

# THE WAVE



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 9

SEPTEMBER 2010

## Church-wide Study to Begin October 3



What does the Bible say about eternity?

What lasts forever?

And what goes back in the box when the game of life is over?

October 3 we begin a church wide Bible study entitled “When the Game Is Over It All Goes Back in the Box” by John Ortberg.

Available are a supporting DVD for groups, a study guide and book that will take you through stories and verses of the Bible that teach us what lasts what doesn't. This month we're forming study groups to gather during the Sunday school hour and on other days and times at the church and in neighborhood homes.

The highest survey response from those participating in *40 Days of Love* last spring was that they liked getting to know those in their small group. So get in a group! It's a great way to make new friends and explore together what the Bible says about deeds of love and eternity.

## PVUMC to Charter September 26

Having reached an average adult attendance exceeding 225 and being self-supporting, Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church has been approved to charter during worship services on **Sunday, September 26**. Our district superintendent the Reverend Tim Smiley will preside over the chartering portion of the service. We'll celebrate the distance we've come and the future into which God is leading us. **If you'd like to be received as a charter member that day** read about the upcoming new member orientation, inside.

*Inside...*

*Mom to Mom begins Wednesday, September 15*

*New Pictorial Directory Coming!*

## Upcoming Messages

September 5 “**Why Illness? A Clue**” (John 9) *Healing Service*

– *Resume The Methodist Way series* –

September 12 **Salty Service: “The Salt of the Earth”** (Luke 4:16-21)

September 19 **Extravagant Generosity: “For God So Loved the World that He Gave”** (Luke 21:1-4)

September 26 **Passionate Worship: “Wake Me Up”** (Exodus 8:1)

### INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Missions Corner 2

New Pictorial Directory 3

Mom to Mom 6

H2O 11

### OUR MISSION:

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



**PONTE VEDRA**  
*United Methodist Church*

## Missions Corner

### Pastor Damián to Visit PVUMC in January



Plans are underway for a visit from the pastor of our sister church in Cuba (la Sierra), tentatively in January 2011. The U.S. government has approved his trip and we have applied for an exit permit with the Cuban government. Please pray for its approval. Pastor Damián's visit will provide an excellent opportunity for "prayer, love, exchange, and mutual support" between our churches (in keeping with the "Methodists United in Prayer" mission). Please remember those extra coins for "Change for Cuba" each Sunday!

### Ponte Vedra UMC Blood Drive



Please join us Sunday, **October 10, 9:00am - 12:30pm** for our blood drive. **Don Carson** can be reached at (904) 280-2893 to make an appointment. Don will also be available, starting September 19 after both worship services, in the foyer to sign up donors. Please note **The Blood Alliance has changed their policy on walk-ins**. In fairness to those individuals with appointments, walk-ins will only be accepted if there is an appointment slot open. So please make an appointment for a time that you will be available to donate. And remember, photo identification is required to donate.

Anyone who is in good health, at least 17 years old and weighs at least 110 pounds may donate blood every 56 days. We are currently in the 56 day window for our next drive, so **please don't give blood between now and October 10**. There is no upper age limit to donate, as long as your doctor says it is okay. Please help. One donation can save up to three lives!

### A Word from Wesley

I look upon all the world as my parish; thus far I mean, than in whatever part of it I am, I judge it meet, right, and my bounden duty to declare, unto all that are willing to hear, the glad tidings of salvation. This is the work which I know God has called me to. And sure I am that His blessing attends it.

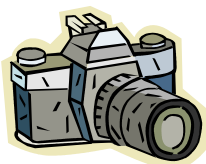
– Works XXV, 616.

## United Methodist Women

Operation Shoebox is an ongoing project. Members of the congregation who wish to donate items will find the donation box underneath the covered information table in the hallway by the nursery. Thank you for your continued support, every item helps!

The next United Methodist Women meeting will be held at the church on **Saturday, September 18 at 10:00am** upstairs in Room 207. All women are welcome and encouraged to attend, and bring a friend!

