



Volume 39, Issue 10

October 2017

**Port Orange
United Church of Christ**
651 Taylor Road
Port Orange, FL 32127
Office 386-788-0920
Fax 386-788-8255
Email: uccpo@bellsouth.net
Website: portorangeucc.org

INTERIM PASTOR'S MESSAGE



Psalm 25:1-9 *"To you, O God, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; ...Make me to know your ways, O God; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. ...God leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble God's way."*

In this Issue:

- Interim Pastor 1
- Genesis Bible Study, Operations & Financials 2
- Youth Corner, Fellowship & News & Notes 3
- Missions, Thrift Store & Food Basket Sunday 4
- UCC Fall Gathering 5
- Birthday, Anniversaries & Prayer Concerns 6
- Church Calendar 7

What a rollercoaster ride this September has given us. We experienced hurricane Irma here in Port Orange. Mexico City has been devastated with two earthquakes during a two weeks period, killing over 300 people. On the heels of Irma came hurricane Jose, hitting a number of Islands in the Atlantic, followed by hurricane Maria, which has totally devastated the U.S. territorial country of Puerto Rico, where wide spread destruction may very well bring hundreds of thousands as refugees to our shores. What next is the question of the day!

I have three pictures hanging on my office wall. One picture is of a raging water fall in a forest type setting. Next is a picture of a serene river, again in a wooded area. I bought these paintings because of how they represent life. At times there is much energy being spent, with dangerous currents, uncontrollable forces plunging down upon us, navigation seems impossible, all this symbolized in a water fall. Then, at other times the waters are calm, providing space for nurture, serenity, a sense of security, as symbolized in the still, slow moving waters of a river; almost pastoral.

These pictures remind me of the Psalmist words: *"To you, O God, I lift up my soul."* Whether we are in the midst of a crisis or living life in a pastoral setting, what a marvelous comfort comes in knowing that we have a higher power where we can "lift our soul" up to. It is a great comfort that in whatever situation one finds themselves in, there is one who we can trust to be with us, listening to us and caring for our needs.

The third picture that hangs above my desk is a poster produced by the UCC almost 15 yrs ago. It has the face of Dorothy Gale, from Kansas in the background with these words, *"I love my church because it's sort of like The Wizard of Oz – it's about having a heart and a brain. And courage!"* This I think sums up what faith in God is about: heart, brain, and courage. We ask God for guidance and wisdom, we share mercy and forgiveness, and it takes courage to stand up for what is right and just. During these trying days, may we continue to echo the words of the psalmist as we "lift our souls, in trust, to God!

Peace,

Pastor Steven

Staff

- Interim Pastor:**
Rev. Steven Mitchell
- Assistant Pastor:**
Beverly Schafer
- Pastor Emeritus:**
Rev. Dr. Bill Ebbert
- Minister of Music:**
Dr. Tom Naus
- Youth Leader:**
Sher Buller
- Office Manager:**
Kathy Shaffner
- Custodian:**
Deb Viola
- Gift & Thrift Store:**
Bob Gaither
- Media Communication**
Bob Brewster

STUDY ON GENESIS — PART II, CHAPTER 12-32



Hearing God speak is a gift of the Holy Spirit, who is active in our midst. The primary purpose for this particular Bible study is to listen and hear God speak, although we do learn specific information about the story's that we are reading.

In Part II of this bible study series, we will trace the nomadic steps of Abraham and his descendants as they embrace – and sometimes evade –their role in God's unfolding purposes. The human impulse to secure our own prosperity and future confronts God's demand for absolute trust, sometimes against all evidence. Amid human wavering, the covenant that God has established stands firm, a foundation for the people of Israel forever after.

Please come and join us in this different style of looking at scripture. You do not need to have attended Part I to join in this upcoming series. Please let the office know if you intend to attend as we will e-mail you the first lesson of this series for you to prepare for the discussions.

OPERATIONS TEAM

On Monday, September 18th the Operations Team met and the following items were discussed.

Old Business

- Ceiling Repair in Jim Reed room – On going.
- Painting Jim Reed Room – This will have to wait until ceiling is repaired.
- Parking stop – Completed by Billy Wiggins.
- Office Managers Window Screen – On going.
- Walkway Lights on Charlie Mix Building – Completed thanks to Billy Wiggins.
- Carpet in Youth/Nursery Room – Carpet was professionally cleaned.



New Business:

- **Jim Reed Room A/C System** – After two service calls in September the unit was replaced at the cost of \$5,800.
- **Water Under the Two North East Doors** – The seals appear to be in tack. Sand bags may be needed during hurricane winds. Sand bags will be purchased and stored in the lawn storage area of the back shed.

