



# Forest Grove United Methodist Church

## Messenger

### September 2007

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#### BRING YOUR WORK TO CHURCH

On Labor Day Sunday, September 2<sup>nd</sup>, our worship will be focused on our labor and work as related to our lives as Christians. You are invited on that day to **dress in your work clothes** (you'll be surprised by some!) and bring a tool or symbol of your work or labor that we can place on the altar as we dedicate our lives and labor to God's purposes.

*Pastor Dan*

#### WESLEYANS RESUMES SEPTEMBER 4<sup>TH</sup>

All women of the church are invited to a potluck dinner at 6:00 p.m. on Sept. 4<sup>th</sup>. Come; enjoy a meal and fellowship, followed by a business meeting at 7:00 p.m.

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL & VOLUNTEER FAIR

September 9<sup>th</sup> will be our opening day for Sunday school. Also, we'd like to display opportunities for active participation in the life of the church that day both at 9 am and during Fellowship Hour.

If you know of any projects that the congregation might like to join or just to know about, could you bring a poster or display or sign? Choir? Bus driving? Nursery or Sunday school teacher or Second Adult? Wesleyans? PLUNGE? Tables for 7?

Are there classes you'd like to lead -- for Sunday morning or other times? Kids? ADULTS? Let us know and let's welcome as many members and visitors as we can to an active life in our church.

*Mary Jane Nordgren*, Education Committee

#### SECOND SATURDAY GARDEN PARTY

Our monthly second Saturday work party will be held on Sept. 8<sup>th</sup> at the Church. Hope you can spare us an hour or two. We furnish the weeds and the refreshments. Bring your own tools. Start at 8:30 a.m. and finish no later than noon.

*Margaret Hoerber*

#### ADULT OPPORTUNITIES

On Sunday, September 9, during the 9 o'clock hour and also during fellowship time, adults will have an opportunity to find out about adult learning possibilities and also tell us, through completing a survey, of subject matter of interest and time of the week, for possible groups. Come at one or both times and find the right fit for you. Sign up for Pastor Dan's fall class on the Book of Revelation.

During fellowship time you will also experience the 2007 Revised Version of Forest Grove's Volunteer Fair. Check your calendar months ahead and come prepared to sign up for the many service opportunities connected to the hospitality ministry of the church.

#### SEPTEMBER 9<sup>TH</sup> IS SUNDAY SCHOOL KICKOFF

Classes for children K – 6 will begin at the 9 o'clock hour on Sunday, September 9<sup>th</sup>. There will be 2 classes for children. K – 4<sup>th</sup> grade children will rotate through PowerX-Press stations of story, cooking, art, music, games and computer. Older children – our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders – will begin an exciting new Video based curriculum – Live BIG – September's theme is "God Choose Us." This is a great time to invite a friend! Let's continue building our Sunday School. Nursery care for those younger than Kindergarten is available beginning at 9 a.m.

*Emily & Bobby Tabb's son Chase Jackson, was born this morning (Aug. 28<sup>th</sup>), at 3:13 a.m. All three are doing fine. Thanks be to God for this new life and the health of all.*  
*Pastor Dan*

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Summer is drawing to a close. Fresh, local tomatoes, corn and peaches all signal the later part of summer. Max and Noah are preparing to return to school next week. Kathy has already resumed her job as a counselor with the Hillsboro School District.

I find myself thinking ahead to annual end-of-summer-beginning-of-fall changes at church: the resumption of Church School, Choir, and Youth Group on Sunday nights. But I'm also thinking about things much farther out.

On September 29<sup>th</sup>, your Church Council will gather in retreat, as we've done annually since I arrived here two years ago, to map out some long-range and short-term goals. We will spend time in Bible study, in prayer, and in conversation about where we believe God is leading us as a church. The Church Council has been challenged over the past several months by its leader, Brian Hawkins, to contemplate what this church might look like 5 years from now. When people say the words "Forest Grove United Methodist Church," what will be the first thing that comes into their minds?

I invite you to try that exercise now. What's the first thing that comes to mind?

