



Volume 37, Issue 12

December 2015

Port Orange
United Church of Christ

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SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE



Dear Friends,

Is there any more powerful and inspiring element in this time of celebration than music? Advertisers and merchants realize its power – that's why the Christmas music started before November 1! Our Advent Theme is "*A Season for Singing.*" We begin this Sunday:

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FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT NOVEMBER 29, 2015 (Services 8:45 & 10:45 a.m.):

FOCUS: MARY'S SONG

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS: Jim & Louise Eagan (8:45);
Charlie & Molly Baskin (10:45)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 1: 46-55 (NLT)

SECOND SUNDAY IN ADVENT DECEMBER 6, 2015 (Services 8:45 & 10:45 a.m.):

FOCUS: ZECHARIAH'S SONG

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS: Bill & Peggy Wiggins (8:45);
The Schafer Family (10:45)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 1: 67-79 (NLT)

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT DECEMBER 13, 2015 (One Service 9:45 a.m.):

FOCUS: JOHN THE BAPTIST'S SONG

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS: Bob & Kay Russell

SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 3: 2b-6 (NLT)

CHORAL PRESENTATION: "*Lessons and Carols*"

FOURTH SUNDAY IN ADVENT DECEMBER 20, 2015 (One Service at 9:45 a.m.):

FOCUS: THE ANGEL'S SONG

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTERS: The Barrick & Gaither Family

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 2: 8-10; 13-14 (NLT)

YOUTH PRESENTATION: "*A Song for Christmas*" (A play by Pastor Bill)

CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24, 2015 (One Service 7:00 p.m.):

FOCUS: SIMEON'S SONG

CHRIST CANDLE LIGHTERS: The Bussard Family

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Luke 2: 28-32 (NLT)

CANDLELIGHT WORSHIP WITH CHOIR AND PRAISE TEAM

I hope you will choose to make your spiritual preparations for Christmas as much of a priority as all the shopping, decorating, baking, and singing. Your love and participation here makes this time of year more special for me and all of our members. Thank you for that gift as we celebrate God's Gift!

Pastor Bill

Staff

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Dr. Bill Wassner

Assistant Pastor:

Beverly Schafer

Pastor Emeritus:

Rev. Dr. Bill Ebbert

Office Manager:

Kathy Shaffner

Minister of Music:

Dr. Tom Naus

Media Communications:

Bob Brewster

Custodian

Deb Viola

Thrift Store Manager:

Bob Gaither

Youth Leader:

Sher Buller

OPERATIONS TEAM



The Operations Team met on November 10th and the following topics were discussed.

Old Business:

- **2016 Budget** - Work continues on the budget and will be completed by the December meeting.
- Chancel Railing - Thanks to Jim Eagan the railing has been installed.
- Parking Lot Painting - Lines and bumper painting have been completed. Thanks to all those who worked on the project on the workday and to Bob Russell who finished the job.
- Youth Meeting Room - Work continues on the renovations.

New Business:

- Sanctuary Floor - Estimates will be obtained and presented at a future meeting for stripping, cleaning and waxing the floor.

The next Operations Meeting is scheduled for December 14th @ 6:30 PM.

STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN



We are both loved and shown mercy by a God every day who challenges us to love and be merciful as we together continue our mission. Our church has been a source of love and mercy to many hundreds of people over its 36 years of ministry and mission. We appreciate your faithful support and need to continue our common work and ministry. We are asking you to renew or increase your support as a part of “New Love, New Mercy” and to date we have received 14 pledges totaling \$26,968. Please return your pledge form (published in the Newsletter or available on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary) on or before **January 17th**.

Financial Update



Operational Budget as 10/31/15

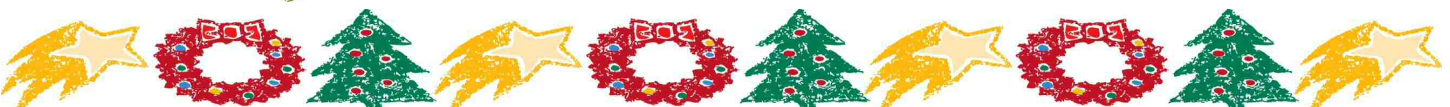
	ACTUAL	BUDGET
	<u>Jan.-October 2015</u>	<u>Jan.-October 2015</u>
Income	\$ 132,832	\$ 135,050
Expenses	\$ 130,418	\$ 134,533
Net Income	\$ 2,414	\$ 517

Our income is less than we anticipated but, fortunately, our expenses are also less than budgeted. We are therefore, still in the black through October. Respectfully submitted by: Susie Greiff, Treasurer

Offering Envelopes



WILL BE AVAILABLE BY THE END OF THE YEAR.



