

KNOW GROW GO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
PORT CHARLOTTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
VOLUME 42 - ISSUE 8

August 2011

Sunday Worship: 8:00am - 11:00am - 6:00pm www.pcumc.info 941-625-4356 ph / 941-625-0144 fax

Part Of Something Bigger Than Myself

Not too long ago, I was speaking with a young woman who had grown up in this church. She was baptized here, confirmed here, but she had fallen away from church for quite a while. She had returned to church and felt like God was doing some special things in her life through Port Charlotte United Methodist Church. She said, "I've been back for a while and you've never asked me to become a member of the church. Why is that?" I explained to her that I have never asked anyone to "join a church." I believe as a pastor, the conversation about taking a next step for God, begins between that person and God. The Apostle Paul states in 1 Corinthians 3:9,

"For we are co-workers in God's service; you are God's field, God's building."

The members of PCUMC value and savor the opportunity to labor together for Christ.

Ministry is also about serving, not being served. Each of us has our own special gifts to use to build up the body of Christ and to make Port Charlotte UMC unique. We would love for you to discover how your life will be enriched by being a part of this thriving church.

Membership at Port Charlotte UMC is not about becoming a part of something exclusive. It isn't about adding to our numbers. Taking the vows of church membership is about claiming a mutual commitment and investment among a group of believers. We commit, thick or thin, much or meager, good or bad, to do life together. Church membership is about being part of something bigger than one's own life and identifying with the most profound cause in the history of the universe – the Church of Jesus Christ.

Whether you are a new friend of PCUMC, have been here for a while, or invest heavily in the ministry of this group, we would ask you to consider that next step - making a public affirmation to this body of believers. Membership begins with attending the Church Membership Class. It takes place on the 3rd Sunday of each month, from 3pm to 5pm, in the New Room. The following Sunday you will come forward and make that public affirmation of your faith in Christ and your commitment to be part of something bigger than yourself!

Keep going and never quit!

Grace,
Pastor Brian

August 3

WNT, 5-6pm

August 7

CWM Open House 4pm

August 8

First day of school

August 21

Membership Class 3-5pm

August 27

Children's SWAP 10-12
Angel Food Distribution

Letters

I wish to thank all of my church family from the very youngest to the very oldest for your prayers, phone calls, visits and more prayers that have carried me thru my knee replacement surgery and now my rehab. Because of everyone's prayer effort, I am improving each day and in time shall be back and running again to be active in our church life and family.

Blessings to all,

Barbara Pennington

Health Ministry - Thank You

Thank you to everyone who responded to the Blood Drive on June 19. We had 20 donors and collected 18 pints of blood.

Jane Trammell

Pastor Brian,

We are grateful to have had youth and adults from your congregation on our campus last week as a part of the work team from southwest Florida. Mike Edwards from Christ Church did a great job of building a cohesive team made up of folks from four different churches.

Thanks for the significant ways that you lift up the ministry of the Children's Home to the congregations that you have served. I remember well the teams that came to the Home from St. James in Tampa, when you served there.

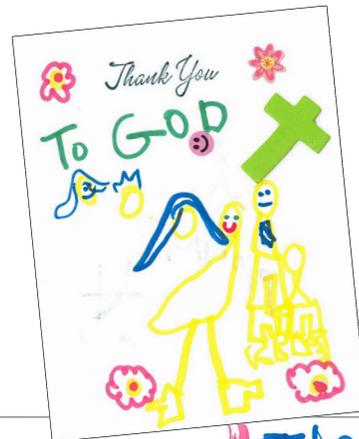
If I can ever be of service in lifting up the Home to your folks, just let me know. I know that Stephen would probably be your first choice, but if you're ever looking for a change of pace, I'm your guy!

Take care, and God bless.

Reverend C. Denny McCullough
Director of Ministry Support
Florida United Methodist Children's Home
51 Children's Way
Enterprise, FL 32725



Marge Davis 6/2/11
Blanche Nelson 6/3/11
Ralph Brabon 6/9/11
Charles Nordstrom 6/26/11
Ann Gilmore 7/5/11
William Golding 7/8/11
Roscoe Verlin Morrison 7/9/11



Stephen Ministry Training

A Stephen Ministry training event is being planned for September 2011. If you are interested in becoming a Stephen Minister, please call the church office 625-4356.

