



Volume 35, Issue 5

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**Port Orange
United Church of Christ**
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Senior Pastor's Message



There is a story about a monastery in Europe perched high on a cliff several hundred feet in the air. The only way to reach the monastery was to be suspended in a basket which was pulled to the top by several monks who pulled and tugged with all their strength. Obviously the ride up the steep cliff in that basket was terrifying. One tourist got exceedingly nervous about half-way up as he noticed that the rope by which he was suspended was old and frayed. With a trembling voice he asked the monk who was riding with him in the basket how often they changed the rope. The monk thought for a moment and answered brusquely, "Whenever it breaks."

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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
Praise Team Leader:
Terri Zinke
Dancing Angels Leader:
Bonnie Morisset
Media Communications:
Bob Brewster

Dear Friends,
Trust - we all struggle with this issue. We all have been betrayed, let down, disappointed and discouraged by others and life at times. I don't know about you but I never did that exercise of falling backward for others to "catch" me – no way! Well, I have challenged you to trust me, the processes of changes, and the future I believe God is calling us to as well. You have been so faithful and I deeply thank you. Among others - the outside sign has been replaced, the facilities are being repaired where needed, we now have a stronger web and internet presence, the sanctuary has been renovated with newer technologies and musical instruments, Veteran's Chapel will be built this summer, we have grown our staff with the gifts of Kathy Shaffner, Beverly Schafer and Dr. Tom Naus, Spiritual Life groups are meeting, we are blessed by some wonderful youth and the new Terrific Tuesday worship services under the leadership of Lauren Scalf, we now have adult Sunday School classes, more people are coming, and all with a balanced budget! These positive changes, and others not mentioned, are the result of your faithfulness, generosity and trust. I know that sometimes as God was "pulling us up" to higher heights of ministry and understanding, you were nervous. I was nervous too. But I truly believe that our church is far better positioned to both grow and serve. The "rope" has not broken – and it never will – because it is God's Love. Thank you for doing your parts by holding on and pulling me along as well when I needed it. Now, I just need to work on the falling backwards exercise....

Trustingly,

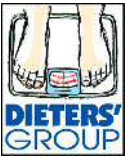
Pastor Bill

Assistant Pastor



DIETERS

Anyone interested in a support group for dieters? If so, I am proposing a program which may interest you. If there is enough interest, we would meet in the sanctuary from **7:30-8:30 PM Thursdays**. Major incentive will be a weekly \$ reward to the person losing the most weight during the past week. This money will come from weekly dues of \$2/person -- half of which will go towards the reward, and the other half towards exercise DVDs and equipment. If you are interested, please contact me (295-6838).



SUMMER SUNDAY SCHOOL



Another program in the planning stages is "GOD'S FAMILY." This curriculum will serve as our Summer Sunday School and centers on exploring God's presence in various countries throughout the world. Classes will include scripture lessons and activities representative of the country of the week. Stay tuned for more information and how you can help.

Our WIRED WORD Adult Sunday School Class beginning promptly at 9:45 AM in the sanctuary offers weekly inspirational discussion on current world events as they pertain to Holy Scripture. On Thursdays, I receive in-depth lesson material and spiritual insight into two headline news events of the past seven days, which I then pass on to Kay Russell who leads this class, from which a fascinating discussion ensues -- often with surprises. This is a class with different subject material each week, so if you can only attend periodically -- no problem. All are welcome any week.

SPIRITUALITY

Our Spiritual Life Teams had a very special combined meeting April 14th with Bobbie McKay, who not only enriched us spiritually, but also gave us wonderful ideas as to what new direction to take.

Where do we find God when our spirit is shaken to such depths as the Boston Marathon act of terror? At POUCC, not only do we have one another, but we have three groups as well who meet on a regular basis for discussing how God is active in the lives of each and every one of us.

