



FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Messenger

June 2011

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Phone: 503-357-2689 FAX: 503-357-8410
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PASTOR'S STUDY LEAVE

The SPRC has supported Pastor Dan's request to take a study leave this summer. The purpose of the leave is to engage in self-reflection and personal spiritual growth. Dan will be spending time gaining a deeper personal faith. This is not a vacation for Dan. Personal reflection requires hard work and time unencumbered by the pressing issues that arise during the day-to-day life of the church pastor who is present in church. To achieve this personal reflection time, Dan will be spending time away from the Forest Grove area. Please support Dan as he takes this journey.

This study leave will run from June 20th through July 20th. That is a span of 4 Sundays. Due to Annual Conference including June 19th, Dan will be gone for 5 Sundays. During the time that Dan is away, there will be guest preachers including pastors and lay members. Please contact the church office should a pastoral need arise. You may contact me or a member of SPRC if you have any questions about the leave.

Submitted by **Brian Hawkins**, Chair
Staff-Parish Relations Committee

HELP CELEBRATE MAX'S GRADUATION

Everyone is invited to an open house in celebration of Max Wilson-Feyø's graduation from high school on June 4th. You are welcome to drop by his house (1609 Hartford Dr.) between 2 and 6 p.m. on **Saturday, June 4th**.

Kathy & Dan Wilson-Fey

WESLEYANS' ANNUAL DINNER

Wesleyans' annual dinner out will be Tuesday, June 7th at 6:00 p.m. at the 22nd Street Station, 2337 22nd Avenue, (between Cedar and Douglas Streets.) We'll have the restaurant all to ourselves, and the cook is planning a lovely meal, including dessert. Cost is \$12.00. Bring your spouse or a friend for an evening of delicious food and fellowship. Thanks to **Ann Ulum** for making the arrangements. If you have questions, call Ann at 503-357-1386.

Submitted by **Virginia Heald**, President

SECOND SATURDAY GARDEN PARTY

A gentle reminder that Saturday June 11th is our regular work party at church. We meet at 8:30 a.m. and quit no later than noon.

Bring your own gardening tools as there is a lot of weeding, pruning and planting to be done.

There will also be an opportunity for calorie and liquid replacement.

Hope you can join us.

Submitted by **Margaret Hoerber**

PLEASE NOTE

SUNDAY, THE 12TH OF JUNE, OUR WORSHIP SERVICE WILL START AT 9:30 A.M., ONE HALF HOUR EARLIER THAN USUAL.

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

I am starting to feel older.

My boys regularly find themselves rolling their eyes, jaws agape, and incredulous at what I don't know about pop culture or other things these days.

I've been sick with the flu and pneumonia these last two weeks and am just not bouncing back as quickly as I used to from things like these.

Kathy's and my first-born is graduating from high school next week and will be leaving the nest this summer.

The United Methodist Church that I joined in 1981 and made promises to, and it to me, is not the same today as it was then.

Nearly everything I am reading and hearing about the church these days talks about how much it is changing. Actually, not so much about how the church is changing; rather, how our culture, society, and expectations are changing while the church, in many instances, keeps moving along the same path it's always been on.

I don't know what to make of all this, yet.

I know that the leaders of your church, the Church Council, spent some time at their last meeting (which I missed due to my illness) talking about how, if, when, and/or in what way this particular church is called to change. Using a sailing image, it appears as if we, as a church, are adrift, not sure how to fill the sails, and even if we did, it's not clear what port are we sailing toward, whether we have a working rudder, enough crew to operate the sails, and whose hand is planted on the helm. Is it just a matter of changing crews, or does it go deeper than that?

Here is what I am sure of. God has not abandoned us. And although we are going through a time of transition, a time of change, we should remember that the wilderness was a most important part of the change in Jesus' life. It was after that transitional time that he began his life-giving, life-changing ministry in earnest, with passion, with purpose.

I am going to go away to the wilderness for a time this summer. It's the study leave mentioned by Staff-Parish Relations Chair, Brian Hawkins, in his article on the front page of this newsletter. I will be listening, praying, reading, reflecting, journaling, walking, resting and noticing. I have no idea what the result will be, but I do know something will change.

Change is upon us as a church. The *status quo* cannot remain static if life is to flourish. The sick eventually get well. The toddler eventually grows to be a man and graduates from high school. The ageing dad eventually comes to not fully understand the music and culture in which his children live. And the church -- God's instrument -- the church, eventually

Well, how would you complete that? It's not just for me to say.

