KNOW GROW GO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
PORT CHARLOTTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

January 2016

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

PCUMC - "Workers, Watchers, and Warriors"

I know nothing about construction, but I have overseen a building or renovation project at each of the churches I have been privileged to serve. Knowing nothing about building, makes it necessary to find and enlist people who do. People who are willing to commit their knowledge, gifts, and time to create something that beautiful and functional.

Some phases would show signs of progress almost hour-by-hour, if not, day-by-day. Others taxed us to see any change at all, even when days would pass. Each of those projects found a similar destination. A place where people could welcome, worship, disciple, serve, and share!

When we read the words of Psalm 127, we are given three word pictures that help us build something for God that will last. We are to be **workers, watchers, and warriors**. The goal of all three of these roles is that we will leave a legacy of godliness to those around us and for generations to come. The worker is not simply building a place. They are building a home, a heritage—that will take the heart and hands of God into the next generation. That kind of building demands more of us; more thought, more effort, and more generosity than bricks and mortar ever could. **In 2016, are you committed to being one of God's faithful WORKERS?**

The psalmist also speaks of those who choose to be watchers. The Scripture says, *"Unless the Lord guards the city, the watchers stays awake in vain"* (127:1). We have here a picture of a sentinel, a guard standing a post, one who's responsibility is the safety, not of a place, but of a people. They cannot sleep. They must remain alert. They need to be able to recognize the approach of any enemy, or foe that would seek to do harm. We have been given the assignment of being watchers, looking out over the blessings of people and places that God has entrusted to us. **In 2016, are you committed to being one of God's faithful WATCHERS?**

Finally, the psalmist writes of a warrior: *"Like arrows in the hand of a warrior, so are the children of one's youth"* (127:4). The picture here is of a battle being fought, and the sons and daughters of generations that follow are our ammunition. They are arrows in battle, and God intends that we release and send them out into the culture. Those arrows have to be prepared. They must be shaped, sharpened, and formed. Our effectiveness as warriors, will determine the effectiveness of our arrows.

continued on next page...

Join us on Sundays
Traditional Worship at 8 & 11
Contemporary 9:30am

Wednesday Nights
WNO Dinner: 5-6:30pm
Children's Ministry: 6-7:30pm
Youth: 6-8:15pm
Choir: 6:15pm
Adult Studies: 6:30-7:30pm

Saturday, Jan. 9
Pancake Breakfast 7-11am

Tuesday, Jan.12
Membership Class 6-8pm

Wednesday, Jan. 20
Bloodmobile 4-7:30pm

Thursday, Jan. 21
Lunch & Learn 11:30am-1pm

Friday/Saturday Jan. 29/30
UMM Yard Sale

Visit us online for audio sermons, upcoming events and more: www.pcumc.info

In Loving Memory

John Cross
Emily Love
Evelyn Robertson
Donna Schipp

continued from front...

If they're not shaped correctly, if they are aimed poorly, they will be unable to fulfill their purpose. **In 2016, are you committed to being one of God's faithful WARRIORS?**

The psalmist tells us that there's a house to be built, a city to be guarded, and a battle to be fought. If the workers cuts corners, if the watchers fall asleep or become distracted, or if warriors fail to show up for battle, then the world is in trouble.

God is building His kingdom, and His desire is for us to be workers for Him; watchers for Him; and warriors for Him. If we lose sight of who we are, if we become weary in well-doing. God help us!

Our children are a sacred stewardship from the Lord. One day we will give account to God for the spiritual condition of the next generation. That does not diminish *their* responsibility, but we, as adult believers, will one day stand before God and give account for the work we've done for God, the watch we've kept for God, and war we waged against what denies God. Keep going and never quit!

Grace, Pastor Brian

Dorcas and Ester Circle's combined Christmas gathering at the Olde World Restaurant

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Please welcome these new members to our church family! Our next Membership Class will be held Tuesday, January 12th from 6-8pm. Call the church office 625-4356 to sign up.

