



FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Messenger

August 2011

1726 Cedar St., Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434
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website: www.forestgroveumc.org

TILLAMOOK FOREST HIKE

The third Saturday of the month has been established as our regular Hike Date, so this month it will be August 20th. That weekend is also the celebration by the Tillamook Forest Center (TFC) of the *Return from the Burn*, showing how the forest has been transformed from the black of the great fires to the green we now see and enjoy.

This month we will hike from the TFC up to the Wilson Falls and back, the same route some of us took in June. Upon return to the TFC we will have lunch; bring your own or you may buy a fresh BBQ provided by the Log Cabin Restaurant at the TFC. We will then be free to see the exhibit at the Center and see the movie; Pearl and I will give you a tour. There will also be some special exhibits such as a modern Forest Fire Engine and a Vintage Pumper used in Oregon in the 1930's.

We will assemble at 9:30 a.m. at the TFC which is located a half mile west of milepost 23 on Highway 6, on the right side going west. The Center will not be open at that time but we will have access to the rest rooms before we start our hike. If you have any questions just ask Pearl or Harold, 503-842-0026.

See you on the trail.

Submitted by: **Harold & Pearl Jensen**
(More pictures, pg. 6)

SECOND SATURDAY GARDEN PARTY

August 13th is the day - our monthly effort to keep the churchyard looking neat & tidy.

Gather at 8:30 and quit by noon; bring your gardening tools (and shade hats in case of summer weather).

We break for coffee & caloric replacements at 10:00.
Submitted by: **Margaret Hoerber**

PARKING LOT SALE

In spite of rainy weather, the (indoor) Parking Lot Sale was a great success. Preliminary records indicate a profit of about \$1,000.

Thanks for all the help everyone contributed; special thanks to those that moved all the heavy items from room 9 to the Fellowship Hall. We were all tired at the end but we had fun, too.

Submitted by: **Lois Oakberg**



UMW -- UMM MEETING

The United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men will share a potluck lunch on Sunday, August 28th at 12:20 p.m., followed by separate meetings and a program. Please join us!

Submitted by: **Lela Baskins**

CUPCAKE SUNDAY

Cupcake Sunday is planned for Sept 4th. Please plan on bringing a dozen of your favorite cupcakes to share, homemade or not, we accept them all!

Submitted by: **Janet Hummel**

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

*My life flows on in endless song
above earth's lamentations,
I hear the real, though far-off hymn
that hails the new creation.
Above the tumult and the strife
I hear the music ringing
it sounds an echo in my soul,
how can I keep from singing?*

*While though the tempest loudly roars,
I hear the truth, it liveth.
And though the darkness 'round me close,
songs in the night it giveth.
No storm can shake my inmost calm,
While to that rock I'm clinging.
Since love is lord of heaven and earth
how can I keep from singing?*

This hymn, written in the late 19th century, now in the public domain and popularized by musicians like Judy Collins and Irish musician Enya, became the theme song of my renewal leave last month.

When I took my leave of you, I went with these questions to ponder:

What makes my heart sing?
What is my song?
What's beautiful?
What motivates me?
What moves me?
What do I value?
What do I want to give the rest of my life to?
What makes me feel alive?

I found some answers. But such answers cannot be shared adequately in a newsletter article. While some will come forth in sermons and worship, they are most effectively shared in small group settings or in one-on-one conversations. These kinds of conversations, this kind of sharing with other people in the church, for any of us, is the way God's Spirit would build us into a stronger, faithful community in Christ. We *have* to have some kind of small groups be they hiking groups in the woods of the Tillamook State Forest, or two people having coffee at BJ's, where a depth of sharing on questions like the ones above goes on.

I did other things on my leave. I read poetry, novels, and old, ancient journals of mine. I went on a bird watching trip and have taken it up again as a hobby. I rested, hiked, spent time with my family, and cooked. I spent time reflecting, praying, and talking with my spiritual director. Sometimes I just sat and did nothing. I discovered a few new things about myself, things God has done and is doing in me.

I will be a pastor in a different way. I don't fully know what exactly that will look like, but I have a few, clear directions.

