

KNOW GROW GO



Port Charlotte United Methodist Church 2013 Ministry Report

PASTOR'S REPORT

Then I said to them, "You see the trouble we are in: Jerusalem lies in ruins, and its gates have been burned with fire. Come, let us rebuild the wall of Jerusalem, and we will no longer be in disgrace." I also told them about the gracious hand of my God upon me and what the king had said to me.

They replied, "Let us start rebuilding." So they began this good work.

Nehemiah 2:17-18

The Israelites had returned from exile to Jerusalem. They had re-formed their nation and community of faith, rebuilt the altar and the temple, re-initiated their celebrations and sacrifices, and renewed their relationship with God. They were in pretty good shape but God's vision had not been completely realized. Distracted by life's toils and troubles and intimidated by opposition and persecution, they didn't do all that God had called them to do. Through Nehemiah, God graciously and powerfully inspired His people to finish fulfilling the plans and promises He had for his chosen people. With God's help and protection they all worked together to rebuild the walls and gates of Jerusalem. Having completed the repairs to God's holy city, Israel could now truly be a light unto the nations.

Continued on next page...

Pastor's Report	1-6
Administration	7
Feed the Children.....	8
Bus Ministry.....	8
Trustees	12
Youth Ministry	10
Children's Ministry.....	9
Children's Weekday Ministry	11
Intentional Discipleship	11
Music Ministry	12

21075 Quesada Avenue
Port Charlotte, FL 33952
(941) 625-4356
www.pcumc.info

“So the wall was completed on the twenty-fifth of Elul, in fifty-two days. When all our enemies heard about this, all the surrounding nations were afraid and lost their self-confidence, because they realized that this work had been done with the help of our God.” Nehemiah 6:15-16

Over the past 12 months the staff and lay leadership of Port Charlotte United Methodist Church have been having ongoing and necessary discussions about the life and health of PCUMC. We have begun to look at all that God has done in the past and all that God is doing now in our midst. I think God has revealed, revived, and rekindled, to connect and pour energy into serving the last, the least, the lost - the same passion that took Christ to the cross. I believe God has begun to inspire and encourage us to pray the prayer that I offered in my first sermon as appointed pastor 4 1/2 years ago, “God, what do you want your church to be?”

I believe the sentiment expressed by a cross-section of the people who love and are invested in this church's future is best summarized as this:

“PCUMC has an awesome group of generous, loving, talented, spirit-filled Christians whom God has brought together for a reason. PCUMC has been a great church for decades, but we choose to believe God is calling us to work together to become an even greater blessing to the Charlotte County community and all across the globe. We believe God is calling PCUMC to discover and embrace God’s vision as people who passionately want for others what we continue to discover for ourselves:

- *We want people to KNOW Christ (Our Purpose)*
- *We want people to GROW in Christ (Our Mission)*
- *We want people to GO to serve Christ (Our Vision)*

God is always doing a new thing and we believe He has prepared us for many years for just this moment. With God’s help, the body that is PCUMC stands ready to meet the challenge.

It will be hard work and it won’t happen overnight. It will be worth it if we commit ourselves to unity, serve passionately, invest fully, and trust the Lord completely. Like Nehemiah, let us pray, listen for God’s voice and respond.”

God’s Vision for PCUMC's Current Structure:

PCUMC Core Values

- I. Creating a church family of Passionate Worshipers**
- II. KNOWing - Extending Radical Hospitality to the Charlotte County Community**
- III. GROWing Persons in Christ through Intentional Discipling**
- IV. GOing Out into the community as Salty Servants**
- V. Sharing ourselves with Extravagant Generosity**

I. Creating a church family of Passionate Worshipers

Our worship tells the world how we feel about God. Christ calls us to gather in celebration of Him as a church family of passionate worshipers. We are Jesus’ disciples who gather because of what God has done and is doing in us and in the world. We gather in trust and with gratitude. We gather in openness and obedience. We worship through praise, prayer, the shared Word, and the Sacraments.

We don’t have a prescribed style of worship. Our acts of worship are an expression of our love for Christ. The elements of our services, how we share the Word, how we celebrate Holy Baptism and Holy Communion, the style of music that we share, the space in which we gather, these are all reflections of the passion of our worship of God, not reflections of us.

"Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness; come before him with joyful songs. Know that the Lord is God. It is he who made us and not we ourselves, we are his people, the sheep of his pasture. Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise; give thanks to him and praise his name. For the Lord is good and his love endures forever; his faithfulness continues through all generations." Psalm 100

II. KNOWing - Extending Radical Hospitality to the Charlotte County Community

As followers of Jesus, who gladly welcomed children, tax collectors, lepers, prostitutes, and sinners of all sorts into his fellowship, we want to do the same.

"Just as you do it to one of the least of these, you do it to me." Matthew 25:40

Radical Hospitality reflects our desire to invite, welcome, receive and care for those who are strangers, so that they find a spiritual home at Port Charlotte UMC, and discover for themselves the blessing of relationship with and through Jesus Christ. Radical Hospitality describes a real love for others who have yet to become a part of the faith community.

Hospitality is a mark of Christian discipleship, a quality of Christian community, a visible expression of our commitment to grow in Christ-likeness by seeing ourselves as part of Christ's community of faith.

"...Just as the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many." Matthew 20:28

Radical Hospitality isn't measured by the church's signage, the cleanliness of its facilities, the proximity of the Welcome Center, or the size of the smiles on the Greeters. **Hospitality is measured by a congregation's heart toward those outside their membership.**

III. GROWing Persons in Christ through Intentional Discipling

Every person who has a relationship within the body of Christ has the opportunity to be a growing disciple of Jesus Christ. From a biblical scholar to the uninformed searcher, we are all somewhere on the journey of faith that only sees its destination in eternity.

We believe that Christ is caught more than taught. People need personal mentoring, coaching, guiding and encouraging by others who are seeking to follow Jesus. This journey doesn't simply occur; it takes a level of intentionality, organization, and commitment.

"- go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And surely I am with you always, to the very end of the age." Matthew 28:19-20

Intentional Discipleship is the commitment we make to discovering the ways that would work best for each person in our church family to become mature followers of Jesus Christ. This ongoing process enables people to grow in forgiving and serving others, in living a God-honoring life-style, in walking with God through difficult times, in having Godly balance in their lives.

IV. GOing Out into the community as Salty Servants

"You are the salt of the earth. But if the salt loses its saltiness, how can it be made salty again? It is no longer good for anything, except to be thrown out and trampled underfoot." (Matthew 5:13)

Salty Service makes a difference in people's lives – both those being served and those serving. It makes us more *“doers and not hearers only”* (James 1:27). Salty Service connects the lives of disciples with the ongoing work of Jesus Christ in the world. Salty Service makes the hands, feet, and heart of Jesus visible and tangible to the world that we live in.

Salty Service strives to make clear the answer to the question, “If PCUMC disappeared from the corner of Quesada and Viscaya, would the community miss it?”

United Methodist theologian Albert Outler once said, “The world hears the Gospel when it sees it.”

We are committed to helping people GO as *“God's people for works of service”*. (Ephesians 4:12)

We never want our church family to be *“a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal”*. (I Corinthians 13:1)

We want to always be listening for the call of Christ *“to feed and clothe, visit and house them.”*

(Matthew 25:31-46)

How is Christ calling us to bless our Charlotte County community and the world, in order to earn the right to be heard when we speak about His love?

V. Sharing ourselves with Extravagant Generosity

“Command them to do good, to be rich in good deeds, and to be generous and willing to share.”

(1 Timothy 6:18)

John Wesley shared a threefold plan for godly stewardship: 1) make all you can by working hard at an honest and honorable trade; 2) save all you can, never squandering money; and 3) give all you can by supporting your immediate family, the household of faith and then to all who are in need.

PCUMC is committed to sharing ourselves with extravagant generosity.

We want to follow Jesus' example of a good steward, knowing that all we have comes from God, trusting God to sustain our needs, and finding ourselves free to pour ourselves out in generosity to God, even to the point of the cross. We want to help people form a plan for living that enables them to resist the temptation of always reaching for the next thing, in hopes of finding meaning for their lives.

2014 Priorities-

1. Church Facilities

Why is this important?

As a congregation that has many of its ongoing ministries housed in an aging facility, it is imperative for us to have an ongoing dialogue about our effectiveness in getting people from the "streets to the seats." We must be prepared to adapt to a changing society in the way we relate to the members and the community, especially the youth and younger families. The gospel message is never compromised but the methods change with each new generation.

Our worship services and spiritual growth ministries are the real key to the satisfaction of the members and health of the church, but the condition of the facilities does impact the first impression we make on guests and people of the community.

The budget of the church should reflect its vision and priorities, and should align with scripture and the ongoing purpose, mission, and vision.

