POUCC Impressions

Volume 48, Issue 7 **July 2026**

Port Orange
United Church of Christ
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Staff

Moderator:
Bob Brewster
Office Manager:
Kathy Shaffner
Custodian:
Ronnie Servant
Organist/Pianist:
Daniel Weimer
Missions
Jackie Gaither
Thrift Store:
Rachel Sitepu
Media Communications:
Bob Brewster

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE

What I Learned at Walmart

Several years ago, I made a visit to the local Walmart here in Daytona Beach. While walking down one of the aisles I stopped to look at something I wanted to buy. I was in the back of the store near the TV Monitors. The shelves were taller than me, but I could hear a calm voice on the other side clearly saying, "Help me, I am Lost. Help Me I do not know where I am." I walked around the shelves and there a saw a man about 5 feet 6 inches tall. He was holding a Red & White pole used by blind people to feel their way around. I also could see that he had no eyes. Perhaps born that way but nevertheless very blind. He said again, "Someone please help me." I asked him where he wanted to go. He said he wanted to go to the front of the store. I then told him he was in the back of the store, and I would be happy to help him get to the front. I reached out and lightly touched his arm to lead him down the aisle. He pulled away and he told me he did not need me to hold his arm, only use my voice. That is what I did. I walked beside him and gave him verbal directions. "We are in the furniture aisle and need to go straight". "We are passing the clothing aisle and will need to make a left turn". "We need to go straight"... and so forth until we reached the front of the store. At that time, Walmart had a McDonalds store inside their front door. (perhaps, they still do). He told me he could smell the food and then thanked me for helping him, said goodbye and went inside McDonalds where he sat down. I told him you are welcome and I went back to the store aisle to finish buying what I was looking at. To this day, I remember my blind friend's calm voice asking for help and his independence as I guided him to where he wanted to go. Yes, he was blind without the benefit of eyes but on the other hand he could still see in his own way using his other senses of hearing, smell and understanding my words of guidance. When I left Walmart that day, I felt good. I had helped someone who was lost to find their way. In some ways, perhaps, I was the one who was lost and in helping my blind friend, he helped me. For the past few years, Pastor Javier Leon has been guiding us through the Bible. Teaching us that the BIBLE is the "Basic Instructions Before Leaving Earth." It is our Guide. We are all blind in our own way. (*Continued on next page.)*

Perhaps not physically but spiritually. Asking God for help may not be easy for some but it is the right thing to do. We do not need to wait until we are really lost to ask for help. Why wait until trouble has found us. This life is not easy. In good times and bad times, we should be asking for help. Do not let pride hold you back. Ask! Prayerfully, quietly, and respectfully. God's help is always there. Oh, by the way, you do not need to be in Walmart to ask for help from God. He is with you and always beside you no matter where you are.

Finally, as we celebrate our country's 250th Anniversary, please remember to give thanks to God for allowing us to live in America, the greatest country in world history where anyone can truly worship freely and openly. Prayerfully submitted, *Bob Brewster, Moderator*

OPERATION'S & FIANANCE TEAM

Welcome to the heat and humidity of July in Florida! Thanks to Steve Burton and his crew who not only keep the grounds look great but you also may have noticed the new sidewalk they installed to the Thrift Store shed in the rear of the building. This addition will make it much easier for Rachel and the volunteers to access the contents of the shed. Thanks to Bob Brewster for handling Jim Reed Room restroom issues.

Operating Budget to Actual as of 5/31/2026

	May Actual	YTD Actual	YTD Budget	YTD Difference
Income	16,309.70	83,270.91	79,903.37	3,367.54
Expenses	13,681.00	59,974.38	71,165.48	(11,191.10)
Profit/(Loss)	2,628.70	23,296.53	8,737.89	14,558.64

CD & MM Income as of 5/31/2026

YTD Interest Income:	1,122.57
Other expenses	(466.00)
Combined Profit/(Loss)	23,953.10

We had an operations profit of $ 2,628.70 for the month of May and a profit of $ 23,296.53 for the five month period. We had a total profit of $ 23,953.10 for that period which includes the interest income and other expenses. As always our thanks go out to our wonderful volunteers and to all who support our Church.

