



THE COURIER

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March | 2013

The Work of the People

Releasing the Power of Prayer at FUMCO

Sermon Series on Prayer during Lent & Easter Seasons

Prayer, the term we use for communicating with God, is both the simplest and the most confounding of any of the spiritual disciplines. Some persons have a deep and mature prayer life, but many find themselves stuck at various obstacles. Where are you when it comes to prayer? Do you find yourself desiring to go beyond giving God the to-do list to take care of? Do you long for a vibrant relationship with God? Perhaps this sermon series will inspire and deepen your time of prayer. If you miss a week, check out the church website, where we are now audio streaming the sermon each week.

As a grand finale to the series, FUMCO is hosting another Prayer Seminar with Revs. Larry and Audrey Eddings on May 10-11 (see article on page 6). By Pentecost (May 19), we just might be seeing the Holy Spirit dancing flames over all our heads!

See Insert for Holy Week and Easter Schedule!

Page 13 and 14 in web edition

Sermon Schedule

Date Sermon Title

- 2/17: Becoming More than We Are: the power of prayer
- 2/24: Creating Space: a time and place to pray
- 3/3: What's Your Attitude? finding the right mood to pray
- 3/10: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME
Dangerous Prayer: asking for God's will to be done
- 3/17: Spiritual Hearing Aids: listening to God
- 3/24: Unclogging the Drain: the messy work of forgiveness
- 3/31: THE Answer to Prayer - Jesus Christ Alive! (Easter)
- 4/7: Spinning on the Potter's Wheel: prayer will reshape us
- 4/14: Spiritual Drought or Flood: obstacles to prayer
- 4/21: Praying Together: the value of praying with others
- 4/28: The Fine Art of Living with People: prayer and the Great Commandment
- 5/5: Heightened Senses: becoming alert to God's gifts
- 5/12: On Behalf of Others: intercessory prayer
- 5/19: Being More than We Are: the prayer-altered life (Pentecost)

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Lenten Soup Supper and Study

*When the World Breaks Your
Heart: How the Church Can
Embrace the Mission of God.*

Wednesdays, 6:00 – 7:30 p.m.
in the Gathering Place

February 20 – March 20

Come to one evening or all of them.

Childcare available upon request –
call the church office.

2 FUMCO Details

FUMCO Budget Report

(as of February 27, 2013)

Total Annual Budget	\$750,000
Needed per month	\$62,500
Needed to-date	\$125,000
Received in January	\$52,543
Received in February	\$46,795
Total received to-date	\$99,338
Actual expenses to-date	\$119,689
Difference (short of expenses)	– \$20,351
Difference (short of budget)	– \$25,662

This year the Church Council adopted a very lean annual budget of \$750,000, which is over \$75,000 less than our 2012 budget. This represents significant reductions in every area, including salaries, administration, maintenance, program, Conference Apportionments, and missions. We finished 2012 with an income of \$754,589. January and February receipts are typically light, with income showing gains in March as givers do some catching up. Overall, this year's figures are tight but doable. The budget is merely the church's mission expressed in dollars. The real picture of the church is what we do in our ministries here and in the world with Jesus Christ as we are generously expressive in our worship, our caring, our serving, and our giving.

Thanks to Kroon Family

The memorial committee would like to thank Mary Kroon and her family for the new stove in the kitchen in memory of Tony Kroon. It works beautifully!

First UMC, Olympia

Office Hours:

9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday—Friday

8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Sunday

Phone: 360-943-2661; Fax: 360-943-2668

E-mail: fumco@comcast.net

Web: www.fumcoly.org

News: fumconews@fumcoly.org

Lead Pastor: Rev. Joanne Coleman Campbell

Associate Pastor: Rev. Ruth Marston

Discipleship Pastor: Rev. Carolyn Peterson

Minister of Music: Angi Swan

Music Ministries: Andy Crow, Cathy Bennett,
Mark Bunda

Church Administrator: Davis Hylkema

Administrative Assistant: Dolores Prouty

Treasurer: Marilyn Gregson

Building Facilitator/Custodian: Tim Monahan,

Weekend Custodian: Garold Slover

PLEASE NOTE:

Articles for the *next* Courier must be delivered to the office or preferably e-mailed to fumconews@fumcoly.org by the 20th of this month.

Helping Hurts 2013

As many of you already know, our Helping Hurts benevolence program is primarily funded through two special offerings, Thanksgiving and Christmas Eve. In addition, some members give special gifts through the year or add Helping Hurts to their regular support of FUMCO.

We have been asked about the possibility of helping Garold Slover as he recovers. The church cannot accept monetary gifts for individuals. For tax deduction purposes, donations are best made to Helping Hurts. And, you are more than welcome to add to the fund to assist all who need help through this year.

A Celebration of the Life of Betty Johnson

Saturday, March 23, at 2:00 p.m.