## New Pictorial Directory for PVUMC



It's time to create a new pictorial directory of our church. The best directory is a complete directory. **Schedule your portrait sessions online** through the Lifetouch link on our website [www.pv-umc.org](http://www.pv-umc.org). Photographers will be onsite

Thu, Oct 7: 2:30-9:00pm

Fri, Oct 8: 2:30-9:00pm

Sat, Oct 9: 9:30am-4:30pm

Thu, Oct 14: 2:30-9:00pm

Fri, Oct 15: 2:30-9:00pm

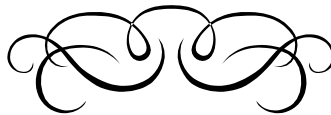
Have your photo taken and whether you buy photos or not, you'll receive a free copy of the new directory.

## Join PVUMC on Charter Sunday, September 26

Been thinking about joining Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church? Come to Pastor Jeff's **new member orientation** on **Sunday the 19<sup>th</sup> from 3:00 to 5:00pm**. No obligation to join if you come; some simply choose to use the opportunity to learn more about PVUMC. We'll be receiving our final group of charter members on Charter Sunday the 26th at either service. (What a great day to join!) Please let the office know ([susan.bowler@pv-umc.org](mailto:susan.bowler@pv-umc.org), 280-5141) if you plan to be with us on the 19<sup>th</sup> so we'll have materials for all.

## *Welcome, Ron Hovdestad!*

Staff Parish Relations Committee is pleased to announce that **Ron Hovdestad** has joined our staff as Custodian. Ron began attending our church while we were at Ocean Palms Elementary. He attends *9:30 Alive!* and is a part of the Thursday morning men's Bible study. Ron has served in the United States Navy (as Ron says, "we know how to clean"), has organized the Greater Jacksonville Cat Show, and has worked on numerous construction projects. (As a volunteer Ron roofed our shed this spring and has done other odd jobs; he's handy.) We're grateful for Ron's services while he furthers his education. Glad to have you aboard, Ron!



## *Thank you!*

To our friends and members of Ponte Vedra UMC,

We are deeply grateful for the comfort and hope you extended through your prayers and concern for my husband during his illness. Your thoughtfulness was truly demonstrative of the Christian love our Lord held so precious. With this Joe passed peacefully through death and, we believe, awoke in His presence to dwell with this love forever.

Sincerely,

Evelyn Vozza and the family of Joe Vozza

## *Disciple I Class to Begin Soon*

No matter where your feet are on your faith journey, you are invited to take part in **Disciple One: Becoming Disciples Through Bible Study**. This in-depth study of the Word of God begins with the Creation story in Genesis and continues through the Bible to the Book of Revelation. This course is designed to encourage individuals to live as Disciples of Christ by strengthening their faith and personal relationship with Him through The Word of God. Disciple One is structured as a continuum that requires sincere commitment to daily Scripture reading and weekly (Sunday) class attendance.

A fifteen minute **information/sign up class** will be held **Sunday, September 12** immediately following both *9:30 Alive!* and Traditions worship services downstairs in the future pre-school room on the first floor.

Willow Diane Lee

## *Wednesday Evening Bible Study*

Will your children be attending CIA or YCAM on Wednesday nights? We have an opportunity for you! A new small group Bible study will be offered at the church **Wednesdays from 6:00 to 7:30pm** beginning September 8. The study will be led by **John & Suzanne Joyner**. Bring a sack dinner if you like. First up will be a three week series “*Why Worry?*” exploring what the Bible teaches us about worry and how to conquer it. For more information or to join, contact **John** or **Suzanne Joyner** at [suzanne.joyner@pv-umc.org](mailto:suzanne.joyner@pv-umc.org) or call 608-5398.

## *Back to school...*

### *Have You Ever Been the New Kid in the Class?*

You just moved to town. Today’s your first day of school. You don’t know anyone. Everybody seems to know everybody. They are busy talking about their summer vacations and upcoming school activities.

You might be thinking what does this have to do with church? **Is the first day at a new school and visiting a church for the first time any different?** Not really. Everyone seems to know everyone. They are busy talking about their activities. You feel a little awkward. **Won’t you be the one to go up and give them a warm welcome?** Introduce yourself and find out something about them. What neighborhood do they live in? Who from our church lives there that you might introduce them to? Do they have children attending school? Where did they move from? Have they met Pastor Jeff? All of these are ways you can introduce them around and make them feel welcome.

