



FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Messenger

April 2009

1726 Cedar St., Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434
e-mail: fgumc@teleport.com

Phone: 503-357-2689 FAX: 503-357-8410
website: www.forestgroveumc.org

PALM/PASSION SUNDAY, APRIL 5TH

The focus of this service is on the Passion, the Crucifixion of Jesus and what it means to us today. We will hear the entire Gospel passion story read in "reader's theatre" style, and also celebrate Holy Communion this day.



MAUNDY THURSDAY, APRIL 9TH

We will commemorate the Last Supper with the celebration of communion and a service of foot washing (or hand washing) at 7:00 p.m.

GOOD FRIDAY, APRIL 10TH

Ecumenical Good Friday Stations of the Cross service at St. Anthony's Catholic Church, 1660 Elm St., Forest Grove, 12:00 noon.

Later, join us in the Sanctuary for the *Service of Tenebrae* in which we will read the passion story with successive extinguishing of candles. The service is at 7:00 p.m.

EASTER CROSS DECORATION

As we did last year, we are asking the congregation to bring flowers to church on Easter Sunday, where we will all join in with "directed decorating" during worship. If you have any questions, please contact me at 503-357-2596 or by e-mail.

rosepad76@comcast.net

Patti Rose,
Worship Committee chair

EASTER SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH

Easter Sunrise Service at 6:15 a.m. at the home of *Earl and Mary Jane Nordgren*, 47777 Ihrig Rd., just off Stringtown Rd. The church bus will leave the church at 6:00 a.m. Call the church for a ride.

8:00 a.m. **Breakfast**, organized by *Lois Oakberg & Patty Davie*. Come join the feast!

9:00 a.m. **CHILDREN'S EASTER EGG HUNT**
Watch the Sunday announcements for new details.

10:00 a.m. **Festival Worship** with hand bells and choir celebrating the Resurrection.

We will be **receiving new members** into the church on Easter Sunday. If you would like to join, please speak to *Pastor Dan*.

EASTER SUNDAY BREAKFAST

On Easter Sunday, April 12, please join us for an Easter breakfast from 8:00 to 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. There will be good food as well as a chance to visit with your friends before the service at 10 AM.

As in the past, an assortment of egg-based breakfast casseroles, sausage and ham **will be provided**. If you wish to contribute food we ask that you bring baked goods or fruit/fruit juice. Or, if you don't contribute food, you may make a donation to help cover the cost of the casseroles and meat.

Sign-up lists for baked goods, fruit and juice and for preparation (Saturday) and clean-up Sunday will be provided. If you have questions please call *Lois Oakberg* at 503-357-8129 or *Patty Davie* at 503-357-3185. We hope to see you there!

Submitted by *Ted Oakberg*

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Easter is almost here. Easter is at the heart of our faith, the story of how life wins out over death, thanks to God in Jesus Christ.

This is a time when we may hopefully be more aware of the things that are lost, things that are dying, things that are coming to an end. It's a reminder that when something ends, another thing begins. This is true in all realms of life: individual, communal, global.

In the church, there are things that are fading away, and other things coming to life. Change happens. Some churches are aware that they cannot remain the same -- that God is calling them to new understandings of life and the world in which we live. One way they learn this is by listening. In particular, listening to the younger generation, people who are growing up with or getting to know for the first time the stories of faith, the words and ways of Christ and of our Christian heritage.

I have been listening through reading a book titled "unChristian: what a new generation really thinks about Christianity...and why it matters" by David Kinnaman & Gabe Lyons. It's the result of research and interviews by the Barna Group of thousands of young people regarding their relationship to their faith, to Christianity, to the Church. Here is some of what they have found among a majority of young persons they interviewed between the ages of 16 and 30.

Many believe that "Christians no longer represent what Jesus had in mind, that Christianity in our society is not what it was meant to be." They say that "Christians...have become famous for what we oppose, rather than what we are for." One thirty-five year old believer from California put it this way: "Christians have become political, judgmental, intolerant, weak, religious, angry, and without balance. Christianity has become a nice Sunday drive. Where is the living God, the Holy Spirit, an amazing Jesus, the love, the compassion, the holiness? This type of life, how I yearn for that."