DEACONS CORNER



PANCAKE BREAKFAST

SPONSORED BY
POUCC DEACONS TEAM
& POUCC YOUTH

DATE – Sunday Dec 13, 2015

Time – 8:00am-9:30am

Cost - \$5.00 per person

Funds will be used toward POUCC youth expenses to attend the National Youth Event to be held in Orlando July 26-30 2015

Menu

Pancakes
(Plain, Pineapple, Corn, Blueberry & Pecan)



Syrup
Sausage
Coffee
Juice



Note: Sunday Dec 13th will be a combined service.
This one service begins at 9:45am.

PLEASE PLAN TO JOIN US

& SUPPORT OUR YOUTH!

Bob Brewster,

Chair of Deacons

PORT ORANGE MINISTERIAL ASSOCIATION NEWS



On Tuesday, November 24, we hosted the POMA's Annual Community Thanksgiving Service. Participating in the Service were: Rev. Jeff Summers, New Hope Baptist; Father Chris Hoffmann and Deacon Michael Pettit, Our Lady of Hope; Rev. Rick Burhans and Rev. Susan McCaffrey, Grace Episcopal; Rev. Cara Gee, Westminster by the Sea Presbyterian; Rev. Tom Nelson, First United Methodist; our own Joe Thompson and Pastor Bill; Rev. Devon Jones, Chaplain Halifax Hospice of Volusia/Flagler who delivered a moving message, and Jake Johansson, City Manager who read Lincoln's Thanksgiving Proclamation. The theme of the service was "Building an Ebenezer" which included the attendees offering a personal item that represents God's presence in their life. We also collected bags of food to benefit Grace Episcopal Food Pantry. Thanks to Dr. Tom and the Sanctuary Choir for the beautiful music, Jeff Barhite for running our Media, and our Fellowship Team for hosting the reception.



MESSIAH by George Frideric Handel, Sunday November 29th, 5:00 PM at Westminster By the Sea, featuring Westminster By-The Sea Chancel Choir, Port Orange Presbyterian Chancel Choir, and the String Ensemble from Stetson University School of Music. Free will offering will be received.

HALIFAX URBAN MINISTRIES 8TH ANNUAL EMPTY BOWL EVENT & SILENT AUCTION: Sunday, December 4th, 6:00-8:00 PM, at The Center for Civic Engagement, 740 International Speedway Blvd., Daytona Beach. Enjoy soup, salad & baked goods donated by local restaurants. Tickets available for \$15 donation online or at 215 Bay Street Office.



SPECIAL NOTE: Evan Doyle is Port Orange's new Community Crime Prevention Officer. He and his team will be initiating a number of new programs within the community including "Coffee with a Cop" and "Shop with a Cop."

MISSIONS NOTES



With the holidays fast approaching, the Missions Team continues to be very busy with the various projects. With your generous support, we are able to aid those in need within our congregation as well as our community. As the temperatures begin to drop, please remember the Sock Box located at the rear of the Sanctuary and the Mission Boxes that benefit Sophie's Circle-the local pet food pantry.

Thanks to our CROP walkers, the Buller Family, Kathy Cratin, Cindy Deitch, and Susie & Bill Greiff and all the contributors. We raised \$352 to help end hunger. In addition, we donated 72 jars of peanut butter to this worthwhile cause.



Our Thanksgiving Food Collection in support of families at Spruce Creek Elementary School was very successful. We collected 29 bags of food and \$360, which purchased 28 \$20 Publix gift cards. All were delivered by Pastor Bill on November 18th and as you can see it was a truckload!

Again this year, we are partnering with Spruce Creek Elementary School in support of children within our community. The decorated Angel Tree listing the sizes, ages, and clothing requests of the children will be in the Sanctuary on **Sunday, November 29th**. The wrapped gifts, with the name tag attached outside, should be placed under the tree by **Sunday, December 13th** so that they can be delivered prior to their Christmas break. Your labor of love at the holiday season is greatly appreciated and puts big smiles on the faces of those in need.