We have been blessed with many guests since moving into our new building. We are anticipating even more with the start of school. Let’s all be on the lookout for new faces. **Remember, we are all part of God’s Hospitality Team!**

## *More thoughts on back to school...*

### *Prayer - The Binder That Hold Us All Together*

Whether you are in school or not, we all have many “subjects” that we deal with every day. Just as a school binder holds and organizes a student’s papers for the various subjects he or she takes, **prayer holds the Christian together**. What better way to start this new “school” year than rededicating yourself to the discipline of prayer? I want to tell you about two opportunities to expand your prayer life beyond your own personal quiet time. First, we have a **Tuesday morning** prayer group that meets from 10:00 to 11:00 in room 205. We lift up the needs of our church, our members, community, country and world. We have had the joy of seeing many answered prayers. The second is to become an e-pray-er. You can become part of this ministry by emailing [susan.bowler@pv-umc.org](mailto:susan.bowler@pv-umc.org). You will be e-mailed the prayer requests that the church receives. Please consider joining us in prayer ministry. You will receive a blessing and be a blessing to others!

Cecily Browning, Lay Leader

## Mom to Mom Wednesdays 9:30 - 11:30am, beginning September 15

*Mom to Mom* is a place where you can enjoy meeting other moms and listen to great speakers talking about relevant topics while your infant or preschool child is cared for in a loving, nurturing environment. Whatever your stage of motherhood, *Mom to Mom* will be there to nurture, equip and encourage you in forming relationships with God and each other.

*Mom to Mom* is for our moms and for moms throughout our community so spread the word! Oh, yes... **Please register online especially if you need childcare.**

<http://bigtent.com/groups/mom2mom>

We are grateful to **Shelley Marsh** ([mom2mom@pv-umc.org](mailto:mom2mom@pv-umc.org)) who leads this ministry at CrossRoad UMC for assisting our church in this endeavor.

*Mom to Mom* begins **Wednesday, September 15**, right here at Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church, 9:30 - 11:30am. There is no cost for the fall but (did we say this already?) please register.

The topic on the 15<sup>th</sup> will be *No Mom Is an Island*.

## Traveling Tuesdays



Traveling Tuesday Small Group will begin meeting again on Tuesday September 7. Contact **Dotty Rashba** at 273-0527 if you are interested in joining.

## Check out our Third Worship Service

With the help of their counselors, twice a month our youth put together a worship service at 11:00am upstairs in the youth room. (The other Sundays they enjoy Sunday School during that hour.) I had the opportunity to worship with them on August 8 and I liked what I experienced! Solid music (I recognized several of the Youth Creative Arts Ministries musicians), a cool video written, acted and produced by our youth, thought provoking questions for personal reflection and prayer. While the service is designed for youth, you're welcome to come check it out some Sunday.

Typically worship happens on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays, though in September many will be at *Rock the Universe* on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday. This month catch their service at 11:00am on September 5.

Whether gathering Sunday morning, Sunday night (H2O) or Wednesday night (YCAM), our church is blessed with awesome youth and awesome leaders of youth!

– Pastor Jeff

## Choir Retreat Weekend



Did you know that Christmas is right around the corner? Well for the choirs, it is. If you have enjoyed one of our cantatas and wondered how you could get involved, then come to our **retreat** on Friday, **September 10** at 6:00 and Saturday, **September 11**, starting at 9:00. It is great fun and wonderful fellowship. We have a potluck on Friday evening and the hospitality committee provides food on Saturday. The evening meal on Saturday is for the entire family.

This year we are doing *Voices of Christmas*, a wonderful cantata told through the eyes of Zechariah, Elizabeth, Simeon, Anna, and more. We would love to see you there. If interested, please contact **Diane Wright** at 716-7184.

## Hospitality Volunteers Needed



What can be more fun and fulfilling than serving up a great tasting, great looking meal to people you are close to? Hospitality volunteers do just that and more! You don't need cooking skills, just a willingness to help put events together and clean up when it's over. If you're looking to get involved, this is a great way to get to know people. To sign up or for more information call or email Phyllis Monie, 607-5976, [phyllis.monie@pv-umc.org](mailto:phyllis.monie@pv-umc.org), email [volunteer@pv-umc.org](mailto:volunteer@pv-umc.org) or Georgia deRoziere, 240-5313, [georgia.deroziere@pv-umc.org](mailto:georgia.deroziere@pv-umc.org).

