

THE WAVE



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 10

OCTOBER 2010

Church-wide Study Now Beginning!

What does the Bible say about eternity?

About what lasts forever?

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

This month features the church-wide study “**When the Game Is Over It All Goes Back in the Box**” based on a book by the same name. Well over 100 have signed on for the small group component of the study. If you’re not among them you haven’t missed the boat. Just show up at one of the groups listed at pv-umc.org/groups. You’ll be welcomed warmly... You’re just the person they’ve been looking for!

Smile!



It’s time for a new **pictorial directory** of our church. Please schedule a portrait session through the Lifetouch link on our website www.pv-umc.org or by calling Susan in office (280-5141). Times are available **Oct 7, 8, 9 and 14, 15**. Have your photo taken and whether you order any photos or not, you’ll receive a free copy of the new directory. You don’t need to be a member to be in the directory. And yes, pets are welcome!

Bring a can of food and receive \$5 off any photos you order!

Inside...

Wednesday Mom to Mom topics for October

For kids by adults: Trunk or Treat!

... and much, much more.

Upcoming Messages

October 3 **When the Game Is Over, It All Goes Back in the Box** (Matthew 6:19-20)

October 10 **Keeping Score Where It Really Counts** (Philippians 3:7-16)

October 17 **Resign as Master of the Board** (Matthew 16:24-27)

October 24 **Calling or Comfort? Choose Your Moves Wisely** (Daniel 1)

October 31 **Playing the Game with Greatness and Grace** (1 Cor 9:24-27, 2 Tim 4:7-8)

November 7 **The King Has One More Move** (Mt 28:1-7, 1 Pe 1:3-5, Mt 25:21)

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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

B.E.A.M. Food Drive October 31

B.E.A.M. grocery bags will be distributed on Sunday, October 24. Please purchase your groceries to share with needy families and bring them on Sunday, October 31. The Top 10 most needed items for families served by BEAM (Beaches Emergency Assistance Ministry) are: soup (including ramen noodles), mac and cheese, jelly, peanut butter, spaghetti/tomato sauce, canned fruit, pasta, baked beans, tuna/canned meats and instant mashed potatoes. Thank you for serving our neighbors in need!

Make a Change With Your Change



Remember that all loose coins placed in the collection plate go to our Cuba sister church mission ministry.

"*Change for Cuba*" is our opportunity to clean out our pockets and pocket-books weekly, putting those pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters to great use in God's kingdom. (Remember that the average monthly wage in Cuba is \$15).
August collection: \$73.50 Year to date balance: \$307.84. Thank you!

Youth Summer Mission Trips 2010

Our thanks to the youth for sharing their summer mission trips with us and treating us to a wonderful lasagna dinner on September 19. We'd like to share this thank you received from TEAMEffort for the work of our middle school team:

Dear Ponte Vedra Family,

TEAMEffort wants to thank your church for sending the youth to serve on a mission trip in Myrtle Beach. They represented your church well as they converted a race car trailer into an office for C.O.R.E.; you can be proud of their accomplishments. It was exciting to see your youth put their faith into action. Because of their works, lives were changed and will be changed in the future. The TEAMEffort staff thanks you for sending your youth and supporting them on their mission trip. We enjoyed serving alongside them.

A Word from Wesley

Nothing can be more simple, nothing more rational, than the Methodist discipline; it is entirely founded on common sense, particularly applying the general rules of Scripture. Any person determined to save his soul may be united (this is the only condition required) with them. But this desire must be evidenced by three marks: avoiding all known sin, doing good after his power, and attending all the ordinances of God.

Ponte Vedra UMC Blood Drive



We're getting close, but there is still time to sign up in advance. The next Ponte Vedra UMC blood drive is **Sunday, October 10 from 9:00am to 12:30pm**. Walk-ins are gladly accepted but only if there is an available slot. Now is the time to guarantee your place with the blood mobile. Call **Don Carson** at 280-2893 or e-mail him at don.carson@pv-umc.org to make an appointment. Don will also be available October 3 after both services in the church foyer to sign up donors.

Anyone who is in good health, at least 17 years old and weighs at least 110 pounds may donate blood. There is no upper age limit to donate, as long as your doctor says it is okay. Please help. Remember, One donation can save up to three lives. Please bring a photo ID.

