

KNOW GROW GO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
PORT CHARLOTTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

May 2016

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

NOT JUST ANOTHER FACE!

One of the things I love about being the pastor of Port Charlotte United Methodist Church is hearing all the random ways that people get connected to our church family! In the last year I have talked with people who became a part of our church family through Fall Extravaganza at the fairgrounds, our preschool, Wednesday Night Out dinners, Women's Exercise Group, Mah Jong Card group, our partnership with AARP preparing taxes, our first Biker Blessing, Spring Concert Series, even through community service hours.

I realize that as the pastor of the church, I am often thought of as the face of the church (scary thought), or the first person people associate with our church... but PCUMC is so much more. The best part of PCUMC is our people. We love each other, not because we are perfect. We've got more than our share of family flaws, but we are all here seeking to KNOW Christ, seeking to GROW to look more and more like Christ, and GO to love more like Christ. (Another big plus...PCUMC is fun. Church is to be enjoyed, not endured!). Those are the things we want to be, because those are the things we want our church to be. Whatever our age or stage, that's who we are!

One of the hardest things about getting older is to continue to feel comfortable in your own skin and accepting who you can and cannot be. No church can be all things to all people. PCUMC is no exception, but we are very good at an awful lot. We are a diverse group of people.

I encourage you to help others to find their way to Christ, by helping them find their way to Port Charlotte United Methodist Church. It has always been, and should always be a great place to seek God's leading and calling for our lives.

We have a gifted and talented Professional Staff, and a committed group of Lay Leaders. Let them know how they can help you bring others into the PCUMC Family.

Try some creative ways to connect people to PCUMC: our website (www.pcumc.info) is accurate and up to date, our Facebook page for both church and preschool is a great place to Like. Sometimes it's easier to show you about our life than it is to tell you about life.

Keep going and never quit!

Grace,

Pastor Brian

Join us on Sundays

Traditional Worship at 8 & 11
Contemporary 9:30am

Monday, May 16

Membership Class
5:30 - 7:30pm

Wednesday, May 25

Preschool Graduation
6:00pm

Monday, May 30

MEMORIAL DAY
Church offices closed



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

 **Letters**

Pastor Brian and Congregation,

Thank you so much for hosting AARP Tax Aide these past two tax seasons.

Sharon, Steve, Nancy, Tracy and Dave
AARP

Dear Pastor James,

We would like to thank Port Charlotte United Methodist Church for your very generous donation of the equipment required to improve our Hearing Impaired program. Your generosity has been a big help in making all Christ Community UMC parishioners feel welcome.

Yours in Christ,
Pastor Duane Waters



United Methodist Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

SAVE THE DATE:

**Thursday, September 8th, 6:30 pm
New Room**

United Methodist Women - General Assembly
All women over the age of 18
are invited to attend!



Extravagant Generosity

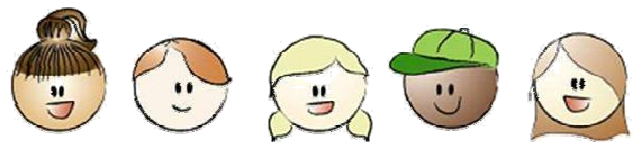
Y-T-D (as of 3/31/16)
Income \$215,262.11 Expenses \$207,333.56
Community Assistance:
Utilities: 1 Other: 1

Student Ministries *Barbara Hald*

We are taking 24 Youth to Warren Willis Camp in July, and we are so excited. If anyone would like to sponsor a Youth, just put in the check memo "Youth Camp."

Vacation Bible School will be a little different this year. VBS will be Sunday mornings in June, and the closing ceremony will be the first Sunday in July. Sign up with Ms. Elizabeth to join the fun 9 - noon. Our service project will be Charlotte County "Shoes for Kids," so if you see sneakers on sale grab a few to donate!

As I write this we are completing our Ga Ga Ball Pit. It is so awesome! Come down to visit the Port and see it. I want to thank Dustin Harvick for contracting and all the volunteers who worked so hard.



PCUMC Children's Weekday Ministry

A Ministry of Port Charlotte United Methodist Church

Director: Paula Mann

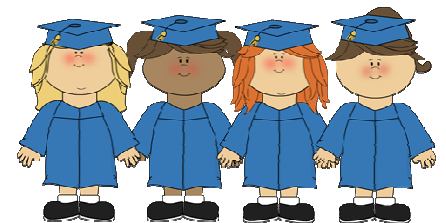
625-4356 phone / email: pcumcschool@gmail.com

Bible Verse: John 3:16

For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son so that everyone who believes, shall not perish but have eternal life.

