

KNOW GROW GO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
PORT CHARLOTTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
VOLUME 42 - ISSUE 5

May 2011

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

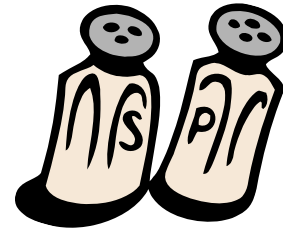
www.pcumc.info

941-625-4356 ph / 941-625-0144 fax

“Hold the Sugar...Pass the Salt!”

What a fantastic Holy Week at PCUMC! We had so many exciting things happening and so many faces, both familiar and new, here to experience the marvelous message that Jesus Christ has conquered death and burst forth in glorious resurrection. We say “we count people because people count.” Well, look at these numbers:

Lenten Learn Luncheons:	90
Maundy Thursday Seder:	110
Good Friday Service (child & adult)	207
Holy Saturday Vigil:	28
Easter Sunrise Service:	87
Easter 8 & 11 Traditional Services:	654
Sunset Celebration:	<u>147</u>
HOLY WEEK TOTAL:	1323



Someone said to me that so many people are showing up because we are a friendly church! I believe that we are a friendly church, but people aren't showing up and sticking around because PCUMC is friendly.

People are showing up because we are sharing God's truth about life!

“You are the salt of the earth, but if the salt has become tasteless, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled under foot.”

Matthew 5:13

In this verse from Matthew, Jesus doesn't ask us to become salt. He tells us that we *are* the salt of the earth! Some of us get the wrong idea and think that we are supposed to be the sugar of the earth. Both sugar and salt are seasonings, but they accomplish very different things.

Salt has the ability to create thirst, cleanse, flavor, and preserve, but it can never sweeten. Do not hear me say that Christians aren't supposed to be sweet -- that goes without saying.

In 2 Timothy 3:12-13, Paul says, *“In fact, everyone who wants to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted, while evildoers and impostors will go from bad to worse, deceiving and being deceived.”* He is telling the church that the world will want to get rid of us. **Being salt is a lot more dangerous than being sugar!**

Just like salt can radically change the taste of food, Christians can radically change the lives of others by sharing the truth about sin and forgiveness. **Our message only tastes good to those who desire to find new life!** The saltiness of our Change for a Dollar makes them thirstier for a fulfillment they can't find. Our salty Kairos Prison Ministry offers them a flavor that they are unable to capture in anything else in this life. There are people who are tired of the sugar-coated message that tells everyone that they are okay.

The whole world may not want salt, but it is desperately in need of it. Friends, salt was made for sprinkling, not collecting. As recovery efforts are underway in Japan, we need to decide what our salty response will be. As the loss of life and property for our brothers and sisters in the southern United States still is incalculable, we need to assess how PCUMC will be salt. Too many churches have sent the world the message that we are a box of salt, which is good at keeping our flavor sealed in, but not good at spreading it around. The world can't be flavored from inside the church.

He is risen! He is risen indeed! The one who called us “the salt of the earth” has many places for us to flavor. Keep going and never quit!

Grace, Pastor Brian



Ivan Nelms 4-4-2011

Sunshine Ministry

“Therefore if anyone is in Christ, he is a NEW creation - old things have passed away. Behold all things have become NEW.”

At the end of the day, do you often feel you could have made better use of what were “wasted hours”? The Sunshine Ministry can show you how to put “wasted hours” into a NEW venture, one most pleasing to our Lord.

You will bring moments of JOY when you call on a shut-in or two and, in turn, you will find the Lord puts JOY in your heart for the NEW use of your time.

The Sunshine Ministry meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month in the Conference Room at 9am for an hour. Please come, join with us and find NEWNESS in your heart.



angelfood
MINISTRIES

www.angelfoodministries.com

Next distribution day: Saturday, May 21st

Grocery Giveaway!

May 21st will be our next distribution and will also be our Children's Swap! That day we will be drawing names to give away 2 food packages! You will receive a ticket when you arrive and must be present to win. The drawings will be at 11 and noon.

Letters

April 14, 2011



Dear Port Charlotte United Methodist Church,

Thank you for your thoughtful donation on April 6th of clothes, purses, suitcase and household items (value of \$90). Together with your help and support, we're able to help our community's most vulnerable. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Our Hunger Prevention program provides a hot dinner to over 180 individuals every night and a food pantry, which serves over 50 families weekly.

