



*Riviera*

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
451 Riviera Drive NE • Palm Bay, FL • 32905

*"Thinking Openly, Believing Passionately, Serving Boldly"*



JULY 2011

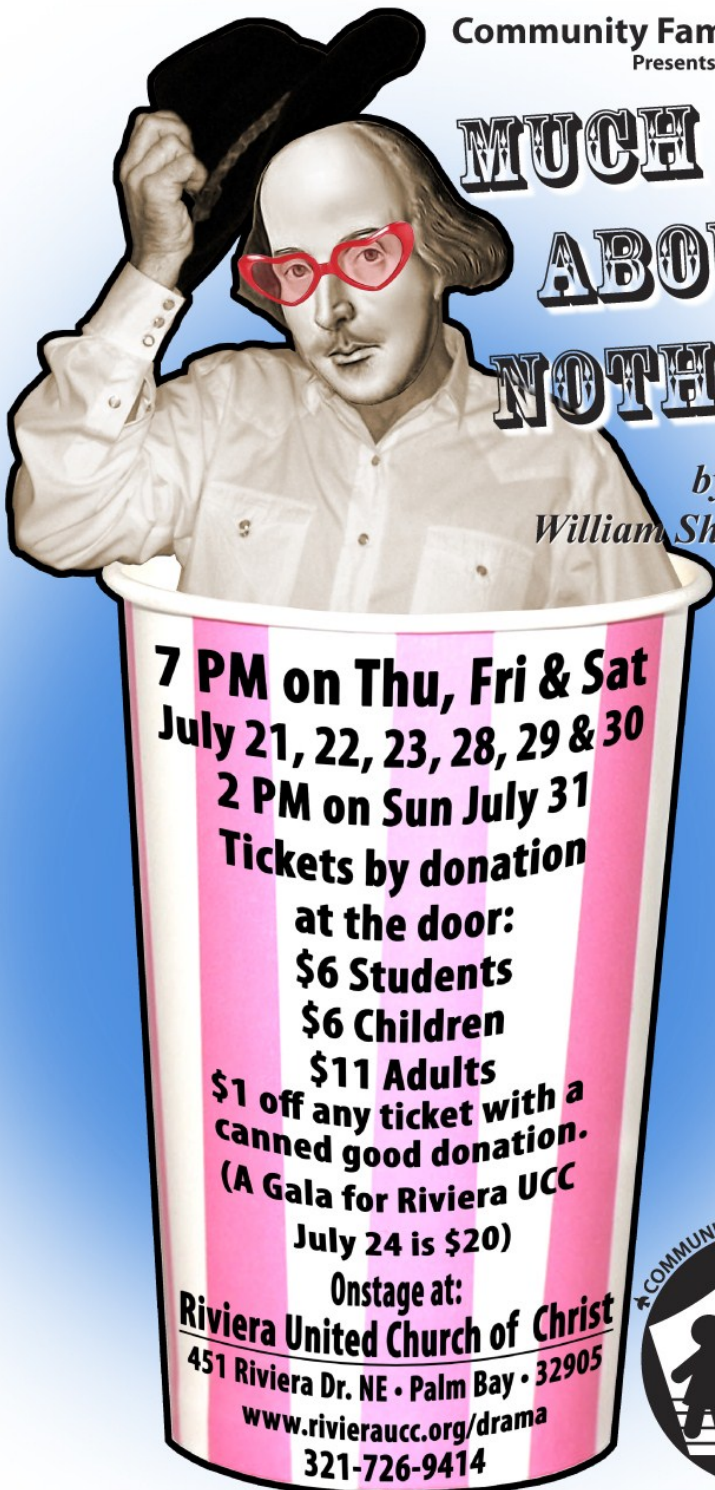
## THE MESSENGER

WWW.RIVIERAUCC.ORG

Community Family Players  
Presents

# MUCH ADO ABOUT NOTHING

by  
*William Shakespeare*



**7 PM on Thu, Fri & Sat  
July 21, 22, 23, 28, 29 & 30  
2 PM on Sun July 31  
Tickets by donation**

**at the door:**

**\$6 Students**

**\$6 Children**

**\$11 Adults**

**\$1 off any ticket with a  
canned good donation.**

**(A Gala for Riviera UCC**

**July 24 is \$20)**

**Onstage at:**

**Riviera United Church of Christ**

**451 Riviera Dr. NE • Palm Bay • 32905**

**www.rivieraucc.org/drama**

**321-726-9414**



### OUR MISSION

Welcoming and accepting all people.  
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Encouraging freedom and  
responsibility to explore our lives of faith  
by studying and worshipping together.  
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Sharing the love of God found in the  
teachings of Jesus.  
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Working for justice for all people,  
striving to demonstrate God's love  
for all creation.  
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Building a family of believers where people  
are nurtured and equipped for ministry.



### Church Council Members

Moderator: George 'Butch' Litteral

Vice-Moderator: Dick Rhinehart

Vice-Moderator: Billy Lane

Clerk: Kathy Nilan

Treasurer: Paul Lucas

Financial Secretary: Nancy Cook

Financial Minister: Michael Ross

Finance Minister: Lisa Leslie

Finance Minister: Nancy Marsh

Teaching Minister: Carol Robinson

Teaching Minister: Kathy Hufford

Spiritual Minister: Wesley Main

Spiritual Minister: Phyllis Yanis

Spiritual Minister: Margaret Ann Eisenmenger

## From Our Pastor

The Reverend Scott Elliott



Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

There's this sense in our culture that believing in a higher being, what most of us call God, is not intellectual; I really don't get this. Ordinarily, if any of us encountered even a hint of complexities to things in our daily routine we'd instantly assume an intelligent being planned and created it.

For example, if we walk into a room full of blocks stacked up in a pattern, reason dictates that something with intelligence arranged it. In our experience it makes sense that even basic complexity has an intentional maker. In our world of reason a rational conclusion when confronted with structural complexities, then, is that something of intelligence created it.

