

# KNOW GROW GO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF  
PORT CHARLOTTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## February 2013

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

### TRUE LOVE

February is here. February, the month when we celebrate Valentine's Day. Valentine's Day, the day when we celebrate love. Love, the word that many people use to describe an emotion, a feeling they have.

For Christians, love isn't our focus for a day, or even for a month, but for the whole of our lives. Love isn't a feeling Christians have, it is a series of choices which we make. Choices that are reflected in the way we live each day. Each day Christians are called to live in such a way that True Love can be experienced by others.

In Matthew 10:42 we hear how simple "true love" can be: *"Give a cool cup of water to someone who is thirsty, for instance. The smallest act of giving or receiving makes you a true apprentice. You won't lose out on a thing."* (The Message)

True Love can also be as all-encompassing as a lifetime commitment to ministry. That is what we see in the reports of our missionaries here in this Newsletter. Alex and Brenda Awad, Delbert and Sandy Groves, and Connie DiLeo are an example of that lifelong expression of True Love. So is, Daniel Sweet, our newest missionary, who grew up here at PCUMC. Daniel has answered God's call and just recently returned from India.

True Love is also found in between. One of our new ministries is being born through the combined efforts of our Sunshine Visitation Ministry and Family Ministry. This ministry of checking in on those of our congregation who are home or facility-bound is adding "Sunshine Boxes" to their True Love List. Like the Operation Christmas Child shoeboxes, Sunshine Boxes are care packages that are given to the elderly of our community to let them know they are not forgotten. More information and a list of items can be found in this Newsletter. Our goal is to make this our PCUMC Easter Project.

You can act out True Love by serving at WNO on Wednesday evenings. We have been offering a free evening of food and fellowship since October and God has blessed the ministry by allowing it to average over 200 each week and to sustain itself through the generous donations of those attending.

PCUMC Family, this is a great place to discover the actions in your life that would show True Love to the world around you. February is a great month to begin to act. In fact, anytime is a great time to act out TRUE LOVE!

Keep going and never quit!

Grace,

Pastor Brian



Bud Heinig 1-4-13

## Letters

Dear Pastor Brian and Port Charlotte United Methodist Church,

We, at Trinity, want to thank you and all who helped to prepare and deliver the wonderful Christmas Day dinners. All who participated were a blessing to those who were alone and without other ways to celebrate our Lord's Birthday.

Not only have you blessed those in need, but you blessed the volunteers who have the opportunity to share with those in need. Our lives have been truly enriched and touched by God's word to spread the Good News.

On Christmas day there was a family of volunteers (about 10) who showed up from Canada. Their son was killed three years ago. He had been a college student who was a Christian and an active volunteer and advocate of those in need. To honor his memory, the family joins together from around the country to volunteer on Christmas day. They were blessed by the opportunity that you and Port Charlotte United Methodist Church made possible through your generosity.

We appreciate all you have done to be in connection with us as together we carry out the mission to be the heart and hands and feet of Christ in the world.

May God richly bless you and Port Charlotte United Methodist Church in the New Year.

Live gently, love extravagantly, pray unceasingly,

Pastor Marion  
and the Charlotte Harbor Trinity Church Family

Dear Friends,

The Salvation Army would like to thank and recognize all that have so graciously given of their time and effort to assist those in need. Without you, our Thanksgiving and Christmas assistance to those that needed a helping hand would not be possible.

With your help, we were once again able to share cheer and joy through our holiday assistance program to 451 families with 1,029 children. We assisted in giving out 4,116 toys, 333 bicycles, 3,087 pieces of clothing, 902 food gift cards, 451 Jesus DVDs and 250 Christmas stockings. We provided 1,057 gifts to local nursing homes. The Salvation Army also prepared and cooked 485 Thanksgiving and Christmas meals.

Thank you again for being a friend of The Salvation Army and on the behalf of our client's holiday, thank you for your love.

May God bless you,

Captains Jose & Wanda Valez  
Pastors/Corp Officers

## Extravagant Generosity

(as of 12/31/12)

Y-T-D Income \$927,276.62  
Y-T-D Expenses \$907,670.69  
Rent -1  
Utilities—11  
Gas Vouchers—59  
Other— 111

## Family Ministry

*Allison Motherway*

Welcome to February to all of the wonderful friends, family, and members of PCUMC. Don't forget to attend the "Family Dinner and a Movie" night the third Friday of each month as we will have a fun craft planned.