Brenda & Gary Reeves

Cherri Terry

United Methodist Women

FAITH - HOPE - LOVE IN ACTION

Our meetings are the first Monday of the month, 10 am in the Fellowship Hall of Trinity United Methodist Church, 23084 Seneca Avenue, Port Charlotte. We hope to see you there, February 1st!

Extravagant Generosity

Y-T-D 11/30/15
Income $766,257.29
Expenses $768,592.39
Assistance: Utilities: 1, Rent: 2

My GIG *Sandy Segur (941) 249-8726*

Millennial Girlfriends in God - Women 18 to 28
Wednesday Nights 6:30-7:30pm
Beginning January 6, 2016

"...for wisdom is better than jewels, and all that you may desire cannot compare with her." Proverbs 8:11 The Gifts of Wisdom

Plan on joining us in the Lounge for informal group discussion with a spiritual foundation around books from the United Methodist Women's resources and interests of our group's choice.

Frequently Heard Questions *Jonathan Carlsen*

Question: I heard one of our bishops quoted calling the United Brethren Church, one of The United Methodist Church's ancestor denominations, "the first denomination born on American soil." How can that be? They were organized in 1800, while the Methodists organized in 1784 and the Presbyterians, Baptists, Congregationalists, Episcopalians (formerly Anglicans), Moravians, Mennonites, and Reformed churches organized even earlier.

> ***Answer:*** Bishop J. Gordon Howard, first elected bishop by The Evangelical United Brethren Church in 1957, wrote this in his EUB senior high catechism book, *Christian Beliefs for Christian Youth*, published in 1950 (p.89). Either he or an editor at the Otterbein Press left out one important qualifying detail that would have made the statement true. That detail appears in a 1921 United Brethren publication quoted by Augustus Waldo Drury, in his *History of the Church of the United Brethren in Christ* (Dayton, OH: Otterbein Press, 1924, p. 808): "The Church of the United Brethren is not an off-shoot from any other denomination." The church co-founders, Philip William Otterbein and Martin Boehm (rhymes with *same*), were German Reformed and Mennonite in background, but the church was separate from those traditions from the beginning. The statement should have said: "It was the first denomination born on American soil that had no direct European roots."

Question: In English classes and logic classes, we learned about inductive and deductive reasoning. Inductive reasoning (generalizing based on particular instances) is considered the inferior method. Yet many acclaimed Bible teachers tout *inductive Bible study*. They never mention *deductive Bible study*. Is there such a thing?

> ***Answer:*** I can think of one instance. Years ago in an Illinois Burger King, I was pondering a well-known fact: the Scriptures in John Wesley's *Explanatory Notes Upon the New Testament* are Wesley's own revision of the KJV. They've been published separately as *Wesley's New Testament*. But did the Scriptures in his *Explanatory Notes Upon the Old Testament* represent an unaltered KJV or a revision? I recalled, starting in 1611, many had revised the KJV until 1769, when Benjamin Blayney "froze the text," creating today's KJV. Wesley's three-volume *Old Testament Notes* came out in 1765 and 1766, *before* Blayney's revision. Blayney wouldn't just copy Wesley's version. I call this *deductive Bible study!*

Question: In Acts 21:10-12, we read that a New Testament prophet Agabus, inspired by the Holy Spirit, predicted that Paul would be bound hand and foot if he went to Jerusalem and commanded him not to go. Why would Paul disobey a command from the Holy Spirit?

> ***Answer:*** When I read that passage in Sunday School, that's how I read it and I wondered the same thing. But that's not what the Bible says. The Bible says that Agabus reported that the Holy Spirit told him that Paul would be bound *when* he went to Jerusalem, not *if*. Paul's friends, fearing for his safety, begged him not to go, but the Spirit gave no such command. Quite the contrary, John Wesley writes, "St. Paul knew that this prediction had the force of a command [to go to Jerusalem]. They [Paul's friends] did not know this." — *Explanatory Notes Upon the New Testament*, note at Acts 21:12.

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

Health Ministry *Jane Flanders*

We continue to welcome our snowbirds back as we all recover from the hectic holidays. Don't sit and rest too long as lots of wonderful things are going on at our beautiful church.