Panorama Chapel

The Quinault

4th Floor, West End

1751 Circle Ln SE, Lacey, WA



Spring Ahead!

Got Emergency?

The consequences of disasters can be drastically mitigated and to a degree, prevented. Review disasters that are most likely to occur in our area. What would you do? Where would you go if required to evacuate? Pick a spot -- at end of the driveway, at the mailbox across the street, etc. Establish a household meeting place to preclude anyone re-entering a burning structure in an unnecessary rescue attempt. What if you couldn't return to your neighborhood? Where would your family meet? (24 hours per day?) At relative's, a friend's, or the church? Decide now and start your plan. Know that the church will make every effort to be open in emergencies.

Human Trafficking Discussion Continues, March 3, 10:00 a.m.

Please join with others in the Gathering Place on Sunday, March 3, at 10:00 a.m. to continue to discern how God is calling us to respond to human trafficking.

We have learned that there are more humans in slavery today, an estimated 27 million, than at any point in history. And that this buying and selling of human beings is reported to be a \$32 billion industry (from "A Villainy Revealed Slavery in the 21st Century," General Board of Church and Society, UMC). Last Sunday's *Seattle Times* front page article about human trafficking reported the number of children being trafficked rose from 20% to 27% from 2006 to 2010. Many of us attended the powerful program at St. Martin's University with Elizabeth Smart and Rani Hong in January. Many of you also attended the talk last fall with the young women who were trafficked and enslaved in Oakville (see last Sunday's *Seattle Times* cover story to learn more about their case). Others attended the Community Café on "Modern Day Slavery in Our Own Backyard."

On March 3, we will prayerfully explore the following questions: What are we doing now? What could we do? What should FUMCO do?

Scott Saunders, Mae Owada, Cheryl Jorban, Dagmar Growe, John and Mary Grettenberger, and Ranil Dhammapala.

One March 10
great hour
of sharing.

Special offering makes UMC Disaster response and long-term recovery possible!

Every year we join Christian churches around the world to make sure God's love is physically expressed when disaster strikes. The OGHS offering supports the ongoing work of the United Methodist Committee on Relief. Your gifts allow UMCOR to work efficiently and effectively in disaster response, hunger and poverty ministries, and refugee ministries around the world. Give generously in thanks for all that God has given you. The offering will be received on Sunday, March 10, or you may mail your check to the church, made out to FUMCO, with OGHS in the memo line. Thank you for your continued generosity!

GIANT RUMMAGE AND ESTATE SALE

Friday, March 1, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Saturday, March 2, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

FUMCO lower level

All proceeds support UMW mission projects!



Haiti Mission

Silent Auction March 10 & 17 to help fund our Volunteer in Mission Trip to Haiti

We are charging full steam ahead toward our departure date in May, and to help fund our efforts, we will be holding a silent auction on Sundays, March 10 and 17, in the Gathering Place. Auction items will all be service-based, and will include such tempting possibilities as a bird watching trip; several gourmet meals; PC, Mac, or iPad lessons or trouble shooting; and good old fashioned labor like window washing, gutter cleaning, or perhaps pulling weeds. Join in the fun and volunteer your own services or make an extravagant bid on one of the items being offered! And, for the minimalists among you, there also will be an opportunity to make a donation without purchasing a thing! Questions regarding the silent auction? Please contact Bill Howard at williamhoward5@comcast.net.

We also are interested in establishing prayer partners for the team, so if the Spirit moves you, please let us know. Regarding prayer partners, please contact Ranil Dhammapala at ranil.dhammapala@gmail.com.



10 Steps to Lower Heart Disease Risk

1. No ifs, ands, or "butts" about it – quit using tobacco.
2. Do not allow tobacco use in your home. Avoid secondhand smoke.
3. Get your blood pressure checked at least every two years. Ask if you should have it checked in both arms. A difference of 10 or more points in the top numbers is linked with risks for heart disease.
4. Do aerobic exercises to strengthen your heart. Walk briskly, swim, or bicycle. Aim for 60 minutes a day.
5. Lose weight. As little as a 7% weight loss can lower your heart disease risk.
6. Follow the DASH Eating Plan from www.nhlbi.nih.gov. Omit trans fats.
7. Ask if you need to be screened for diabetes. If you have diabetes, follow your treatment plan.
8. Tell your doctor if and why you do not take your medications for blood pressure, blood sugar, and blood cholesterol.
9. Learn to control anger. Manage stress.
10. Nurture your heart with healthy emotions and a strong support system from family and friends.

Spring Health Topics, April & May

AED: Automated external defibrillator. We have one here at FUMCO. Do you know where it is and how to use it?

Atrial Fibrillation: Irregular heartbeat that puts you at risk for blood clots and stroke.

Ophthalmologist: Specializing in medical treatment or surgery of the eyes.

