

KNOW GROW GO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
PORT CHARLOTTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
VOLUME 43 - ISSUE 2

February 2012

Sunday Worship: 8:00am - 11:00am - 6:00pm

www.pcumc.info

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Make A Space for Grace

In just a few weeks we will move into the season of Lent. I grew up in a church where we didn't talk much about seasons in the Christian year.

Lent is the church's season of intentional discipline and renewal. It is marked as a 40-day span from Ash Wednesday to Easter. Christians observe Lent by prayer, fasting, and meaningful service. It is often observed as a quiet season of looking inward and preparing for the celebration of Jesus' resurrection at Easter. Jesus spent 40 days in prayerful self-examination and fasting in the wilderness.

Some commit to observing a meaningful Lenten season by giving up something, such as lattes or chocolate. Others take on a spiritual discipline, such as serving in a new ministry or adding Bible reading to their daily schedules.

I would like to challenge our church family here at Port Charlotte United Methodist Church to create a space for something new in your life. I am not asking busy people to add something else to their busy-ness. I am asking us to let go of something so that we can grab hold of something else. Consider spending these 40 days by beginning each day in God's Word, a time of daily prayer, and a place to serve others for God once a week. For 40 days, make a place in your life for the Holy Spirit to blow through.

For your daily time of scripture and prayer, consider using the Pastor's Daily S-O-A-P reading and journaling that is on our church's website at www.pcumc.info. For a place to serve, assist with the Children's or Youth Ministry on Wednesdays or Sundays. Perhaps you would like to help with our new ministry partnership of feeding the community's hungry on Fridays at Trinity Charlotte Harbor UMC.

The time and the place

When we take time away from our busy daily schedules, we begin to strengthen our spiritual lives. We Christians may often put ourselves and our needs last. For the 40 days of Lent, however, let's give ourselves the time and space to ponder: How are things between God and me?

Follow these steps for creating your sacred space:

Make time

Treat your study and prayer time like any other time that you carve out in your day. Try waking up 15 minutes early each morning — if you are not an early riser, take 15 minutes after you eat breakfast or dinner.

Journal

With the instructions on the website begin to chart your Lenten journey through the scriptures.

Continued....

Join us for dinner every
Wednesday Night!
WNT Dinner 5-6pm
Fellowship Hall
Followed by Children/Youth
at the Port & Adult Bible Studies

Saturday, February 4
Pancake Breakfast
Fellowship Hall
7-11am

Friday, February 10
UMM Valentine Dinner
Tickets (\$15) available
through the church office
Fellowship Hall
Seating at 5:00pm

Monday, February 20
Presidents Day
Church offices & CWM
will be closed

Wednesday, February 22
Ash Wednesday Service
6:30pm

Thursday, Feb. 23
GEMS Girls' Club
6-7:30pm - The Port

Friday, February 24
Family Dinner & a Movie
"Dolphin Tale" 6-8pm
Fellowship Hall

Sunday, February 26
Blood Drive 8am - 12:30pm

Continued from page 1...

Be sure to add these dates and events to your calendar-

PCUMC Lenten Schedule:

Wednesday, February 22nd	Ash Wednesday Service (6:30pm)
Sunday, April 1st	Palm Sunday Worship Services (8am, 11am, & 6pm)
April 2nd, 3rd, & 4th	Prayer Lunches (11:30am-12:30pm)
Thursday, April 5th	Seder Meal (6pm)
Friday, April 6th	Good Friday Worship Service (6pm)
Saturday, April 7th	Saturday Vigil (10am – 12pm)
Sunday, April 8th	Easter Sunrise Service w/ St. James Episcopal New Beginnings Park
Easter Services (8am, 11am, & 6pm)	(Time TBA)

Be sure that whatever you decide to do to make your Lenten season a meaningful one, you make a space for grace. Grace, Pastor Brian

In Loving Memory

Clinton Johnson - December 29, 2011
Warren McCormick - December 31, 2011
Charles Shelt - December 31, 2011
Sam Emerich - January 13, 2012

Sunshine Ministry

Let us do good to all, especially to those who are of the household of faith. Galatians 6:10

Throughout the word of God, we are urged to do good to one another. Our church family has several members in the assisted care facilities and others who are shut-ins at home. A smiling face at the door to greet them for a while will bring cheer to them.

