

# KNOW GROW GO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF  
PORT CHARLOTTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH  
VOLUME 44 - ISSUE 1

## January 2013

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

### 2013 - MAKING PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

The New Year is here! Many people struggle to find optimism as they look into the future. The assessment of life's landscape moving into the future is one of frozen gridlock in many areas of life. So with all of the challenges, both real and perceived, how are we as God's people called to live our lives?

God has always had a plan for the living of our daily lives. The living of our lives in God's plan is not independent of what happens in the world around us. God's plan is at times in the midst of what is happening and it is also sometimes in spite of what is happening. God's people move forward because they choose to!

So what does a plan for godly people moving forward in 2013 look like?

#### 2013 PLAN FOR LIVING

##### **I will . . .**

**1) . . . KNOW Christ.** We need to spend time with God every day. If indeed, we view the world as challenging, then we have to rely on what can give us our greatest ability to face the challenge. That is Jesus Christ! Ephesians 6:10-12 instructs us to *"be strong in the Lord and in his mighty power. Put on the full armor of God, so that you can take your stand against the devil's schemes. For our struggle is not against flesh and blood, but against the rulers, against the authorities, against the powers of this dark world and against the spiritual forces of evil in the heavenly realms."*

Whatever we choose to do in life we need to rely on Scripture (Bible), Prayer (Personal time with God), and Accountability (godly people) as the foundation of daily living.

**2) . . . GROW in Christ.** We can choose to move forward because of who Jesus is. Hebrews 12:2 reminds us of how Jesus dealt with the challenges in His life, and to follow His example. *"Fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith. For the joy set before him, he endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God."*

**3) . . . GO to Share Christ.** It's not about me. When things are challenging, it is easy to focus our attention exclusively on ourselves. We are called to live lives that represent the daily power of God in the midst of life in the world. Moving forward requires us to look beyond ourselves to show the world the power of what God can do. 2 Corinthians 4:5 instructs us to, *"For what we preach is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake."*

Whether we are talking about our personal plans, our family plans, our church plans, our national plans, or our global plan, we will never be all that God wants us to be by spending time on our I wonders, I wants, or I wishes. We will move forward in this year and in every year by establishing the "I WILL's" in our lives.

Pastor Brian

*Loving  
Memory*

Elodie Vosburgh 12/2/2012  
Bob Watts 12/16/12

To Our Church Family,

May God bless you for your sympathy cards, telephone calls and kind words of support following the death of our beloved Carl.

Your outpouring of love and compassion has helped sustain us through a very difficult time.

Sincerely in Christ,

Dottie Snethkamp, Dottie and Art de Silva.

The United Methodist Men want to thank everyone who helped us make our Pancake Breakfast with Santa a successful event.

A special thank you to Bob Cates for playing Santa Claus!

Bill Bishop



**Exercise Group Christmas Lunch**

Pictured: Mary, Nancy, Claire, Francis, Jimmy, Mary, Francis, Roselle, Jane, Joan, Ellen, Lynn, Sylvia, Dorette, Joanne, Angele, Mary and Phyllis

**January Birthdays**

- |                      |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| 02 Arthur Davis      | 24 Darlene Brown    |
| 02 Franklin DePaul   | 25 Shirley Seyfried |
| 03 Jacqueline Wint   | 25 Cassita Campbell |
| 04 Thomas Parkinson  | 27 Arthur Lageveen  |
| 06 Jan Schinkel      | 27 Eileen Bailey    |
| 07 Marion Corcoran   | 28 Ruth Hall        |
| 07 Jane Trammell     | 28 Beverly Steiff   |
| 07 Delphena Lyons    | 28 Jim Hepler       |
| 08 Gwendolyn Kasper  | 28 Phil Western     |
| 09 David Yanni       | 28 Dawn Kisner      |
| 09 Jeffrey Yanni     | 29 Roy Burkholder   |
| 11 Esther Gandt      | 29 Jean Ringham     |
| 11 Charles Winston   | 29 Fred Titus       |
| 11 Dean Winston      | 29 Avis Hastings    |
| 13 Yvonne Carter     | 31 Martin Bayuk     |
| 14 Marian Walsingham | 31 Walford Young    |
| 14 Ann Surrette      | 31 Sandi Hurl       |
| 14 Stephen Pearl     | 31 Herbert Isley    |
| 14 Lori Brown        |                     |
| 16 Paul Coker        |                     |
| 17 Barbara Smith     |                     |
| 17 Doug Bode         |                     |
| 18 Delbert Walton    |                     |
| 18 Nancy Vuic        |                     |
| 19 Jimmie Hetrick    |                     |
| 20 Lanie James       |                     |
| 21 Glenn Edmiston    |                     |
| 21 Don Nevins        |                     |