I would like to take this opportunity to introduce a new idea the Family Ministry would like to bring into our church. It's called "**SUNSHINE PACKAGES.**" They have the same concept as the Christmas shoe boxes except that these will be delivered to the senior citizens in our community, whether they go to our church or are part of the Sunshine Ministry recipients. There will be a donation box in the lobby of the church and you can always contact me anytime if you would like me to get the items from you. In an upcoming month, we will schedule a pot lock night so we can all enjoy a meal together and fill the Sunshine Packages with love. I have spoken to our GEMS Coordinator and they are excited to help as well. I see some very beautiful artwork being included! Please keep in mind that items needed are for senior citizens.

Some ideas are:

- toothbrushes
- toothpaste
- mouthwash
- shampoo/conditioner
- chap stick
- unscented hypoallergenic lotion
- crossword puzzles
- pens
- puzzle type books
- something handmade

Imagine that this could be your grandparent or relative in a home. We would like to do this around the Easter holiday at the end of Lent, but with a great response, we can surely do this many times throughout the year and change the themes. I was hoping we may even be able to get the kids together with some songs and have them deliver the packages to the centers using a church bus for transportation. Please let me know any ideas or suggestions.

Happy Valentine's Day from my family to yours!

Always be blessed & happy,  
Allie & Pete Motherway  
amotherway@aol.com  
941-257-8750

## Children's Ministry

*Barbara Hald*

What happened to January ?

Time is going so fast and, as I said in the last newsletter, we are making some changes this year.

### Wednesday Night Program

I am so excited about PBNJ's on Wednesday nights!

The children have started a new curriculum called "**Faith**

**Weaver Friends**" - weaving faith into young lives.

The evening includes a Bible lesson, missions, music, crafts and games. Each quarter the children earn key chains for participation and goals achieved. It's fast moving and fun.



We are also sponsoring a child thru Compassion International. Her name is Zaurata and she is three and a half years old. She is from Africa and Compassion not only makes sure she has food, clothes, school and medical attention, but best of all, a local church is tied into the program to teach her the word of God.

### Easter Fest - March 23

Before you know it, Easter Fest will be here. We will start to collect individually wrapped candies that can fit in a plastic egg. Look for a collection bin in the lobby beginning February 10.

### Children's Choir

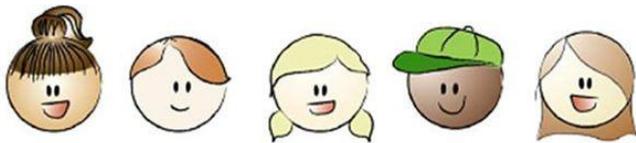
"Acts of Faith " will be adding a Children's Choir for grades 2-8. The choir will meet every other Sunday from 12:30—1:00 pm led by Eileen West and Linda Brown.

### Family Dinner and a Movie

Make sure you join us for Family Dinner and a Movie/ Children's Clothes SWAP on Friday the 15th, from 6 to 8 pm. It's a classic love story for Valentine's Day, "Lady and the Tramp," with a spaghetti dinner. Our Family Ministry will have a craft activity for all the children who attend.

I am so excited about all the NEW things happening this year. Pray for God's children and thank you for all you do to help this ministry.

In His Love, Barbara Hald



PCUMC Children's Weekday Ministry

## Children's Weekday Ministry

*Ericka Brown*

February is a month for love, and we love our jobs! Thank you PCUMC for supporting your Children's Weekday Ministries programs!



This month we have the opportunity to go to the United Methodist Association of Preschools conference in Leesburg. Almost all of the staff is going, We are blessed to have gone for the last several years. It is a wonderful experience for all of the teachers. We learn, laugh and grow with God. We are energized when we return and love to try out all the new fun things we learn.

Praising God,  
Ericka  
Love ♥ Play ♥ Learn



## Family Dinner & a Movie

**Friday, February 15**  
6-8pm in Fellowship Hall

Featuring: "Lady and the Tramp"  
Menu: Spaghetti

**- PLUS Clothes SWAP -**

Children's  
**CLOTHES & TOY**  
**SWAP**

Bring in any clothes, toys, movies, books you no longer need and take items that you do need. All remaining items will be donated to families in need.