Women and Finance

By the time most people reach their senior years, they have a half-century of experience managing the countless risks drivers face everyday. But age also brings about a natural decline in vision, reaction time, the ability to retain focus on multiple objects, and other skills and abilities that are vital to driving.

The March breakfast meeting will be at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, March 4, at the River's Edge Restaurant at the Tumwater Golf Course. The speaker will be Gerry Apple from the Washington Traffic Safety Education Association. He will tell us about "Safe Senior Driving." All are welcome. Questions? Call Bobbie Hubbard, 943-3876.

Women's Health Issues

United Methodist Women's monthly lunch and program will be Wed., March 13, in the Great Hall. The speaker will be our own Jeanne Kirkpatrick, discussing women's health issues. Please join us for fellowship, starting at 11:30 a.m. with lunch and program beginning at 11:55 a.m.

Order a Traditional Easter Treat!

The UMW is selling homemade solid fudge Easter eggs personalized with names and decorated in the color of your choice. You can place orders through March 17. Whole eggs are \$5 and half eggs are \$4. Delivery date is Palm Sunday, March 24, unless an earlier date is requested. To order, submit the form found in the church lobby between services on Sundays, in the church office anytime, or call Carol Gruen at 352-9703. If you leave a message, remember to spell the names, indicate size and color choice, and leave your contact information. There will be samples to look at on Sundays March 10 and March 17. All profits go to United Methodist Women mission projects.

Anyone interested in getting involved in this very tasteful fundraiser—contact Carol Gruen at 352-9703 or gruenw@comcast.net.

UMCOR Kits, Now Seeking Ingredients

The UMW has set a goal to make 150 United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR) kits this year. The Abigail Fellowship has finished 10 school kits and is working on 10 layette kits and 10 birthing kits.

The remaining projects will be health kits and sewing kits. We will assemble them Wednesday, April 10. New items needed for the health kits are: regular size wrapped bars of soap, individually packaged tooth brushes, regular size Band-Aids, wash cloths, nail clippers or metal nail files, hand towels, and \$1.00 bills. More info at FUMCO's website>Ministries>UMW>Kits.



United Methodist Women

It's OK to be Human

An important theme of the Lenten season is the humanity of Christ. In Jesus, God became human and fully experienced the wide range of emotions we all encounter in life. Jesus experienced times of loneliness, sadness, hurt, anger, disappointment, grief, and abandonment. That is part of being human. Another part of being human is needing help from each other. God never intended us to be completely self-sufficient. Part of God's plan is for each of us to turn to others for help when we need it.



So when you are experiencing difficult times, don't struggle alone. Our Stephen Ministers will walk with you, listen to you, encourage you, pray with you, and provide confidential one-to-one care to help you through tough times. Stephen Ministers can bring the love of Jesus back into your life. To learn more about Stephen Ministry, talk to one of our Stephen Leaders: Ginger Waite, Cheryl Dale, Ted Dale or Janice Kennemore. Our Stephen Ministers are ready to care for you!

New Members to Join March 10

Be sure to be present on Sunday, March 10, to welcome our newest members into the Body of Christ. We will be receiving members by transfer from other UMCs and by profession of faith. Photos and introductions will be in April's Courier!

Back by Popular Demand: Dinners for 7

Several years after the last round of "Dinners for 7," many of us still talk about the connections we made with fellow FUMCONians during those potlucks. Folks keep asking why something so fun just disappeared. Well, it's back!!

Sign up at the church office, fill out a sign-up slip after worship, or email Dagmar Growe at dagmar@scattercreek.com. We need to know your name, how many people in your family, your preferred potluck night, and if you are able to host up to seven people at your house.

We will assemble groups and put you in touch with each other. Groups then schedule four potluck dinners over the next couple of months on their own.

What has the new Congregational Connection Team been up to?

This is the time for seeds to quietly gather their momentum for spring to come. And while you haven't heard from us since the New Year's eve breakfast, we have been dreaming big about all the things that could be done (given many hands to make work light), and starting to lay the ground work for some big plans.

Our constantly growing list of issues that need to be addressed includes (but is not limited to)

- Follow up on people who stop attending church
- Connect with new visitors
- Organize help for people in short term emergency situations, such as visits and meals.
- Connect those who can't drive with people in the area who can give rides.
- Create opportunities for the church community to come together, such as shared meals, and other social events.

If you would like to work with us on any of those tasks, or if you already do some of this please contact Dagmar at dagmar@scattercreek.com or 943-5804.

Meet Our Neighbors - Walk the Neighborhood on March 17

On **Sunday, March 17**, join the Outreach Ministry Team in offering an invitation to Holy Week and Easter Services to our neighbors. Meet at the church at 12:30 p.m. and pick up your flyers and map. Each route takes between 30-60 minutes. Knock at our neighbors' doors - if they answer, greet them, let them know you are from FUMCO, hand them a flyer and invite them to services. If they are not there, leave the flyer. This is the third time in the past year that we have done this, and it has been a positive experience all around. We have some very nice neighbors indeed! Let Toni Miklich know if you are coming, or call or email her if you have questions (360-352-2369 or tonimik@comcast.net).

