Monthly Newsletter April 2024

Love God. Love People. Grow Christ Followers.

FROM PASTOR JACQUIE

"Peter, however, got up and ran to the tomb. Bending over, he saw the strips of linen lying by themselves, and he went away, wondering to himself what had happened" (Luke 24:12)

Peter had great hopes for a powerful and influential earthly kingdom led by Jesus, the Messiah. He aspired to a position of leadership in that kingdom as well. After all, he had left everything behind to follow Him. But suddenly through a series of violent and shocking events everything changed drastically. Jesus was accused, found guilty, suffered a cruel death on the cross of Calvary and His dead body could not be found. Now what? He asked himself.

When unexpected events take place in our lives, we too are dumbfounded like Peter wondering, **"now what?"** What do we do next? The answer is profoundly simple, "we look to Jesus for direction."

Our church disaffiliated from the United Methodist Church. Some of our brothers and sister whom we dearly love have left. Financial giving has gone down. **Now what?** First, we turn to Jesus in faith and anticipation and ask Him for direction. Secondly, we obey His leading and stay the course. Thirdly, when the Holy Spirit moves you to give an extra financial offering and or calls you to get involved in the ministries of the church, listen, obey and trust the promise of God, "No eye has seen, no ear has heard, no mind has conceived what God has prepared for those who love him" (1Cor.2:9).

God is doing great things in our midst. Let us continue to be faithful and expectant!



Peace to you and yours, *Pastor Jacquie*







76 S. Roscoe Blvd. Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082



"Meet the Pastors" is the first Sunday of every month, after the service. If you are new to our church, or a regular attendee, please stop by the outside table and say "HELLO" to Pastor Jacquie and Pastor Edwin.

APRIL

7: Meet the Pastors

8: New Member Class Begins (6:30PM)

13: Celebration of Life for Corrine Garrison (10:00 AM)

7-27: BEAM Food Drive

24: CLT Meeting (7:00 PM)

27: Work Day (9:30 AM - 12:00 PM

FAMILY MINISTRY (Pastor Edwin Richiez)



Grace and Peace,
Pastor Edwin

Welcome to April! Having just celebrated Easter, may we allow the meaning and power of this great event fill our days with hope!

I would like to thank everyone who came to support our Spring Festival this past March 23rd. Despite the rain, we had a good event with families and children enjoying the food, petting zoo, games and face painting we had on campus.

We will have a six-week New Member Class every Monday at 6:30pm, beginning this Monday, April 8th. Please sign up at the lobby or contact the church office if you would like to become a member of Ponte Vedra Church.

"Different religions are all around us - secularism, Buddhism, Hinduism, Islam - and every religion has its own set of beliefs about God. As Christians we believe in the God of Abraham, the God and Father of Jesus Christ. But who is he, and what is he like?" (From Christian Beliefs, LifeGuide Study). Join us on Wednesdays for Family Night as we continue to engage in meaningful study and conversations about our Christian faith.

DIGITAL MEDIA (Taylor Hall)

You can follow us on social media! We post updates, clips from the services and events, and even livestream (Facebook and YouTube). Find us here:

Facebook: facebook.com/pontevedra.church

Instagram: instagram.com/pontevedra.church

YouTube: www.youtube.com/@pontevedrachurch

MUSIC MINISTRY



Greetings,

Springtime is here. March is quickly fading as we move into April. Both Palm Sunday and Easter have come and gone. Thank you God for your resurrection power! We can rejoice everyday as we remind ourselves **He Is risen!**

In Psalm 68:4 it says "sing to God, sing in praise of His name, extol Him who rides on the clouds." Through our worship we praise the Most Holy One. We invite you to worship with us not only on this Sunday morning but every Sunday morning.

There is room for growth in our choir. If you would like to join us, contact me here at the church. Let's worship together.

See you Sunday.



Scott Tinsley
Director of Music

MISSIONS (Jan Johnson)

Dining with Dignity Friday, April 12th at Eddie Vickers Park in St Augustine.

Please arrive by 5:45PM if interested in helping to serve.

FAMILY PROMISE (Cecily Browning)

On March 5, three of us from our church attended the Family Promise Jax Annual Volunteer Dinner. We got to meet new staff members, hear about their 2023 accomplishments, fundraising efforts and ways churches can support Family Promise. They have made a change in how they are going to house the families. They will no longer spend the night at churches. They have 3 bedrooms at their center inside Arlington Congregational church. They discovered that letting the families stay at the center opened new employment opportunities for the parents. They can work beyond an 8:00 to 5:00 job. We will still provide all the food and supplies the families need along with dinner each night. Our next host week will be August 11-18.