It seems to me that there can really be no denying that the ordinary things on earth are complex in structure, far more so than a room of stacked blocks. I mean from atoms and molecules to rocks and minerals to cells, plant and animals, the design is beyond even our human intellectual capabilities in that we cannot make such things. So how is it that when we are faced with complexities in life the argument that they occur by mere happenstance gets more weight than what ordinary experience and reason suggest, i.e., that complexities tend to be created by an intelligent being?

My point is that theism is a rational and reasonable conclusion and deserves more respect than it gets in the Age of Reason. In short, even if we cannot detail or name or even prove what exactly the nature of the creative intelligence is, there is an evidentiary basis to draw a reasonable conclusion that the universe seems to have an intentionality in its construction, which in turn reasonably suggests there is a maker, i.e., God. Or more to the point, intelligent people may rationally think so.

Your Brother In Christ,

*Rev. Scott Elliott*



*Rev. Elliott has recently been appointed as a member of the Board of*

*Directors at Brevard Family Partnership (BFP)!*

*BFP is a local non-profit that manages Brevard County's child welfare system alongside the Florida Department of Children & Families. BFP and its community partners provide child abuse prevention, foster care and support, adoption, independent living and community outreach services to the children and families of Brevard County.*

## Sunday July 10th Mid-Summer Sunday Celebration; "Gathering as One" in Worship at 10:00 AM Old-Fashioned Pot Luck & Entertainment to follow

Celebrate with the Pastoral Relations Committee!! Scott was ordained to the ministry on July 8, 2006. That makes July 2011 the fifth anniversary of his ordination. June 2011 is also the fifth anniversary of Scott's being hired at RUCC. The Pastoral Relations Committee (PRC) is sponsoring a celebration pot luck lunch with entertainment on Sunday, July 10th.

Come to the 10:00 AM Gathering as One worship service on July 10, 2011. Bring a dish that serves 5-8 people to share with everyone else and we'll have an "old-fashioned" pot luck lunch. The PRC will provide iced tea, water, and lemonade to drink, and a cake for dessert. Get out your salad, vegetable, or casserole and join us. Your kitchen's down, too hot to cook, or cooking not your thing? Not a problem, bring a selection to share from your favorite deli or fast food place.