In faith,



Pastor Dan

FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

Back a few weeks ago, Bill Mullette-Bauer, Conference Director of Stewardship and Finance, began his weekly newsletter with these words: "Anyone who has taken part in a parade, procession, or demonstration of considerable size knows that being a participant is very different than being a bystander." I've been thinking about those words ever since, with the realization that one of the problems in churches today is that there are too many bystanders and not enough participants. I recall, also, the point in my life when I decided that being a bystander was not enough. Pastor Dan challenged me when he asked how do people move from being a bystander to being a participant? Here's my story, and perhaps it will capture your imagination and cause you to think about whether you are a participant or a bystander and what needs to change if you are a bystander.

After having been very much a participant throughout my youth and young adult years, my connection to the church became pretty humdrum. I often referred to myself as a pew sitter and then I drifted away from the church entirely. This was an off and on again business throughout my 30's and 40's. One day everything changed. I knew deep inside there was more to Christianity than sitting in a pew on Sunday morning and engaging in idle chit chat during fellowship time. There was even more than service on committees or teaching Sunday School, although those are important things. Here's some of how the change happened. I joined the parade!

The first thing that happened was an invitation or suggestion from a woman who had traveled with a mission team to Nicaragua. She thought I might be interested in an upcoming trip. Boy was I! Somehow I managed to get permission from the school for a 3 week leave, get my passport renewed, had financing fall into my lap and took off to Nicaragua in the January of 1989. Some sort of mission experience is important. For me - ***life-changing!***

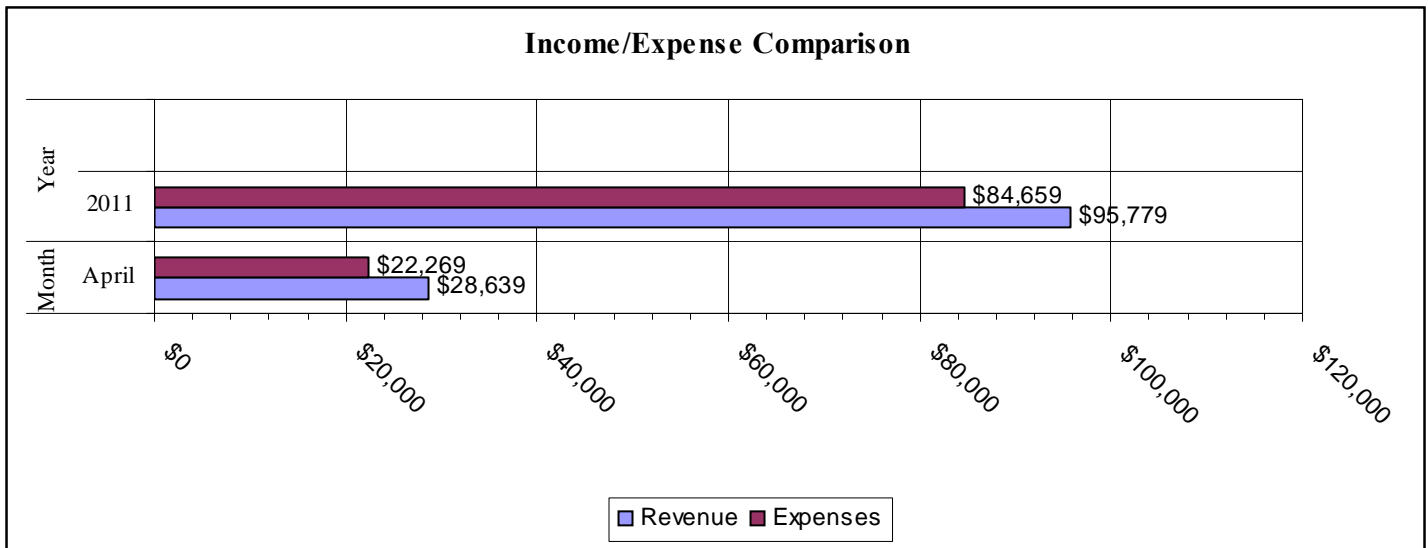
A long time friend at Aloha UMC where I was attending, had the practice of ordering copies of "Daily Disciplines" a devotional guide from Upper Room each fall for those interested in having a copy. I ordered one and began reading the Bible from a lectionary point of view. I continued faithfully for over 15 years. This way of reading the Bible taught me about the great themes that are introduced in the Old Testament and refined in the New Testament. Sometimes I was on my own and sometimes I was part of a group that studied and struggled with the texts, not only from an academic point of view, but asking what the passages mean for today. At some point I fell away from the practice and have only recently regained it. It feels like coming home. Becoming intimate with the Bible is important, as is thinking for yourself about what you read.