To the right is a list of ideas of how churches can support the families at times other than a host week. I am hoping that we can hold a Friday night pizza and movie night or Saturday cookout and games this summer. It is a great way to interact with the family members. Please contact me if you or your small group would like to participate in this. Thank you so much for your continued support of this very worthwhile ministry!

Let's Get Together for FUN!

Ideas for Volunteers to show love to families.

Got an idea? Share!

Movie night with popcorn!



We can borrow a blow-up screen! Bring snacks!





We have a grill. Hamburger, hot dogs and all the sides. Yum!

Decorate cookies or doughnuts and have a party!







To celebrate end of school, enjoy summer fun or back to school!





Celebrate Mother's Day or Father's Day!



Invite us to your church's fun day!







Fall festival, spring fling, pumpkin patch, concert or more!

Host a Supply Drive





We can give you a list!

Back to School Drive







For kindergarten to high school!

CHILDREN'S MINISTY (Emily Edwards)

Happy April Ponte Vedra Church!

This month in Kid's Ministry, we are continuing with the Awana curriculum! We have completed the first section of the Awana and I could not be more grateful for how well the kids are responding to it. The kids seem to really enjoy what they are learning and are able to connect to it.

I want to thank everyone who came to the Spring Festival and a special thanks to those who were able to help. I believe everyone had a great time and that the rain added to the excitement.

I pray everyone had a wonderful Easter celebrating our risen King. If you have any questions or simply want to talk, please do not hesitate to reach out! Have a blessed April!









Emily Edwards

Director of
Children's Ministry





WOMEN'S MINISTRY (Susan Merrill)

The women ended March on a high note indeed, with the women's retreat at Epworth by the Sea. It was inspiring as Dr. Adele Berenz led us in a study of Esther, "For Such a Time As This".

The crucified Jesus is the risen Lord. Jesus Christ is the ultimate source and foundation of victory. Easter teaches us that the risen Christ is the Lord of Hope.

Vera Combs was the Volunteer of the Month at Hart Felt Ministries.

Vera has logged in 578 hours of service since her time at Hart Felt.

Her phone calls and prayers are a reminder to her clients that they are cared for, listened to, and loved. Heartfelt is one of our missions we support as Ponte Vedra Methodist Women.

This spring we will be supporting and helping with many more of our missions. Women of Ponte Vedra Church, we hope you will join us.





GRIEF SHARE (Marg Farnsworth)

Why come? I can do this. How hard can it be? How long can it last?

Grief is not easy, and "going it alone" is not wise. If you or someone you know has lost a loved one, please seek someone to walk with you through the journey. Grief is not something one gets over quickly. Consider coming to our next Grief Share which begins on Tuesday, May 7th, from 4:00pm-5:30pm.

Marg: mfarns934@gmail.com Ann: anncoook111@gmail.com



BLESSINGS IN A BACKPACK

(Janeene Hart)

Thank you for your generosity that helped to ensure the children would have healthy food to eat over Spring Break. We packed and delivered **153** food bags to Seabreeze Elementary.





Church Leadership Team Update

Agenda items discussed at our meeting held on March 20, 2024:

- The cost of the property insurance is up because we no longer have insurance through the UMC.
- Mulch has been laid in the flower beds.
- A kitchen sink sprayer was replaced.
- The elevator inspection will be in April.
- New members class will begin April the 8th.
- The General Conference of the CMC will be held in Laurel, MS June 4-6th. The registration per delegate is \$225.00.

CLT meetings are held on the 4th Wednesday of the month starting at 7pm. All are welcome to attend.

Church Informational Meeting Update March 24, 2024

- The leadership of the church was presented, voted in, and prayed for.
- The 2024 Budget was presented and the Treasurer informed the Congregation of our present financial situation. There is a shortfall of \$198,240 in addition to the \$99,323 for the mortgage.
- By May 1st, staff hours will decrease to help reduce the budget shortfall.

APPIL BIPTHDays



2nd Wayne Ellis

6th John Drake

7th Sue Casper

12th Bev Schaffield

12th Faith Timm

14th Pam Williams

18th Sheila Tinsley

19th Bonnie Yeager

21st Jeff Timm

Lead Pastor
Director of Family Ministries
Administrative Assistant
Accountant
Director of Music
Director of Children's Ministry
Digital Media Coordinator
Custodian

Rev. Jacqueline Leveron
Rev. Edwin Richiez
Karin Cruz
Jennie Spalding
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