



Forest Grove United Methodist Church

Messenger

March 2007

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FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

Part of Pastor Dan's sermon on February 18, 2007, included a presentation from WESTCO that informed us of the realities of poverty in Western Washington County. Most of us, at one time or another, have participated in meeting immediate needs – food donations or money to WESTCO for rent and utility relief. The presentation listed four steps that help take us beyond direct aid for immediate needs. These were Educate, Advocate, Participate and Donate.

Whether the social issue is local hunger and poverty or another social issue somewhere else in the world, situations remain the same unless we move beyond just direct aid and work for changes in systems. That is daunting! How can I make an impact in complicated matters?

I'd like to tell you a story that comes from my friend and colleague, *Sarah Harkness*. Last fall Sarah visited the United States/Mexico border to learn the varied stories of persons on all sides of immigration. One story is a wonderful example of changing the economic environment of a village and removing the need to emigrate for survival. Just Coffee is a "coffee cooperative wholly owned by the growers and dedicated to resolving the immigration crisis by providing coffee growers with a just price and coffee drinkers with an excellent cup of fresh roasted, rich tasting, organic coffee." Just Coffee is different from Fair Trade coffee in that the entire Just Coffee production process takes place within the cooperative and so all of the money stays in Mexico. "This is one of the church's answers to the immigration crisis," reports Sarah. "They are fighting immigration by seeking eco-

**Educate,
Advocate,
Participate
and
Donate**

conomic incentives and stability for the people of Mexico" stemming the tide of immigration by removing the economic causes.

Do you like your morning cup of coffee? Want to learn more? Check out www.justcoffee.org and, perhaps, make a real difference in the world through purchasing Just Coffee.

Your servant in Christ,
Deacon *Rhoda Pittman Markus*

SIGN UP NOW FOR FAMILY CAMP MAGRUDER

Family Camp is scheduled for Memorial weekend, May 26, 27, & 28 at beautiful Camp Magruder on the Oregon Coast, north of Tillamook and just south of Rockaway Beach. Please join your church family for a weekend of fun, relaxation and fellowship at camp. Donkey rides, big swing, a hike on the Pygmy Trail, and an enthusiastic co-ed multi-generational baseball game are just a few of the activities included in this fun-filled week-end. Singles and families – all ages are invited. Contact *Janet Hummel* 503-341-2182 or *Sue Brenner* 503-357-5409 for more details or to reserve your spot!

CALLING ALL TALENTED CAMPERS YOUNG AND OLD

A talent show will be held during the Camp Fund Raiser Luncheon on March 18 (see pg. 3). Contact *Janet Hummel* with the talent you would like to share at the show! Janet 503-341-2182

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Last Sunday afternoon was the first gathering of this year's youth Confirmation Class. Taylor, Alyssa, Max, Chante, Alexis, Christina, Devin, Logan and Richelle gathered with Bobby, Emily and myself to begin looking at what it means to say one is a Christian; specifically, a United Methodist Christian.

As we gathered, we shared a meal, then jumped into the curriculum which is titled *Claim the Name*. We learned about the founder of the United Methodist Church, John Wesley, and his brother Charles, who wrote the words to over six thousand hymns over the course of his life. We read John Wesley's "Directions for Singing" that you can find on page *vii* in the front of the 1989 *United Methodist Hymnal*. We had a few good laughs over the "Sing lustily..." and "Beware of singing as if you were half dead..." and "Sing modestly. Do not bawl..." phrases in the instructions.

We learned how John Wesley felt he failed as a missionary to the American Colony of Georgia, and how he was disin- vited to preach in the church of the Church of England, and so started the then unimaginable practice of preaching out- of-doors. We learned that he preached over 40,000 sermons and rode over 250,000 miles by horseback during his life- time as a traveling preacher. It's said that he preached sometimes to as many as 15,000 people at once! And you thought so-called "mega-churches" were a new thing.

Where we ended up, though, was learning about the three *General Rules* of living that John Wesley advocated for those who would "evidence their desire of salvation":

Do no harm, by avoiding evil of every kind.

Do good of every kind.

