

KNOW GROW GO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
PORT CHARLOTTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

October 2016

Sunday Worship: 8am - 9:30am - 11am

www.pcumc.info

941-625-4356 ph / 941-625-0144 fax

Wonderful Wednesdays!

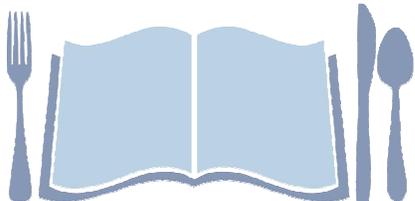
I am looking forward to the first Wednesday of October, October the 5th to be exact. On that day we will begin our mid-week faith lift. This year will be much different than previous years. We will still be having a wonderful meal starting at 5pm, but this year we will be adding something new. After the meal we will recognize birthdays and anniversaries, singing a couple of hymns, but in addition we will go into a Bible study after we sing. I will be teaching from the book of Galatians for approximately one half hour. The entire evening should conclude around 6:15 to 6:20. The letter to the Galatian churches has a powerful message for us to learn. I hope you will join us for an evening of wonderful food and wonderful spiritual food. This is a great opportunity not only for a good meal and nourishment from the word of God, but also for Christian fellowship. John Wesley taught that studying the scriptures and Christian fellowship were both means of how God's grace flows into our lives and spirit. So, I want to invite you to open the doors of God's grace to fill your lives by attending each Wednesday for a wonderful time.

God Bless,

Pastor Craig Moore

Wonderful WEDNESDAYS

**BEGINS
OCTOBER 5!**



Dinner 5-6:30pm (\$6)
Bible Study 5:45-6:15pm
Children 6-7:30pm
Youth 6-8:00pm
Choir 6:15pm

Join us on Sundays

Traditional Worship 8 & 11am

Contemporary 9:30am

Wednesday Nights

"Wonderful Wednesdays"

Dinner 5-6:30pm (\$6)

Bible Study 5:45-6:15pm

Children 6-7:30pm

Youth 6-8:00pm

Choir 6:15pm

Saturday, October 1

Car Wash, 9am - 1pm

Saturday, October 8

Haitian Dinner, 6pm

Saturday, October 22

Fall Extravaganza

Charlotte County Fairgrounds

10am - 5pm

Monday, October 24

Membership Class

5:30 - 7:30pm

Friday, October 28

Spaghetti Dinner, 5pm

Sunday, October 30

Cornerstone Chorale and

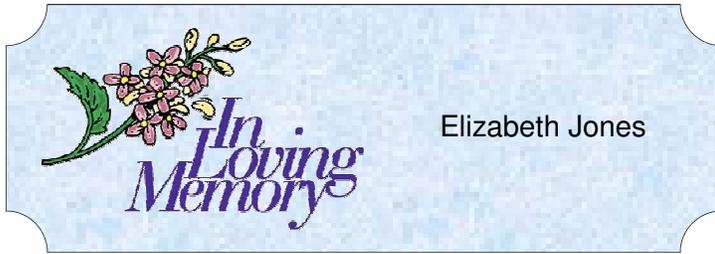
Brass, 4pm

Pumpkin Patch

October 19-30

10am - 7pm





“Cornerstone Chorale and Brass” at PCUMC

On **Sunday, October 30th**, PCUMC has the opportunity to hear and to host *THE CORNERSTONE CHORALE & BRASS* for a 4:00 pm performance entitled “They Shall Mount Up With Wings.” This performing body features paid professional adult artists recruited from all over the United States.

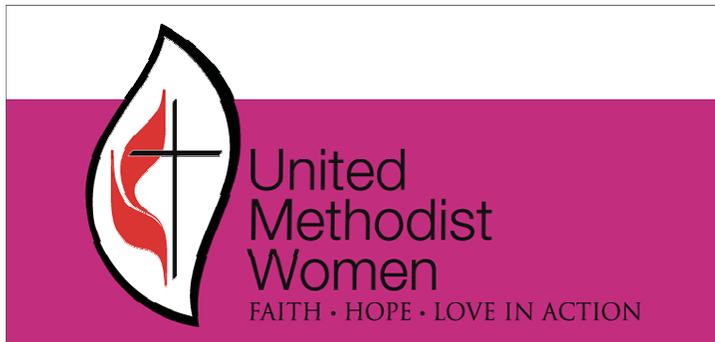
This unique and powerful program of narration and traditional music speaks of hope and reconciliation in these troubled times, urging people of faith to boldly follow our baptismal call to serve others in the power of God’s limitless compassion, grace, and love.