The Stephen Ministry provides confidential, Christian-based care. Trained lay people meet one-to-one with individuals experiencing disappointments and challenges in their lives.

Zambia Missions Update *Delbert and Sandy Groves*

One of the joys we have serving in Zambia is watching this young United Methodist Conference grow. It's unclear exactly how many congregations there are in the whole country. Ten years ago when we first came to Zambia, there were about ten congregations. We're told there are over 80 congregations now. In Nkana, the district we're stationed at in the CopperBelt area, we have started 21 new congregations since our founding ministries at the New Life Center began. This is real pioneer work at its very best. Sandy and I enjoy being a part of this growth and stand amazed at what God has done. We try to work closely with our pastors and their ongoing ministry growth and personal family concerns. We annually hold a number of special events to help keep our growing church leaders encouraged. These gatherings are like the old-time revival meetings we had as kids growing up.

Along with trying to keep our pastors and growing churches encouraged, we the New Life Center staff, have set a goal to try to build two "United Methodist Sister Churches" each year. This is such a great need and it is very important to the future of the United Methodist Church of Zambia. You cannot imagine what it's like to worship in an old school classroom, someone's home, under a tree or anyplace you can fit a group of people that want to gather to worship our Lord and Savior.

We have started fabricating these wonderful little church structures right here at the New Life Center. Then we take them to the new sister church plot site which the congregation has located and purchased. The local congregation also makes all the "burnt brick" and puts a lot of "sweat equity" into building these partnering churches. It's lots of fun for work teams to come and help put these churches together with the local people as well! A really wonderful cross-cultural experience!

The New Life Center has now built seven UMC sister churches in Zambia. The one question that is often asked is, "What does it cost to build one of these churches?" Because we are now fabricating the structures here at NLC, this has helped reduce the cost. Depending on the location of the plot site, the cost is now between seven and eight thousand dollars.

We recently erected the first UMC sister church structure in 2011. This one is outside our district at a village called Kabompo. We held a crusade there two years ago and saw first hand the real need of a church building. They have a wonderful growing congregation of believers. This church building will be an awesome help for leading people to Jesus Christ. Please keep the Kabompo UMC in your prayers over the next few months as they organize themselves and put up the walls and finish the church. They have already started worshipping together in their new church just the way it is!

The funds for the Kabompo UMC sister church were given by Heritage UMC in Clearwater, Florida. This is their second sister church. We welcome you to take part in this wonderful ministry as well!

Faithfully,
Delbert & Sandy Groves

Learn more about Delbert and Sandy,
and their ministry that we support:
www.newlifezambia.com



August Birthdays

01	Jean M. Williams	20	Robert Burr
01	Mary Cox	20	Deidra Setser
01	Kyle Cox	21	Cecil Ward
02	Thelma Lachapelle	21	Inez Jones
03	Robert Gruennert	21	Florence Nevins
03	Marci Middaugh	21	Jacob Kern
04	Cecil Ball	23	Clyde Sell
04	Sue Edmiston	23	Winnie Cassell
05	Nelda Hildebrand	23	Barbara Hepler
05	Libby Weller	23	Candice Chardon
06	Bettie Curtis	24	Jack Bennett
07	Cindy Waterbury	24	David Pennington
08	Thomas Wenck	24	Kathie Abbott
08	Kyle Friend	24	Jo Jo DeHaven
09	Daphene Novak	25	Bill Robishaw
09	Anne Bonsky	25	Jack Mallay
10	Vernie Robertson	25	Dorothy Adams
10	Leah Setser	25	Chris Bowers
12	Elizabeth Jones	26	Leo Jones
12	Dorothy Mann	26	Mary Meyer
13	Amanda Kucewicz	26	Elijah James
14	Ericka Brown	27	Ralph Robinson
15	Louise Conway	27	Cecil Neill
16	Bob Croft	27	Deidre Parkinson
16	Stella Best	28	Beverly Gomez
17	Carol McCullough	28	Alexander DePaul
18	Betty Pyott	29	Mary Lou Stocker
19	Kelsey James	31	Dick Thompson
20	Fanny DeMallie	31	Susan West



August Anniversaries

08/02/1997	Nicholas and Anne Bonsky
08/08/1964	Don and Florence Nevins
08/08/1981	Durvent and Delphena Lyons
08/14/1948	Arthur and Ruth Miller
08/16/1958	Roger and Marjorie Anderson
08/24/1997	Gerald and Karen Shaw
08/29/1959	Allan and Mary Lou Stocker
08/29/1991	Samir and Renee Petro
08/30/1952	Delma and Maxine Giles

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Yarn Donations Needed!

