



CHRISTIAN VISITOR

July 2010

First United Methodist Church of Ellensburg, Washington
Incorporated 1883

From the Pastor's Desk...

Let me give you a taste of what I've experienced in the last month:

Dealing with how to "leave well" from both churches I was serving. Purging the house. Saying goodbye to two communities of faith with whom I developed deep relationships. I was surprised by my parents who flew in from Guam. I was commissioned as a Provisional Member (the culmination of a great deal of work for this step of ordination) at Annual Conference. And finally, saying goodbye to my family who I am very close to.

I share these experiences mindful that they are not unique. Moves and transitions are part of life. I am certain many of you can recall similar challenges around moving. I believe however, that our Christian life begs us to feel our emotions deeply and remain present to the sorrow, grief, and joy that transitions produce.

To this end, the witness of early Christians, many of whom were accustomed to the transient, pilgrim experience is helpful. I share this reflection from Roberta Bondi:

"An ancient monk was a man or a woman who gave up the familiar support of family, jobs, property, status, and social position out of a deep desire for the sweetness of living his or her whole life utterly dependent on God. Those of us who dwell in the world cannot live so radically on an everyday basis. Yet it is amazing how many people who have come through experiences of loss, including those connected with moving, speak of the special way they were aware of God's presence with them during those times of grief. The experience of our monastic teachers tells us that leaving our familiar places, for all its hardships, can be the time we truly learn for ourselves what the brother reported to Abba Poemen:

"I see that wherever I go I find support." The old man said to him, "Even those who hold a sword in their hands have God who takes pity on them in the present time. If we are courageous, [God] will have mercy on us." (*Sayings of the Desert Fathers*, 180)

To be able to discover that "wherever I go, I find support"—this is a great gift."

May God hold us gently in the midst of all life's transitions.

Shalom

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June Church Council Highlights

1. Ken Gamon will be taking over the Treasurer's position. SPR is still looking for a nursery attendant.
2. There were a number of projects to be done before our new pastor moved into the Parsonage. Many people helped with packing and moving things as well as getting the yard into shape.
3. Chuck Haight and John Mounsey have been working on the rental agreements for the groups using the church.
4. Chuck, Gerry Sorenson, Kay Forsythe, David Cross and Bill Moran have done work on the church grounds. The Kitchen and Fellowship Hall were cleaned by a small group that came for clean-up day.



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, July 6th
7:00 p.m.
Conference Room

Trustees
Sunday, July 18th
After Worship
Conference Room

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



United Methodist Women Circle Schedule

UMW General Meeting
On Hiatus for the month
of July

Afternoon Circle
On Hiatus for the month of
July.

Evening Circle
On Hiatus for the summer
months.



July 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
Iglesia Apostolica 4 pm 		Faith Baptist Kids, 7 pm	Faith Baptist Bible Study, 6 pm Iglesia Apostolica, 6 pm	1	2 Bible Study at Hearthstone, 11 pm (Subject to change)	3
4 Shalom's First Service! 	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30 Cooperative School of Christian Mission	31 July 30th—August 2nd

Birthdays and Anniversaries for May 2010

1, Helen Hofstrand
 4, Paul Gamon

9, Richard Tate
 12, John and Karen Lasik (A)

13, Roseann Fisher
 29, Larry Lowther

Please remember these congregations in your prayers this month:

July 04 Yakima: Westpark Church and Pastors Gary Starkey & Colleen Sheahan
 July 11 Benton City Church and Pastor Edward Hamshar
 July 18 Cashmere Church and Pastor Cheryl Fear
 July 25 Chelan: Lake Chelan Church and Pastor Dan Breznau

Worship and Service Details

Upcoming Worship Highlights

- July 4** ***The Door Opens***
 As United Methodists, we know very well that doors are meant to be opened (along with hearts and minds! As a new door opens in our ministry together, let's explore what we wish to ask of God. God welcomes those who ask for God's gifts.
Isaiah 42:5-9; Mark 4:35-41
- July 11** ***The Opened Heart***
 "Who is my neighbor?" Jesus' simple reply to this has set the standard for compassion and mercy in most of the world's religions.
Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Luke 10:25-37
- July 18** ***The Opened Mind***
 Ancestors in Israel's early history, as well as disciples of Jesus, were accustomed to God's constant surprise. What we think we know is often limited. Intellect and reason are gifts, but only take us so far.
Genesis 18:1-14; Luke 10:38-42
- July 18** ***The Open Table***
 At the beginning of this month, we stood at the door, knocked, and asked for the gifts of God as we began this new phase of our ministry together.
Luke 11:1-13

Ministry Opportunities

- | | | |
|-----------------|---|--|
| July 4 | Liturgist
Greeter
Usher
Altar
Coffee Hour | John Lasik

Bob Johnston
Barbara Tate
Carmen Knoke |
| July 11 | Liturgist
Greeter
Usher
Altar
Coffee Hour | Ruthi Erdman

Bob Johnston
Diane Ota
Ruthi Erdman |
| July 18 | Liturgist
Greeter
Usher
Altar
Coffee Hour | Larry Lowther

Bob Johnston
David Cross
Julie Large |
| July 25 | Liturgist
Greeter
Usher
Altar
Coffee Hour | Betty Holmes

Bob Johnston
Betty Holmes
Aimee Chen-Stinson |
| August 1 | Liturgist
Greeter
Usher
Altar
Coffee Hour | John Lasik

Bob Johnston
Barbara Tate
Janette Tureman |

Volunteer Opportunities

We've found a new person to take over the Treasurer duties! Many thanks to Ken Gamon for taking up the task, and many thanks to Lynne Whelan for all of her hard

UMC Events and Announcements

JUBILATE! 2010

31st Summer Festival
July 26-31
Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, Spokane WA



Visit our website!
www.gbgm-umc.org/jubilate/
Click on: Summer Festival for registration, workshop and contact information

COOPERATIVE SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

July 30th—August 2nd
at Central Washington University



When was the last time you attended PNW's Cooperative School of Christian Mission?

