



Forest Grove United Methodist Church

Messenger

January 2007

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

FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

Have you heard the stories of Dr. Muhammad Yunus, recently awarded the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize? I have, and I have been startled that no matter his culture or his religious roots (and that's something I don't even know), he is doing the work of a deacon – servant ministry – to which our acts of worship call us.

Overwhelmed with the needs of the world, it is so easy to push them aside because they are too big for us. Dr. Yunus was on the verge of thinking that, and feeling helpless to do anything about it, as he studied and taught theories of economics. But then he thought, "I'm a human being, I can go and touch another person's life." His decision was to do a "lot of little things" and in the process, he discovered that by loaning – not giving – money to those in need, the cycle of poverty could be broken.

He started out with lending the small sum of \$27 to a group of bamboo weavers in a local village. It was a spur of the moment thing, money out of his pocket. The people were so excited that he thought maybe he could continue doing it. The grateful people paid it back and that was the beginning of his amazing work changing the world one family at a time. The bank he founded to expedite his work has lent more than \$6 billion worldwide with the average loan being only \$130. He requires no collateral, loans are repaid at an astounding 99% and 58 percent of his borrowers have gotten out of poverty.

I think this story is worth pondering as we move into a new year and wonder about our role as Christians in the transformation of the world.

Peace and blessings,
Your servant in Christ,
Deacon **Rhoda Pittman Markus**

"I'm a human being. I can go and touch another person's life."

SAFE SANCTUARY

at
Forest Grove UMC

The people of the Forest Grove United Methodist Church are committed to preserving this church as a holy place of safety and protection in which all who enter are secure in their relationships with others as they experience the love of God.

The words above are the statement of purpose of the FGUMC Safe Sanctuary Policy, which has been created and was adopted on Nov. 1, 2006, by our Church Council. We are beginning the process of educating our congregation and leaders and implementing its features. For example, already 48 background checks have been done on individuals who work with our children and youth.

With thanks especially to **Patti Rose, Mary Jane Nordgren** and **Brian Hawkins** for their work in creating the policy, the 2007 Safe Sanctuary Committee will begin work in January on further implementation. **Dave Rose**, as Lay Leader, will act as co-chair. Other members are Pastor **Dan Wilson-Fey, Brian Hawkins** as Chair of Church Council, **Mary Jane Nordgren** as Education Chair, and church members **Margaret Ann Cox, Merrill Ludlam**, and **Chuck Pritchard**.

We are planning education programs and information in later Messenger articles, but anyone with questions, please feel free to contact any of the committee members.

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Friends,

First, Kathy, Max, Noah and I want to thank those of you who sent Christmas cards, notes and gifts this month. We have been blessed by your words, treats, and gifts and very much appreciate your thoughtfulness and generosity.

Second, I want to thank everyone who helped out to make our Advent and Christmas Eve worship services so nice. We had the gifts of music from so many, the choir, special guests, decorations, media aids to worship, hospitality attention, and more. To all of you who helped, thank you so much. What you have done makes a difference to us all!

Third, I want to call to your attention the extensive list found elsewhere in this newsletter of the many, many persons who have volunteered to serve around the church in the coming year. I am grateful for the servant hearts so many of you have.

Finally, as we move toward a New Year with all its possibilities, and consider the new ways that Christ is being born in us and in the Church, I want to lift up to your awareness a few of needs we have at the church:

Head Usher. Craig MacKinnon has been doing this for some time now, and he says it's time to let someone else organize this important ministry of hospitality. Would that be you?

Childcare Coordinator. We are in need of a person who schedules and oversees the work of our paid and volunteer persons who care for our infants and toddlers at FGUMC.

Congregational Care. We've split this work off from the Education Committee and are in need of someone to take charge of overseeing the caring and visitation ministries of the church.

Media/Audio Techs. Are you good with details, timing, video games, and precision work? This may be the place for you.