**January Anniversaries**

- 05 Roger and Vega Boyer
- 17 Burelle and Bettie Curtis
- 18 Delbert Walton and Mary Louise Young
- 19 Burke and Pat Robinette
- 19 Thomas and Karen Wenck
- 19 Henry and Betty Rankin
- 28 Maxine and Al Tillman
- 30 Rodney and Yvonne Carter
- 31 Donald and Beverly Steiff
- 31 Jim and Barbara Hepler

## Frequently Heard Questions *Jonathan Carlsen*

---

Hard to believe that we started this column a year ago. Time flies!

**Question:** How did this column originate? and where do you get the questions?

**Answer:** 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.

**Question:** Last month's "Frequently Heard Questions" described a *chrismon* as the fusion of the Greek letters **X** (*chi*) and **P** (*rho*), the first two letters of the Greek word for Christ. But a bulletin insert last month referred to the other symbols on the sanctuary Christmas tree as chismons also. What's going on?

**Answer:** Two things: (1) word definitions and usages can change over the years (The story goes that King Henry VIII once described Anglican worship as "giddy, awful, and artificial." By this he meant that it was *godly, awe-inspiring, and artistic.*), and (2) a 50+ year old debate among dictionary makers and users — Is the dictionary maker's job to define a word's "correct" meaning or usage, or to tell us how people use the word? (Reportedly, Lincoln, playing with his young sons and a new puppy, asked, "If you call a tail a leg, how many legs does the dog have?" The boys answered, "Five." Lincoln said, "No, four. Calling a tail a leg doesn't make it one.") Traditionally, a *chrismon* is the fused **X** and **P**. But in 1957, Frances Kipps Spencer, of the Ascension Lutheran Church in Danville, Virginia, protesting the over-commercialization of Christmas, created an alternative tree featuring only white-and-gold **handmade** ornaments representing chrismons and other Christian symbols. All these ornaments she called *chrismons*. The idea spread and the name stuck. ([http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chrismon\\_tree](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Chrismon_tree))

**Question:** Acts 3:11 mentions Solomon's porch or portico. Where was it? How did it get its name? What was its function?

**Answer:** Also mentioned in John 10:23 and Acts 5:12, this was "The eastern part of the walkway surrounding the outer court of Herod's Temple" (David Stern, *Jewish New Testament Commentary*, p. 188). Others describe it as covering a huge area, with many stone columns, possibly comprising the whole Court of the Gentiles and serving as an entrance to the Court of the Jews. The 1<sup>st</sup> century Jewish historian, Josephus, linked it, in name and function, with an earlier structure in Solomon's Temple.

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](mailto: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

---

## Extravagant Generosity

---

As of 11/30/12

Y-T-D Income \$793,787.92  
 Y-T-D Budgeted Income \$832,144.50  
 Y-T-D Expenses \$829,114.70  
 Y-T-D Budgeted Expenses \$831,288.21

Assistance:  
 Rent: 1, Misc: 2, Utilities: 1



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](mailto:info@pcumc.info)  
Website: [www.pcumc.info](http://www.pcumc.info)

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

Γ

1

L

J

## Prayer Works

Jonathan Carlsen, *Salty Service - Persecuted Church*

On November 11, the International Day of Prayer for the Persecuted Church, I described the plight of exiled Uzbek pastor Makhset Djabbarbarergenov. He had led an unregistered church in the former Soviet Republic of Uzbekistan and, after several arrests and a police raid on his apartment in 2007, he and his family (shown right) fled to neighboring Kazakhstan. When the Uzbek government asked to extradite him, Kazakh officials arrested him, intending to comply. UN officials recognized him as a religious refugee.



We prayed for him on November 11. On December 5, Faith McDonnell, religious freedom advocate at the Institute on Religion and Democracy, reported that the Kazakhs released Pastor Djabbarbarergenov the day before. He and his family fled to Germany and then to a fourth country and freedom. ***Prayer works!***

# JANUARY EVENTS

### January 2

Church offices closed

### January 5

Pancake Breakfast  
7-11am, Fellowship Hall

### January 18

Family Dinner & a Movie  
"The Odd Life of Timothy Green"  
6pm, Fellowship Hall

### January 20

Tino Wallenda tight rope  
performance, 6pm

### January 21

Martin Luther King Day  
Church offices & CWM closed

### January 26

Family Ministry Mini-Golf Trip  
3pm, Fish Cove Golf