Sunshine Ministry does just that! We meet the 2nd Wednesday each month from 9-10am in the Conference Room. We really need additional new people to join with us. Please give your prayerful consideration to this ministry.

For additional information call Doris Culver 743-5092

Extravagant Generosity

December Income \$83,598.60
December Expenses \$79,118.62

YTD 2011 Income \$872,415.73
YTD 2011 Expenses \$875,755.58

Financial Assistance

Utilities - 3
Gas Vouchers (Oct, Nov, Dec) - 34

Letters

Dear Pastor James, Michael and Amanda,

Wow! Thank you so much for partnering with Charlotte County Habitat for Humanity for our 2nd Apostles Build! As was mentioned to me, Port Charlotte UMC would like to commit to Habitat on an annual basis. That is music to our ears and you all are such a joy to work with.

God Bless,
Shelly Shepard
Habitat for Humanity

Thank you for believing in our mission. Your contribution enables us to continue serving families in need in Charlotte County.

We appreciate your generosity. May God bless you and your family.

In Habitat Spirit,

Mike Mansfield
Chief Executive Officer

Thank you to Port Charlotte Methodist Church and Volunteers,

What a lovely thing to do for the community (Christmas Dinner). We enjoyed the good meal, the many courtesies and fellowship. Being alone would have been hard as we had recent deaths in the family. God Bless you!

Charlotte and Harold Hostetler

February Birthdays

01 Bode, Christopher	23 Yanni, Ryan
01 Dunda, Kyle	24 Fletcher, D
02 Putman, Susan	24 Pearl, Jean
02 Robinson, Othniel	25 Boyd, Jerri
03 Roberts, Tiffany	26 West, Eileen
04 Middaugh, Gene	27 DePaul, Diane
07 Gunderson, Orval	27 Royer, Patty
07 Novak, Eugene	28 Cates, Addison
08 Ettinger, Robin	28 Treasure, Emily
09 Burkholder, Zena	
09 Carlsen, Fredrick	
09 Machado, Chelsea	
09 Sabo, Olga	
09 Stevens, Robert	
10 Bruner, Nita	
10 Ness, Eloise	
10 Normoyle, Marsha	
10 Parris, Trent	
11 Edgington, Hannelore	
11 Freiburg, Janet	
12 Bruner, Eric	
12 Bryan, William	
12 Grahovac, Fern	
12 McNamara, Gary	
12 Voigt, Logan	
13 Miller, Charlotte	
15 Cox, David Jr	
15 Robinette, Pat	
16 Friend, Damien	
16 Weibley, Gladys	
16 White, Erica	
17 Bruce, Betty	
18 Armour, Sheila	
18 Friend, Lisa	
18 Witt, Cynthia	
19 Arnold, Jean	
19 McIntosh, Yvette	
19 Williams, Tom	
21 Valler, Deborah	
22 Campbell, Veronica	
22 Petro, Nina	

February Anniversaries

February 03	Mike and Joan Sniecinski
February 07	Eugene and Daphene Novak
February 14	Terry and Doris Hixson
February 14	Tom and Marcie Marshall
February 16	Alan and Norma Bertling

All men and women, young and old are invited!

Valentine's Day Dinner

Sponsored by the United Methodist Men

Friday, February 10, 2012

Tickets: \$15, available at the church office or from any UMM member

Seating at 5:00pm Dinner served at 5:30pm

Entertainment by Karen Dee and Danny

Menu:

Choice of Prime Rib or Chicken Marsala

Shrimp Cocktail

Honey Glazed Carrots

Buttered Thyme Baby Potatoes

Coffee, Iced Tea, Lemonade

Special Cake

Children's Weekday Ministry

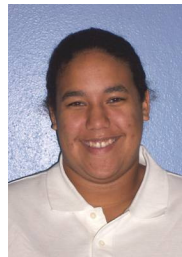
Ericka Brown



PCUMC Children's Weekday Ministry



Judy Western works as an aide two mornings a week. She also helps out whenever we are in need and is a super substitute. Judy and her husband Phil have always been big supporters of Weekday Ministries.