Practice the spiritual disciplines, among which are:

- Public worship
- Scripture reading
- Holy Communion
- Prayer
- Fasting
- Participating in small groups

That was the advice for living a Christian life that has guided Methodist Christians for nearly 300 years. It is simple; easy to remember. And they may just be good things to post on your bathroom mirror during this season of Lent as intentional disciplines to take up so that you may grow as a disciple of Jesus Christ.

John Wesley rejected undue reliance upon these rules. Discipline was not church law; it was a way of discipleship. Wesley insisted that true religion is "the knowledge of God in Christ Jesus."

The *General Rules* may help you this Lent. I commend them to you to practice. If they lead you closer to the knowl- edge of God in Christ Jesus, then Amen.

I ask your prayers for the Confirmation Class as they, and we who lead, continue to seek "knowledge of God in Christ Jesus."

In faith,



Pastor Dan

**CAMP FUND RAISER
MARCH 18TH**

Save your appetite for the fabulous lunch at the St. Patrick's Day Camp Fund Raiser!

Lunch will include beef and lamb stew, bread, salad, dessert and afterwards the famous Bobby and Emily Tabb Talent Show.

Funds go toward helping Oregon children attend camp, supporting FGUMC youth attending camp, and the annual Memorial Day Family Camp.

Hear about camps in Oregon and how you can attend. Join in singing camp songs and don't forget to **WEAR** and **THINK GREEN!**

**MEMORIAL WEEKEND FAMILY
CAMP PLANNING SESSION**

A planning session for Camp Magruder family camp is scheduled for April 15th in the Library, at noon, after fellowship time and bell choir practice.

If you want to help make this the best family camp ever, please plan to attend.

Pizza lunch served! RSVP please - Contact **Janet Hummel** at 503-341-2182 (cell) or **Sue Brenner** at 503-.357-5409. Thank you!

MISSING IN ACTION

A recent inventory of kitchen items has led to an **All Points Bulletin** being issued.

Two coffee carafes are still missing from our kitchen. We have not received a ransom demand and apparently they are not being held hostage. The return of these items would be greatly appreciated.

The CIA, FBI and the local Police will **not** be notified if these items are returned. **No Questions Will Be Asked.**

Edythe Westlund

ARE YOU READY TO *PLUNGE*?

Starting on March 21st, the Forest Grove United Methodist Youth Program will be kicking off a new ministry entitled *PLUNGE*. *PLUNGE* (short for **P**lay **L**augh and **U**Nwind as we **G**row and **E**xplore) will be an after school program geared at providing K-6 students with an opportunity to engage in mid-week Christian fellowship, fun, and food.

With participants rotating through different activities revolving around a weekly theme, *PLUNGE* will look similar to our successful Day Camp program. I am very excited about providing this opportunity to elementary school students (and their parents), but I recognize it is going to have to involve many hands working together.

If you can lend a hand as a Group Shepherd, Kitchen Helper, Activity Leader, Bus Driver, or Dinner Parent on any or all of our dates, please contact me.

If you know of a son, daughter, neighbor, or other elementary age student that is planning on participating in *PLUNGE*, please stop by the church office to pick up a form.

Dates: March 21, April 4, 11, 18, 25, May 2, 9, 16, 23 (ALL Wednesdays)

If there is an area where you can donate your time, please contact me.

Sincerely,
Bobby Tabb bobbyfgumc@teleport.com
Co-Youth Director, Forest Grove UMC

THANK YOU

I want to thank this congregation for all the cards and prayers for my mother and family near the time of her death on January 24th, 2007.

Sue Brenner

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

KITCHEN SUPPLIES

After organizing supplies in the kitchen pantry, I find we have an abundance of some items.

When planning events in the future, **please do not purchase items until after you have checked with me.**

At the present time we have huge supplies of sugar and artificial sweetener packets, cocoa mix and plastic cutlery.

Storage space is limited, but donations of coffee, decaffeinated as well as regular, are a recurring need and always appreciated.

Edythe Westlund

NEW TABLES FOR 7 GROUPS

Come join the fun!

The next Tables for 7 cycle starts March 4th. See your bulletin for information and sign up sheet.

