



CHRISTIAN VISITOR

April 2010

First United Methodist Church of Ellensburg, Washington
Incorporated 1883

From the Pastor's Desk...

It's Spring!

After the winter comes the spring,
after the darkness, light;
after the grave, the empty tomb,
and death gives way to life!

In the past year, our congregation has faced tough times. We've learned we owed about \$21,000 in back tax withholding. Our utility rates jumped by \$12,000 a year due to increased rates. Expensive building repairs have become more and more urgent. We had to deal with the hard truth that we can't go on as we are.

It's been a long, cold, bitter winter — but it's finally spring! All around us, we see signs of promise and growth. With a minimum of conflict and a maximum of meaningful participation, we've identified our core values and will be finishing our values statement very soon. We've gotten to know each other better, building trust and an even greater sense of community. We're attracting and keeping new members. We see a new excitement in worship and take joy in our new praise team. We've started a new form of service: cooking and serving community meals at the Food Bank.

Our work isn't done. We have earth to turn and prepare, and there's still the chance of frost. The trees are budding, but they'll need months of care before we can harvest their fruit. Yet already our Spirits lift.

Soon, our congregation will have completed its values statements. On April 11, we'll gather after church to do the last part. Then we can start the rewarding and challenging task of bringing all aspects of our church life into alignment with our values. As we do this, we will see the budding Spirit bloom into abundant life.

We still don't know for sure all that our future will hold. But we do know that God is at work in our midst. We know that Christ leads the way for us. We know that the Spirit will teach us as we go. We know we're on the right path.

So let's celebrate resurrection! Let's celebrate spring! Hallelujah!

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March Church Council Highlights

1. The Virtual Reststop fundraiser will be held in April. Please donate for time you won't have to freeze to death and pour coffee!.
2. The church has an IRS advocate who will help us solve all the tax questions and problems. Pastor Kathy and Lynne continue to work on this.
3. The Worship Committee and Worship Class continue to work on improving the flow of our worship service. People's comments say they enjoy the praise songs.
4. Pastor Kathy has written a new policy, adopted by Church Council, that will clarify the use of designated and undesignated funds.



Food Bank Needs...

PEANUT BUTTER
Mac and Cheese
TUNA
Canned Meats
Cereal (cold or hot)
Fresh fruits and vegetables

the "Helpers"
Canned soups
Egg Cartons
18 count EGG CARTONS
Personal Hygiene Products

Committee Meeting Schedule

Church Council
Tuesday, Apr. 6th
7 p.m.
Conference Room

Trustees
Sunday, Apr. 18th
After Worship
Conference Room

Worship Committee
Tuesday, Apr. 20th
2:30 p.m.
Pastor's Office



United Methodist Women Circle Schedule

UMW General Meeting
Wednesday, April 7th,
11:30 a.m.
Ellensburg Pasta
Company

Afternoon Circle
Wednesday, April 21st
1:30 p.m.
Hostess: Janette Tureman
Place: 911 E. First Ave.
962-2432

Evening Circle
Wednesday, April 21st
7 p.m.
Hostess: Betty Holmes
Place: 1070 Shushuskin Ridge
Road
968-3668



April 2010

Intergenerational Sunday School, 9 a.m.
 Sunday Worship Service at 10 a.m.

Nursery is available

A Fellowship Coffee hour follows

All Are Welcome

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
 				1 Maundy Thursday White Breakfast, 9:30 a.m.	2 Bible Study at Hearthstone, 11 pm	3
4 Iglesia Apostolica, 4 pm <i>Sunrise Service, 6:15 am, IOOF Cemetery</i>	5	6 Faith Baptist Kids, 7 pm	7 Faith Baptist Bible Study, 6 pm Iglesia Apostolica, 6 pm	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

Birthdays and Anniversaries for March 2010

2, Max St. Brown
 2, Jonny Erdman

14, Carmen Knoke
 27, Taylor Mather

28, Wanda Munroe

Please remember these congregations in your prayers this month:

