



Christian Visitor

June 2010

First United Methodist Church of Ellensburg, Washington
Incorporated 1883

From the Pastor's Desk...

My Farewell Prayer

On June 30, my time as pastor of this congregation will officially come to an end. I will move on to another (as yet undisclosed) congregation, and you will welcome your new pastor, Shalom Agtarap. I have come to love the people of this congregation and the community of Ellensburg, and it's hard to leave. Yet I know that God is at work in all of this, taking us into new places, bringing us new gifts, helping us to grow in love and service. So I leave you with deep gratitude and great hope, offering my prayers for all of you.

I thank God for the enormous gift of six years as your pastor. Your welcome and encouragement have helped me to grow in confidence as a pastor. Your faithfulness and dedication have inspired me. Your openness, creativity, enthusiasm, and willingness to serve have filled me with joy. I treasure these gifts in my heart.

I pray that you will now welcome Shalom with the love and patience you have given to me. May you honor her gifts, respect her needs, and open your hearts to her love.

I pray that you will hold fast to your faith in a loving God, a God who desires not judgment but mercy. I pray that you will stay true to your core values, acting with integrity as people of Christ.

I pray that you will feel the immensity of God's love for you, a love that renews your strength and lifts you up on wings like eagles. May you run and not grow weary; may you walk and not faint.

I pray that you will see the power of Christ in your lives. May Christ grow among you like the mustard seed, until your branches shelter a multitude.

I pray that you will always follow the Spirit that guides you on the Way of Christ. May you honor the past, yet never cling to it. May you live in the present, accepting its blessings and facing its challenges with open eyes and open hearts. May you move towards the future with hope and joyful expectation, trusting in God's promises.

Finally, I pray that you will reach out, unafraid, to our hungry, hurting world. May you be the eyes and ears, the hands and feet, the voice and mind and heart of Christ.

Amen.

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From the (Soon to be) Pastor's Desk...

“We know that all things work together for good* for those who love God, who are called according to God’s purpose.” Romans 8:28

I am most excited to meet you in person, but until such a time, this introduction will have to do.

My father is a United Methodist minister and our family has served with him in California, Iowa, and in the Philippines. Serving the church is what brought my family to the Pacific Northwest. Today, we are spread out geographically, my parents in Guam, my sisters in Seattle, extended family in the Philippines. It is the hospitality of the people to whom we were sent however, which reassures me of God’s presence in times of transition.



Prior to moving back to Seattle two years ago, I spent some time as an intern in Washington DC and stayed there for graduate work at Wesley Theological Seminary.

While in seminary, I worked with Dumbarton UMC, another Reconciling congregation.

I look forward to working with the people of Ellensburg First, visiting with singles and families, and getting to know the wider community. I will be leaning on you for local knowledge of the culture and how best to care for you as a congregation.

Richard John Neuhaus, in a book entitled *Freedom for Ministry* wrote, “At whatever point we are in ministry, whether we are just starting out as veterans of visions lost and visions only partially fulfilled, we are at a point of change, of formation, of potentiality, of promise.”

In the coming days, we will say goodbye to people we have grown in ministry with and come to love. In this time of transition, I am encouraged by the God who will soon bring us together; and that God will continue to guide us in this time of change, formation, potentiality and promise.

Shalom

April Church Council Highlights

1. June 12 will be a packing and cleaning day at the Parsonage. Bring boxes .
2. Lynne Whelan has resigned as treasurer as of June 1, 2010 and SPR will be looking for a new person to take over this job.
3. The 2nd annual Heifer Project dinner will be Friday, June 18 and put on by UMW.
4. Virtual Reststop - if everyone pays their pledges for this we will have over \$900.
5. Nancy Goodloe would encourage more people to be on the committee to evaluate the church. All are welcome. Meeting times and places will be announced.



