

## Monthly Newsletter

December 2023



# December

### FROM PASTOR JACQUIE

“The Word became flesh and made his dwelling among us. We have seen his glory, the glory of the One and only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth” (John 1:14).

This is the true message of Christmas. The only Son of God took human form and as Pastor Eugene Peterson so eloquently stated, “moved into our neighborhood.” He came and for 33 years lived among imperfect people. He hungered, laughed, wept, suffered and died. Praise God the story did not end there! On the third day he rose. His work on the cross brought us salvation, abundant life and eternal life.

After ascending into heaven, he sent us the Holy Spirit to assure us of his presence, convict us and teach us his Word.

Beloved, the study of his Word should be a daily occupation for us. His Word is a lamp unto our feet (Ps. 119:105). It is flawless (Pr. 30:5). It is living (Heb. 4:12) and will never pass away (Mat. 24:35).

In January you are invited to join us in Reading the Bible in a Year. Bookmarks will be available for you in the lobby at the end of every month. “Let the Word of God richly dwell in you!” (Col. 3:16).

May you and your family have a blessed Christmas!



Peace to you and yours,  
*Pastor Jacquie*

*“We hold to the traditional, historic  
doctrines of the Christian faith.”  
(PVC Core Beliefs)*



Ponte Vedra  
Church

76 S. Roscoe Blvd. Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082  
[www.pontevdra.church](http://www.pontevdra.church)



### MEET the PASTORS!

“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.

### DECEMBER

**3:** Night of Joy at 5:30pm

**7:** Ladies’ Luncheon at 11:00am

**10:** Cantata

**18-20:** Christmas VBS from 5:30pm-7:30pm

**24:** Christmas Eve Services at 11:00am and 5:30pm

## FAMILY MINISTRY



Grace and Peace,  
*Pastor Edwin*

In December, we celebrate God visiting our world. Because Jesus, the Messiah, God Himself, came into our world a human being, we have much to celebrate. In the incarnation, where God came in a human body, we received tremendous revelation of Who our God is and what our God is like. Jesus said:

**“...The one who has seen me, has seen the Father...”(John 14:9 CSB).**

The above verse implies that if we want to know what God is like, we look at Jesus. If we want to know how God would handle a particular situation, we look at Jesus.! If we want to know how to treat others in a way that pleases God, we look at Jesus. If we want to satisfy the innate human desire to know our Creator, we look at Jesus. And this revelation and much more started at Christmas with the coming of Jesus to earth as a baby.

May your Christmas be filled with peace, joy, and the awe of knowing Jesus, our Great God and King.

Merry Christmas!

### 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](https://facebook.com/pontevedra.church)

Instagram: [@pontevedra.church](https://instagram.com/pontevedra.church)

YouTube: [www.youtube.com/@pontevedrachurch](https://www.youtube.com/@pontevedrachurch)

## MUSIC MINISTRY

In December we celebrate the birth of Jesus. With the season of Advent and all the special services we'll have plenty of opportunity to enjoy the Christmas story as well as sing the songs of this wonderful season.

On December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:30pm we have the Night of Joy service. The service prepares us for the coming Advent season. On December 10<sup>th</sup>, the combined choirs bring us the musical Cantata “Shout the Good News!” by Lloyd Larson. Beloved carols combined with a rich narrative create a joyful tapestry for Christmas worship.

On Christmas Eve we have 2 services starting with 11:00am and then our candlelight service at 5:30pm. Let's join together as we celebrate the birth of our newborn king. Be sure and let your family and neighbors know about these services. If I don't get the chance to say it in person, Merry Christmas!



