

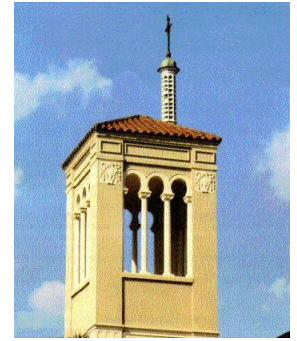
PCUMC Lifeline

Volume 3, Issue 6

July 1, 2010

Publish his glorious deeds among the nations. Tell everyone about the amazing things he does.

Psalms 96:3, NLT



MY STORY OF CHURCH'S HIDDEN TREASURE

By Dick Reeves

Judy and I have been members of Palma Ceia for more than 50 years. Here is our story of the hidden treasure of this Church.

I got out of the service in 1958, and while I was gone my family transferred our family memberships from Hyde Park to Palma Ceia. Since I had grown up in Tampa I knew some members. Judy didn't grow up in Tampa; she knew one or two.

A few weeks later Judy and I were invited to a beach party by some members of the Church. It turned out they were in a Church Couples Group; its number was 21. (It's hard to believe there were that many then.) Thus began our tenure as members of a couples group at Palma Ceia.

Now 50 years have gone by. Other groups have continued for that length of time, or some for less time, but a long time. Each group has experienced serious illnesses, death (members or parents), divorces, second marriages, and widowhood. Each time the group has been there, extending God's love, and providing heartfelt support. Each couple helps when help is needed. It's a second family. It's hard to believe how the relationships strengthen.

Every couple in our Church should be in a couples group. A good number of members are in groups today; a good number are not. Every new couple that joins the Church should be invited to join a group.

Forming a new group or expanding an existing group is not going to be easy. A lot of considerations are involved. The most important factor is age. Similar careers are important – but just one of the factors. Locations of homes is important – but just one of the factors. With or without children is a factor, but just one of the factors. But, age still is the most important factor.

Different groups operate differently. Generally, the group meets monthly in the evening at the home of one of the members. Each couple brings its chinaware and silverware, and a portion of the dinner as requested by the host. The cost is shared. Our group is now at \$10 per person. Some one keeps a money bag.

The couple groups are not a Bible study group. Religious matters are discussed, but other matters are discussed also. The health concerns remain paramount, particularly as years go by.

Couples groups for our Church are very important. The closeness and friendships of the groups greatly impact the spiritual strength of the entire congregation. Less than a year ago Paul Wagner, the founding pastor of this Church, told me that the groups were critical in the building of the Church during his ministry here. About 15 years ago Paul and Bonnie accepted the invitation to join the couples group that Judy and I were members. With Paul we've had meaningful discussions about our religious beliefs.

Building new groups will indeed be hard to do; but the effort will be worth it. Each group needs its own identity. Rev. Larry Cook and I, and others as time goes by, will meet with one, two, or more couples to help in the initial organization. Hopefully each new couple that joins our Church will be invited to join a group. The first step for each couple that is not in a group is to call around to find other couples not in a group. Then call Rev. Cook and have a meeting. I'll participate when requested. If no one calls you, then you should call Rev. Cook, and go from there. It will be a great journey.

The Couples Groups are a backbone of our Church – a true hidden treasure for the spiritual strength of our Church. More groups mean more strength.

Ministerial Staff

Dr. Kevin M. James, Sr.

Rev. Larry E. Cook

Worship Services

8:30 Informal Traditional

9:15 Contemporary

10:30 Traditional

Inside this issue:

Mission of the Month	2
Staff-Parish Message	2
Breast Cancer Tea	2
UMW	2
Reading Suggestions	2
Singles Ministries	3
Softball Team	3
Finance	4
Children's Ministries	5

MISSION OF THE MONTH

The Mission of the Month for July will help in the establishing of new United Methodist Churches right here in the South Central District. Your giving to the July Mission of the Month will assist other new United Methodist churches that are just getting on their feet. They are reaching many new people for Jesus Christ. You may use your Mission of the Month envelope to help with the establishing of new United Methodist Churches.