If you haven't been lately, you haven't been!

Last year, our own Reverend Paul Jeffrey shared his personal experiences and photos in the all school class on "The Beauty and Courage of the Sudan: Why a Dream of Peace is Possible". This year the Reverend Annie Hayes will bring us an update on the continuing heart-breaking story of the Sudan.

The whole School will participate in our Spiritual Growth Study: "*For the Love of God: the Epistles of John.*" This study, taught by the Reverend Bill Green, will be based on the book by Justo and Catherine Gonsalus Gonzales – authors of numerous books of faith and the Bible. Justo Gonzales is the author of the standard book on the History of Christianity in both seminaries and Universities. This study is sure to push you to think about faith in our every changing culture.

Group leaders this year range from experienced school of mission leaders like the Reverend Joyce O'Conner Magee (who brings creativity and a deep faith to her teaching) to new-comers like the Reverend Darryn Hewson (who brings youthful energy and passion to the topic of *Mission in the age of Global Christianity*). In this study, we will explore the Biblical imperative for mission, as well as the twenty-first century context.

But the best part of the School is spending four days immersed in study and prayer, praise and worship, and conversations around the table and on the grass. Sign up now to get your early registration discount! For more information contact: The Reverend Deb Conklin gracewithjustice@yahoo.com, or Cindy Cole ccole@q.com.

This and That

Gathering Info!

Do you want to make the Christian Visitor greener? If you receive your copy of the Christian Visitor by traditional mail and want to get it on your computer instead, send a request to eburg_umc@fairpoint.net along with your email address. See the CV in color and save a few trees in the process!



Also, if you are a member of the church or a regular attender, send your birth date (but not your age unless you *really* want to) or anniversary date to the church office email if you'd like to see it appear in the Worship Bulletin!

GROCERY STORE PROGRAMS

We have an opportunity to get contributions to our church treasury from two of the major grocery stores in town--Safeway and Super 1 (unfortunately, Albertson's has discontinued its program). If we all participate in one or both of these programs, the potential is there for bringing a significant amount of money to our treasury to help underwrite our ministries.

SUPER 1

Super 1 pays to our treasury 5% of all purchases we make with their scrip. Super 1 Sunday is the last Sunday of each month. Estimate how much you might spend at Super 1 in the near future. Then on that last Sunday of the month write your check to the church in the amount that you want. Indicate on the check and envelope "Super 1 scrip." Also, on the envelope specify the denominations you would like--how many \$20 pieces of scrip and how many \$5. If you are in the habit of not buying very much at a time, you probably will want many more \$5 denominations than \$20s. They can only refund a limited percentage of the scrip presented. You use the scrip just like money. It is good for over a year, so don't worry if you overestimate the amount you will need for the month. It takes about a week after that Sunday for the order to arrive. The church secretary will call you when it is available, or one of the money counters will deliver your scrip to you if you are available at the coffee hour.

SAFEWAY

Safeway pays to our church anywhere from 1% to 3% of the purchases you make, depending upon the amount of the purchases in a given quarter. To participate all you have to do is register your name, address and red Safeway card number. You can do this online at Safeway e-Scrip, or the finance chair (Larry Lowther) can do it for you. Once you are registered, every time you present your card at the check-out counter our church treasury will benefit.

If you have questions about the program, see Larry Lowther.

This and That, cont.

...From our treasurer...

With the coming of a new pastor we are looking at, and hoping for, a new beginning and new life within this church. We need to be able to go forward and show our devotion and core values to the community and the world. In order to do this we need to work harder to support this church financially. If the church fails, our message dies within these walls. If you have been waiting to see where the church was headed before offering support, now is the time to start putting money into the church. Summer giving is always light, but the monthly bills don't change. Utilities bills from the city have just gone up to \$2,000.00 per month, we will be paying off loans to the congregation for several years yet, and we still owe approximately \$6,000.00 for Pastor Kathy's benefit package. Please help where you can.

Sincerely,
Lynne Whelan

Needed per week to meet our obligations

\$2,606

May 2	36	1892
May 9	44	2879
May 16	45	2147
May 23	44	1336
May 30	52	662
June 6	56	5273
June 13	60	873
June 20	47	3210
June 27	65	2574

Deadline Announcement

In response to some potential confusion regarding the deadline for articles in the Christian Visitor, a more exact standard will be used.



The Two Day Rule: New articles and announcements for the Christian Visitor will be accepted through the third-to-last day of the month. This means that July's deadline, for instance, is the 29th, 11:59 p.m. If submissions are sent in after that point, I will include them in the following month's CV unless they are time sensitive.

Internet Info

Website

www.fairpoint.net/~ellensburgmc



We have a Facebook page! <http://www.facebook.com/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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Shalom's e-mail: TBA

Rev. Shalom Agtarap, Pastor
Josh Munroe, Secretary



a Reconciling Congregation