

THE WAVE



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APRIL 2003

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Easter Events



Calendar

- April 11** - Praise & Prayer Night
- April 13** - Palm Sunday Services
- April 13** - Easter Egg Hunt
- April 13** - Prayer Service
- April 17** - Maundy Thursday Service
- April 20** - Easter Sunday Services

Praise & Prayer Concert

*You gave Christmas gifts...
Come receive Easter presence*

We would like to invite you to come join us for a night of Contemporary Music & Prayer, Friday, April 11th at 7:00 pm. Be uplifted by the Ponte Vedra United Methodist Praise Band & Singers. Stay for hors d'oeuvres and dessert following the service.



The Kingdom Assignment

New found riches in the form of \$100 bills found their way into the pockets of volunteers at the November 17 services. If you were there you'll recall that the money wasn't personal gain but a Kingdom Assignment to invest in the Kingdom of God. Here are two more stories.

The father/son team of **Jeff** and **Jeffrey Koch** invested God's \$100 in materials for the ages 13-18 developmental class of Northwestern Middle School in North Jacksonville. Teacher Marilyn Garis was blessed to receive the money for much needed supplies for those who are often among "the least of these" (Matthew 25).

Julie Proctor and daughter **Kyndal** multiplied their resources five-fold as they reached out

Easter Egg Hunt

The church will be hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on April 13th at 3:00 pm. Activities include face painting, story telling, and the hunt. Children up through 3rd grade are encouraged to come and have fun!

Good Friday

The office will be closed Good Friday but the sanctuary will be open from noon until 3:00 pm. for those wishing to come and pray or simply sit in silence.

OUR MISSION STATEMENT:

- *to know Jesus*
- *to grow disciples*
- *to show love*
- *to go and make disciples of Jesus Christ*



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to military personnel stationed overseas. 350 pewter "Guardian Angel" coins were purchased and distributed to family members here who are mailing them to their loved ones overseas. Along with the coins are cards with Scripture and instructions on how to mail or e-mail names of recipients back to us so we can pray for them. (Some coins remain available through the church if you'd like to mail one to a family member serving overseas.) Another part of Julie and Kyndal's Kingdom Assignment: "cross pennies" given to us to remind us to pray for those who are sacrificing to serve us.

May "Thy Kingdom come and Thy will be done" through the Kingdom Assignment!

Do You Need Physical Therapy or just a Good Massage?

A new group, *Single Again*, is forming for you who are divorced or widowed to help meet the needs that used to be met by your other half. The very first meeting will be Tuesday, May 6 at 7:00 pm. at Ponte Vedra UMC. Our guest speakers will be massage therapist Muriel Hattori and physical therapist Pam Geotz. The group discussion topic will be "Handling Stress." Contact **Nancy Nelson** (246-7388) for more information or just come!

Meet 'n Eat at the Pastor's

Over the next several months we'll be inviting small groups of new members to our home. We really want to get to know you and hope you'll get to know some new people too. Watch for a postcard and please RSVP *Yes!* when it comes.

-Jeff and Jill Bennett

All Ladies of the Church



Your presence is being requested at a ladies luncheon and tea scheduled for May 10th at 11:00 a.m. Additional details regarding the activities will be communicated. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend. Fun and fellowship is promised to all!

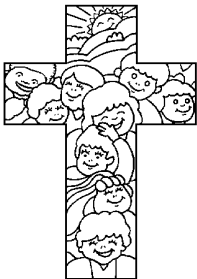
Worship Arts Conference

The Ponte Vedra Praise Team and Band are going to Chicago for the Worship Arts Conference at Willow Creek Community Church June 3-7. We want to take all in this group who want to go. The cost of this trip is \$800 per person for the conference, airfare, hotel and car rental. While this cost is very reasonable to spend 4 days in worship, learning, developing and bonding, it is prohibitive for some of our folks. Some of the ways you can help are by donating Delta Airlines frequent flyer miles, financial gifts, Marriott points, American Express points and any other ways you might think of. If you are willing and able to financially invest and assist this group to get to this life changing and church changing conference please call Carol Zur at the office, drop your gift by the office or in the offering plate. Please mark your gift "Arts Conference."

Prayer Service

We will be holding a service of prayer at 7:00 pm. On Sunday, April 13 for those affected by the war. Our hearts go out to all who are touched in whatever way. Let us come together and pray.

Children's Corner



PVUMC Children's Council Formed

A children's council has been formed. The objective of the council is to plan activities for the children that will make long term memories and assist in creating a positive relationship with the church that will remain with them always. The council meets on the first Friday of each month at 9:00 am. in the fellowship hall. Childcare is provided. If you are interested in joining the council, please contact **Cheryl Gillespie** at 285-0222.

Vacation Bible School!