Operation Christmas Child

Operation Christmas Child brings joy and hope to children in desperate situations around the world through gift-filled shoeboxes and the Good News of God's love. This program of Samaritan's Purse provides an opportunity for people of all ages to be involved in a simple, hands-on mission project while focusing on the true meaning of Christmas-Jesus Christ, God's greatest gift. Along with shoebox gifts, millions of children are given Gospel booklets in their own language.

Our church will once again be sponsoring this mission by filling shoeboxes for the children. **Collections will be received Sunday, November 14.** For more information visit <http://www.samaritanspurse.org>

My Small Group

There are numerous reasons I enjoy our small group. The main one is that I get insight on the Bible and God that I hadn't thought about. I wouldn't have thought about it if the person hadn't come with the question or answer from the direction they did. I also cherish the relationships that we have developed over time. Our group is more than family. They are a main part of our life.

Thank You!

Many thanks to Corrine & Clyde Garrison, Scott & Traci Rosenstein, Shelley Marsh, Mary Brandt, Ann Krawiec, Celeste Green, Carolee Smith, Phil, Georgia, Austen, Cady and Lexi deRoziere, Barb Bowker, Kelly Minter, Kelly's roommate Jen Kocher, Tucker Holland, Ashley Sabol, Dori Schaffield and Bev Schaffield for handing out 525 bottles of cold water to beach goers at Micklers Landing on Labor day. Also, special thanks to Nancy Mingus and Dona Prall, who chilled and delivered water, Don Carson and Cecily Browning who lent us coolers, and Steve and Angela Shepp, who purchased the water and delivered it to the church. This has become a Labor Day tradition for us and we look forward to Labor Day 2011.

-- Bev Schaffield

October is Clergy Appreciation Month

This is the perfect time to commit to praying for and encouraging our pastor, Jeff Bennett, on a regular basis. Focus on The Family and the National Day of Prayer Task Force began Clergy Appreciation Month in 1993 with an effort to recognize ministers across the United States.

Sometimes pastors are the loneliest people in the church. Often their hours are long and unscheduled, the pay is modest, the criticism considerable and constant, they must be good listeners and sit and pray with people in the most difficult times of their lives. So below are some ways that we as a congregation can show love not only in the month of October, but year-round to our Pastor Jeff.

- ◆ Write a note telling our pastor how good a particular sermon was or just drop him a humorous card for no other reason than to brighten his day.
- ◆ Pray daily for Pastor Jeff, his wife Jill and children, Abby, Sophie and Spencer.
- ◆ Keep criticisms constructive. Remember, unlike most of us who are evaluated in our jobs once or twice a year, preachers are often critiqued weekly after each worship service.
- ◆ Invite others to church and tell people about our church. Nothing says “The pastor is doing a good job” louder than talking up our church.
- ◆ Offer your skills and services when our pastor calls on you to help in carrying out our church’s mission.

This year at PVUMC the Staff Parish Relations Committee would like to recommend to our congregation that we make a special effort to recognize Jeff as he works on our behalf to keep God and Jesus Christ central to our daily lives through our church and its many programs. Thank you!

Carol Harding

Staff Parish Relations Committee Chairperson

My Small Group

By Thursday morning, last Sunday's message has become buried in my mind by a mountain of email, phone calls, problems and other distractions. Our small group has given me a mid-week refocus on what really matters. I am slowly but surely learning to put God first (though there is plenty of work yet to be done).

PVUMC Church Conference, October 17 at 7:00pm

Now that we're a chartered United Methodist Church each fall we will have a meeting called **church conference** at which we'll elect officers for our church and set the pastor's compensation. Meeting with us at **7:00pm on Sunday, October 17** will be Beach UMC, Christ-Neptune Beach and Isle of Faith. Our praise band and choir will lead us in worship; our district superintendent Rev. Tim Smiley will bring the message. Refreshments to follow!

Becoming A Chartered Church

Looking back with thankfulness

Looking forward with anticipation

Sunday, September 26 was a major milestone in the life of our church. What started as a mission of Beach United Methodist Church eight years ago culminated on that day with Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church becoming a fully chartered United Methodist Church. Thank you to the members of Beach UMC who had the vision and supplied the resources to start our church. Thank you to our pastor, staff and all the dedicated individuals who have given of their time, talent and treasure to get us to this point. We could not have done it without the guidance and support of the NE District's Committee on New Church Development. Most of all, **we thank our God who has so faithfully supplied all of our needs in the process.** It has indeed been a "Journey of Faith."