The committee has asked several of our talented members to sing, play, or perform to entertain you before lunch, so come to worship and stay for fun, food, and friends. Please RSVP in the lobby, so we know how many tables to set up.

*Submitted by the Pastoral Relations Committee*



Laying on of hands at Scott's 2006 ordination



## COMMUNITY FAMILY PLAYERS

Connecting youth and the community through the performing arts!

**Community Family Players (CFP)** – The upcoming production of "Much Ado About Nothing" is scheduled for the last two weeks of July 2011. The actors and supporting staff are hard at work to prepare for this production, and there are many ways for you to support this amazing youth ministry. Check out the following opportunities to consider:

**Artificial Christmas Trees Needed!** If you are not using your Christmas Tree this summer, we sure could! We are building a "forest" backdrop and can use all the trees you have to offer to make this happen. If you bring your tree, please clearly mark it with your name on the box so that there are no mix-ups and we can return it to you.

**Audio Visual Board** - If you are able to assist Paul Lucas and the youth volunteers running the sound and light boards during the weeks of the show, please let Paul or Scott know.

**'Booster' Ads available** - To support the CFP ministry, individual booster and commercial advertising slots are available. The individual booster amount is \$10.00 and advertising slots in the program are available for \$20.00 (Card Size), \$60.00 (Half Page), and \$120.00 (Full Page). Please see Paul Lucas or the website, [rivieraucc.org/drama](http://rivieraucc.org/drama) for the forms.

**Gala Performance!** On July 24th, at 2 PM, there will be a special Gala performance of the play that is to aid RUCC. There will be special refreshments, time to talk with the cast and director, and door prizes all for only \$20 per seat. All proceeds will go toward the "Save Our Savings" (SOS) campaign which helps reduce our budget deficit.

**Gala Matinee Performance**  
**Sunday, July 24th**  
**2:00 PM**

**\$20 per seat to benefit:**

*Riviera*

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST



## Summer Sunday School for Grades One through Six

*The Nursery continues to be available during both services.*

July 3 – Cheer Leaders for Everyday Peacemakers

July 10 – Celebrating Pastor Scott's 5th Anniversary. No class, worship with the congregation.

Pot Luck Lunch

July 17 – Celebrating in song with Ms. Alison Shea

July 24 – Celebrating the Bible with blocks and games

July 31 – Celebrating with clay play or papier-mâché

Still looking for Legos blocks for Children's Ministry activities. All sizes, new or used.



## Peace Summer Camp at Riviera UCC



Whooha.... When asked to write this, we haven't yet jumped the hurdles or broken into the final canter on this peace pilgrimage! As you read this, we are into the easy lope of reviewing the now happy memory of summer creative fun. We can drape garlands of thanks on those who made it possible. Pastor Scott Elliott for advocating the peace issue in many ways. Program committee, teachers and assistants: Margaret Ann Eisenmenger, Anita Kidney, Pat Lucas, Nancy Cook, Tracy Rabidou, Faye Markus, Elizabeth and Emily Knapp, Danielle Campbell, Bettilou Mowery, Jeanne Sullivan, Josh Goldner, Amy Lewis and Carol Robinson. Thanks also to Paul Lucas and Daryl Hankins for being helping hands and all in the congregation who stepped up to provide lunch foods and craft supplies.

By: Horace, the Horse (and Handler, Carol R.)

Dear Riviera UCC,

*I am so very humbled by the generosity of the church. Of course, I applied to the church's scholarship in the hopes of getting it; but when I found out that I was receiving not one but two scholarships, I was so surprised and excited. I am proud to be a part of this church, and to have done so much for it. And as I go to school to study to earn my degree in digital media, I hope to continue being a part of the church's life. I will be attending the classes at the Cocoa campus of BCC to earn my AA and transferring to UCF for my BA. Digital media is something I am passionate about, and I am more than excited to be working on different graphics and film projects and even animation. Pursuing this dream of mine would have been financially difficult, and I was worried I wouldn't get much of the financial aid I've applied for. But the scholarship money I have been awarded is a sign of hope that I can do it, that it is possible, and that I can make my dream come true. I would like to thank the committee for choosing me, and for awarding me both scholarships. I am proud to say that I am a part of the RUCC family, and will continue to be while I go through college. I am proud to have volunteered and helped this church, and extremely grateful for how the church has helped me.*



