

KNOW GROW GO

THE MONTHLY NEWSLETTER OF
PORT CHARLOTTE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

June/July 2014

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

ONE BODY, MOVING FORWARD, TOGETHER

It is just a few weeks ago that our congregation gathered for a called Church Conference and voting overwhelmingly to move forward on renovating our church facilities. The plan was for our Trustees to guide and direct us in the phasing of this work. We have also committed to keeping the expenses of the renovation within the parameters of what our congregation is able to afford (while continuing our ongoing operational ministries.). As I write these words, our Trustees have begun the weekly meetings (Tuesdays at 7pm) to continue gathering input from all members who attend. In the last two meetings we have modified the initial scale and scope of the Phase 1 Project into what we are calling, "micro-phases", this will enable us to move forward while continuing to operate as godly stewards.



The work we are undertaking is important because we want to continue to show the community that PCUMC is a church on the move, a church where God is moving, and great things are happening! Teams are being formed to deal with flooring, kitchen extension, colors, and volunteer assistance. The ongoing work of planning, implementing, and overseeing the facility renovation for Port Charlotte United Methodist Church is all about "building a church for all God's people." Fully handicap accessible, age-level functional, centralized front entrance from our largest parking area, are just some of its features. I am thankful to our Trustees Committee: Mike Sniecinski, Dave Cox, D. Fletcher, Mike Hald, Hung Do, and Jim Eugenius.

Because our sanctuary is one of the places where we encounter God's presence together (Matthew 18:20), it is a special place. The thought of renovating this worship space leads us to ask some basic questions. What is worship? Why is worship important?

Join us on Sundays

Traditional Worship at 8 & 11
Contemporary 9:30am

Wednesday Nights

Children's Ministry: 6-7:30pm
Youth: 6-8:15pm
Adult Studies: 6:30 - 7:30pm

Sunday, June 8

VBS Decorating 12-1:30pm

Monday June 9

Vacation Bible School begins
9am - Noon, Monday-Friday

Wednesday, June 11/18

Membership Classes

5pm, Conference Room
Call to register 625-4356

Thursday, June 19

Lunch & Learn "Foot Disorders"
11:30am - 1pm, Fellowship Hall

Wednesday, July 16/23

Membership Classes

5pm, Conference Room
Call to register 625-4356



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Does the sacred space of our sanctuary encourage or put up barriers to engaging the God of the Universe? Does it enable visitors to see God's majesty and love? What would God have us do to enhance our worship space so it reveals His character, His purposes, and His ways? Prayerfully answering these questions will lead us to enact the right changes.

It is my prayer that renovating the sanctuary will be used by God to bring greater unity and ministry effectiveness at PCUMC. The Bible compares the church to a human body (1 Cor. 12). Our head is Jesus Christ. He commands the feet, eyes, ears, and hands to work together and accomplish His purposes.

Please pray about how you can contribute to the sanctuary renovation. Commit to contribute however God directs you. Every part of the Body is needed: Knees to bend in prayer, minds to comprehend and measure our steps, strong arms for the labor, eyes and ears to discern what changes need to be made, generous hearts to provide finances, and hands to cook for those who work. Each of us will contribute in a significant way. Please ask the Lord what your part is in the Body for this project.

Soon, I hope to stand next to you in our parking lot and look at a beautiful, newly renovated facility where your children and grandchildren will sit side-by-side with you in years to come. We will then echo King Solomon when he dedicated the temple of God by saying *"LORD God of Israel, there is no God in heaven above or on earth below like You, who keep Your covenant and mercy with Your servants who walk before You with all their hearts."* (2 Chronicles 6:14)

Keep going and never quit!

Grace,

Pastor Brian

Extravagant Generosity

Y-T-D 4/30/14

Income \$286,323.95 Expenses \$313,885.66

ASSISTANCE - APRIL

Utilities-2 Rent-1 Other-2

GEMS Girls' Clubs



Our G.E.M.S. had their badge ceremony, celebrating the badges they have earned completing different projects. We congratulate them all on their accomplishments!





Children's Ministry *Barbara Hald*

I want to thank everyone for all your kindness. Your response to my Mothers' Day message was overwhelming.

Family Dinner and a Movie will take a break for June and July, but we will be back in August with a Children's Clothes SWAP and in September, a double-feature -- one for adults and one for children!

"Acts of Faith" will be going out into the community this summer. We will take what we have learned this year and bless our community.

We are having a Vacation Bible School work party, May 26th from 10am -noon. We could use help with name tags, craft organizing and decorating.

The decoration theme for VBS will be "old time Athens." If we could borrow or have any of these items, please call me and let me know! (625-4356) Clay pots, medium silk plants, plain color sheets – white, off-white, tan, brown, etc., woven blankets that look like they were from ancient times.

Summer is always my time to reevaluate what the Children's Ministry is doing. To grow you must be willing to change constantly. We need Sunday School teachers and Children's Church teachers. If you feel that you could bless this ministry, come and talk with me.

Jesus said "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of God belongs to such as these children."

Have a great summer and be in prayer always for the direction of this church, the Children's Ministry, your life and how it all fits together for the Glory of God.