## Youth Ministry *Paul Kisner*



### Youth Busch Gardens Trip

When: Saturday, February 23  
Time: 8:15 am meet at the church  
Cost: \$75\* to purchase a fun card  
(Deadline to purchase tickets:  
Wednesday, Feb. 20)

\* Volunteers for the Valentine's Dinner (Feb. 8) will receive at least a \$25 discount

### Wednesday Night Lenten Series

"The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus"

February 13: Baptism & Temptation

February 20: The Healing Ministry

February 27: Proclaiming the Kingdom

March 6: Calming the Storm



### 2013 Summer Camp

Now is the time to register for  
Warren Willis  
United Methodist Camp

### Registration is open to:

Elementary: 4th and 5th grades as of Sept. 2013

Middle School: 6th, 7th and 8th grades as of Sept. 2013

High School: 9th—12th grades as of Sept. 2013, plus 2013 graduates

The church will be providing transportation for  
**Week 6: July 15-20**

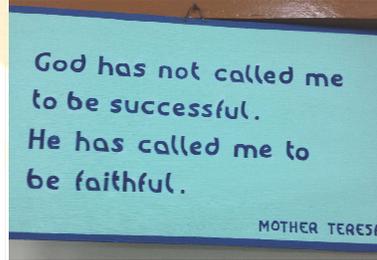
The cost is \$390 per camper.

The church has scholarship money available for families that are in need of assistance.

Scholarship money will be allocated based on various factors.

Please take a registration packet located on the Know, Grow, & Go wall in the lobby for more information including registration deadline, required deposit and scholarship policy.

[ MISSIONARY UPDATE: DANIEL SWEET ]



Daniel Sweet

Contact Info:  
Email  
daniel.sweet35@gmail.com

As you already know the Lord has called me to minister to Himself as a cross cultural missionary. Above are some photos taken while on my last missions trip to India.

- I consider it an honor and privilege to live out Matt. 24:14
- The Lord has marked me for the unreached, unengaged people groups of the world
- Reaching out to the 'untouchables' as seen (above) has gripped my heart
- 90% of all foreign missionaries work amongst a field that has already been reached
- My calling is one that will place me with the 10% that labors amongst unreached people groups
- Most of these unreached people's are located inside the 10/40 window

[ MISSIONARY UPDATE: DELBERT & SANDY GROVES, ZAMBIA ]

**Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!  
NEW LIFE CENTER, ZAMBIA**

It is hard to believe Christmas and the approaching New Year is almost here! We want to wish you God's very best in health and life as we look into 2013! This past year has been filled with many challenges, joys, and blessings as we've seen God's hand at work in Zambia. We are certain that this coming year will be filled with many more as well.

May God continue to bless each of you greatly in this coming year. May you continue to search earnestly for the presence of Jesus Christ during these troubling times. May His peace that passes all understanding fill you so completely that others will notice and ask what is different about you. May we all be bold enough to share about Christ in this hurting and wounded world.

Faithfully serving God because of the Christ Child, Jesus,  
Delbert and Sandy Groves



**United Methodist  
New Life Zambia**  
P.O.Box 20219 Kitwe, Zambia  
Groves@NewLifeZambia.com  
http://www.NewLifeZambia.com  
New Life Center Advance Special:  
#15057A

[ MISSIONARY UPDATE: CONNIE DI LEO, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC ]

Rev. Connie Di Leo, Advance Special # 014169      connie\_copa@yahoo.com 1-809-399-3096  
 General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church



**December Outreach Activity**

Our congregation reached out to help a small church in Bombita by painting their church this month. We have been so blessed here in our congregation and we want to reach out to help others with the blessings we have received. Our other outreach this month was to make and distribute food to the less fortunate of La Hoya. This is always a favorite activity for our church. Under the able leadership of Sylvia and Francia, food was prepared for 40 people. It was then delivered and words expressing God's love were shared at each home.



**Sunday School Christmas Party**

Thanks to a wonderful donation from the United Methodist Women of Port Charlotte UMC, we were able to provide a Christmas party for 60 children that attend our Sunday morning children's program. Each child received a gift as well as candies and a soda after hearing and participating in the Nativity play.