To that end, the Trustees have entered into an ongoing dialogue with a ministry called Sarasota Church Planners (Chuck Kinter). With ongoing input from Trustees, he has been moving us through a process from interviews with over 90 of our church ministry leaders, to a possible facility renovation. All of this is not for the purpose of refurbishing the "inside." It is to express our goal of drawing people from outside in order to help them make changes inside.

Early in 2014 we will be putting possible renovation plans before our congregation for a decision about our intentionality concerning growing into the future.

2. Stephen Ministry

Our church has over 80 persons who have been through the Stephen Ministry training. Few of them are now actively in caregiving relationships. We have ceased training, supervision, and ongoing education. With the help of committed leaders, we are going to be reactivating our Stephen Ministry.

With growing needs for ongoing relationships of support in both our church and committee evident, we believe that this ministry is a vital need.

In the first few months of the year, we will be actively reengaging with trained Stephen Ministers for possible service in caregiving relationships or our lay visitation ministry.

3. Assistance Ministry

(GAP - Godly Assistance Program)

GAP will be our effort to tie all of the various local assistance programs that PCUMC offers into one synergistic ministry that is more effective in its outreach and in congregational understanding.

OUR GOAL

The goal of PCUMC's Godly Assistance Program (GAP) is to address the needs of the poor, the struggling, and the marginalized of Charlotte County. We seek to provide spiritual support, short-term relief and a path forward so we may all live lives of purpose and dignity.

OUR FOUNDATION

GAP Ministry is based in scripture:

C-hurch is called to offer support. (Acts 4:32; James 1:27)

A-ssistance must be Spirit-led.

(Acts 6:1-7)

R-elationship is a necessity.

(1 Timothy 5:3)

E-veryone participates.

(Hebrews 13:16)

S-avior: Christ offers life's answers.

(Luke 4:18-19)

(Full Supporting Scriptures - Acts 4:32-26; James 1:19-27; Acts 6:1-7; 1 Timothy 5:3-16; Hebrews 13:15-16; Luke 4:18-19)

OUR MINISTRIES

We seek to do this through a variety of ministries offered at PCUMC:

WNO (Wednesday Night Out)

Wednesday Night Out at PCUMC is about connecting all kinds of people in all kinds of ways.

***Dinner (by donation as able)**

From 5:00pm - 6:30pm our WNO Servers provide a hot meal served up with hospitality and fellowship to anyone who wants to come.

***Fellowship and Fun**

From 5:45pm - 6:30pm we have a program that features Game Show Nights, Talent Sharing, Local Musicians and Groups, or seasonal programs for a time of fun and fellowship.

***Life Opportunities**

From 6:00pm - 7:30 pm Port Ministry -Children and Youth Programming.

-Life Equipping Classes are offered to help with parenting, finances, life skills, or Bible Studies.

Neighbor to Neighbor-

A partnership between Trinity Charlotte Harbor and PCUMC. On Fridays we offer a Hot Meal, Food Pantry, and Clothing Exchange at no cost to our neighbors. All this takes place on Trinity's campus.

Thursday Assistance Program-

Any neighbor needing assistance is welcome to come and share their situation with a committed member of PCUMC's GAP Team.

They will receive:

- * A listening ear from a tender heart.
- * A patient perspective on their issue.
- * Assistance for the physical need that is being brought, if available and appropriate.
- * An invitation to participate in the relationship that is being created.

AA Gatherings

Preschool/Afterschool Tuition Assistance

Port Youth/Children's Ministry Camp Scholarships

HOW IS GAP SUPPORTED?

*Generous donations from members of PCUMC's church family, through the monthly Communion Offering and the weekly Change For a Dollar drop jar.

*Seasonal Campaigns

*Anonymous donations from people whom God leads to support this ministry.

You may make your donation through our Church Office or via the web at www.pcumc.info (Online Giving).

I continue to thank God daily for the calling to ministry that He has shared with me. I especially thank Him for the blessing of community that my family and I have offered to us in Charlotte County. PCUMC is a church that is unique both in history and in potential. 2014 will be our opportunity to offer both of those things to those inside our fellowship and those who need to be.

Keep going and never quit!

Pastor Brian James

ADMINISTRATION *Carol Hansen*

The budget for administration covers a variety of needs – office & computer supplies, paper, postage, subscriptions, copy costs, the yearly audit, etc. As we review the year and look ahead to 2014, one thing is very clear, however: Over 60% of our budget is being used for paper, copying/printing, and postage in support of all the ministries of the church. That is a significant portion.

