



Volume 42, Issue 5

May 2020

Port Orange
United Church of Christ

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SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE



Easter Greetings everyone,

God is good, all the time. We are truly blessed people and all those blessings, as everything else we know, come from our Creator. Not only does God provide us with all we have, God has given us the promise of eternal life; the true message of Easter.

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With all God has created and provided for us, I would think our God should be thanked and thanked continually. When is the last time you truly stopped and gave thanks to God? I pray you didn't need to look at a calendar to come up with the answer. The truth is, too many humans throughout history as well as us modern people, may need to stop and think hard about the last time they took a moment to stop their busy lives and give thanks for all God continues to provide for us.

Giving thanks to God ... most of you reading this article might say, "Well of course I thank God. Everyday!" Good for you. It seems so easy, because it is. A more difficult part of the Christian life is to worship God. Worshipping God is more than just thanking God. Worshipping God means you must take time out of your busy schedule and learn more about our magnificent God.

Staff

Senior Pastor:

Rev. Glenn Rice

Pastor Emeritus:

Rev. Dr. Bill Ebbert

Minister of Music:

Dr. Tom Naus

Office Manager:

Kathy Shaffner

Custodian:

Ronnie Servant

Thrift Store Manager:

Bob Gaither

Media Communications:

Bob Brewster,

Trey & Van Thompson

Maybe you could take one or two minutes and read a devotion (daily or weekly.) Then take another few minutes to read a piece of scripture. I know reading the bible can be difficult at times. Maybe you could read an interpretation of the bible passage you don't understand. There are many biblical scholars who have written many volumes for others to think about. When this COVID-19 house arrest is behind us, maybe you could attend a Sunday School class.

With enough interest, I'll bet we could find another hour during the week where many of us could study some scripture together (just a wild thought.) Maybe we could increase our worship attendance to worship God; the one who is allowing you to read this article.

(Continued on next page.)

SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Yes, I would love to see you come to worship. I'm ready to get back to worshipping together. It is another one hour of your week where you can praise God, openly confess your sins to God, listen to scripture, learn how scripture written thousands of years ago is still speaking very vividly to your life today, commune with the Holy Spirit and thank God for all He has and continues to provide us.

Prayerfully, we will be allowed to come together this month and worship; learn, grow, enjoy and give thanks to our one triune God.

All the time, God is good,

Pastor Glenn



MODERATOR'S MESSAGE



My goodness what a difference a month can make. I believe it is biblically said that in the twinkling of an eye things can change. News of a pandemic jars us from the normalcy we understood to a state of unknown and bewilderment. Fear and anxiety are seen on people's faces as a situation starts to unfold. Brothers and sisters, I tell you most assuredly we have a huge task at hand. We have an obligation as children of God to assure people there is hope. There is hope for a better tomorrow and there is light at the end of the tunnel of despair; it's the light of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. All we have to do is believe in Him. He will guide us and we are so thankful for His ever present guiding light. Our church life has been changed and we are the fiber holding it together but we always have been. Holy Week was under obstacles that restricted us but we're very well presented and received. Paramount is the fact that we remain a refuge for the souls that need our help and love. I am hopeful and I am longing for this pandemic to pass and return to the love and fellowship of my brothers and sisters. Know our Council, staff and committee persons continue to strive to maintain our presence in the community while remaining safe. Church office is open and the phone is answered. The Pastor is available by phone should you need. For now we will adhere to the guidelines on social distancing and not gather in the flesh as per government request. But as this too shall pass and we will meet again. God bless you and keep you in the palm of his hand. Amen. *Joe Thompson, Moderator*

ASSISTANT MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

What a month of April has been, something none of us has experienced in our lives. I hope everyone has stayed healthy. We have been blessed by sermons that Pastor Glenn has provided us. We all need to thank Bob Brewster for all the technology he has done so we can listen to our service each Sunday. Please keep sending in your offerings. We may not be meeting at church, but our expenses continue. Again stay home and stay healthy, until we are able to see each other at our wonderful church!

Assistant Moderator, Kathy Cratin

Assistant
Moderator's
Message



OPERATIONS TEAM



The **OPERATIONS TEAM** has been working even though the church has been physically closed. Here are some events that we have been watching, fixing or trying to fix.

1. **WATER LEAK #1** – Several months ago, we accidentally found a water pipe leak when water was observed flowing from the ground. This leak came from a tree root that caused the pipe to break. We had the pipe repaired and the leak stopped.

2. **WATER LEAK #2** – The church is signed up for water alerts from Port Orange’s Aqua Hawk. Aqua Hawk sends out a phone message whenever water usage exceeds a predetermined threshold and is meant to prevent both the loss of good water and having a huge water bill from the utility. Fortunately, Aqua Hawk alerted us to a major leak of over 6,000 gals per day, when our normal daily usage would have anywhere from 250-400 gals per day. This leak came from a failed toilet control in the former nursery room bathroom. The toilet connection and tank fixtures were replaced. In addition the outside wall faucet, which would leak or be found turned on, was also replaced with a lockable faucet. Note: we suggest that every homeowner get an Aqua Hawk account. **It’s free!** And, can save you hundreds if not thousands of dollars if a leak happens anywhere on your property inside and out. Just go on the Internet to www.portfl.aquahawk.us/login to subscribe.

