



FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Messenger

March 2009

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

YOU ARE MAKING A DIFFERENCE

I want to share with you some excerpts from notes written to the church from some persons who have been helped through the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, which you have supported through special giving. They write:

"It was an unexpected answer to prayer! We greatly appreciated it.!" Another note says: "I want to thank you for your help on my apartment home.... I want to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and again thank you."

Thank you for reaching out and making a difference in this way.

Pastor Dan



ST. PATRICK'S DAY - IRISH STEW & YOU

Hey FGUMC Talent Stars! Get your talent ready for a **St. Patrick's Day Irish Stew & You Talent Show**. Plan on staying after church on March 15, 2009 for lunch and watching the Best of FGUMC talent show. Watch your church bulletins for more information, but start shining those shoes and brushing up on those instruments! Sign-ups being accepted now - all ages welcome! Contact **Janet Hummel**, janet.hummel@verizon.net (503-359-1799), or **Sue Brenner** (503-357-5409).



JOURNEYING THROUGH THE GOSPEL OF MARK

During the season of Lent this year, we will be focusing in worship on the Gospel of Mark. Mark is the shortest Gospel, the "breathless" Gospel because everything happens "immediately." You will be invited to read through the entire Gospel between Ash Wednesday and Easter Sunday. A reading schedule will be available at the church, on the church website, and distributed in worship bulletins. Join us in worship each Sunday of Lent as we join the writer of Mark on this annual walk with Jesus.

March 1; First Sunday in Lent, Mark 1:14-15

The Kingdom of God is Near

March 8; Second Sunday in Lent, Mark 4:1-9

He Taught Them in Parables

March 15; Third Sunday in Lent, Mark 6:1-13

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth – sending out The Twelve

March 22; Fourth Sunday in Lent, Mark 5:1-13

Casting Out Demons

March 29; Fifth Sunday in Lent, Mark 2:23 – 3:6

Problems with Pharisees

April 5; Palm/Passion Sunday, Mark 14:1 – 15:47

The Crux of the Matter

April 9; Maundy Thursday

April 10; Good Friday

April 12; Easter Sunday, Mark 16:1-6

The Empty Tomb

CHURCH MAINTENANCE REQUESTS

Trustee Maintenance Request Forms can be found to the left of the mailboxes in the Fellowship Hall. If you see something around the church that needs maintenance attention, write it on one of the blue slips found there and place in the Trustees box.

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

The First Unitarian Church of Portland, Oregon, announced earlier this month that as a result of the economic situation in which it finds itself, it will close for a month this calendar year, likely in July. Close? Yes: no worship, no education program, no nothing except pastoral care.

I read somewhere within the past couple of weeks this question:

If your church ceased to exist tomorrow, would anyone in your community (not counting your members or those who attend your church) realize it or care? Would the city cry? What would go undone if your church didn't do it? Would your neighborhood and nonmembers in the community miss it? What would be lost in your community if your church ceased to exist?

"Pastor Dan, let's not go there, OK? You just need a vacation."

I have to admit... it got me to thinking. That, and an article I read a couple of weeks ago titled: "10 Stewardship Issues Every Church Leader Should Consider in 2009." The article suggests, among other things, to

stop ineffective ministry even though you will take hits. People are having to adjust their budgets by stopping spending that they would rather not stop. Model for them how to adjust spending patterns.

If we were to do that, what would we stop? What ministries are "ineffective?" Who would miss what if we stopped doing what we are doing? And just what ARE we doing?

"Pastor Dan, let's not go there, OK?"

Ok.

That said, we've approved a church budget for ministry this year that "borrows" \$35,000 from ourselves and still has a \$14,000 deficit. And that's anticipating not paying our apportionments in full again in 2009 (we paid 75% in 2008) and no salary increases for any of our staff. You as a church have estimated that you will give more in 2009 than you did in 2008 – and that is a great blessing. Thank you to all who are so generous in this way.

Please know that I don't yet have complete answers to any of these questions. I am talking with, intend to talk with, or hope to talk with:

God
Your Lay Leader, Ann Ulum
Your Church Council members
Anyone who wants to talk with me about any and/or all these things

I'm wondering... in this Lenten season of "giving something up," is there something that we, as a church, are meant to give up?

