



Forest Grove United Methodist Church

Messenger

June 2006

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

What a great morning, May 6th was, gathering at Lincoln Park with others, walking the 5K loop by the new Habitat for Humanity site, and knowing that in walking this walk, I was truly walking the “talk” of discipleship.

Thanks to contributions from many of you, as well as colleagues, friends and family, I turned \$220 over to Habitat for Humanity. At last report the total contributions were over \$3000 with more money yet to come. This money goes to the purchase of the site, an ever growing expense for Habitat for Humanity.

Your Outreach Committee, at a recent meeting, looked at steps that we might take toward a greater commitment of this church for Habitat for Humanity.

A covenant church would do some of these things: pray, participate in annual fund raisers, publicize Habitat, encourage members to volunteer, make a regular financial commitment, join in work parties, send a member to the board of directors, bring Habitat speakers to church groups, build one or more houses.

We are already doing some of these, and are interested in hearing responses from the congregation about interest in more involvement and possibly formalizing a relationship with Habitat.

If you're looking for “hands on” ministry, the time is ripe for picking up a hammer and joining work parties. Want more information? Talk to **Merrill & Betty Ludlam**, or members of the Outreach Committee chaired by **Liz Swenson**.

Deacon Rev. **Rhoda Pittman Markus**

2006 GRADUATES

Alyssa Bond: While at Forest Grove High School, Alyssa lettered in Drama, Tennis and Choir, and was also a member of the National Honor Society and Treasurer for the Drama Club. She will be attending Western Oregon University in the fall, with a major in Theater Arts and a minor in Music. Alyssa will be graduating eighteenth in a class of two-hundred and ninety-six; she is the recipient of the WOU Presidential Scholarship.

Brianna Johnson: During her four years at Forest Grove, Brianna participated in the Upward Bound College Prep program. She also worked with the Sparrow Club to raise money for kids with illnesses. For her senior project, Brianna learned to scuba dive. She will be attending Western Oregon University in the fall, majoring in Writing.

Casey Spangler: As the captain of the Liberty High School Volleyball Team, Casey set the school record for the most career aces. She also played softball and bowled. She was very involved with the preschool and Child Services programs at Liberty. She has been accepted into the nursing program at Concordia University.

Brett Mellbye: Brett Mellbye, grandson of Mary Ann Mellbye and son of Mark Mellbye of Albany, OR, will graduate from Oregon State University in June with a major in Microbiology.

Note to Alwyn Hites-Clabaugh and Andy Edgerton and any graduate not mentioned: Please send your information to Patty Davie at plc2fd@verizon.net by June 20th so that we may include you in the July issue.

Camper Families, Shepherds, Cooks

Day Camp, August 14th -18th,
2006

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

As I write this it is 7:30 a.m. on Memorial Day. I am remembering our honored dead this day in particular.

I am also at the Church's annual Family Camp at Camp Magruder on the Oregon Coast. None of the other 48 people who attended this year are up, yet. But I can understand why. We've had two full days of activities which have allowed us to get to know one another better and at the same time have a very fun time. We discovered new and wonderful talents shared at the talent show Saturday night, and we've been blessed by Emily and Bobby Tabb's guitar music and songleading. We had a very fun softball game led by Addison Hummel, and skim boarding and wave boarding down at the beach. Some of us went razor clamming early Saturday morning and we'll have razor clams for breakfast this morning.

Then there was worship led by Kristi Thomason a la "The Reason." She did a great job as always. We had 36 people playing Bunko Friday night, a Family Camp tradition and a big hit. The weekend rains stopped long enough for us to make s'mores over a campfire and when the youth and younger kids disappeared to play "Mafia" and flashlight tag, us older folks sang some of the old 60's and 70's songs with Patti Rose accompanying us on guitar.

Of the people that came to the camp, 23 had never been before. We had 13 youth, and 11 kids from Micah Hampton up through 6th grade. It was truly a family camp. What a great time!

I wanted to try to give you a glimpse of what Family Camp is like not only because it is a lot of fun, but also because it is a time to do things together we wouldn't normally do. When families try new things, sometimes it works, sometimes it doesn't. To me, this being my first Family Camp, it works! I can't wait until next year!