Our “Lunch and Learn” on January 21 will be presented by Coastal Chiropractic. Dr. Corey Girdwood and Dr. Matthew DeFilippis will offer information on "Inflammation." A complimentary lunch will be served at 11:30AM. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you plan to attend.

On February 18, we welcome Dr. Daniel Kretchman, Judy McInerney, Psy. D., and Mary Parker, ARNP. Their presentation is titled: "Sleep; Lullaby Lessons." A complimentary lunch will be served at 11:30AM. Please sign up at the Welcome Center if you plan to attend.

Lunch & Learn Free!

- COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH PROVIDED -

Thursday, January 21
11:30am - 1:00pm

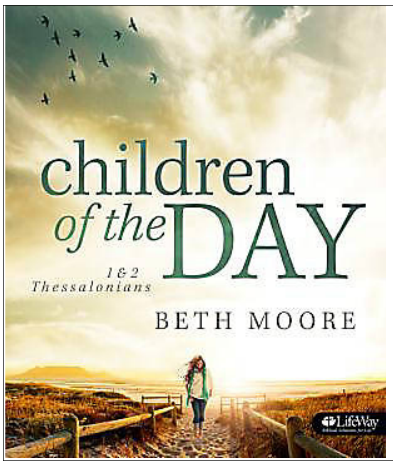
“Inflammation”
Coastal Chiropractic

There will be a Bloodmobile on January 20 from 4:00PM - 7:30PM during WNO. A sign-up sheet can be found at the Welcome Center. Please donate!

A few months ago we mentioned the MinuteClinic at CVS. The updated news is there will be a clinic opening in 2016 at the CVS on route 41, heading south just before going over the Punta Gorda bridge. The MinuteClinic will provide patients with affordable, high-quality walk-in health care. These clinics are open 7 days a week. No appointments are necessary and most health insurances are accepted. We will keep you abreast of any news.

By now everyone has had their flu shots, right? How about the pneumonia shot? The Center for Disease Control and Prevention recommends all adults age 65 and older receive two doses of the pneumococcal vaccine according to a recommended schedule. Please discuss your need for this vaccine with your doctor. Do you know how many cases of pneumococcal pneumonia are diagnosed each year? Approximately 900,000. Unbelievable, huh? How old do you think the reported age of the patients is? Most are age 60 and older. Pneumonia often appears following a cold or the flu. Symptoms are high fever, chest pain and difficulty breathing. Please drink lots of fluids if you develop a cold or the flu and always remember to constantly wash your hands. Most germs are passed via the hands. Cover your coughs and sneezes, properly clean the surfaces in your home and avoid crowds. Be safe and healthy!

Remember that blood pressures are taken every Sunday at 9:00AM in the "fish bowl" or anytime you feel the need. Just ask one of the nurses and if you stop by the fish bowl you will meet some of our fantastic nurses like Sonjia Back, Doris Barney, Veronica Vieux, Rosemarie Arnoldt or Elfreda Bryan and our very own parish nurse, Jane Trammell. Also, blood pressures are taken every Wednesday at 4:00PM before WNO and during the Men's Breakfast each month. See you in the fish bowl!



BETH MOORE STUDY
BEGINS JANUARY 19

“Children of the Day”
based on I & II Thessalonians

9:30am, 1:30pm and 6:30pm
with childcare provided at the 9:30am session if needed. The cost will be $20.
Please register by January 4th
by contacting: “D” Fletcher:
djfnrs@centurylink.net / 623-0642.

Health Ministry

The next Health Ministry meeting will be held on January 19 at 9:00AM in the conference room.

More About Stephen Ministry *Dean Winston*

Confidentiality dictates that the names and identifying details of this case history be altered. The following is another example of a successful caring relationship between a Stephen Minister and their care receiver.