6 Coming this Spring

The Healing Academy



Wind of the Spirit Ministries

Tuesday, April 9, 7:00 p.m. through
Saturday, April 13, 12:00 noon

Silverdale United Methodist Church

The Revs. Larry and Audrey Eddings, who led our Prayer Seminar last year, facilitate the Healing Academy, an intensive training event in which persons are equipped, through teachings and workshops, for effective prayer ministry. In addition, the Healing Academy provides opportunity for the participants to experience healing in various areas of their own lives. The emphasis is upon healing and wholeness in all areas of life—spirit, emotions and memories, body and relationships. Teachings are firmly grounded in Scripture. With God's guidance and gifts through the Holy Spirit and Jesus as our model and authority, we enter into the ministry of bringing hope, healing, and wholeness to which God calls his followers. The Healing Academy is offered in the Pacific Northwest only once a year. Tuition is \$250 per person or \$400 per couple. Some scholarships are available. Contact the Wind of the Spirit Office at 360-692-9813 for more information. Davis Hylkema, in the FUMCO church office, can also provide detailed information about what is covered in the Healing Academy.

We Like you...

why not Like Us on



www.facebook.com/firstunitedmethodistchurchofolympia?

FUMCO's 2013 Prayer Seminar

Prayer That Makes A Difference Everyday

Friday evening, May 10 – to Saturday afternoon, May 11

The Revs. Larry and Audrey Eddings are back this year to lead us in another amazing course in practical prayer. There will be a short review from last year and then we'll delve into another exciting, transforming dimension of our Christian life. Throughout the Scriptures and throughout history, faithful followers of God have prayed for others, for healings, and for nations and circumstances, and by it miracles have been wrought. This year learn and experience how prayer will fortify your own life, effect blessings into the lives of those you love and care about, bring healing and transformation, and give hope to this world, in the name of Jesus Christ, and the power of God's Holy Spirit. Watch for details on registration and cost. Invite others to join us. This event is open to anyone who wishes to grow closer to the Lord, stronger in their faith, and discover added dimensions of joy in the Christian life.

AARP Driver Safety

AARP Driver Safety Program Class
April 27, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.,
at FUMCO

Topics:

- » Defensive driving techniques, new traffic laws, and rules of the road
- » How to deal with aggressive drivers
- » How to handle problem situations such as left turns, right-of way, interstate highway traffic, trucks, and blind spots
- » How to use anti-lock brakes, air bags, and safety belts safely

The regular price for this class is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. Class completion may qualify you for a discount on your car insurance. The AARP volunteer instructor, who is a WA-certified driver education instructor and driver examiner, is available for FREE driving refresher sessions and/or behind-the-wheel driver exams using the WA Driving Test Score Sheet.

Register for the class online at www.fumcooly.org under "Sign Ups." If you have any questions, call Rich Martin at 360-866-2519.

**CHANGE
THE WORLD**

May 18-19

2013 marks the fourth year that the UMC has participated in "Change the World: Recovering the Message and Mission of Jesus." Shall we gear ourselves up to participate and draw attention to and awareness of our various ministries, allowing others to participate, too? Pray about it; we'll be in touch!



CHURCH WORLD SERVICE

Church World Service President and CEO at FUMCO, Sunday, April 14, 5:00 p.m. Dinner & Evening Program

Rev. John McCullough, President and CEO of CWS, will be visiting the Northwest next month. He comes to share stories of the amazing work Church World Service is able to do because of the support of churches like FUMCO. He is also here to celebrate the airing of the first two episodes of *Visionaries* on PBS, hosted by Law & Order star Sam Waterston. *Visionaries* has been covering stories of hope and good work since 1995.

This event is cosponsored by FUMCO, Interfaith Works, and CWS Pacific Northwest. We will start with a dinner at 5:00 p.m., followed by an interfaith worship and program at 6:00 p.m. Mark your calendar and plan to attend this excellent opportunity.



33rd Annual CROP WALK Sunday, May 5

The 33rd annual 10 kilometer (6 miles) CROP Walk for world hunger will be Sunday, May 5, starting at 1:30 p.m. at the State Capitol. Hunger issues exist from food deprivation in our local area to places around the world where people are experiencing starvation. Hunger needs continue to increase. Thurston County Food Bank recorded 78,000 client visits in 2011, a 19% increase over 2010, and the demand continues to grow.

Church World Services uses 75% of the funds raised for hunger projects in 80 countries and 25% for eight local area hunger programs.