Prayer:

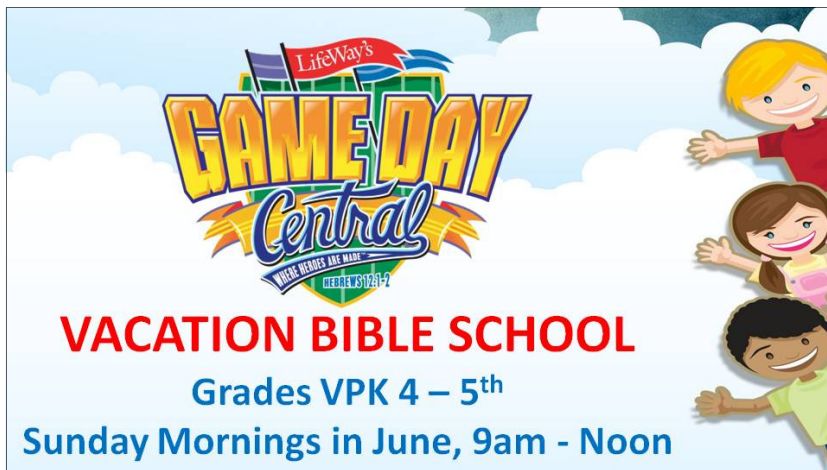
Our hands we fold
Our heads we bow
For food and drink
We thank God now.
Amen.



Special Dates:

- May 2-6 Teacher Appreciation
- May 9 & 10 Last CTJ
- May 11 & 12 Last Chapel
- May 20 Popsicles with Parents (11:30 & 1:30)
- May 23 Walk In Day and Toe Party
- May 25 Last day of school 6 pm Graduation

ENROLLING NOW!! ...Summer CampSummer VPK Fall classes for 2016-2017 school year (2's, 3's, VPK & After School)



Frequently Heard Questions *Jonathan Carlsen*

Question: In April, you quoted John Wesley's *Journal* where he states his conviction that the Bible contains no mistakes and you gave the date of the *Journal* entry as July 24, 1776. But A. Skevington Wood, in *The Burning Heart: John Wesley: Evangelist* (Minneapolis: Bethany Fellowship, 1978), quotes the same words, but gives the date as August 24, 1776 (p. 214). Which is correct?

Answer: I'm 99% sure that the date is July 24. Arthur Skevington Wood (1917-1993), an outstanding British Methodist churchman and scholar, produced a great Wesley biography in *The Burning Heart*. But this one time, he or a copy editor made a mistake. I got the quotation from Wesley's *Journal* as it appears in the 14-volume third edition of *The Works of John Wesley*, edited by Thomas Jackson, first published in 1829-1831 and still in print (vol. 4, p. 82). The top-of-the-page date reference is "Aug. 1776." "Jul. 1776," appears on p. 81, with entries for July 6, 9, and 13-16. On p. 82 we have "Wed. 17," "Wed. 24" with our quotation, and then "Sun. 28." Halfway down the page is "Fri. AUGUST 2," and then August 4 and 6. Wood reportedly references the 8-volume, 1909-1916 edition of *John Wesley's Journal*, edited by Nehemiah Curnock, vol. 6, p. 117. It may have contained a similarly misleading marginal date reference, or else the copy editors may have checked the date in the Jackson edition.

Question: In April, you wrote, "Worldwide, most UMs believe with John Wesley" in a mistake-free Bible. How do you figure that this group comprises "most UMs"?

Answer: How do you (or I) define *most*? 50% + 1? 75%? 99.9%? In Africa, the UMC's fastest growing region, the belief is nearly unanimous. I said, "most," based on a statistic reported by United Methodist Mark Tooley about 2000, when he was a researcher at the Institute on Religion and Democracy. He is now its president. As I remember, he reported that a research study (possibly from Pew Research or the Barna Group) had reported that 70% of UMs believed in a mistake-free Bible. As I remember, this study focused on *American* UMs and not the UMC overseas where the percentages are higher.

Question: When did Jesus appear to the disciples including Thomas after Easter (Jn. 20:26-29)? Some Bibles say, "eight days later" or "after eight days" (ESV, KJV, NKJV, NLT). That would be the Monday after Easter Monday. Others say, "a week later" (NCV, NEB, NIV, NRSV, TEV), or Sunday. Which is it?

Answer: Here once again, the literal translation is misleading. John Wesley, in his KJV revision that accompanies his *Explanatory Notes upon the New Testament*, repeats their literal translation, "after eight days." But he says in his *Notes* that this means, "On the next Sunday." David H. Stern, translator of the *Complete Jewish Bible*, explains that this is because "By Jewish reckoning the first and last days are counted; therefore this was a week later" (*Jewish New Testament Commentary*, Clarksville, MD: Jewish New Testament Publications, 1992, note on Jn. 20:26, p. 212). In other words, Easter was Day 1 and the next Sunday was Day 8.