What does being a chartered church mean? Decisions about our church that needed to be approved by the Committee on New Church Development will now be made at the church level. We will also have a church council to conduct the business of the church according to The Book of Discipline of the United Methodist Church.

Our journey is far from over. To quote the lyrics from an old song "we've only just begun..." I am excited about discovering what God has in store for our church. Whether you have been a member since the church's inception or just joined on the 26th, you are here as part of God's grand design. He has a special place for you to grow spiritually and serve Him. **My challenge to you** is to discover what place that is. We are all the body of Christ and we need every member to do their part to fulfill God's plan.

It is my prayer that PVUMC will be a place **where people meet Christ and their lives are changed.** I have heard it said that **the local church is the hope of the world.** I believe that it is true. I am looking forward with anticipation to the days ahead. May God continue to bless us as we grow and serve together.

Cecily Browning
Lay Leader

My Small Group

A small group is where you really are known and connected to the church. You can attend a worship service on and off for a period of time and may not be noticed. When you are in a small group, you are *missed* when you are not there! It is a place where you can grow spiritually as you study The Word together. Through prayer, you share each other joys and concerns. You know that someone will always be there for you and you for them.

Pecans to Benefit Hart Felt Ministries

It's that time of year again. Ponte Vedra UMC is selling delicious pecans, at a reasonable cost, as a fundraiser for Hart Felt Ministries. The pecans are shelled naturally fresh and would make excellent gifts for Christmas or for your own personal enjoyment. Order forms are available in the Sunday bulletins. Please complete the order form, attach a check made out to Hart Felt Ministries or cash and place it in the offering plate. Please turn in all orders by Sunday, October 24. We are hoping delivery will be before Thanksgiving, depending on the weather and crops. If you have questions call **Suvan Shine**, 273-9667.



Saturday, October 30, 2010

6 – 8 pm

PVUMC Parking Lot

The Ponte Vedra United Methodist Church Children's Council invites you to join us for our first Trunk or Treat event! This is a unique way to trick or treat by going "trunk to trunk" in a family friendly, festive atmosphere. Individuals or groups can sign up to decorate the trunk of their car, truck or SUV and provide candy to the little ghosts, goblins and princesses. The fun will include prizes for the best decorated trunks, hotdogs to eat, a bouncy house, face painting and crafts, a scarecrow patch and a canned food drive for B.E.A.M.!

How can you help with the Trunk or Treat event? Register your vehicle for the event, pick a theme for your trunk (for example: pirates, cartoons, camping, Jaguars, 70's Disco) and have fun decorating!

- Donate candy for trunk or treaters!
- Design a scarecrow to put in the scarecrow patch!
- Volunteer to help with set up or clean up!
- Volunteer to help cook or serve hotdogs and drinks!
- Volunteer to help collect the food donations for B.E.A.M.!
- Volunteer to help with crafts or games!
- Volunteer to take photos of the event!
- Get your costume ready (nothing too scary, please)!

Invite your friends and neighbors to join in the fun!

For more information contact Anne Torgerson at anne.torgerson@pv-umc.org or volunteer at volunteer@pv-umc.org.

My Small Group

I enjoy the bonding (and occasional laughter) in our group. It is fun to share common questions, interests, and concerns. And I've made new friends.

Welcome, New Members!

On Chartering Sunday, September 26 we received into membership;



(Left to right) For the last five years, **Sheila Epperson** has been active in our church as a vocalist in the *9:30 Alive!* praise band. **Mary Ann Brandt** has lived in Ponte Vedra for 2 years and in Jacksonville for 4 years prior to that. She likes to run, kayak and enjoys other outdoor activities. **Traci & Scott Rosenstein** have been in Ponte Vedra for 6 years and are so happy to have found a church home at PVUMC. **Kristi & Jon Awad** have been in Jacksonville 23 years and Ponte Vedra Beach for 3 years. Jon is a Senior Portfolio Manager for UBS and coaches Pop Warner football. Kristi enjoys building stained glass windows. Kristi and Jon have three children **Alex, Spencer and Jillian**.