There is so much beauty in the world, from the mountains I saw in Central Oregon to the heartfelt singing and sharing of another person. I am praying that God would open my eyes ever more to beauty, while not ignoring or denying the pain, the darkness, the sin. We do walk through valleys at times, but God does want to restore our souls. He did mine. And I'm grateful.

Thank you for the gift of this time away.

Deep blessings,



Pastor Dan

FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

“Do Not Fear!” These are words from the Bible that I try to live by.

Just recently I went on a short trip to Vancouver, BC. I took the train and spent a couple of days on foot discovering the city. As I left the train station I stopped to read my map and get oriented on where I was going. My hotel was a few blocks away on the edge of the downtown area which also meant it was on the edge of Chinatown and a couple of pretty seedy streets frequented by Vancouver’s homeless. A person who seemed to be some combination of information and security asked me if I needed help. I told him I thought I knew where I was going. It was just a few blocks away. And then he warned me that I shouldn’t be walking. It was too dangerous. “Do Not Fear!” I thanked him for the advice and was on my way.

There were lots of people on the street and some of them were travelers as I was. Others showed lots of wear and tear of life. I arrived safely and unthreatened at my hotel. I do exercise caution and so when I’m traveling alone I seldom venture out at night. The long evening stretched ahead of me. After eating in the hotel pub and visiting with some folks from Iowa who were leaving on an Alaskan cruise the next day, I settled in the lobby with a book, prepared to read and do some people watching. The lobby had large plate glass windows looking out on crossing streets. The 4-block stretch of Hastings Street west of my hotel was filled with homeless folks. There were old run down hotels, little stores and so forth, and a view of a slice of human life. I spent quite a bit of time there at different times of the day – that evening and the next, before breakfast was served, and after coming back from my wanderings of each day. What most struck me was the sense of community I observed. I’m not romanticizing homelessness. Perhaps I’m making a critique of the rest of society. I sure didn’t feel a sense of community on the more affluent streets of downtown Vancouver and among the tourists. But as I watched out of the window of my hotel, I saw people running into friends first thing in the morning and greeting them with gladness. I saw greetings as folks passed one another. I saw what seemed to be honest caring for one another and earnest conversations followed by well wishing as each went on their way. I felt no fear.

I had momentary encounters with 3 individuals. The first one happened as I waited for the walk sign. A fellow asked me if I was “Sister. . .(somebody)” and told me I sure looked like her. The second eyed my holy spirit tee-shirt and gave me a grin and a thumbs up. (I don’t think anyone at church has even noticed these tee shirts I’ve been wearing this summer.) Number 3 left me a bit uncomfortable. He asked for money which I did not give him. Then I heard footsteps behind me on the lonely stretch of sidewalk. When the footsteps overtook me I discovered they belonged to fellow travelers. The unease went away.