Health Ministry *Jane Flanders*

Our Lunch and Learn in May will be held on Thursday, May 19 in the Fellowship Hall from 11:30AM-1:00PM "Caring Transitions." Brock Hileman, Director will offer a program titled "Where Do I Begin?" Caring Transitions is a streamlined support system to help facilitate a stress-free move or downsizing following a life changing situation. Caring Transitions compassionate and experienced professionals will serve as your family's advocate. Complimentary lunch (provided by Shirley Antrobus and Jim Eugenius). Please sign up at the Welcome Center.

Thursday, July 21 we are in for a real treat as DFC Louis Henyecz and Dale Phillips of the Charlotte County Sheriff's Department are with us at 11:30AM. There is a wonderful lost "key" program for bikes, kayaks and golf carts in Charlotte County. DFC Henyecz will tell us all about the program and Dale Phillips will speak on Neighborhood Watch Programs, Identity Theft and Scams. Please sign up at the Welcome Center so we have an accurate count for the complimentary lunch.

The next Bloodmobile will be held on Sunday, May 22 from 9:00Am-12:30PM. Please donate!!!

Update information on the Minute Clinic: There is presently a clinic in the Punta Gorda CVS (2400 Tamiami Trail) but at this time it is not open. As of April 4 there is no opening date.

Need help with your electric bill? You may qualify for help if:
You or someone in your home is 60 years of age or older or you have a past due bill or shut off notice.
Call the Helpline Thursdays 8AM- 3PM at 1-866-413-5337.

Now that the sun is hot we need to prevent and detect skin cancer. Apply your sunscreen (30SPF or higher) and apply it often. Wear sunglasses. Some antibiotics may make skin more sensitive to the sun such as Tetracycline as well as Ibuprofen. Wear a hat that will protect your face, ears and neck. Please check your skin often and see your dermatologist when you notice any changes.

Do you have an itching, burning, pain or tingling in sections of your body? Do blisters appear across the chest, back and perhaps around the eyes, neck or face? It might be SHINGLES! If you have had chicken pox, the virus can sometimes live, hide or sleep in your body. Years later the virus can wake up and cause shingles. Most often shingles affect people age 50 and older. Shingles can be horribly painful and a pain you will never forget. Talk to your Dr. about receiving the shingles shot.

Friendship Centers - People Helping People

People age 60 and older can attend and receive a healthy meal, play cards, games and simply socialize. If interested in the "happenings" please call 941- 255-0723. Now, maybe you would like to reach out to an isolated senior as a volunteer telephone reassurance caller or perhaps you know of a senior who would benefit from this program. Telephone Reassurance is a program that provides a daily phone call who an older adult who is homebound and alone. The Friendly Visitor Program provides a weekly visit to an isolated elder person. If interested in any of these programs, please call Janet Shannon at 941-255-0723.

For Drowning Prevention - 4th Annual Charity Bike Run - May 21

Drowning continues to be the leading cause of unintentional injury death to children 1-4 years old, nationwide. Florida leads the nation in drowning deaths among this age group. According to the Safe Kids Coalition, 58% of caregivers do not think drowning is a threat. Kickstands up at 11AM Port Charlotte Walmart, Kings Highway, Exit 170.

1st Stop: Restlawn Memorial Garden on Forest Nelson

2nd Stop: Old Englewood Beach Scenic Route

Last Stop: Sharky's Restaurant in Venice

\$15 per bike, \$5 for passengers

Pre-Registration needed and appreciated along with any donations/sponsorships.

For more information contact Paul: 941-626-7106 or jacdinc@gmail.com



Safe travel to our snowbirds. You will be sorely missed! Hurry back! God Bless you!

More About Stephen Ministry *Dean Winston*



This is another example of the relationship between a Stephen Minister and their care receiver. Again, the names and identifying details are protected by confidentiality.

Martha and Mike had been married 59 years when Mike passed away suddenly. He had no health issues that they were aware of, his heart just stopped. Martha was devastated. Her world had come crashing down around her. Their church reached out to her immediately. She and Mike were very active, in fact Martha was a Stephen Minister and accepted one that was offered to her immediately. Jane was assigned to Martha as her Stephen Minister. They had been friends and colleagues for years.

Mike had been a bomber pilot in the Second World War and then, an insurance executive when he got out, until he retired to Florida. He had taken care of their finances for their entire married life. Martha had no idea how much money they had or where it was or who they owed. She was completely caught off guard. She didn't even know his password to get into his computer.

