



# OCEANVIEW TIDINGS

November 2009

Vol. 17 No. 11

## Making Christmas the “Best Ever”

By Rev. Brette Sanford

When my boys were younger I fell into the trap of trying to make each Christmas the “best ever”, as my sons would say it. But this meant buying more and more and bigger and bigger gifts until materialism became the focus of the season. This expectation monster came to rule Christmas morning around our house. And after the gifts were opened and the adrenaline and enthusiasm burned away, a blue funk of depression would settle in because the focus was wrong.

After I honestly examined what I had created I realized that this yearly ritual did not honor the one whose name it celebrated. It had to be re-thought and re-designed. First, expectations were changed: “What two things do you really want?” I would ask. On Christmas morning a little Jesus was placed into the manger creche first to set the tone, and to help us remember what day it really was. Then, we would open each gift one at a time so everyone could take time to enjoy the thrill of someone expressing their love for you through a present. After all were opened there would be a clue to start a treasure hunt on the tree somewhere. That would involve everyone on a family adventure and last for a couple hours. Then there would be the family meal, and a family getaway to create a special memory when our family took time to treasure a rare time together. Lastly, there must be one thing that was done to help those whom Jesus called the “least of these” (Matthew 25:40).

What will my sons remember from all this? I don’t know at this point. Time will tell. But I do know that making Christmas the “best ever” is no longer all about the size and number of gifts, it’s



### Special Christmas Services

**Christmas Musical, “A Baby Changes Everything,”** December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7p and on the 13<sup>th</sup> at 4p in the sanctuary

**Thursday, December 24, 2009 Christmas Eve Three Services**

1. **Child-led Candlelight at 5p.m.**
2. **Regular candlelight at 7p.m.**
3. **Candlelight with communion at 9p.m.**

### American Cancer Society

**Relay for Life April 24, 2010 at Carlin Park**

Rev. Brette is gathering persons who would like to form a team of 10-15 to walk the relay course and take part in this American Cancer Society community event. If you would like to be a part or take a leadership role in planning this Juno event please let him know by speaking to him or calling him at 626-2500.





## Senior Pastor's Report for 2009

(Presented at the annual Church Conference on November 15, 2009 by Rev. Brette Sanford)



Oceanview can be remembered for three remarkable things:

① **Oceanview's transition to a new vision and 5-year goals:** Thanks to Rev. Betty's leadership and 50 of our leaders, our church has focused its ministry around four areas: ① **Growing Spiritually** expands Christ-centered small group ministries for all ages, interests and needs meeting Sunday mornings and during the week. This area continues to explode with new life; ② **Experiencing Vital Worship** affirms a creative group of planners who meet every six weeks to help us communicate the love of Christ in worship in new, exciting and relevant ways; ③ **Equipping Persons for Ministry** pairs up mentors with mentees to expand and grow future leadership; ④ **Impacting the Community** builds on the foundation we have already laid exploring and adding new ways to bring the presence of Christ to the community around us. Two new efforts include getting Family Promise started and a cooperative ministry with the Jupiter Cornmaya immigrant center. A new brochure presents all this in an easy to understand way. Thanks to everyone who has helped us focus with these new goals!

② **Facility improvements:** Thanks in large measure to Millie Phillips, our Operations Committee Chair and this group of leaders, and to Gary Straughan, a very talented new member, many facility repairs that have been needed for years are finally being addressed: from leaking windows and doors and flashing, to damaged parking lot lights, to inoperative drains in the east driveway, to a mildewed ceiling in the breezeway, to cracked plumbing pipes, to aging exterior doors and hardware, to irrigation leaks, just to mention a few! You probably already know that visiting guests often judge the spiritual life of a congregation by the care given to the outside of its facility. In our case these efforts point to a renewed desire by many people to present a facility that looks just as cared for on the outside as our spiritual life does on the inside. Thanks to everyone who has worked to make this possible.

③ **An incredible gift:** Don Plummer's endowment for college scholarships is his vision to assist college students financially in the name of Oceanview. Because of his generosity youth and adults will rise up and thank Jesus, Oceanview and Don Plummer far into the future. More than this, Don's gift is an affirmation of his love, affection and his trust in all of us, that we will use it in a way that will bless many in the name of Jesus for perpetuity. Now, that is something!

These accomplishments and more have made this a remarkable year in our church's history, one to be proud of for ourselves and for the Lord we serve.

See you on Sunday!