Our Spiritual Life Teams obviously are a good place to help alleviate pain in a time of crisis. Our second team, which meets in Classroom #2 Tuesdays from 4:30-5:30, will be cut in half this month due to "snow-birds" returning north for the summer -- a perfect time for welcoming new members! Please contact me at 295-6838 if you are interested in discovering just how often GOD IS IN YOUR LIFE!

Faithfully, *Pastor Beverly*



Financial Update

Operational Budget as of 1/26/13

	<u>ACTUAL</u>	<u>BUDGET</u>
	<u>Jan.-March 2013</u>	<u>Jan.-March 2013</u>
Income	\$50,031	\$44,825
Expenses	\$45,142	\$43,020
Net	\$ 4,889	\$ 1,805

Our first quarter results are better than budgeted and we will hopefully do as well if not better than last year. We are still taking donations for our Veterans Chapel on the west property and have passed the halfway mark for the funds necessary to build the pavilion. If you haven't donated yet, but would like to, please show "Veterans Chapel" in the **memo** section of your check. Thanks to everyone for the support. *Respectfully submitted, Susie Greiff, Treasurer*

OPERATIONS TEAM



Your Operations Team reports only good news this month of a comfortable financial status and properly functioning building and equipment. Several small projects will become visible over the next few months, as well as the much larger project of our pavilion, as funding is over the half way mark (see Page 9). Our church staff will get assigned parking spots on the east side of the building, which will require changing the alarm setup. In view of all the new equipment we've recently acquired, it was agreed to consider upgrading the system to include the whole building and become monitored.

Events for the whole Church begin with a Shredder Day **May 18th**, **10:00 AM-1:00 PM** to which you may bring old paper records in need of shredding for a small fee. Times and other details will be announced (See Page 8). *Tim Holby, Operations Chairperson*



We are pleased to inform you that by unanimous vote at last month's Council meeting, the Council approved the Deacon's unanimous recommendation that Dr. Thomas Naus become the new Director of Music Ministries of the POUCC with responsibilities for the oversight of both Sunday services. We are all excited about this new direction for our church and the deepening relationship with him and what he brings with his talents and leadership. Dr. Tom has been our organist and choir director for over 10 years and has consistently demonstrated both his capabilities and compassion. He will begin his expanded role with us on May 15th and Wednesday evenings will become the practice night for the Chime Choir, the Praise Team, and the Sanctuary Choir. Join us both in thanksgiving and welcoming Dr. Tom in his new ministry with us!

Pastor Bill, Bob Gaither, (Moderator), Joe Thompson, (Chair of Deacons)

YOUTH NEWS



Terrific Tuesdays

Terrific Tuesdays is evolving into an even more meaningful time together by including an INTERGENERATIONAL and very creative, thought-provoking 15-minute worship service planned and presented by Lauren Scalf. I urge you to join the adults as we witness our youth in action as they nurture OUR faith!!!

Several of our youth and adults were able to attend the Oyster Mats workshop on April 6th at Hope UCC in Rockledge, FL, which was quite a fascinating learning experience led by representatives from the Brevard Zoo on how to improve our local Indian River Estuary by tying oyster shells with plastic ties to plastic grids in order to encourage the growth of new oyster beds as well as reviving old beds. We are hoping to be a part of the placement of these mats in the New Smyrna Beach area whenever that event is scheduled within the next month or two. By the way -- we learned while attending the Oyster Mats event that POUCC Youth is the ONLY Florida UCC Youth Group with perfect attendance to ALL FL UCC YOUTH EVENTS scheduled from September 2012-April 2013. September 2013 starts a new FL UCC Youth Events calendar.

THANK YOU ALL FOR SUPPORTING US!!!! LOVE YOU ALL!!!!

THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE



Thank you to all who have donated sellable items the 1st quarter of the year. We are blessed to be able to help others with everyday items like sheets, towels, kitchen items, etc. First quarter sales for 2013 are \$7,180. Thanks also to Bob Gaither who not only "worked" extra shifts but assisted Economy Electric with repair of lighting problems in the store. If you have a few hours to spare please talk with me or any Thrift Store Volunteer. Additional team members are always welcome. *Barb Pountain*

DEACON'S CORNER



When Joey Thompson asked me to write something on Peace this month for the newsletter, my mind immediately went to songs and scripture. Then I thought, what does peace really mean? Then the Boston Marathon bombing happened. What is peace and how do we find it?

The dictionary defines **peace** as:

1. the normal, non-warring condition of a nation, group of nations, or the world.
2. (*often initial capital letter*) an agreement or treaty between warring or antagonistic nations, groups, etc., to end hostilities and abstain from further fighting or antagonism: *the Peace of Ryswick.*
3. a state of mutual harmony between people or groups, especially in personal relations: *Try to live in peace with your neighbors.*
4. the normal freedom from civil commotion and violence of a community; public order and security: *He was arrested for being drunk and disturbing the peace.*
5. cessation of or freedom from any strife or dissension.

The two songs I thought of were Peace Like A River and Peace I Leave With You. Peace Like A River brought me back to my Southern Baptist roots: "I've got peace like a river in my soul". What an amazing verse. To have God's peace flowing through your entire being is something we probably all are striving toward. Peace I Leave With You is probably a favorite for many of us. What an incredible message this hymn brings. Peace I leave with you, my friends, shalom my peace, in all you do...I give to you so you can give to others, too...*Take my hand and be at peace.*

So how do we find peace in a world of turmoil? Focusing on God's word and remaining in prayer is the only way. The Bible is our instruction book for life, "Life for Dummies", if you will. John 14:27 says "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. Not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid." Some additional scriptures on peace that you can look up are: John 16:33; Matthew 5:9 and Matthew 11:28-30.

May God be with us all, granting us peace in our hearts and minds.

In Faith,
Sherian Buller

MISSION NOTES



Our Mission Boxes continue to flourish, over \$50 and hopefully it will continue so we can give a nice donation to the pet project, Sophie's Circle at the end of the year. We have prayer shawls available when needed and the Knit Wits have been busy on the Boggy Creek Afghans, the socks were delivered so the box needs to be filled again. You are an awesome group of loving hearts. Don't forget glasses, can tabs, labels, food for first Sunday and our great teams that feed at the Palmetto House. We received a thank you from the Pregnancy Crisis Center so that need continues. As always, I thank you, thank you, thank you. Remember, if you know of a need out there please let the Mission team know about it.

"Strengthen the Church" offering is to be collected **May 19th**.

Jackie Gaither, Mission Chairperson

STRENGTHEN THE CHURCH OFFERING "INVEST IN THE VISION":

Each day, visions and dreams are created in the hearts of many in the UCC. Through the Strengthen the Church offering, they can become a reality. As God calls our congregations to be "church" in new ways, your gift will plant new churches, awaken new ideas in existing churches, and develop spiritual life in our youth and young adults. Because of this offering, many more will hear the good news that "God is still speaking." Your offerings are directed to your church's Conference, Local Church Ministries, and The Stillspeaking Ministry. This important collection will be taken up on **Pentecost Sunday, May 19th** (envelope for the collection will be in the **May 12th** bulletin). Please be generous.



YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS



We continue to collect food items to donate to the Episcopal Help Center. **Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday.** Over 30 bags of food were donated on the first Sunday last month. If we all bring a food donation, we will fill the basket each month. Please be generous and make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates (clearly marked on all cans, boxes, and containers). There is a specific need for rice and peanut butter...PLEASE donate ONLY 1 pound bags of rice and 1 pound jars of peanut butter so they can be given to individual families. **May 5th is our next collection!**

DISASTER MANAGEMENT

TROPICAL STORM DEBBIE RECOVERY: Help Repair Flood Damaged Homes. Volunteers are needed. Two times are available: **May 25 to June 1 and June 22 to 29.** Lodging in a church in Lake City, FL. Meals provided. Some roof repair, some interior repair and some food preparation workers are needed. Contact the Florida Conference UCC office to register. There is no registration fee. A tax-deductible donation is welcome but not necessary. Contact Pastor Bill for more information.