I ask you to pray that we may find just the right persons that God is calling to head up these most important ministries at Forest Grove UMC. If you might be that person, thanks be to God, and please speak with me about it.

As we, with Mary, ponder in our hearts the birth of our Savior, and just what that means for us and our world, may God's blessing of fresh starts, new eyes, new ways, and exciting possibilities be with you and those you love in these days of Christmas and the New Year.

In Christmas celebration and joy,



Pastor Dan

THANK YOU, MUSICIANS!

A Huge **Thank You** to all the choir members, children, youth, adults, bell ringers etc. for all their hard work for this Christmas Season. You all sounded wonderful! A very special thank you to Dace for all her hard work and excellent music for the season!

Thank you all,
Betty Pritchard

LUCY PATERSON

One of the “behind the scenes people” who has given so much to our church, *Lucy Paterson* has kept the Memorial Book of Donors for a dozen or more years, writing hundreds of Thank-You notes to the donors and families. She has served on the Altar Guild, and many years ago, when her children were young, she taught in the Jr. Department of Sunday School. She and her husband Gib, owners of Paterson’s Furniture, are long-term residents of Forest Grove and members of this church. Our grateful thanks for your faithful service is long overdue.

Mary Ann Mellbye

WANTED: STRONG BACKS, CLEAN TRUCKS

The Family Bridge hospitality ministry is looking for a few strong volunteers to help us set up guest rooms on Sunday morning before our guests arrive, and to take them down a week later. We also need one or two more vehicles that can transport mattresses to the next host church, which is usually Forest Grove UCC on College Way. The next opportunity to help will be on January 21. Look for the signup sheet in the Fellowship Hall after worship. Thank you!

Liz Swenson

LEARN SOMETHING NEW!

Anyone interested in learning to run the sound/video system for worship services, please see *Al Thomason* or *Dave Rose*.

Training sessions will be set up individually so that you can practice before being scheduled.

Dave Rose: 503-357-2596
davidrose.ahs@comcast.net
al.thomason@comcast.com

WORDS FROM OUR YOUTH PASTOR

We could probably debate this, but I am under the impression that kids are at their funniest when they aren’t trying to be. Take for example Emily’s recent graduation party (side note: I’m very proud of her. Going to school full time and putting up with me is no small feat. Now back to my story.)

Darian, our three-year-old nephew, was busy running around the coffee table when Emily attempted to pick up some discarded shoes from his path. Unfortunately, she wasn’t able to remove them in time. Darian slammed on the brakes and shouted, “Out of my way!”

Emily, being the wonderful nurturer that she is, knelt down and calmly asked if he could say that in a nicer way. Darian responded by smiling and repeating, “Out of my way,” in a pleasant, sing-song voice.

Although I’m sure Emily thought she was looking for the magical word “please,” Darian’s seemed to do the trick. We all laughed as Emily stepped aside and let him pass, but there was more to that encounter than just a cute little kid saying something unpredictable. I believe the moment was a reminder of what God wants from us.

I’ve met numerous people over the years who struggle with praying out loud (or praying at all for that matter). And most of them tell me the same thing, “I just don’t know what to say.” It seems that we sometimes think we have to say the right words in order for God to hear us. But, I think what God is really looking for is what’s in our hearts. And ANY words spoken from one of God’s children are beautiful to the Lord.

Bobby Tabb, Youth Pastor

FINANCE COMMITTEE

The Finance Committee met Wednesday December 20 for their monthly meeting.

Jerry Hoerber was introduced as the incoming Finance Chairman for 2007.

Tom Stewart and **Jerry Hoerber** volunteered to work on the Budget Committee, with input from other committee members to prepare a budget for 2007, to be presented to the Finance Committee at their next meeting.

It was reported that the audit process has begun and will continue into the new year.

The Church Council recommendation that the Christmas offering be given to WESTCO to support their work in western Washington County was affirmed by the Finance committee. WESTCO provides emergency assistance with rent, utilities, and other needs in the area.