*Rev. Brette Sanford*

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### The Gift We Need

A friend of mine told me a story about spending an hour's flight seated next to a man from Minneapolis, a salesman of some sort. The salesman engaged my friend in a conversation about this and that. During the conversation the stranger said, "You look like someone who needs to relax."

Two weeks later in the mail my friend received a package. A gift. All the card said was, "From John." It was a couple of woodcarving knives, whittling knives, of all things. What was my friend suppose to do with these and who on earth was John? Then my friend turned the card over. It read, "To a man who needs sometime to relax, from someone who found these helpful."

Can you believe that? He had never asked for wood carving knives. This guy didn't even know my friend. What was my friend suppose to do with wood carving knives? Did he now have to send this stranger a gift? Did they now have some kind of a relationship? Did my friend have to think of something to do for this person? Here, with this uninvited gift, this guy had turned a chance conversation into a relationship. Now what?

Now, years later, when my friend wants to relax, he takes out that woodcarving set and starts carving on a piece of wood. He's no artist or no expert, but it does cause him to relax. And to think my friend didn't even want the gift.

In the Incarnation, we Christians believe that we have been given an incredible gift. We read the story of the nativity that Luke tells and we see evidence of the effusive, generous quality of God. Here is a God who loves to give gifts. Yet we also see something of the peculiarity of the gifts that God gives. God gives what God gives. Sometimes, the gifts that God gives are not the gifts we wanted! Sometimes God gives us gifts that we need rather than gifts that we want!"



*Rev. Betty Kniss*

**[www.oceanviewumc.net](http://www.oceanviewumc.net) is Up and Running. Find old Tidings there!**

### Oceanview's Music and Drama Ministry Presents

#### **"A Baby Changes Everything"**

A Christmas Musical Drama

**Saturday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.**

**Sunday, December 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.**

**No Tickets required ♦ Dessert to follow in Fellowship Hall**

***Invite your family and friends to the Christmas Musical Drama this year!***

Read more about the Christmas Musical Drama on Page 5



**Children's Sunday School** December's theme for children 4 through 2<sup>nd</sup> grade is "Good News." The children will enjoy learning the stories of Mary, Joseph, Bethlehem, Simeon and Anna. Through these stories they will learn that Christmas is the time we celebrate the birth of Jesus, the Son of God; we can be a part of God's plan, God keeps his promises, and Jesus is the savior that God promised. Their teachers are Gary Stalter, Susan DeMatteis, Courtney Lyne, and Lori Dingers.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> through 5<sup>th</sup> graders are using a curriculum that will help them learn how to use their Bible. This is a good age to begin the discipline of Bible use. This curriculum will help the children know what and where the books of the Bible are, the difference between the Old and New Testaments, what does chapter and verse mean, etc. They will be encouraged to bring their Bibles every week. Their teachers are Mary Haley, Ruddy Martinez and Larry Smith. Children's Sunday school meets at 10 a.m. in the children's area downstairs.

**Kid's Church** The theme for Kid's Church in December is "Music." This unit is designed to open the children to the power of music as a source of inspiration and as an expression of praise. Psalm 150 tells us to "Praise the Lord!" Isaiah 42:10 says "Sing to the Lord a new song, his praise from

the end of the earth!"

Multi-sensory experiences will help the children discover that music inspires us to love God with "all our heart, soul, and mind." The ultimate

goal is to provide resources that engage children in understanding the parts of a worship service and a renewed appreciation of worship in congregational life. Kid's Church meets in the Upper Room during both the 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Services following the Children's Message.



**Children's Christmas Party** The Children's Christmas Party will be in conjunction with the Oceanview/Cornmaya Christmas Party at Jupiter Elementary School playground on Military Trail near Indiantown Rd. in Jupiter. It will be Sunday afternoon, December 20. We encourage everyone to come with their children and enjoy this time of community fellowship.



**Youth Christmas Party** The youth group will have its Christmas Party Sunday, December 6, from 4:00 – 7:00 p.m. at Tom and Pam Sayer's home at 529 Iris Ave., Palm Beach Gardens. All youth are invited. Everyone is asked to bring a finger food to share and a \$5.00 gift, not gender specific, to exchange. Tom and Pam will provide cupcakes and cheese dip. The youth will also participate in the Oceanview/Cornmaya Christmas Party on the afternoon of December 20.