Pick up walker sheets in the church lobby and start getting donations, or start making donations to those who will walk. Last year Thurston County CROP Walk raised \$46,530. It had 500 walkers and is #31 of 1,434 CROP Walks in the U.S. We are aiming for a 10% increase in giving and participation this year. Together let's achieve this year's theme "Ending Hunger One Step at a Time."

More information call Wayne or Carol Gruen at 352-9703.



FUMCO folk not only gave sweet Valentines to their loved ones, we raised \$1275, which equates to 255 CWS blankets. Thanks goes to all the Valentine Card creators!

Expressions of Love

inhabit The Art of Parish Renewal

Discover the imaginative, redemptive, and courageous practices that stir up God's dream in particular places. God's people are awakening to the possibility of being the church in everyday life. This is not a science; there is no singular technique or 7 Habits of Highly Effective Neighborhood Transformations. This work is embodied. It takes experimentation. It takes risk. It takes collaboration. This is not a science; this is an art form.

Like the sculptor who examines the contours of the raw marble and listens for it to tell what kind of art will be created, there are practices that adapt to what the Spirit is up to in a particular place. Grounded in collaboration, creativity, and imagination, these practices create a third way outside of the top-down methods of consumer-driven "success" on the one hand and inaction due to fear of repeating the church's colonial mistakes on the other.

This year, Inhabit continues to explore the emerging pattern of local practice, presence, and place in the local church, this time with a focus on the artistic imagination needed to engage the community our churches call home. What is the beauty to be discovered in your community? What are the imaginative, redemptive, and courageous practices that will stir up God's dream in your neighborhood?

Join the pastors and Outreach Ministry Team in attending this important conference in Seattle. Go to inhabitconference.com for more information, or speak with one of the pastors. Scholarships are available.

8 Church Calendar

Friday, March 1

9:00-4:00 Rummage Sale

Saturday, March 2

9:00-3:00 Rummage Sale

Sunday, March 3

8:45 and 11:15 Worship Services
10:00 Human Trafficking
10:00 Christian Education Classes
12:30 Children's Council mtg
12:30 Children's Choir
4:30 Youth Group
6:00 Evening Worship

Monday, March 4

9:00 Women & Finance
1:00 Cobb Group
6:30 Grief Support Group
6:30 Disaster Response Task Force

Tuesday, March 5

10:00 Quilting Group

Wednesday, March 6

9:00 UMW Executive Meeting
5:20 Yoga Class
6:00 Supper and Lenten Study
6:30 Youth Council mtg

Thursday, March 7

6:30 Men's Breakfast IHOP
10:00 Library staffed
5:30 Bell Choir rehearsal
6:00 Prayer Ministries
6:30 Celebration Singers Practice
6:45 Chancel Choir Practice
7:30 Easter Choir rehearsal

Friday, March 8

10:00 Book Club
6:30 Dragon Small Group

Saturday, March 9

7:30 Men's Breakfast, Great Hall
6:00 Koinonians Event/Dinner

Sunday, March 10

8:00 Haiti Mission Auction
8:45 and 11:15 Worship
10:00 Christian Education Classes
12:30 Children's Choir
4:30 Youth Group
6:00 Evening Worship

Monday, March 11

5:30 Stephen Leaders
6:30 Grief Support Group
6:30 Haiti Mission Team Meeting

Tuesday, March 12

10:00 Quilting Group
5:30 Trustees Meeting
6:00 Abigail Circle
6:30 Staff Parish Meeting
6:30 Interfaith Board Meeting
6:30 Finance Comm Meeting

Wednesday, March 13

11:30 UMW Lunch/Program
2:30 SideWalk Meeting
5:20 Yoga Class
6:00 Supper and Lenten Study
6:30 Stephen Ministry

Thursday, March 14

10:00 Library staffed
2:00 Bible Reflections Group
5:30 Bell Choir rehearsal
6:30 Celebration Singers Practice
6:45 Chancel Choir Practice
7:30 Easter Choir rehearsal

Sunday, March 17

8:00 Haiti Mission Auction
8:45 and 11:15 Worship Services
10:00 Christian Education Classes
12:30 Children's Choir
12:30 Neighborhood Walk
4:30 Youth Group
6:00 Evening Worship

Monday, March 18

1:00 Cobb Small Group
6:30 Grief Support Group

Tuesday, March 19

9:00 Clergy Cluster
10:00 Quilting Group
1:00 Ruth Circle
3:00 Prayer Shawl Group
5:30 Caregivers Support Group
6:30 Church Council Meeting

Wednesday, March 20

Courier Deadline
10:30 New Hope
5:20 Yoga Class 119
6:00 Supper and Lenten Study

Thursday, March 21

6:30 Men's Breakfast, Denny's
10:00 Library staffed
5:30 Bell Choir rehearsal
6:45 Chancel Choir Practice
7:30 Easter Choir rehearsal