The next Operations Meeting is scheduled for **Monday, October 8th at 6:30 PM.**

Jim Eagan, Chair of Operations



Financial Update - Operational Budget as 8/31/2017

	ACTUAL	BUDGET	YTD	DIFFERENCE
Income	\$ 12, 373	\$ 109,960	\$ 92,983	\$ 16,977
Expenses	\$ 12, 408	\$ 114,140	\$ 110,248	\$ 3,892
Balance	\$ (35)	\$ (4,180)	\$ (17,265)	

Included in July's income figure is \$1,042 in gifts given to the Special Maintenance Fund. Thanks for your generosity! Please note: July's figures do not include the \$3,401 given in donations to Mission Projects because missions income is designated giving and NOT available for operations expenses.

Hal Francis, Treasurer

YOUTH CORNER



Terrific Tuesdays

Terrific Tuesday Youth Group

Tuesdays 6:00-8:00 PM

Dinner @ 6:00 PM - \$3

Open to Middle & High School

Terrific Tuesday Youth Group has started up again for the school year. All Middle & High School youth are invited. Be sure to invite your friends. The more the merrier.

We started our year off with a Slip & Slide Kick Ball Game. What a BLAST! It was so much fun we are anxious to do it again. Thank you Bob Brewster for the aerial video of the fun. Be sure to check out the video!

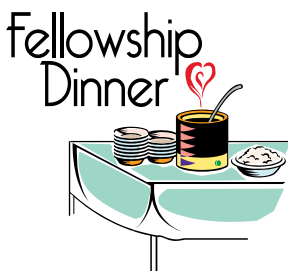


We brainstormed and have come up with a list of future activities to work toward this year. We will also be doing fundraising to help with the cost of youth activities.

Plans in the making...Fundraising, Halloween Party, Day at the Beach, Bowling, Movie, Christmas Caroling, Hanger 15 Trampoline Park, Blue Springs, and a Christmas Party.

Stay tuned for further details. *Sher Buller, Youth Leader*

SECOND THURSDAY FELLOWSHIP DINNER



Because of the Fall Gathering Meet & Greet on **October 12th** which members are encouraged to attend, the **Fellowship Dinner has been moved to Thursday, October 19th at 6:00 PM in the Jim Reed Room. It's a Picnic! Hamburgers and hot dogs will be provided, you bring the sides.** If you are not registered to attend the Fall Gathering but you are planning to attend the Meet & Greet, please contact Kathy in the office so that we can give Seabreeze UCC a count of those attending. We are encouraging car pooling. If you are planning to drive or need a ride, please contact Kathy in the office.

NEWS & NOTES

CROSS ROADS COMMUNICATION TEAM MEETING: Monday, October 2nd, 6:30 PM in the Sanctuary. We will review and update the progress made since we began this venture last Fall as well as discuss new ideas on how to grow the congregation and serve the needs of our members and our community. Please be sure to attend.



REFORMATION RUMBLE: A CONTINUING DIALOGUE: October 8th, 3:00 PM at Grace Episcopal Church. Come join this ecumenical discussion of the effects of 500 of reformation. Pastor Steven will serve as a member of the panel in this discussion. Refreshments will follow the discussion.

ANNUAL PET BLESSING: Mark your calendars and gather up your cherished family pets (big and small) and attend the Combined Service and Blessing on **Sunday, October 15th , beginning at 9:45 AM.**



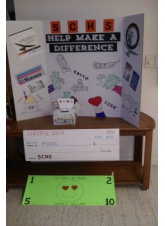
NUT & CANDY ORDERS: Delana Pack will be taking orders for candy and nuts between service this Sunday to benefit the Girl Scouts.

MISSION NOTES



POUCC presented Spruce Creek Elementary with a check for \$3,401 on September 6th. The Mission's Team wants to thank everyone who gave so generously to this worthwhile cause. We definitely Made A Difference.

On September 1st our focus mission became Spruce Creek High School's Unaccompanied Youth. Dr. Donna Wilkes, SCH's Transition Coach, was supposed to speak at both services on September 10th but due to Hurricane Irma, worship was canceled. Dr. Wilkes spoke at both services on Sunday, September 24th and also added that these **students need personal care item, such as shampoo, conditioner, deodorants, tooth brushes & toothpaste, women's hygiene products and toilet paper.**



After Hurricane Harvey passed, Bob Gaither gave two large trash bags of stuffed animals to a person that frequents POUCC's Thrift Store and mentioned that she was heading to Houston to donate her time and items she collected for displaced families.

A trip was made to Boggy Creek on September 7th with afghans and quilts. Campers were to begin arriving on the 15th but due to Hurricane Irma had to be postponed a week because of loss of power at Camp Boggy Creek. Thank you to Molly's Knit Wits (18 afghans), Ruth Larned (7 quilts) and Nicki Wiggins (3 afghans) for their donations. Afghans continue to be in great need!

As always, Sophie's Circle, the Sock Box and Eyeglass Collections, continue year-round.