These are challenging words. I want to listen to what young people have to tell us. I consider it a gift, possibly a gift of Easter. So I encourage you to do something simple: talk with persons younger than yourself. Ask a youth group member or a young person: "What matters to you? What do you think about Christianity? What do you think about Jesus? Where do you see hope?"

It's Easter. Something may die this year. But the promise is that something new and unexpected may be born, may come to life.

Look for it. It's there. Better yet, let's look together. And share the Good News when we see it.

Thanks be to God.



Pastor Dan

FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

“Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your minds, so that you may discern what is the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.” Romans 12:2-3 NRSV

Based on this Romans passage, the recent Quadrennial training event for church leaders, including Emily Tabb and 20 some others from Oregon-Idaho, were guided by the theme “Living the United Methodist Way: Turning Worlds Upside Down (and churches inside out).” I know the very idea of turning things upside-down is a scary thought to many. I find it intriguing and challenging.

Where would it take us in ministry and mission for the transformation of the world if we were to use this theme as our guide? What would our church look like? There are many needs in the world, of course. Hunger and related issues are among them. I came across this information recently.

- More than 800 million people go hungry every day in a world that has unparalleled wealth and food production capacity. **It is not a question of whether there is enough food but a matter of accessibility and equal distribution to all people.**
- For seven cents per American per day, hunger could be cut in half in the United States and worldwide by 2015.

What if we begin to implement meeting hunger needs as though we really believe these statements? Our Bishop, Robert Hoshibata, takes it seriously. He has not merely challenged Oregon-Idaho United Methodists to make hunger better, but has asked us to eradicate hunger in Oregon and Idaho. Hunger is just one area of human need throughout the world that we are called to address as disciples of Jesus Christ.

Equally as daunting is the call to “turn the church inside out.” I see young people, both right here at FGUMC and in the wider community, eager to have spiritual needs met and important work of service to do. If or when the church does not meet those needs, the search will take them elsewhere. What would it mean to turn FGUMC inside out?

I don’t have the answers to these questions, but I know that together we have a lot of wisdom – and I see signs of thinking and doing already at work. I invite you to join me in radical thinking as we rethink church.

Your Servant in Ministry,
Deacon **Rhoda Pittman Markus**



HABITAT NEWS



The annual 5 mile walk for West Tuality Habitat for Humanity will start from Lincoln Park at 9:00 am on Saturday, May 2nd.

On the same day, visit the Grand Opening of the Habitat Restore on 24th Avenue anytime between 10:00 am and 4:00 pm. The Restore has been operating for a year, but since moving to a much larger warehouse it is time to celebrate! This store is a great place to shop for building materials, furniture and appliances at very low prices. Profits from the Restore will help finish the two homes on 21st Place which are nearing completion.

Submitted by **Betty Ludlam**

BEAUTY AT THE CHURCH

The question was put to the Church Council at their March 18th meeting: *Where do you see beauty at the Forest Grove United Methodist Church?*

- Spiritual growth in the youth
- Crocuses blooming
- Flower cross for Easter decorated by the congregation
- Young children
- Parents seeing young children nurtured at the church
- Music
- Children's time
- Betty Pritchard working with the children
- Chuck making a "microphone" for Ethan
- Building created with love and beauty
- Stained glass windows
- So much of nature a part of the church property – the courtyards
- Beauty in people who serve
- Youth being affirmed by the congregation – especially Youth Sunday
- Activities around the church – lots going on
- Young Adult dinners hosted by the Roses
- So much self-giving that goes unnoticed
- Woodworking projects by LeRoy

What do you see that's *beautiful* at the church?

Submitted by **Pastor Dan**

PILLOWCASE EVENT!

If you can iron or sew, you're welcome to an evening of making fuzzy, soft pillowcases for children with cancer.

- Where: Sharon's Attic
- When: April 3rd, 2009
- Time: 6:00-9:00 pm
- Bring whatever tools you have: iron, sewing machine, or rotary cutter.
- Fabric and snacks are provided!