**Elizabeth Knapp**

**green Team**



**The "Green Team" Sez that water bottled in plastic is bad for the environment.**

Did you know? Plastic is not 100% recyclable and is not biodegradable. The breakdown of plastic can take thousands of years and the components can seep into our water supplies. We spend \$11 billion each year on bottled water in the U.S. and 25% or more that we purchase is, yes, tap water. Also, corporations are privatizing springs and aquifers around the world and bottling water from them at the expense of rural household wells, wetlands, the depleted aquifers and the people who depend on these water sources. Can you keep a reusable cup on you to drink from? Then YOU can make a difference!

*Submitted by Margaret Ann Eisenmenger*

## RUCC Financial Health Report:

The financial report for RUCC through the end of May 2011 is as follows:

Income for April was: <b>\$17,532.03</b>	Expenses for April were: <b>\$14,253.01</b>
Year To Date projected income: <b>\$110,401.54</b>	YTD projected expenses: <b>\$83,347.14</b>
Year To Date actual income: <b>\$100,907.31</b>	YTD actual expenses: <b>\$83,490.97</b>
Per Capita Owed to UCC: \$2,276.50	Per Capita Collected: \$1,224.50

**Treasurer 's**

Paul Lucas  
RUCC Treasurer

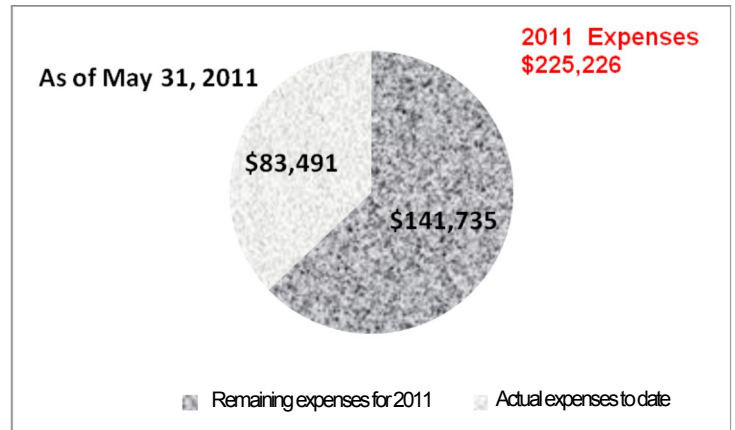
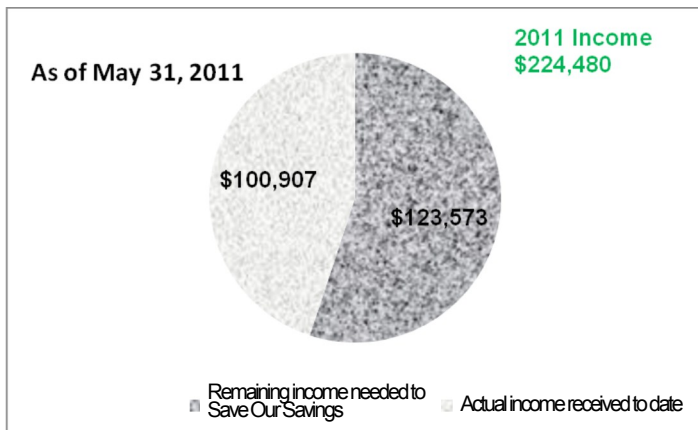
**Corner**

As of the end of May 2011 the actual income is \$9,494.23 under the budget projection. As stated in previous months, the method used to calculate the projected income was changed from last year. So there is a concern that the income will finish under projection and a significant amount of savings will be required to support the 2011 Operational Budget.

The expenses are \$143.83 over the budget projection. There were a few unexpected repairs that occurred in May 2011. The fire detection system needed repair, the sprinkler system need repair, and the stove needed repair. However, the amount over budget is very small and is expected to be made up in the up coming months.