My boys keep asking me what I'm giving up for Lent. Bless them. They are learning how fasting from something as an expression of our faith leads, even in a small way, to an identification with Jesus' suffering. But Lent is much more than that.

Ash Wednesday, last Wednesday, marked the beginning of the season of Lent. Lent is a 40 day period, excluding Sundays, during which Christians prepare themselves spiritually for the commemoration of Christ's suffering, death and resurrection. Beginning in the second century, Christians would undergo a brief period of fasting and prayer in preparation for Good Friday and Easter. By the fourth century the period had been extended to 40 days to coincide with the 40 days that Jesus fasted and prayed in the wilderness at the beginning of his ministry (which coincided with the 40 days Moses and Elijah fasted in the Old Testament).

The season was originally called "the forty days" but later came to be called Lent - from the Old English, *lengten*, a reference to the lengthening of the days that happens in the springtime.

It was common to fast from meat and dairy products during Lent, so on the Tuesday before Ash Wednesday communities would cook all of their meat and dairy products, making pancakes and other elaborate meals - these parties became known as "carnivals" from the Latin *carni vale* - which means "farewell to meat." This also became known as *mardi gras* which comes from the French for "fat Tuesday" - an appropriate name because on that day everyone "pigged out"!

Lent was the season when Christian converts made their final preparation for receiving their baptism and first communion at the Easter vigil. It was also a time of repentance for those who had abandoned the faith during the persecutions. The season is a time for more intense and intentional spiritual growth during which we remember the message, the life, the suffering and death of Christ.

So here we are. Fat Tuesday has passed. We enter now into the leaner times, trusting always in the Hope beyond hope, the One in whose image we are created, the One who promised to be with us always. Thanks be to God.



FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

Last month I wrote about the importance of simple gestures such as our smiles and hellos have on folks we encounter, especially those who are enduring hardships of one kind or another. I recently had the opportunity to be the recipient of such kindnesses and want to share that story with you.

I had the misfortune of having my purse stolen; boldly taken from my locked locker in a very visible section of the gym. An unbelievable amount of work has to be done to protect one's financial well-being and identity, as well as replace all sorts of things that live in one's purse. It was clear to me that God was present in my life every step of the way, and God's presence was manifest through the people that I worked with. God's humor was even evident in the police officer named "Jesus!" Every person I encountered – gym staff, bank personnel, DMV, cell phone provider, health insurance, Social Security and pension customer service, library, Costco and so forth were gracious, professional and competent.

I was even given the opportunity to pay kindness back – all of this was really very strange. When I left my credit union I found someone's ATM card laying on the ground at the driver's side door of my car. Knowing afresh how important keeping track of such things is, I quickly returned it to the credit union. Perhaps another person would not have done so. At home I retrieved the mail from the box. The newsletter from a former church felt like there was a narrow insert in it. To my surprise I found an envelope appearing to be a bill payment to a bank and the return address of someone I'd never heard of. No postmark. Easy to send that on its way by dropping it back in outgoing mail.

It has all been a lot of aggravation and endless details, but there were many blessings along the way. Blessings that came from the smiles, the words, the courtesy, and the competency of persons that tended to me. From the altar to the world. That sounds one directional, doesn't it? It's not meant to be. For us as Christians there needs to be a constant flow back and forth between our worship community and the world. Usually, we think of the needs of the world and our offerings. But often it is the world offering back to us an abundance of blessings. Thanks be to God!

For all of us who continue to struggle with and even fear the increasing diversity of the larger community, I want to bear witness to the fact that close to 100% of those courteous, competent professionals in all the places named above who helped me so much were members of the Hispanic community. I invite us all to remember that throughout Scripture God reminds us to welcome the stranger among us because we too were once strangers in a strange land. (Deuteronomy 10:19)

Your servant in Christ,
Deacon *Rhoda Pittman Markus*

SWISS STEAK DINNER

Our annual All-Church Dinner is scheduled for April 25, and *Edythe Westlund* will lead it again this year. Bless you, Edythe! Sign-up sheets will be available in March. Remember to save your books to donate for the book sale, but please keep them at home until we ask for them.