Friday, March 22

6:00 People First here
6:30 Dragon Small Group

Saturday, March 23

2:00 Betty Johnson Memorial at
Panorama Chapel

Sunday, March 24, Palm Sunday

8:45 and 11:15 Worship
10:00 Christian Education Classes
12:30 Children's Choir
4:30 Youth Group
6:00 Evening Worship

Monday, March 25

6:30 Grief Support Group
6:30 Haiti Mission Team Meeting

Tuesday, March 26

10:00 Quilting Group
6:30 Outreach & Evang mtg
6:30 Missions & Soc Con mtg
6:30 Endowment Committee
6:30 Adult Council mtg

Wednesday, March 27

5:20 Yoga Class 119
6:30 Stephen Ministry
7:00 Quilting Group

Thursday, March 28

10:00 Library staffed
2:00 Bible Reflections Group
5:30 Bell Choir rehearsal
6:30 Maundy Thursday worship
6:45 Chancel Choir practice
7:30 Easter Choir practice

Friday, March 29

5:00 Good Friday Stations of the
Cross experience

Saturday, March 30

11:00 Choir Rehearsal @ Washington
Center

Sunday, March 31

7:45 Worship at Harbor House
9:00 Worship @ church
11:00 Worship @ Washington Center

Walking the Way Lectionary

March 3 2 Corinthians 1:1-6:10
March 10 2 Corinthians 6:11-9:15
March 17 2 Corinthians 10-13
March 24 Romans 1-5
March 31 Easter
April 7 Romans 6-10

Missionary Katherine Parker Appointed to Tibet

Forty people gathered for a potluck dinner and worship service Sunday evening, February 24. Our guest speaker was Katherine Parker, born into a family deeply rooted in the United Methodist Church. Her grandfather, retired pastor Bruce Parker, accompanied her. Katherine shared stories of her work alongside Cambodian Christians over the past five years – work that we have supported financially and through our prayers.

She was involved in organizational development of the Social Concerns Committee of the emerging Methodist Church in Cambodia. In particular, Katherine helped develop food security and “livelihood” cooperative projects – cow, pig, chicken and duck raising, rice co-ops, vegetable farming, and various small business projects through savings and credit projects. At the end of the program, she gifted us with a small banner from Cambodia.

Katherine just found out that the Board of Global Ministries will appoint her to Tibet this summer. She does not yet know what her job will entail, but she is looking forward to this new opportunity. If anyone is interested in receiving her email newsletter, you may contact her via email: ktparker@gmail.com.



Church Summer Camp 2013: Secrets of the Kingdom

You are invited to journey through the parables of Jesus to discover the Secrets that his kingdom holds! It has a lot to do with storytelling -- an ancient art -- from writing on caves to oral tradition to written words to talks around campfires.

We have four fabulous camps to choose from:

Twinlow, in woods on beautiful Lower Twin Lake in northern Idaho

Ocean Park, amidst the forest and beaches of the Pacific Ocean on the Long Beach Peninsula

Lazy F, ranch-like camp in the fir and pine forests in Manastash Canyon near Ellensburg

Indianola, in the shadow of the Olympic rainforest on Puget Sound

Find your spot: pnwcamps.org or [facebook.com/pnwcamps](https://www.facebook.com/pnwcamps)

Souper Bowl Sunday Was a Winner!

Many thanks to all who donated their change, especially those of you who stocked up! You are a blessing to the teams who cook at the Community Kitchen. Thank you, too, to the kids and their smiley-face bowls. Hopefully, they weren't too eager to get everyone to donate... they really take it seriously! Your generosity raised \$702.

FUMCO Receives Appreciation Award from TCFB

The Thurston County Food Bank issued an Appreciation Award to our congregation for our support through their Nutritional Education Program by allowing them to use our spacious and well-stocked kitchen.

We've got lots of cookie takers! Now we are in need of cookie bakers!

Is this you?



Special Art Show Easter Sunday, March 30, at First UMC, Olympia

Enjoy the incredibly beautiful art pieces painted by our very own Necia Huntley whose artwork has adorned Advent and Good Friday bulletins for a number of years. Her latest piece has been the art for all of this year's Lent and Easter flyers and bulletins. The artist will be in residence Easter morning to answer any questions!

Necia's paintings are the product of not being able one year to find a Christmas card that she liked. "So, I painted my own," says this amazing 100-year old artist. She gets her ideas from scripture, or, as she did this year, from her travels to historic places. The empty tomb image she uses in this year's piece comes from the site in Jerusalem of Christ's burial. Her skills are all self-taught in the latter years of her life. She claims to be armed with pencil and a "very good eraser"!

Youth News

On the first Sunday of Lent, the youth brainstormed ideas for Lent and then voted for their favorite activities. The activities that they picked out all have to do with paths and journeys, much like the journey of Lent to Easter! (Our youth are exceptionally smart that way!)