Ciera Lipp is our newest addition. She teaches in a VPK (4-year-olds) class. Ciera is a recent graduate, and is excited to be on staff here. She moved here with her family a few years ago from Ohio.

This month will be the last "installment" of introductions. I hope that you all have enjoyed getting to know the Weekday Ministry staff. It's a wonderful ministry and we are so blessed. These ladies love God, and it shows!

Praising God,
Ericka
Love ♥ Play ♥ Learn

Children's Ministry

Barbara Hald

Wednesday Nights after the WNT Dinner

Children, join us on Wednesday nights at the Port as we practice for our Easter Celebration "Until the Whole World Hears." The performance will be on Wednesday, April 4.

- SINGING
- PUPPETS
- FLAGS
- FELLOWSHIP
- and FUN!!



**Until the whole
World
Hears.**
An Easter Celebration

Sunday Nights - Kids' Worship

Join us for Kids' Worship at the Port every Sunday night at 6pm. We have a great time learning about God's love for us and making new friends.

Our current series is "On the Trail" and we are learning all about being obedient to God.



Come join us!

Youth Ministry *Paul Kisner*

Busch Gardens February 17, 2012

Time : Meet at the church @ 8 am
Cost: \$70 for Fun Card (can be used all year)
RSVP to Paul by 2/15—625-4356

GEMS
Girls' Clubs

ATTENTION ALL 1st thru 6th GRADE GIRLS

Are you looking for a place to belong? Do you like making new friends? Are you looking for a fun way to learn more about our awesome God & His beautiful world? If you answered yes to any of these questions, then G.E.M.S is the club for you. G.E.M.S. stands for Girls Everywhere Meeting the Savior and the goal of our club is to help each girl to grow in her faith while making new friends and having fun. Our first club meeting for 2012 will be on February 23rd. We meet on Thursday evenings from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at the Port. Our club year runs from February thru October.

If you need any further information, please contact Lisa Friend at 627-6995. Hope to see you on Thursday, February 23rd at 6:00pm.





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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Journey With Jesus—Wednesday Night Bible Study

Our Wednesday Night Pastor’s Bible Study will be taking a “Journey With Jesus” for the season of Lent. Each Wednesday evening we will look at a particular event in the life and ministry of Jesus from the perspectives of Matthew, Mark and Luke, or the Synoptic Gospels. **Synoptic Gospels** often recount the same stories about Jesus Christ, though sometimes with different details and lengths, but mostly following the same sequence and to a large extent, using the same words. The term synoptic is derived from a combination of the Greek words that indicate the contents of the first three Gospels have significant parallels from one to the other. We hope that you will come and use this offering to make the season of Lent more meaningful.

JOURNEY WITH JESUS - LESSON OUTLINE

DATE	TOPIC	READINGS
Wednesday, February 1	Triumphal Entry	Mark 11:1-11; Luke 19:29-34; John 12:17-19
Wednesday, February 8	Christ Anointed for Burial	Matthew 14:1-11; Luke 22:1-6
Wednesday, February 15	The Last Supper	Mark 14:12-25; Matthew 26:17-35; Luke 22:1-30; Luke 12:14-23
Wednesday, February 22	NO CLASS – ASH WEDNESDAY SERVICE 6:30pm	
Wednesday, February 29	Jesus In Gethsemane	Matthew 26:36-57; Mark 14:32-50; Luke 22:39-53; John 18:1-11
Wednesday, March 7	The Arrest and Trial of Jesus	Matthew 27:46-68; Luke 22:47-65
Wednesday, March 14	Jesus and Pilate	Matthew 27:11-26; Mark 15:1-15; Luke 23:1-25; John 18: 28-19:16
Wednesday, March 21	Christ Crucified	Matthew 27:27-61; Mark 15:21-41; Luke 23:26-47; John 19:17-37
Wednesday, March 28	Christ Risen From the Dead	Mark 16:1-8; Matthew 28:11-15
Wednesday, April 4	(Also: Matt. 16:9-12; Lk. 24:1-12; 13-31; 33-43; Jn. 20:11-17; 20:19-24; 26-29) NO CLASS – PASTOR’S LENTEN LUNCH 11:30am	