Submitted by *Patty Davie*

WINTER RETREAT AT SUTTLE LAKE 2009

As some of you are aware, a couple of weekends ago the youth group vacationed for three days at the church camp at Suttle Lake in central Oregon. I am near certain if you go up to any youth that went on this trip and asked them what they thought of it, the average response would be "excellent". Now the reason for why it was excellent will surely range from person to person. For some, I'm sure it was the amazing camp food, or maybe it was the leaders who gave the talks (did the guy seem a bit weird to anyone else?) and yet for others it was the rediscovering of God. My reason, personally, was the third example I listed: the rediscovering of God.

Early Monday morning was the time it happened. Logan and I crawled out of bed at around 7 so that we could get ready for the day and still make it to the dining hall before breakfast actually started. I got ready unusually fast that morning (don't ask me why because I have no idea) and decided to take off early to the dining hall. I took my camera with me because I regretted that I hadn't captured the early morning hours of the previous day and now was my chance to actually get a couple of shots.

Not a soul was outside in those brisk hours, and my chilly fingers reminded me why. My original plan was to just walk around for 5 minutes then go inside for some hot cocoa, but God had different plans. He led me to the outside sanctuary (between the labyrinth and the bath-house) and sat me down in the farthest pew from the cross. And so there I was sitting there.

And then God spoke to me. It felt like a buzzing sensation in the back of my head. There were no words or phrases that he spoke. It was something else. Like a 'feeling' sort of talk. No words really; it was just like (in the words of Bobby) a 'tug on the heart.' I had been unaware of God's presence in my life prior to this moment but I know now that He's everywhere and anywhere. The weekend helped me rediscover my God and I hope everybody (if they are in need of it) can rediscover their God too.

Max Wilson-Fey

JOB OPENINGS AVAILABLE

Portland Rescue Mission has openings for social service workers, accounting personnel, and a women's kitchen manager. More information is available in the church office, or online at;

www.PortlandRescueMission.org.

Liz Swenson

NEW UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

Women of all ages, please attend the NEW **United Methodist Women's** meeting **March 22nd** (the fourth Sunday of every month) from **12:00 pm to 1:00 pm in the Library**. We will have a short program and devotional. Our purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church. We wish to become more involved in mission through prayer, study and action. Our focus this year is Racial Justice, a topic that is very much applicable to our community. We will have a potluck each month after church service and before the meeting.

Delva Johnson

UMVIM

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission

We have a few United Methodist Volunteers in Mission trips to tell you about. There are two upcoming mission trips to the Republic of the Congo. One will be June 12-27, 2009, and one led by Bob Flaherty October 5-19, 2009.

There is a UMVIM trip to Uruguay September 17-30, 2009. Three teams will join together at the Renacer Retreat Center near Paysandu, Uruguay to complete the all-purpose building, bathrooms and build cabins.

If any of these missions are of interest to any of you, please let us know and we will get more information to you.

Chuck and Betty Pritchard

b2c2_2@verizon.net, 503-359-9340

F. G. U. M. C. CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
1 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship: Communion 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 12:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m. Confirmation	2 6:30-7:30 p.m. Youth Group	3 6:30—8:00 p.m. Disciple Bible Study 7:00 p.m. Wesleyans All women invited	4 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30-7:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal	5 5:32-6:58 p.m. Outlet Room #8b 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	6 Pastor's Day Off	7 Pastor's Day Off 9:00 a.m.—4:00 p.m. Western District Renewal event—Salem 1st UMC 5:30-10:30 Destination Unknown																																																																																																		
8 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:15-11:45 a.m. Chime Choir Rehearsal 12:30 p.m.—4:00 p.m. Confirmation 11:30 a.m. Outreach Committee	9 6:30 p.m. Worship Committee 6:30-7:30 p.m. Youth Group	10 6:30—8:00 p.m. Disciple Bible Study	11 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 5:00 p.m. Guitar Group 6:30-7:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. SPRC	12 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 6:00 p.m. Grant Committee 7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	13 Pastor's Day Off	14 Pastor's Day Off 10:00 a.m. Youth Ministries Team																																																																																																		
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15 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:15-11:45 a.m. Chime Choir Rehearsal 11:30 a.m. Irish Stew fund raiser NO Education Committee 12:30 p.m.—3:00 p.m. Confirmation	16 2:00 p.m. Jennings-McCall Gathering w/ Pastor Dan 6:30-7:30 p.m. Youth Group	17 7:00 p.m. Trustees St. Patrick's Day	18 9:30 a.m. Bible Study 6:30-7:30 p.m. Handbell Rehearsal 7:00 p.m. Church Council April Newsletter articles due	19 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	20 Pastor's Day Off	21 Pastor's Day Off																																																																																																		
22 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:15-11:45 a.m. Chime Choir Rehearsal 12:00 p.m. NEW UMW in Library	23 11:00 a.m. Have committee minutes in office	24 NO The Elms Gathering w/Pastor Dan 7:00 p.m. Finance Committee	25 NO Bible Study NO Handbell Rehearsal	26 6:00 p.m. Bible Study 7:00-8:30 p.m. Choir Rehearsal	27 Pastor's Day Off 2:00 p.m. UMW at Jennings McCall 7:00 p.m. Coffee House	28 Pastor's Day Off																																																																																																		
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29 9:00 a.m. Sunday School 10:00 a.m. Worship 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:15-11:45 a.m. Chime Choir Rehearsal	30 6:30-7:30 p.m. Youth Group	31		<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7" style="text-align: center;">February</th> <th colspan="7" style="text-align: center;">April</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> <th>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>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td> </tr> <tr> <td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td> <td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td> <td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td> </tr> <tr> <td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td> <td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> <td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>			February							April							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25								26	27	28	29	30		
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WELCOME, MICHAEL FOX