We have been asked to help by providing an evening meal at the church and housing in host homes with breakfast for 28 adult artists (12 adult women, 16 adult men). Host families are greatly needed! As a host, you would:

- Attend the 4:00 p.m. program on Sunday afternoon and meet the performers after the concert/drama.
- Provide housing in homes -- preferably 2 or more adults per home. Separate beds please; not necessarily separate rooms.
- Provide breakfast in host homes the next morning, and have the guests back at the church by **8:00 am**.

Please help us provide housing and hospitality for our talented guests who are offering this richly spiritual performance in our community.

Please contact David deSilva, (941)764-6047 or ddeilva@ashland.edu, if you can help.



Port Charlotte United Methodist Women meet at 6:30 pm the second Thursday of each month in The New Room.

October 13th Program:
A CALL TO COMMUNITY
DEACONESSES AND HOME MISSIONERS
SERVING COMMUNITIES

Objective:

To learn about the role of the Hebrew midwives in protecting the Israelite community in Egypt, and to make connections with the work of United Methodist Women deaconesses and home missionaries whose lives are devoted to service.

All women over the age of 18 are invited - come and join us - bring a friend!

Extravagant Generosity

Assistance report from August 2016:

Y-T-D 8/31/16

Income: \$522,771.62

Expenses: \$503,922.14

Community Assistance: Utilities: 6, Rent: 1, Other:2

Haitian Dinner



Saturday, October 8th

6pm, Fellowship Hall

Support our Haiti Missions and come out for a night of Haitian food and fellowship! We will be serving chicken, red beans & rice, plantains, coleslaw and of course, dessert!

TICKETS: Adults \$10, Children \$6

Health Ministry *Jane Flanders*

Once again the Health Ministry thanks you so much for all your generous contributions/donations to the Haiti mission trip in December. Sherry and Glen White have all and everything they need thanks to all of the generous people of our church. They are no longer accepting donations but be sure to participate in upcoming fundraisers.

The next Lunch and Learn will be held on Thursday, November 17 from 11:30am-1:00pm. Rick Heaverly is anxious to give you information on Medicare and Medicare options. If you are thinking about adding a Medicare Advantage program or a Supplemental Program or even changing programs do NOT miss this event. Please sign up at the Welcome Center as a complimentary lunch is provided.

Charlotte County Transit will issue a book of 12 "ride" tickets for \$12.00. The driver of the bus does not make change. Purchasing a book is a great way to ensure a ride without looking for a dollar bill each time you ride. The books also make a great birthday or Christmas gift! If you would like to purchase a book, please send your check for \$12 to Charlotte County Transit, 25490 Airport Rd., Punta Gorda, Florida 33950. Be sure to insert your return address with your check and how many books you need.

Blood pressure is the amount of force your blood exerts on the artery walls when your heart contracts and relaxes. If your blood pressure is high your risk for heart disease, kidney disease, stroke, eye damage and hardening of the arteries increases. Ask your doctor what is a normal blood pressure for you. The top number is called "Systolic" which is your heart contracting. The bottom number is called the "Diastolic" or when the heart relaxes. The nurses are always available to take your blood pressure when you feel it is needed. See the nurses in the Fish Bowl every Sunday from 9:00am - 9:30am, every Wednesday night dinner and also at every Men's Breakfast the first Saturday of the month.

Cholesterol levels should be maintained. Total cholesterol should be less than 200 and borderline is 200-239. HDL ("good" cholesterol) should be greater than 50 for women and greater than 40 for men. The LDL ("bad" cholesterol) should be 100-159 with heart disease and 130-159 without heart disease. Triglycerides (fat which provides our cells with energy) should be less than 150mg/dl. High levels can increase hardening of the arteries, heart disease and stroke. Stay away from saturated fats which are found in fatty meats, chicken skin, non-skim dairy products and snacks. Eat foods that are high in fiber (oatmeal, fruits, vegetables, beans and peas). Eat more monounsaturated fats (canola, avocado and olive oils). Exercise! Maintain a healthy weight and glucose levels.

FREE cholesterol checks are offered by Winn Dixie on King's Highway every three months. Your blood sugar is also checked at the same time. Call Winn Dixie at 941 629-1512 or the Cholescheck Corp. @ 800-713-3301 to see when the next test date is. Remember to fast for an accurate result, please.