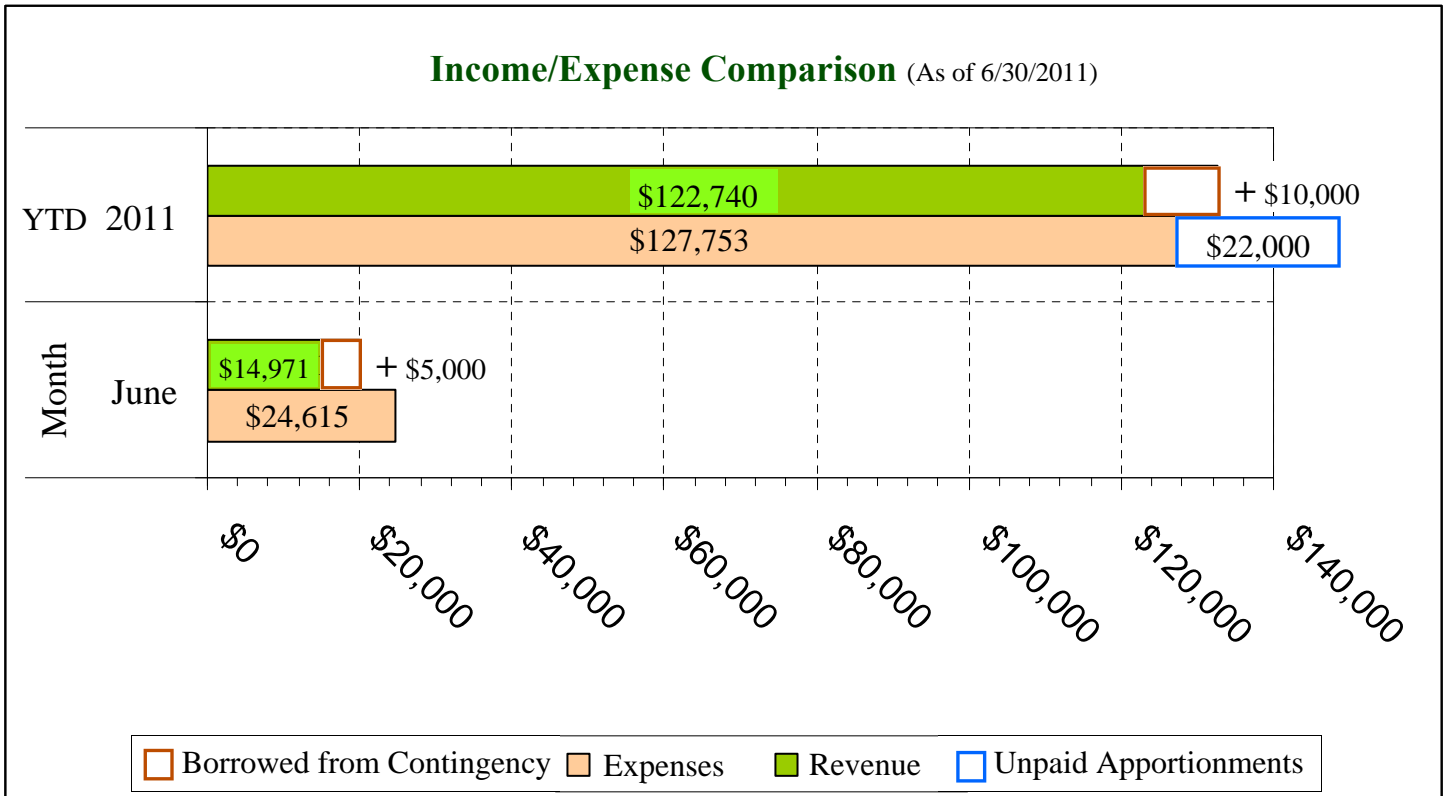
I noticed 3 churches in the midst of the homeless-filled area and Chinatown. The first was a large and shabby Anglican church with various attached buildings offering outreach ministries to the surrounding parish. The second was a United Church of Canada (which I believe serves United Methodists in Canada). It was early afternoon when I passed. There was a steady stream of folks going in and out. The third was a Chinese Mennonite church in Chinatown. I passed it early in the morning on my way back to the train station. A tiny old Chinese woman was outside sweeping and unlocking the gate for the beginning of the day – and also greeting me. Three churches being the church in relevant ways in their community.

Why am I telling this tale? Our society is so filled with fear that it practically immobilizes our communities and our churches. It’s getting better but we all need to lay those fears aside and get busy interacting with the community where we are.

To close – the final segment of my journey began as I waited for Bus 57 to take me from Hillsboro Transit Center to Cornelius. As I sat waiting, I noticed a quote from Howard Vollum (of Tektronix fame) dated 1962. It went like this. “*The ability to change is a valuable asset. Our future may indeed depend on our ability to change easily and wisely.*” Words for the church to live by.

Your servant in Christ,
Deacon **Rhoda Pittman Markus**

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT



MID-YEAR FINANCIAL UPDATE

Our June finance report shows us very close to budget in most areas. At the end of June we should be at 50% of our revenue and expenses. For more specific information please see the Finance Report on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall or take a look at the graph above which shows our monthly and year-to-date numbers. A couple of things to note: our 2011 budget projected an approximate \$65,000 shortfall. We hope to make up this shortfall by using interest and dividends from the endowment fund which were not disbursed over the last several years. If this transfer of funds is approved by the Grant committee, we will be able to repay the \$10,000 borrowed from contingency and pay our full apportionments which are \$43,500.

Our Financial Secretary, Dan Gustafson, has provided a mid-year status report of all estimates of giving. Through the end of June, 52 are up to date with their estimates and 15 are behind. Those estimates which are behind total approximately \$7,800. Following the close of the third quarter (early October) Dan will be providing statements to those who provided an estimate of giving. If you have any questions in the meantime, please feel free to follow up with Dan.