Some other activities that spurred me on included regular adult Sunday School attendance, a small group that met once a month for 15 years, several years attending UMW's School of Christian Mission and attending many events beyond the local church that offered learning opportunities. Small group experiences whether short term or long term are important.

There was a combination of being invited by someone who cared about me and saw potential in me for growth, and feeling a tug from God to discover and act on what I was created to be. What about you? Bystander or Participant?

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

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT



GRADUATING CLASS OF 2011

Max Wilson-Fey will be attending Oregon State University Honors College. Max has been part of the youth since Bobby and I first started working with the youth. Max has always been dedicated to the youth group. He would attend events knowing he would be the only one, participate in almost all youth events whether they were to have fun, help others, or work hard. I could always count on Max to bring wisdom, compassion, and stability to any youth gathering. What I will miss the most about Max is his ability to bring God into all things. Knowing Max is knowing the love that Jesus had for others. Thank you, Max, for your dedication, your amazing compassion, and your contagious smile. We will miss you.

Taylor Haney will be attending Portland Community College. Taylor was among the core group of youth when we started as well. Taylor cares so deeply for others and her love for life is uplifting. She was the comic relief when we needed a laugh, and a shoulder to cry on when people needed support. Taylor shared her energy and passion with the youth group through her hard work on mission trips and other youth gatherings. Taylor never met a stranger, willing to go out of her comfort zone to welcome any and all. On youth retreats, Taylor would be one of the first to meet new people and help everyone feel welcome. I will miss Taylor's hospitality and ability to love people no matter what. Thank you, Taylor, for all the laughter and your relentless hospitality.

Alyssa Dionne will be attending Western Oregon University. The first time I met Alyssa was when Bobby and I interviewed for the Youth Director position. I remember her asking us how long we planned to stay. Right then and there I knew we were going to have a special relationship because I could tell she was someone who would invest in you if you were willing to do the same. Alyssa was always willing to participate, ask questions, and delve deep into her faith. She has a bright and beautiful personality that is infectious. Alyssa was always the glue that held us together. I will never forget her wonderful laugh that can brighten a room. What I will miss the most about Alyssa are the profound conversations we would have and the confidence she has in who she is. She brought so much life and love to the youth group. Thank you, Alyssa, for your leadership and your fearless love for God and others.

Submitted by **Emily Tabb**

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

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5 10:00 a.m. Worship: Senior Recognition Sunday, Communion 11:15 a.m. Fellowship—Paula & Don Gassman's 50th Anniversary 11:30 a.m. Youth Band Rehearsal 1:30 p. m Last Confirmation Class 4:00-6:00 pm Experiencing the Bible Again for the First Time		6 6:00-8:30 p.m. Last Youth Group		7 6:00 p.m. Wesleyans annual Dinner OUT		8 6:30 p. m. SPRC 7:30 p.m. Finance Committee		9 7:00-8:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal		10 Pastor's Day Off 11:00 a.m. Have committee minutes in office		11 8:306 Noon Second Saturday Garden Party 9:006 Noon: Membership Inquirer's Class 3:006 11:00 p.m. Youth; End of Year Beach Trip																																																																																								
12 9:30 a.m. Worship: Confirmation Sunday 10:00 a.m. Youth Band, Apostlips Play 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 4:00-6:00 pm Experiencing the Bible Again for the First Time		13		14		15 6:00 p.m. Grant Committee ? 7:00 p.m. Church Council		16		17 Pastor's Day Off		18 Pastor's Day Off 8:30-3:30 Change the World Leadership Training at Annual Conference July Messenger articles due.																																																																																								
19 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship Father's Day		20 No Jennings-McCall Gathering w/Pastor Dan		21 7:00 p.m. Women's Book Club at Janet Hummel's home		22 1:006 4:15 p.m. Youth Get-Together 1:30 p.m. Mission Ministry Team 4:30 p.m. Youth Band, Apostlips Rehearsal 6:30 p.m. Spiritual Growth Team		23		24 Pastor's Day Off		25 Pastor's Day Off																																																																																								
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CONFIRMATION RETREAT

The second weekend in May, the Confirmation Class: Brenna Madden, Connor Dionne, Fernanda Vale, and Sarah Hampton went to the Pritchard/Nordgren beach house in Lincoln City. Dan Wilson-Fey, Eric Conklin, and Emily Tabb led the weekend.

