

# THE WAVE



VOLUME 6, ISSUE 13

**JANUARY 2007**

## INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Missions Corner	2
Spotlight on Volunteers	2
Covenant Renewal Service	5
Note from Pastor Jeff	8

## *Preparing to Purchase Land*

We continue to move forward on the purchase of the beautiful five-acre site at 76 Roscoe Blvd S. The congregation gave its thumbs up on December 3; the Trustees are moving through the “due diligence” phase of the contract, further checking out the suitability of this parcel.

Our Finance Committee and the *Journey of Faith* capital campaign follow-up team request that those who are able fulfill their capital campaign commitment by February 1. If you did not pledge or have already fulfilled your commitment, please consider a gift (or further gift) to the Building & Property Acquisition Fund. The more we receive now, the less we will need to borrow. If enough comes in this month it may be possible to purchase the property without a mortgage and still have on hand the funds necessary to move the entire project forward.

If you're uncertain of the balance remaining on your pledge please contact our church accountant Jim Larsen ([jim.larsen@pv-umc.org](mailto:jim.larsen@pv-umc.org), 280-5141 x11). We pray that all who can will help in this endeavor. Thank you for your consideration and for your continued financial support through the capital campaign and your regular giving.

### OUR MISSION:

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



**PONTE VEDRA**  
*United Methodist Church*



## ***Upcoming Messages***

January 7 **“With You I am Well Pleased”** (Luke 3:15-22)

January 14 **“Water into Wine** (John 2:1-11)

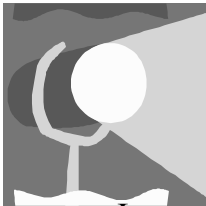
January 21 **“Body Life”** (1 Corinthians 12:12-31a)

January 28 **“You Hear It All the Time at Weddings”** (1 Corinthians 13:1-13)

## Wesley's Covenant Service

### The Giving Tree

We received 72 Publix gift cards totaling \$1,620 for BEAM (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry). Wow! These cards have been gratefully received by BEAM on behalf of their clients. They will especially come in handy for meeting needs beyond the food items normally stocked in BEAM's pantry, things like diapers and baby formula. Your giving makes a difference. Thank you!



### Spotlight on Volunteers

I am so happy to tell you about **Max Stanley**, a man who has served this church from the very beginning and is now in charge of all usher responsibilities along with Bill Walters for the 9:30am worship.

Max was born and raised in Davenport, Iowa. He went to college at The University of Iowa and while there spotted Sue driving around in her car with friends. Two years later, in 1976, they were married in the chapel at the University of Iowa by a Methodist minister, surrounded by best friends. Max has worked for Kone Elevators since 1971 which brought him and Sue to Jacksonville in September of 1981. Brenna, their daughter, was born here in October, 1982. His job then took him away to Dallas for 8 years but, when given the opportunity to return here, he jumped at it.

Max and Sue have been busy preparing for Brenna's December 30, wedding to Anthony White. Anthony's father is officiating at Beach United Methodist Church. We at Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church are very happy and blessed to have Max working hard every week for us. Thank you, Max!

— Robin Walters

### *A Word from Wesley*

And God's time is always the best time.

—*Works II, 148.*

# "A Journey of Faith" Followup

## CAPITAL CAMPAIGN STATUS

A Journey of Faith goal:	\$ 1.2 million
Pledged to Date:	\$ 1,311,921
Received on pledges to date:	\$ 707,171
Building Fund Total Balance:	\$ 893,759

Consider fulfilling your pledge early in support of the pending \$1,275,000 purchase of the South Roscoe Blvd property.

– Your Followup Director Team: David & Patricia Branham, Jim & Sherry Banks

## New Member Highlight

**Lynn and Will Spence** are so happy to have made PVUMC their home church and we are very glad they did. Their favorite thing to do is to travel the U. S. and Europe. The Spences never leave home without their workout clothes and tennis rackets. Sunday is church day no matter where they are visiting and when they are home in Ponte Vedra, thankfully, it is with us. Their second home is in Charleston, SC. This is a special place for them as it was there they met. Lynn Spence arrived from West Virginia via North Carolina and South Carolina and finally settled in Florida. She has two step children who are special to her heart. Will is North Carolina born and raised and has two children and four grandchildren who give him much joy. We welcome you, our new members and friends.

★The church office is open Tuesdays—Fridays from 10am—2pm.★

## December 2006 Giving & Attendance



Date	Contemp.	Trad.	General	Capital
12/3	88	85	\$ 10,029	\$ 1,435
12/10	150	150	\$ 13,376	\$ 33,020
12/17	100	123	\$ 1,1639	\$ 58,903
12/24 10am Combined	187		\$ 8,090	\$ 20,745
12/24 5pm	145		\$ 6,879	\$ 6,791
			combined 5pm & 7pm	combined 5pm & 7pm
12/24 7pm	117			

**Designated Totals**  
 Building Fund  
 \$ 943,759\*  
 Missions (YTD)  
 \$ 8,547  
 Enhancement Fund  
 \$ 3,691  
 \*includes \$50,000  
 deposit on land

Needed Weekly 2006  
 \$10,346



## Wesley's Covenant Service

On A Musical Note

The Children's and Youth  
Creative Arts Ministry

## The Children's Choir

The Children's Choir resumes meeting on Wednesday, January 10. Children ages 3 through 5<sup>th</sup> grade are welcome! Need Information? Contact **Anne Torgerson** (221-8057, [anne.torgerson@pv-umc.org](mailto:anne.torgerson@pv-umc.org)) or **Jill Bennett** (285-2134, [jill.bennett@pv-umc.org](mailto:jill.bennett@pv-umc.org)).