DISASTER MANAGEMENT



A TRIBUTE TO MOTHERS

A Mother...

When you're a child she walks before you,
To set an example.
When you're a teenager she walks behind you
To be there should you need her.
When you're an adult she walks beside you
So that as two friends you can enjoy life together.

Author Unknown



**HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
SUNDAY, MAY 12TH**

SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER



Every Second Thursday at 6:00 pm, POUCC has a wonderful Fellowship Dinner in the Jim Reed room. If you have attended, you already know that we EAT, TALK, LAUGH, SING and ENJOY each other's company.

*Make your plans to come to the next dinner Thursday May 9th.
Sign-up on Sanctuary Bulletin Board.*

COFFEE FELLOWSHIP SCHEDULE

Schedule for the Fellowship Hour is as follows:

May - Fellowship

June - Missions

July - Deacons



LADIES LUNCHEONS



Meets once a month to share a bite and fellowship. Join us on **Thursday, May 16th at Noon** at the Olive Garden. Sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board in the Sanctuary or contact Jeanette Campbell (788-4959). **All are welcome!**

NOTES OF THANKS



I want to thank Jeanette Campbell for offering up my name as the St. Johns Region Laywoman of the Year. I was so surprised to get Jeanette's phone call when she asked if it would be alright to submit my name. She explained to me the procedure and what the criteria was to be considered. I needed to put together a history of my service to the church, UCC and wider community. Jeanette and Pastor Bill also took it upon themselves to write letters of recommendation.

When writing the history of my service, I was taken aback by the culmination of life experiences and service thus far. I was able to clearly see the connection between God, faith and service. I'm sure that if each of us took the time to list all that we have done to serve God, the church and the wider community you too would be surprised at how much you've accomplished over the years. I highly recommend this exercise to everyone. It helped me to see where and how God has been able to use me for His good in the world.

What an extreme honor to be considered and an even bigger honor to be selected.

I also want to thank the church for supporting me, my mom Dee Carroll and Janna Thompson in attending the banquet held in Cocoa Beach. What a wonderful evening to share with loved ones. In Faith, *Sherian Buller*

Thank you so much for all the cards, calls and especially prayers during my recent treatment. It is a great comfort to have such good friends. *Thea Cloutier*

To all my dear friends of POUCC, thank you for your cards, prayers and calls during Bob's illness. He is now in a rehab facility and getting rigorous "workouts" daily. We look forward to better days again. Thanks for all the prayers and good wishes. *Margaret Procter*

NEWS & Notes



Shredder Day

Saturday, May 18th 10:00 AM-1:00 PM, ShredPros will be here for a congregational Shredder Day. Start to go through all your desk drawers, file cabinets, closets and anywhere else you have stored old papers that you have been meaning to dispose of and they can be shredded here for \$10 a box (file size). Please note, you are not required to remove staples, paperclips, binder clips or any fasteners from your documents. Basically, if it goes in your filing cabinet...it will go through the shredder. **Sign-up sheet on bulletin board in Sanctuary.**

ICE CREAM SOCIAL: Thursday, June 20th, 6:00-7:30 PM in the Jim Reed Room. Mended Little Hearts is co-sponsoring this event which will feature Nels Matson, spokesman for Hearts Without Boundaries (a support group for Cambodian children with heart problems). The event will include a DVD presentation on the worthwhile work this organization provides. Donations will be accepted and all are welcome.