Message from Staff Parish Committee

The Staff Parish Relations Committee is pleased to report that Dr. James has been selected to participate in the Duke Divinity School's 2010-11 Institute of Preaching. Over the course of the next year, Kevin will be participating in three intensive training sessions under a distinguished faculty. The program includes interaction and feedback from a committee of five congregation members, and is designed to enhance the preaching skills of experienced Pastors. The tuition is funded by the Florida Conference, and Participation in the program is limited to a select group. Congratulations Kevin!



BREAST CANCER TEA

Saturday, October 9th at 11:00 a.m. in Fellowship Hall. \$7.00 per person. Tickets go on sale Sunday, August 1st, 2010. Proceeds go to: Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer foundation. Contact is Annette Prince at 300-7142.

UMW

The staff and volunteers invite you to the "Tree of Life Reception" to honor your loved one on Tuesday, July 13th, 2010 at south Tampa Resource Center, 3010 W. Azelee St., Tampa, FL 33609. Please RSVP including the number of guests attending to (813) 871-8431 or ander-sol@hpchealthcare.org. Call Janice Bennafield at 244-6541 and let her know if you plan to attend. (LifePath Hospice is placing a stone in "Memory of our loved ones").

NIFCA Conference

I had the opportunity to attend two weeks of classes though the National Institute of Finance and Church Administrators (NIFCA) at Emory University. I attended 15 different seminars which included: Human Resources and Office Management, Social Media, Technology and the Church, Greening the Church, Property Management, and one nicknamed Methodism 101. In addition to the vast knowledge of the instructors, the interaction with 39 colleagues from different ethnicities and various denominations was beneficial. I plan to share the information I have learned at the next administrative meeting. Next year I will attend the second section on finance and legal issues affecting the church. After completing those classes and a project at our church, I will be certified as a Church Business Administrator (CBA). Finally, I thank the administrative leaders for encouraging and allowing me to attend this excellent seminar, which will enhance the administrative responsibilities of our church.

Julie Brown



Reading Suggestion from Tom...

The Unshakable Truth is Josh McDowell's newest book on Harvest House Publishers. The writer is a former atheist who converted to Christianity and in this inspirational bestseller he offers compelling evidence not only for the resurrection but also for the reliability and existence of God and answers many of the tough questions that the believer and non believer struggle with on a day to day basis.

SOFTBALL

Our softball team has finished their season and look forward to next season. We would like to give a special thanks to Aaron Carricato, manager of the South Tampa Beef O'Bradys for sponsoring our team.





PCUMC VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL 2010

“HIGH SEAS EXPEDITION”



Last month over 200 children and over 85 youth and adult helpers “Explored the Mighty Love of God” during VBS week. Each day we learned a new Bible story and verse, made new friends, ate a goody from the galley, created nautical crafts, played ship wreck games, and explored the Bible through music, dancing, drama, and prayer.



We Learned About God’s Word:

God’s Word Is True.

God’s Word is Comforting.

God’s Word is Surprising.

God’s Word is Life-Changing.

God’s Word is for Everyone.



One of our missions this year was Operation Kid-to-Kid. Our children completed 28 “God Loves Me” blankets with white felt hearts inside that the children prayed over. Each blanket will also have a coloring book go along with it to hurting children in Africa.

Our heart – inspired mission was to help with the oil spill clean-up. The Mission Team chose to sponsor several wildlife animals that were victims of the oil spill. VBS children brought in over **\$1,530** dollars and over **547** items to help the cause. PCUMC Youth will be traveling to an area affected by the spill and will help with hands-on cleaning. We are continuing to collect items needed for this clean-up mission. **Items needed are:**

**Dawn Dishwashing Soap Adult T-Shirts (used) Trash Bags Bottled Water Towels (used)
Disposable Gloves Paper Towels Toothbrushes Linens (clean) \$\$\$Money\$\$\$**

This VBS voyage was made possible by the help of many people –

Our congregation, your offerings, your many donations of items needed, your prayers, and a very dedicated team of youth and adult volunteers who truly shared God’s love with our young ones!