Did you know that since 1998, more than 660 children across the United States have died because they were trapped in a hot car? An average of 37 children die every year. Why are children at such a great risk? A child's body heats up three to five times faster than an adult's. If the body temperature reaches 104 degrees, the child's internal organs begin to shut down. If the body temperature reaches 107 degrees the child can die. If you have your child or your grandchild in your car leave your pocketbook, gym bag, cell phone, briefcase or something you always carry with you on the backseat of the car. NEVER leave your child or grandchild alone in your car! If you should see a child alone in a car call 911.



Pastoral Care

Let us know if you are having surgery or are in the hospital, we want to pray with you! **Call 625-4356**

WONDERFUL WEDNESDAY

Dinner | Bible Study | Fellowship

**Begins October 5th
in Fellowship Hall**
Dinner 5-6:30pm (\$6)
Bible Study 5:45-6:15pm
All are invited!

Frequently Heard Questions *Jonathan Carlsen*

Question: Why do we observe Halloween, a pagan celebration of magic, death, witchcraft, and evil?

Answer: I addressed this question in October 2012, but some readers may not have seen it. So here's an updated answer: Most of our secular unchurched neighbors aren't aware of the day's pagan origins. For them, it's a time of candy, parties, dress-up, and make-believe. Many churches have long taken part on those terms and used the day for fellowship and outreach. In the past our folks passed out candy ("Trunk or Treat") along with announcements of up-coming church events and gospel tracts. Other churches "Trick or Treat for UNICEF." Still others have devised "Halloween alternative" events to attract children away from the day's darker traditions. (One Chicago church built a maze in their parking lot to draw the neighborhood kids.) Years ago in Chicago, announcers at Moody Radio discussed the question. I called to say that my church didn't celebrate Halloween. We celebrated Reformation Day. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted his *95 Theses*, beginning the Protestant Reformation.



Question: Why does Paul tell Timothy, "I am telling the truth, I am not lying" (1 Tim. 2:7 NRSV)? Timothy was Paul's "son in the faith," his pupil, and protégé. Surely he would have known this already.

Answer: Early in the 19th century, the first American Methodist bishop, Thomas Coke, published a one-volume *Commentary on the Bible*, the size of an unabridged dictionary. You can consult it on-line at: <http://www.studydrive.org/commentaries/tcc/>. Bishop Coke explains Paul's assertions in light of the Jews' hostility toward non-Jews of Paul's day and their anger because early Christians welcomed non-Jews. I take Coke's comment to mean that either Paul was complaining about false accusations that his enemies had leveled against him and his authority as an apostle, or else he was warning Timothy to expect such attacks upon Paul's authority and truthfulness and to stand firm against them.

Question: Why did you call Thomas Coke our first bishop? Wasn't Francis Asbury the first?

Answer: Years ago, writers in the *United Methodist Reporter*, who should have known better, said Asbury was first. But Coke has Asbury beat by hours, days, or weeks. In the *Discipline's* list of bishops, Coke's name precedes Asbury's. In 1784, after America's independence, the Church of England abandoned our soil and the Anglican Bishop of London refused Wesley's plea to ordain some of his lay preachers to serve here. British law at that time would have required them to swear allegiance to King George III. So Wesley ordained two lay preachers and sent them with Coke, already ordained, to join Asbury, the layman who led the American Methodist societies. They were to reorganize the societies as an independent church. Wesley meant for Coke and Asbury to be co-general superintendents over the church. They organized the church at the Christmas Conference, and, on two consecutive days, Coke and his companions, plus the future United Brethren co-founder Philip Otterbein, ordained Asbury as deacon and elder. The next day, they promoted Asbury to Coke's level and called them bishops.



Proceeds benefit our Children's Weekday Ministry
 Tickets are available from the preschool teachers,
 the church office or on our website! (www.pcumc.info)

**Friday, October 28
 5-7pm, Fellowship Hall**

Includes: Beverage, Salad, Spaghetti,
 Meatballs, Bread & Homemade desserts

Adults \$7
 Children \$4
 (ages 10 and under)

More About Stephen Ministry *Dean Winston*



It has been two years since we began to rejuvenate Stephen Ministry in our church. We have had some success, but we still have a long way to go to serve our congregation in the way the Ministry was designed. Stephen Ministry is based on the second most important commandment, "Love your neighbor as yourself," as is written in Matthew 22:39. What better way to show a neighbor you love them than to share their burden?

If we are lucky in our life time we may have two or three real friends. The kind of friend you can count on no matter what. The kind of friend you can tell anything and trust they will keep it confidential. The kind of friend who will listen to you, care about how you are feeling, offer encouragement when you need it, and offer insights when you ask. The kind of friend who demonstrates their love for you with their listening ear and a soothing touch.

