

KNOW GROW GO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
PORT CHARLOTTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

August 2015

Sunday Worship: 8am - 9:30am - 11am www.pcumc.info 941-625-4356 ph / 941-625-0144 fax

“Ordinary Time -- Not At PCUMC!”

If your vocational calling is to be a local church pastor, then your life functions in the rhythm of the church calendar year. The church calendar functions much more as a circle than as a line. Each season involves its own sense of preparation, participation, and celebration. This season is followed by yet another season. Each season provides another opportunity for us to prepare, participate, and celebrate what God is doing in us and through us.

In the church, the season which is often called summer is called "after Pentecost" or "Ordinary Time". I cannot tell you how blessed I feel to be the pastor at a church where this past summer has been anything but ordinary.

Renovations: Whether pastor, staff, or lay person, we have all made adjustments this summer as our **campus and facility renovations** are rapidly moving forward. All around us are the signs that we are building for our future ministry to people of all ages.

Worship: We may not have access to our Sanctuary, but it hasn't limited our ability to connect to God through Worship. Our special music selections in traditional worship, and the decision by our **Worship Committee** to move our organ into the Fellowship Hall for the time of transition has been a blessing each week. The Praise and Worship Team has enabled us to see as many first-time visitors in our Contemporary Worship Services as we have at our Traditional Services.

Hospitality: Our Sunday services in Fellowship Hall have been faithfully overseen by our **Hospitality Servers, Greeters, Welcome Center Volunteers, and Ushers**. Every Sunday they are ready to welcome you.

Discipleship: Our PCUMC leaders have taken their usual meeting times to study Adam Hamilton's book, "Enough." Each week we challenged each other to see the dimensions of how God's goodness can be reflected in our church's life and ministry. We look forward to sharing the same study this coming fall.

Salty Service: We may have suspended our WNO Dinners for the summer, but our church's **Kitchen Ministry** has continued to serve. Each week PCUMC provided hot meals, groceries, and hundreds of lunches for at-risk children here in Charlotte County through our **Children's Summer Lunch Program**. Even with our renovations, servants of all ages shared **Vacation Bible School** with over a hundred children. We also commissioned and sent a team of youth and adults to lead Vacation Bible School in the **Dominican Republic**, with our mission partner Connie DiLeo. They also began construction on bathroom facilities for one of her churches.

Port Ministry (Youth and Children): We were blessed to see our Youth Director take over responsibility for his first church appointment, but our youth and children's programs never missed a beat in their weekly gathering. We also have hosted messy game nights, lock-ins, and our first youth week in many years.

Children's Weekday Ministry: Director Paula Mann and her staff not only plugged in with Vacation Bible School, but they have continued to impact our families with Camp Adventure, as well as Clap, Tap, and Jingle event for moms.

For many people, summer is ordinary time, a time of reflection and rest. For the congregation of PCUMC, our summer has been anything but ordinary. The accomplishments and efforts of this summer are energizing our church and our Charlotte County Community as we move rapidly forward into the future. Keep going and never quit! Grace, Pastor Brian James

Join us on Sundays

Traditional Worship at 8 & 11
Contemporary 9:30am

Wednesday Nights

Children's Ministry: 6-7:30pm
Youth: 6-8:15pm
Choir: 6:15 (begins Aug. 26)
Adult Studies: 6:30-7:30pm

August 9

CWM Open House
4:00pm, Fellowship Hall

August 10

First Day of School

August 26

GriefShare Begins 1-3pm



Mabel Bole
 Leola Crawford
 Terry Heigel
 Nancy Patchen
 Kathy Sanders

Chancel Choir News *David deSilva*

Rehearsals will begin again on Wednesday evening, August 26, at 6:15 pm. Our first rehearsal will be in the Choir Rehearsal Room. New potential members are welcome to give us a try. The ability to read music is not a requirement, though the ability to match pitch and carry a tune is!



Kitchen Ministry

Shirley Antrobus in our kitchen is in need of some baking items. If you have extras at home that you would be willing to donate, just bring them to the church office.

Thank you!

- ◆ Cupcake/Muffin tins (any size)
- ◆ Shaped cake pans
- ◆ Rubber spatulas
- ◆ Cookie cutters - any shape

Extravagant Generosity

(As of 6/30/15)

Rent: 3, Utilities: 3 Gas Vouchers: 45
 Income: \$437,783.86 Expenses: \$415,932.08
 Apportionments: 30% Paid

Welcome New Members!