3. **CHURCH GROUNDS** -The church grounds are looking shaggy because our lawn care company has become unreliable. We are searching for a replacement company. If anyone knows of a good lawn care company, please pass the word and ask them to provide us a bid. We have a written description of what we want done. They can call Bob Brewster at 386-341-0423 for a copy of this bid sheet. Fortunately, our rain fall was down the past few months and the lawn has not grown as fast as normal.

4. **IRRIGATION SYSTEM** – After we invested in a new deep well pump and pipe, the well casing collapsed causing us to abandon the well. The new pump and pipe were recovered but a new well will need to be drilled at a cost of \$7,500. Fortunately, we found an alternative by reconnecting our old well with a new shallow well pump and trenching a new irrigation pipe field to the old system. This work was done by Tuff Turf and again we need to thank them for helping us financially with the \$2,500 cost. We are paying in installments and will have a functioning irrigation system when it will be needed the most.

5. **THRIFT STORE RENOVATION** - Was completed early April when we converted the last remaining classroom into a sales display room for the Thrift Store. To replace this classroom, we converted the pastor's office into a conference room with table and chairs. It has its own air conditioning unit. The door to the outside is alarmed so if anyone is going to use it for meetings, they must be able to disarm the alarm system also. We are checking on removing this door from the alarm system so we can utilize the room without the need to disarm the alarm. The addition of this additional space will greatly help the Thrift Store display more items for sale. Several volunteers have been working to move everything into the new space so that when the Thrift Store is able to re-open it will be ready.

6. **FINANCIAL UPDATE** – The Operations Team is researching ways that we can have a financial credit line for times where our income is short of what is needed for day to day operations. Being able to keep up with the necessary expenses of operating the church is a month to month challenge that requires the continuous generous support of everyone who can pledge & tithe and make financial gifts & donations.

(Continued on next page.)

OPERATIONS TEAM

During the COVID-19 shutdown, we have had some lower expenses (electric, cleaning, etc.) but for the most part, all the fixed costs of the church that happen regardless of whether we are open or not have continued. It is anticipated that when we are back into full operation these fixed expenses along with the variable expenses will exceed our income until we find ways to generate more money through a combination of an increase in membership, increased giving and hopefully continued income from the Thrift Store. This past month, our church was the benefactor of a very generous \$12,000 gift from the Estate of Bill & Betty Hefner. The Hefner's were long time members of the church and very active in all areas including the church choir and working on the church grounds. Thank you Bill & Betty! In addition, we applied for and received a \$21,000 loan (it can be forgiven if we follow certain rules of spending) from the CARES Payroll Protection Program (PPP), which allowed us to keep church staff (Pastor Glenn and Kathy in the office) working. Our music Director, Dr. Tom agreed to an unpaid furlough during this period and we hope to have him back as soon as possible.

In summary, it takes a lot of support to keep POUCC open as a church. This is no different with almost all churches, big or small. Buildings need maintenance. Grounds need care. Supplies need to be purchased and staff needs to be paid. Predictable expenses that can be budgeted can also be dramatically altered with unpredictable expenses from storms, broken pipes and just wear and tear due to age. We added a new **GIVING** Button to the church websites' Home Page. This **GIVING** Button can be used by anyone both near and far, such as members, non-members, families and friends. This **GIVING** Button can handle small as well as large gifts. It is there for someone who is feeling generous and there for someone who wants to make a difference. It is another way of allowing our church to continue fulfilling its many missions. Tell others about the **GIVING** Button.

Let's pray that this COVID-19 Pandemic will end and we as a population here & worldwide will find ways to master it, so that we can return to living our lives.

Respectfully submitted,

Bob Brewster, Chair Operations Team (Art Horton, Harold Kransi & Trey Thompson)



Financial Update — Operational Budget as 3/31/2020

	ACTUAL	YTD	BUDGET	YTD DIFFERENCE
Income	\$ 17,083.72	\$ 39,801.67	\$ 31,363.92	\$ 8,437.75
Expenses	<u>\$ 13,641.33</u>	<u>\$ 45,119.37</u>	<u>\$ 40,717.44</u>	<u>\$ 4,401.93</u>
Net	\$ 3,442.39	\$ (5,317.70)	\$ (9,353.52)	\$ 4,035.82

The profit we had for the month of March was primarily due to the generosity of two members who made contributions totaling \$2,500 to our Spring into Life Campaign. You can see, however, that we have a year-to-date loss of \$5,317.70 which is still much better than budgeted but we still have much work to do to reach a balanced budget by the end of the year. Thank you for your continued generosity and support. *Barbara Horton, Treasurer*



**INFORMATION ON SERVICES AND OPENINGS
WILL BE BROADCAST VIA ONECALL NOW AND
ALSO THE WEBSITE: portorangeucc.org.**



Happy Birthday!