Again this year, we will deliver Christmas Bags to the residents at Palmetto House. Thanks to your donations throughout the year we are only in need of bath scrungies (4 for \$1.00 at Dollar General) and small cosmetic bags. Donations may be placed in the box in the front of the Sanctuary. *Jackie Gaither, Chair of the Missions Team*

THE CHRISTMAS FUND OFFERING "LOVE SHINES THROUGH": This offering for Veterans of the Cross and the Emergency Fund has been a way in which we, as members of the UCC enabled the Pension Boards' Ministerial Assistance program to provide Pension Supplementation, Health Premium Supplementation, Emergency Grants and Christmas "Thank You" Gift Checks to individuals and families in need. Offering will be received on **December 20th**. Look for the red envelope in the bulletins and on the table in the rear of the Sanctuary.



YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. As a reminder, **December 6th is our next collection date and will benefit Grace Episcopal Pantry**. Please be generous and make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates clearly marked on all cans, boxes, and containers.



TERRIFIC TUESDAYS



Terrific Tuesdays

The Terrific Tuesday Meetings have been well attended and work continues on the construction of the group's Youth Meeting Room. The kids have been tearing down partitions, removing cabinets and shelves, and painting to create their own space. Thanks to Sher Buller and Tracy Davis for their supervision of the project. And as always, thanks to Jackie Gaither and Sue Turner for the delicious meals each week.

The three-week adult class on "The Emerging Church" led by Pastor Bill and Kay Russell went very well. The decision was made to resume meeting on Tuesdays after the first of the year. We will continue to discuss possible future directions for our Church. More details in next month's newsletter.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4TH - MOVIE NIGHT, Doors open at 6:00 PM and feature "God's Not Dead" will begin at 6:30 PM. Free Will Offering. Soda, popcorn and candy will be sold.



Pancake Breakfast

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 13TH Hosted by Deacons and Church Youth. Serving Time, 8:00 AM - 9:30 AM. Donation \$5.00 pp (This is "Lessons & Carols" Sunday put on by church choir.) Proceeds from both events to help raise funds for youth to attend the National UCC Youth Event next July in Orlando.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 20TH, 9:45 AM – Youth Christmas Presentation including performance of "A Song for Christmas" (A play written by Pastor Bill). Practices are on Sunday mornings at 10:00 AM.



YOUTH NEWS



On Tuesday, October 27th, the youth of our congregation gathered to celebrate Halloween with a Spooktacular Party. The kids had a great time playing mummy wrap, pin the face on the pumpkin and eye ball in the pumpkin toss.



Congratulations to Colten Pack who recently received his Life Scout Award. *Way to go Colten!*

PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS PEACE LOVE HOPE JESUS

THE GIFT & THRIFT STORE

CALLING ALL SHOPPERS! The Gift & Thrift Store has a wide variety of unique gift giving items for all on your holiday shopping list. Make sure you check us out! Also, we are in need of Christmas decoration donations as well as kitchen items, knick-knacks, stuffed toys and board games. The more stock we have, the more we sell!

The Thrift Store is continuing its upward trend. The total income, as of November 23rd, was \$20,000. We have also donated 13 bags of clothes to the homeless, one bag of children's clothing to Spruce Creek Elementary School, and a suit and three sport jackets to the Daytona State College "Dress for Success" Program. Your donations of money, merchandise, and time really do help the Church and the Community.

Bob Gaither, Manager



SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER



Christmas Dinner

Every Second Thursday at 6:00 pm, POUCC has a wonderful Fellowship Dinner in the Jim Reed room.

Our next fellowship dinner is December 10th. It's a "Christmas Feast" -- Ham Provided, You Bring the Sides. Sign-up on Sanctuary Bulletin Board.

SPECIAL THANKS



CHURCH MAINTENANCE

A big thank you to Bob Russell who did a great job on painting the parking space lines and bumpers. Thanks to Jim Eagan, we now have a Chancel railing as well as more light as Jim replaced the Chancel spotlight bulbs.

Thanks to all who helped to decorate the Sanctuary and Jim Reed Room for the holiday season. You did a great job which will certainly be enjoyed by all.



We recently received a note from the Pregnancy Crisis Center thanking us for the infant bath support chair, blankets, and infant gown set. Your continued support of their mission is greatly appreciated.