Remember – “We Can Make a Difference in This World” if all of us give a little of what we are so blessed to have. A BIG Thank You to All! *Peggy Wiggins, Chair of Missions*



NEIGHBORS IN NEED “PROTECT THE SACRED”: This special mission offering of the UCC supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States including the Council for American Indian Ministries. This offering will be received on **October 1st**. Please be generous.

THE GIFT & THRIFT STORE

Thanks to all who have visited and patronized our store. To date, our sales exceed \$19,000. With the holidays fast approaching, we are in need of donations-especially small furniture and knick-knacks. We also need volunteers and if you can help, please call me at 290-2726. Your donations and support helps the church and the community.

Bob Gaither, Manager



YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS



Communion Sundays are designated as “Fill the Food Basket” Sunday. As a reminder, October 1st is our next collection day and will again benefit Halifax Urban Ministers Pantry. Over 28 bags of food were collected last month for the pantry. We recently received a note from Halifax Urban Ministers thanking us for our recent food donations (posted on bulletin board). Thanks to Chuck Konopsky for delivering the food each month. Please be generous and make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates (clearly marked on all cans, boxes, and containers).

2017 FLORIDA CONFERENCE GATHERING



Now is the time to gather the church, to come together for fellowship, learning and fun, and to celebrate and recommit to our shared covenant as we converge on **Daytona Beach Oct. 12-14** for the 2017 Annual Gathering of the Florida Conference United Church of Christ.

The United Church of Christ in Florida is a progressive Christian movement that represents the great diversity that is the United Church of Christ. No two congregations are exactly alike, each a reflection of their individual culture, theology, setting and heritage. Yet, while we are very different from one another, we are connected and share in common a love of our neighbors, a concern for stewarding the gift of creation, and a desire to create a just world for all.

This year's theme is "Make Glad the Deeper Waters," and our scripture will be Genesis 1: 1-3. We hope you will join us, as lay people, musicians and clergy gather to worship, deliberate, learn, serve and Make Glad together.

Registration is \$99 per person and includes lunch and dinner on Friday, Oct. 13, at the Hilton Daytona Beach Resort / Ocean Walk Village. A registration option with no meals included is available for \$49. You may purchase lunch and dinner separately, for \$25 and \$30 respectively, either through this registration form or with cash or check at the event. [Online registration link:](#)

<https://uccfla-reg.brtapp.com/Receptionforthe2017AnnualGatheringoftheFloridaConference>

Our keynote speaker, Molly Phinney Baskette, is, in no particular order, a mother, spouse, recovering workaholic, cancer survivor, adventurous home cook. Oh, and she recently traded blizzards for earthquakes in moving from Boston, Massachusetts, to California to become First Church Berkeley's newly minted senior minister. She also serves as a senior consultant for the Center for Progressive Renewal, with an affinity for church renewal, social media and spiritual formation for the new millennium. She is best known for her books *Real Good Church: How Our Church Came Back from the Dead and Yours Can Too* and *Standing Naked Before God: The Art of Public Confession*.

In addition, there will be a free reception with heavy appetizers, drinks and entertainment Thursday evening, Oct. 12, at Seabreeze United Church of Christ beginning at 6:30 pm. The reception is open to everyone, and whether you are joining us for the rest of the Gathering or not, we hope we'll see you there.

The 2017 Annual Gathering will conclude at noon Saturday, Oct. 14, after a closing worship service at Seabreeze UCC.

For those wishing to register but do not have the ability for online computer registration, please contact Kathy at the office so we can assist you in registering.

Reception for Annual Gathering - October 12th

Southern author Frye Gaillard and award-winning Nashville recording artist Anne E. DeChant will be our special guests at the reception for the 2017 Annual Gathering Thursday, Oct. 12, at Seabreeze United Church of Christ in Daytona Beach. The evening will start at 6:30 p.m. with an assortment of heavy appetizers and drinks, after which Gaillard and DeChant will team up for a unique program of stories and song entitled "With Music and Justice for All". Gaillard will present brief readings from his works, setting the context for an acoustic performance of original songs by DeChant. Whether you'll be joining us for the 2017 Annual Gathering of the Florida Conference or not, we hope to see you at what's bound to be fantastic kick-off event for our annual meeting. There is no cost to attend the reception, but we will take a free will offering following the performance. RSVP requested only attending the reception. If you are planning to attend, contact Kathy in the office.



OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS*

Sara Bryan	10/1
Tom Summers	10/4
Cindi Harper	10/5
Levi Zinke	10/8
Ron Zinke	10/13
Roger Harper	10/17
Doreen Nicholls	10/18
Payton Bryan	10/19
Maurice Claunch	10/27
Leonard Lussier	10/28
Jackie Gaither	
Mary Ann Summers	10/29
Aidan Bryan	10/30

OCTOBER ANNIVERSARIES*

Bill & Leree Nicholls	10/11/1958
Todd & Alice Lynn Feldman	10/27/1985



PRAYER REQUESTS*

Cecilia Airaldi	Friend of the Schafer-Ramoutar Family
Gerry Baldwin	Friend of the Schafer Family
Bob Brewster	Member of POUCC
Brooke Bryan	Family Member of Pastor Beverly
Tom Buller	Member of POUCC
Gene Clark	Friend of the Wiggins Family
Ingrid Claunch	Member of POUCC
Connor	Friend of POUCC
Amy Dyer	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Jenna Geist & Family	Friends of POUCC
Trevor Heftmunsperger	Friend of POUCC
Jack & Pat Hilgenberg	Members of POUCC
Jimmy Hill	Brother of Val Hill
John Holbrook	Brother of Ruth Brewster
Karen Holland	Former Associate of Larry Deitch
Scott Kirlin	Husband of Diane Kirlin
Roger Kransi	Brother of Harold Kransi
Joe Maddern	Friend of Sue Batturs
Joe Magsamen	Friend of Sher Buller
Joyce Nead	Friend of Sheila Fisher
Nelson Family	Friends of Sher Buller
Roberta	Friend of Sheila Fisher
John Shell	Son of Sue Barhite
Michelle Stewart	Friend of the Wiggins Family
Carol Strickland	Friend of POUCC
Eric Walter	Friend of the Buller Family
Joseph Williamson	Son of Sharon Williamson
James Wood	Friend of Sher Buller
Trey Zinke	Member of POUCC

In Care Facilities

Jeanette Campbell	Member of POUCC (Care Center in MA)
June Ferreri	Member of POUCC (Care Center in PA)
Blanche Northcutt	Former Member of POUCC (Life Care Center in Collegedale, TN)
Eloise Wottke	Former Member of POUCC (Onalaska Care Center in Onalaska, WI)

Special Needs

All of Our Military & Their Families

Broader Concerns

Victims of Hurricanes Harvey, Irma & Maria & Earthquakes
Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide

**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

POUCC October 2017

Sun		Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion 9:45am Traditional 10:45 am	2 POMA 4:30 pm Compassionate Friends 6:00 pm Cross Roads 6:30 pm	3 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 pm Genesis Bible Study 6:30 pm	4 POMA 4:30 pm CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	5 POMA 4:30 pm Line Dancing 6:00 pm	6	7
8 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion 9:45am Traditional 10:45 am Reform. Panel 3:00 pm	9 POMA 4:30 pm Operations 6:30 pm	10 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 pm Genesis Bible Study 6:30 pm	11 Palmetto House 5:30 pm CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	12 POMA 4:30 pm UCC Fall Gathering—Seabreeze UCC 6:30 PM	13 UCC Fall Gathering—Daytona Beach	14 UCC Fall Gathering—Daytona Beach
15 Adult Discussion 8:45 am Pet Blessing Combined Ser. 9:45 am	16 POMA 4:30 pm Operations 6:30 pm	17 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 pm Genesis Bible Study 6:30 pm	18 Palmetto House 5:30 pm CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	19 POMA 4:30 pm Fellowship Dinner 6:00 pm	20	21
22 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion 9:45am Traditional 10:45 am	23 POMA 4:30 pm Council 7:00 pm	24 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 pm Genesis Bible Study 6:30 pm	25 POMA 4:30 pm CPT 6:00 pm Choir 7:30 pm	26 POMA 4:30 pm Line Dancing 6:00 pm	27	22
29 Contemporary 8:45 am Adult Discussion 9:45am Traditional 10:45 am	30 POMA 4:30 pm	31 Terrific Tuesday 6:00 pm Genesis Bible Study 6:30 pm				

Thrift Store Hours: M-F 9 am – 3 pm, Sat. 9 am – noon

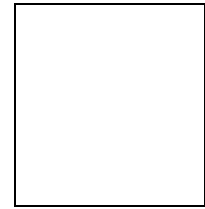
Church Office Hours: M-F 9 am - noon

Join us for Fellowship & Refreshments

Each Sunday Between Services

COFFEE HOUR SCHEDULE: OCT. – THRIFT STORE, NOV. – MISSIONS

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



Church Staff

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



Phone (386) 788-0920
Email: uccpo@bellsouth.net Website: portorangeucc.org

Office Hours

9:00 AM—Noon
Monday—Friday

Thrift Store Hours

9:00 AM—3:00 PM
Monday—Friday
9:00 AM—12:00 Noon
Saturday

Sunday Worship

8:45 AM & 10:45 AM

Children's Sunday School

8:45 AM

**Adult Discussion and
Middle School Sunday
School**

9:45 AM

Terrific Tuesdays

6:00 PM