And I can't wait to see what will happen during the rest of this Memorial Day! Janet just got up and is picking up the popcorn plates and empty cups leftover from the movie some of the group watched last night, "The Chronicles of Narnia." She has set out some banana bread for Bill, Mark, Delva, Dale and me, the other first ones up. And she's doing something in the kitchen to start to prepare for breakfast. I'm going to go help her and look at frying up the clams we dug yesterday morning.

I'll finish this at home, and get it to Ed and Patty Davie way past the deadline, but in time for it to make it to press.

(Later...) It was a very pleasant morning because the sun came out and we all had time to be on the beach or sit in the sun a bit and just visit. It was a wonderful way to end our time together, blessed in that way. As I left, I found myself grateful for the enthusiasm I felt this weekend, the energy of the kids and youth, the new connections that have been and are being made, and what that means for our life together in Christ. I am most grateful for all the organizing that Janet Hummel and Sue Brenner have done for the camp. It's a lot of work -- thank you, Janet and Sue! So until next year, we'll treasure this time that has brought us together in gratitude.

Finally, on a personal note, Kathy and I are buying a house here in Forest Grove. If all goes well, we close June 13 and will plan a big moving day June 17. We are approaching one year of being with you in ministry together, and are finding ourselves more and more feeling like this is home. There are so many exciting things happening in the church, some of which are described elsewhere in this newsletter. So this Memorial Day, I find myself filled with gratitude for all I've mentioned above, and remembering also in gratitude all the saints who have gone on before us in faith.

In Hope and Confidence,



Pastor Dan

ARE YOU FREE FOR THE R.R.E.?

Our annual **RELIGIOUS RECYCLING EVENT** (also known as the Rummage Sale) will be June 9th and 10th.

We need volunteers to do the set-up on Thursday evening the 8th - and also desperately need someone willing to put up advertising signs that evening around the area, and retrieve them on Saturday after the sale.

If you can help on Thursday, Friday or Saturday please contact *Edythe Westlund* (503) 357-5693.

WALKERS AND TALKERS

Come and enjoy our beautiful Fern Hill Lake right here in Forest Grove. Our covenant group "Walkers and Talkers" will meet at Fern Hill wetlands parking lot at 1 p.m. on June 3rd and June 24th. Our walk will begin promptly at 1:05.

This little lake is hidden off Hwy 47 on Fern Hill Rd.. The path around the lake is wide and level and 1.1 miles long. The path is not paved but is gravel and easy to walk on. Slow walkers are welcome. All adults 18 and older are welcome. Let us know if you need a ride to the site.

This will be a chance build faithful friendships within our church family.

I will be leading the walks bimonthly on Saturdays at 1pm but the program is available for other times as well. Please let us know if you are interested even if you are not available on Saturdays at 1pm.

Delva Johnson
delvadj@hotmail.com
503-992-0267

VIDEO PROJECTION SYSTEM BEING INSTALLED

A video projector and screen has been installed in the Sanctuary. This will allow us to project Liturgical readings, Scripture, Songs, Images, Video, and many other things I'm sure we will discover over time.

The "sound booth" will now include running the computer that facilitates the projections. If you have a desire to learn all or part of the system, let me know. Possible areas of service might be inputting the service into the computer, running the computer and sound system, taking pictures to be used for backgrounds or to convey a theme, searching the internet for appropriate images or video clips, or others that you have thought of and I haven't.

Dave Rose
503-357-2596 or r.rosepad@verizon.net

REMEMBER
Deadline for July
Messenger
June 20th

PICTURES TO BE TAKEN

Before and after church on June 11, 18, 25 and July 2, Frank Colcord will be in the Fellowship Hall to take pictures of all families and individuals in the church. We are preparing a photo board area in the Fellowship Hall so newcomers can more easily identify who's who, and vice versa! If you have any questions, please contact *Frank Colcord* at 357-1878 or *Nancy Bond* at 357-9734.

SCHOLARSHIPS

Scholarship applications are available in the church office. Open to anyone in the Church community who wants to pursue further training or education, applications are due June 15th. If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to call *Virginia McCrae* at 503 332-8158 or *Jeannette Saucy* at 503-357-2235.

ANNUAL CONFERENCE PROPOSED ACTIONS

A United Methodist Annual Conference is, among other things, a legislative body. It debates and votes on Action Requests that can influence policies of our Annual Conference. Some Action Requests are proposals to the 2008 General Conference, which can modify the Discipline that governs the United Methodist Church in the U.S.