## From the County... Provide a Home?

Dear Congregants,

The Family Integrity Program is responsible for finding permanency for St. Johns County's Children currently in Foster Care and under the State's supervision.

We currently have teen children, including sibling groups, in need of families.

Due to the age of these children, as well as their emotional, medical, and developmental needs we often have difficulty finding qualified caregivers and 'forever' homes for them.

We know that there are qualified families in Northern St. Johns County that have the special skills, determination, and stability needed to provide successful outcomes for adolescents and teens.

Our next Pre-service training for Foster/Adoptive Parents begins September 13.

If you have questions, or are interested in receiving further information, please call.

Thank you for your consideration,

Richard Zicht - Licensing Specialist

Family Integrity Program - (904) 209-6127

# *Financial Status*

## Building on Faith Recap as of August 2010

Project Cost	\$ 3.8 million
Campaign goal	\$ 1.3 million
Pledged to date (97 pledges)	\$ 1,526,434
Pledges received to date (78.45%)	\$ 1,197,600
Non-pledges received to date	\$ 134,605
General budget receipts	\$ 33,332
Interest income	\$ 12,851
Total received to date	\$ 1,378,388

## General Fund Recap July 2010

Tithes & Offerings	\$ 34,186
Expenses	\$ 52,260
Parsonage Mortgage	\$ 1,783
Net Income/(Deficit)	(\$19,857)

## Building Fund Recap as of August 30, 2010

Income	\$ 11,858
Paid on Principal	\$ 20,230
Expenditures	\$ 0
Balance	\$ 202,548

## *August 2010 Giving & Attendance*

Date	Contemp. Attendance	Traditional Attendance	General Fund Giving	Capital Fund Giving	Other Giving
8/1	83	94	\$5,717	\$ 3,081	\$ 2,222
8/8	120	116	7,286	\$ 840	\$ 346
8/15	124	121	\$13,729	\$ 3,087	\$ 1,050
8/22	122	119	\$ 8,674	\$ 3,935	\$ 323
8/29	126	154	4,282	914	165

### Designated Totals

Building Fund
\$ 210,603
Memorials
\$ 8,780
Enhancement Fund
\$ 469
General Fund
Needed Weekly 2010
\$ 11,395

Owed on Parsonage: \$172,432    Owed on Church Facility: \$2,643,700



## Campaign Followup

At 29 months into our 36-month *Building on Faith* capital campaign, we have received **78%** of funds pledged. Well done, church!

To those who have pledged to the *Building on Faith* capital campaign, please continue to give against those pledges. (And thank you very much for what you've given to date.) To those who have so freely given to the building fund outside the campaign, we thank you too!

At present we're required to pay interest; principal payments are optional. Beginning in January the balance of the loan will be amortized over 19 years and we will be paying both principal and interest. Every gift now given to *Building on Faith* or the building fund reduces the principal we owe as well as the interest we pay today *and* the interest we'll pay over the next 19 years.

While *Building on Faith* does not conclude until April 1, 2011, you who are able might consider prepaying the balance of your pledge to immediately reduce the principal of the loan and the interest due each month.

Those of you who have become a part of our congregation since the launch of the campaign two years ago, might you also give a special gift to reduce the debt? Designate your gift "Building Fund."

Above all, receive the thanks of a grateful church for each dollar given, many of which have been given sacrificially. And we thank and praise God who has brought us this far on our journey. While the building is now built, may God bless us to continue building his church.

– Your Followup Director Team: Jim Wynn, Dave & Patricia Branham

## Youth Mission Trips Report



Plan to stay for lunch at noon on Sunday the 19th to learn about our two summer youth mission trips. Free for mission trip stockholders and just \$2 for everyone else!