Darleen Bettencourt
 Ned Timmerman
 David Jones
 Jennifer Jones
 Carol J. McCullough
 Gary R. McCullough
 David Mulinix
 Kathleen Mulinix
 Lois Tschetter
 Cal Tschetter



Please welcome these new members to our church family!

Our next Membership Class will be held Tuesday, September 1st 6-8pm.

If you are interested in becoming a member, or would just like to learn more about our church, plan to attend our next membership class on September 1st from 6-8pm. You can sign up by calling Pastor Earl Parker, at (352) 848-7865.



WALK TO
EMMAUS

THE UPPER ROOM®

WALK TO EMMAUS

The "Walk to Emmaus" is an experience of Christian spiritual renewal and formation that begins with a three-day short course in Christianity. It is an opportunity to meet Jesus Christ in a new way as God's grace and love is revealed to you through other believers. There are 2 upcoming walks in September, during which Pastor Brian will be serving as the spiritual director.

Men's Walk: September 17-20
Women's Walk: September 24-27

If you are interested in learning more, contact Pastor Brian 625-4356 or Paul Smith 764-8895.

Stephen Ministry *Dean Winston*

This past June, six Stephen Ministers were commissioned by the congregation to serve the congregation and the community. Those six are representative of the love this congregation has for its neighbors. The commitment necessary for this ministry did not deter them. They were willing to make the personal sacrifice in time and energy to demonstrate their love for others inside and outside our church. This was an important step in revitalizing this ministry and I couldn't be more proud.



The plan to revitalize Stephen Ministry has reached another goal, but there is still work to do. A thriving Stephen Ministry must have the following components:

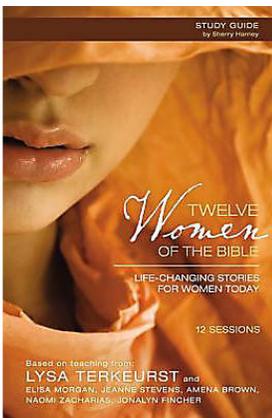
- ◆ A congregation that supports this important ministry ... We do!
- ◆ A pastor and staff that support this important ministry ... We do!
- ◆ Members of the congregation who are willing to become Stephen Ministers ... We do!
- ◆ Stephen Ministers who are willing to attend Peer Supervision and continuing education ... We do!
- ◆ Members of the congregation and the community who understand how the ministry works and are willing to let a Stephen Minister meet with them once a week for about an hour until GOD'S healing grace cures whatever heartache they have ... We do!
- ◆ Leadership that believes in the value of this ministry, for both the care-receivers and the Stephen Ministers ... We do!

So now we have Stephen Ministers that have been trained and commissioned to serve those of you who are experiencing heartache. All you need to do is contact Pastor Brian or any of the Stephen Ministers with blue nametags or put your name on a Stephen Minister brochure, located in the back of the seats in the sanctuary and drop it in the offering plate. You will then be contacted by a leader who will answer any questions you may have. This is a confidential ministry. Men work with men and women work with women.

Two of the six new Stephen Ministers already have care-receivers. We need more members of the congregation that are willing to become Stephen Ministers. We have to have at least six applicants before we can have a class. Please look within your heart and pray about it. What a wonderful way to demonstrate your love for your neighbor as GOD directs us to do.

Remember our slogan, "We care, GOD cures." Thank you all for your commitment to this important ministry.

Fall Women's Bible Study "12 Women of the Bible" Begins Tuesday, September 1

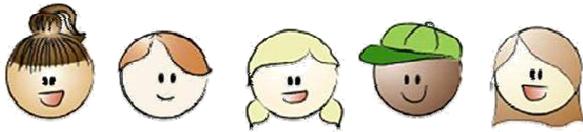


The study will be offered
3 times each Tuesday:
9:30am
(facilitated by DustinJames),
1:30pm
(facilitated by Sue Edmiston),
and **6:30pm**
(facilitated by "D" Fletcher).

The cost will be \$8.
Please register by August 13
by contacting "D" Fletcher:
(941) 623-0642 /
djfnrs@centurylink.net.



GriefShare begins August 26, 2015
Meets Wednesdays from 1-3pm
in the New Room. All are welcome.
Contact Doris Hixson with any questions:
(941) 235-3556



PCUMC Children's Weekday Ministry



August Dates to Remember:

Teachers come back August 3
Open House Sunday, August 9 at 4pm

Weekday Ministry *Paula Mann*

Welcome back! We hope you had a great summer and are excited to start school. We have a lot of fun things planned!