**Congregational Development**

Congregational development is a slow process, but I only need to think back to how things were in La Hoya when I arrived in 2002 to see and appreciate the amazing work God has done here bringing his Word to this village. Revival does not always happen in an explosion, but often happens through the slow burning of red hot embers. Thank you for your partnership in this birth and growth of a faith community.

**Progressive Dinner**

I always loved our church's progressive dinner so thought it might be fun to try to do something like that here. It was a great success last year so we decided to repeat it and again, it was a wonderful success. Most houses are too small to accommodate a large group, so we just ate outside. We can always count on good weather this time of year so that is never a problem. The problem became more of feeding anyone and everyone who showed up and thought it looked like a good time (especially the neighborhood children!) The dessert is always held at the church so it is my joy to work with some of the girls teaching them to make Christmas goodies! It was lots of fun and a great way to share the Christmas joy with our congregation.

**Orphanage**

The orphanage is not yet officially open, but Verona and some church members have begun working with a group of boys in preparation for the opening. They have been having weekly classes, getting to know the boys and developing relationships. Home visits have begun and a group of boys have been identified as the first residents. All of these boys do have some family members so are not officially orphans, but come from very difficult circumstances and the families are not able to care for the boys. A Christmas party was held for the boys and they really enjoyed playing games and, of course, receiving a special Christmas gift!



[ MISSIONARY UPDATE: ALEX &amp; BRENDA AWAD, PALESTINE—PG 1 of 2 ]



*"Because the heart of our God is full of loving-kindness for us, a light from heaven will shine on us. It will give light to those who live in darkness and are under the shadow of death. It will lead our feet in the way of peace."*

Luke 1: 76-79 (New Life Version)

**Dear friends and prayer partners,**

From Bethlehem, the birthplace of our Lord and Savior, we send you our Christmas Greetings!

This last summer and fall, we travelled to the US journeying in 20 states to visit and share with friends and churches who partner with us and Bethlehem Bible College ministries. Along the way we visited family members and joined in their celebrations, in particular the 50th wedding anniversary of Elizabeth & Ibrahim Siryani (Alex's sister & brother-in-law). This nomadic style of life that started off with medical checks in Atlanta was quite challenging, but the unexpected blessings and super hospitality that we encountered along the way made it all worthwhile. It was a joy to share in churches and other venues the message that is closest to our hearts—the story and plight of indigenous Palestinians and the Church community in the Holy Land. We know God loves the Palestinian people as much as he loves the Jews, the Americans, the Asians, the Europeans and all other ethnic and religious groups. Our story to the nations is that, "God so loved the world . . . that He gave his only son . . ."

During our travels, we especially cherished the times we had to renew fellowship with brothers and sisters in Christ who have stood in solidarity with us over the past years—some 20 years or more. We don't have enough pages to tell about all the friends and loved ones we met on the way, but as you receive this letter, please know we have a face and a name, and often a picture, to remind us of you. Our hope is that we were as much a blessing to you, our friends, congregations and host families, as you were a blessing to us.

Before traveling to the U.S., we spent a few days with our children and grandson Skylor in Pai, Thailand. We first stopped in Bangkok to see Basem and Pim and then made our way to the town of Pai in northern Thailand to be with Randy, Christy, Dave and Skylor. Pai is an oasis of natural beauty which is surrounded by mountains and has a river flowing through; in this town one can enjoy hot springs, rivers, waterfalls, nature hikes, and elephant rides. Skylor, soon to be 5, goes to a Montessori School in Pai which he likes very much. He speaks both English and Thai. He is very artistic and still enjoys building with legos. He is also a nature lover and enjoys catching all kinds of insects.

The East Jerusalem Baptist Church ministry continues to be a blessing to a cross section of the expatriate and Palestinian Christian communities. In our last Christmas letter we mentioned trying to obtain a visa for an assistant pastor. We were unsuccessful in this endeavor, a fact that reflects the challenges and difficulties that Christians here continually face. However, God has continued to be faithful to us and has brought other capable ministers and Christian leaders to help out. Please continue to pray with us for wisdom in identifying and welcoming a co-pastor for the church.

Our ministries at the Bible College, the Shepherd Society and the Church in Jerusalem are going well. You can find updates for the Bible College and Shepherd Society on the following websites: [www.bethbc.org](http://www.bethbc.org) and [www.shepherd-society.org](http://www.shepherd-society.org).