Jane was a widow of ten years and she had been through much the same, so she helped guide Martha in what she had to do. Fortunately, Martha's daughter is a computer whiz. When she came down to help her mother with the funeral arrangements and memorial service she was able to access the computer and begin to sort out the finance and insurance information.

After the memorial service and funeral, and her daughter had gone back home Martha began to feel the loneliness that follows after losing a spouse. She was grateful for her church and Jane. They continued to meet regularly. Jane encouraged Martha to pursue educating other members in the church who had no idea of their finances or what had to be done when someone passes. Martha saw the need, and with her own experiences as a guide, began with the help of Jane, to develop a booklet that could be distributed to the congregation as to how they could prepare for their own passing. The booklet encouraged all to make arrangements in great detail sparing their loved ones critical decision at a time of severe loss.

Martha released Jane as her Stephen Minister a little more than a year after her husband's death. She still grieved for him, but the pain was less. She felt she was ready to have her own care receiver now, someone suffering loss, or contending with illness, or simply needing encouragement. She had been on both sides now and had a better understanding of the pain of loss. She also wanted to continue to educate others on the need to prepare and be prepared for the end of this life and the beginning of the next.

Vote for Port Charlotte United Methodist Church on Facebook!

HARBOR NISSAN GIVES BACK
\$15,000
EVERY MONTH TO LOCAL ORGANIZATIONS



HARBOR NISSAN.COM 

HOW IT WORKS

Each month Harbor Nissan will make one official Harbor Nissan Gives Back post soliciting votes on each of its three Facebook pages listed below:

<https://www.facebook.com/HarborNissanPortCharlotte/>

<https://www.facebook.com/HarborInsuranceQuote/>

<https://www.facebook.com/AutoMarketplaceCars/>

HARBOR NISSAN GIVES BACK \$15,000 EVERY MONTH

Harbor Nissan together with Harbor Insurance are going to donate \$15,000 each month to local organizations and causes. Three local charities will have the chance to win \$5,000 each month. Two charities will be decided via social media contest and one chosen via a committee. Each organization can win 3 times during the calendar year!!

TAG-FOR-POINTS:

Facebook users can tag the organization of their choice in the comments on each of the three Harbor Nissan Gives Backposts.

Each Facebook user can only vote one time per day on each of the three posts.



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 facebook.com/portcharlotteumc

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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May Birthdays

01 Schinkel, Irwin	09 Bagley, Dorothy	14 Brooks, Dorothy	23 Welsh, Evelyn
02 Coccaro, Renee	09 Witt, Mary	14 Baker, Bradley	24 Bennett, Vivian
03 Emerich, Annette	09 Pascal, Nevaeh	15 Anderson, Linda	24 White, Sidney
03 Dowling, Suzanne	10 Vargo, Janet	16 Bower, Bea	24 Coccaro, Pete
03 Hald, Alexis	10 Marshall, Jim	16 Freas, Lynda	25 Parker, Earl
03 Ange, Alana	10 Leskanic, Ben	17 Dorvil, Martin	25 Brotherton, Jan
04 Butler, June	11 Harber, Ann	18 Elekes, Jean	25 Royer, Misty
04 Rodriguez, Christian	11 White, Sherry	18 Hald, Barbara	25 Cox, Corry
04 Mandrick, Cole	12 Wyld, Bill	19 Herzstock, Mae	26 Richter, Sara
05 Royer, Blake	12 Petro, Joey	20 Bryan, Sean	28 Setser, Tyler
07 Cammarata, Lois	12 Radil, Adrianna	21 Anderson, Roger	30 Coker, Odie
08 Birchfield, Stella	13 Bayuk, Dorothy	21 McDonald, Eudoris	30 Wenck, Karen
08 Allen, Loren	13 Gwinn, Ginny	21 Hone, Elizabeth	31 Schwartz, Herbert
08 Bagiardi, Barb	14 Ackerman, Bernie	21 Hixson, Terry	31 LaFond, Janet
09 Timper, Vicki	14 Royer, Ron	21 Mathias, Scott	31 Yanni, Dwaine

May Anniversaries

02 Pete and Beth Coccaro	17 Paul and Terri Smith
03 Tony and Carol Leonard	18 Joe and Pam Sikora
08 Glenn and Sue Edmiston	20 Al and Rita Pachasa
09 Ray and Shari McNemar	22 Mike and Ann Harber
12 Ronald and Randi Uhler	30 Merle and Eudoris McDonald
15 Tom and Sandy Segur	