Special thanks were extended to **Pat Gilman** and **Chuck** and **Carolyn Ashton** for their years of service as Treasurer and Financial Secretaries, as this is their final Finance meeting in that capacity.

2007 Finance Chair Jerry Hoerber requested that the Finance meeting night be changed from the 3rd Wednesday, to the 3rd Tuesday of the month, making the next meeting Tuesday, January 16, 2007.

Dan Gustafson, Chair

THANK YOU

Happy New Year and my thanks to all you door greeters who so faithfully served the Church in 2006. I really appreciate the time you give, and know all who attend like to be welcomed when they enter our house of Worship.

Erma Heisler

FIRST AID CLASS

January 27, 2007; 9-12:30
At the church

If you work with children or youth in the church, or would like to do so, we urge you to take this class. Additional classes will be offered as needed.

Dr. Charles Pritchard, a certified American Red Cross First Aid Instructor, will lead the class. He can offer certification to those who need it.

FINANCE REPORT

2006 Operating Budget

Annual Budget:	\$243,865
Income through Nov. 30, 2006:	\$201,360*
Expenses through Nov. 30, 2006:	\$202,700
Balance (deficit):	(\$1,340)

*This income includes:
\$13,334 from **Ester Kinch** Trust (designated for Mission or Outreach Programs)
\$6,068 from **Paul H. Schramel** Trust (designated for building upkeep)

If you don't count the above special gifts, and begin the year 2006 with a zero balance, the following balance is reflected:

Income through Nov. 30, 2006:	\$182,028
Expenses through Nov. 30, 2006:	\$202,700
Balance (deficit):	(\$20,672)

To date this year, we are behind in our pledge giving by 5%. **If all the pledges were caught up, this deficit of \$20,672 would be reduced to \$8,479.**

Dan Gustafson, Chair

FGUMC CALENDAR, JANUARY 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
7	1 New Years Day Youth Group Winter retreat registration Money due!	2 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study in Library	3 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 7:00 p.m. Church Council	4 6:00-7:00 p.m. Open Room/Guitar Lessons 7:00 — 8:30 p.m. Choir practice	5 Office Closed Pastor's Day Off	6 6:00 p.m. Staff appreciation Dinner																																																																																				
9:00 a.m. PowerXpress 10:00 Worship Communion 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 11:30 a.m. Covenant Group 5:30 p.m. Disciples Bible Study NO Youth Group	8 6:30 p.m. Education & Congregational Care	9 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study in Library 6:30 p.m. Investment 7:00 p.m. Wesleyans	10 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting	11 NO Open Room/Guitar Lessons 6:00 — 7:30 p.m. Choir practice (today only)	12 Office Closed Pastor's Day Off	13 NO Breakfast Club																																																																																				
14	15 2:00 p.m. Jennings McCall group	16 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study in Library 7:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting	17 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 6:30 p.m. Worship Committee	18 6:00—7:00 p.m. Open Room/Guitar Lessons 7:00 — 8:30 p.m. Choir practice	19 Office Closed Pastor's Day Off	20 Youth Group Winter Retreat at Suttle Lake UM Camp Messenger articles due today!																																																																																				
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21	22 7:00 p.m. Outreach	23 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study in Library 7:15 p.m. Trustees	24 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting	25 6:00—7:00 p.m. Open Room/Guitar Lessons 7:00 — 8:30 p.m. Choir practice	26 Office Closed Pastor's Day Off 2:00 p.m. UMW & Friends	27																																																																																				
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28	29	30 9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study in Library 2:00 p.m. The Elms	31 11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting 11:00 a.m. Have committee minutes in office	December			February																																																																																			
9:00 a.m. PowerXpress 10:00 Worship 11:00 a.m. Fellowship 5:30 p.m. Disciples Bible Study 6:00 - 8:00 p.m. Youth Group				<table border="1" style="font-size: small; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> <td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td> </tr> <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>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>31 24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table>	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	31 24	25	26	27	28	29	30	25	26	27	28					
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HAVE YOU MOVED?

