

# Bear Fax

May, 2007

A monthly publication of Bear Creek United Methodist Church

Inside this issue:

## The Last Supper a highlight of the Easter season

As Christians, Holy Week (the week between Palm Sunday and Easter morning) is an incredibly significant week in the life of the church. The impact of the chain of events that occurred in Jesus' life during that time helps to remind us of the feelings and emotions that Jesus went through and how it has affected us now for over 2000 years.

The Living Tableau (based on Leonardo da Vinci's famous painting) was portrayed in drama for our Maundy Thursday worship service on April 5. Through this re-enactment, we become better acquainted with each of the 12 disciples as they witness their relationship with Jesus. The drama then takes us into the famous scene in the Upper Room where Jesus tells them that they will share this last meal together and he announces the betrayal against Him. What makes this drama so very awe-inspiring is that the actors (from our congregation) personally prepare each of their individual roles as if they were Jesus' true disciples.

Many will say that, emotionally, the experience was spiritually uplifting for them. Sara Lambert and Randy Garrett, accompanied on piano by Dewey Forrester, sang "Is It I, Lord?" during the dramatic "freeze" portrayed in da Vinci's painting. A look of concern is depicted on every face. The service has great meaning for us as Christians when we realize the journey Jesus had to take in order for us to understand the promise God has for us in the resurrection.

Many thanks to many who made this evening happen.



## LAST SUPPER TABLEAU

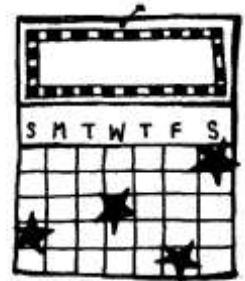
The Disciples (cast of characters)

Bartholomew	Andy Pierce
James the Less	Ernie Wilson
Andrew	Rod Leveridge
Judas Iscariot	Bill Hoppe
Peter (Simon)	Steven Dawson
John	Scott McAlpine
Jesus	David Orendorff
Thomas	Matt Powell
James, the Greater	Ted Smith
Philip	Robert Stewart
Matthew	Jim Morris
Thaddeus	David Paplow
Simon, the Zealot	Steve Garrett

Thanks also to the support team: Randy Garrett, Sonya Garrett, Ann Rupley, Ted Rupley, Sara Lambert, Dewey Forrester, Marge Kuykendall, Ted Kuykendall, Andy Pierce, Joan Pierce, Jeannie Morris, Ellen McKee, Susan Leveridge, Susan Jackson, Joan Thorson, Marcia Gordon, Lori Dickerson, Nancy Larson, Vickie Orendorff and David Orendorff.

We also want to thank Tim and Tracy Allen and the Fellowship Committee for the coffee and refreshments and the Worship Committee for their planning and support.

Pastor's Message	2
Worship Corner	2
Sojourners Perform	3
New Cross	4
Stewardship	5
Work Party	6
Mission Dinner	7
Babysitting Class	8
Crop Walk	9



### DATES TO REMEMBER

- Friday, May 4  
Kenya Missions  
**Stockholders' dinner**
- Sunday, May 6  
Plant Swap  
Crop Walk
- Thursday, May 10  
Graduate Recognition  
Dinner
- Friday, May 11  
Dave O preaches at CKA
- Sunday, May 13  
Rabbi Glickman preaches  
at BCUMC
- Saturday, May 12  
Babysitting Class
- Sunday, May 20  
Baccalaureate
- Monday, May 21  
Tent City 4 Dinner

## PASTOR'S MUMBLINGS

A summary of the Long-Range Committee's findings and recommendations appeared in the February Bear Fax. Detailed copies can be obtained from the office. There were housekeeping items we need to address, especially around how our debt load is impeding our program development. But what excited me most was the strong emphasis the Long Range folks placed on Discipleship and the subsequent enthusiastic adoption of this emphasis by the Administrative Council.

If we are not becoming, and assisting others in becoming, more perfect followers of Jesus Christ through worship, study and service, then we should probably go out of business. We would be like a ball-bearing factory that advertised ball bearings for sale but told customers that they have no ball bearings and

don't really intend to make any. Pretty weird that would be.