Some Action Requests are not controversial, but others will generate hot debate. Below is a summary of some debatable requests. You can get the full text of requests in our church office, or go online to www.umi.net and click on "Action Requests".

Your lay representatives to Annual Conference welcome your input on Action Requests. You can send comments directly to **Liz Swenson** (503-628-5638, ejswenson@att.net) or **Ted Oakberg** (503-357-8129, brewinbruin@comcast.net), or leave your comments in the church office. But please do it soon, because we will leave for Annual Conference on June 6.

Peace and Justice Issues

H-15	Creates a new standing resolution in favor of a domestic security platform initiated by the group Physicians for Social Responsibility. This is a non-violent and multi-lateral approach to fighting terrorism and arms proliferation. [A similar resolution was offered in 2005, and failed to pass because delegates felt they didn't have enough information on this "security platform."]
H-41	Continues a standing resolution against pre-emptive nuclear strikes.
H-43	Continues a standing resolution in support of the United Nations.
H-49	Continues a standing resolution in support of a bill in the U.S. House to close the Western Hemispheric Institute for Security Cooperation, (formerly called the School of the Americas). This is a controversial program of the U.S. government to train police and military personnel from Latin America, whose graduates have been accused of gross human rights abuses.

Human Sexuality

H-7*	Makes membership in the United Methodist Church open to actively gay and lesbian persons, including those in long-term committed relationships. This is a response to a decision by the United Methodist Judicial Council that a pastor may exclude people from membership based on "sexual orientation and practice."
H-29*	Changes the current policy against homosexual practice. The Discipline states that it is "incompatible with Christian teaching." This request would delete that language, but retain the statement that "sexual relations are only clearly affirmed in the marriage bond." It also calls on civil authorities to extend civil unions and marriage "without regard to the gender of the partners."
H-35	Continues a standing resolution dating from 1988, which supports legal access to abortion.

Conference Merger

H-25	Directs conference leaders to investigate the costs and benefits of merging the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference with neighboring Annual Conferences. The investigating body would present a report to the 2007 Annual Conference
------	---

* Request to General Conference, to modify the Discipline.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

2006 Operating Budget

Annual Budget: \$243,865.00

Income through April 30, 2006: \$76,341.23

Expenses through April 30, 2006: \$72,283.90

Balance: \$4,057.33

Submitted by *Dan Gustafson*

**CHILD CARE HELP WANTED:
Summer or All-Year**

Do you like to work with the little ones?

Nursery – during Sunday School and Church
Prime Time – to assist Amy Scott

We are looking for both paid staff and volunteers to staff the nursery on Sunday mornings and for special events (such as the Swiss Steak Dinner or church committee meetings.)



This would be a great job for a college student home for the summer, or a local student job for the fall. And we'd love to have a list of people willing to help the staff on occasional Sundays or during special events. Interested? Please contact :

Barbara Huson; 503-357-8065;

bhuson@grovenet.net or

Mary Jane Nordgren at 503-357-3626;

mjnnordgren1@juno.com.

NEWS FROM THE LIBRARY

Have you checked the library book cart in the fellowship hall lately?

Some suggested reading:

- “Enrique’s Journey”, by Sonia Nazario
- “The Sacred Journey”, by Frederick Buechner
- “The Complete Dead Sea Scrolls”, (in English),
Translated by Geza Vermes
- “The Coast Mappers”, by Taylor Morrison

Mary Ann Mellbye

DOLLARS FOR DENVER

Let’s help fund Beth Hall’s service dog!

For more detailed information, see the flyer in the fellowship hall or check out:
www.denverthedog.blogspot.com.

If you wish to donate toward the goal, you may mail a check payable to “Brigadoon Assistance Dogs” with “**Beth Hall**” clearly written in the memo space. Mail to the following address:

Brigadoon Assistance Dogs
4759 Mission Road
Bellingham, WA 98226

Submitted by: *Mary Jane Nordgren*

FLOWERS NEEDED

There is a “Flower Chart” on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

Please sign up for the dates you would like to bring flowers for the Sanctuary.