### Children's Choir

Ages 3&4

Grades K-5

Wednesdays 5:45-6:45pm

### YCAM

Grades 6-12

Wednesdays 5:45-8:00pm

### Praise Choir

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

### Traditional Choir

Thursdays 7:00-8:00pm

## I Have Seen The Light; The Search for Christmas

Compliments continue to roll in for our December 10 Christmas cantata, "I Have Seen the Light." Here are some comments we have read and heard from grateful people who were present:

- ★ *The Christmas cantata was great. Everyone involved really deserves a big "thank you."*
- ★ *The cantata was truly a gift to us all.*
- ★ *One of the best music services that most in our congregation have ever experienced during the Christmas season.*
- ★ *I love hearing the children sing with the adults.*
- ★ *The service was a Broadway hit!*

### DO YOU LIKE TO SING?

The **Contemporary Praise Choir** is looking for new members. With the coming of a new year, we look forward to an exciting 2007. So, if you are just a beginner or a choir veteran, we are looking for *you*. Practices are on Tuesday nights from 6:30 to 7:30, beginning January 2. So don't just sing in the shower, come on out and we'll lift our voices and sing praises to God together. For information call **Scott Tinsley** at 463-3791 or e-mail [Scott.Tinsley@pv-umc.org](mailto:Scott.Tinsley@pv-umc.org).

The **Traditional Choir** would love to have you join them. Rehearsals begin Thursday, January 4, 7-8pm. For information contact **Diane Wright** (992-9500, [Diane.Wright@pv-umc.org](mailto:Diane.Wright@pv-umc.org)) or simply come.

Well done, all who participated in this grand venture. You helped us focus on Christ's birth and challenged us to do more for his sake. Among your number are

Traditional Choir director: **Diane Wright**

Praise Choir director: **Scott Tinsley**

YCAM Youth Choir leader: **Adam Myers**

Children's Choir directors: **Jill Bennett, Anne Torgerson**

Sound & Lights: **Jimmy Samaras**

Narrators: **Yolie Macon, Adam Myers**

Drama director: **Anne Torgerson**

Set and costume design: **Kristen Bohner, Anne Torgerson**

Overall leadership: **Diane Wright**

**All who sang**

**All who acted**

**All who provided sets and set up, then restored, the chancel area**

Thank you, one and all!

## Covenant Renewal Service

A brand new year. A clean slate, waiting to be written upon. What better way to begin the year than to commit it and ourselves to God?

John Wesley devised a covenant renewal service for the people called Methodist. It was commonly held on New Year's Eve or Day. We will be including Wesley's service in our worship on January 7, the first Sunday of the year. A covenant is a solemn agreement, a mutual promise that we make with God. It would be good for you to take some time and read the covenant in advance, just as you would a legally binding agreement. You'll have opportunity to sign the covenant in worship. If you cannot be with us, consider signing the covenant now.

**C**ommit yourselves to Christ as his servants. Give yourselves to him, that you may belong to him. Christ has many services to be done. Some are more easy and honorable, others are more difficult and disgraceful. Some are suitable to our inclinations and interests, others are contrary to both. In some we may please Christ and please ourselves. But then there are other works where we cannot please Christ except by denying ourselves. It is necessary, therefore, that we consider what it means to be a servant of Christ. Let us, therefore, go to Christ, and pray:

**Let me be your servant, under your command. I will no longer be my own. I will give up myself to your will in all things.**

Be satisfied that Christ shall give you your place and work.

**Lord, make me what you will. I put myself fully into your hands: put me to doing, put me to suffering, let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you, let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing. I freely and with a willing heart give it all to your pleasure and disposal.**

Christ will be the Savior of none but his servants. He is the source of all salvation to those who obey. Christ will have no servants except by consent; Christ will not accept anything except full consent to all that he requires. Christ will be all in all, or he will be nothing. Confirm this by a holy covenant.

To make this covenant a reality in your life, listen to these admonitions:

First, set apart some time, more than once, to be spent alone before the Lord; in seeking earnestly God's special assistance and gracious acceptance of you; in carefully thinking through all the conditions of the covenant; in searching your hearts whether you have already freely given your life to Christ. Consider what your sins are. Consider the laws of Christ, how holy, strict, and spiritual they are, and whether you, after having carefully considered them, are willing to choose them all. Be sure you are clear in these matters, see that you do not lie to God.

## Wesley's Covenant Service

Secondly, be serious and in a spirit of holy awe and reverence.