**Scott Tinsley**  
Director of Music



## SPRC (Sandra Williamson)

Church Leadership Team Update:

There was no CLT meeting held in October

Agenda items discussed at our meeting on Wednesday, November 8

- Financials were presented by Paul Serletti, our accountant, in a new and easier read format
- Identification of Church officers to complete legal paperwork for Quitclaim deed from FUMC and transfer of mortgage to new church entity
- Couples class began Sunday morning, Nov. 5 with 4 couples in attendance
- Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Ceremony well attended on November 1
- Veterans' Luncheon by the chamber to be attended by Pastor Edwin on Thursday, Nov. 9
- VBS for Children during Christmas holidays, Dec. 18-20, in planning stage
- Night of Joy, Dec. 3 at 5:30
- Christmas Eve Services at 11:00 and 5:30
- There was a discussion regarding the church purchasing 150 new Bibles for the pews in the future.
- Annual evaluations for staff completed in October.

CLT meetings are held on the second Wednesday of the month starting at 7:00 pm. Congregation members are welcome to attend.

Respectfully submitted,

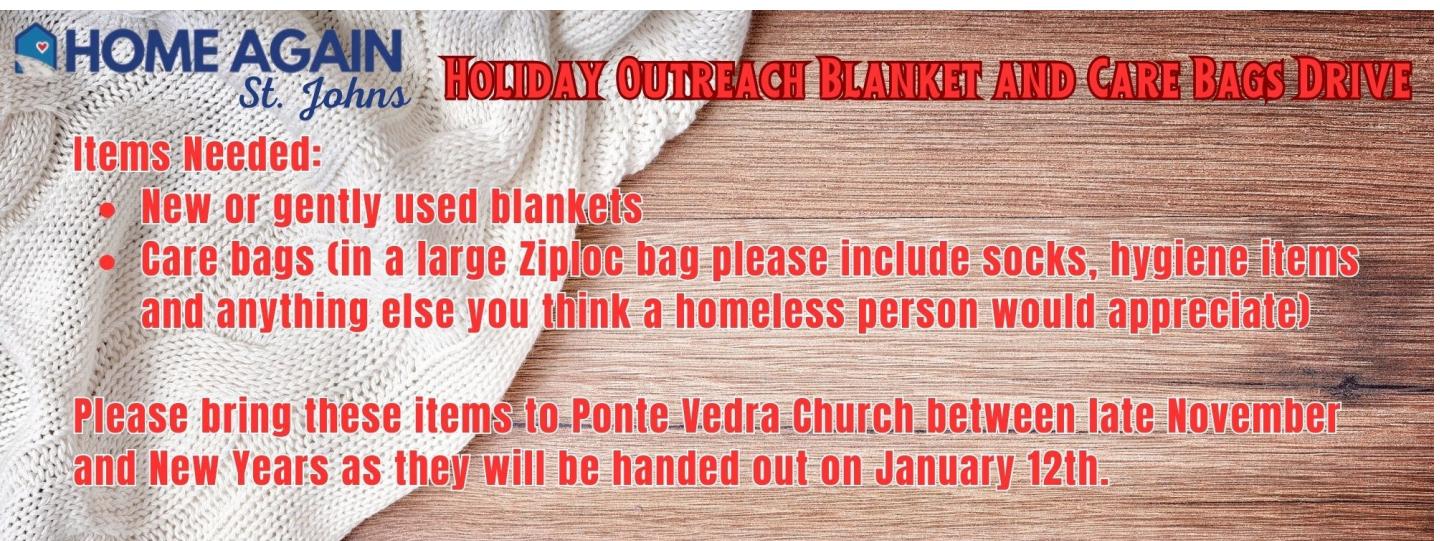
Sandra Williamson

## OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD/HOME AGAIN ST. JOHNS (Rita Andreu)

This year we packed 137 boxes for Operation Christmas Child!

Thank you to everyone who packed Operation Christmas Child shoe boxes or made donations to the cause. Many needy children will be blessed by your generous giving.

God bless you!



**HOME AGAIN St. Johns** **HOLIDAY OUTREACH BLANKET AND CARE BAGS DRIVE**

**Items Needed:**

- New or gently used blankets
- Care bags (in a large Ziploc bag please include socks, hygiene items and anything else you think a homeless person would appreciate)

**Please bring these items to Ponte Vedra Church between late November and New Years as they will be handed out on January 12th.**

## CHILDREN'S MINISTRY (Taylor Hall)

We invite you to our Christmas VBS from December 18-20! Kids (K-4th grade) will learn about the story of Jesus' birth through games, music, crafts, and more!