Your generous yarn donations will enable us to share the love of Jesus with those needing an extra special gift knit (or crocheted) with love and prayers.

Bring your donations to the church office or call "D" Fletcher for more information 623-0642.



Sunshine Ministry *Doris Culver*

Be ye kind one to another...

and you are doing just what scriptures ask when you spend an hour or so with a shut-in of the church.

There is a list of church members who are either in assisted care facilities or confined at home. This list is just outside the door of the church offices. **EVEN THOUGH IT IS SUMMER, SHUT-INS GET LONELY!**

If you have some free time and are interested and have questions, you can call me, Doris Culver 743-5092. If I am not home, just leave a message, and I will get back to you.

GOD BLESS YOU IN THIS NEW VENTURE.

Did You Know? *Bob Burr*



The Children's Home of the Florida United Methodist Conference, located in Enterprise, FL – north of Orlando on Highway 4 - is celebrating its 108th birthday. It is licensed by the State of Florida as a Child Placing/Child Caring Agency by the Dept. of Children & Families. In order to operate the residential, foster care and adoptions programs, it must comply with state licensing requirements.

The UM Conference has set a goal of \$12 per person per year to help support the Home. I'm happy to report that our church met this goal last year. The fifth Sunday of a month (2011—Jan., May, July, and Oct.) is the opportunity to present an offering for this program. Let's all get behind the opportunity to do the right thing commencing July 31, 2011.

If you would like to take a day-long trip on our bus in August (date TBD) to the Children's Home in Enterprise, please sign up at the Welcome Center. If you have questions, contact Bob Burr (764-1866).



Extravagant Generosity

YTD Income \$464,921.97

YTD Expenses \$427,069.28

Community Outreach: 5 utility assistance, 1 food
June and July Gas vouchers: 20 Rent assistance: 2

Angel Food to Help With Joplin Recovery *Nancy Bosserdet*

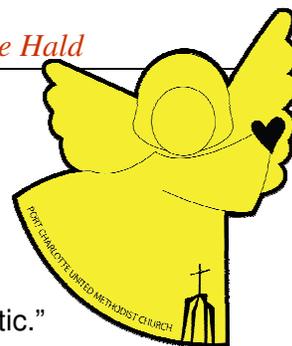
On May 22, 2011 the deadliest tornado in American history struck Joplin, Missouri. Amidst the devastation, two Angel Food church host sites were completely destroyed. Port Charlotte United Methodist has an opportunity to participate in the recovery efforts of that entire area. For those of us who went through Hurricane Charley, we know what a long process that is.

For more information on how you can help, visit the Angel Food website, or call Nancy at the office 625-4356.



Salty Service *Mike Hald*

PCUMC has joined together with eleven other Christian churches to build a Habitat for Humanity home. The program is titled "The Apostles Build" and will be supported through the selling of "Angels in the Attic."



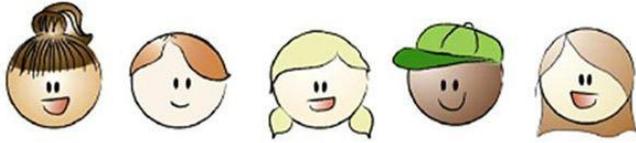
To date, we have received lots of support from the congregation and currently have collected over \$2,400. The angels, along with their blessings, have been posted on the bulletin board in the lobby and eventually will be attached to the attic beams of the Habitat home.



Angels will be for sale through the year and at WNT dinners so you still have time to be a part of this wonderful outreach!

Children's Weekday Ministry

Ericka Brown



PCUMC Children's Weekday Ministry

The Weekday Ministry staff and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support. Your gifts not only help the students but also the teachers. It is such an honor to serve God in such an awesome ministry.

As we begin a new school year, we ask for prayers. Please pray for the teachers, students and their families. Our bus drivers would probably appreciate your remembering them too.