Because of space and materials, please RSVP: Shellee - 503.985.9577 or Bobbie - 503.319.2228

Submitted by **Kathy Wilson-Fey**

SWISS STEAK DINNER APRIL 25TH

It's getting closer! Watch for tickets and more information in the mail. **Edythe Westlund** is taking sign-ups for helpers, so if you want a particular task, better request it soon.

Submitted by **Patty Davie**

USED BOOK SALE



It's time to begin bringing in your donated books for the sale during the Swiss Steak Dinner. Please place them in the Garden Room.

Submitted by **Laurie Bond**

ECUMENICAL EARTH DAY CELEBRATION AT HAGG LAKE

On **Sunday, April 19th**, you are invited to join several of the other churches in Forest Grove and Cornelius in a 2-hour cleanup effort along the shores of Hagg Lake. Churches are joining together in celebration of Earth Day (April 22nd) for this joint work to get to know one another better. We'll start with a potluck at Boat Ramp C Pavilion at 1:00 p.m. Vehicle entry will be free for the event if you mention you are with the Ecumenical Earth Day Celebration. Music by the Forest Grove UCC band. Here's the schedule:

Potluck	1:00 p.m.
Worship	1:45 p.m.
Cleanup	2:00 – 4:00 p.m. (approx.)

Bring a potluck dish, some work gloves, and join your sisters and brothers in Christ from Refuge of Christ Church, Forest Grove Assembly of God Church, St. Anthony's Catholic Church, St. Bede's Episcopal Church, Forest Grove United Church of Christ, Real Life Christian Church of Cornelius, and Fellowship Community Church of Forest Grove.

Submitted by **Dan Wilson-Fey**

F. G. U. M. C. CALENDAR FOR APRIL 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
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9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship: Communion 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:15-11:45 a.m. Chime Choir Rehearsal 12:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Confirmation Palm/Passion Sunday Confirmation Retreat	6:30-8:00 p.m. Youth Group	7:00 p.m. Wesleyans	9:30 a.m. Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Guitar Group 6:30-7:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. SPRC	6:00—7:00 p.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Grant Committee 7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday Service Choir Rehearsal before or after service Maundy Thursday	Pastor's Day Off 12:00 Noon Stations of the Cross @ St. Anthony's 7:00 p.m. Good Friday service Good Friday	Pastor's Day Off 8:30 a.m.—12:00 p.m. Garden Party 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministries Team																																																																																										
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SILENT AUCTION: DONATIONS NEEDED!

On April 25th, as part of our Swiss Steak Dinner, we will be holding a Silent Auction.

Items of particular value at a silent auction include: Tickets to sporting games, Vacation home time/Timeshares, Gift certificates for Services (Beauty salons, Photography studios, Gyms etc), and Art/Craft Items (Quilts, Afghans, Framed Art, etc). Other popular auction items have been Movie packages (tickets, popcorn & candy), Candy baskets, stationery baskets, or personal services (hauling, house cleaning, yard work)

Do you own a vacation home in which you could donate a weekend or more? Season tickets to a local sporting team? Connections with a local business that would allow you to ask for a donation?

Last year we made over \$1000 from the Auction... we are going to try to double that this year!

If you have a donation, or if you have questions, please contact **Laura Dionne** at fglld@hotmail.com or 503-357-5934.

IN MEMORIAM

We note with sadness the passing of long-time member, William "Gib" Paterson, on February 19, 2009. A Celebration of Life service was held at the church on February 28th. We continue to hold the family in our prayers.

THANK YOU NOTE

The Paterson family wishes to extend a thank-you to the many Methodist friends who did something in honor of Gib: Those who sent food, prepared the tables, gave memorial gifts or showered us with cards of sympathy and encouragement.

Sincerely,
Lucy Paterson

CREATION VACATION 2009

YOU CAN BE A FAMILY FRIEND!