NEW A-FRAME SIGNS

Our thanks to LeRoy Gamble for making 8 A-frame signs. These will be used around town to advertise for the Swiss Steak Dinner and also for Sales we have at the church. A great job – much appreciated!

Edythe Westlund

EASTER CROSS

Anyone wishing to donate flowers for the Easter Cross, please contact *Jacquie Haney*. 503-357-9031 or jacquiech@netzero.net

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

Fred Raycraft	March 2 nd
Morris Haney	March 5 th
Art Fogg	March 6 th
Elia Cobb	March 8 th
Patty Davie	March 8 th
Chuck Pritchard	March 10 th
Judy Sherman	March 11 th
Bobby Tabb	March 11 th
Robert Larkins	March 12 th
Dayle Franks	March 13 th
Don Tveit	March 14 th
Harry Long	March 15 th
Patricia Gilman	March 17 th
Micah Hampton	March 24 th
Henry Gulacy	March 28 th
Paula Gassman	March 29 th
Sam Judah	March 29 th
Todd McLeod	March 29 th

MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

Lester & Erma Heisler	March 7 th
Ed & Patty Davie	March 28 th



FGUMC CALENDAR, MARCH 2007

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday										
February		April			1	2										
S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	<p>6:00-7:00 p.m. Open Room/Guitar Lessons</p> <p>6:30-8:30 Rm. 7A Centro Cultural Spanish Class</p> <p>7:00 — 8:30 p.m. Choir practice</p>	<p>7:00-9:30 p.m. Apostolic Church in Garden Room</p> <p>Office Closed Pastor's Day Off</p>	
1	2	3		1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14			
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21			
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28			
25	26	27	28				29	30								
4		5		6			7		8		9		10			
<p>9:00 a.m. PowerXpress</p> <p>10:00 Worship, Communion</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Fellowship</p> <p>12:30-2:30 p.m. Confirmation Class</p> <p>1:30-5:00 p.m. Apostolic Church</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Disciples Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Youth Group</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Outreach</p>		<p>6:30-8:30 Rm. 7A Centro Cultural Spanish Class</p>		<p>9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study in Library</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Wesleyans</p>		<p>11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting</p> <p>7:00 p.m. Church Council</p>		<p>6:00-7:00 p.m. Open Room/Guitar Lessons</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Safe Sanctuary Committee</p> <p>6:30-8:30 Rm. 7A Centro Cultural Spanish Class</p> <p>7:00 — 8:30 p.m. Choir practice</p>		<p>7:00-9:30 p.m. Apostolic Church in Garden Room</p> <p>Office Closed Pastor's Day Off</p>		<p>Breakfast Club Youth: 8:30 a.m. Serve: 9:30-11:00 a.m.</p> <p>8:30 a.m.—Noon Second Saturday Garden party</p>				
11		12		13			14		15		16		17			
<p>9:00 a.m. PowerXpress</p> <p>10:00 Worship</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Fellowship</p> <p>1:30-5:00 p.m. Apostolic Church</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Disciples Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Youth Group</p>		<p>6:30 p.m. Education Committee</p> <p>6:30-8:30 Rm. 7A Centro Cultural Spanish Class</p>		<p>9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study in Library</p>		<p>7:00 p.m. SPRC</p>		<p>6:00—7:00 p.m. Open Room/Guitar Lessons</p> <p>6:30-8:30 Rm. 7A Centro Cultural Spanish Class</p> <p>7:00 — 8:30 p.m. Choir practice</p>		<p>7:00-9:30 p.m. Apostolic Church in Garden Room</p> <p>Office Closed Pastor's Day Off</p>		<p>St. Patrick's Day</p>				
18		19		20			21		22		23		24			
<p>9:00 a.m. PowerXpress</p> <p>10:00 Worship</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Fellowship</p> <p>Camp Fundraiser Lunch</p> <p>12:30-2:30 p.m. Confirmation Class</p> <p>1:30-5:00 p.m. Apostolic Church</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Disciples Bible Study</p> <p>6:00 p.m.—8:00 p.m. Youth Group</p>		<p>2:00 p.m. Jennings McCall group</p> <p>6:30-8:30 Rm. 7A Centro Cultural Spanish Class</p>		<p>9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study in Library</p> <p>7:15 p.m. Trustees</p> <p style="color: red; text-align: center;">Messenger articles due today!</p>		<p>11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting</p> <p>PLUNGE After school Elementary program</p>		<p>6:00—7:00 p.m. Open Room/Guitar Lessons</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Safe Sanctuary Committee</p> <p>7:00 — 8:30 p.m. Choir practice</p>		<p>7:00-9:30 p.m. Apostolic Church in Garden Room</p> <p>Office Closed Pastor's Day Off</p>		<p>Youth Group Destination Unknown</p>				
<----- Family Bridge ----->																
25		26		27			28		29		30		31			
<p>9:00 a.m. PowerXpress</p> <p>10:00 Worship</p> <p>11:00 a.m. Fellowship</p> <p>1:30-5:00 p.m. Apostolic Church</p> <p>5:30 p.m. Disciples Bible Study</p>		<p>11:00 a.m. Have committee minutes in office</p>		<p>9:00 a.m. Lectionary Bible Study in Library</p> <p>2:00 p.m. The Elms</p> <p>7:30 p.m. Finance Committee Meeting</p>		<p>11:00 a.m. Staff Meeting</p>		<p>7:00 — 8:30 p.m. Choir practice</p>		<p>7:00-9:30 p.m. Apostolic Church in Garden Room</p> <p>Office Closed Pastor's Day Off</p> <p>2:00 p.m. UMW & Friends</p>						
<----- Spring Break ----->																