While our administrative budget is largely for paper, copies, and postage, our work entails much more than the budget may suggest. Did you ever wonder how “administration” is a ministry in itself? We provide a number of services which affect everyone in our congregation and many in our community as well:

Our staff and volunteers greet and welcome people every day as they walk through our doors or call on the phone. A friendly voice and a smile is the first step in introducing people to our church.

It takes a major time commitment to design, develop, and update all of our publications and communication tools for those inside and outside the church. In addition to the bulletin, newsletter, website, ministry information, and newspaper advertising, this year we designed and produced flyers to reach thousands of children and adults regarding our outreach events.

We care for our members and community by coordinating details for weddings, funerals, and membership classes, by disseminating prayer requests and concerns, and working with many groups who use our facility.

We generate financial reports to monitor the financial health of the church. We track contributions and expenses, pay bills, and provide those in the congregation with contribution statements for the year.

Throughout the year, we provide numerous ministry and administrative reports to the Southwest District and Florida Conference of the UMC, keeping them up to date on what is happening at our church.

All these activities, and many more, keep us busy and engaged with people every day.

The group of volunteers who work with us are just outstanding! Their commitment to serving God and the church is amazing and we appreciate them so much. There is not enough time in the day to accomplish all we need to do, so their help is absolutely invaluable. New volunteers are always welcome!

Those of us in administration hope to serve the congregation, staff, and the community with Christ-centered hearts and positive attitudes, making every effort to provide good communication about our church whether we do that in person, on the phone, or through our communication media. We know we can make a difference for His kingdom!

FEED THE CHILDREN *Leslie Griner*

We started out the summer with a wonderful kickoff with our “Seafood Fest” fundraiser, on the 25th of May. We were delighted to have over 130 folks come and enjoy a night of seafood, games and music, and participate in a drawing for some outstanding gifts (values of over \$3,000). It was a rousing success.

Starting from the 30th of May until the 15th of August, we met every Thursday afternoon in Fellowship Hall to make the bag lunches for homeless children or those in dire need. I have to give all of our volunteers a great big shout out. They worked very hard and we had a great system down (assembly style) enabling us to make an average of 450 lunches in less than 3 hours each week. In addition to making the lunches, we had great fellowship with each other. We had many who came to help that are not members of our congregation. They had heard of our program and wanted a child to know that love. We also had some who thought because of physical limitations they would not be able to be much help, but they soon found out no task is too small for someone with a big heart. Our partnership with Trinity United Methodist was working strong this summer. During the summer they have about 40 active members and over 25% of those members came each week to help. We also had children who came into help each week, how great is that? To have kids give up their summer fun to help other kids? WOW, we are so blessed to have so many want to give so much love.

I would also like to thank all of those who assisted with donations to this program. We were blessed not just by our members, but also by New Day Christian Church, Saint Max Catholic Church, Charlotte County Tax Collectors and all of those who wished to remain anonymous.

We issued lunches every Friday at the Charlotte County Homeless Coalition, Trinity United Methodist Church, and this summer we added two new locations: Boys and Girls Club of Charlotte County and Port Charlotte Middle School.

At the end of the summer, we were able to make and issue 4,675 lunches. Not only were we able to help the children but we also touched their parents by showing them the Lord's love. The Lord truly blessed us this summer.

We haven't stopped our fundraising efforts. Starting in November 2013 thru January 2014, we are handing out certificates for Wendy's. Every time you give them the certificate with your purchase, we will receive 15% of the sales (before tax). In February, they will present our 2014 Feed the Children Summer Lunch Program with a check, so please keep on supporting this meaningful ministry.

BUS MINISTRY *Nancy Bosserdet*

Our Bus Ministry has started to really develop into something regularly used by our folks that are unable to drive but still wishing to participate in our activities. We now are able to provide transportation to all events upon request thanks to the amazing work of our volunteers. We have even begun to spread our wings and venture to things out of our local area. We hope to be of service where ever there is a need or maybe just a want. We are looking forward to the next year and if you have any suggestions, please feel free to submit them.

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY *Barbara Hald*

For this years Budget I would like to break it down into four general areas.

Curriculum \$ 5000.00 would include: Sunday school 4yr thru 5th grades, Kids Worship and Jr. Kids worship on Sundays @ 11 o'clock, Wednesday nights and special performances (Christmas play, ext.), Adult/Parent classes for Wednesday nights.

