



Port Orange
 United Church of Christ
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April 2023

SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Thought for the Month

“If we make our goal to live a life of compassion and unconditional love, then the world will indeed become a garden where all kinds of flowers can bloom and grow.” - Elizabeth Kubler-Ross



As I write this, it is officially the first day of spring! Living “up north” all of my life until a few years ago this was the time of year that I

loved the most when the trees began to blossom with that new shiny color of green. I always marveled at how many shades of green it takes to make up all the trees, grass and plants on earth. Coming from the Green Mountain state of Vermont, I always felt blessed to get to see the greatness of God’s creation reflected in the majesty of those Mountains. The wonder of this always caused me to stop and thank the Lord who created such a splendor for me to enjoy and appreciate. There’s an old legend from Yugoslavia that tells of four angels who witnessed creation. Each angel had a very different way of responding to what they saw based on the way they viewed life in general. The story goes like this: The first angel observed God’s handiwork in awe and said: “Lord, your creation is beautiful! How did you do it?” That’s the worldview of a scientist. The second angel observed in awe and said: “Lord, your creation is beautiful! Why did you do it?” That’s the worldview of a philosopher. The third angel observed in awe and said: “Lord, your creation is beautiful! Can I have it?” That’s the worldview of a materialist. Finally the fourth angel observed in awe and said: “Lord, your creation is beautiful? Can I help?” That’s the worldview of God’s faithful. [Windows to Truth, April/May/June 1992). Cited in James W. Moore, Some Things Are Too Good Not To Be True (Nashville: Dimensions or Living, 1994)] This reminds me, in many ways, of how we each respond differently to our world. Often we view the same event and leave with an entirely different way of applying it to our life. I hope that I am more like the fourth angel in how I live my life; but each and every day is a challenge to live it faithfully given all the temptations we are confronted with on a daily basis.

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Staff

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Patricia Holcomb

Office Manager:

Kathy Shaffner

Custodian:

Ronnie Servant

Thrift Store Manager:

Bob & Jackie Gaither

Media Communications:

Bob Brewster



I trust you will find the path for your life in this season of new birth as we approach Easter and remember the death and resurrection of our Savior, Jesus Christ. Know that my husband, Alan and I, are excited to be here with you in Port Orange. As we looked for a home here, we certainly welcomed the assistance of a number of you. We are especially grateful to Bob and Ruth Brewster, Barbara Boon, Barbara and Art Horton, and the members of the Church Council to name a few. Their assistance has been invaluable. God has certainly sent us to a church and community with a heart and soul for sharing and hospitality. I thank you all for welcoming us with such love and care. I look forward to getting to know each of you more as I become more familiar with Port Orange and the church in the next few months. May you truly be a blessing to God in everything you say and do.

Blessings,

Pastor Pat

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE



This month, we celebrate Easter with an early Sunrise Service at 7:00 AM and a 2nd service at 9:30AM. Both services are very meaningful but there is always something special about seeing the sun rising in the East while praising the gift Jesus gave to us for life after this life. Our church in some respects is experiencing a bit of a resurrection with the spiritual renewal brought to us by Pastor Pat Holcomb and in the interim by Pastor Bill Dunlap. As a church family consisting of members and friends, we come together both to worship and to see how we are all doing in our lives. This important sharing during our services even though short in duration, and its importance cannot be overstated. Here's a goal for us to achieve – let's all work to increase this circle of caring for each other by inviting others to join us .

Prayerfully submitted, *Bob Brewster, Moderator*

LENTEN & EASTER SERVICES



Sunday, April 2nd — 9:30 AM— Palm Sunday— Combined Service of Worship with distribution of palms and Holy Communion.

Thursday, April 6th — 6:00 PM — Maundy Thursday Soup & Bread Supper & Tenebrae Service in the Jim Reed Room. Holy Communion will be celebrated.



April 9h — 7:00 AM — 41st Annual Sunrise Service here at the Church — and the 9:30 AM Sanctuary Service. Holy Communion will be celebrated.

EASTER FLOWERS: See the sign-up sheet circulated at Worship Service. Please note if your flower donation is “In Memory Of” or “In Honor Of” Loved One(s), put your name on the bottom and deliver your flower(s) to the Jim Reed Room no later **Wednesday, April 5th.**



OPERATION AND FINANCE TEAM REPORT

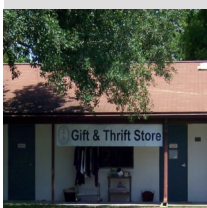
Financial Update - Operational Budget as 2/28/2023