### On A Musical Note

#### **C.I.A. Children In Action**

Kindergarten through 5th Grade  
Wednesdays 6:00-7:30pm

#### **YCAM**

Grades 6-12  
Wednesdays 6:00-8:00pm

#### **Praise Choir**

Tuesdays 6:30-7:30pm

#### **Traditional Choir**

Thursdays 7:00-8:30pm

## Children's Corner



### Kingdom Kids

Kingdom Kids continues to grow! Each week children Kindergarten through Fifth Grade celebrate God's word through stories, games, crafts and music during the 9:30 and 11:00 worship service. Our new fall curriculum for each class begins on September 5. We have several individuals who have volunteered to lead classes during this time. They are:

9:30 (K-2) – Joyce Agent, Susan Merrill, Zack Murta

(3 -5) – Lisa Hancock, Kyle Hancock,  
Georgia de Roziere

11:00 (K-2) – Mary Slaton

Jill Bennett

(3 – 5) – Nancy Noble

We are still looking for volunteers to assist at 11:00. If you would like to serve the children of PVUMC as an assistant teacher, please contact **Anne Torgerson** at [anne.torgerson@pv-umc.org](mailto:anne.torgerson@pv-umc.org).



## C.I.A. (Children In Action) Update



It's almost time for C.I.A. (Children in Action) to resume operations! This is a call for all children kindergarten through fifth grade to dust off their golden gloves, pack their bags (lunch bags, that is) and gather every Wednesday beginning September 8. **We will meet at 6:00pm** to enjoy a sack supper and then we'll get to work on games, projects and super special missions! All operations will be concluded at 7:30 pm.

Our first unit of action, "**Faith Unseen - The C.I.A. Science Lab at Work**", will run from September 8 through October 20. For questions and registration, please contact **Anne Torgerson** or e-mail [volunteer@pv-](mailto:volunteer@pv-umc.org)

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

**LAB NOTE:** We are looking for a few adult and youth Lab Assistants to help with experimentation during these weeks. If you feel called to work with test tubes (and children) please contact **Anne**

**Torgerson** at [anne.torgerson@pv-umc.org](mailto:anne.torgerson@pv-umc.org).



## Round Of Applause

- 👍 For all of our church family who supported us in our summer mission trips
- 👍 For Ashley Sabol, Reid Johnson, and Yolie Macon, our mission trip chaperones
- 👍 For our middle school mission trip participants

## Upcoming Events

**Rock the Universe!** September 10-12. \$90/person. We will meet by 5:00pm at the church and head to Orlando for a weekend of Christian music, amusements, and don't forget HARRY POTTER WORLD! Space is limited and a deposit of \$40 is required to hold you spot. Deposits are due to Kelly by September 1. (Senior High Only!)

***See you at the pole*** Wednesday, September 22. Every year, students around the world gather at their school flagpoles on the third Wednesday in September. They gather to pray for their schools, their communities, and the spiritual health of their country and their leaders, in obedience to 1 Timothy 2:1-2. Hence, the location and name of the event! For information about how to get involved at your school, see Kelly.

**Are you a stock holder?** Mark your calendar for September 19. We will have our stock holder's lunch after the 11:00am worship service. Come hear about our trips and how we encountered God. Not a stock holder? That's alright! For a donation of \$2 (\$10 family cap) you can come and hear it too.

**Mission 2011 Family Meeting** Sunday, October 10 4:30pm - 5:30pm in the youth room. Every year we invite our families to take part in our mission trip planning, beginning with the date and location. Please come out, bring your parents and your calendars.



## *A Note From Pastor Jeff:*

I often ride my bicycle for exercise. My route includes the long sidewalk down A1A which I share with walkers and runners. When I come up behind someone I'm in the habit of shouting "On your left," or "Coming around on your left" so they're not startled when I pass.

This practice isn't very effective these days because most people never hear me. I often see the signs as I approach: Thin white wires coming out of the ears... iPod. (I once scared the bejeebers out of one walker. Despite my shout, she never heard me coming.)

This has got me thinking about whether the noise of my life keeps me from hearing God. Maybe I'm playing my own music so loudly that I can't hear God whispering into my life. God is no more likely to scream at us than I am to mount an air horn on my bicycle for the benefit of runners. (God isn't rude.) Maybe I'd better tone down my schedule and create some quiet spaces so I can hear the whispers.

How noisy is your life? Take a little break today for some peace and quiet.

– Pastor Jeff



### **PONTE VEDRA** *United Methodist Church*

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#### CHURCH STAFF

Pastor	Jeff Bennett
Youth Minister	Kelly Minter
Children's Coordinator	Lynn Straughan
Nursery Coordinator	Kim Knopp
Admin. Assistant	Susan Bowler
Accountant	Jim Larsen
Music Contemporary	Scott Tinsley
Music Traditional	Diane Wright
Custodian	Ron Hovdestad

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