Outreaches \$ 9000.00 would include: Dinner and a Movie each month, Easter, Fall Festival, Vacation Bible School

Staff \$34,668.00 includes Professional Staff , Children's Director, Staff assistance, Nursery staff

Supplies \$1000.00 Nursery, Crafts, Snacks Ext.

Totaling \$49,668.00

Children's Ministry does a major part of our church outreaches. We believe it is vital to the life of the church to show the community we are here for them. We have been very successful in our outreaches with up to 1200 people attending some.

As we have done in the past, I planned a Family Dinner and a Movie night about a year ago. God had something else in mind. Not just families showed up but the community came. Grandparents, people that just didn't want to be alone on Friday night and now we pick up families up from the Homeless Coalition. Our Vacation Bible School I believe is very important. Other churches have stopped VBS due to cost and as they put it, they don't see the return at worship. You can not put a price on almost 300 people coming together to learn the word of God and have a fantastic time doing it. I view VBS as Christian Camp for kids 4 yrs thru 5th grades, who some may have never gone to church. Only God will see the return on this outreach. I believe it's priceless!

Wednesday Nights has become a wonderful time of Fellowship and learning. The children are a part of PBnJ's (Port Believers n Jesus) Learning about God through Bible lessons, Mission project's, games, music, crafts and more. We also offer something for their parents to learn. Wrap that around a good meal and it has become a favorite for the children.

As we move forward with change and try new things, I am excited to try whatever it takes to bring children and their families to Christ and Port Charlotte United Methodist Church. I am not afraid of change or failure. Failure is to never try something new or take a chance. So I invite you to come down to the Port on Wednesday or Sunday and see what the children are doing. Maybe God is calling you to be a part of it. Please keep these children and their families in your prayers.

Every 16 seconds a family falls apart from divorce, Attention deficit disorder, Autism and other challenges face these children everyday. I want this Children's Ministry at Port Charlotte United Methodist Church to be safe place were Jesus' love lives. Thank you as a church for making that possible.

YOUTH *Paul Kisner*

As we look back over the past year, there are many wonderful things that have taken place in our youth ministry that our church should be excited about.

Here are a few highlights:

Numerical Growth

We have continued to see growth in the number of youth attending youth ministry activities. We now have over 40 youth on our active roster. This roster consists of youth that have attended multiple (4 or more) youth activities. Here is a look at the number of youth on the active roster over the last 3 years.

2011: 26 2012: 35 2013: 42

We have also been blessed to see an increase in our Wednesday night attendance from 2011 to 2013. We currently average 8 more youth on Wednesday nights than we had just two years ago.

Warren Willis Summer Camp

In 2013, 19 youth went to summer camp. Ten were first time campers. We had six more youth attend camp this year than in 2012. This was the most youth our church has sent to camp in at least five years. All the youth had an amazing experience connecting with God.

Youth Stepping Up to Serve Our Church

Our youth have been active around the church. They did yard work during spring break for Youth Church Work Day. They assisted with VBS, helped with Easter Fest, were in charge of a WNO dinner, served in worship for Youth Sunday and were in charge of Operation Christmas Child. We currently have youth helping with audio/video, helping with Sunday School or Children's Church, and volunteering to help our WNO crew. Many of our youth come to this church without their families. We should be proud that our youth consider this church their home and pitch in around PCUMC all the time.

2013 has been a great year for our youth ministry. This spring, our youth ministry celebrated the graduation of nine high school seniors. It's remarkable that these youth have remained active in the life of our church when, in many cases, older youth start to disappear from church. What's even more amazing is that only two of these youth have parents that attend church. The other seven came with friends or grandparents. Numbers are good, but they can't always tell us the impact we are having on young people. I am eternally grateful that our church was called by God to teach these young adults about Jesus and to be the spiritual family they needed.

As we look to 2014, I am excited about the possibilities that lie ahead. I am also excited about the number of middle school youth that are active in our youth ministry. We will have many wonderful activities, but even more important will be the continuing opportunity to introduce youth to Jesus Christ and watch them grow in their faith.

CHILDREN'S WEEKDAY MINISTRY *Ericka Brown*

The Children's Weekday Ministries are a high quality, affordable preschool and after school program for families in our community. Our preschool recently renewed our United Methodist Association of Preschools Accreditation and continues to hold a Gold Seal Accreditation with the Florida Department of Children's and Families. We are recognized as one of the best centers in Charlotte County, primarily due to the wonderfully talented and dedicated CWM staff.