Camp Magruder

Have you ever been with a child when she experienced something for the first time? What a gift! Nervous excitement, laughter, a lasting smile—these are some of the small and unexpected ways that God shows up in the world. **Creation Vacation**, a program of Oregon-Idaho Camp and Retreat Ministries, invites poor families to experience some things that are often new to them: a dip in the ocean, a donkey ride, a vacation with quality together time, far from everyday burdens and worries. And *you* are invited to accompany one family during their vacation at Camp Magruder from **July 5th to 7th**. *Would you consider being a Family Friend for a very low-income family from Cornelius, Hillsboro or Forest Grove?* You'll stay in a cabin with other volunteers and join your "family" for meals and other parts of the day you decide to spend together. You'll be invited to help with boating, crafts or another activity, will get to know volunteers from other churches, and will have some time for yourself. Spanish language ability is not a requirement and considerations may be made for Family Friends with older children. We hope that you'll get to know your family well and will continue your friendship after returning home—and that this relationship will be a gift to *all* of you. Your connection might even lead them to come to church and will certainly provide you with opportunities to learn and grow. Together time deepens neighborly bonds and strengthens families right here in *your community*.

Not available to be a family friend, but still like to help? *Consider sponsoring a family or Family Friend or making a general contribution.*

If you're interested in participating or would like more information, please contact Mira Conklin, Hispanic/Latino Ministry Developer at 503-828-7444 or miraconklin@yahoo.com

More information can also be found at:
www.gocamping.org/creationvacation



ASPIRING TO BRONZE

A CONCERT BY
BELLS OF THE CASCADES

April 18, 2009, at 7 pm

Trinity Lutheran Church

2194 SE Minter Bridge Road

Hillsboro, Oregon

FREE!



If you enjoy our own hand bells during church, you won't want to miss this concert! *Bells of the Cascades* is a non-profit handbell choir that conducts workshops for groups and individual ringers aspiring to achieve a higher level of complexity in performance. Associated with these workshops are concerts open to the public. We are grateful to have this opportunity to hear them this close to home.

Submitted by *Betty Pritchard*

LEARN ABOUT YOUNG ADULT MINISTRIES: TWO OPPORTUNITIES

Christian Educators Fellowship and the Conference Nurture Team are sponsoring an event featuring *Bill Lizzor*, the Young Adult Specialist with the General Board of Discipleship of the United Methodist Church. He will speak on who our young adults are, what their needs are, and on the best practices of churches.

This is for church leadership wanting to be relevant to this age group. The two opportunities are on Sunday afternoon April 26 from 2:30 - 5:30 at Salem First UMC or Tuesday evening, April 28 from 5:30 - 9:30 at Portland First UMC. For more information, or how to register, talk with Emily or Rhoda.

Submitted by *Rhoda Pittman Markus*

SUTTLE LAKE VOLUNTEER WORK WEEKEND

MAY 22-25, 2009

Over Memorial Day Weekend many will gather at Suttle Lake United Methodist Camp for Round Up, a traditional Volunteer Work Weekend. Now is the time to consider connecting with the camp and being a part of this mission experience in our own backyard! Come enjoy a chance to WORK, PLAY, and WORSHIP! Join us for the whole weekend, or just as your schedule allows.

WORK: Together we'll be updating cabins; demolishing an old woodshed and building a replacement; cutting, gathering and splitting firewood; painting; constructing benches; working on trails; and setting up tipis. All skill levels are welcome. If you have specialized skills or tools, the camp would like to hear from you ahead of time.

PLAY: Time each day is scheduled to offer flexible time to enjoy hiking, crafts, games, and favorite camp activities. Evenings offer times of fellowship, including board games and a campfire.

WORSHIP: At the start of each day a morning watch offers a chance to center. Sunday morning a longer time is set aside for an informal worship service. At meals we celebrate accomplishments and offer prayers of thanksgiving.

Meals and lodging are provided. There is no charge for Round Up registration; your donation helps off-set the cost of weekend expenses and helps make projects possible. For more information or to register please check out www.gocamping.org or contact *Daniel* or *Jane Petke* at suttle@gocamping.org or 541-595-6663.

SECOND SATURDAY GARDEN PARTY April 11th

It's time to get the churchyard spruced up for Easter! Rain or shine, we start at 8:30 a.m. and quit no later than noon. Please bring your gardening tools and be prepared to weed, prune, etc. There will be refreshments to keep the body going.

Submitted by *Margaret Hoerber*



HAVE YOU MOVED?