The presence of God was undeniable through our lesson discussions, the laughter and stories, the love that was felt í and wading in the ocean ... oh wait ... only 2 were crazy enough to do that.

Memories were created, relationships were made or made stronger with God, and the experience was priceless. The closest I felt to God during the weekend was at the campfire on Saturday evening. We sat on the beach and roasted hot dogs and marshmallows, told stories and laughed together. To wrap up the amazing day, I wrote all our names in the sand, including FGUMC, Cornelius UMC, and a spot that said öYour Parent(s)ö. I asked everyone to stand by each name written in the sand and pray for that person or persons. It was so powerful to know that 6 other people I care so much about would stand by my name and pray for me.

I thank God to be in a position to experience these God moments with such amazing youth and youth workers.

Last of School-Year Youth Events:

- NO Destination Unknown!
- Friday, June 3rd- Youth Council Retreat
- Sunday, June 5th-High School Senior Recognition
Last Apostlips Practice 11:30-12:45
Last Confirmation Class 1:30-3:30
- Monday, June 6th- Last Youth Group
- Saturday, June 11th- End of Year Beach Trip
- Sunday, June 12th- Confirmation Sunday



Summer Youth Events:

- Wednesdays, 1:00-4:15-Youthø öGet-Togetherö, begins June 22nd .
4:30-6:00- Apostlips Practice
- 4th Sunday of Month, 7:00-8:00- The Gathering
Everyoneø invited to have a camp style worship experience in the church field!
- Youth Mission Trip, July 23rd-28th
- KidsøNight Out, August 20th 12-5 *

**All kids ages 0-11 are welcome to participate. Youth will provide games, activities, and a great evening for kids. Sorry, parents, you are not invited! You'll have to figure out what you can do without your kiddos!*

Submitted by **Emily Tabb**

BRAINSTORMING POSSIBILITY

I'm looking for a few persons interested in our mission in the community and especially our 5th Sunday events.

I'd like to meet with you a time or two or three to brainstorm ideas for 5th Sunday and do a bit of Bible study.

Time to meet would be between June 20 and July 15 to ready ourselves for July 31st 5th Sunday event and beyond.

Submitted by *Rhoda Pittman Markus*

A CHALLENGE!

Let's fill the bus with persons going to Annual Conference on Saturday, June 18th for the Leadership Event featuring Mike Slaughter, pastor of Ginghamsburg UMC in Tipp City, Ohio. Adam Hamilton of Church of the Resurrection says: "Mike Slaughter inspires, challenges, and encourages participants to be the church Jesus envisioned when he gave the Great Commission. No ivory tower prescriptions. . .but many illustrations of what the 21st century missional church is meant to be."

Participants must register for the one day event. Go to <http://www.umoi.org> click on Annual Conference Session on the home page; Leadership Training Event and find the Register Now button. It's pretty easy but if you need help talk with Liz in the office. Cost is \$25 and includes lunch. Be sure to let Liz know that you have registered.

Submitted by *Rhoda Pittman Markus*

DONATIONS FOR TOMATO PLANTS

Thank you for donations for the tomato and other plants. The donations at the church and at Ted's former workplace totaled \$215. This money will be given to the St. Vincent DePaul food pantry at the Catholic church to help support the food pantry in Forest Grove.

Submitted by *Lois Oakberg*

YOUR CHURCH COUNCIL

During the May Church Council meeting, we had a good discussion on why there are many jobs in our organization that are unfilled and why just a few members do many of the tasks. There are many reasons.

It became apparent that most of us like to work with people we know, so we focused on that reason. It is difficult to take on a task and volunteer work with people whom you do not really know. We felt that most of us know only a few of our fellow members well. Looking at some of the successful organizations within our Church, such as Music, UMW, and Youth, we found that they developed social connections first and then focused on the tasks at hand. We realized that when people feel comfortable with each other they are more willing to step forward and work together. Members of successful churches are socially close.

There are a number of groups in our Church that provide such social contact: Wesleyans, UMM, UMW, Music, Youth and Garden Party to list a few. However, most of them are very specific with their member types: women, men, music readers, weed pullers. There is a group just being formed that invites families, couples or singles of all ages with a focus on social contact: Tables For Seven. This is a new opportunity for good social contact with fellow members.