SAFE PASSAGE UPDATE

We recently received word that Dr. Deb Walters has healed from her spinal surgery and is on the continuation of her kayak journey in support of Safe Passage's mission to provide Guatemalan children living in the city garbage dump with education, nutrition, counseling and healthcare. She will be in the Daytona Beach area December 11th-14th. Dr. Walters was one of six recipients of Rotary International Global Women of Action, which was awarded November 7th at the United Nations. We wish her safe travels and if you would like to donate to her mission, send them to Safe Passage, Camino Seguro, 81 Bridge Street, Suite 104, Yarmouth, ME 04096-6744.

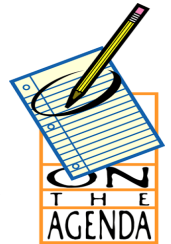


NEWS & NOTES

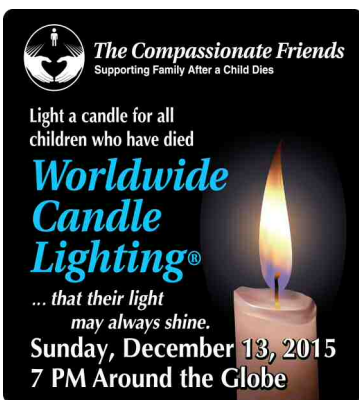


The Christmas Season has arrived and as is our tradition, we will be decorating our Sanctuary with poinsettias for the Christmas Eve Service. All are invited to bring in a poinsettia with your name on them by **Monday, December 21st** (place in Jim Reed Room). Poinsettias may be taken home or donated after the Christmas Eve Service. If interested, a sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in rear of the Sanctuary.

ANNUAL MEETING: On **Sunday, January 24, 2016** we will have our Annual Meeting after a *Combined Service* beginning at **9:45 AM**. Topics to be presented are the 2016 Budget as well as election of officers for the year. A list of nominees will be posted on the Sanctuary bulletin board. Mark your calendars and plan to attend this important meeting. Annual Reports are due by **Friday, January 8th**. Please type your report in Microsoft Word for easy compilation and e-mail it to the church office ASAP.



The 2016 Edition will be available at the Annual Meeting. If you have any address or contact changes, please notify the Church Office as soon as possible.



The Compassionate Friends Worldwide Candle Lighting, which unites family and friends around the globe in lighting candles for one hour to honor the memories of the sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, and grandchildren who left too soon, is scheduled to be held here on **Sunday, December 13th, 2015, beginning at 6:30 PM**. As candles are lit at 7:00 p.m. local time, hundreds of thousands of people commemorate and honor the memory of all children gone too soon. Now believed to be the largest mass candle lighting on the globe, the 19th annual Worldwide Candle Lighting, a gift to the bereavement community from The Compassionate Friends, creates a virtual 24-hour wave of light as it moves from time zone to time zone. All are welcome and please bring your own candle. Pastor Bill will lead the liturgy.

CONFERENCE CENTER UPDATE: On Saturday, November 14th, Pastor Bill and Jim Eagan traveled to Orlando to join with other volunteers from around the area in the continued construction of the new Conference Center at 9300 University Park.



The Annual St. Johns Area Women's Meeting will be held on **Saturday, January 30th** at the United Church of Christ in New Smyrna Beach. The workshop will be based on the 2015 Mission theme for our women this year: "Sex and Labor Trafficking." Worship will be led by Rev. Dr. Diane Langworthy, Pastor of New Smyrna UCC. For more information, contact Gerie Spencer, 386-423-4143.

NOEL HALLELUJAH MERRY CHRISTMAS HAPPY NEW YEAR

Happy Birthday!



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS*

Dalen Mills	12/4
Ted Batturs	
Kaylei Wierzbicki	12/5
Chuck Henderson	
Grayson Osteen	12/6
Beverly Schafer	12/7
John MacNeil	
Helen Van Nostrand	12/8
Chuck Knopsky	12/10
Drew Knock	
Joshua Wheeler	
Selena Wheeler	12/13
Tracy Davis	
Susie Greiff	12/16
Erika Hobson	12/17
Joe Thompson	12/19
Terri Zinke	12/24
Suzette Wheeler	
Milissa Davis	12/25

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES*

Bill & Susie Greiff	12/12/1970
Ron & Sonnie Zinke	12/23/1958
Ric & Barb Pountain	12/24/1977
Bob & Louise Johnson	12/26/1955
Ted & Margaret Yaeger	12/29/2002