In His Love,
Barbara Hald

Youth Ministry

Paul Kisner, Youth Director



June 4: Messy Game Night

6:00pm – 8:30pm

Kick off the summer by getting messy!

Bring old clothes to get messy and a towel. It would also be a good idea to wear a swim suit under your clothes so you can use the GIANT SLIP & SLIDE to clean yourself off! Girls must wear a shirt over a two piece swimsuit.

June 5: Youth Movie Night

7:00 – 10:00pm in the Youth Room

For Youth currently in 9th grade and up.

We will meet for Bible study, food, and a movie throughout the summer. YMN will also meet on these dates: 6/11, 7/3, 7/10, 7/24, & 7/31

June 8: Honoring our Graduates

PCUMC would like to honor our graduates at the 11 am service on Pentecost Sunday.

Please turn in all information slips by Wednesday, June 4. Information slips are available in the office.

June 11: No Youth Group (VBS week)

June 15: Youth Sunday

June 20-27: Sr. High Retreat

to Lake Junaluska, NC

June 25: No Youth Group (Sr. High Retreat week)

July 9: Wii Olympics

6:00 – 10:00pm in the Youth Room

Join us for a fun night of Wii Sports competition!

July 14 – 19: Warren Willis Camp Week

All campers need to be at the church at 9 am on Monday morning. We will return to the church around 2 pm on Saturday afternoon.

July 16: No Youth Group (Camp week)

Children's Weekday Ministry *Ericka Brown*

Wow! What a whirlwind school year. We really packed the house on graduation night. Thank you to all of you who have supported the Weekday Ministry this year. You are truly a blessing! This summer is a time of cleaning, repairing, painting and preparing. Did you know that every year the teachers move classrooms? We do this to keep things fresh and new. The teachers enjoy learning the color of their new classroom and usually spent the summer getting the new theme ready. As we enter a new school year we ask that you continue to lift the Weekday Ministries in your prayers. We touch so many people in our community and we look forward to another successful year.

Blessings, Ericka



A packed house at CWM graduation, May 21

Frequently Heard Questions *Jonathan Carlsen*

Question: In May you said you'd identified four kinds of atheists or unbelievers, but you described only one: those who don't "believe because they've accepted all the so-called "scientific" or philosophical arguments that faith and God are fairy tales." What are the other three kinds?

Answer: There's a funny thing about that. After I'd written that, a fifth group came to mind, though I've been talking about the four kinds for years. The fact is: not all unbelievers are atheists. A group I overlooked (no. 5) are "true believers," as longshoreman-philosopher Eric Hoffer uses the term (see Eric Hoffer, *The True Believer: Thoughts on the Nature of Mass Movements* [New York: Harper & Brothers, 1951]). These are people who are so fixed in their own non-Christian faith (whether self-worship, atheism, Islam, Judaism, Buddhism, etc.) that the precepts of Christianity must be rejected. The other four groups are: (2) people who are mad at God ("If God exists and is loving, He wouldn't have let [name whatever trouble] happen. But it happened, so I won't believe."); (3) people who don't believe, because they know that, if they believe, they'd have to change their way of living, and they don't want to (E. Stanley Jones, in *Abundant Living* [New York and Nashville: Abingdon-Cokesbury Press, 1942], talks about an effective gospel preacher who later preached atheism. "What made the difference?" Jones asked. He answered, "He had taken a mistress."); (4) people who are mad at the church ("Christians," said one woman I knew in Chicago, "are people who run you down in their cars on their way to church." She didn't specify whether she meant a literal *hit and run* or malicious gossip.).

Question: In Luke 24:33, we read that, after Cleopas and the other disciple met Jesus on the road to Emmaus, they returned to Jerusalem and reported to "the eleven." Since Judas was dead and Thomas was absent, according to John 20:19-24, that means only ten apostles were present. Did Luke make a mistake?

Answer: I wondered the same thing when I prepared to preach on this passage in April. Wayne Jackson, founder-editor of the *Christian Courier*, says no. He reports "... that the phrase, 'the eleven,' became a semi-technical expression for the apostolic band after the defection and death of Judas, and that as such, mathematical precision was not intended ..." He quotes Lutheran commentator R. C. H. Lenski saying the same thing (<https://www.christiancourier.com/articles/732-does-the-expression-the-eleven-luke-24-33-constitute-an-error>). Thomas Coke, our first bishop, writes: "*The eleven* was the current stile [that is, *style* or idiom] for the whole college of apostles, and after the call of Matthias to the apostleship, they were again called *the twelve*. In the virtue of this [style], a general meeting of the apostles is called a meeting of the eleven, or the twelve, though one or more of may happen to be absent." Bishop Coke also says that Paul calls the same meeting (1 Corinthians 15:5) "a gathering of the twelve" (Coke, *Commentary*, note on Luke 24:33). We do this ourselves. During its last season (1982-1983), the TV comedy *LaVerne & Shirley* limped along without Shirley. Between 1930 and 1965, *The Three Stooges* appeared in many short and feature-length films, but seven actors portrayed members of the trio, five in the Curly-Shemp role (http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Three_Stooges).