Please be sure that the church office has your new address. It costs us 75 cents for each item of returned mail.

Ella Mae James,
Church Secretary

FOREST GROVE UMC IN THE NEWS

An article about last summer's Day Camp at FGUMC appeared in Nov/Dec issue of the Conference Newsletter. You can pick up a copy at the church or view the newsletter online at: http://www.umoi.net/artman/uploads/news/um/2003_nov-dec_um.pdf

SPECIAL THANKS

Lester and I want to express our thanks for all the prayers, cards, phone calls and visits he received during these past several weeks. He is now recovering from cataract surgery, and hopefully we will be going other places now besides doctors and drug stores. This has been a long and stressful time since October 2nd but we are grateful for the progress he is making. You are a congregation of thoughtful and caring people –bless all of you.

Lester and Erma Heisler

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Virginia Wells	January 1 st
Andrew Tunall	January 3 rd
Kathleen Brown	January 4 th
Margaret Anne Cox	January 5 th
Tom House	January 7 th
Leota Trofitter	January 8 th
David Weekley	January 14 th
Linda Raycraft	January 15 th
Bonnie Cameron	January 17 th
Vera Illingworth	January 19 th
Jan Stewart	January 20 th
Donna House	January 22 nd
Anne Brown	January 27 th
Tracy Gulacy	January 27 th

JANUARY ANNIVERSARIES

Dan & Kathy Wilson-Fey	January 2 nd
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December Community Concert to benefit Habitat for Humanity with the FG United Church of Christ choir.

2007 Officers and Committees

V. **Committee on Lay Leadership (Nominations)** (full members) P. 259.1

Dan Wilson-Fey, Pastor, Chair (9 persons)
David Rose, Lay Leader

Class of 2007

Maurine Scott
Eunice Gustafson
Laurie Bond

Class of 2008

LeRoy Gamble
Sue Brenner
Frank Colcord

Class of 2009

Alisa Hampton
Arleigh Berget
Marilyn Carr

VI. **Committee on Finance** Para 259.4

Chair: Jerry Hoerber

Representative of SPRC

Treasurer

Financial Secretary

Lay Leader

Representative of Trustees

Pastor

Lay Member of A/C

Church Council Chair

Laura Dionne

Dan Gustafson

David Rose

Dan Wilson-Fey

Ted Oakberg

Brian Hawkins

Class of 2007

Tom Gamble
Edythe Westlund
Jerry Hoerber

Class of 2008

Diane Long
Jim Sehorn

Class of 2009

Morris Haney
Bill Gulacy

VII. **Staff Parish Relations Committee** Par. 259.2 (full members)

Chair

Lay Member to A/C

Lay Leader

Jacque Haney

Liz Swenson

David Rose

Class of 2007

Marion Gustafson
Merrill Ludlam
Jacque Haney

Class of 2008

Virginia Heald
Jan Stewart
Winona MacKinnon

Class of 2009

Lois Oakberg
Luther Schrock
Nancy Bond

VIII **Outreach Committee**

Chair

Habitat for Humanity Representative

WESTCO Representative

Deacon

Liz Swenson

Betty Ludlam

Lynn Anderson

Rhoda Pittman Markus

Class of 2007

Adam Hampton
Chuck Pritchard
Taylor Morrison

Class of 2008

Bob Francis
Sally Green
Liz Swenson

Class of 2009

2007 Officers and Committees

IX: **Education Committee** Chair: Mary Jane Nordgren
Educational Consultant: Rhoda Pittman Markus
Parish Nurse: Patti Rose

<u>Class of 2007</u>	<u>Class of 2008</u>	<u>Class of 2009</u>
Laurie Bond	Jan Schrock	Tracy Gulacy
Kathy Wilson-Fey	Donna House	Amy Scott
Donna Berget	Mary Jane Nordgren	Michelle Ashton