Lastly, on behalf of the Finance committee, I'd like to extend a sincere thank you to everyone who chooses to support our church financially. There are so many ways to support our mission, such as giving of your time, energy and ideas, but we count on everyone's financial offerings to ensure that we can continue to pay our staff, keep the lights on and heat the building, among other things. Your generosity is greatly appreciated.

Submitted by: **Barbara Huson**
Finance Committee Chair

F. G. U. M. C. CALENDAR FOR AUGUST 2011

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																																
7	1	2 NO Wesleyans 5:00—8:00 p.m. National Night Out	3 2:00-4:30 p.m. Youth Group 4:30-6:00 p.m. Youth Band, Apostlips Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Trustees	4	5 Pastor's day off	6 Pastor's day off 9:30 a.m.-5:30 p.m. Youth Mystery Event																																																																																																																
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7	8	9	10 2:00-4:30 p.m. Youth Group 4:30-6:00 p.m. Youth Band, Apostlips Rehearsal NO SPRC 7:30 p.m. Finance Committee	11	12 Pastor's day off 11:00 a.m. Have committee minutes in office	13 Pastor's day off 8:30—Noon Second Saturday Garden Party																																																																																																																
14	15 3:00 p.m. Jennings-McCall Gathering w/ Pastor Dan	16	17 2:00-4:30 p.m. Youth Group 4:30-6:00 p.m. Youth Band, Apostlips Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Grant Committee 7:00 p.m. Church Council	18 <b style="color: green;">September Messenger articles due.	19 Pastor's day off	20 Pastor's day off 9:30 –Noon: Tillamook Forest Hike 12:00-5:00 p.m.: Kids Day Out																																																																																																																
21	22	23 2:00 p.m. The Elms Gathering w/Pastor Dan	24 1:30 p.m. Mission Ministry Team 2:00-4:30 p.m. Youth Group 4:30-6:00 p.m. Youth Band, Apostlips Rehearsal	25	26 Pastor's day off	27 Pastor's day off 2:00-5:00 p.m. Youth, Back to School Luau																																																																																																																
<————— Group Camping @ South Beach —————>																																																																																																																						
28	29	30 7:00 p.m. Women's Book Club	31 2:00-4:30 p.m. Youth Group 4:30-6:00 p.m. Youth Band, Apostlips Rehearsal	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7" style="text-align: center; color: green;">July</th> <th colspan="7" style="text-align: center; color: green;">September</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="color: red;">S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th style="color: red;">S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="color: red;">3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> <td style="color: red;">4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="color: red;">10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> <td style="color: red;">11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="color: red;">17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> <td style="color: red;">18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="color: red;">24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> <td style="color: red;">25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="color: red;">31</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td style="color: red;">25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			July							September							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2					1	2	3	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28	29	30		31							25	26	27	28	29	30	
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YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL

Welcome back, Pastor Dan. We hope you had a rewarding time and are feeling stronger. (This is being written before your return so I have not heard your feedback.)

As for us in the Church, we missed you. During this time we became stronger, drew closer together, and we hope you feel good about our development. Members are talking more and longer at our Social Hours. Tables for Seven is getting started. We had a great Parking Lot Sale (inside due to the rain), with many members working long hours with joy. During Sunday services we looked at ourselves and reflected on what we are doing. Myself, I had a few experiences that showed what a truly friendly Church we are.

So now, here we go into a new future.

For members, our annual Charge Conference will be held on Tuesday, September 13th. This is the conference where we present to the District our 2011 accomplishments and some plans for 2012. One item to be presented will be four years of audit results that show that management of your money by the Church has been correct; thank you Laura Dionne and others. The conference is being held early this year. This is Rev. Kate Conolly's last year in her position of Assistant to the Bishop and she wants to chair each of the fifty Charge Conferences in her District. Please mark this date on your calendar and plan to attend.

