



Forest Grove United Methodist Church

Messenger

November 2006

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2007 STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN

The months of October and November are the time for the 2007 Stewardship Campaign for our congregation. Our theme this year is “Be Though My Vision”, taken from the hymn of the same name. The theme was introduced in the kickoff service Sunday October 22nd.

The campaign will focus on the goals developed at the Church Council Retreat last September. At that retreat, the goals from the last year were reviewed and our accomplishments noted. These accomplishments and new goals will be given in the mailings which are part of this campaign.

Reverend **Jim Parr-Philipson** from Tigard UMC will be our guest preacher on Sunday October 29th. Rev. Dan will be at Tigard to complete the pulpit exchange. Sunday November 5th the service here will be put on by our youth. Sunday November 12th will be “Commitment Sunday”, when we will turn in our commitment cards.

As United Methodists, we are asked to uphold the Church with our presence, our prayers, our gifts and our service. One of the major accomplishments during the last year has been the establishment of a “Safe Sanctuary Policy” designed to ensure the safety of church members, especially our children and older church members. This will require considerable volunteer time, so we are asking that you consider service as well as gifts of tithes and offerings.

Our bishop, Reverend **Bob Hoshibata**, has given us the theme “Giving God Our Best” for this church year. May we indeed give our best through presence, prayers, gifts and service!

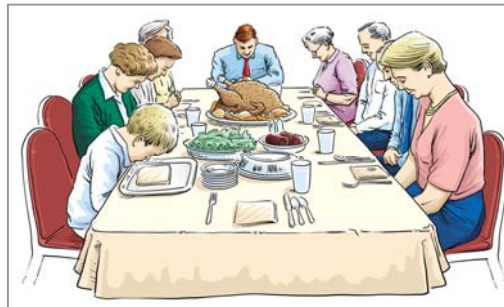
Ted Oakberg, Chair

HARVEST ALTAR

On Nov. 19th, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, there will be a “Harvest Altar”. Donations of **non-perishable** food will be used for the Christmas baskets in December.

Please bring what you can.

Patti & Dave Rose



THANKSGIVING EVE FEAST

The Youth will be hosting an “anything **but** traditional” Thanksgiving meal on Wednesday, November 22nd at 6 p.m. All are welcome.

CELEBRATE CHILDREN NOVEMBER 5TH

Come enjoy a morning of intergenerational activities with the children on November 5th at 9 a.m. This event will celebrate the end of the fall session of Sunday School for the children by sharing with parents, teachers, and all adults who wish to come. Tables will be set in the Fellowship Hall with activities that will take about 20-25 minutes. There will be a brief time of sharing and a “Blessing of the Children.” Everyone is Welcome.

Regular classes for children and adults with resume on November 12th.

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

November is a month of gratitude. Obviously we celebrate a national holiday the fourth Thursday of this month, usually with family and/or friends. But I want to call your attention to another opportunity this month to give thanks.

On November 12 during worship we will be celebrating Commitment Sunday as the culmination of our fall stewardship campaign. We will, in a context of gratitude and thanksgiving, offer our commitments to the support of this church's ministries in 2007. Our *Be Thou My Vision* campaign will conclude on this day.

But perhaps more important on November 12, we will be celebrating (belatedly) *All Saints Sunday*. On this day we will lift up in thanksgiving and in a special way, the names and lives of all in our congregation who have died in the last year. We will also dedicate all memorials placed in the last year. We will do this in the context of the Holy Communion, which joins us with that communion of saints who have gone on ahead of us in faith.

We do all this November 12 because this coming Sunday, November 5, is dedicated to our youth among us leading us in worship. They are preparing an exciting and quite meaningful worship service and I hope you plan to join us in the sanctuary next Sunday at 10:00 a.m.

The very last verse of the Bible says: "The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all the saints. Amen." May the grace of the Lord Jesus be with you, too, and those you love, now and forever.

In gratitude and thanksgiving,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Dan". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large loop at the beginning.

Pastor Dan

FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

Each year about this time our thoughts turn even more to the poor and hungry in our neighborhoods. Churches gear up for Holiday Food Baskets. Forest Grove United Methodist Church provides food items throughout the year. Providing food is a great ministry. On November 19th, Holiday Food activities will begin with a harvest offering of food items during the worship service.

Later, those who choose to do so will have an opportunity to pack a basket with food items and small gifts and deliver it to a family. The Community Food Program has changed somewhat this year with the Food Bank taking less responsibility and community leaders taking on more. **Adam Hampton** is the coordinator of the program for Western Washington County including Forest Grove, Gaston and Cornelius. He has been busy contacting businesses and churches and creating a database. **Chuck Pritchard** will coordinate baskets for FGUMC.

Now is the time for family members to talk together about what they want to do. Watch the web site www.forestgroveumc.org, this publication and weekly announcements for the next step for you. Make Christmas a brighter day for a family.

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

SECOND SATURDAY GARDEN PARTY

The Second Saturday Garden Party's work is done until next spring. A giant "Thank You" to all who helped to keep our grounds attractive!

Margaret Hoerber

Make Christmas a brighter day for a family.