(Left to right) **Jim & Anne Kitchens** have lived in Ponte Vedra for 22 years and have been attending PVUMC for 3 years. Both are retired after careers in the public school system. **Stephanie Lansdale** and her daughter **Alexis** moved here from Naples, Florida approximately 18 months ago. They love to go to the beach. **Carolee Smith** is a member of the Inquirers Class. She is active in the UMC and Mission House, and will be participating in a 12 week study with Hart Felt Ministries. Carolee recently enjoyed handing out water at the beach on Labor Day. **Natalie Loughran** is new to our area and is enjoying meeting new people. She enjoys cooking and spending time with her grand children. **Mike & Lisa Middleton** have lived in Ponte Vedra for one year. Lisa has been active in the Ladies Thursday Morning Bible Study and their children **Virginia** and **John** attend Landrum Middle School. **Jean & Carl Lusted** have lived in our area for 12 years and enjoy tennis and golf.

Financial Status

Building on Faith Recap as of September 2010

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------|
| Project Cost | \$ 3.8 million |
| Campaign goal | \$ 1.3 million |
| Pledged to date (97 pledges) | \$ 1,526,434 |
| Pledges received to date (79.5%) | \$ 1,213,563 |
| Non-pledges received to date | \$ 139,610 |
| General budget receipts | \$ 33,332 |
| Interest income | \$ 2,293 |
| Total received to date | \$ 1,388,798 |

General Fund Recap August 2010

| | |
|----------------------|-----------|
| Tithes & Offerings | \$ 39,686 |
| Expenses | \$ 42,362 |
| Parsonage Mortgage | \$ 1,660 |
| Net Income/(Deficit) | (\$4,334) |

Building Fund Recap as of September 29, 2010

| | |
|-------------------|------------|
| Income | \$ 20,968 |
| Paid on Principal | \$ 21,000 |
| Expenditures | \$ 0 |
| Balance | \$ 200,705 |

September 2010 Giving & Attendance

| Date | Contemp. Attendance | Traditional Attendance | General Fund Giving | Capital Fund Giving | Other Giving |
|------|---------------------|------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|
| 9/5 | 100 | 110 | \$9,375 | \$ 4,034 | \$ 362 |
| 9/12 | 119 | 127 | \$10,854 | \$ 695 | \$ 153 |
| 9/19 | 124 | 118 | \$7,697 | \$10,640 | \$ 4,208 |
| 9/26 | 146 | 167 | \$ 7,817 | \$ 5,590 | \$ 312 |

Designated Totals

| | |
|--------------------|------------|
| Building Fund | \$ 200,705 |
| Memorials | \$ 11,635 |
| Enhancement Fund | \$ 1,822 |
| General Fund | |
| Needed Weekly 2010 | \$ 11,395 |

Owed on Parsonage: \$170,638 Owed on Church Facility: \$2,793,338

My Small Group

Our DISCIPLE I class was the best small group experience I ever had!! Our group was made up of all women in various stages of life. Each class started with an ice-breaker style question that related to our scripture lesson. Through these questions, we got to know a lot about each other!! We learned so much through our homework and Willow's teaching us The Word. It was never a lecture. Instead, Willow knew just the right insight to share and probing questions to ask. Our discussion increased our knowledge of the Bible but more importantly it grew our faith in God.

Willow is leading a new DISCIPLE I class at 9:30 Sunday mornings, beginning October 3rd. Space is available but plan to begin right away!



Campaign Followup

At 30 months into our 36-month *Building on Faith* capital campaign, we have received nearly **80%** 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

My Small Group

I truly enjoy learning from the Bible, both spiritually and intellectually. I find it fascinating and inspiring. I've always enjoyed reading, but I have now added Christian books to my reading list.

United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women would like to invite all women of the church to attend the next UMW meeting **Saturday, November 13 at 10:00am**. Feel free to bring a snack to share and by all means, bring a friend or two!



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

Where can you **eat** a burning bush or a golden coin? Where do you go when you want to **make** a king's crown or a judge's gavel or a cell phone made of soap? Where can you find people that will let you **act** like a sheep or a character from bible times? Who do you turn to when you want to **hear** all of God's great stories? Why, Kingdom Kids, of course!