	<u>FEBRUARY ACTUAL</u>	<u>YTD ACTUAL</u>	<u>YTD BUDGET</u>	<u>YTD DIFFERENCE</u>
Income	\$ 12,854.10	\$ 26,104.65	\$ 18,666.02	\$ 7,438.63
Expenses	\$ 7,885.0	\$ 23,514.38	\$ 26,022.58	\$ 2,508.20
Balance	\$ 4,968.60	\$ 2,590.27	\$ (7,355.78)	\$ 9,946.83

We had a profit of just under \$5,000.00 due to the Thrift Store being over budget in excess of \$3,000.00 for the month of February and because we were \$1,200.00 under budget in expenses for the month (no costly projects going on during this period). We are truly blessed to have the income from the Store to support our Church's Mission and we are very fortunate to have Pastor Pat Holcomb back with us. Respectfully Submitted, *Barbara Horton, Treasurer*

THE GIFT & THRIFT STORE



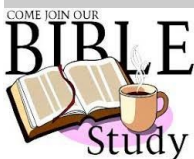
The Thrift Store continues to thrive in sales, donations and customers. In fact, our customers have increased to 70 per day. We are blessed to have a great group of volunteers who work tirelessly to help our patrons which in turn helps us to help the Church and the community. Thanks to all! *Jackie & bob Gaither, Managers*

FOOD BASKET SUNDAY

Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. As a reminder, **April 2nd is our next collection day.** Over 38 bags of food were collected last month which benefited Halifax Urban Ministries. Thanks to Chuck Konopsky and Mary Ann Stewart for delivering the food. **Please make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates.**



BIBLE STUDY



POUCC "Wired Word" Bible Study will always be held on the **1st and 3rd Sunday** of each month at **11:00 AM.** (right after church service 9:30 a.m. to 10:30 am). They will be held at the Henderson home (5961 Broken Bow Lane, Port Orange, 32127) only 2 minutes from the church. Snack luncheon provided.

April 2nd 2023 1st Sunday Lesson (When to give anonymously or openly to let your light shine)

April 16, 2023- 3rd Sunday lesson (What is Imprecatory prayer?)

*Easter is a time of love,
A time of grief and pain undone,
So we may know the power of
The love that lives in everyone.
Each love we feel, each love we know,
Redeems what would to darkness go.*



Happy Birthday!



APRIL BIRTHDAYS*

Shelia Fisher	4/1
Kurt Rice	4/6
Patricia Kirkley	4/8
Alice Lynn Feldman	4/9
Louise Johnson	4/18

Note: *Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your special date .



PRAYER REQUESTS*

Charlie & Molly Baskin	Members of POUCC
Beth & Chris Brown	Family of Sheila Fisher
Rafael Castels	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Harry & Jim Manchester	Family of Sheila Fisher
Luanne Mauldin	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Carmella Potenza	Granddaughter of the Gates
Kay & Don Schweitzer	Members of POUCC
John Sedgwick	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Tammy & Danny	Friends of Ann Tobin
Bill Tinney	Friend of POUCC
Seth Wanie	Family of Bill & Susie Greiff

In Care Facilities

June Ferreri	Member of POUCC (Care Center, PA)
Margie Hoebing	Friend of POUCC (Care Center, PO)
Marge Monat	Member of POUCC (Care Center, DB)
Eloise Wottke	Friend of POUCC (Care Center, WI)

Special Needs

Victims of the Recent Tornadoes
 Victims of Caronavirus & Those on the Front Line
 Fighting the Virus
 All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families
 Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide



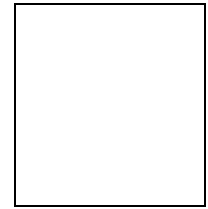
POUCC APRIL 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 Worship Service 9:30 am Bible Study 11:00 am MOL* Worship Service 5:00 pm	3 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	4	5	6 Maundy Thursday Supper & Tenebrae Service 6:00 pm	7 Good Friday	8
9 Easter Sunrise Service 7:00 am Combined Service 9:30 am MOL* Worship Service 5:00 pm	10 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	11	12	13	14	15 Council Meeting 10:00 am
16 Worship Service 9:30 am Bible Study 11:00 am MOL* Worship Service 5:00	17 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	18	19	20	21	22
23 Worship Service 9:30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL Worship Service 5:00 pm	24 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	25	26	27	28	29

30 **Worship Service**
9:30 am
Fellowship
10:30 am
MOL Worship Service 5:00 pm

*Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 2 pm, Sat. 9-Noon
Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - 1 pm*

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Church Staff

Senior Pastor: Rev. Patricia Holcomb
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Custodian: Ronnie Servant
Thrift & Gift Store Manager: Bob & Jackie Gaither
Media Communications: Bob Brewster

Office Hours

9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Monday—Friday

Thrift Store Hours

9:00 AM—2:00 PM
Monday—Friday
9:00 AM—Noon
Saturday

**Sunday Worship
Combined Service of
Worship**

9:30 am



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