As our discussion moved along, we decided to focus on members getting to know each other better. Build a stronger Church. Please get involved in a Church group and take a good look at Tables For Seven. Reach out, meet the member that sits two rows from you each Sunday morning. I know leaders of our clubs and groups will be glad to have more action.

Down the road I can see a warmer, closer Church. I can also see members joining together in teams of a few and taking on tasks in the Church or the community because they want to do some good work with friends. That will be wonderful -- one more of the reasons we belong to the FGUMC.

Submitted by *Harold Jensen*
Chairman, Church Council

PARKING LOT SALE

Mark your calendars for **Saturday July 16th** for the parking lot sale in our church parking lot. Rent a space and have your own garage sale here! The event will be well advertised and lunch (hamburger, hot dogs, etc.) will be available. See the poster outside the fellowship hall for details.

Submitted by *Lois Oakberg*

**TO THE WOMEN
OF THE FOREST GROVE
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

Silently I sit there
 Admiring their strength
 The talents which are shared
 Without noticeable constraints
 Church projects are a mission
 Each woman is deployed
 To share her time and energy
 With laughter and with joy.
 Assurance of their faithfulness
 Is shown in many ways
 In the community and the church
 Touching people's lives each day
 Silently I sit there
 Thankful I've been a part
 Of this special group of women
 I hold dearly in my heart!

Martha Tunall

UMW -- UMM MEETING

The United Methodist Women and United Methodist Men will share a potluck lunch on Sunday, June 26th at 12:20 p.m., followed by separate meetings and a program. Please join us!

Submitted by *Lela Baskins*

BIRTHDAYS

Verva Loomis	June 1 st
Rebekah Hall	June 2 nd
Janet Craig	June 4 th
Bill Boysen	June 5 th
Cindy McConnell	June 7 th
Barbara Schultz	June 8 th
Maryellen Wirtz	June 8 th
Kendra Swartz	June 10 th
Sarah Brown	June 13 th
Margaret Hoerber	June 14 th
Cade Ashton	June 18 th
Alisa Hampton	June 18 th
Taylor Haney	June 21 st
Beth Tveit	June 21 st
Arleigh Berget	June 24 th
Hazel Sefler	June 27 th
Janet DePooter	June 28 th
Caleb McGee	June 28 th

ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Paula Gassman	June 3 rd
Tom & Joanne Rannells	June 8 th
Bobby & Emily Tabb	June 12 th
Jerry & Margaret Hoerber	June 13 th
Tom & Jan Stewart	June 14 th
Chuck & Carolyn Ashton	June 18 th
Fred & Linda Raycraft	June 19 th
David & Lucinda Hites-Clabaugh	June 21 st
Morris & Jacquie Haney	June 21 st
Linda & John King	June 24 th
Dave & Patti Rose	June 26 th

SERVING IN JUNE

Lay Leader	Ann Ulum
Altar Guild	Val Hawkins
Bus Coordinator	Lois Oakberg, 503-357-8129
Bus Driver:	Fred Raycraft
Ushers & Greeters	Hospitality Team
Coffee Coordinator	Janet Hummel
Fellowship Time	
June 5 th	Don & Paula Gassman's Anniversary Celebration
June 12 th	Choir
June 19 th	McCaughey Family
June 26 th	Nancy Bond
Nursery Supervisor	Melissa Holcomb
Web Master	Jenny Lyn Englin
Kitchen Elves	Margaret Hoerber & Lois Oakberg
Sound and Media	Steven Wong
Parish Nurse	Patti Rose

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

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

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

CHURCH CORNER

Leonard & Dorene Uppinghouse

74 years of marriage! How do you do it? Leonard answers with his gentle chuckle, "There are three parts to the secret.

1. You have to get old enough.
2. You and your wife have to live out a life that reflects the teachings of Jesus Christ—the good life.
3. You need to truly love each other.

Church has been an enormous part of both their lives. Dorene served for 12 years on the National Board of Missions for the Methodist Church, and in the process of visiting missions has traveled twice around the world.

Leonard was born in Spokane but moved with family to Portland at 12 years of age. He became a building contractor and started by building the Methodist church in Beaverton—eventually erecting 50 or 60 of them.

His insight into the fund-raising problems all churches face led him to institute "work equity"—allowing volunteers to help with the building and thus reduce the cost. He wished to complete our sanctuary, but had been advised to retire because of a heart condition. But he did build the first units of our church, now the classroom wing, and so his legacy of love for wife and Lord still stand strong.

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Volume 2011, **June**, Issue No. 6.

Messenger monthly.

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

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
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