Stephen Ministers are members of the congregation who have received 50 hours of training over a period of 20 weeks to become very much like the definition of a "Good Friend". They are trained and then commissioned by the congregation to care for their care receivers. Those in the congregation or community that are experiencing grief, illness, loss of job, loss of faith or any other struggle that life may give them are given a Stephen Minister upon request. Men are assigned to men. Women are assigned to women. Their relationship is confidential. No one knows who has been assigned to who except the Stephen Minister Coordinator, who is bound by a confidential covenant, as are the Stephen Ministers.

The relationship begins by both setting aside about an hour a week that they can meet. The Stephen Minister prays for their care receiver before they meet. They listen, non-judgementally to the care receiver as he or she shares their feelings and their struggles. They listen, like that good friend. They keep things confidential, like that good friend. They are constant in their meetings, like that good friend. They offer encouragement and insights or advice when asked, like a good friend. They demonstrate their love, like that good friend. Over time a level of trust builds. The care receiver feels that love, the love from their neighbor, their Stephen Minister. The care receiver accepts GOD'S HEALING GRACE. They find peace. Once the care receiver no longer needs their Stephen Minister to help carry their burdens, they are assigned to someone else. However, they will likely remain friends for life because of all they have shared, and the level of trust developed.



If you would like a Stephen Minister call Pastor Craig at 625-4356 or Dean Winston at 661-8825. We have 17 active Stephen Ministers. To be part of this vital ministry call Dean Winston 661-8825. A new class is scheduled to begin in January, 2017. We need at least 2 more applicants to form a class of at least 6 which is the minimum number because of role playing and interaction between trainees. Please prayerfully consider becoming a Stephen Minister.



Celebrating a special occasion?
Honoring a loved one?

Say it with
FLOWERS

Sign up to provide flowers for the altar

The 2017 Altar Flower calendar is available at the Welcome Center



October Birthdays

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| 2 Ruthann Allen | 20 Faye Perkins |
| 2 Roger Boyer | 22 Hope McFarlane |
| 3 Don Butler | 25 Claire Crenshaw |
| 4 Jeanne Alsene | 26 Durfee Marshall |
| 4 Bill Even | 26 Sandy Mensik |
| 4 Celene Kipfinger | 27 Christine Burr |
| 5 Jason Ayers | 27 Bill Hansen |
| 5 Pat Butler | 27 Rainford Jackson |
| 5 Mike Sniecinski | 29 Kyrae Dewitt |
| 6 Taya McAdoo | 29 James Eugenius |
| 7 Joel Payne | 29 Pierre Fisher |
| 8 Jack Abbott | 29 Marie Newbury |
| 8 Ben Hanscel | 29 Jeanne Spica |
| 8 Mary Etta Stedge | 30 Alissandra Eugenius |

October Anniversaries

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------------|
| 9 Bill Cassell | 01 Scott and Jessica Mathias |
| 10 Don Behnke | 03 Glenn and Sherry White |
| 10 Jim Bennett | 08 Dick and Ginny Gwinn |
| 11 Kayla Chardon | 16 David and Rose Glassburn |
| 12 Rick McCullough | 21 Mike and Barbara Hald |
| 13 Dionis Alvarez | 22 Dorothy and Art deSilva |
| 13 Jeanne Marquez | |
| 14 Alex Brown | |
| 16 Maxine Kaen | |
| 17 Joanna Beynon | |
| 18 Geneva Griswold | |
| 18 Jake Mensik | |
| 18 Pam Sikora | |
| 19 Penny Bryan | |
| 19 Bill Coley | |
| 19 Pat Taylor | |
| 20 Jackie Carter | |

Sign up for our
e-NEWSLETTER

Our monthly newsletter can now be emailed directly to your inbox! Just visit our website: www.pcumc.info and sign up right on our home page. Call the office with any questions: 625-4356.

Help our office stay in touch with you!
Please let us know if you have an address, email or phone number change.



Did You Know? *Paula Mann*

Our Port Charlotte United Methodist Church Children's Weekday Ministry has offered an after school program for about fifteen years. That program has seen many changes but the ultimate goal and purpose of the program has not changed, that is to minister to the families and share Jesus with them.

Roughly ten years ago we added VPK (which is Florida's Voluntary Pre-Kindergarten) to our growing ministry. What a blessing that has been. We have been able to interact and become a part of so many more families through the preschool.