Key to our nurturing of disciples in the area of study is the Christian Education (CE) program. In allocating our restricted financial assets, the budgets of several committees were reduced, but the budget of CE was fully sustained. In fact, you will soon be hearing about a new position of **Children's Ministries Coordinator** so that we might serve our children and their families better.

I personally staff the adult education program and Marge Kuykendall staffs the youth program; however, the many children's programs have until now been staffed by volunteers. We are agreed that it is time to assist these hard-working and faithful volunteers with a **Children's Ministries' staff** person.

But a staff person can only help. None of us who are staff are anything without the committed volunteers who do most of the work. The **same is true for Children's Ministries**. If we are to teach our children the love of God, then we must have volunteers who will love the children enough to serve them.

I ask that you prayerfully consider your gifts for ministry, and if those gifts have something to do with children, then please contact Joan Thorson, Louise Aakre or me, and we will explore with you how best you can serve and where we most need disciples of Jesus in the Christian Education program. Our children need your love.

Shalom,  
Pastor Dave

## WORSHIP CORNER

May 6

### "The Hand of God"

The Sixth Grade Sunday School class bought the right to choose a scripture or topic for a sermon at the Sound and Furnishings Auction. Now it is time for Dave O to deliver. Read this passage ahead of time and see what you think the sermon might be about.

Daniel 5

May 13

### Mother's Day

Festival of the Christian Home

### "YOU DO WHAT? Sharing Sanctuary with Another Religion"

Kol Ami also bought sermon rights at the Sound and Furnishings Auction. This created the dangerous situation of Rabbi Mark Glickman and Pastor Dave O collaborating. On Friday, May 11, at 7:30 p.m., Dave O will preach at Shabbat on "YOU DO WHAT?" On Sunday (9:30 am) Mark G. will preach on the same title for Bear Creek. The Kol Ami and Bear Creek choirs will join together for both services as well. Following Sunday worship, Rabbi Mark and Dave O will be available for a discussion of sharing sanctuary.

May 20  
Heritage Sunday

### "Moved to Greece by Compassion"

Paul's ministry in Asia and Bithynia is a failure. Then, he has a dream in which a Macedonian appears to him and asks Paul to come to Greece. Moved by compassion, Paul goes to Greece, meets Lydia, and his sharing of the gospel meets success. When our ministries are not moved by compassion, they fail. But when it is compassion that moves us, every outcome is a success.

Acts 16:6-10

May 27  
Day of Pentecost

### "To Be a Child of God"

The predominant early church understanding (Paul and Mark) is that Jesus is the Son of God by adoption. Looking at the meaning and challenges of adoption we will explore our discipleship as the adopted children of God.

Romans 8:14-17

Every Wednesday—  
Midweek Worship

Come worship on Wednesday evenings from 8:15-8:45 p.m. at a quiet and meditative service with gentle songs and extended silence.



## Sojourners Gospel Group will perform on June 3

The Sojourners of Bothell United Methodist Church will be performing in our sanctuary on Sunday evening, June 3, at 7:00 p.m. This is the gospel group of our pianist, Dewey Forrester, and promises to be a fun-filled evening of old-fashioned and contemporary gospel music.

The concert is free, but there will be an opportunity to support, by free-will offering, Bear Creek's mission project, Hope for the Children of Africa. This organization provides relief and reconciliation to thousands of children and families



### An Evening of Gospel Music

who have suffered and lost so much from war across the continent of Africa.

Specifically, offerings from the Pacific Northwest UMC Conference go to support the Jamaa Letu ("Our Family") Orphanage in the South Congo. Jamaa Letu is a safe, loving home for up to 60 girls orphaned from war or AIDS.

Refreshments will be served following the concert, and we encourage you to bring family and friends to this exciting event. For more information on The Sojourners, please visit their website at [www.sojournersmusic.com](http://www.sojournersmusic.com).

## Correction

And I think last....If you could make a note for the next Bear FAX.... when I wrote the article on The Last Supper - Maundy Thursday service, I left out Eric Shankland by mistake when I was acknowledging everyone and thanking them. He played the part of Leonardo Da Vinci. He did an outstanding job and should be acknowledged whole heartedly!!! Could you put a little burb in about that?