MAY BIRTHDAYS*

Sonnie Zinke	5/5
Grace Kern	
Sue Batturs	5/7
Billy Wiggins	
June Ferreri	5/9
Gary Zemba	
Cora Hargrove	5/13
Charla Manning	5/14
Beverly Woodacre	5/15
Pat Hilgenberg	5/17
Pastor Glenn	5/18
Dwight Sanborn	
Peggy Wiggins	5/20
Mary Ann Stewart	5/27
Richard Devins, Sr.	
Judy Van Camp	5/30
Ingrid Claunch	5/31

MAY ANNIVERSARIES*



Cindy Johndrow & Deb Pack	5/06/2015
Jackie & Bob Gaither	5/08/1982
Kristin & Peter Marshall	5/16/2015

Note: *Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your special date, and with any Prayer Concern updates.



WE WISH ALL THE MOMS OF THE CONGREGATION A VERY HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY!

PRAYER REQUESTS*

Amy & Lamont	Friends of Sheila Fisher
Corinne & Jim Anderson	Friends of Sheila Fisher
Jennifer Anderson	Member of the Batturs Family
Linda & Al Blake & Family	Friends of Sheila Fisher
Brad Boon	Member of POUCC
Ruth Brewster	Member of POUCC
Beth & Chris Brown	Family of Sheila Fisher
Michelle Buonanno	Family of Pat Kirkley
Jewel Carter	Daughter of Helen Holmes
Faith Coppolo	Member of POUCC
Karen Coffey	Family of Sandy Kransi
Mike Conti	Friend of the Kransi's
F/F of Jim Farmer	Friend of the Stewart Family
Bill & Susie Greiff	Members of POUCC
Pvt. Jack & Lisa Hearten	Family of Kay Schweitzer
Chuck Henderson	Friend of POUCC
George & Madison Hobson	Family of Erika Hobson
Susan Jones	Sister-in-Law of Bonnie Morisset
Grace Kern	Member of POUCC
Sophie Kirtley	Friend of POUCC
Roger Kobert	Friend of Sheila Fisher
F/F of Cole Lambert	Friend of Kathy Cratin
Teresa Leib	Daughter-in-Law of Erika Hobson
Linda & Vaughn Long	Friends of Sheila Fisher
Emily McLean	Friend of POUCC
Bret McFarland	Friend of the Batturs Family
Liz Mills	Friend of the Brewster Family
Leslie Neese	Friend of the Stewart Family
Deb Pack	Member of POUCC
Archie & David Pickels	Brothers of Bonnie Morisset
Bruce Roberts	Brother of Sandy Kransi
Carol Rogers	Member of POUCC
Karen Sanford	Friend of the Boons
Oakley & Michele Solms	Friends of POUCC
Dale Speakman	Cousin of Faith Coppolo
Joe Vogel	Friend of the Kransi Family
Lowan Willoughby	Friend of Sharon Williamson
Rita Wren	Friend of POUCC

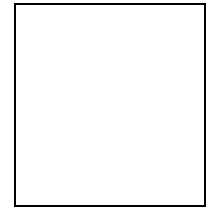
In Care Facilities

Jeanette Campbell	Member of POUCC (Care Center, MA)
June Ferreri	Member of POUCC (Care Center, PA)
Margie Hoebing	Friend of POUCC (Care Center, PO)
Nancy Horn	Member of POUCC (Care Center, PO)
Marge Monat	Member of POUCC (Care Center, DB)
Eloise Wotke	Friend of POUCC (Care Center, WI)
Beverly Woodacre	Member of POUCC (Care Center, NY)

Special Needs

Victims of the Caronavirus and Those on the Front Line Fighting the Virus
 All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families
 Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide
 First Responders Everywhere

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Church Staff

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Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. C. William Ebbert
Minister of Music: Dr. Tom Naus
Office Manager: Kathy Shaffner
Custodian: Ronnie Servant
Thrift & Gift Store Manager: Bob Gaither
Media Communication: Bob Brewster,
Trey & Van Thompson

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

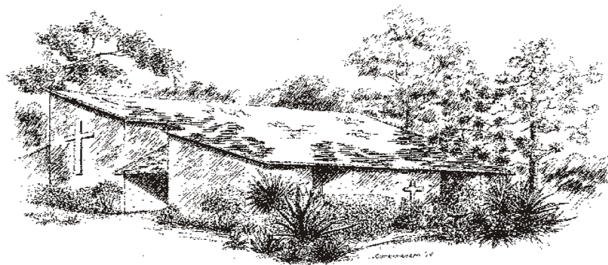
8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

Adult Discussion

9:45 AM

“Wired” Word Bible Study

First Tuesday of the Month
6:00 pm



Phone (386) 788-0920
Email: poucc651@gmail.com Website: portorangeucc.org