Meet our new organist, Michael Fox.

Michael was born and grew up in San Francisco, California, attending Saint Ignatius High School there, and later Stanford University, graduating with a degree in French.

Michael worked as a bookseller for 25 years in New York, Seattle, and Portland at J.K. Gill. For the last 15 years prior to his retirement, he was associate publisher for Timber Press, which specializes in books on horticulture. An imprint of Timber Press when Michael was there, Amadeus Press, dealt in books on music and opera.

Among Michael's hobbies is music, of course, and in particular, hi-fi music. He prefers tube amplifiers over transistors and LP records over CDs. He has an extensive collection of hi-fi LPs.

Michael has vacationed 3 times to Costa Rica, and loves to travel to France and Italy, as he says, "when I can afford it." He is planning a trip next year to his ancestral home of Tirano in the Italian Alps. Growing up with an Italian mother, he learned cooking from her, and loves to cook.

Michael is married and has one daughter at Knox College in Galesburg, Illinois, and three other grown children in Seattle, Washington, Austin, Texas, and Wichita, Kansas. Michael's wife, Debby Garman, is Executive Director of the Portland Christmas Revels, a theatrical, participatory celebration of the winter solstice in December. She also works at Powell's Bookstore.

Michael became fascinated by the organ when he sang in the Boy's Choir at Mission Dolores in San Francisco when he was a kid, and as soon as he could reach the pedals, he switched from studying the piano to playing the organ. We're glad he did! He has played instruments at places from the Washington National Cathedral to St. John the Divine. We are delighted to welcome Michael to the bench and to our church!



Michael says, "This was my enchanted hour at the organ of Ely Cathedral." (in England)



Michael at choir rehearsal

BABY SHOWER

Join us after church on March 29th for a baby shower for *Leah* and *Mat Henriksen*! We will be collecting money to help them purchase a car seat. If you'd like to help with food or decorations, please contact Emily Tabb at 503-707-4971 or emily.tabb@gmail.com



TABLES OF SEVEN TO RESUME

The Tables of Seven program is scheduled to begin again soon. Watch the Sunday announcements for how to sign up. There are many new persons in the congregation since the last round and this is a good way to get acquainted. Groups of seven including couples and singles over a wide age range meet together in homes for a shared meal about once a month. Groups are reshuffled and it starts over again. For more information you may speak with *Delva Johnson*, *Rhoda Markus*, or *Emily Tabb*.

Submitted by *Rhoda Pittman Markus*

WHAT'S HAPPENING WITH THE YOUTH GROUP

The Middle and High School Sunday School has been working through a six-week (it might end up being much longer) study on "What is Prayer?" We've been pondering deep questions, studying famous and not-so-famous prayers, and working on meditation. In March we will be delving into praying out loud, plus a whole slew of other topics we haven't yet discovered.