We currently offer care in our preschool for 2 year olds through VPK, for those who are 4 by Sept 1 of the school year. Our after school program is for those in elementary school, ages VPK—5th grade. We pick up at local schools and bus them to the church where we have a structured schedule which allows for homework time, snack, devotions and play time.

Some of my favorite times are when I am trying to teach a certain concept and suddenly the child's face lights up and they "get it" ...what a joy to experience the excitement in their voices at the light bulb moments. The most rewarding conversations, however, are when the parents come to me and share their experiences at home. One mom said, "My son will not let us eat until after we have said prayer." Another dad came to me, with a heart of thanksgiving and said, "Hearing my son sing songs about Jesus brought back memories of me growing up and we are now back in church." There are many more stories like those mentioned. These are the moments that fill my heart with joy!

The CWM staff has also been so blessed by the church. Your good works have not gone unnoticed. It is a comfort to know that you are praying for us, the school and the families. We have received cards from people we don't even know with words of encouragement. Whenever we ask for volunteers or baked goods, people just show up with a smile. During the times we have asked for donations, we are flooded with results. You, the church, are furthering the Lord's Kingdom with simple acts of kindness. We are grateful.

In the past few years we have strived to build the relationship between the school and the church. We have planned several activities that bring us together and strengthen that bond and awareness. We enjoy hearing the comments from the members of the church as well as the families who participate.

We have recently had the opportunity to invite some parent volunteers to help in the preschool, as well as after school. With tears in their eyes they have shared the impact of participating in this ministry. To some of these children, this is seemingly their only opportunity to witness Christ's love. One volunteer told me recently how he went home and prayed for these kids and that God would use him in a mighty way.

Thank you all for the opportunity for us to be a part of God's ministry here at PCUMC. It is thrilling and the rewards are so great!





Student Ministries *Barbara Hald*

Fall is here and we are so excited for all the opportunities God has for us to serve.

Saturday, October 1st 9am to 1pm we will be having a car wash . Please bring your car and support some awesome kids!

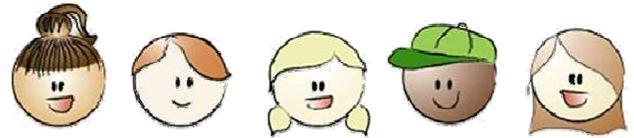
Our Christmas mission projects will be: Samaritan's Purse (Shoe Boxes), Oct 9-16th and The Salvation Army Angel Tree, Nov 8th - Dec 12th.



October 22th is our Extravaganza at the Fair Grounds and we need people to help in the children's area. (Photo booth, games, etc.) Please let Barbara Hald know if you can help any time that day. Every hour helps!



October 26th will be our **Youth Halloween Party!** If anyone would like to donate some food we would greatly appreciate it.



PCUMC Children's Weekday Ministry

A Ministry of Port Charlotte United Methodist Church

Director: Paula Mann

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

Verse:

Joshua 1:9

"God is with you wherever you go."

Prayer:

Thank you, Lord, for giving us food
Thank you, Lord, for giving us food
Our daily bread, Our daily bread
Thank you, Lord, for giving us food
Amen

CWM is selling 2017 Chick-fil-a calendars for \$8/each. With each purchase you receive a card that is good for a free food item each month. It's the gift that keeps giving ... all year long.

Important Dates:

October 14: NO SCHOOL

October 22: 10-5 Fall Extravaganza at the Fairgrounds

October 28: 5-7 CWM Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

October 31: Walk in Day



2017 Calendars Available!!



Each purchase benefits our **Weekday Ministry**





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Port Charlotte, FL 33952-2546

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

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

FALL EXTRAVAGANZA

**SATURDAY
OCT. 22
10AM-5PM
CHARLOTTE COUNTY
FAIRGROUNDS**

- FOOD
- GAMES
- PUMPKINS
- MUSIC
- VENDORS
- HAY RIDES
- CRAFTS

Sign up at the Welcome Center to help with an activity or area -- there is something for everyone, and we need lots of volunteers to make the day a success!

It will be a fun family day featuring Non-profit agencies and services, food, games, pumpkins, vendors, homemade items, crafts and more! Admission is free, and parking is just \$1. There will be food available for purchase, and an activity wristband is available for \$10 which includes all games, with no time limit... stay and play all day!!

Activity wristbands may be purchased **IN ADVANCE** for \$7 each in the church office, or at our Pumpkin Patch, beginning October 19.



Pumpkin Patch: October 19-30 - Sign up to serve in the lobby!