BOBBY'S NOTES

I was particularly stumped when it came to my Youth article for this month's Messenger. So, after coming up with several ideas that went about as far as I could throw an elephant, I decided I would Google *crazy calendar days* in an effort to find a source of inspiration.

I was enlightened to find out that March is, among other things: Learn Russian Month, National Caffeine Awareness Month, National Craft Month, Play the Recorder Month, National Umbrella Month (I wonder if that was created by an Oregonian?), Spiritual Wellness Month, and International Listening Awareness Month (I'll be keeping an ear out for Peru).

There are also some pretty interesting weeks in March. The 1st-7th is National Write a Letter of Appreciation Week, the 5th-11th is National Procrastination Week (you can put it off until the end of the month if you'd like), the third week is American Chocolate Week, and the week of the 25th-31st is set aside for Consider Christianity Week.

And last there are the daily observances. Pi (the Math symbol) Day is March 14th, Proposal Day is the 20th, Yoyo Day actually gets two (the 24th - 25th), and my two favorites: The Grass Is Always Browner on the Other Side of the Fence Day and What if Cats and Dogs Had Opposable Thumbs? Day occur on the 30th and the 3rd respectively.

After looking over all these days, I realized they had one thing in common: they are reasons to celebrate. Reasons to stand up and shout. Reasons to acknowledge the finer and sometimes sillier parts of this wonderful world.

The Youth Group is a constant, providing me with reasons to give thanks. Here are just some of the things in no particular order:

- Nine Youth at our Winter Retreat
- Everyone who shows up at our Breakfast Club
- New Youth Parents
- Games of Pool Honest Discussions
- Confirmation Volunteers
- Snacks Tough Questions
- Your Prayers
- Hearing the Youth read from the Bible

This March, I invite you to look for reasons to rejoice in what God is doing in your life. I'm sure there will be opportunities to do so, since, after all, March is Optimism Month.

May God Bless,
Bobby



ESTER KINCH MEMORIAL GIFT

The Outreach Committee is gathering ideas on how we should use some money given to us. The estate of **Ester Kinch** left a sum of \$13,700 to Forest Grove United Methodist Church—to be used for “outreach or mission programs”. We would like this money to be used in a way that would honor Ester and **Donald Kinch**.

Donald and Ester Kinch moved to Forest Grove from Honolulu, Hawaii in 1973. He was an engineer who designed shopping centers, and chose to retire in Forest Grove. They had one child, Marilyn. Donald's sister Carol also lived nearby.