Light in Darkness



Silent Night Chapel in Frankenmuth, MI



Friends are Special



Christy, Pim, Basem, and Skylor



## [ MISSIONARY UPDATE: ALEX &amp; BRENDA AWAD, PALESTINE—PG 2 of 2 ]



Politically, 2012 has been a year of sharp contrasts in our region. Some Arab States such as Libya and Tunisia survived 12 months of a tenuous, popular uprising—the Arab Spring—and are now adjusting to life without their dictators. The Arab Spring in Egypt continues to be unstable as those who seek true democracy are daily challenged by the strong Islamic parties who are committed to steer the country towards Sharia Laws. In Syria, Bahrain, and Kuwait the Arab Spring continues to divide citizens and drag them to street fights or to an all out war. Here in Palestine, in the last 12 months, we journeyed from disappointment with the political stalemate to agonizing over another Israeli bombardment of Gaza and then just two weeks later hope and excitement soared as we saw one country after the other welcome Palestine as a 'non-member observer state' at the United Nations.



Randy and Megu

"The 193-member U.N. body voted 138 to 9, with 41 abstentions, to recognize Palestine as a "non-member observer state," a status that falls well short of independence but provides Palestinians with limited privileges as a state, including the right to join the International Criminal Court and other international treaty bodies." (The Washington Post, November 29, 2012)



Skylor

The continuing turmoil in the Arab world shows that Jesus Christ and his message of peace is as needed today as it was in Palestine when Jesus was born. We continue to pray for peace and reconciliation for the good of all the people who live in Israel, Palestine and the Middle East. We look to Luke's Gospel where we see God's intentional plan at work expressing his loving kindness towards humanity with a promise of light, hope, deliverance, and peace. As Christians we should never relinquish hope for peace on earth. In spite of all the negative news, we continue to believe that God will surprise us when he brings peace to this land.

We pray that as you reflect on 2012, you recognize the signs of God's kingdom being established in the hearts, lives and ministries of kingdom followers all over the world.

*May we add our voices to the angelic choirs over Bethlehem in proclaiming "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace to those on whom his favor rests." (Luke 2:14 NIV)*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year,*

*Alex & Brenda Awad*

Address Information: Bethlehem Bible College; PO Box 17166; Jerusalem 91190; Israel  
 Emails: [abawad@p-ol.com](mailto:abawad@p-ol.com), [alexawad@yahoo.com](mailto:alexawad@yahoo.com) Websites: [www.alexawad.org](http://www.alexawad.org) and [ejbc.wordpress.com](http://ejbc.wordpress.com)  
 Telephone: 972.2.676.6470

Thank you so much for your faithful mission support! For further contributions to United Methodist Advance #'s for ministries we serve, please designate your gift to one of the following Advances: Alex Awad (10825Z), Brenda Awad (10826Z), Shepherd Society (3020439), Bethlehem Bible College (12107A) and East Jerusalem Baptist Church (14907N). For more information about establishing a covenant relationship with us, please see: (<http://www.umcmision.org/Give-to-Mission/The-Advance>). Alternately, gifts can be sent to: Advance GCF, PO Box 9068, New York, NY. 10087-9068 with the Advance number clearly designated on your check.



The United Methodist Men of Port Charlotte UMC Invite You

# Pancake Breakfast!

Saturday, February 2  
7:00 - 11:00AM in Fellowship Hall

### MENU

Orange Juice  
Pancakes  
Sausage Links  
Sausage & Gravy  
Eggs  
Applesauce  
Beverage

### Suggested

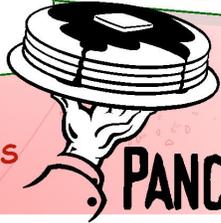
### Donation

**\$4.00**

Under 7 FREE!

Ages 7-11 \$1

Over 90 FREE!



ALL THE PANCAKES  
YOU CAN EAT!