One of the things that has come out of our time together is the idea to pray for God's guidance and blessing upon a specific part of the youth program every week. We invite you to join with us in praying for the following*:

- March 1-7: Destination Unknowns (Dunks)
- March 8-14: Youth Group
- March 15-21: Outlet
- March 22-28: Jr. High Pasta and Game Night/ Sr. High Coffee House
- March 29-April 4: The Youth Ministry Team

*Check the calendar for specific dates of these events.

Submitted by *Emily Tabb*

BEST VALENTINE'S DAY EVER!

This Valentine's Day definitely will be one I will remember. Meagan, Bobby, and I decided it was time to show the youth how much we appreciate them by organizing an Appreciation Dinner. Because of the gracious time given by Lela Baskins, David Lance, Ann Ulum, Robert Nickerson, Marion Gustafson, and the parents of the youth we had a delicious dinner and amazing night.

It was a time of love, laughter, and appreciation for the unbelievable youth in our church. I'm asking you, their church family, to continue the celebration and appreciation. Seek them out during Fellowship Time, send them an email, write them a letter, let them know how much you appreciate them.

Thanks,

Emily Tabb

THREE TRUTHS & A LIE

The youth group will start submitting a new feature to the Messenger called *Three Truths and a Lie*. We'll make four statements about what we did the previous month. Three of them actually happened and one didn't. Can you tell fact from fiction? We encourage you to ask the youth for help!

Celebrated all the youth do for the church with our first annual Youth Appreciation Dinner.

Watched two of the youth arm-wrestle over the last Rice Crispy Treat.

Saw a battery on ice skates during the February Dunk.

Two people involved with the youth spent Super Bowl Sunday on an airplane or in an airport.

Emily Tabb

JOB EXCHANGE BOARD

Check out the Job Exchange board in the Fellowship Hall! It is an opportunity for youth and the congregation to post when they "need a hand" or can "lend a hand".

Emily Tabb

EDUCATIONAL SCHOLARSHIPS

Applications for Educational Scholarships are now available in the office. Applications are due March 31, 2009 and will be awarded by mid-April. These scholarships are available to anyone affiliated with FGUMC. They are awarded to applicants interested in pursuing an education in any educational institution including state or private institutions, community colleges or vocational schools. The scholarships are available thanks to generous members who have donated monies to the church. They are distributed based on qualifications by the grant committee. Contact Janet Hummel re: questions – janet.hummel@verizon.net or 503-359-1799

FIRST AID/CPR CLASS

We will offer a First Aid/CPR class with American Red Cross Certification on April 4, 2009 in the Garden Room of the church. We will begin at 8:30 and be finished by 5:00. Please call Chuck Pritchard if you want to attend; bring a sack lunch. Cost will be determined by the number of people who attend.

Chuck Pritchard

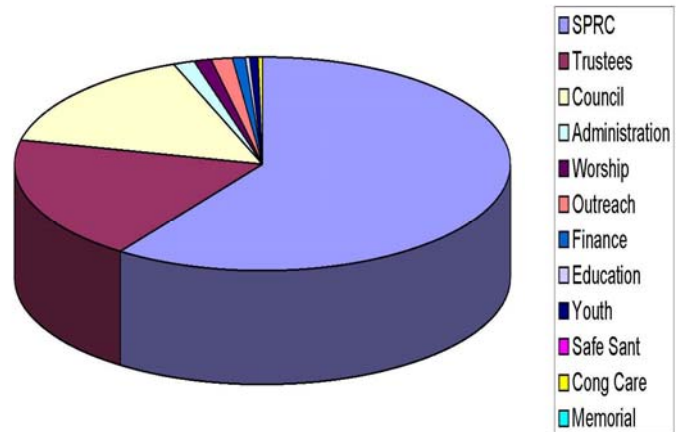
503-359-9340 b2c2_2@verizon.net

FINANCE UPDATE

We face a challenging year; we have dedicated ourselves to moving forward in faith while using our funds wisely and deliberately.

The finalized budget indicates that we expect to come up short by a little more than \$14,000 this year.

Our expected expenses in Christ's service break down as follows:



Please continue to exercise wisdom in your use of church funds and pray for the continued health of FGUMC.

Carole Heun, Finance Chair.

HAVE YOU MOVED?

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

Liz Swenson

Church Administrative Assistant

NEWS AROUND THE CHURCH

Sarah Tunall has been accepted to Wesley Theological Seminary in Washington, D.C., and will start classes there in the fall of 2009. Congratulations, Sarah!