We do that with people we know, too, don't we? You mention a name, and there is an image, a feeling, a thought, conscious or not, that comes to mind. And it happens with all of us. When someone mentions YOUR name, a series of impressions, expectations, or assumptions about you may emerge for that person who calls your name. We do, each of us, by our actions and words, inaction and silence, create impressions for others of who we are and what we are known to do. Things like:

"Oh, she has such a servant's heart."

"He's a bean counter."

"She's a rather unhappy person."

"The room always brightens when he walks into it."

"I feel so accepted by her."

"He always seems to know how to say just the right thing."

"She's so sincere."

"He's certainly an enigma, isn't he?"

So, too, with an institution or group. They (we) can come to have a certain reputation, an impression that comes immediately to mind.

In our personal lives, we can be intentional about taking steps, embracing practices and disciplines (like prayer, Bible study, being with God's people in worship) to become the kind of people God created us to be. Or, we can just let the experiences of our lives form us, without thought or planning, into the people we become. Oh, there will be plenty of unexpected experiences and events that will shape who we are. But that can be balanced with intentional planning, life goals, and having a sense of what *kind* of person you want to be, what you hope others will perceive you to be.

Jesus did this. He didn't just wander aimlessly. He set his path toward Jerusalem and the Cross. But he also allowed the interruptions of life when he took time to turn aside, to help those who came to him in need, to grieve, teach, admonish, celebrate, and care. And in all this, both the path he chose and followed, and his response to the interruptions of life that happened TO him, people formed an impression of Jesus. Including you.

So when you say the word "Jesus," what's the first thing that comes to mind?

Then remember.... That we in the Church, are the very "Body of Christ." What we say, what we do, will form the impression many have of who Jesus is and how he is embodied in the world today.

Please pray for your Church Council on September 29<sup>th</sup> when we gather between 9 and 4 that day. And if you have any advice, please speak to me, Brian Hawkins, our Lay Leader, Dave Rose, or any other member of the Council.

In Anticipation and Hope,



Pastor Dan

FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

I hope you'll enjoy this story of how FGUMC reaches out into the community in little ways. Many of you have noticed when you drop by the church during the week how busy our little playground is.

One morning during Day Camp I was out by the garden where a group of Day Camp children were enjoying a Nature lesson. I noticed a couple of mothers and several children at the playground. The mothers were actually perched on the edge of playground with lunches and children spread out on the ground before them. I decided to visit with them.

One question on my mind, since I had heard it suggested as a possible memorial gift, was to ask if they would like having a picnic table right there by the playground. They enthusiastically responded in the affirmative because, they said, they came 2 or 3 times a week and usually brought a lunch with them.

We chatted about this and that. Then I asked them if they lived around in the neighborhood. These particular mothers and children do not. They come in from Banks frequently because this is "the best playground around" for their young children.

Isn't it wonderful to know that folks from the larger community see the grounds of FGUMC as a safe and nurturing place for young children? Hmmmm. I wonder what other messages we send to the neighborhood?

Your Servant in Christ,  
Deacon Rhoda Markus

HAVE YOU MOVED?

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

Ella Mae James,  
Church Secretary



BUS TRIP TO THE ZOO, SEPT. 18<sup>TH</sup>

We will leave about 10:30 am -- after the Lectionary class -- and go to the Zoo for Senior Day, which means that anyone 65 or older will get in free. I believe there is a luncheon available there. Check with Lois Oakberg, 503-357-8129, to confirm the fee, which I think she said was \$7.50.

There are also restaurants at the zoo and I believe snacks will be available in various locations. Bringing your own lunch is also an option. We expect people will want to move at their own pace, so details such as check-in time for the return trip will be announced later.

If anyone has any questions or suggestions, contact with either me or Lois.

Marilyn Carr, 503-357-2622

ANY TYPISTS OUT THERE?

Our shut-ins enjoy reading Pastor Dan's sermons. We need typists to transcribe the sermon so it can be printed and distributed to them. Once a month? Or, several volunteers would mean each of us would need to do the typing even less often. Please contact Mary Jane or Alisa if you can help in this ministry.