# • PANCAKES!



# Valentine Dinner

Sponsored by the United Methodist Men

Friday, February 8th at 5:30pm  
Fellowship Hall

Tickets: \$20

Available for purchase in the church office

### MENU:

Salad, Steak grilled to perfection on premises, Baked potatoes with all the trimmings,  
Dessert, Coffee, Iced Tea, Lemonade or Ice Water

ENTERTAINMENT ♥ DOOR PRIZES ♥ SURPRISES



# GEMS

*Girls' Clubs*

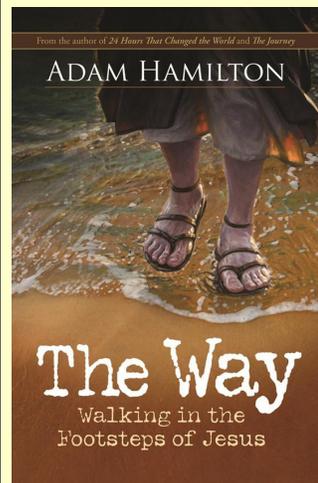
## CALLING ALL GIRLS GRADES 1 THRU 6

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. We are excited to announce the opening night of our 6th year here at PCUMC, which will be on February 21st. We meet on Thursday evenings from 6:00pm to 7:30pm at the Port. Our club year runs from February thru October. We invite you to join us and see if G.E.M.S. is part of God's plan for your life. There are brochures available on the information wall located in the church lobby. If you need any further information, please contact Lisa Friend at 627-6995. We hope to see you on Thursday, February 21st at 6:00pm.



**"Girls Everywhere  
Meeting the Savior"**

**1st - 6th Grade Girls  
Thursdays  
6-7:30pm at The Port  
(beginning February 21)**



## Family Ministry: Sunday Morning Study Group

### Lenten Series

“*The Way: Walking in the Footsteps of Jesus*” by Adam Hamilton

Travel with Adam Hamilton as he retraces the life and ministry of Jesus Christ. Using historical information, archaeological data, and stories of the faith, Hamilton follows in the footsteps of Jesus from his baptism to the temptations to the heart of his ministry, including the people he loved, the parables he taught, the enemies he made, and the healing he brought.

7 week DVD study begins February 17 at 9:30 am  
Join us in the conference room for discussion and reflection

## Frequently Heard Questions *Jonathan Carlsen*

**Question:** Last year, some of our members were here at church on Ash Wednesday, but didn't get ashes. How come?

**Answer:** Many United Methodists simply don't do ashes. Getting ashes or not is a matter of Christian freedom and conscience. Wesley disapproved of it in his *Explanatory Notes Upon the New Testament* (note on Matthew 6:16). So did my church in Chicago. Believing with most pre-1970 Protestants that doing ashes contradicted Jesus' words in Matthew 6:16-18, they clashed twice with younger clergy who thought all UMs did ashes. Before 1970, no U.S. Protestant church offered ashes on Ash Wednesday. Then Episcopalians started doing it and soon *some* UMs, Presbyterians, and people in other churches did too. From 1959 to 1965, my family lived in an Italian Catholic neighborhood in Syracuse, New York. My Catholic schoolmates there said the ashes reminded them that our bodies become dust at death. But since most Catholics got ashes early in the morning and wore them all day in public, we thought they were *boasting about their humility!* (Today our people generally get ashes at night and drive right home, so few people see them.) Some years ago, I asked Dad what he told our folks in Syracuse when they asked why we didn't do ashes. Dad said no one ever asked. It was just *too* foreign to our customs.

**Question:** Jesus said, “You must be born again” (John 3:7 NIV). Some friends can name the exact day and minute when they were born again. I cannot. I believe, but the Bible says, so do demons (James 2:19). How can I know I'm born again?

**Answer:** United Methodist bishop J. Gordon Howard wrote in 1950 that some are born-again “like a cyclone,” at an intense identifiable moment. My grandmother heard Jesus' call “in a whisper,” also an identifiable event, but quieter. But others, wrote Bishop Howard, experience the event “like a sunrise,” gradually realizing that “I belong to God.” How can we know? Jesus said, “I am the good shepherd” (John 10:14), and “his sheep follow him because they know his voice” (John 10:4). Do you know Jesus' voice when He speaks? Do you follow Him? Then you're born again whether or not you can name the day. (Compare also Romans 10:9, Matthew 7:21-23, and 1 John 1:5-9.)

**Question:** Jesus says, “You must be born again,” in the NIV, in John 3:7. It's “born anew,” in the RSV, and “born from above,” in the NRSV. Which is right? Why the difference?