The week of June 23-27 from 9:00-12:00 we will have Vacation Bible School for four year olds through 5th grade. The theme is Lighthouse Kids—Shining God's Light. Registration will begin in late May but we are starting our search for volunteers. Are you interested and willing to serve God during this fun week? We need teachers, co-leaders, craft and snack leaders. Please call **Jill Bennett** at 285-2134 if you are interested or would like more information.



On A Musical Note

We would like to invite you to come join us for a night of Contemporary Music & Prayer, Friday, April 11th At 7:00 pm. Be uplifted by the Ponte Vedra United Methodist Praise Band and Singers.

Our Theme is:

You gave Christmas gifts....
Come receive Easter presence
A special love offering will be taken
At this service to support those
Going to the Arts Conference in
Chicago in June. Please prayerfully
Consider how you might be able to
Help support our Arts ministry.

We are excited to announce the start up of our Praise Choir. This group will sing with the Praise Band and Team in the Contemporary Service. Rehearsals are slated to start in May. For more information contact Carol Zur at 280-5141.

Children's Choir to start in the Fall. Stay tuned for more information.

The Seasonal Chorus is off to a Great start! The Rehearsal schedule is as follows: April 3, 7:00 pm, April 9th 7:30 pm, April 16, 7:00 pm and Saturday, April 19th At 11:00 am in the Sanctuary. It's Not to late to join us, please come. If You have questions contact the Minister of Music, Carol Zur at 280-5141 or e-mail carol.zur@pv-umc.org.

Worship the Father in Spirit and in Truth.

Pastor's Picks

What a great response to last month's column! Thank you **June Koch** for stepping forward to teach our 4th and 5th graders. Thank you **Mims Cushing** for volunteering to establish and run our church library. I truly believe you are "God's Picks." Here are this month's "Pastor's Picks." (Do it again, Lord!)

I want to share the joy of leading the 11:15 Children's Time. These three or four minutes of teaching during the service bless children and adults alike. My thanks to **Lynne Tyndall, Kaye Byrnes** and now **Janette Murray** who've all taken from one to many turns. Would you like to join us? I'll give you the scripture "du jour" in advance and you can come up with an idea or I'll pass one along to you.

Has anyone here participated in Crown Ministries? It's a remarkably effective small group study that teaches people to apply the financial principles from the Word of God to their every day lives. I'd love to see the first Crown Ministries group at our church form soon.

Call me at 280-5141 if either of these sounds like God calling you.
-Pastor Jeff

In Prison

"I was in prison and you visited me." - Jesus (Mt 25:31). Jesus in an orange jumpsuit? These youth may not look like Jesus but they're certainly loved by Jesus. If you are interested in or want more information about visiting the St. John's Co.

Detention Facility on a Saturday morning, come to the church Wednesday, April 9th at 7:00 pm. for an informational meeting. You too will hear Jesus say, "As you did it to one of the least of these, you did it to me."

Attendance & Giving

	March		
	<u>Contemporary</u>	<u>Traditional</u>	<u>Giving</u>
3/2	92	100	\$ 9,035
3/9	79	58	3,772
3/16	90	82	4,651
3/23	99	76	5,302
3/30	91	94	3,891
Total	451	410	\$ 26,651
Sunday School (avg. weekly)			60
Avg. weekly giving YTD			\$ 5,986

Needed weekly
(after "new church" support)
\$ 5,114
Needed weekly
(before "new church" support)
\$ 12,548



A Note From Pastor Jeff:

I was reading about Gideon this week in Judges chapter 6. The angel of the Lord appears to Gideon and says, "The Lord is with you, you mighty warrior" and commissions him to deliver Israel from the Midianites. Gideon responds, "But how can I?" Gideon goes on to tell the angel that he is the least in his family and that his family is the least in the tribe of Manasseh. The Lord answers, "I will be with you, and you will strike down all the Midianites together."

It's pretty obvious that Gideon has never seen himself the way God sees him. "Mighty warrior" Huh!" Yet this does not deter God. The simple instruction to Gideon is to "Go in the strength you have." Gideon does go and as the story unfolds it becomes clear that whatever Gideon felt he lacked, God makes up for.

This is an encouraging story for those of us who don't feel up to the call that God places on our lives. If we could see ourselves as God sees us we'd probably be amazed and quick to say, "Yes, Lord." Even when we don't see ourselves with God's eyes we can still say Yes if we hear God saying what God said to Gideon: "I will be with you."

- Pastor Jeff

Upcoming

Messages:

April 6	Speaker: Diane Lee "Mirror Image" Col. 3:1-14	April 13	"Judas, How Could You?" Mk. 11:1-11, 14:1-11
April 11	Prayer & Praise Service "Dead Man Walking: Lazarus' Story" Jn. 11:1-44	April 17	"Death Passes Over" Ex. 12:1-14
		April 20	"Present and Accounted For" Jn. 20:1-18



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