Submitted by **Harold Jensen**
Chair, Church Council

FAMILY FUN: MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

We had a great time camping at Camp Magruder, near Rockaway Beach on the coast. We played Bunco and had a Talent Show. We also enjoyed the warmth and beauty of a big campfire on the beach, thanks to **Noah Wilson-Fey** and **Fletcher Johnson**, and of course we roasted marshmallows for S'mores. Eating in the big Carrier Lodge gave us more time to rest and relax, and the new bathrooms in Bunch Lodge were a plus. Thank you, **Alisa Hampton**, for your hard work and help with this project at this time of the year. Thanks to all who went and who helped with planning. More people are welcome, so plan to come join us next year!

Submitted by: **Sue Brenner**, Chair

YOUTH CORNER

Kids' Day Out: Saturday, August 20th 12-5 p.m.

Parents: Do you need a little time to unwind or get ready for the start of school?

Kids: Do you want an opportunity to hang out with the youth and awesome adults?

The FGUMC youth and loving adults are providing an opportunity for kids ages 0-6th grade to have a safe, structured, and fun time.

We will provide meaningful activities, a snack, and a loving environment. Look for more information at the church!



Back-to-School Luau: August 27th, 2-5 p.m.

We will welcome the upcoming 7th graders at a Back-to-School Luau. We will also host 3 other youth groups for a time of fun, fellowship, and Christ's love!

The Gathering: Sunday, August 28th, 6-9 p.m.

Join the youth at The Gathering, for a worship experience around a campfire.

National Night Out: August 2nd 5-8 p.m.

The youth and volunteers will have a booth at the National Night Out here in Forest Grove. We are working with the FG Police Department to raise awareness of safety and crime prevention!

Tables for Seven

Tables for Seven is now up and running with over 55 people participating! If your table leader has not contacted you, please let Emily Tabb know at 503-707-4971 or smiley_em00@hotmail.com.

Submitted by: **Emily Tabb**, Youth Pastor

MUSIC AT FGUMC

Rehearsals for choirs will begin soon!

Chancel Choir

Chancel Choir is open to anyone who wants to sing with us, grade 7 and above to infinity are welcome! Rehearsals are in the Sanctuary on Thursday evenings at 7 pm. - 8:30 pm. Our first rehearsal will be September 1st. Come join us!

Bell Choir

Bell Choir is open to anyone who wants to play the bells, grade 5 and above to infinity are welcome! Rehearsals are in the Craft/Bell room on Thursday evenings from 6 pm-7:00 pm. Our first rehearsal will be September 1st. Come and try ringing the bells! We bet you will love it!

Chime Choir / Children's Choir

Our Children's Choir and Chimers will begin soon. Rehearsal times are yet to be determined. More information will come later.

Guitar Group

We hope to resurrect the guitar group this year. We invite anyone who plays the guitar, beginners to semiprofessionals, to join us. Please let us know if you are interested and we will set rehearsal dates that work out best for the players!

Recorder Group

Our newest musical group is the recorder group. We welcome new players of any age! We practice twice a month, usually Sunday afternoons. Our next rehearsal will be in September. More information will come later. Come, play with us!

Last but not least - *Apostlips Youth Band*

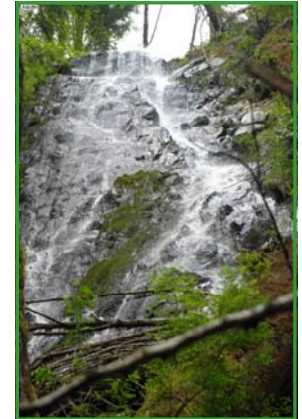
Any youth who have not been active in the band please come and join this great group. They practice Sundays 11:30 - 12:45 in the Youth Room. **Christ Rocks!**

We have a lot of fun music planned for the year and would love to have you join us for any or all the choirs!

Questions? Please call Betty at 503-3 59-9340.

Submitted by: **Betty Pritchard**

TAKE A HIKE!



A BOOK REPORT

At Annual Conference, Pastor Dan bought a book titled *In from the Wilderness: She-r-man* written by David E. Weekley (former pastor here in Forest Grove), and loaned it to me to read while he was away. In the book David talked about a sermon he preached titled "Book Report", where he told about his journey from being born a girl and transitioning to the man he was. It was a life-changing book for me to read. I learned how my reactions and absent-minded comments can cause joy or pain, depending on who is listening to them. As it turns out, Forest Grove was not an easy assignment for David.