**Youth Group will not meet Sunday, December 13 (Christmas Musical), December 27 or January 3 (Christmas holiday).**

**Thanks from the Youth** Thanks to everyone who donated food to our canned food progressive dinner. We collected enough food to put together food boxes for 12 families in need in our community and also donated to the CROS Food Pantry. Someone looked at the amount of food collected and said "If just 20 families could donate this much food think what could happen if everyone donated." **Food for thought.**



**Get Plugged In...** Get Plugged In to Oceanview's Second Ministry Fair January 10, Between Services -- Come Find Your Way to serve Our God and Our Church.

### Welcome Barbara Hewko into the Oceanview Family!

Barbara came to Jupiter from Sand Key, Largo in 2001. She served for 10 years in the Naval Aviation Supply Department from 1945-1955 then as Honeywell technician for 12 years. Though she recently lost her husband, Al, she enjoys great support from her 4 sons, Jon, Eric, Alex and Rob, and from her 6 grandchildren. She transfers to us from Abingdon Presbyterian Church in Abingdon, PA and is currently involved in "Christian Believer" class, and sings in the



### *Music Ministry Notes Continued from page three...*

#### **"A Baby Changes Everything"**

*We'll begin the evening by singing some familiar Christmas songs... "We Need a Little Christmas", "Go, Tell it on the Mountain", "Sing We Now of Christmas", and a carol sing-along. The 2<sup>nd</sup> part is a dramatic presentation of "A Baby Changes Everything". It's a story of three individuals named Cassius, (Pete Jones), Hannah (Kara Roelandts), and Seth (David Pahl) who almost slept through the first Christmas until some children, Aaron (Elijah Higgins), Sarah (Kat Hammond) and Rebekah (Casey Politano), woke them from their slumber to experience the newborn baby Jesus in a nearby stable.*

*New songs from Casting Crowns, "While You Were Sleeping" and Faith Hill's song, "A Baby Changes Everything" is woven in the drama as the Biblical Christmas story unfolds in a contemporary way. Please be in prayer for the cast, choir and children's choir as they prepare to present this musical.*

*Our prayer is that our lives will be changed this Christmas through the birth of a baby named Jesus.*

### **Confirmation is Coming in January**

It is time to start thinking about Confirmation. Confirmation is the time when one prepares to make the vows of full membership into the United Methodist Church and Christ's Church universal. It is a time of growth and learning about faith, the church, and yourself. It is a time to acknowledge the presence, love, and activity of God in one's life. It is an exciting and blessed time in the life of the church.

- **Who participates in confirmation?** Any youth 6<sup>th</sup> grade through High School who would like to become a member of Oceanview UMC.
- **What does confirmation involve?** Confirmation involves working with your mentor to complete the requirements of the Making Disciples Confirmation process. It will also involve one group gathering in February and another in March.
- **What do I have to do?** You will need to choose a mentor. Your mentor should be a member of Oceanview who is not a relative who you feel you can talk with freely about faith. You will then need to work with your mentor to accomplish the activities in the Making Disciples Confirmation process. You will need to attend the Orientation and the two group meetings.
- **When does confirmation start?** Confirmation will begin **January 17 at 3:00PM** with a **Parent/Confirmand/Mentor Orientation Meeting** in the Fellowship Hall at the church.

**How do I sign up?** You can sign up by calling the church office (626-2500) and talking to Rev. Betty. Please sign up as soon as possible so that we can begin making arrangements. Thanks!



# My Oceanview Date Book

### Susan DeMatteis Launches new workshop....

Fellowship, support, fun and food all take place every 3rd Tuesday each month, while we as United Methodist Women do God's work. We invite you to come see who we are and what we do. Jan 17 we are starting a short book/video study entitled "You Matter More Than you Think" by Dr Leslie Parrott. "You will soon see that the random fragments of your life - whether doing laundry, dashing to work, or both mean something. Though often pummeled by the daily grind, they matter." You matter more than you think is a study that will leave you feeling good about yourself, while meeting new friends and learning about UMW. Fellowship and book study will begin at 6:30 pm, followed by business meeting. Only officers are required to stay for the business, however all are welcome. I joined UMW thinking I could help out, not realizing how much I would learn and grow and enjoy the company of other women from our unit and other churches. *Continued on back page*