Please "like" our Facebook page to keep up to date on all our fun activities: <https://www.facebook.com/pcumccwm>.

Prayer:

God bless the birds.
God bless the trees.
God bless the food
and God bless me. Amen

Bible Verse:

1 John 3:2
We are God's children



Health Ministry *Jane Flanders*

Our next Lunch and Learn will be Thursday, September 17 from 11:30am to 1:00pm. We will welcome Barbara Carley who will speak on Arthritis, and if you've heard Barbara speak in the past, you know you're in for a treat and updated information. If you plan on attending, please sign up at the Welcome Center. A complimentary lunch will be provided by the church.

Our Lunch and Learn's would not be possible without the help of our super nurses Sonjia Back, Doris Barney, Veronica Vieux, Rosemarie Arnoldt and of course, Jane Trammell, Parish Nurse. Many thanks to all of you for your dedication to the Health Ministry.

Have you heard about the MinuteClinic coming to Punta Gorda in August?

The Clinic is located at CVS Pharmacy on Airport Rd., Punta Gorda. It is a walk-in clinic available 7 days a week offering hours without an appointment. Most health insurances will be accepted. Nurse practitioners and physician assistants will staff the clinics. They will provide treatment for illnesses plus offer wellness and prevention services. Presently (as of July) the nearest MinuteClinic is located in Tampa and hopefully there will be other clinics in this area by the first of the year.

Does your diet include zinc, lutein and zeaxanthin, Vitamin C, Vitamin E and Omega-3 fatty acids?

Good for you! You just might be delaying cataracts as well as delaying macular degeneration. If you smoke, please stop. The odds of developing cataracts and macular degeneration increase 400% if you smoke. Lens technology has advanced so much in a decade. The latest technology can correct and enhance your vision. Glaucoma can be treated with eye drops and laser treatment.

Do you or does your child have a peanut allergy?

You're not alone as peanut allergies affect millions of people. Help may be on the way! A French biopharmaceutical company has developed a product which is similar to the Nicotine patch. The patch will help people who suffer from a peanut allergy increase their peanut tolerance. Unfortunately, the patch will not be sold to Americans until the year 2018. The drug is still being tested but is in Phase III which is a good sign.

Do you ever wonder what your blood pressure is?

Well, wonder no more. Visit one of the nurses in the "Fish Bowl" and they will gladly check it out. If you are in the church, most likely one of the nurses are there as well.

Keep drinking your water. It's hot out there! It is easy to become dehydrated. It doesn't have to be hot outside for you to become dehydrated so drink your water daily all year.

Lunch &

Learn

Free!

- COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH PROVIDED -

Thursday, September 17
11:30am - 1:00pm

"Arthritis"
with Barbara Carley

Children/Youth Ministry *Barbara Hald*

I can't believe summer is over and the kids are heading back to school already. I want to thank everyone who helped with Vacation Bible School. It was another fantastic week! Warren Willis Camp was an awesome experience for the 10 kids that went. Our shoe collection "Shoes for Kids" was a success. Thanks to all who donated.

I am so excited for what God has in store for the students this year. Be praying for the student ministries and the leaders, children and their families.

In His Love, Barbara Hald



Back To School



Frequently Heard Questions *Jonathan Carlsen*

Question: Are your "Frequently Heard Questions" truly "Frequently Heard"?

Answer: Answering *yes*, *no*, or *yes and no* would all be misleading. A better starting point is to review a question asked in late 2012 and addressed in January 2013: "How did this column originate? and where do you get the questions?" I wrote:

"Tackling the second question first: Inquiring readers supply some questions, but not all. Once I used a question from Pastor Brian's Daily S-O-A-P devotion. Others I overhear in meetings or while just being here. Still others — *don't faint or start collecting tar and feathers!* — I make them up, because — the column grew out of two events in late 2011. First, when Salty Service took part in the 'Shop with a Cop' event, I did a 'Frequently Asked Questions' sheet to explain to the people there who we are and what we believe and do. The sheet wasn't used, but many of its questions reappeared here. About the same time, one Sunday, a member asked me to help her find a certain reference book. We couldn't find it, but then I learned that what she wanted to know wasn't covered in that book. Her inquiry both convinced me of the need for the column and, somewhat altered, became another early question."