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, June 15th
7:15 p.m.
Conference Room

Trustees
Sunday, June 20th
After Worship
Conference Room

Worship Committee
Tuesday, June 22nd
2:30 p.m.
Pastor's Office



United Methodist Women Circle Schedule

UMW General Meeting
Wednesday, June 2nd,
11:30 a.m.
Buzz Inn

Afternoon Circle
Wednesday, June 16th
1:30 p.m.
Hostess: Betty Holmes
Place: Betty Holmes's house
12191 Vantage Hwy.
968-3668

Evening Circle
On Hiatus for the summer
months.




June 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 Faith Baptist Kids, 7 pm	2 Faith Baptist Bible Study, 6 pm Iglesia Apostolica, 6 pm	3	4 Bible Study at Hearthstone, 11 pm	5
6 Church Walk-Through, after church Iglesia Apostolica, 4 pm 	7	8	9	10	11	12 Parsonage Packing Party
13 2 p.m. Sweeney Todd and Musical Revue, FREE All Welcome	14 	15	16	17	18 PNW Annual Conference HEIFER Dinner	19 June 17th-20th
20 	21	22	23	24	25	26
27 Kathy's Last Service	28	29	30			

Birthdays and Anniversaries for May 2010

4, Susan Barrigan
 4, Davy & Faye Christian (A)
 7, Tuck Forsythe

8, Betty Holmes
 17, Betty & Fred Holmes (A)

20, David & Carol Cross (A)
 26, June Bloom

Please remember these congregations in your prayers this month:

June 06 Wenatchee First Church and Pastors Julia Price
 June 13 White Swan: Wilbur Memorial Church and Pastor MarLu Scott
 June 20 Pray for God's children of all Faiths
 June 27 Yakima: Wesley Church and Pastor Ron Hines

Opportunities for Service

Upcoming Worship Highlights	Ministry Opportunities
<p>June 6 <i>Seeing with New Eyes</i> New perspectives, new vision, new hope – through the power of Christ. <i>Isaiah 42:5-9; Mark 4:35-41</i></p> <p>June 13 Blessing of Plants and Animals <i>All Creation is God's Good Work</i> The gifts and blessedness of all God's creation. <i>Genesis 1:1—2:4a</i></p> <p>June 20 Father's Day <i>Guest Preacher: Greg McLaughlin</i></p> <p>June 27 Kathy's Last Sunday <i>Jesus' Job Offer: Clean Dirty Feet</i> All of us are called into God's service, to love and to give in the spirit of Christ, washing the dirty feet of the world. <i>John 3:1-17</i></p> <p>July 4 Shalom's First Sunday <i>Stay Tuned for More Details!</i></p>	<p>June 6 Liturgist John Lasik Greeter Usher Bob Johnston Altar Betty Holmes Coffee Hour Karen Lasik</p> <p>June 13 Liturgist Nancy Goodloe Greeter Usher Bob Johnston Altar Diane Ota Coffee Hour Jean Spence</p> <p>June 20 Liturgist Larry Lowther Greeter Usher Bob Johnston Altar David Cross Coffee Hour Kay Forsythe</p> <p>June 27 Liturgist Betty Holmes Greeter Usher Bob Johnston Altar Barbara Tate Coffee Hour Janette Tureman</p> <p>July 4 Liturgist John Lasik Greeter Usher Bob Johnston Altar Barbara Tate Coffee Hour Carmen Knoke</p>

Volunteer Opportunities

Finance Chairperson

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

JUBILATE! 2010

31st Summer Festival

July 26-31

Immaculate Heart Retreat Center, Spokane WA

~Worship That Transforms~

Keynoter: The Rev. Ron Davids—Seattle, WA

Choir Director: Erin Walker

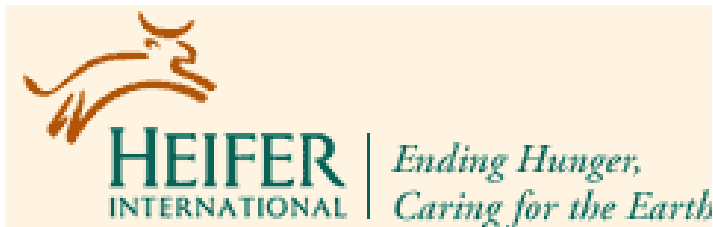
Chaplain: Phil Harrington



Visit our website!

www.gbgm-umc.org/jubilate/

Click on: Summer Festival for registration, workshop and contact information



Be a campaign for Hope: Be a part of Helping

A fundraising dinner for

HEIFER International

June 18, 2010, 5 pm

First United Methodist Church,
210 N Ruby, donations accepted

A baked potato bar



Help Make Pastor Kathy's Farewell Special!