A special thank you to Craig Chalmers at Lightbulbs Unlimited for loaning us many lights and accessories to enhance our decorating and special stage effects. The lighting, the fog, and the wave machines made our stage look “High Seas” worthy! Thank you to everyone, and a Captain’s salute to our VBS Director, Cathy Harris!

High Seas Summer Events – Let the Voyage Continue!

Saturday, July 17, 2010 6pm-8pm Join us in the Fellowship Hall as we relive the fun we had during VBS week! We'll play Ship Rec Games, enjoy a Goody From The Galley, and learn all those exciting moves to the VBS Sing & Play Splash Music! Bring the whole family! Cost is \$1 per person. ***All children MUST be accompanied by an adult!**

Saturday, August 14, 2010 6pm-8pm Join us again in the Fellowship Hall as we welcome that cute little Chadder the Chipmunk back to visit and show us his Voyage on the High Seas video. We'll enjoy more Galley Goodies, Sing & Play Splash Music. Cost is \$1 per person.

***All children MUST be accompanied by an adult!**

For reservations for High Seas Summer Events, contact Patti DiOssi at patti.diozzi@verizon.net. Sign-up sheets will be at the church and on Patti's office door for your convenience.

PROMOTION SUNDAY - August 29, 2010

Parents and children from Preschool – 5th grade meet in Room 102/104 East at **9am** for a short “Meet and Greet”. Parents and children will meet their new teachers for the **2010/2011** school year and enjoy light refreshments. Teachers will escort children to their new class at **9:20** and parents will pick their children up from their new classrooms at **10:20**. *****Rising 6th graders will be picked up by Xtreme Youth and taken to join other Youth for the Contemporary Worship Service.**

ACOLYTE RECOGNITION & TRAINING DAY – August 29, 2010

Acolytes who served the church during the past year will be recognized by the congregation at the 10:30 worship service and will be presented a special gift from the church. ***

Acolyte Training is for all rising 3rd-5th graders who are interested in becoming an acolyte. Those returning as acolytes for the **2010/2011** year will also need to be present to learn some new techniques! This training and a light lunch will start at 11:45. We will meet in the Material Center. ***

*****Please read future newsletters & bulletins for more updates on Acolyte Recognition & Training Day!!!**

Questions about Acolytes, please contact: Betty Gray (Acolyte Coordinator) bettybgray@bellsouth.net

Other Questions regarding Children, please contact: Patti DiOssi (Director of Children's Ministries) patti.diozzi@verizon.net

Gilman R. Tyler, Jr., M.D., F.A.C.S.
PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION

GENERAL AND VASCULAR SURGERY
DIPLOMATE AMERICAN BOARD OF SURGERY

602 S. AUDUBON · SUITE A
TAMPA, FLORIDA 33609
(813) 877-1415
FAX (813) 877-7602

State Farm®
Providing Insurance and Financial Services
Home Office, Bloomington, Illinois 61710



Jim Cornwell, Agent

4305 Bay To Bay Blvd
Tampa, FL 33629-6606
Bus 813 835 8892
Res 813 839 0943
jim.cornwell.bxj5@statefarm.com



The greatest compliment you can give is a referral.

ITALIANO
Insurance Services

*Supporting Our Business
Community for Almost 50 Years!*

Business People...Who Care!

- Business
- Homeowners
- Automobile
- Boats
- Flood
- Life

*We have over 10 Companies writing new Homeowners Policies
Call today for a no-obligation quote!*



Tampa 813-877-7799 • Boca Grande 941-964-0400
3021 Swann Avenue • Tampa, FL 33609 • www.italianoinsurance.com

Palma Ceia United Methodist Church

3723 W. Bay to Bay Blvd.

Tampa, FL 33629

Phone: 813-837-1541

Fax: 813-837-3600

E-mail: newsletter@palmaceiaumc.org

WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.PALMACEIAUMC.ORG