MENDED LITTLE HEARTS



Those who had their pictures taken by Lifetouch are entitled to one free copy per family of the publication. For those who submitted photos, we have reserved a number of copies that may be purchased for \$5.00 (first come first serve basis). ***Directories may be picked up in the church office M-F, 9:00 AM-1:00 PM or you may call the office (788-0920) and reserve a copy and Pastor Bill will have your copy available on Sunday morning between services.***



Congratulations to Sierra Zinke who will graduate from USF in Tampa this Saturday, May 4th. Sierra earned a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in Dance. ***Way to go Sierra!***

NOTES OF INTEREST: Shortly we will be painting the curbing to designate the **NO PARKING ZONES** on the property. After completion, please refrain from parking in these restricted spaces.



Also, please recycle bulletins in the receptacle in the Business Office.



Update your directories with these new addresses:

Tracy & Milissa Davis & Family 830 Wildwood Dr., Port Orange, FL 32127

Reid & Mary Hughes, 2411 N. Halifax Ave., Daytona Beach, FL 32118,
(386) 615-9666.

WEST PROPERTY UPDATE



As a result of the generous response of donors and the approval of the Council, we are moving forward with Phase I of our plan for the West Property. We are in the process of ordering the steel structure and making arrangements for the 24 foot concrete pad to be laid. If all goes as planned, our completion date of the end of the summer will be a reality. Veterans Chapel will not only be a beautiful addition to the property but will also serve the congregation as an added place of worship, a picnic/special events area or just a quiet place to sit and relax and reflect. We are most grateful to those listed below for their generosity which to date totals \$9,045. **If you are planning to make a donation please do so as soon as possible.**

Bernard Ashley

Charles & Molly Baskin

Ted & Sue Batturs

Eva Brewster-In Memory of Husband Charles

Robert Brewster

Ruth Brewster

Mo & Ingrid Claunch

Kathy Cratin-In Memory of Parents

Rev. & Mrs. Harley Patterson &
Husband Ed

Mary Daigneau, Peter & Nancy Gulbrandsen

Dee Dardeen

Guy Ferrelli

Jack & Pat Hilgenberg

Russell Karel

Chuck Konopsky

Harold & Sandy Kransi

Mac & Mary McDonald

Dalen & Liz Mills

Marjory Monat

Bill & Leree Nicholls

Ric & Barb Pountain

Tim & Beverly Schafer

Don & Kay Schweitzer-In Honor of
Trey Zinke

John & Anne Shaw

Joe & Janna Thompson-In Memory of
Joe Thompson Sr., & Tom Yungclas

Thomas & Judy Van Camp

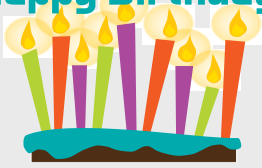
Arthur & Helen Van Nostrand

Billy & Peggy Wiggins

Ted Yaeger, Jr.

Theodore & Margaret Yeager, Sr.

Happy Birthday!



MAY BIRTHDAYS*

Sonnie Zinke	5/5
Grace Kern	
Ted Yaeger, Sr.	5/6
Sue Batturs	5/7
Billy Wiggins	
June Ferreri	5/9
Cora Hargrove	5/13
Charla Manning	5/14
Pat Hilgenberg	5/17
Tom Buller	5/18
Dwight Sanborn	
Tim Holby	5/19
Peggy Wiggins	5/20
Anne Shaw	
Mary Ann Stewart	5/27
Richard Devins, Sr.	
Judy Van Camp	5/30
Martha Mason	
Ingrid Claunch	5/31

MAY ANNIVERSARIES*



Faith & John Coppolo	5/6/1988
Jackie & Bob Gaither	5/8/1982
Christine & Ron Stierli	5/10/1996
Sherian & Tom Buller	5/22/1993
Suzette & Keith Wheeler	5/24/1997
Liz & Dalen Mills	5/26/2001
Anne & John Shaw	5/27/1961

Note: *Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your birthday or anniversary.