June Birthdays

01 Doris Adams	14 Manion Warden
01 Don Keirnan	17 Alex Kucewicz
01 June Richards	18 Doris Barney
02 Marisue Bittner	18 Dennise Dorvil
03 Marlene Young	18 William Wilson
04 Paul Smith	19 Mary Rilling
04 Robert Butler	20 Tom Brancheau
05 Warren Heidenis	21 Tyler Olby
06 Ellen Even	22 Bernard Coakley
08 Renee Petro	23 Nicholas Bonsky
08 Jordan Mikus	24 Wanda Gastright
08 Tyler McNamara	24 Peg Thompson
10 Frank Hansen	25 Alexandria Kern
11 Evangeline Van Tries	26 Mildred Notice
11 Harold Wilder	26 Violet Soldano
11 Lauryn Royer	27 John Keating
12 John Lee	28 Laura Bunyon
12 Jo Lucky	29 Charles Bailey
12 Sylvanie Skepple	30 Alida Douglas
12 Paul Chapdelaine	30 Phyllis Crews
14 Barbara Deaton	
14 John LoTempio	

June Anniversaries

01 Joseph and Beverly Gomez
05 J.C. and Leone Bihl
05 James and Tammy Eugenius
10 Roy and Zena Burkholder
10 Mark and Jill Mandrick
12 Larry and Lynn Littlefield
13 Harold and Barbara Wilder
13 Calvin and Lois Tschetter
19 Craig and Ericka Brown
21 Frank and Betty Hansen
25 Paul and Sharon Bencivengo
28 Gerald and Darlene Brown
29 Jeff and Susan West
30 Tom and Laura Bunyon

July Birthdays

01 Sydney Minott	19 Barbara Gruennert
01 Eulalee Jackson	19 Mark Mikus
02 Belle Tribby	19 Samir Petro
02 Lois Hagen	19 Jessica West
02 June Albert	21 Thelma Quinn
02 Beverly Caporossi	21 Joy Wilson
03 Nova Pascal	21 Nancy Bosserdet
04 Zachery McNally	22 John Robertson
05 Alvin Williams	22 Samantha Rodrigues
05 Doris Forsythe	22 Mylas McCarthy
05 Dana Sweet	23 Harriet Paulsen
06 Jane Flanders	24 Charles Arnold
07 Grace Chicken	24 Barbara Hall
08 Nikki Foster	24 Matthew Dowling
09 Violet Ward	25 Mildred McLeggan
09 Norma Campbell	25 Mike Hald
09 Ann Van Hoose-Oleson	25 Thomas Smiech
10 James Stedje	25 Brittani Craig
11 Bill Bishop	26 Marilyn Brown
13 Margaret Spann	27 Wendy Orris
13 Robert Bosserdet	28 Marge Lawson
14 Sharon Kavanaugh	29 Jim Kavanaugh
14 Marjorie Mills	29 Kolton Reeves
15 Marjorie Anderson	30 Marjorie Ward
16 Al Tillman	30 Tom Marshall
17 Betty Decker	31 Maxine Butler
17 Lily Weller	
18 Oran Goodell	
19 Patricia Rose	

July Anniversaries

03 Stephen and Jean Pearl
08 George and Dorothy Mann
10 Gary and Betty Ruth Mason
10 Julie and Sid Scott
11 H.L. and Mary Clemmons
11 Loren and Ruthann Allen
20 Robert and Nancy Bosserdet
22 Robert and Barbara Gruennert
25 Jim and Sharon Kavanaugh



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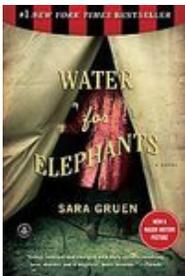
CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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The KNOT Prayer

Dear God,
 Please untie the knots that are in my mind, my heart and my life.
 Remove the have nots, the can nots and the do nots
 that I have in my mind.
 Erase the will nots, may nots, and might nots
 that find a home in my heart.
 Release me from the could nots, would nots, and should nots
 that obstruct my life.
 And most of all, Dear God,
 I ask that you remove from my mind, my heart and my life
 ALL of the am nots that I have allowed to hold me back, especially
 the thought that I am not good enough.

Author Unknown



The Open Book *Book Discussion Group*

The Open Book will be discussing "Water for Elephants" by Sara Gruen beginning June 11th. We meet on the 2nd Wednesday of each month from 3-4pm in the New Room. There are 9 copies of the book available at the Welcome Center. Please sign up at the Welcome Center. Call Paul Chapdelaine with any questions (239) 288-1330.

Lunch & Learn *Free!*

- COMPLIMENTARY LUNCH PROVIDED -

Guest Speaker:
Dr. Mark Tracy, DPM
"Foot Disorders"

Dr. Mark Tracy, DPM, will offer a presentation on foot disorders and the proper care of your feet. Free lunch provided by Nurse-on-Call.

Thursday, June 19
11:30am - 1:00pm



Space is limited, so sign up at our Welcome Center.