X. **Congregational Care Committee** Chair: _____

<u>Class of 2007</u>	<u>Class of 2008</u>	<u>Class of 2009</u>
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XI. **Worship Committee** Chair: Patti Rose
Altar Guild Margaret Hoerber
Greeters Erma Heisler
Liturgists Patti Rose
Communion Servers Shirley Gamble/Maurine Scott
Director of Music Betty Pritchard

<u>Class of 2007</u>	<u>Class of 2008</u>	<u>Class of 2009</u>
Nancy Bond	Jerry Hoerber	Delva Johnson
Leah Henriksen	Kristi Thomason	Pat McClelland
Craig MacKinnon	Alan Ashton	

XII **Strategic Planning Team:** Janet Hummel, Al Thomason, Cal Clayton, Billie Tveit

XIII **Memorial Committee:** Chair: Mary Ann Mellbye
Eunice Gustafson, Margaret Ann Cox, LeRoy Gamble, Carolyn Ashton

XIV **Youth Ministries Team** Chair: Janet DePooter

<u>Class of 2007</u>	<u>Class of 2008</u>	<u>Class of 2009</u>
Janet Hummel	Ann Ulum	Kathy Wilson-Fey
Janet DePooter	Merrill Ludlam	

XV **Safe Sanctuary Committee** Co-Chairs: Lay Leader

Lay Leader: David Rose
Church Council Chair: Brian Hawkins
Education Committee Chair: Mary Jane Nordgren
Pastor: Dan Wilson-Fey

<u>Class of 2007</u>	<u>Class of 2008</u>	<u>Class of 2009</u>
Margaret Ann Cox	Merrill Ludlam	Chuck Pritchard

SERVING IN JANUARY

Liturgist	Janet De Pooter
Altar Guild	Val Hawkins
Bus Coordinator	Linda King, cell: 503-522-1215
Bus Driver January	Delva Johnson
Ushers	TBA
Greeters:	
January 7th	Frank Colcord
January 14th	Ella Colcord
January 21st	Margaret Hoeber
January 28th	Tom & Donna House
Coffee Coordinator	Edythe Westlund
Fellowship Time	TBA
January 7th	
January 14th	
January 21st	
January 28th	
Nursery Attendant	Hillary Hawkins
Web Master	Jenny LaCombe
Acolytes	
January 7th	Chante Gustafson & Taylor Haney
January 14th	Rachel Hampton & Connor Dionne
January 21st	Noah Wilson-Fey & Henry Gulacy
January 28th	John Heun & Fletcher Johnson
Kitchen Elf	Marilyn Carr
Sound Ministry	Media operators
Tape Ministry	Media team
Parish Nurse	Patti Rose

CONGREGATIONAL CARE/EDUCATION CORNER

Jan Schrock

Born in Minnesota, Janice went to high school in Indiana where she met Luther. But he was too intent upon his ping pong game to say much. After a couple of weeks, he realized he'd missed talking with somebody special. Working as a secretary, Jan helped Luther through Purdue. Then, when sons Brad and Derek were grown, he helped her through Saginaw Valley College to earn her teaching degree. For 7 years she taught preschool in Michigan before Luther was transferred to Texas, where she taught 3rd grade for 13 years. Retired in Texas, the Schrocks moved to Oregon to be near grandsons Brandon and Yule.

Jan loves to read biographies, sew and cook and walk. She and Luther enjoyed traveling to Mexico, Europe (especially Holland and Belgium) and particularly to Japan where son Brad and his wife Yuko, with their knowledge of Japanese, could introduce them to out-of-the-way sites.

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 2007

Issue No. 1, January

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FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1726 Cedar Street, Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434

Daniel Wilson-Fey	503-359-4249	Pastor
Rhoda Pittman Markus	503-357-3998	Deacon
Bobby & Emily Tabb	503-844-7694	Youth Pastors
Ella Mae James		Church Secretary
Church Office Hours, Mon. through Thursday		
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon		
Patty Davie	503-357-3185	Messenger Editor
e-mail: plc2fd@verizon.net		