**Answer:** Technically, all three translations are correct. A footnote in the *English Standard Version* (which uses “born again”) says, “... the Greek is purposely ambiguous and can mean both *again* and *from above* ...” But Jesus was speaking Aramaic, not Greek. Since Nicodemus thought Jesus meant a literal, physical birth, emerging from the mother's womb a second time, I think *born again* is the best translation. But apparently, the RSV and NRSV translators didn't see it that way.

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

## February Birthdays

01 Pat Winston	19 Yvette McIntosh
01 Christopher Bode	19 Jean Arnold
01 Kyle Dunda	19 Tom Williams
02 Othniel Robinson	21 Deborah Valler
02 Susan Putman	22 Veronica Campbell
03 Tiffany Roberts	22 Nina Petro
04 Gene Middaugh	23 Ryan Yanni
07 Eugene Novak	24 Jean Pearl
08 Robin Ettinger	24 D Fletcher
09 Fredrick Carlsen	25 Phyllis Collis
09 Zena Burkholder	25 Jerri Boyd
09 Olga Sabo	26 Eileen West
09 Robert Stevens	26 Mary Clemmons
10 Eloise Ness	27 Patty Royer
10 Marsha Normoyle	27 Diane DePaul
10 Nita Bruner	28 Addison Cates
11 Janet Freiberg	
11 Hannelore Edgington	
12 Fern Grahovac	
12 William Bryan	
13 Charlotte Miller	
14 Joseph Slike	
15 Pat Robinette	
15 David Cox	
16 Gladys Weibley	
16 Madilyn Ashley	
17 Betty Bruce	
18 Sheila Armour	
18 Lisa Friend	



## February Anniversaries

03 Mike and Joan Sniecinski
07 Eugene and Daphene Novak
13 Bill and Ellen Even
14 Terry and Doris Hixson
14 Tom and Marcie Marshall
19 Bruce and Nikki Foster



Have you been joining us on Wednesday nights? It is a great time to come enjoy dinner, fellowship and stay for one of our Bible studies or activities.

There is something for everyone!

Dinner begins at 5, with a program from 6-6:30. Small groups and activities follow dinner.

**Come join us!**

### FEBRUARY WNO MENU:

Feb 6: Meatloaf, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Peas

Feb 13: Roast Chicken, Yellow Rice, Seasoned Green Beans

Feb 20: Beef Stroganoff, Egg Noodles, Carrots

Feb 27: Open-faced Hot Turkey Sandwiches, Stuffing, Mashed Potatoes & Gravy, Corn

### **CHILDREN Kindergarten – 5th Grade**

PBJ's (Port Believers in Jesus)

6-7:30pm at the Port

PB& J's includes a scripture lesson, small groups, crafts and games

### **YOUTH 6th – 12th Graders**

6-8:15pm in the Youth Room

### **CHOIR**

Choir Rehearsal 6:30pm in the Choir Room

### **ADULT STUDY OPPORTUNITIES**

Pastor's Study

6:30pm, New Room

Parents' Study Group

"Soul Detox"

6:30pm, Conference Room

"Direction and Hope" Bible Study

7:15, Education Office

*Nursery care is available during all small groups.*



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

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### **Saturday, February 2**

#### **Pancake Breakfast**

Fellowship Hall 7-11am

#### **Car Wash**

(Relay for Life Fundraiser)

Back Parking Lot 8am-2pm

### **Friday, February 8**

#### **UMM Valentine Dinner**

Fellowship Hall, 5:30pm

### **Wednesday, February 13**

#### **Ash Wednesday**

Worship Service 6:30pm

### **Friday, February 15**

#### **Family Dinner & a Movie plus CLOTHES & TOY SWAP**

6-8pm Fellowship Hall

### **Monday, February 18**

#### **Presidents Day**

Church offices will be closed

## **GriefShare** *Ann Van Hoose-Oleson*

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No matter what circumstances, grief recovery is a painful process. We understand how deep grief and loss hurt people and families.

Beginning Wednesday, February 13th, from 1-3pm, PCUMC will be sponsoring a special seminar and support group for people dealing with the loss of a family member.



GriefShare is a weekly video seminar featuring some of the nation's foremost experts on grief recovery topics. Each seminar is combined with small group discussion time to allow group participants to talk about the content of the seminar and about how they are dealing with the death of their loved ones.

Pre-registration is requested. Participants do not need to belong to PCUMC. Please call Ann Van Hoose-Oleson at (941) 456-0081 for more information, any questions, and to pre-register.