



POUCC Impressions

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SENIOR PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Port Orange
United Church of Christ
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From the Pastor's Desk –
May and June are great opportunities to reflect on Jesus' great commandment to love God and to love one another, as we celebrate both Mother's Day and Father's Day during these two months.

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For over fifteen years one of my colleagues, the Rev. Peter Panagore from Boothbay Harbor, Maine has done a Daily Devotion on one of the local Portland TV Channels known as *Two Minutes for God*. In one of my favorite segments, he told about a fire that happened in California about ten years ago.

As the flames burned many homes to cinders, a reporter tried to find a human angle of the story and interviewed a school teacher who had lost her house to the wildfire. For a while, the teacher said, it seemed that her street would be spared, but the wind changed directions and quickly spread through her neighborhood. This teacher had only a few minutes to choose what she valued most among all her possessions before fleeing for her own life. She chose nothing of material value – no jewelry, no clothing, no electronic equipment, not even her favorite jacket.

Escaping with only the clothes on her back, she carried with her a single folder containing artwork from her students. She hurried with their art to her school, placed the folder inside the pottery kiln, and hoped her treasure would survive the fires.

She had no time to plan, no time to think things through. She just reacted. She chose with her heart. She chose with love. Love was all she could carry. In her mind, love was all she could save.

Ultimately, love is the only thing we can carry with us into eternity. So I wonder what you and I would choose, God forbid, if we were in a similar circumstance?

I'm not sure any of us will ever know for sure what we will take with us in an emergency such as a fire or a hurricane and flooding until we are forced to make that choice. I suspect we all hope that God will help us to pick love. Love weighs nothing, but it means everything.

As we face these troubled times in our country, it makes sense that we all ponder how we can choose love each and every day. I prayerfully wish you well as you consider how you will live out God's command to love - to love our families, to love our friends, and especially to love our enemies.

Blessings,
Pastor Pat

Staff

- Pastor:**
Rev. Patricia Holcomb
- Office Manager:**
Kathy Shaffner
- Custodian:**
Ronnie Servant
- Missions**
Jackie Gaither
- Thrift Store Manager:**
Emily McLean
- Media Communications:**
Bob Brewster

MODERATOR'S MESSAGE



Ruth & I just returned from a whirlwind 16-day RV trip driving from Iowa to Anchorage, Alaska. We were on the road over these 16-days (May 11-27) for a total of 4,600 miles. We slept in the rented RV in a different place each night and with the exception of three meals eaten out, we also cooked and ate in the RV, too. We drove through Iowa, South Dakota, Wyoming, Montana in the U.S. then entered Canada driving through Alberta, British Columbia and the Yukon before re-entering the U.S. into Alaska. In Alaska, we drove over 1,500 miles. The vast uninhabited areas we drove through along our entire route were startling. The amount of land we passed through with just billions of trees as far as you could see in every direction was both awesome and boring at the same time. The amount of wide-open treeless land in contrast was also awesome and at the same time boring, too. Between the lower U.S. states, Canada and Alaska, we have never felt so isolated yet at the same time when we did come to a small settlement of a few homes, perhaps a gas station or a small market, we also found a church. Even as remote as living hundreds of miles from a hospital or even a small clinic, far from any stores or services, we still found a church. Some were tiny with a log-cabin look, some were prefab manufactured buildings like a small home, some were in what might have been a metal storage building or a house and finally some that were built over many years out of stone and wood. We saw a church in the most remote areas and we saw multiple churches in the larger city areas. Here is the point of why I am sharing this with all of you. Even when living with the simplest of requirements and the simplest of available life basics, like food, clothing and shelter, we still found a church. Here in Volusia County where we have everything we need within just a few miles in every direction, we have over 180 churches. Yet, with so many opportunities to attend church, we still have a large segment of our population NOT attending a church. Why is that? How is it that people with little to nothing attend a church and people with plenty – everything they need, are distracted and therefore do not need a church on Sundays? I do not know the answer but I know there are over 8,000 churches a year closing in the U.S. and yet where you think you will not find a church due to remoteness or a lack of people, a church exists and people attend it. Our church here in Port Orange should be overflowing with people on Sundays, if for no other reason than to give thanks to God for what we have. Spread the word that churches are for attending not to be driven past.

Prayerfully submitted, *Bob Brewster, Moderator*

THE GIFT AND THRIFT STORE

May has started off as a very busy month! Many of our volunteers that are temporary due to them returning home have all needed to be replaced for the Thrift Store. Finding new people to work have always been a challenge but once again not for God. He has provided four new wonderful ladies that fit right into our Thrift Store family. We are taking Saturdays off until the 1st of August so that our workers can spend time with their families and enjoy their weekend as they so deserve it. We have had a positive reaction from our customers on this as they all appreciate what we do. We are having a second .25 cent sale the last week in this month. May 27,29th and 31st from 9-noon to finish what is left in the storage trailer to clean out. We had a wonderful turn out last time and once again all are excited to attend. We continue to stay positive and find new and interesting ways to create increased income. Donations, new customers and caring volunteers are all a blessing from God!!! *Emily McLean, Manager*



BIBLE STUDY

Wired Word” Bible Study will always be held on the **1st and 3rd Sunday** of each month at **11:00 AM** (right after church service 9:30-10:30 AM. in the Sanctuary

June 2, 2024 “How can Christian churches come to a ‘unity in Christ’ with so many differences?”

June 16, 2024, “How can we be thankful while suffering?”