Please be sure that the church office has your new address as soon as possible. Thank you.

Liz Swenson

Church Administrative Assistant

BUS COORDINATOR NEEDED

The Forest Grove United Methodist Church needs a coordinator for the church bus. Linda King has served in this capacity for several years, but she is now no longer able to continue. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact Lois or Ted Oakberg at 503-357-8129. Although desirable, it is not necessary for the coordinator to be a driver as well.

There is always a need for new drivers. If you are interested in becoming a bus driver, please contact Lois or Ted at the phone number above.

Submitted by *Ted Oakberg*



BIRTHDAYS

Margaret Harshbarger	April 1 st
Stephen Gapay	April 6 th
Ruth Reese	April 7 th
Ted Oakberg	April 8 th
Priscilla Stinman	April 10 th
Ed Davie	April 11 th
Logan Anderson	April 12 th
Rachel Hampton	April 12 th
Connor Dionne	April 13 th
Matthew Hampton	April 13 th
Mary Olson	April 14 th
Oliver Cobb	April 15 th
Lindsay Spangler	April 19 th
Frank Colcord	April 19 th
Buzz Brown	April 22 nd
Alyssa Bond	April 24 th
Marion Gustafson	April 26 th
Laura Dionne	April 28 th
Lloyd Uecker	April 29 th

ANNIVERSARIES

Floyd & Verva Loomis	April 4 th
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SERVING IN APRIL

Liturgists	Andrea Jones
Altar Guild	Marilyn Carr
Bus Coordinator	Linda King, cell 522-1215
Bus Driver:	Fred Raycraft
Ushers:	Frank & Ella Collins-Colcord
April	Dave & Laurie Bond
Greeters	Cal Claton, Loretta Evans &
April	Larean Hodge
Coffee Coordinator	Carole Heun, *Delva Johnson &
Team: *April	Janet Hummel
Fellowship Time	
April 5 th	Volunteers needed
April 12 th	Easter
April 19 th	The Hampton family
April 26 th	Martha Tunall
Nursery Attendant	Lindsay Tovey
Childcare Coord.	Delva Johnson
Web Master	Jenny LaCombe
Kitchen Elves	Margaret Hoerber &
	Lois Oakberg
Sound and Media	Steven Wong
Tape Ministry	Media team
Parish Nurse	Patti Rose

CHOIR CORNER – ALYSSA DIONNE

Carrying on the Dionne family tradition of service, Alyssa is our childcare-giver during choir practice on Thursday evenings (often with Delva Johnson). Daughter of Laura and Bob Dionne, and granddaughter of Edythe Westlund, Alyssa is active in Youth and serves during their breakfasts and also for our Swiss Steak Dinner.

With older sister Adrienne and young brother Connor, Alyssa enjoys the family trips to Yellowstone, Florida, Washington D.C., Canada and Mexico. For her, the best vacation was when the family visited England several years ago.

Gregarious, Alyssa loves to shop with friends and enjoys movies, especially horror films and comedies. As a 10th grader at F.G. High school, she is in Honors classes for her core curriculum. She participates in the 'mock trial' and loves to read self-help books. Singing and dancing in the FGHS production of "Oliver" has kept her very busy. Her favorite class is Child Care, which will serve her well if she continues with her dream of becoming a certified nurse midwife.

MISSION STATEMENT

The mission of the Forest Grove United Methodist Church is to welcome all people, wherever they are on their journey of faith, into nurturing relationships with Jesus and with one another, through worship, small group fellowship and service to others.

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Volume 2009, **April**, Issue No. 4.

Messenger monthly.

Periodicals Postage (USPS 970920) paid at Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1726 Cedar Street, Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434

Daniel Wilson-Fey	503-359-4249	Pastor
Rhoda Markus	503-357-3998	Deacon
Bobby & Emily Tabb	503-747-9674 503-707-4971	Youth Pastors
Liz Swenson	503-357-2689	Administrative Assistant

Church Office Hours, Monday through Friday

9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Patty Davie 503-357-3185 Messenger Editor

Bless you for getting your articles to me by the 18th of each month!

e-mail: plc2fd@verizon.net