I received a call from the son of Tom and Mary. He asked that a Stephen Minister be assigned to his father. His mother had recently been found wandering aimlessly in her pajamas along 41. She was admitted to an Alzheimer's facility. The son went on to say that he was familiar with Stephen Ministry because he had been helped on the road to sobriety by a Stephen Minister. He wanted the same caring relationship for his father who was having a hard time coping with his wife's illness and his separation from her. Tom and Mary had retired to an assisted living facility a few years previous. They were both socially active, members of the country club, frequent party hosts, bridge club members, etc. In the last couple of years, Mary's illness had progressed rapidly to this point. Tom felt a great deal of guilt about Mary's condition. He felt he should have done more or discovered the illness sooner when perhaps drugs could have slowed its progress. Now, he was spending all his time visiting his wife. He no longer played golf or socialized, his entire focus was on her. I assigned a Stephen Minister to Tom. Tom knew that his son had requested a Stephen Minister for him and agreed to meet once a week for about an hour until he felt a Stephen Minister was no longer needed. The first caring visit revealed that Tom and his Stephen Minister had much in common. Both had been executives in the chemical business, but with different companies. Both loved to play golf, and were members of the same club but didn't know each other. They were contemporaries within years of each other.

The Stephen Minister would pray for Tom before each weekly visit with him, asking God to provide HIS healing grace to Tom to remove his guilt and give him peace. During each visit the Stephen Minister would ask Tom about his feelings and listen to his replies. He would ask reflective question reminding Tom that everything they talked about was confidential. The Stephen Minister did not judge whatever Tom told him. He was there for him, figuratively yoked with him in sharing his burdens. All during this time, Tom was encouraged to limit his visits with his wife to once a day for about an hour. She was sleeping most of the time now and hadn't recognized him in some time. He was also encouraged to begin to play golf again.

Approximately a year passed when Tom told his Stephen Minister he didn't think he needed him anymore as a Stephen Minister, but he wanted to remain friends. The Stephen Minister was pleased Tom had accepted GOD'S healing grace and was happy to have Tom as a friend. Tom told his Stephen Minister that when Mary passes he wanted his help through that. The Stephen Minister said he would be honored to do so.

If you have a burden and would like a Stephen Minister to help, call Pastor Brian 625-4356 or Dean Winston 941-661-8825.

In the front row left to right are: Doris Forsythe, Veronica Campbell, Doris Hixson, Pat Winston, Betty Hansen, Fran Rowley, Terri Smith, Sue Edmiston, June Richards.
In the back row left to right are: Dean Winston, Terry Hixson, Sid White, Frank Hansen, Ray Rowley, Mary Meyer, Sandy Segur, Barbara Hepler.

the PORT

Where Children and Youth are Anchored in Christ

Student Ministries *Barbara Hald*

Student Ministries wants to thank all of you for a great year. A lot has changed but God's faithfulness stays the same.

Our students are growing and we are so excited about all the areas God is leading us in. Here are some ways you can help:

Always be in prayer for the children and their families, the volunteers and staff that work so hard to make this ministry awesome!

Volunteer, help teach, or just hang out with us. Donate food. And, speaking of food, the Youth will have a "Super Bowl Sub" Fundraiser in February. Order your subs the week before and pick them up at church for Super Bowl Sunday.

Hope everyone had a great Christmas and a blessed New Year!

PCUMC Children's Weekday Ministry

A Ministry of Port Charlotte United Methodist Church

Director: Paula Mann

625-4356 phone / email: pcumcschool@gmail.com

January Prayer:

(Tune: London Bridge)
Thanks and praise we give to God
give to God, give to God
Thanks and praise we give to God
for our snack time. Amen

January Bible verse:

"I will tell of the wonderful things God has done."
Psalm 9:1

Important January Dates:

4th: 3-day VPK ONLY returns
5th: TTH 3's and 5-day VPK return
6th: MWF 3s and after-school return / Donuts with Dad (Dads, enjoy a donut with your child when you walk them in!)
11-15 Spirit Week Fundraiser
18th: No School
20th: Vision and Hearing Screening

Methodist Men's Annual "Yard" Sale

Friday January 29, 2016 8:00 am to 2:00 pm

Saturday January 30, 2016 8:00 am to noon

Port Charlotte United Methodist Church
21075 Quesada Ave. Port Charlotte, FL 33652-2546

Fellowship Hall

UNITED METHODIST MEN

PANCAKE BREAKFAST

Saturday, January 9th 7am-11am

All the pancakes you can eat,
as well as scrambled eggs, sausage links,
orange juice, coffee & tea… only $5.
Kids under 6 and adults over 90 eat free!
Come and let the men serve you!