Save Our Savings as of May 2011 is \$2,355.03, which equals 16% of the YTD projected amount of \$15,000. Based on last year’s Close the Gap data, the percentage should cuurently be 36% to reach the goal amount. Any amount less than the projection comes out of the savings at the end of the year to make up the difference.

Here are the charts for the Income and Expenses to date - As of May 2011:



**The 2011 Pledge Campaign** - The 2011 Pledge Campaign through May remained at 62 pledges for \$129,000.00. To date we have a \$7,000 budget gap based on last year’s predictions. If you would like to pledge or change your pledge, please submit a pledge card any-time at the office or on any Sunday by placing a pledge card in the offering plate. You may also give a pledge card to Nancy Cook, Bonnie Hankins, or Pat Lawson. Pledge cards are available at the office or near the sound booth in the Sanctuary.

**Strengthen the Church Special Offering** – This is the second of the four special offerings each year. The offering was collected on June 12, 2011, but some contributions are still being received so a final number is not available at this time.

**2011 Per Capita Campaign** – As of May 2011, \$1224.50 has been received, or 83% of our goal of \$1480.00. This is great news! Thanks to all who completed their 2011 member dues to UCC national. Again, envelopes are also available at the office or near the sound booth. Members, please place your Per Capita amount (\$14.50) in the provided envelope or add it to your offering and place it in the collection plate on any Sunday or give it to the Financial Secretaries.

**Gala Performance!** On July 24th, at 2 PM, CFP will host a special Gala performance of “Much Ado About Nothing” that is to aid RUCC. There will be special refreshments, time to talk with the cast and director, and door prizes all for only \$20 per seat. All proceeds will go toward the “Save Our Savings” (SOS) campaign which helps reduce our budget deficit.

*The Stewardship Committee of Paul and Pat Lucas, Nancy and David Cook, and Amy Lewis normally meet on the last Thursday of each month at 4:00 PM to discuss ways raise funds for RUCC. The committee is always looking for fundraising ideas. If you would like to make a suggestion or become part of this committee, contact anyone of us. This is a voluntary committee not appointed by the congregation.*



# JULY 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
<p><b>SUNDAY WORSHIP</b></p> <p>9:00 AM - Traditional Worship                      11:00 AM - Contemporary Worship                      11:10 AM - Kids' Sunday School</p>						1	2
						UCC General Synod...	
<p>3 <b>Worship Services:</b>                      Traditional - 9 AM                      Contemporary - 11 AM                      Kids' Sun School 11:10                      CFP 3 PM                      RIC 7:30 PM</p>	<p>4                      OFFICE CLOSED                      Home Base 6-9 PM                      Independence Day</p>	<p>5                      CFP 6 PM</p>	<p>6                      Green Team 6PM                      Home Base 6-9 PM</p>	<p>7                      RIC 6 PM</p>	<p>8                      Happy Anniversary                      Scott!                      Congrats on your 5th year of Ordination!!</p>	<p>9</p>	
... in Tampa							
<p>10 <b>Worship Services:</b>                      GATHER AS ONE                      10:00 AM                      Potluck to follow                      Council 1 PM                      CFP 3 PM                      RIC 7:30 PM</p>	<p>11                      CFP 6 PM</p>	<p>12                      CFP 6 PM</p>	<p>13                      Home Base 6-9 PM                      TNET 7-9 PM</p>	<p>14                      RIC 6 PM</p>	<p>15</p>	<p>16                      Fellowship Bfast @                      Chekmarc's 9AM                      CFP Tech Rehearsal                      1PM - 6PM</p>	
<p>17 <b>Worship Services:</b>                      Traditional - 9 AM                      Contemporary - 11 AM                      Kids' Sun School 11:10                      CFP Tech Rehearsal                      1PM - 7PM                      RIC 7:30 PM</p>	<p>18                      MESSENGER Article                      Deadline                      CFP Dress Rehearsal                      6PM - 10 PM</p>	<p>19                      CFP Dress Rehearsal                      6PM - 10 PM</p>	<p>20                      CFP Final Rehearsal                      6PM - 10 PM</p>	<p>21                      MUCH ADO                      ABOUT                      NOTHING                      7:00 PM</p>	<p>22                      MUCH ADO                      ABOUT                      NOTHING                      7:00 PM</p>	<p>23                      MUCH ADO                      ABOUT                      NOTHING                      7:00 PM</p>	
<p>24 <b>Worship Services:</b>                      Traditional - 9 AM                      Contemporary - 11 AM                      Kids' Sun School 11:10                      MUCH ADO                      ABOUT                      NOTHING                      Gala 2 PM                      RIC 7:30 PM</p>	<p>25                      Daily Bread 10-2                      PFLAG 6 PM                      Home Base 6-9 PM                      Riviera Key Home-                      Owners 7 PM</p>	<p>26                      Stewardship 5:30 PM</p>	<p>27                      Home Base 6-9 PM                      TNET 7-9 PM</p>	<p>28                      MUCH ADO                      ABOUT                      NOTHING                      7:00 PM</p>	<p>29                      MUCH ADO                      ABOUT                      NOTHING                      7:00 PM</p>	<p>30                      MUCH ADO                      ABOUT                      NOTHING                      7:00 PM</p>	
<p>31 <b>Worship Services:</b>                      Traditional - 9 AM                      Contemporary - 11 AM                      Kids' Sun School 11:10                      MUCH ADO                      ABOUT                      NOTHING                      2:00 PM                      STRIKE</p>	<p><b>Breakfast Fellowship</b></p> <p>Each third Saturday of the month, a group gathers at Chekmarc's in Palm Bay at 9:00 AM for breakfast. Chekmarc's is a locally-owned favorite and is located at 2162 Harris Ave. Palm Bay, FL 32905. The next breakfast is scheduled for Saturday, July 16th. All are welcome!</p>						