The Kinches became active in the community: Donald in Rotary and environmental causes and Ester with The Women's Society. She was also a voracious reader.

In 1985 they, along with **Carol Kinch**, moved to Willamette View, a retirement community near Milwaukie. Donald Kinch passed away in 1995 and Ester in 2005. Their ashes were placed in the church's rhododendron garden.

If you know of a ministry that was near and dear to Donald and Ester Kinch, we would like to hear from you. Thank you.

Submitted by **Adam Hampton**
for the Outreach Committee
mrajhampton@earthlink.net



FOOD BOX EMPTY!

Every year there is a burst of food donated to food banks across the county and state around the Thanksgiving and Christmas holidays. That is wonderful! Hunger, however, is not just a holiday occurrence. Food supplies typically run low in late winter and early spring. Please do your part and replenish our food box regularly and often.

Rhoda Pittman-Markus

SECOND SATURDAY GARDEN PARTY

The first Garden Party of the year will be on March 10th, 8:30 – Noon, rain or shine. Come help us keep the churchyard looking neat & tidy. Bring your own tools, gloves, rain gear, kneeling pads, etc. Contact **Margaret Hoerber** at 503-357-0579 for more information.



EASTER BREAKFAST APRIL 8TH

Watch for sign-up sheets to help with our traditional bountiful breakfast! It's not too early to start thinking about what you want to bring or how you want to share the workload for this special day.



BREAKFAST CLUB MARCH 10TH

Let the Youth prepare breakfast for you! Chat with old friends and make new friends. Donations go to the Youth Group.

CAMPING OPPORTUNITIES THIS MONTH!

Camp Magruder

- March 9-11: Western District Youth Retreat
- March 25 (Sun.): Magruder Open House & Reunion
- March 25-30: Magruder Spring Break Overnight Camp
- March 25-April 1: Magruder Spring Break Family Camp

Suttle Lake

- March 9-11: Metro District Youth Retreat
- March 23-25: Safe Spaces
- March 25: Open House

Alton L. Collins Retreat Center

- March 30-31: Entering Holy Space: Preparation for Holy Week



VALENTINES DAY POTLUCK
Sunday, February 18th, 2007

SERVING IN MARCH

Liturgist	Brian Hawkins
Altar Guild	Ella Colcord
Bus Coordinator	Linda King, cell: 503-522-1215
Bus Driver	Morris Haney
Ushers	Merrill Ludlam Frank & Ella Colcord
Greeters	Ruth Reese, Mary Ann Mellbye & Norene Snider
Coffee Coordinator	Edythe Westlund
Fellowship Time	
March 4th	Chuck & Carolyn Ashton
March 11th	LeRoy & Shirley Gamble
March 18th	Edythe Westlund
March 25th	Martha Tunall
Nursery Attendant	Hillary Hawkins
Childcare Coordinator	Delva Johnson
Web Master	Jenny LaCombe
Acolytes	
March 4th	Noah Wilson-Fey & Rachel Hampton
March 11th	Connor & Alyssa Dionne
March 18th	Noah Wilson-Fey & John Heun
March 25th	TBA
Kitchen Elf	Marilyn Carr
Sound Ministry	Media operators
Tape Ministry	Media team
Parish Nurse	Patti Rose

EDUCATION CORNER

TRACY GULACY

Joining husband Bill in the choir, and with daughter Liz in Youth and son Henry in kids' choir and bells, the Gulacy family is active in FGUMC.

Tracy and Bill met in Lewis & Clark State College in Lewiston, ID, when Bill talked her into joining the cast of a drama production. Tracy has always been a NW gal, growing up in Spokane and Seattle. But two older children and four grandchildren now live in Arizona, so she doesn't see them often.

With a love for the medical field, Tracy has worked as a lab technician and phlebotomist and is now skilled as a hemodialysis technician. She loves gardening and cooking, but her great joy is in baking. Creating her own recipes over the past decade, Tracy hopes soon to open her own bakery. She's on the rise!

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

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Bobby & Emily Tabb	503-844-7694	Youth Pastors
Ella Mae James		Church Secretary
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