CHILDREN TO STUDY

"CHRISTMAS AROUND THE WORLD"

PowerXPRESS Sunday School will begin a study of *Christmas Around the World* on November 12th. The unit will be based on the story found in Matthew 2:1-12 – the story of *The Three Magi*.

Throughout the unit the children will hear and experience the story of the magi visiting the Christ child as well as some or all of these experiences: experience Christmas customs around the world, study the stars and connect to the magi as astrologers of their time, create gifts for children around the world, create gifts for a shelter or food cupboard. The 8 Church School sessions will continue into January.

After children's time in worship the children will be preparing for the children's Christmas program and Christmas season singing.

WANTED

Occasional volunteers as second person in Child Care situations. Please contact **Beth Hall**, 971-645-6808

DOWNSIZING SALE

We recently received a donation of many nice things from a couple in the church.

A special sale is planned for November 11th in the Fellowship Hall. Help is needed on Thursday & Friday, Nov. 9th and 10th, to prepare for the sale.

Volunteers, please call **Edythe Westlund** at 503-357-5693.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Since there was no meeting in October, any financial information will wait for the December Messenger.

IN MEMORIAM

Karl James, 1918 – 2006

Karl James passed away on October 2nd, one day after his 88th birthday. At his request, no services were held.

He is survived by his wife, Ella Mae, a daughter, two stepsons, 14 grandchildren, 14 great-grandchildren, and a sister.

We continue to hold Ella Mae in our prayers.

Those who wish to honor Karl may make memorial contributions to the Church.

Martha Hanson

Longtime member Martha Hanson, who moved away in 1991, died October 16th in Vancouver, Washington. Her service was October 21st in Forest Grove. Those who wish to contact her family may write to her daughter:

Rita Glatt
4014 NE 158th Ave.
Vancouver, WA 98682

THANK YOU

There are no words to say Thank You to all of you at FGUMC. Your prayers and love were felt greatly – Karl & I both have been blessed by all your love and support.

Also Thank You to all who volunteered in the office so I could stay at home with Karl. I will never be able to repay all of you.

Thanks again,
Love, ***Ella Mae***

CHILD SAFETY CLASSES

Dr. Chuck Pritchard will be holding classes regarding child safety and care - of interest to all those who work with our church children and youth!

Watch for announcements of days and times!

Submitted by ***Mary Jane Nordgren***

COMING: A NEW DIRECTORY

Would you like to know more about the people you see in church? Do you want to find someone else who likes to go hiking in their spare time? Do you want to match names with faces? Fill out the profile sheet, either tear out or fill online and print, for our new pictorial directory! After you fill it in, you can drop it off at the church office, or give it to ***Ted*** or ***Janet DePooter*** (503)844-7621.

WANTED: BUS DRIVERS

Have you been a member of this church for 6 months? Do you have a clean driving record? Is your insurance current? Can you pass a background check?

If you can answer yes to these four questions, then **YOU** are eligible to drive the bus! Gain valuable skills and get to know the children and the seniors! Interested? Call ***Linda King*** at 503-522-1215 for more information.

PICTURES

Time to put on your best bib and tucker again!

Frank Colcord is getting set for another round of pictures for our bulletin board. He will set up shop on Oct. 29th, Nov. 5th and Nov. 12th.

We need ***your*** smiling face so step right up!

KITCHEN ITEMS MISSING

The kitchen is still short **3 coffee carafes**.

Also, our **pizza cutting wheel** seems to be gone.

We use these items frequently and we need them back ASAP, please!

Edythe Westlund,
Coffee Coordinator

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### WESLEYANS

*Virginia McCrae* will be our guest speaker on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. in the Garden Room. All women are cordially invited to attend.

For more information call *Linda King*. (503-522-1215)

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HONORING THE SAINTS

On November 12th we will be celebrating "All Saints Sunday." During worship that day we will be lifting up and remembering those members and friends in our congregation who have died in the past year. We'll also be dedicating any memorial gifts that have been given in their names, or in others'.

Pastor Dan

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### SPECIAL FELLOWSHIP HOUR

On November 12<sup>th</sup>, we will honor our outgoing Treasurer, *Pat Gilman*, and Financial Secretaries, *Chuck* and *Carolyn Ashton*, for their many years of faithful service. Please linger after church to join in thanking them for jobs well done.

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HAVE YOU MOVED?

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

Ella Mae James,
Church Secretary

YOUTH SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5TH

As many of you know, the youth are taking over Sunday worship on November 5th. We were brainstorming theme ideas for the service and the suggestion of love was given. The more we discussed the idea of love, the more we realized the possibilities of using this concept in the service. Last night at youth group we delved into this topic even further to define what love is. For discussion purposes, we distinguished three different kinds of love: 1) Love for ourselves, 2) Love for others, and 3) God's love. Under each topic words were listed that came to mind when associating love with these areas. It was so interesting that the easiest love for the youth to define was God's love- everlasting, always, unlimited. Not surprisingly, the most difficult to define was the love for themselves. Words were given such as, self-esteem, roller coaster, and difficult.