Our preschool has been a blessing in this community for eight years! This year for the first time since we opened our VPK (Voluntary Pre Kindergarten) we did not add another class. However, we were able to increase our three year old student enrollment adding an additional class on Tuesday and Thursdays.

Our after school ministry has been a blessing in our community for over 21 years! This year our afterschool program is full to capacity unless we hired more staff and got another bus. The families that use our program are grateful to have their children in a caring and loving environment. Many of our after school families find that our program offers stability in the children's lives. The teachers and I find this ministry to be rewarding and challenging. It's rewarding to teach children about Jesus (especially those who have never heard of Him) and it's rewarding to get to know these young people and their families. It's challenging to help these older students (some with special needs) make wise decisions...and it's especially challenging trying to remember 5th grade math!

The success of CWM is an attitude – an attitude of faithfulness, love, commitment, responsibility, dedication, and leadership. All these attributes are exhibited by the director, teachers, aides and volunteers together as one cohesive unit. Parents respect the extra efforts all CWM staff make to love and encourage their children, to teach their children about Jesus, and to keep their children safe.

INTENTIONAL DISCIPLESHIP

Our church offers many different ways for each of us to grow in our faith and to become more effective disciples of Christ. There are Sunday School classes for our youngest members and many adult classes that are offered on Sunday mornings. In addition, we offer several different adult Bible studies during the week including one that is open to the women of our congregation and community. This past year has seen the largest growth in attendance in the Women's Bible study with several new participants in each of the last two studies offered. We are inspired by the comments of some of the participants when they say "I've heard that story since I was little, but until now, I had no idea how it pertained to my life" or "I'm so glad that I decided to do this study because of the insight it gave me about myself and my walk with the Lord" or "I'm sorry that this is over – I can't wait for the next session to start". Our teachers and facilitators are blessed to serve in ways that provide opportunities for everyone in our congregation to grow in their faith and the knowledge of God's Word, and to build closer relationships with God and each other. We invite you to join us for Sunday School or a study group to enrich and strengthen your faith journey.

MUSIC *Eileen West*

CHANCEL CHOIR

The Chancel Choir continued to lead out in worship at the 8:00 and 11:00am services every week. Each Wednesday evening from 6:30-8:00, September through May, the rehearsal room was filled with singers preparing music for upcoming services and programs. There were 45 people participating in the choir at the end of May.

In December, a cantata entitled "A Blest Messiah Born" was presented, portions of which were presented at local nursing home facilities. Lent and Easter brought more opportunities for the choir to use their musical gifts.

BELL CHOIRS

The Wesley Bell Choir is a group of musicians who enjoy ringing and making music on the church's 3 1/2 octave set of Malmark handbells. They played once a month and for Christmas and Easter programs. The Good Vibrations Bell Choir gave beginners a chance to practice and learn the various skills involved in ringing.

GOOD NEW SINGERS

The Good News Singers, a group of boys and girls from second through eighth grade, sang and played Orff instruments for two services, one of which was on Palm Sunday. Practices were geared towards fun learning while at the same time preparing music for performance.

We welcome new people to all of these groups!

TRUSTEES *Mike Sniecinski*

Trustees are responsible for maintaining the buildings, grounds and equipment of Port Charlotte United Methodist Church. It is a large campus and a great facility although it is aging. Parishioners have done a lot to help in the upkeep of the church, from repairing molding, fixing crumbling pews to replacing high ceiling bulbs and doing some landscaping. These volunteers help offset our tight budget as does a great church staff and wonderful Pastor.

A sampling of what has been accomplished:

- Numerous electrical problems fixed, including photo cell lights for the Bus Barn, rewiring electrical outlets in Fellowship Hall and kitchen and parking lot lights.
- Numerous plumbing problems including new grinder pumps for the waste lift station and reaming out the entire sewer line.
- The building itself required many roof leak repairs, but the roof replacement fund is growing. All soffits have been repaired and painted.
- The Stations of the Cross in New Beginnings Park have been replaced as have most of the benches.
- Equipment replacement includes the air conditioning and a copier.
- Children's Weekday Ministry has new sod and a shaded playground and a second fenced in play area.
- A Space Utilization Project has been completed by Chuck Hinter of Sarasota Church Planners.

Future Projects:

As a result of the Space Utilization Project, the Trustees are researching a renovation project to be presented to the Church Body soon. This will include remodeled restrooms, large welcome center, more storage space, and office space and classroom/meeting rooms.