Mary Jane Nordgren

MESSENGER SCHEDULE

Please note that the cutoff date for the October Messenger is September 18<sup>th</sup>. Late items will be carried over to the following month's issue. Your cooperation is very much appreciated.

Patty Davie, editor

## VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION: COME HEAR ONE STORY

After worship on Sunday September 16, we have the opportunity to share a potluck dinner and hear Lela Baskins tell about her experience as a Volunteer in Mission. She hopes to have a video showing the work her team did in New Orleans.

Volunteers in Mission are Christians who go out at their own expense to answer a specific request for help, either in the U.S. or abroad. The program began in 1976 as a grassroots movement in the Southeastern U.S. It had such an impact that it developed into a program of the General Board of Global Ministries of the United Methodist Church. Since then thousands of volunteers have served around the world, and found it a life-changing experience.

Volunteers usually go in teams of 10 to 16 persons. They're often from one congregation, or from a group of churches. They serve in a wide variety of ways.

- They build and repair mission facilities: churches, schools, clinics, camps.
- They build infrastructure like wells and water lines.
- They offer medical clinics.
- They conduct Bible studies and children's Bible schools.
- They serve in institutions like convalescent homes and orphanages.
- They rebuild homes and communities after disasters strike.

All skills are helpful, and don't define "skills" too narrowly. Each of us has unique gifts that can help in ministry. Building trades are very desirable, and so is the ability to cuddle a child. Health care professionals are needed, as well as people who can use a paint brush or shovel.

Could we make this kind of commitment? Why not? Our bishop has encouraged all churches to participate in VIM over the next two years. We can collaborate with other churches in our area. We can raise funds as a team, so it's not too much financial burden on any one person. We can choose a project suited to the skills and gifts we find among ourselves.

If we do a VIM project, be sure we will receive more than we give. We will come back with a far deeper understanding of what it means to be the Body of Christ, and how to live that out in the world.

You can find more information at the web sites listed below. We'll try to have this on our own site, [www.forestgroveumc.org](http://www.forestgroveumc.org).

Most of the information above came from [www.umi.net/artman/publish/umvim.shtml](http://www.umi.net/artman/publish/umvim.shtml), the VIM web page of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference. Interesting links from there include:

- The Mission Volunteers Primer [www.umi.net/artman/publish/outreach/article\\_313.shtml](http://www.umi.net/artman/publish/outreach/article_313.shtml)
- Why Volunteer? [www.umi.net/artman/publish/outreach/article\\_275.shtml](http://www.umi.net/artman/publish/outreach/article_275.shtml)
- Why Pastors Need to Go On UMVIM Teams [www.umi.net/artman/publish/outreach/article\\_276.shtml](http://www.umi.net/artman/publish/outreach/article_276.shtml) (This does not apply just to pastors.)

See also the national web site <http://new.gb-gm-umc.org/about/us/mv/volunteer-opportunities/international/>, where you'll find lists and descriptions of projects. These lists are not current, but they can give you an idea of the kind of projects that VIM teams take on. I hope it inspires your curiosity and whets your appetite.

*Liz Swenson*, Outreach



### THANK YOU

On behalf of the Conference Nurture Ministry Team, I'm writing to thank all of you for participating in the fall 2006 Christian Sunday Funds offering. Thanks to your support a larger conference offering was received than in a number of years. Important ministries benefited from your generosity.

- Two young adults attended a national Training for Camp & Retreat Ministries.
- Shelley UMC, in Idaho, has started an outreach worship service targeting youth.
- Rainier/Clatskanie UMC held their first Day Camp, staffed by the conference team.
- Parkrose UMC held a music camp for 20 youth from the neighborhood and has created a Sunday morning schedule that will accommodate a new service – Vine Time Fellowship.

*Rhoda Markus,*  
Nurture Ministry Team

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### ANOTHER THANK YOU

Thank you, *Virginia* and *Archie Heald*, for the gift of a DVD player for the Sunday School.

*Mary J. Nordgren*

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CHOIR RETREAT AT THE COAST



SOME OF THE YOUTH GROUP ON A SUMMER OUTING ON AL & KRISTI THOMASON'S BOAT, THE VIKING STAR.