Third, claim God's covenant, rely upon God's promise of giving grace and strength, so you can keep your promise. Trust not your own strength and power.

Fourth, resolve to be faithful. You have given to the Lord your hearts, you have opened your mouths to the Lord, and you have dedicated yourself to God. With God's power, never go back.

And last, be then prepared to renew your covenant with the Lord. Fall down on your knees, lift your hands toward heaven, open your hearts to the Lord, as we pray.

### *Covenant Prayer*

**O righteous God, for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, see me as I fall down before you. Forgive my unfaithfulness in not having done your will, for you have promised mercy to me if I turn to you with my whole heart.**

God requires that you shall put away all your idols.

**I here from the bottom of my heart renounce them all, convenanting with you that no known sin shall be allowed in my life. Against your will, I have turned my love toward the world. In your power I will watch all temptations that will lead me away from you. For my own righteousness is riddled with sin, unable to stand before you.**

Through Christ, God has offered to be your God again if you would let him.

**Before all heaven and earth, I here acknowledge you as my Lord and God. I take you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, for my portion, and vow to give up myself, body and soul, as your servant, to serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of my life.**

God has given the Lord Jesus Christ as the only way and means of coming to God.

**Jesus, I do here on bended knees accept Christ as the only new and living Way, and sincerely join myself in a covenant with him. O blessed Jesus, I come to you, hungry, sinful, miserable, blind, and naked, unworthy even to wash the feet of your servants. I do here, with all my power, accept you as my Lord and Head. I renounce my own worthiness, and vow that you are the Lord, my righteousness. I renounce my own wisdom, and take you for my only guide. I renounce my own will, and take your will as my law.**

Christ has told you that you must suffer with him.

**I do here covenant with you, O Christ, to take my lot with you as it may fall. Through your grace I promise that neither life nor death shall part me from you.**

God has given holy laws as the rule of your life.

**I do here willingly put my neck under your yoke, to carry your burden. All your laws are holy, just, and good. I therefore take them as the rule for my words, thoughts, and actions, promising that I will strive to order my whole life according to your direction, and not allow myself to neglect anything I know to be my duty.**

The almighty God searches and knows your heart.

**O God, you know that I make this covenant with you today without guile or reservation. If any falsehood should be in it, guide me and help me to set it aright. And now, glory be to you, O God the Father, whom I from this day forward shall look upon as my God and Father. Glory be to you, O God the Son, who has loved me and washed me from my sins in your own blood, and now is my Savior and Redeemer.**

**Glory be to you, O God the Holy Spirit, who by your almighty power has turned my heart from sin to God. O mighty God, the Lord Omnipotent, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, you have now become my Covenant Friend. And I, through your infinite grace, have become your covenant servant. So be it. And let the covenant I have made on earth be ratified in heaven. Amen.**

*You are advised to make this covenant not only in your heart, but in word; not only in word, but in writing. Therefore, with all reverence, lay the service before the Lord as your act and deed. And when you have done this, sign it. Then keep it as a reminder of the holy agreement between God and you that you may remember it during doubts and temptations.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

**FROM A GRATEFUL STAFF...**

Thank you, Ponte Vedra UMC, for blessing us with a generous Christmas gift. You are always quick to share words of encouragement; now comes this gift! You are indeed a generous people and we count it a privilege to serve Christ through serving you.

- Your pastor, staff & musicians

**INTERESTED IN JOINING PVUMC?**

Pastor Jeff will be offering a new member orientation on Sunday, January 21 from 4 - 6pm. It will be a great opportunity to learn more about our church and meet some other people along the way. There's no obligation to join but the orientation is required for membership. Let the office know you're coming (280-5141); childcare available upon request.

*A Note From*

*Pastor Jeff.*

## **Wesley's Covenant Service**

'Tis the season for making New Years resolutions. Now this is embarrassing. I made a single resolution last January, just one, and all of 2006 passed by without me fulfilling it. What's worse, I made it public in the January '06 edition of this newsletter. I vowed to practice my French Horn so that I could play in the Horn. (I even spent money to repair it!) I started out strong, got a bad cold in February, quit practicing "for awhile" and, you know how it goes. Sigh.

Now we're set to begin a new year. I still want to pull out the ol' French Horn but I'm going to invest my resolution-making energy on renewing my covenant with God and I invite you to do the same in church on January 7. (You can begin considering this covenant now; it's reprinted in this edition of *The Wave*.) Surely God will lead us in ordering our lives if we get our relationship with God right.

Blessings in the new year,

Pastor Jeff



**PONTE VEDRA**  
*United Methodist  
Church*

35 Executive Way, Suite 130  
Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082

Phone: 904-280-5141  
Fax: 904-280-0599  
[www.pv-umc.org](http://www.pv-umc.org)

#### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Jeff Bennett
Youth Minister	Adam Myers
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
Accountant	Jim Larsen
Music Contemporary	Scott Tinsley
Music Traditional	Diane Wright
Custodian	Tony Vicent

Staff Email:

[firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@pv-umc.org)