Respectfully Submitted, Barbara Horton,
Treasurer

THE GIFT & THRIFT STORE

Dear Church Family,

It is that time of the year! We are hosting a "Christmas in July Sale" from July 27 through July 31st. Please join us and invite your friends and family! Our Thrift Store will be packed with just about any merchandise you can think of. We strive to create a safe environment where everyone who enters can feel God's love, experience His presence, and build meaningful connections. Many of our customers and volunteers have made lasting friendships here, with some even gathering monthly.

"Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is noble, whatever is right, whatever is pure, whatever is lovely, whatever is admirable—if anything is excellent or praiseworthy—think about such things." (Philippians 4:8, NIV)

Blessings,

Rachel Sitepu, Manager

PLEASE NOTE: The Thrift Store will be open regular hours on Friday, July 3rd.

YOUR FOOD BASKET DONATIONS

Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. As a reminder, July 5th is our next collection day and will benefit a local food pantry. Over 20 bags and cartons of food were collected last month. Thanks to Ruth Brewster for loading and delivering the food. **Please be generous and make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates .**

JULY BIRTHDAYS*

Kristin Marshall	7/7
Teddy Yaeger	7/11
Nicholas Yaeger	7/21
Erika Henderson	7/22
Bonnie Morisset	7/24
Leree Nicholls	7/26

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

PRAYER REQUESTS*

Sue Batturs	Member of POUCC
Larry & Susan Belzac	Canadian Friends of Shelia Fisher
John Castelli	Friend of Bob & Ruth Brewster
Ingrid Claunch	Member of POUCC
Dallas Dale Davis	Former Member of POUCC
Bob Gaither	Member of POUCC
Steve Grant	Member of POUCC
Erica Henderson	Friend of POUCC
Eric Hollbrook	Nephew of Bob & Ruth Brewster
Chuck Konopsky	Member of POUCC
Jose León	Father of Pastor Javier
Pastor Yarisis León	Member of POUCC
Douglas Paul	Family of Janey & Dan Weimer
Potenza Family Members	Family of Denise & Don Gates
Liz Mills	Former Member of POUCC
Lydia Nevarez	Mother of Pastor Javier

In Care Facilities

Margie Hoebing — Friend of POUCC (Care Center, PO)

Special Needs

All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families
Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide

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

POUCC July 2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
* Mountain of Light Church			1 Grief Share Meeting 7:00 pm	2 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	3 Church Office Closed	4
5Worship Service 9;30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL* Worship 3:00 pm	6 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	7 Weigh Watchers 9:30 am	8 Grief Share Meeting 7:00 pm	9 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	10	11 Weigh Watchers 8:00 am
12Worship Service 9;30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL Worship 3:00 pm	13 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	14 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	15 Grief Share Meeting 7:00 pm	16 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	17	18Weigh Watchers 8:00 am Council Meeting 10:00 am
19Worship Service 9;30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL* Worship 3:00	20 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	21 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	22 Grief Share Meeting 7:00 pm	23 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	24	25 Weigh Watchers 8:00 am
26Worship Service 9;30 am Fellowship 10:30 am MOL Worship 3:00 pm	27 MOL Bible Study 7:00 pm	28 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	29 Grief Share Meeting 7:00 pm	30 Weight Watchers 9:30 am	31	

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

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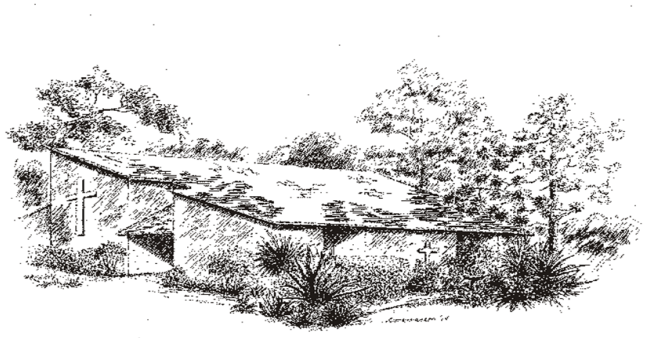
Office Hours
9:00 AM—1:00 PM
Monday—Friday
Thrift Store Hours
9:00 AM—2:00 PM
Monday—Friday
Sunday Worship
9:30 AM



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