HARD AT WORK



HERE ARE TWO (TRACY GULACY & JACQUE HANEY) OF THE 24 PLAYERS ON THIS SUMMER'S CHURCH SOFTBALL TEAM, COACHED BY BOBBY TABB.



DAY CAMP (NOTE FLUFFY & BUBBA THE SHEEP, TO THE RIGHT OF THE CROSS)



THE YOUTH GROUP HAD A GOLF TOURNAMENT LAST MONTH. THEY WENT TO PRACTICE ONE DAY THE WEEK PRIOR.

**BIRTHDAYS**

Estle Hummels	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Lyn Boysen	September 1 <sup>st</sup>
Chong Roehr	September 4 <sup>th</sup>
Diane Long	September 4 <sup>th</sup>
Ted DePooter	September 7 <sup>th</sup>
Mary Ann Mellbye	September 15 <sup>th</sup>
Marilyn Carr	September 15 <sup>th</sup>
Joanne Rannells	September 16 <sup>th</sup>
Bobbie Jo Haney	September 17 <sup>th</sup>
Lefty Schultz	September 17 <sup>th</sup>
Rachel Bailey	September 20 <sup>th</sup>
Alletta Brenner	September 20 <sup>th</sup>
Flo Metz	September 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Muriel Roberson	September 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Chuck Underwood	September 28 <sup>th</sup>

**ANNIVERSARIES**

Ted & Lois Oakberg	September 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Ralph & Fran Todd	September 7 <sup>th</sup>
Arleigh & Donna Berget	September 9 <sup>th</sup>
Ken & Nancy Bond	September 11 <sup>th</sup>
Sam & Carolyn Judah	September 14 <sup>th</sup>
David & Jean Aull	September 22 <sup>nd</sup>
Wes & Priscilla Stinman	September 28 <sup>th</sup>
Hugh & Angela Gapay	September 29 <sup>th</sup>

## SERVING IN SEPTEMBER

<b>Liturgist</b>	Carole Heun
<b>Altar Guild</b>	Marion Gustafson
<b>Bus Coordinator</b>	Linda King, cell: 503-522-1215
<b>Bus Driver</b>	Fred Raycraft
<b>Ushers</b>	
September	TBA
<b>Greeters</b>	
September	Marilyn Carr Margaret Anne Cox L.F. & Pat McClelland
<b>Coffee Coordinator</b>	Tracy Gulacy
<b>Fellowship Time</b>	
September 2 <sup>nd</sup>	Ken & Nancy Bond
September 9 <sup>th</sup>	LeRoy & Shirley Gamble
September 16 <sup>th</sup>	Adam & Alisa Hampton
September 23 <sup>rd</sup> &30 <sup>th</sup>	Volunteers needed
<b>Nursery Attendant</b>	Lindsay Marsh
<b>Childcare Coordinator</b>	Delva Johnson
<b>Web Master</b>	Jenny LaCombe
<b>Acolytes</b>	
September	TBA
<b>Kitchen Elves</b>	Linda King & Patty Davie
<b>Sound Ministry</b>	Media operators
<b>Tape Ministry</b>	Media team
<b>Parish Nurse</b>	Patti Rose



## CHOIR CORNER - MAX WILSON-FEY

Our versatile, bilingual bass will enter FGHS this fall, where he plans to continue participating in tennis and golf, if he can fit them into his busy schedule. One of Max's many hobbies is collecting cartoon strips; "Zits" is one of his favorites.

Max has been active in the FGUMC Youth group, having gone on the mission to southern Oregon to help prepare a church camp for its summer activities. He helps with the Breakfast Club, acted in the Dinner Mystery and recently was seen getting soaked helping wash the church bus. Often, we notice him mastering the sound and video for Sunday Services. He appreciates his past mission assignment with his family in Honduras, as it gave him fluency in Spanish.

With his famous wry humor, Max comments, "I'm 5'10 and a half inches tall, so I've passed up my mother. Now I'm working on my dad."

## 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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<b>Bobby &amp; Emily Tabb</b>	503-844-7694	Youth Pastors
<b>Ella Mae James</b>	503-357-2689	Church Secretary

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