The first was a service project to build a canvas labyrinth for the church. A labyrinth is an ancient form of pilgrimage that was established for the poor who could not afford to actually walk to a site to solicit prayers from a saint. Today, it is a traditional design that is built for walking prayer. We are pleased to be sharing in this way to provide an interactive type of prayer experience

that can alleviate stress and connect one with God in a different way. We started work on it last week and look forward to finishing it soon! And, using it.

We will also have a photo scavenger hunt for a Bible Story through the church one night in Lent that will be about a story of journey and traveling. What story you ask? Hint, it has to do with roads and Jesus.

During Holy Week in March, we are planning to journey on a field trip to visit a young adult worship and then indulge in the not-so-ancient form of frozen yogurt.

Pastor Ruth

Youth Calendar

Remember! All Sunday Youth Group gatherings meet at 4:30 p.m., unless otherwise noted!

(Saturday) March 2 - Help the UMW clean-up from the Rummage Sale! Meet at 3:00 p.m. at the church. That's THIS Saturday!

March 3 - Labyrinth painting

March 10 - Bible Story Photo Scavenger Hunt

March 17 - Possibly more Labyrinth painting!

March 24 - Fun night surprises!

(Tuesday) March 26 - Field Trip!

March 31 - Easter Night --- No Youth Group. Enjoy your family and Easter resurrection time!

Pastor's Letter

It was just a few weeks ago when I opened my eyes to the rosy glow of the pre-dawn sunrise against the dark outline of the peaks of the Sierra San Pedro Martir. With joy I rose, got a cup of coffee, and watched the daily miracle of light conquering the darkness. As I looked out over the Bahia de San Quintin, with the perched osprey just a dark outline against the dawn, the sun peeked over the hills, then quickly rose in magnificent glory, it's beams streaking toward me across the water of the bay. Within just a few moments, I could feel the heat of its radiance warming my face. My soul rejoiced as I gave thanks to God for the beauty of creation, and I felt deeply blessed.

I was in the small community of Pedregal, composed of about 20 houses, and located about 15 miles from the town of San Quintin (200 miles south of San Diego and 800 miles north of Cabo San Lucas). My sister and brother-in-law own the house, and I have often taken a mid-winter retreat there to shed the busyness of daily living and quiet my soul. I don't do much at all while I am there. I might sit in the wind-protected palapa overlooking the bay and watch the tide come in or go out or the myriad of shore and water birds (it is a protected wintering ground for migratory birds). This year I was privileged to see a pod of dolphins dance

and play. I might take walks in the arid and starkly beautiful coastal scrub land. There are three long-extinct volcanoes within hiking distance – I've only climbed the nearest one. Sometimes we get warm days, sometimes cold days. Needed rainstorms come and go, preparing the land for a short but stunning profusion of spring flowers. And always, there is the wind, sweeping down the coast, rising mid-morning and usually dying away by evening. The nights, when clear, are glorious, with the moon and stars blazing brightly in the deep, dark sky.

It is there, that I am brought back to living a prayer-filled life, to be in communion with God. There are no visions or fireworks, generally no significant epiphanies. It is just a certain way of "being," of a quiet soul resting in God, unhurried and peaceful. I am reminded that the discipline of daily prayer, of resting in God, is not a task but a privilege and a blessing. I realize that as Christians, we are called to be a non-anxious presence that provides a refuge for over-wrought souls. We cannot always find a time and place to retreat for three weeks. But we are able, if we choose, to set aside time each day to be with God, quiet, listening, resting, loving. I pray that each one of you claims that privilege and are duly blessed.

Pastor Joanne

From the Library

Inheriting Abraham: The Legacy of the Patriarchy in Judaism, Christianity & Islam, by John Levenson. Jews, Christians, and Muslims share a common religious heritage in the patriarch Abraham. The idea that he should serve as a unity among the three traditions has become widespread. This book adds to this view, demonstrating Abraham's distinct role in each tradition, while marking the points of connection.

The Jewish Annotated New Testament by Amy-Jill Levine and Marc Zvi Brettler. This book brings out the Jewish context of the New Testament; presents Judaism before, during, and after the time of Jesus; and explores the early community of Jesus-followers and their eventual separation from Judaism.

Faith Forming Faith: Bringing New Christians to Baptism and Beyond, by Paul Hoffman. A Lutheran church in Seattle discovered that by forming the faith of new Christians and leading them to the waters of baptism, they were renewed and revitalized for mission in the world.

Commentary on the New Testament Use of the Old Testament, edited by G.K. Beale and D.A. Carson. Each contributor shows how New Testament writers were not only careful readers of Moses and the prophets, but also profound theologians themselves.

Celebrate God's Welcoming Love at this year's Vacation Bible Camp, July 22-26, 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

Come meet Godwin, one amazing bird, who is REALLY excited about this year's Bible Camp!