April 04 Royal City and Pastor Bill Altenhein
 April 11 Selah and Pastor Rex Van Beek
 April 18 Sunnyside Church and Pastor Larry Spaur
 April 25 Tieton: Highland and Pastor Lowell Murphree

Opportunities for Service

Upcoming Worship Highlights		Ministry Opportunities	
April 4	Easter Sunday <i>A God Who Lives</i> We worship a God of life: a God who lives, who is active in our lives, who gives us life, and who works with us to bring life to others. <i>Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Luke 24:1-12</i>	April 4	Liturgist John Lasik Greeter Usher Bob Johnston Altar Betty Holmes Coffee Hour Betty Holmes, Dorothy Cheshier, Lynne Whelan
April 11	<i>Living the Resurrection</i> Living our values to build and express a living faith. <i>Habakkuk 2:4; James 2:4-16</i>	April 11	Liturgist Ruthi Erdman Greeter Usher Bob Johnston Altar Barbara Tate Coffee Hour Karen Lasik
April 18	<i>Celebrating Diversity</i> What does it mean to celebrate the diversity of God's people? <i>Genesis 1:24-28, 31; Romans 14:1-17</i>	April 18	Liturgist Larry Lowther Greeter Usher Bob Johnston Altar Diane Ota Coffee Hour Janette Tureman
April 25	<i>Service to Others in Our Community</i> What is our community? How do we know where and how to serve? <i>Deuteronomy 15:10-11; Matthew 25:31-40</i>	April 25	Liturgist Betty Holmes Greeter Usher Bob Johnston Altar David Cross Coffee Hour Kay Forsythe
May 2	<i>Social Justice: God's Care for People</i> What is social justice? Why does God want us to care about it? <i>Micah 3:9-4:4; Matthew 25:31-33, 41-46</i>	May 2	Liturgist John Lasik Greeter Usher Bob Johnston Altar Betty Holmes Coffee Hour Jean Spence

Volunteer Opportunities

Finance Chairperson

If interested in either position, please contact
 Kathy Makus: Office — (509) 962-9257
 Cell — (509) 929-6842

EMC Events and Announcements

Ellensburg First United Methodist Church - Core Values Statement 3/21/2010

As a congregation seeking to strengthen our faith in God and our relationship with Jesus Christ, we proclaim the following core values as guides to how we live our faith with integrity.

- We celebrate diversity of ideas and people.
- We believe in service to others in our community.
- We believe in social justice for all God's children.
- We believe in stewardship of our possessions and God's creation.
- We strive for spiritual growth and renewal.

The Next Step

We now need to write an explanatory sentence or two for each of the five values. In doing this, we will want to be mindful of our discussions on Sunday and of the other values people mentioned during the workshop.

Dave suggests that we gather one Sunday after church, divide into five groups, and have each group create an explanatory statement for one of the values. We would then consider each statement in turn, making modifications as needed, before adopting our values statement in its final form.

Once we have our final statement, we'll use it to look at our congregation and its work. The long-term goal will be to bring everything about our church into alignment with our core values.

So... our **next meeting** will be **Sunday, April 11, after church**. At this meeting, we will write explanatory sentences for each core value. Please be thinking about what each value means to you.

Again, thanks to all for a grace-filled, productive Sunday afternoon. I'm excited about where God is leading us.

Grace and peace,
Kathy



The Passion of Jesus
A Bible Study
Holy Thursday and Good Friday
April 1-2, 2010
5:30-7 PM
Fireside Room
Soup & bread supper provided

White Breakfast

Thursday,
April 1st
9:30 a.m.



To be hosted by UMW at
the Methodist Church.

All are welcome!

UMC Events and Announcements, cont.

Believe Outloud

On April 10, 2010, from 10 am-4 pm at the Wallingford United Methodist Church in Seattle, the Pacific Northwest Reconciling Ministries Network will present a **Believe Outloud** (BOLD) workshop.