June 12 -- 9:00 a.m. -- Meet at Pastor Kathy's (the parsonage--1602 Bonnie Lane) for packing and cleaning up the parsonage and potluck lunch. Please bring extra boxes (if you have them) and a dish to share.

June 27 -- Potluck lunch/Kathy's farewell party after church

For Your Consideration

BOLD (Believe Out Loud) Update

In the Christian Visitor last month a recap was presented on the April 22, 2010, BOLD workshop held at Wallingford United Methodist Church in Seattle. Also mentioned was the plan to share information from the workshop with our congregation through small group meetings. The first of the planned gathering was held on Wednesday, May 12, 2010, with 11 people present.

The comfortably informal get-together provided the opportunity for 7 of the people who attended the April 22 workshop to discuss the BOLD project and to provide instruction in the technique for telling effective 2 minute stories on topics that have influenced our thinking and our lives.

While the intent of the Seattle workshop was to train individuals in awareness and avenues of assistance to promote the Reconciling Ministries Network plan (regional and national) to “grow” and support new reconciling congregations throughout the United States—one person and one story at a time, it was mentioned that story telling can also help our local congregations in exploration of other issues. As noted in an earlier Christian Visitor 2 minute storytelling, for the Ellensburg First United Methodist Church, can be a means of sharing stories with one another as they relate to our 5 Core Values (Celebration of Diversity, Social Justice, Service to Others, Stewardship, and Spiritual Growth & Development). The impact of hearing how the Core Values relate to us as individuals may provide deeper meaning and understanding of the importance of these ideals to us as a congregation, and allow us to more easily share this information with visitors and new comers to the Church.



If you are interested in attending one of the upcoming small group gatherings, please call the Church office for further information.

From The United Methodist Social Principles

The Natural World

Global Climate Stewardship

We acknowledge the global impact of humanity's disregard for God's creation. Rampant industrialization and the corresponding increase in the use of fossil fuels have led to a buildup of pollutants in the earth's atmosphere. These "greenhouse gas" emissions threaten to alter dramatically the earth's climate for generations to come with severe environmental, economic, and social implications. The adverse impacts of global climate change disproportionately affect individuals and nations least responsible for the emissions. We therefore support efforts of all governments to require mandatory reductions in greenhouse gas emissions and call on individuals, congregations, businesses, industries, and communities to reduce their emissions.

For Your Consideration, cont.

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.

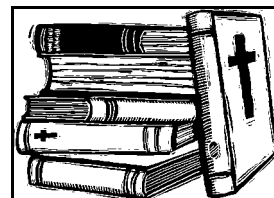
If you have questions about the program, see Larry Lowther.

Update on Our Financial Situation

This year will be particularly difficult financially, primarily because of our very heavy utility bills. We can expect some relief next year because the backlog of utility charges will have been paid off, and, we hope, the city will obtain a more favorable contract from the natural gas supplier when the current contract expires in March, 2011. In the meantime, we will have to strain to discharge current obligations.

Specifically, we owe at the present time \$6348.76 on Pastor Kathy's benefits. So, if you are able, please make a contribution above and beyond your current pledge to help reduce this obligation. Write on the memo space on your check and/or on the envelope "Pastor's Benefits" so we can properly credit this gift on our books. May God bless your generosity.

Larry Lowther
Finance Chair



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.

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

March 7	45	3710
March 14	44	1560
March 21	41	1330
March 28	47	1028
April 4	70	7972
April 11	44	1458
April 18	48	2118
April 25	52	685

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 for October, for instance, the deadline 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/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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Church e-mail: eburgumc@fairpoint.net

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

Rev. Katherine Makus, Pastor
Josh Munroe, Secretary



a Reconciling Congregation