UMC CHOIR CONCERT



ANNUAL SWISS STEAK DINNER

VISITORS FROM KICOSHEP

On June 18th, at 9:00 a.m., the **Kibera Community Self help Project**, which is an HIV/AIDS Project in the huge Kibera slum in Nairobi, Kenya, will present a program by **Mrs. Anne Owiti** and **Mr. Andrew Wega**. Mrs. Owiti is the Founder and Director; Mr. Wega is the Youth Coordinator.

Mrs. Owiti established the program about 15 years ago, centering on home-based care for those in the slum with HIV/AIDS. As parents succumbed to the disease, Anne had to deal with the many orphans.

You can hear her story at the adult Sunday School class on the 18th. She and Andrew will show a video about the development of the Project among people of meager means, but of courage and spirit.

Please come and show support for people in Africa who are trying to find 'strength for the journey.' Mrs. Owiti has written a book and will be hoping to sell copies on Sunday to raise money for KICOSHEP.

This is the project I was involved with when we were in Kenya.

Diane Ray

A note from Pastor Dan:

When Diane mentions that this was the program she worked with in Kenya, we remember that Ron and Diane Ray were United Methodist Missionaries who came from this church and whom you have supported for many years in their mission work. Ron and Diane are retiring and moving to South Africa in August.

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Verva Loomis	June 1st
Rebekah Hall	June 2nd
Bill Boysen	June 5th
Barbara Schultz	June 8th
Maryellen Wirtz	June 8th
Kendra Brenner	June 10th
Sarah Brown	June 13th
Margaret Hoerber	June 14th
Taylor Haney	June 21st
Mark Tveit	June 21st
Beth Tveit	June 21st
Herb Roehr	June 23rd
Arleigh Berget	June 24th
Virginia Heald	June 26th
Hazel Sefler	June 27th

JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

LeRoy & Shirley Gamble	June 3rd, 1950
Don & Paula Gassman	June 3rd
Tom & Joanne Rannells	June 8th
Bobby & Emily Tabb	June 12th
Karl & Ella Mae James	June 13th, 1998
Tom & Jan Stewart	June 14th, 1959
Chuck & Carolyn Ashton	June 18th, 1950
Fred & Linda Raycraft	June 19th, 1993
David & Lucinda Hites-Clabaugh	June 21st, 1981
Morris & Jacquie Haney	June 21st
Dave & Patti Rose	June 26th

SERVING IN JUNE

Liturgist	Taylor & Jacquie Haney
Altar Guild	Linda King
Bus Coordinator	Linda King, 503-357-1141
Bus Drivers June	Craig MacKinnon
Ushers	Ken & Nancy Bond Cal Clayton & Mac McClelland
Greeters	Arleigh & Donna Berget Merrill & Betty Ludlam
Coffee Coordinator	Edythe Westlund
Fellowship Time June 4th	Nancy & Ken Bond
June 11th	Volunteers needed
June 18th	Earl & Mary Jane Nordgren
June 25th	Volunteers needed
Nursery Attendant	Position Open
Childcare Coordinator	Beth Hall
Web Master	Jenny LaCombe
Kids Prime Time	Amy Scott
Acolytes June 4	Max Wilson-Fey & Alyssa Dionne
June 11	Noah Wilson-Fey & Henry Gulacy
June 18	Chante Gustafson & Rachel Hampton
June 25	Taylor Haney & Max Wilson-Fey
Kitchen Elves	Marilyn Carr
Sound Ministry	Sound Team
Tape Ministry	Tape Team
Parish Nurse	Patti Rose

CONGREGATIONAL CARE/EDUCATION CORNER

Beth Hall

With her intrepid spirit, Beth rode and competed, only learning that her horse Omar was compensating for her diminishing eyesight when she tried to jump another horse – which didn't compensate. Beth fell. "It wasn't pretty," she says.

Beth met her Calvin Hall in high school in Beaverton. Their first years of marriage, Calvin was stationed in Mississippi and Virginia. Now Calvin is out of the service and both work at Intel. They live on Elm Street, FG, with precious Rebekah, just seven years old. Beth is active with FGUM children and youth, serving as Child Care Coordinator.

Beth hopes to receive her "service dog" Denver this fall. With her vision problems, she has so little depth perception that she is hoping Denver will keep her from falling down curbs and stairs. Visit:

<http://denverthedog.blogspot.com>

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 2006

Issue No. 6 June

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 Pittman	503-357-3998	Deacon
Markus		
Bobby Tabb		Youth Pastor
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		