The Safe House Emergency Shelter offers a safe place to sleep to more than 40 adults and 10-15 children every night.

The Coalition's Homeless Prevention Program serves families in crisis who come to us with an eviction or utility disconnection notice. The goal of the program is to keep families intact in their home and prevent the trauma of becoming homeless.

On behalf of our staff and our clients, we greatly appreciate your concern for the less fortunate. Your donation helps us continue serving those in need. If you would even like to come in for a tour and to meet our staff, please feel free to call us.

Sincerely,

Angela M. Hogan
Executive Director

Extravagant Generosity

YTD Income \$241,053.09
YTD Expenses \$215,701.97
YTD Communion Fund \$3075.49
Community Outreach:
12 gas vouchers
1 utility assistance



May Birthdays

01	Irwin Schinkel	18	Jean Elekes
01	Anna Croft	18	Barbara Hald
01	Lisa Dixon	19	Mae Herzstock
02	Renee Coccaro	20	Charles Nordstrom
03	Annette Emerich	20	Jennifer Lamanna
03	Suzanne Dowling	21	Roger Anderson
03	Alexis Hald	21	Evelyn Welsh
04	Cole Mandrick	21	Eudoris McDonald
05	Jennie Poteat	21	Elizabeth Hone
05	Blake Royer	21	Terry Hixson
07	Muriel Marshall	21	Scott Mathias
08	Loren Allen	22	Marjorie Force
08	Burelle Curtis	24	Vivian Bennett
09	Vicki Timper	24	Sidney White
09	Dorothy Bagley	24	Pete Coccaro
10	Ruth Mullen	25	Pat Thompson
10	Janet Vargo	25	Jan Brotherton
10	Jim Marshall	25	Verlin Green
11	Rose Yienger	25	Misty Royer
12	Bill Wyld	25	Corry Cox
12	Rex White	26	Sara Richter
12	Joey Petro	28	Tyler Setser
12	Adrianna Radil	30	Odie Coker
13	Dorothy Lonneville	30	Karen Wenck
13	Dorothy Bayuk	31	Herbert Schwartz
14	Ron Royer	31	Carolyn Sanders
14	Bradley Baker	31	Janet LaFond
15	Linda Anderson	31	Dwaine Yanni
16	Bea Bower		
16	Lynda Freas		

May Anniversaries

Pete and Beth Coccaro	05/02/1987
Peter and Dorothy Lonneville	05/03/1947
Glenn and Sue Edmiston	05/08/1999
Calvin and Joann Gress	05/28/1949
Merle and Eudoris McDonald	05/30/1955

Finance Update *Frank Hansen*

Our church has had a good first quarter financially. Your giving has enabled the church to exceed its budget goal. As of the end of March, we are \$19,061 ahead of budget. It's important to be ahead at this time of year because during the summer months giving is lower and last summer our church just met recurring expenses.

The finance committee is following closely four tithing and offering accounts which equal our operating income. The church bulletin's, Extravagant Generosity section has been reformatted to reflect the status of these four accounts. In order to keep the church operating as planned for 2011, we need to meet our weekly budget of \$11,507. This is shown in the first column. The second column is made up of the Children's Weekday Ministry and recoverables. These items pay for themselves as the year goes by. The Children's Weekday Ministry is paid for by tuition and staff subsidies. Recoverables are items such as Wednesday Night Together, altar flowers and radio ministry. These activities take in money or donations to pay for themselves. The third column is the sum of the first two. Please keep an eye on the Budget Weekly and Actual Weekly numbers. Whether we're ahead or behind is a reflection on our church's financial health.

The finance committee is preparing a 5-year fiscal plan for our church. The plan uses two scenarios, a 5% increase in attendance per year over five years and a 5% decrease in attendance per year over five years. Our church does a great job one year at a time. It is hoped that this plan provides information for future budget decisions in the event of growth as well as guidance for future church leaders if a decrease in attendance occurs.

The overall financial condition of our church is stable and the outlook is bright. Our average annual attendance increased last year for the first time in 7 years. Our economy is still not performing and many in our congregation are hurting, yet you have maintained a consistent and high level of giving. This has enabled our church to continue spiritual and personal support to our congregation and community.



Easter Fest!