What summer? I think I blinked and it was gone! This time of year is a little crazy but we are so excited! Our open house is on Sunday, August 7th at 4pm. We will need help serving pizza and ice cream. If you are available, we would love for the families to meet you.

August is full of fun with our back-to-school and "all about me" themes. We also will be hunting for the gingerbread man all around the church. It's a great way for the children to tour the church while looking for that little guy. Our students will be learning about community helpers in September. So if you, or someone you know, would like to come talk to the kids, we surely would appreciate it. Just give me a call. Remember we are always looking for readers. We will even give you a book ahead of time, so you can "study." :-)

Praising God,

Ericka

Love ♥ Play ♥ Learn

School Supplies Needed!

Bring your purchased supplies to the church office
or to WNT on August 3.
The first day of school is August 8!

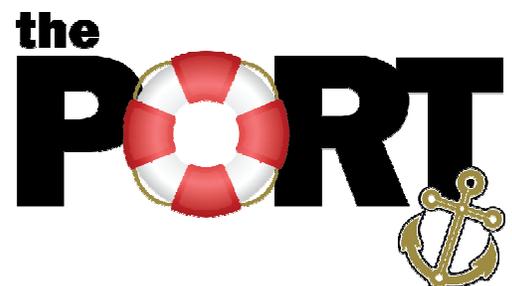
- Avery 1" Durable View Binder
- Baby Wipes - Refill Packs
- Clorox Anywhere Spray
- Clorox Wipes
- Crayola Colored Pencils
- Crayola Washable Crayons
- Crayola Washable Markers
- Crayola Watercolors (8 colors)
- Cups (3oz)
- Cups (5oz)
- Elmer's Glue Sticks
- Hand Sanitizer
- Kleenex Tissues
- Paper Towels
- Scissors (Fiskars Blunt only)
- Ziploc Bags - Gallon size
- Ziploc Bags - Quart size
- Ziploc Bags - Sandwich size

During the 2011-2012 school year, our Children's Weekday Ministry will touch the lives of 105 children and their families. Thank you for your support of this meaningful ministry!



Youth Ministry August Events *Paul Kisner*

- ◆ August 5-6: Youth Lock-in @ PCUMC 7 pm -7 am
- ◆ August 10: Minute to Win It Game Night 6:30 pm -8:30 pm
- ◆ August 10: Crew 567 Starts Back Up!!
All 5th, 6th, and 7th Graders are invited 6:00 – 7:00 pm
Youth Room Opens @ 5:30 pm for the Crew





VBS Was Great!!

June 20-24, 2011

I want to send a great big thank-you to everyone who supported and helped with Vacation Bible School. What a great time we had sharing the word of God with 250 adults and children.

Our Children's Ministry is growing and we are having so much fun. The children raised \$350 for our Habitat for Humanity Apostles Build project during VBS.

On Wednesday nights we have had movie night, ceramics, a treasure hunt, water games and Minute to Win it games. We always start out with prayer and scripture and end with prayer and I am so proud of the way the children are growing in Christ.

Blessings to all, In His Love, Barbara





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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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CHURCH STAFF

Brian James, Senior Pastor

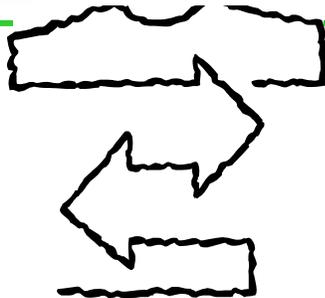
- Ruthann Allen
Accompanist
- Katherine Arthington
Communications Coordinator
- Nancy Bosserdet
Finance Secretary
- Ericka Brown
Director of Children's Weekday Ministries
- Ellen Even
Church Secretary
- Barbara Hald
Director of Children's Ministry
- Carol Hansen
Church Administrator
- Paul Kisner
Youth Director
- Mick Vincze
Church Sexton
- Eileen West
Music Director & Organist

The Newsletter is published monthly.
 Articles and submissions are due by the 15th of the prior month. Submissions are preferred via email. All articles are subject to editing for space and/or content.



39 Pairs Collected!

Thank you to everyone who donated new tennis shoes for kids in our community!



Children's SWAP

Saturday, Aug. 27 10am - 12pm

- infants - big kids clothes
- children's books
- toys
- VHS movies
- and more!

Bring items you'd like to swap!!