**Justice Ministry Group**

The JMG will take a summer break during July and August.

Next Meeting:  
 Wednesday September 14, 2011  
 10:00 – 11:30 AM

**Chancel Choir**

Thank you for the blessing of music, and enjoy your summer!

Ken will let you know when the autumn start-up rehearsal will be.

*Reconvening in September:*

**Adult Sunday Seminar**  
 Next Meeting:  
 Sunday, September 11, 2011 at 10:10 AM

**Wednesday Bible Study**  
 Next Meeting:  
 Wednesday, September 7th at Noon.



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 321-723-3963  
[www.rivieraucc.org](http://www.rivieraucc.org)



The **MESSENGER Newsletter** is a monthly publication of Riviera United Church of Christ in Palm Bay, Florida and is also available online:

[www.rivieraucc.org/Newsletter](http://www.rivieraucc.org/Newsletter)

**Deadline** for material to be published is the **third Monday** of each month. All items are subject to approval and editorial changes. Articles or information may be submitted to the church office in hard copy form or by email: [arlewis@rivieraucc.org](mailto:arlewis@rivieraucc.org)

To receive **The MESSENGER Newsletter** by mail, please send your written request to the church front office. Please include \$15 (or whatever you can afford) to cover costs for the year.

**OUR VISION**

Thinking Openly

Believing Passionately

Serving Boldly



**Church Office:** 451 Riviera Drive NE  
 Palm Bay, FL 32905

**Website:** [www.rivieraucc.org](http://www.rivieraucc.org)

**Phone:** (321) 723-3963

**Fax:** (321) 723-1281

**Email:** [rivieraucc@rivieraucc.org](mailto:rivieraucc@rivieraucc.org)

**Hours:** 9 AM to 1 PM, Monday-Thursday  
 9 AM to 12 PM, Friday

**SUNDAY WORSHIP**

Traditional Service  
 9:00 AM

Contemporary Service  
 11:00 AM

Kid's Sunday School  
 11:10 AM

*Our pastor, Rev. Scott Elliott generally schedules himself to be at the church from 9 AM to 5 PM Saturday through Wednesday.*

*He works many more hours, however, coming in early and staying late (and working at home too). If you need to contact Scott, please contact him at the church or make an appointment to see him.*

*When possible, please avoid calling Scott at home for church matters unless an emergency arises. Scott's email is:*

[selliott@rivieraucc.org](mailto:selliott@rivieraucc.org)