The Board of Trustees elected **Dale Heun** as chair of the Board at their January meeting, and **Barbara Huson** as secretary. The Investment Committee elected **Al Thomason** as chair of that group.

Our Media Specialist, **Steven Wong**, recently got a job with Fox 12 News. It's a part-time job, and Steve will continue preparing and projecting our worship media each Sunday. Thank you, Steven, and congratulations!

Eric Conklin, lay pastor of the Cornelius and Yamhill United Methodist Churches, joined our church on Sunday, January 25th. Eric needs to be a member of a local church other than the one he is serving in order to move forward in the ordination process in the United Methodist Church, which he is. We'll see Eric from time to time when he travels from Yamhill to Cornelius and back.

On Sunday, January 4th, we celebrated the baptism of **Ethan and Ryan Jones**, sons of Matt & Terri Jones. It was a joy to welcome them in this way to the family of faith!

PRE-LABOR DAY CAMPOUT

Since the early 1970's a group from the church has been camping together, first over Labor Day, now earlier to make it easier to get reservations. We are members, former members, and friends. Last year we had 15 sites at Beverly Beach, this year we have 20 sites at Nehalem Bay State Park for Aug 20 - 23. The time is very relaxed, but water fights and a potluck are traditions that seem hard to die. Lots of time for whatever you like, and lots of good company. If you are interested in joining us, contact **Dave** or **Patti Rose**.

BIRTHDAYS

Fred Raycraft	March 2 nd
Morris Haney	March 5 th
Elia Cobb	March 8 th
Patty Davie	March 8 th
Richelle Johnson	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

ANNIVERSARIES

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

THANK YOU, GREETERS!

Please accept my late "Thank you" to all of you who were door greeters last year at The Church. You are so appreciated and a good job was done each Sunday. May the New Year bring health & happiness to you.

Sincerely,
Erma Heisler

SERVING IN MARCH

Liturgists	Chante Gustafson
Altar Guild	Margaret Hoerber
Bus Coordinator	Linda King, cell 522-1215
Bus Driver:	Marilyn Carr
Ushers: March	Sharon Adame, Fred & Linda Raycraft & Karl Swenson
Greeters March	Terry & Clarisse Vogel Ruth Reese & Mary Ellen Wirtz
Coffee Coordinator Team: *March	*Carole Heun, Delva Johnson & Janet Hummel
Fellowship Time March 1 st March 8 th March 15 th March 22 nd March 29 th	Ed & Patty Davie Merrill & Betty Ludlam Irish Stew Fundraiser The Hamptons Bobby & Emily Tabb with Henriksen Baby Shower
Nursery Attendant	Lindsay Tovey
Childcare Coord.	Delva Johnson
Web Master	Jenny LaCombe
Kitchen Elves	Linda King & Margaret Ann Cox
Sound and Media	Steven Wong
Tape Ministry	Media team
Parish Nurse	Patti Rose

Daniel Wilson-Fey	503-359-4249	Pastor
Rhoda Markus	503-357-3998	Deacon
Bobby & Emily Tabb	503-747-9674 503-707-4971	Youth Pastors
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

Bless you for getting your articles to me
by the 18th of each month!

e-mail: plc2fd@verizon.net

MEMBERSHIP CORNER-ERIC JOHN CONKLIN

Active in camp and retreat ministries, Eric's call from God came at Twinlow Camp in Idaho during the summer after his freshman year at University of Idaho. He admits that he resisted at first. Indeed, he had many doubts, but after college graduation in 2000, he followed his calling and enrolled in Garrett Evangelical Theological Seminary (GETS) near Chicago.

At GETS he met his lovely wife Mira, who also earned her Master's degree. Mira is now active in developing Hispanic ministries for the United Methodist Church in Western Washington County. Eric serves as pastor in the United Methodist Churches in both Cornelius (9:30 service) and Yamhill (11:00). While he loves both congregations and tries to serve them equally, Eric finds that even when he deliberately sticks to his vow to keep his first sermon short, he is often late getting to Yamhill. Eric is so interested in people; he finds it difficult to get away.

Eric and our own Bobby Tabb share an inexplicable love for the Chicago Cubs, demonstrating real faithfulness in the face of extreme adversity!

We welcome Eric as a member of our congregation and pledge our loving support of his ministries.

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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