Omitted from that 2013 explanation is this: I too am an inquiring reader with questions, often prompted by reading the Bible. I often find the answers in the centuries-old commentaries of Matthew Henry, Matthew Poole, John Wesley, Thomas Coke, and Adam Clarke. Their addressing the same questions centuries ago shows that those questions were *frequently heard* over a long period.

I rejected calling the column "Frequently Asked Questions" because the phrase has become a cliché and it raises the expectation that the answers will be clichés also. At the very least, I can say that the questions are "frequently heard in my head."

Question: In Sunday School recently, we were asked to check the introductory pages of our Bibles to see whether they were a "translation" or an "interpretation." It was very confusing. What's going on? (Part 2)

Answer: This is a continuation from the last issue (June/July). I checked 50 versions. Not one identified itself as an "interpretation." Two, *The Living Bible* and its Catholic edition, are self-described "paraphrases"; *The Message* says it's "a paraphrasing translation." The *Modern Language Bible*, a revision of the *Berkeley Version*, calls itself, in essence, a revision of a translation. The rest were translations. I said before, part of the problem is definitions. Among other definitions, *interpretation* can mean the instant verbal translation of speech or distorting a text's meaning by adding one's "slant." Some to use *interpretation* as a pejorative to say that Bible versions they don't like are slanted or faulty. Others do the same thing when speaking about "paraphrases." We'll say more on this in Part 3.

Correction: In the last issue (June/July), the opening question on Pentecost read in part: "... But it heard the date called Aldersgate Sunday ..." It should have read, "I heard ..." This was my mistake, not the office's.

Do you have a question about the Bible or United Methodist belief, organization, or practice? E-mail them to me at theexhorter_fla@yahoo.com or leave them with Katherine Warden at the church office and I'll try to answer as many as I can. — JAC

Mission u *Sandy Segur*

Mission u is an awesome yearly event and of the four that I have attended (three in North Carolina), this was by far my finest experience. Bethune-Cookman is a beautiful, well facilitated campus and everyone was treated to hospitality - plus. We were a party of approximately ten from the Southwest District, Shelley Davidson, President. Mission u is the biggest opportunity for education of the Florida Conference United Methodist Women and the United Methodist church offering opportunities to everyone - adults, young adult, youth and children - to learn about the mission of the church and to grow spiritually; also, clergy and lay may earn credit for continued education CCE's. In addition to the Mission studies, there were morning devotions before breakfast, Mission Up-dates, Leadership Development, Focus Groups, great displays and exhibits at the Learning Center, children and youth talent show, fellowship, and Celebration of the Latin America and the Caribbean Culture. In addition to the Mission study for the youth and children, there were special activities and hands-on mission opportunities for them. We had the privilege of having the Reverend Pam Carter, the wife of The Florida Conference Bishop, as preacher for the closing service.



The theme: **Pray, Learn and Transform** was reflected in this year's three studies:

- ◆ *Created For Happiness* examined the understanding of happiness/blessed and how to live the life that God created us to live.
- ◆ *Church and the People with Disabilities* promoted awareness, inclusion, accessibility and advocacy for people with a disability.
- ◆ *Latin America* presented a broad picture from historic and socio-economic perspectives to the historically rooted challenges that Latin America is currently facing.

It truly was an honor to have been in attendance! Would you be interested in joining United Methodist Women? Contact Sandy Segur: sandyrsegurf@gmail.com or 941-249-8726

Fall Extravaganza Update *Nancy Bosserdet*

We are now in the process of collecting e-mail addresses so that we may send out our vendor contracts and the guidelines for merchandise to be displayed or sold. If you know of a non-profit organization that may be interested in joining us on October 24, 2015 for our event, get their e-mail address to me or Ellen Even in the office so we can include them in the distribution of information. Or if you know of any person or company that would like to be a vendor in any way, please get the information to us as soon as possible so they can be included in our distribution of information.

We are also putting together various areas we hope to have for the fun and entertainment part of this event. Barbara Hald is looking for bounce houses and rock walls and face painters, etc. All of the items that we have had during the Halloween outreach each fall will be included in this event. Paul Mann is looking for various animals that children would be able to feed, pet, or interact with in some way. We have a pony at this point but are hoping to put together a pet adoption area as well.

A hayride is also in the offering of fun things to do and, if we can find some fish, we hope to have a fishing pond for the children to try their luck.