Many times we cheat ourselves of the love we deserve. This can take the form of busy schedules, over committing, procrastination, criticism, relationships, and so on. Take your pick; many times our personal well being is ignored because there are "more important" things to take care of. My dad has always told me when our cup is full, our joy and happiness can overflow for others. When we do not take care of ourselves, and our cup is empty, than we are expending more energy than we have and it is not as joyous or effortless. This is an amazing life lesson because how can we give love to others when we have not filled our own "cup" with love? That love: the everlasting, always, unlimited love comes from God and IS GOD. As the Psalmist so beautifully puts it, "... my cup overflows. Your beauty and love chase after me every day of my life." **Psalms 23:5-6**

So, I encourage you to take the time to fill your cup with Love. Pray, sing, dance, study the scripture, take a walk, go outside, breathe. God is waiting, eagerly anticipating your willingness to let Him fill your cup until it overflows! Join the youth as they share their love with you at Youth Sunday.

In God's unfailing love,
Emily Tabb

TRUSTEE NOTICES

Office Alarm: Recently we have had occasions when the Office Alarm was not appropriately activated when individuals have accessed the office during non-office hours. It is **very important** that anyone who enters the office and deactivates the alarm resets it properly when he/she leaves. As we discovered earlier this year, when we had our sound system vandalized, we have a lot to lose if we do not take good care to secure our building. If you are not sure you are activating the alarm correctly, please check with *Ella Mae* or Dan as to the proper key strokes.

Office Alarm Code Change: We recently realized the Alarm code for the office has not been changed in some time, something that compromises the overall security of the building. Therefore, effective **November 15th**, the Alarm code will be changed. If you have a need for access to the office after normal office hours, please contact *Ella Mae*, who will create a list of the individuals with office access. This list will make it easier for us not only to maintain the security of the office, but also to notify people efficiently when we need to make a routine code change.

Grounds Maintenance: If you would like to see any significant pruning or yard maintenance done on our grounds, please be sure you get **prior approval** from the Trustees, **or** conduct the activity as part of the monthly "Saturday Garden Party". Checking with either of these groups will ensure good upkeep of our landscaping, plus help to avoid misunderstanding or confusion among volunteers as to what work is getting done and when. Please resist the urge to take major landscaping actions without checking with our yard maintenance experts!

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

L. F. McClelland	November 1 st
Addison Hummel	November 2 nd
Chuck Ashton	November 5 th
Eleanor Fitzgerald	November 6 th
Debbie Gamble	November 13 th
Lester Heisler	November 14 th
Martha Tunall	November 15 th
Dorothy Manley	November 20 th
Dan Wilson-Fey	November 23 rd
Hazel Jean Larkins	November 24 th

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Dan & Eunice Gustafson	November 6 th
Dick & Sue Brenner	November 12 th
Herb & Chong Roehr	November 21 st



SERVING IN NOVEMBER

Liturgist	Jan Stewart
Altar Guild	Jan Schrock
Bus Coordinator	Linda King, cell: 503-522-1215
Bus Driver November	Tom Gamble
Ushers	Marilyn Carr, Margaret Hoerber Al & Kristi Thomason
Greeters	Tom & Debbie Gamble Dick & Trudy Sundstrom
Coffee Coordinator	Edythe Westlund
Fellowship Time November 5th	Nancy & Ken Bond
November 12th	Commitment Sunday Committee
November 19th	Alisa Hampton
November 26th	Volunteer needed
Nursery Attendant	Hillary Hawkins
Childcare Coordinator	Beth Hall
Web Master	Jenny LaCombe
Acolytes November 5th	Chante Gustafson & Taylor Haney
November 12th	John Heun & Fletcher Johnson
November 19th	Noah Wilson-Fey & Henry Gulacy
November 26th	Rachel Hampton & Connor Dionne
Kitchen Elf	Edythe Westlund
Sound Ministry	Sound Team
Tape Ministry	Tape Team
Parish Nurse	Patti Rose

CONGREGATIONAL CARE/EDUCATION CORNER

Mary Anne Olson

"I visit with everyone," our Mary says, chuckling. It may be her winsome smile that attracted Carl Milton Olson, two years ahead of her in high school in their tiny Nebraska town. Milt set up a plumbing business nearby, but the area was just too small, so Mary's brothers in Newberg urged the young couple and little Carl Michael to move to Oregon in 1955. By that fall, Milt was working for Fuiten's in Forest Grove and Marsha Ann was born. Mark Kimberly came along in 1961, the year the Olsons moved from Filbert Street to their pillared house on Maple Street. Milt passed away in 1977.

Mary, who loves yard work and travel (her next dream is to see Australia) as well as reading, worked for 21 years in the Forest Grove High School library. For years, many of her students introduced their children. "Now they're saying, 'Mrs. Olson, this is my grandson.' But I love my high-schoolers, even now that they're older."

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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Rhoda Pittman Markus	503-357-3998	Deacon
Bobby & Emily Tabb	503-844-7694	Youth Pastors
Ella Mae James		Church Secretary
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9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon		
Patty Davie	503-357-3185	Messenger Editor
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