I encourage everyone to read his book. It is well written, easy to read, and took me only two days to read. As I mentioned, I hope it changes me for life, making me a better, more compassionate person. Whether you supported David, resisted David, or didn't know David, his story is one that you should know about and analyze for yourself what your beliefs are, and how they affect others.

Submitted by: **Dave Rose**

FAMILY BRIDGE

We want to express our deep appreciation to all the generous people who have donated money to the Family Bridge ministry at Forest Grove UMC. We spend it on food and drink, and on bus fuel to transport families to and from the church. But you have given more than we can reasonably spend on this ministry. So the Church Council has voted to pass the excess on to the Family Bridge network, beginning with \$2000. Annie Heart will use it to help keep the program operating: food and supplies for the day center, assistance to guest families, and Annie's stipend. Thank you so much for your commitment to assistance for struggling families!

Submitted by: **Liz Swenson**
For the Family Bridge team

BIRTHDAYS

Mable Compton	August 2 nd
Sue Brenner	August 2 nd
Carole Heun	August 5 th
Christa (Bond) Whaley	August 8 th
John Heun	August 11 th
Jim Sehorn	August 11 th
Dale Heun	August 13 th
Dan Gustafson	August 15 th
Randy Cobb	August 16 th
Tom Rannells	August 16 th
Jacquie Haney	August 16 th
Terri Jones	August 17 th
Alwyn Hites-Clabaugh	August 18 th
Ben Pritchard	August 21 st
Noah Wilson-Fey	August 22 nd
Dick Brenner	August 27 th
Bob Francis	August 28 th
Chase Tabb	August 28 th
John Luczkow	August 29 th
David Rose	August 30 th

ANNIVERSARIES

Dave & Laurie Bond	August 1 st
Ken & Martha Tunall	August 14 th
Earl & M.J. Nordgren	August 16 th
Dale & Carole Heun	August 18 th
Glenn & Lynn Anderson	August 28 th
Jan & Luther Schrock	August 30 th
Frank & Ella Collins-Colcord	August 31 st

HAVE YOU MOVED?

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

Submitted by: **Liz Swenson**
Administrative Assistant

SERVING IN AUGUST

Lay Leader	Ann Ulum
Altar Guild	Val Hawkins
Bus Coordinator	Lois Oakberg, 503-357-8129
Bus Driver:	TBA
Ushers & Greeters	Ann Ulum & Robert Nickerson; Lela Baskins; Sue Brenner
Coffee Coordinator	Janet Hummel
Fellowship Time	
August 7 th	Volunteers needed
August 14 th	Hampton Family (Earl & M. J.'s 25th)
August 21 st	Volunteers needed
August 28 th	Jensen & Peloquin Families
Nursery Supervisor	Melissa Holcomb
Web Master	Jenny Lyn Englin
Kitchen Elves	Anne Hall & TBA
Sound and Media	Steven Wong
Parish Nurse	Patti Rose

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

**Do justice.
Love kindness.
Walk humbly with God.**

CHURCH CORNER – HAROLD JENSEN

Harold, grandson of Fern Stewart Reeher, has his first memories of being in church in the building across the street, before the present FGUMC was constructed. He was living with his grandparents during WWII.

Pearl and Harold, both graduates of Oregon State University, were married in Taiwan. They have a son in Orlando and a daughter in Seattle.

Harold has not only come full circle since growing up in Hillsboro, he's actually come full sphere. Starting out in Oregon, NY, NJ, and Indiana, he and Pearl went on to Ireland, then Singapore. They have lived in, worked in or visited most of the Asian nations, much of Europe, South and North America—more than 30 countries. About the only continent Harold hasn't worked on engineering projects is Africa. And he is grateful to Pearl for having put up with him in all those travels.

Harold is currently Chairman of the Church Council, a job he agreed to do when he'd not been a member longer than 6 months. They lead morning walks in the Tillamook Forest, have worked with orphans in Nepal and done construction mission in Uruguay.

And, no, they haven't visited Antarctica—yet.

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Volume 2011, **August**, Issue No. 8.

Messenger monthly.

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Daniel Wilson-Fey	503-359-4249	Pastor
Rhoda Markus	503-357-3998	Deacon
Emily Tabb	503-707-4971	Youth Pastor
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
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Bless you for getting your articles to me
by the 18th of each month!

e-mail: plc2fd@frontier.com