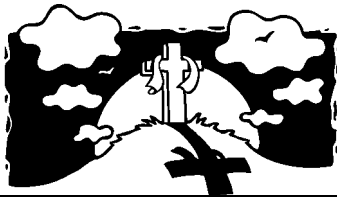
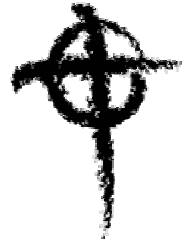
As stated in the informational literature: "BOLD is a national campaign of United Methodists who are working to change the hearts and minds by building relationships, through storytelling and organizing strategically".

The overall goal of the campaign is in having Reconciling United Methodists across the country work together to help bring about policy change at the 2012 United Methodist General Conference, for full inclusion for all.

However, the workshop also appears to have the potential for provision of communication tools for local churches. Since Ellensburg United Methodist Church is undergoing discussions on who we are and where we are going, guidance on "how to tell our story" could possibly be very helpful to us as a congregation in sharing our faith and our values effectively.

Currently, six people from our congregation are planning to attend this event. There are registration forms and information sheets in the church narthex for others who are interested in attending. The cost is \$15 per person (scholarships are available) and morning coffee and lunch will be provided. Please let us know if you need a ride.

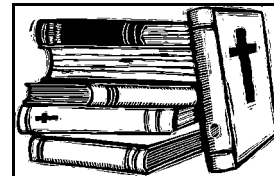
If you have questions, please contact Pastor Kathy, 929-6842, or Wanda Munroe, 962-6057.



Sunrise Service

Easter Sunday, April 4th
6:15 a.m.
I.O.O.F. Cemetery on Brick Road

Meet rain or shine!



Book Search!

The UMW Reading Program has several books unaccounted for. Please check your bookshelves for the following:

- ◆ Hopson, Cynthia. *Too Many Irons in the Fire and They're Still Smoking.*
- ◆ Braestrup, Kate. *Here if You Need Me.*
- ◆ Winter, Jeannette. *The Libraries of Basra.*
- ◆ Author unlisted. *Spider's Web.*

Thank you for helping with the search.

We are still collecting donations for earthquake relief!

Be sure to write either "Haiti" or "Chile" on the memo line so we know to pass it along.

All donations go 100% to the aid effort.

This and That

...From our treasurer...

If you have been following the treasurer's information in the bulletin for the past few months you have noticed that we are not able to meet our projected budgets. The church's financial situation follows the local situation too closely. Prices of goods and services continue to rise and our income is not keeping pace. It is getting harder to pay the staff and all of the bills.

Partly because of our financial situation we are facing some major changes in the church. They won't be easy and probably won't be a lot of fun.

Please take note of the treasurer's report and the minutes of the council meetings which are posted in the front entry hall. We try to keep these updated so you may be aware of the business of the church.

Normal bills for one month are:

City of Ellensburg	\$1,700.00 (every month)
Fairpoint Communications	\$180.00
Otis Elevator	\$235.00
Copier leasing	\$135.00
Waste Management	\$90.00
Oxarc	\$20.00
Daily Record	\$25.00
TOTAL	\$2,385.00

These bills do not address payroll, church upkeep and maintenance, paper and pencils, study materials or any of the other day to day costs of running the church.

—Lynne

Needed per week to meet our obligations

\$2,537

February 7	45	2436
February 14	36	3489
February 21	44	1875
February 28	56	1310
March 7	45	3710
March 14	44	1560
March 21	41	1330
March 28	47	1028

From the FISH Food Bank:



Dear Friends,

Thank you so much for your support of the F.I.S.H. Food Bank.

We are grateful for all your help, and please know your kindness is helping so many in our community.

Many thanks & blessings!

F.I.S.H.

Internet Info

Website

www.fairpoint.net/~ellensburgumc



We have a Facebook page! <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Ellensburg-WA/First-United-Methodist-Church-Ellensburg-WA/311411432325?ref=mf>

Mission Statement

The Ellensburg First United Methodist Church welcomes all and serves as a beacon of love and justice in the community. We seek to discern and act upon God's will through worship, service and study.



First United Methodist Church

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Kathy's e-mail: pastor_umc@fairpoint.net

Rev. Katherine Makus, Pastor
Josh Munroe, Secretary



a Reconciling Congregation