OPERATION'S & FINANCE TEAM



As we welcome June and the beginning of Summer, Operation's projects are being handled as needed. We recently received an update from Tuff Shed with regard to the Thrift Store Annex. They stated that our final documents are being processed by their engineering department and based on the current lead time the documents will be completed in early June. Once the documents are completed, Tuff Shed can begin the permitting process.

Yours in faith, *Art Horton, Chairman, Alan Holcomb, Andy Stebenne*

Financial Update Operational Budget as 4/30/2024

Operating Budget to Actual 4/30/2024

| | <u>March Actual</u> | <u>YTD Actual</u> | <u>YTD Budget</u> | <u>YTD Difference</u> |
|---------------|---------------------|-------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Income | 21,632.27 | 70,483.02 | 71,118.44 | (635.42) |
| Expensed | <u>12,968.82</u> | <u>48,190.96</u> | <u>58,995.17</u> | (10,804.21) |
| Profit/(Loss) | 8,663.45 | 22,292.06 | 12,123.27 | 10,168.79 |

Other Income/Expenses as of 4/30/2024

Capital Improvements

| | <u>YTD Actual</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------|
| Income | 4,600.08 |
| Expenses | <u>25,837.23</u> |
| Profit/(Loss) | (21,237.15) |
| <hr/> | |
| Combined Profit/(Loss) | 1,054.91 |



We had an operating profit of \$8,663.45 for the month of April and a profit of \$22,292.06 for the four month period. We had a combined profit of \$1,054.91 for that period which includes the Capital Improvement expenses of \$25,837.23. As always our thanks go out to all our wonderful volunteers and to all who support our Church..

Respectfully Submitted, Barbara Horton,, Treasurer

FOOD BASKET SUNDAY

Communion Sundays are designated as "Fill the Food Basket" Sunday. As a reminder, June 2nd is our next collection day. Over 28 bags of food were collected last month which benefited Halifax Urban Ministries. In a recent thank you note they wrote our donations aided in serving **294 Households, 335 Food Bags, 773 People and 31 New People in the month of April.** Thanks to Chuck Konopsky and Mary Anne Stewart for loading and delivering the food. **Please be generous and make sure all donations have NOT passed their expiration dates.**



Happy Birthday!



JUNE BIRTHDAYS*

| | |
|----------------|------|
| Diane Kirlin | 6/1 |
| Bob Gaither | 6/2 |
| Ruth Brewster | |
| Delana Pack | |
| Madison Hobson | 6/8 |
| Barbara Boon | |
| Pam Protko | 6/13 |
| Alan Holcomb | 6/17 |
| Carole Crippen | 6/18 |
| Susan Bussard | 6/19 |
| Bill Greiff | 6/21 |
| Charlie Baskin | |
| Jimmy Goodman | 6/25 |
| Sean Senko | 6/29 |

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES*

| | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|
| Dr. Ted & Cheri Yaeger, Jr. | 6/07/1987 |
| Bill & Doreen Wheeler | 6/24/1972 |
| Art & Barbara Horton | 6/28/1975 |



Happy Father's Day!

REMEMBER DAD ON JUNE 16th!

Note: *Please contact the church office to update our records if we missed your special date. or with your Prayer Concerns 788-0920.

PRAYER REQUESTS*

| | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Molly Baskin | Member of POUCC |
| Sue Batturs | Member of POUCC |
| Beth & Chris Brown | Family of Sheila Fisher |
| Rafael Castels | Friend of Sheila Fisher |
| Sheila Fisher | Member of POUCC |
| Bill Hooker | Member of POUCC |
| Stephanie James | Friend of Emily McLean |
| Delane Kirk | Friend of POUCC |
| Harry & Jim Manchester | Family of Sheilas Fisher |
| Caitlin Mauldin | Friend of Sheila Fisher |
| Liz Mills | Former Member of POUCC |
| Jeremy Parker | Friend of Sheila Fisher |
| Carmella Potenza | Family of Don & Denise Gates |
| Kathleen Price | Friend of Sheila Fisher |
| Robin Robbins | Friend of Sara Sousa |
| Kay & Don Schweitzer | Members of POUCC |
| John Sedgwick | Friend of Sheila Fisher |
| Renee Smith | Friend of Sheila Fisher |
| Michael, Andrea & Cecily Sousa | Family of Sarah Sousa |
| Sarah Sousa | Friend of POUCC |
| Sara Sechrest | Mother of Sara Sousa |
| Baby Shelah | Friend of Sharon Tinny |
| Susanne Van Seeters | Family of Sarah Sousa |
| Tyler Wardick Family | Friends of Sara Sousa |
| Seth Wanie | Family of Bill & Susie Greiff |
| Cheyenne West | Friend of the Thrift Store |
| Darlene Wolfson | Friend of Sheila Fisher |
| Ron Zinke | Member of POUCC |

In Care Facilities

| | |
|------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Charlie Baskin | Member of POUCC (Care Center, PO) |
| Margie Hoebing | Friend of POUCC (Care Center, PO) |
| Marge Monat | Member of POUCC (Care Center, DB) |
| Mary Ann Stewart | Member of POUCC (Care Center, PO) |

Special Needs

Victims of the Recent Tornadoes
All of Our Military, Veterans & Their Families
Those Fighting Terrorism Worldwide

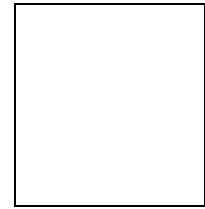


POUCC June 2024

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

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

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Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Patricia Holcomb
Office Manager: Kathy Shaffner
Custodian: Ronnie Servant
Missions: Jackie Gaither
Thrift Store Manager: Emily McLean
Media Communications: Bob Brewster

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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