Kingdom Kids is for all children in Kindergarten through Fifth Grade. We meet every Sunday during the 9:30 and 11:00 worship services directly following Children's Time in church. Come and see what our fabulous crew of teachers has planned for you!

WHAT IF....

What if you're not in Kindergarten through Fifth Grade? What if you're OLDER than a fifth grader but you've read about the above programs and you're thinking . . . "I wish I could make a scarecrow, or make a minor lab explosion or act like a character from Bible times!" If so, GOOD NEWS! Volunteers are always welcome at any of our programs! Don't miss out on these great opportunities to learn about God! For more information on any of the Children's Ministry programs at PVUMC, you may contact Anne Torgerson at anne.torgerson@pv-umc.org.

C.I.A. Science Briefs

C.I.A. (Children In Action) is well under way! Children in Kindergarten through Fifth Grade have been meeting every Wednesday evening from 6 to 7:30 pm to enjoy a sack supper and explore God's awesome world and word through science experiments in our C.I.A. Science Lab. There's always room at the supper table and under the microscope so come join the fun! Our unit ***Faith Unseen, God's Creation at Work*** will end October 20.

Make a Gift, Be a Gift, Receive a Gift is the theme for our next C.I.A. unit. We begin gifting operations on October 27 when we build scarecrows for the upcoming Trunk or Treat event. We will conclude the unit on December 15 with Dinner in Bethlehem. In between we'll plan a Thanksgiving Dinner for a family in need, make some special Christmas gifts for our families and practice music for the upcoming Christmas Cantata! Don't miss the joy we'll spread, share and receive!



Round Of Applause

- 👍 For our amazing hospitality committee, and all of their hard work on our back to school bash
- 👍 For Ruth and Tom Murta, and their help with our stock holder's lunch
- 👍 For all of our church family that supported our lunch!

Upcoming Events

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!

Middle School Retreat! Friday, October 15 (7:00pm) – Saturday, October 16 (2:00pm) at the church. If you are in middle school, grab some friends and come out for our middle school only retreat! \$10/person, bring over night stuff, and be prepared to find out what God's definition of "cool" is! Sign up outside the youth room or online!

Mission Sunday Sunday, October 17. We will be making lunches from 11:00am - Noon (during the Sunday school hour) and then handing them out from Noon - 2:00pm.

District retreat! We will be joining our district youth retreat for one day, to check it out! Saturday, November 6, we will head to Epworth by the Sea in Georgia. \$15/person to cover your food, sign up outside the youth room!

Mom to Mom

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. Meetings are **Wednesdays, 9:30 - 11:30am**. Upcoming topics are:

October - 6 Surviving (and Thriving) in the Barnacle Stage and Beyond

13 When You're Running on Empty: A Great Place to Start

20 Taming the Top 10 Marriage Monsters

27 Sibling Sanity: Oxymoron or Opportunity?

November - 3 Guest Speaker

10 Three Gifts I'd Like to Give Every Mom

17 The Crucial Connection: Parent's Ultimate Power Source

December - 1 Share Your Wares

8 Christmas Party

A Note From Pastor Jeff:

One of the favorite parts of my week is the small group Bible study I'm a part of. It's not because of the donuts, though I do enjoy them! It's the guys in the group. Every Thursday morning we dive into what God is saying to us through the Bible. Along the way we laugh, share our perspectives on life, and pray for each other. It's a great group. We use a straightforward study guide and George Reed does a bang up job leading us.

I'd like for everybody in our church to know the blessing of a group like the one I'm in. The good news is, there's a group for everyone! Some meet mornings, others in the evening... We even provide childcare for the Wednesday 6pm group.

If you've not yet signed on with a group, check the small groups list online and commit to coming just for the six weeks of the church-wide study, if you like. Men, if you're available at 8am on Thursdays, consider yourself invited to the men's Bible study, upstairs in the church building. We'll save you a donut.

– Pastor Jeff



PONTE VEDRA *United Methodist Church*

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CHURCH STAFF

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Pastor | Jeff Bennett |
| Youth Minister | Kelly Minter |
| Children's Minister | Anne Torgerson |
| 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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