PRAYER REQUESTS*

Beverly Absher	Aunt of Kimberly Dotson
Clyde & Emily Bussard	Members of POUCC
Fred Campbell	Member of POUCC
Sandy Cicero	Family Member of the Gaithers
Karen Donahue	Member of the Kransi Family
Dotson Family	Members of POUCC
Amy Dyer	Friend of the Fishers
Sharon Ferrelli	Friend of POUCC
Phyllis Heath	Wife of Rev. Steven Heath
Rev. Richard Hills	POMA Minister
Bob Jackson	Friend of the Fishers
Drew Knock	Member of POUCC
Delores Mann	Friend of Diane Kirlin
Jill McClure	Friend of the Deitch Family
Rosemary Sansevero	Sister of Tom Buller
Krystal Smith	Friend of Diane Kirlin
Mary Ann Stewart	Member of POUCC
Diana Upcraft	Sister of Cindy Pierson
Arthur Van Nostrand	Member of POUCC
F/F of Erika Wheeler	In Loss of her Father
Jonathan Wise	Friend of the Fishers

In Care Facilities

June Ferreri	Member of POUCC (Care Facility in PA)
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Special Needs

All of Our Military, First Responders & Their Families

Broader Concerns





Victims of Terrorism Worldwide
 Syrian Refugees & Those Fleeing Tyranny
 Pray for Peace in our World

**Please contact the Church Office (788-0920) with your prayer requests.*

Note: *Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your special date or to add a Prayer Concern.



POUCC December 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 pm	2 POMA 4:00-6:00 pm CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	3 POMA 3:45-5:45 pm Line Dancing 6:00 pm	4 Movie Night 6:00 pm 	5
6 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:55 am Traditional 10:45 am	7 POMA 3:00-6:00 pm Compassionate Friends 7:00 pm	8 POMA 3:45-5:15 pm Terrific Tuesday 6:00 pm	9 Palmetto House 5:30 pm CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	10 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm	11	12
13 Pancake Breakfast 8:00 am Combined Service Lessons & Carols 9:45 am Candle Light 6:30 pm	14 POMA 3:00-6:00 pm Operations 6:30 pm	15 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 PM	16 POMA 4:00-6:00 pm CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	17 POMA 3:45-5:45 pm Line Dancing 6:00 pm	18	19
'20 Combined Service Children's Christmas Play 9:45 am	21 Council 7:00 pm	22	23 CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	24 Office Closed Christmas Eve Service 7:00 pm 	25  Merry Christmas	26
27 Combined Service 9:45 am	28	29	30	31 Office Closed  Happy New Year!		

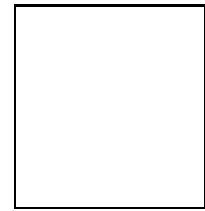
Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 3 pm, Sat 9 am – Noon, Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - 1 pm

Join us for Fellowship & Refreshments Each Sunday Between Services

Fellowship for December: The Missions Team



Port Orange
United Church of Christ
651 Taylor Road
Port Orange, FL 32127



Church Staff

Senior Pastor: Rev. Dr. Bill Wassner
Assistant Pastor: Beverly Schafer
Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. C. William Ebbert
Office Manager: Kathy Shaffner
Minister of Music: Dr. Tom Naus
Media Communications: Bob Brewster
Custodian: Deb Viola
Thrift Store Manager: Bob Gaither
Youth Leader: Sher Buller

Office Hours

9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Monday—Friday

Thrift Store Hours

9:00 AM—3:00 PM
Monday—Friday
9:00 AM—Noon
Saturday

Sunday Worship

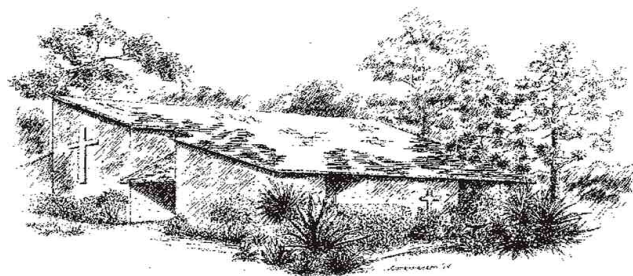
8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

Sunday School

9:45 AM

Terrific Tuesday

6:00 PM



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