On April 16th, our first ever Easter Fest drew an attendance of more than 700 children and adults. The combined efforts of the United Methodist Men and Children's Ministry made a memorable day of community outreach and church family fellowship.





Church Work Day!

Thank you to all who helped on April 2nd with our Church Work Day!

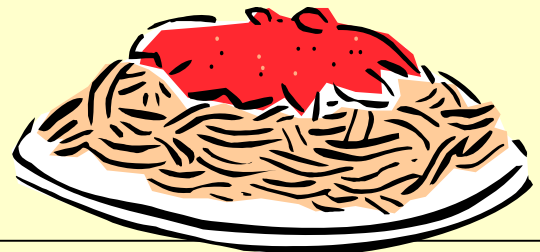


You're Invited!

Help our youth raise money for summer camp

SPAGHETTI DINNER

Cost: \$6 per person
Mother's Day
Sunday, May 8
11:30 am—1:00 pm
in the Fellowship Hall



Proceeds to benefit the Camp Scholarship Fund

Children's Ministry



This year is just flying by. I want to thank everyone who made the Easter Fest Celebration a success. Combining the United Methodist Men's Picnic with the Easter Egg-sperience was a great way of reaching out in our community and to each other within this church. We need to combine more ministry functions. We do so much in this church for God. We need to remember He gave us one another to work together for His Kingdom, not ours. So thank you to all who are willing to try new ways of furthering our mission.

Reaching out and seeing so many new faces on this campus has me so excited as to what God has in store for this church for the remainder of this year:

Registration for Vacation Bible School will be Sunday May 1st at the 11:00 service and Monday at 9:00am in the lobby. VBS will be the week of June 20 - 24. Please contact me if you are available to help this year. I am looking forward to another awesome week of bringing kids and their families to Christ.

Sunday School classes will move up on Sunday June 5th at the 11:00 service. If your child is in Sunday school, please make sure they come and receive their certificate.

On May 21 there will be a children's swap of clothes, toys, books and videos. This is a good way to swap some things to keep the kids busy for summer. Look to Angel Food Ministries for more information.

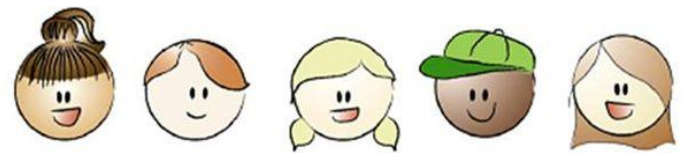
Still looking for people with a little talent and a lot of passion for children. We need mentors to assist in our puppet and flag ministries; training is provided and it's a lot of fun.

Thank you for your constant prayers and support.

In His Love, Barbara

Youth Ministry

Youth Messy Game Night
Wednesday, May 11
6:00-8:30 pm



PCUMC Children's Weekday Ministry

would love for you to come to our

Graduation Ceremony

On Wednesday, May 25th

At 6pm

(and the reception immediately following)



All of the CWM children will perform,
you don't want to miss this special event!



New Wednesday Night Series:

Real Relationships in a

facebook

World



Port Charlotte United Methodist Church
21075 Quesada Avenue
Port Charlotte, FL 33952-2546

Phone: 941-625-4356
Fax: 941-625-0144
E-mail: info@pcumc.info
Website: www.pcumc.info

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

┌ ┌
└ └

CHURCH STAFF

Brian James, Senior Pastor

Ruthann Allen
Accompanist

Katherine Arthington
Communications Coordinator

Nancy Bosserdet
Finance Secretary

Erica 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

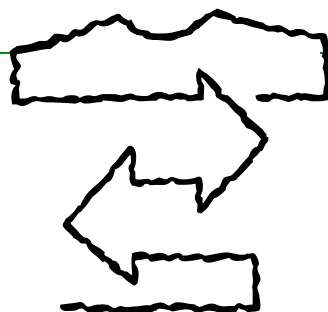
Health Ministry Jane Trammell, RN

FREE TRANSPORTATION!

A transportation program for Charlotte County residents is being provided by the Cultural Center. Participants must fill out an application, which can be found in the church office. The application can be given to the driver on the first pick-up.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

The Big Red Bus (bloodmobile) will be back June 19, 2011.



Saturday, May 21 10am - 12pm

- infant - big kid clothes
- children's books
- toys
- VHS movies
- and more!

**Bring items you'd
like to swap!!**

Children's SWAP



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.