January Birthdays

02 Arthur Davis
02 Leone Bihl
02 Franklin DePaul
03 Jacqueline Wint
04 Ken Jacobson
04 Thomas Parkinson, Jr.
05 Landon Carter
06 Jan Schinkel
07 Marion Corcoran
07 Jane Trammell
07 Delphena Lyons
08 David Jones
09 David Yanni
09 Jeffrey Yanni
11 Janice Willmeth
11 Esther Gandt
11 Dean Winston
12 Kathleen Mulinix
13 Lori Pardee
13 Yvonne Carter
14 Ann Surrette
14 Stephen Pearl
14 Lori Brown
16 Paul Coker
16 Al Pachasa
18 Delbert Walton
18 Kimberly Marshall
19 Jimmie Hetrick
20 Lanie James
20 Grayson Cole-Johnston
21 Glenn Edmiston
21 Don Nevins
24 Darlene Brown
24 Alexander deSilva
25 Shirley Seyfried
25 Cassita Campbell
26 Paige Polk
27 Arthur Lageveen
27 Eileen Bailey
28 Ruth Hall
28 Jim Hepler
28 Dawn Kisner
29 Jean Ringham
29 Fred Titus
29 Avis Hastings
31 G.Walford Young
31 Sandi Hurl
31 Edward Robedee
31 Teaken Robedee

January Anniversaries

02 Thomas and Joanna Beynon
10 Bill and Shirley Bishop
18 Delbert and Mary Louise Young
19 Thomas and Karen Wenck
28 Maxine and Al Tillman
30 Rodney and Yvonne Carter
31 Jim and Barbara Hepler

Dinner served Wednesdays from 5-6:30pm
Suggested Donation: $5
Resumes for 2016 on January 13th!!

Children and Youth Activities 6:00 - 8:15pm
Bible Studies & Small Groups: from 6:30 - 7:30pm

Shuttle transportation is available.
Call 625-4356 by noon on Wednesday.

Special WNO Presentation

Jamie Walton of the Wayne Foundation will offer a program on "Explaining the Reality of Human Trafficking in the United States" following WNO on Feb. 17 at 6:30PM. Did you know that Human Trafficking is a 9.5 billion dollar industry? It is a "hidden" crime that is money motivated. The average age of sex trafficking victims is 13-14 years old. Florida is 3rd in the nation for reported cases of sex trafficking. Come discover where our children are being exploited and the computer is just one place. Detective Bill White of the Port Charlotte Sheriff's Dept. will also be present. If you see any trafficking call 911. The National Human Trafficking Resource Center is available 24 hours and the phone number is 818-373-7888. The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's phone number is 800-843-5678. Bring your notebook and pen to this valuable and informative presentation.

You won't want to miss it!

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

Phone: (941) 625-4356
E-mail: info@pcumc.info
Website: www.pcumc.info
facebook.com/portcharlotteumc

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

SAVE THE DATE!

Thrive

South West District Conference

SW District Annual Training Event

Training Leaders to Make Disciples of Jesus Christ for the Transformation of the World

Saturday, January 20, 2016
9:00am - 3:00pm
(8:30am Registration)

First UMC-Punta Gorda
507 W Marion Avenue, Punta Gorda, FL 33950

Mark your calendars now for the SW District annual leadership training on Saturday, January 30, 2016. Conference and District Leadership will be leading sessions on local church committee responsibilities. If you are new to a local church ministries and committee, a seasoned committee veteran or just an active member in your local church, you will want to join us for a great day of learning!

Topics include:

- Finance
- Fresh Expressions - Next Steps!
- Fundamentals of Youth Ministry: Structure and Relationships
- Here Am I, Send Me: Endowing and Engaging for Effective Evangelism
- Let's Talk About Families!
- Ministry Protection
- Radical Hospitality: Attracting People to the Fire
- Telling Our Stories - From "in the door' to 'part of the team'
- Who is your neighbor?