PRAYER REQUESTS*

Dee Carroll	Mother of Sher Buller
Thea Cloutier	Member of POUCC
Dan Dale	Friend of Pastor Bill
John DeBruel	Son of Linda Debruel
Karen Donahue	Sister of Harold Kransi
Amelia Dyer	Friend of Shelia & Bob Fisher
Tyler Graf	Grandson of John & Anne Shaw
Susie Greiff	Member of POUCC
Sue Gordon	Family of Shelia & Bob Fisher
Cheryl Harper	Daughter of JoEllen Hopkins
Tim & David Hartman	Relatives of Jack Rogers
Nancy Hosford	Bill Wheeler's Sister
Robert Houghman	Friend of the Greiff's
Bob Horn	Friend of Sue Batturs
Cecilia Kearney	Friend of Jeanette Campbell
Gloria Kirlin	Mother-in-Law of Diane & Scott Kirlin
Tristan Kaphan	Heart Recipient
Phil & Barbara Laucks	Friends of POUCC
Marilyn & Jose	Friend of Lauren Tromley
Linda McGinigal	Friend of Lauren Tromley
Helen McGuffie	Member of POUCC
Art McPhearson	Friend of the Gaither's
Carol Rogers	Member of POUCC
Harry Scharadin	Member of POUCC
Steve Sharp	Friend of the Grieff's
Tucker Snyder	Great-Grandson of the Gaithers
Vicki Solar	Aunt of Jackie Clough
Mary Ann Stewart	Member of POUCC
Larry & Carol Strickland	Members of POUCC
Nilene Tromley	Stepmother of Cassie & Sara
Walker Family	Sister of Doreen Wheeler
Beverly Woodacre	Grandmother of Shannan Wierzbicki
Dr. Zulfigar & Family	Loss of Wife & Children

In Care Facilities:

Robert McLaughlin	Member (Carlton Shores)
Rosemary Smith	Member (Sterling House)

Special Needs:

All of Our Military & Their Families

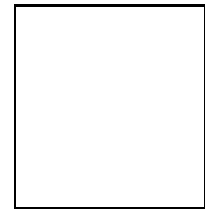
POUCC May 2013

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Chime Choir 6:15-7:15 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	2 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	3	4
5 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	6	7 Terrific Tuesdays 6:00 pm	8 Palmetto House 5:30 pm Chime Choir 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	9 Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm	10	11
12 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	13 Operations 6:30 pm	14 Terrific Tuesdays 6:00 pm	15 Chime Choir 5:30 pm CPT 6:30 pm Choir Practice 7:30 pm	16 Ladies Luncheon Noon Line Dancing 6:00 pm	17	18
19 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	20 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	21 Terrific Tuesdays 6:00 pm	22 CPT 7:00 pm	23 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	24	25
26 Contemporary 8:45 am Sunday School 9:45 am Traditional 10:45 am	27  OFFICES CLOSED	28 Terrific Tuesdays 6:00 pm	29 CPT 7:00 pm	30 Line Dancing 6:00 pm	31	

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

Join us for Fellowship & Refreshments Each Sunday Between Services

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United Church of Christ
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Church Staff

Senior Minister: 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
Praise Team Leader: Terri Zinke
Dancing Angels Leader: Bonnie Morisset
Media Communications: Bob Brewster

Office Hours

9:00 AM—1:00 PM

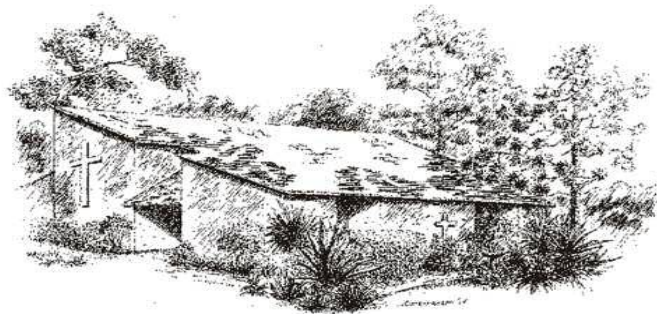
Monday—Friday

Sunday Services

8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

Sunday School

9:45 AM



Phone (386) 788-0920
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