- Meet welcoming neighbors from the Bible
- Learn to be a good neighbor yourself
- Explore the everyday life of some amazing neighbors around the world that you might not even know you have!
- Discover that God's love welcomes everyone

Take a moment to sign up on-line to attend or volunteer and see what's happening this summer:

<http://2013.cokesburyvbs.com/firstumcolympia>

Discipleship Training

Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

Catch the Spirit

All classes are open and ready to welcome newcomers!

Adults

FaithLink, Rm. 109, apply United Methodist beliefs to current faith issues and world events, led by Phyllis Lawson and Mark Bergeson

Journey through the Bible, Rm. 222, a verse by verse study of the Bible with leader, Rev. Dorothy Johnson

Walking the Way, Rm. 221, scripture study of the all-church walk through the Bible; now into the New Testament, led by Lance Calisch

Youth

Middle School (6th-8th grades), Rm. 228, Encounter God face-to-face in ways that relate to their life; we re-enact the Last Supper on March 10 for the younger Detectives from Mystery of the Empty Tomb

Senior High (9th-12th grades), Rm. 229, Encountering Christ in their everyday lives and building relationships

Children

Toddlers and Twos, in Rm. 208 with their childcare workers, experiencing Jesus through love of caregivers

Lighthouse Preschool, in Rm. 107 (ages 3-5), looking at Bible stories, activities, crafts, videos, with their caring teachers

Lighthouse Workshops, (K-5th grades) We have begun our Mystery of the Empty Tomb with Spiritual Detectives on the lookout each week for clues! We will be visiting the upper room in mid-month and ending our adventure on March 24 with on the last day of Jesus' life, his new beginning and our solution to the Mystery! March 24 is also our Easter Party, 10:00!

Other Sunday Morning Classes for Children

One-Room Sunday School, (4 yrs - 4th grade), Rm. 118, after Children's Time during 11:15 worship, about 11:30 a.m.; Grow, Proclaim and Serve, stories Jesus told about God's Kingdom

Food Bank Sunday, March 3

They will know us by . . . our shirts! Oh, yeah!

For years we've been talking about having our own FUMCO t-shirt, so Church Council Chair, George Hollingbery, decided to put talk into action. Now available for sale in Spring colors of blue, green, and red, and a variety of styles (short or long sleeved tees, pullover or zippered hoodies), these shirts provide a simple but vivid witness to the God we follow and the church we call home. Our name and logo is on the front. On the back is the verse from Micah 6:8: "Do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with our God." George notes that "they are made by fair wage workers, using environmentally sensitive materials and local distribution channels, in an industrially safe and certified work space, and as a bonus they are Christian believers!" You may order your own on the church website or by calling the church office. Sizes are Adult, S to XXL.

Short-sleeved T-Shirts: \$10

Long-sleeved T-Shirts: \$15

Pullover Hoody: \$25

Zippered Hoody: \$30



FUMCO's the place to Recycle:

- Cell Phones
- Ink Cartridges
- Laser Toner Cartridges
- Alkali Batteries
- Compact Fluorescent Bulbs (*no tubes*)
- Eye Glasses

Women's Homeless Shelter Moved

After three weeks at FUMCO, the Overflow Shelter moved on to Tumwater United Methodist church. Over 50 church members and a few friends made the extended stay at our church possible. Many of the guests expressed their appreciation of our hospitality. A great big "Thank you!" to all who pitched in with greeting, hosting, laundry, snacks, and moving. I hope you enjoyed the time with our guests as much as I did. I'm already looking forward to doing it again next year! Blessings to all of you from Dagmar Growe.

Seeking Worship Designers for Easter Services!

Put your creative self to work for the holidays! Join teams for either the 9:00 Traditional worship at the church or the 11:00 Community worship at the Washington Center. Contact Pastor Carolyn, PastorCarolyn@fumcoly.org or 943-2661. We are ready to start designing now!



First United Methodist Church
1224 Legion Way SE
Olympia, WA 98501
369.943.2661
www.fumcoly.org

Holy Week March 24 - 30

Palm Sunday,
March 24

Worship:

8:45a, 11:15a, 6:00p
celebrating Jesus'
triumphal entry into
Jerusalem with palms

Maundy Thursday,
March 28

6:30p worship with
the Chancel Choir
and communion

Good Friday,
March 29

5:00-6:30p,
all-church experience,
Stations of the Cross



Easter March 31

What Prayer can the
resurrected Christ
answer for you?

You are invited to experience Easter
with the First UMC faith community;
childcare at 9:00 and 11:00:

7:45a - Worship @ Harbor House

405 Columbia St NW, Percival Landing, Olympia

9:00a - Traditional Worship

1224 Legion Way SE, FUMChurch of Olympia

11:00a - Community Celebration, WCPA

512 Washington St SE, Olympia; shuttle from
church parking lot

Art Exhibit with Necia Huntley,
First UMC, Easter morning

Be touched, blessed and
changed this Easter!