We need a lot of help from all our friends, so please join us in this event and share your special gifts!



Trustees Renovation Update

The following work has been completed thus far as part of the renovation:

- ◆ Fellowship Hall painted; carpeting removed and replaced with tile.
- ◆ Chancel, balcony, and pews removed.
- ◆ Sanctuary carpet removed.
- ◆ Sanctuary floor was dug out (the new floor will be formed and poured soon).
- ◆ Below-ground plumbing and electrical were completed and inspected.
- ◆ Sod was removed and replaced with play-safe mulch in the pre-school playground.
- ◆ Soffits and support posts were replaced along both sides of the children's wing.



A lot has been accomplished, and money saved, with the help of some very dedicated volunteers. Thank you for your hard work and willingness to serve His church!

August Birthdays

01 Jean Williams	08 Thomas Wenck	20 Deidra Setser	26 Bob Statton
01 Mary Cox	09 Anne Bonsky	21 Cecil Ward	26 Leo Jones
01 Kyle Cox	09 Daphne Novak	21 Inez Jones	26 Mary Meyer
02 Thelma Lachapelle	10 Vernie Robertson	21 Florence Nevins	26 Elijah James
03 Robert Gruennert	10 Leah Setser	21 Jacob Kern	26 Vaughn Phillips
03 Marci Middaugh	11 Emma Kvatum	21 Joseph Scott	27 Jacob Hoffner
04 Phyllis Tolman	11 Gay Graham	21 John Do	27 Deidre Parkinson
04 Sue Edmiston	11 Jason Hughes	23 Clyde Sell	28 Beverly Gomez
04 Jordan Foster	12 Elizabeth Jones	23 Pat Douglas	28 Alexander DePaul
05 Nelda Hildebrand	12 Dorothy Mann	23 Barbara Hepler	29 Mary Lou Stocker
05 Libby Weller	12 Alyssa Walton	23 Candice Chardon	29 Sydney Hays
05 Riley Schwartz	16 Stella Best	24 Jack Bennett	31 Dottie White
06 Bettie Curtis	16 Hope McFarlane	24 Asta Terwilliger	31 Susan West
06 H.L. Clemmons	17 Carol McCullough	24 Gail Gonzalez	31 Amanda Kucewicz
06 Wendy McCarthy	18 Betty Pyott	24 Jo Jo Cekuta-Bolyard	31 Barbara Pascale
07 Laura Slike	18 Matthew Hoffner	25 Jack Mallay	
07 Cindy Waterbury	19 Kelsey James	25 Edna Lather	
08 David Mulinix	20 Fanny DeMallie	25 Dorothy Adams	
08 Stephanie Sennholz	20 Robert Burr	25 Chris Bowers	

August Anniversaries

02 Nicholas & Anne Bonsky	16 Bart & Hope McFarlane
04 David & Donna Jean deSilva	20 Stephen & Faye Perkins
08 Don & Florence Nevins	24 Gerald & Karen Shaw
08 Durvent & Delphena Lyons	29 Allan & Mary Lou Stocker
09 Bob & Sue Statton	29 Cherie & Robert Thomas
14 Arthur & Ruth Miller	29 Samir & Renee Petro
16 Roger & Marjorie Anderson	30 Delma & Maxine Giles





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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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WOMEN'S MINISTRY FORUM

Sunday, September 20th at 3pm

We will be having presentations from leaders of all the current programs at our church and then an open discussion on ideas for future programs. We would like to have women bring with them programs that they have attended at other churches in the past and ideas on future programs you feel would benefit our women's ministry. Snacks will be served. Please RSVP to Pat Douglas by phone/text (410) 739-2449 or email sixpence2942@gmail.com.

We are looking forward to seeing you and hearing your suggestions!



Sunshine Ministry

"An anxious heart weighs a man down, but a kind word cheers him up." Proverbs 12:25.

God has blessed us with a variety of spiritual gifts which are given for us to use in service to God and for the benefit of others. Where do you fit in with your spiritual gifts? Enhance the Sunshine Ministry by using your spiritual gift in visiting the homebound or those confined to care facilities. Let them know they are not forgotten and are an important part of the church family. Each homebound is visited once a month by a visit, a phone call, a note or card. There is no planned program when you visit once a month. Your presence tells them that you care. If you can spare a few minutes once a month, please speak to either Pastor Brian or Jane Flanders to hear about this important ministry. Please consider serving as a Sunshine Minister.