**Happy Anniversary**

- 1 Mr. and Mrs. Vincent Cassidy
- 2 Mr. and Mrs. Tom Kosier
- 9 Mr. and Mrs. Emmitt Mitchell
- 17 Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Sheldon
- 17 Mr. and Mrs. Mark Sinkhorn
- 18 Mr. and Mrs. Jim Monicatti
- 25 Mr. and Mrs. Terry Krchov
- 26 Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Adkins
- 27 Mr. and Mrs. Don Doptis
- 27 Mr. and Mrs. Wright Bloodworth
- 31 Mr. and Mrs. Mike Goldberg



### On Going Oceanview Events

Monday	9:00 am Tai Chi 6:30 pm Prayer Group, 56
Tuesday	3rd Tues, OMT, 49
Wednesday	1:30 pm Grief Group 5:45 pm Praise Band, Sanctuary 7:00 PM Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm Women's AA, 49
Thursday	7:00 pm Men's AA Group, 49 3rd Thurs. Operations, 56
Friday	12:00 pm Al-Anon, 56 7:00 pm Mixed AA, Upper Rm
Saturday	9-10:00 am AA, Upper Rm
Sunday	5:30 pm Youth Group, FH 6:30 pm Al-Anon, Upper Rm 6:30 pm Teen Al-Anon, 49 7:30 pm AA, FH

**MYG will meet Dec 6 and then break for the holiday and will resume on Jan 17th.**

**Counseling Available Thursdays At Oceanview.** If you would like caring, confidential and professional counseling call Licensed Clinical Social Worker, Barbara Kiner, through the church office for an appointment. Fees are based on your income.

**Grief Support Group** meets every Wednesday at 1:30 p.m. in Rev. Betty's office. If you have experienced sadness from a loss and need the support of others, this group is for you. Any kind of loss can result in grief and many of us need help and support. This group is facilitated by Rev. Betty

**Children's Tennis is now meeting on Wednesdays at 5:15 p.m. at East Point Country Club. Call Coach Tom Virden at (561) 691-9080 for more info.**

**Happy Birthday**

- 1 Dama Scott
- 1 Mandy Woodhouse
- 2 Stephanie Borello
- 2 Pat Davis
- 3 Kevin Adkins
- 3 Colton Brockman
- 4 Ken Hartranft
- 4 Rick Ward
- 5 Rev. Brette Sanford
- 10 Beth Healy
- 10 Amy Logan
- 10 Sue Wasik
- 12 Linda Aldred
- 12 Barbara Borello
- 12 Marc Brockman
- 15 Naaman Smith
- 17 Rollins Mahony
- 20 Les Harrell
- 21 Cory Ciklin
- 22 Genevieve Block
- 27 Mary Frankenberg
- 28 Frankie Sprague
- 30 Kyle Lovely

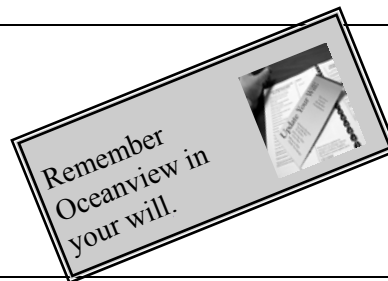


- 30 Jim Satterfield
- 31 June Ritchie



### Money Matters

For October:  
Income \$32,659  
Expense \$49,626



## Adult Church School Classes

ADULTS CLASSES ON SUNDAY MORNINGS AT 10 AM—All adults are invited!

### **Advent Study - *Christ, the Fulfillment***

This study guides us through Matthew's Gospel and its record of the fulfillment of God's promise to send the Messiah. Bible lessons examine the Old Testament prophecies fulfilled in Jesus and events and persons' reactions that point to Jesus as the Christ. We will look at Messiah's lineage, Isaiah's prophecy, Gabriels's message, and events concerning the coming of the Messiah. This Adult Bible Studies International Lesson discussion group meets with Ann Johnson in room 49.

### ***James, Real Faith for the Real World!***

Real Christian faith doesn't remain hidden in the heart: It shows itself through the lives we live. Faith grows as we cultivate perseverance, humility, and patience -- key attributes that the book of James commends. James calls us to demonstrate our faith in practical ways in the world around us. Studying James will help you prove the reality of your faith through sound actions, attitudes, and words in your everyday life. The group meets with Pete Jones in the Upper Room (next to Fellowship Hall).

### ***Thanks to the second services hospitality helpers for all your help this year!***

Beth Healy, Ruddy Martinez, Shawn McGee, Nick Webster, Ken Hartranft, Jerry Finan, Wright and Katherine Bloodworth, Robert and Brina Lombardo, Marc and JoJo Brockman.