Contact Taylor Hall for more information.

# Christmas VBS is almost here!

**December 18th-20th  
5:30 PM -7:30 PM**

[www.pontevedra.church](http://www.pontevedra.church)

## WOMEN'S MINISTRY (Jennie Dorsey)

### Methodist Women Feed Thanksgiving Dinner to Homeless

"And the king shall answer and say to them, 'Truly I say to you, inasmuch as you have done it to unto one of the least of these, my brethren, you have done it unto me.' Matthew 25:40

Ponte Vedra Methodist Women and a few PVC men were blessed by being the hands and feet of Jesus on November 10th, when they prepared and served nine turkeys with all the trimmings and sides to the Dining with Dignity homeless of St. Augustine. Light was brought into their darkness when each person there could load his/her plate twice and take to-go boxes to friends who were unable to attend.

Our PVC group of 13 women and 5 men were even more blessed than the homeless, when we were able to share from our abundance the first American Thanksgiving experience with 4 families from France who were staying in camping trailers near the park. They now understand better our Christian mission to serve others in Jesus' name. Thank you to all who bought, prepared, or served food. This is the best way we know to start our sacred holiday season. God bless you.

The Executive Committee met the following week in the home of Corrine Garrison to plan for next year and to distribute more than \$6,000 in mission money to Dining with Dignity, Hartfelt Mission, Faithful Servant Mission (Costa Rica), Red Bird Mission (Kentucky), UMCOR, and our local Blessings in a Backpack ministry through PVC. Plans were made for helping with the Valentine's Tea and Brunch for the mothers in Young Lives ministry. Please let us know if you can help.

Do not forget your prayer sister during the holiday season. Names will be revealed at our January 13th Prayer Meeting at 10:00am at the church. Look for flyers about the PVC Epworth By the Sea Women's Retreat, March 15-17, 2024. Registration must be in before Dec. 8th. May God bless you and keep you during this holiday season.

## GRIEF SHARE (Marg Farnsworth)

The holidays can be very difficult. So no matter how long it has been since your loved one died, please join us on Tuesday, January 9, at 4 p.m. for the next Grief Share 13-week support group.



Marg Farnsworth: mfarns934@gmail.com / Ann Cook: anncook111@gmail.com

**THERE'S STILL TIME**

**PLEASE  
RETURN  
YOUR  
PLEDGE  
CARD  
THIS  
SUNDAY**



**CHRISTMAS MUSICAL CANTATA**

**Join Us!**

**Shout the Good News!**

Christmas Messengers in Scripture and Song

Words and Music by Lloyd Larson  
Orchestration by Michael Lawrence

Sunday, December 10th at 11:00am

Ponte Vedra Church

**Midday Manna** is sure to be a source of encouragement for your day.

This video devotional featuring Pastor Jacquie and Pastor Edwin is being shared on our Social Media accounts at noon each Wednesday.

[WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PONTEVEDRACHURCH](http://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/PONTEVEDRACHURCH)

**Join us on Christmas Eve**



**11:00 AM & 5:30 PM**

[www.pontevedra.church](http://www.pontevedra.church)

**WOMEN'S RETREAT**  
at Epworth By The Sea

**RESERVE YOUR SPOT TODAY**

**"FOR SUCH A TIME AS THIS"**  
**March 15-17**

CONTACT JENNIE DORSEY FOR MORE INFORMATION



## DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

**8th: Eleanor Williams**  
**14th: Loree Reed**  
**21st: Sue Stanley**  
**25th: Jesus**  
**28th: Nancy Rice Hill**  
**29th: Faith Martin**

Lead Pastor  
Director of Family Ministries  
Administrative Assistant  
Accountant  
Director of Music  
Digital Media Coordinator  
Custodian

Rev. Jacqueline Leveron  
Rev. Edwin Richiez  
Karin Cruz  
Scott Tinsley  
Taylor Hall  
Jim McDonald

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*Check out our website!*

