Sher*

Happy Birthday!



SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS*

Eloise Wottke	9/2
Bill Wheeler, Jr.	9/17
Sharon Ostrander	9/19
Colten Pack	9/21
Ernie Fodor	9/22
Sandy Kransi	9/23
Remy Barrick	9/24
Cassie Higgins	9/26
Marjory Monat	9/30

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES*

Ernie & Peggy Fodor	9/20/1980
Gary & Danean Zemba	9/21/1974
Ted & Sue Batturs	9/23/1961
Billy & Erika Wheeler	9/29/2002



PRAYER REQUESTS*

Corinne & John Anderson	Friends of Sheila Fisher
John Baker	Brother-in-Law of Peggy Fodor
Linda & Al Blake & Family	Friends of Sheila Fisher
Beth & Chris Brown	Family of Sheila Fisher
Jim Brubaker	Friend of Don & Denise Gates
Michelle Buonanno	Family of Pat Kirkley
Jewel Carter	Daughter of Helen Holmes
Faith Coppolo	Member of POUCC
F/F of Joy Cogle	Friend of POUCC
Karen Coffey	Family of Sandy Kransi
Roger & Shirley Harper	Members of POUCC
Pvt. Jack & Lisa Hearten	Family of Kay Schweitzer
Frank Hilgenberg	Brother of Jack Hilgenberg
Jack & Pat Hilgenberg	Members of POUCC
Eric Holbrook	Nephew of the Brewster's
Susan Jones	Family of Bonnie Morisset
Diane & Scott Kirlin	Member & Friend of POUCC
Sophie Kirtley	Friend of POUCC
Liz Mills	Friend of the Brewster Family
Leslie Neese	Friend of the Stewart Family
Deb Pack	Member of POUCC
Archie Pickels	Brother of Bonnie Morisset
Bruce Roberts	Brother of Sandy Kransi
Joe & Carol Rogers	Members of POUCC
Marilyn & Tom Root & Family	Friends of Bonnie Morisset
John Shell	Son of Sue Barhite
Dale Speakman	Cousin of Faith Coppolo
Judy Van Camp	Member of POUCC
Joe Vogel	Friend of the Kransi Family
Al & Frieda Wilson	Friends of Sheila Fisher

In Care Facilities

Jeanette Campbell	Member of POUCC (Care Center, MA)
June Ferreri	Member of POUCC (Care Center, PA)
Ruth Gilbert	Member of POUCC (Care Center, PO)
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


All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families

Broader Concerns

Victims of the Shootings in El Paso, TX & Dayton, OH
Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide
First Responders Everywhere

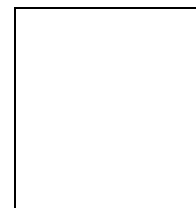
Note: *Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your special date or to add a Prayer Concern.

POUCC September 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Sunday 8:45 & 10:45 am Adult Discussion 9:45 AM	2  Office & Thrift Store Closed	3 "Wired Word" Bible Study 6:00 pm	4 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	5 POMA 4:30 pm	6	7
8 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	9 POMA 4:30 pm Compassionate Friends 6:00 pm Deacons & Operations Meetings 6:30 pm	10	11 Ladies Luncheon 11:30 am Palmetto House 5:30 pm CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	12 POMA 4:30 pm Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm	13	14
15 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	16 POMA 4:30 pm Council Meeting 6:30 pm	17	18 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	19 POMA 4:30 pm Line Dancing 6:30 pm	20	21
22 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	23 POMA 4:30 pm	24	25 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	26 POMA 4:30 pm Line Dancing 6:30 pm	27	28
29 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	30 POMA 4:30 pm					

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

Port Orange
United Church of Christ
651 Taylor Road
Port Orange, FL 32127



Church Staff

Senior Pastor: Rev. Glenn Rice
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. C. William Ebbert
Minister of Music: Dr. Tom Naus
Office Manager: Kathy Shaffner
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Thrift Store: Bob Gaither
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Trey & Van Thompson



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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

9:00 AM—Noon

Saturday

Sunday Worship

8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

Adult Discussion

9:45 AM

“Wired Word” Bible Study

Every first Tuesday of
the month.

6:00 PM