### **Keeping Oceanview "Ship Shape!"**

Thank to Steve Haigh, Bill Jacob and John Mariacher for last second ground work to make way for our new curbs on the A1A entrance. They look great! Come see them! They were given by an anonymous donor. Chris Scranton and the new Endowment Fund Committee is busy exploring ways to invest the Don Plummer College Scholarship Endowment. Any decision must be first approved by the Operations Committee and then by the congregation at a called Church Conference. This will provide a great witness for many years to come. The Operations Committee, Millie Phillips, Chair.



## WORSHIP

### Our December Worship Schedule

**December 6, 2009** 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Advent Theme - "Comfort My People"

**Bible Focus** - "Grace and peace be yours from God..." (Revelation 1:4b)

**Challenge** - How does God comfort you in time of crisis?

**December 13, 2009** 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday in Advent Theme - "John's Vision"

**Bible Focus** - "On the Lord's day the spirit took control of me..." (Revelation 1:10; the 7 letters to the churches convey John's hope for the Church)

**Challenge** - What is your vision for the Church?; Advent is the coming of a new vision to the Church, so what is it?

**December 20, 2009** 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Advent Theme - "Faith in Revelation"

**Bible Focus** - "May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with everyone." (Revelation 22:21)

**Challenge** - What grace does the book of Revelation relate to our faith?; What are the great truths/themes of Revelation that build up our faith?; a dialogue with Revs. Brette & Betty

**Thursday, December 24, 2010 Christmas Eve**  
Theme - "Reclaiming Angels"

**Bible Focus** & - *For the Sadducees say...that there are no angels...* (Acts 23:8)

**Challenge** - Do you believe in angels?; Have we lost our sense of wonder and mystery of Christmas? Why do you think that has happened? Angels speak to this.

**3 services** - 1. Child-led at 5p, 2. 7p regular candlelight, and 3. 9p with communion

**December 27, 2009 Theme** - "What Did You Get for Christmas?"

**THANKSforGIVING - Service Ministry**

The new sign-up for St. George's Soup Kitchen was set out for Sun. Nov. 8th service and the very first two people to sign up for numerous times during the coming year were Scott and Donna Campbell. They have both been valiant supporters of St. George's since Oceanview started this ministry. Donna says they truly enjoy working the soup kitchen and helping to serve the community and especially value the fact that this is something they are able to do together! Most times, right along side Scott and Donna, is Bonnie Fisher. another devoted volunteer. Almost without exception Bonnie has her name down every month as a helper. These three individuals are the backbone of the Soup Kitchen and their support is greatly appreciated!! So, the next time you see one of them, thank them for their caring and compassion for this community ministry. We have been good and faithful servants of this Ministry and are proud of our work!!!! —Kathy Perry

**COME CELEBRATE FELIZ NAVIDAD WITH US!!!!**

COME JOIN THE FUN.....when the combined families of Corn Maya (El Sol) and Oceanview UMC have a Christmas Party on Sunday afternoon, Dec. 20, 2009 at the Jupiter Elementary School Playground on Military Trail, south of Indian-town. YOU ARE ALL INVITED to come share in this ministry. Plans are still being made, so watch the bulletin for complete details but we will have Mr. and Mrs. Claus, crafts, food, music, games, PINATAS and lots and lots of children and their families. In past years, we have done a Christmas Party for the youth of Oceanview and then also had a separate party for the Corn Maya Families, but this year we've decided to combine our resources and have one BIG PARTY!!! This will be a wonderful opportunity to share our cultures and fellowship together. PLEASE MARK YOUR CALENDARS!



**Oceanview Christmas Shoppe  
Coming December 6 & 13<sup>th</sup>**

Wait to buy your Christmas gifts at the Shoppe! What is it? Unique hand made gifts for the ones you love with all proceeds going to our friends in need. Tables in Fellowship Hall will display many wonderful and unique gifts that will make three people smile: the one who receives it, the one who benefits from it and the Lord whose birthday we will truly honor through it! Call Vicki Gerard at 622-7876 or Rev. Sanford to offer a table or your hand made gifts. We are also looking for handcrafted items to put on the Children's Home Society table. If you have some to donate, please call Vickie Gerard.



**Continued from Page 6... Susan DeMatteis**

Please come check us out, you'll be happy you did. If you would like to be part of the book study, please RSVP to Susan DeMatteis [dylan531@bellsouth.net](mailto:dylan531@bellsouth.net) or 741-0436 by Dec 15 for book orders.



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