## Volunteer for White Swan mission trip in July

Our annual BCUMC White Swan mission trip is planned for the week of July 23. Volunteers of all ages are needed and welcome for a day or two or for the full week to help with work projects and/or Vacation bible School on this "close-to-home" mission trip.

More information will be forthcoming. If you are interested, please contact Eric Shankland, Doug Woodworth or Marge Kuykendall.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL

### Summer Sunday school begins June 24

Summer Sunday School goes from June 24-September 2 for children ages four years through sixth grade.

During the summer, we like to give a break to the people who have been teaching our children during the school year. Four volunteers are needed for each Sunday (two teams of two teachers).

Summer Sunday School does not happen unless YOU make it happen with your offering of time!

Please sign up to help. Even if you can only participate once or twice, it is very much appreciated! A sign-up sheet is located at the Sunday School registration desk every Sunday, or contact Louise Aakre at 425.883.9260 or [laakre@yahoo.com](mailto:laakre@yahoo.com).

Thank you!

## All-Church Conference Sunday, June 4, at noon

Elect officers for 2006-07  
Hear program committee reports  
Establish a BCUMC Endowment Fund

Everyone is encouraged to attend!

# New cross graces sanctuary

For a long time, the Furnishings Committee has been contemplating the want and the need of a larger cross for our Celebration Space. Our small wooden cross (made from the wood of a beautiful tree from our property) was constructed by one of our youth, Aaron Allen, as an Eagle Scout project, with the expertise and help of Ted Kuykendall.

This cross has served us well in the past; however, for some time, a larger and more permanent cross has been desired by many in the congregation. Because our physical structure is a more contemporary space, the idea of the welded,

braised nail cross was inspiring as seen in the church of my parents in Fountain Hills, Arizona. I talked with Bud Fischer, who created (with God's help) their beautiful contemporary cross of nails. He told me **that "anyone could do it," and we** discussed the materials needed to construct such a cross.

In the meantime, Ted and Marge Kuykendall's son, Blain (who is an artist living on Whidbey Island) said he would give this project a try. Well, the project proved to be more than Bud let on, and you can read below just how challenging construction of the cross really was.

We were able to actually move forward on this project after the auction last fall helped us to fund the cross, as well as other furnishings and our new sound system. The small cross in the library was Blain's "practice" cross. He then constructed the larger sculpture, using approximately 2,000 nails for both crosses. You might think of it as one nail for each year since Jesus' birth.

Please take a moment when you can to look closely at the work **and the nails. You'll see the beauty** in this piece of art and how it graces our Celebration Space. I hope you, too, will find it inspiring.

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## Construction of the Crosses

As dictated by Blain Kuykendall

First of all, it must be understood that this project has to be viewed as a work in progress. I have never constructed an art piece out of concrete nails, braised together with brass and flux from a **pattern made by viewing 8" x 11" photographs.**

1. First, I studied the photos to pick up the pattern of nails, noting that all nails were arranged from the center pointing outward left and right. Since I would be braising, I knew I would have to support the sculpture on a metal table. Regular worktables of wood could not withstand the heat. I built such a table out of high-quality steel, which would withstand heat necessary for construction and which would support the sculpture.

2. Next, I purchased all the necessary tools and supplies: grinder, small torch, approximately 20 pounds of flux and several types of brass rods. After experimenting with three different types, I found one set (flux and rods) which worked well together and gave the look which I thought met what was pictured in the photos. Now, I had to travel to three different supply places and bought out all their stock

to get enough to construct two crosses.

3. I chalked out a template on the metal table of the three-foot cross.

4. Next, I laid all the nails on the template, making necessary adjustments to construct a pleasing look.

5. The nails were then braised.

6. I repeated steps three through five for the second piece of the cross.

**7. I attached upright nails to "piece one" to support the overlay of "piece two."**

8. I then chipped all the slag from the welds and oiled the entire piece to replace the oil burned off in the construction of the cross. (This is necessary to prevent rusting.)

9. I wiped off excess oil and polished the sculpture.

10. I took the three-foot cross to Woodinville for approval.

11. I was asked to take the two pieces apart and offset **approximately 1" and to add more brass** to the tips of each nail around the border, as well as add more brass to each weld for a more golden look.

12. I took apart the two sections of the cross. To my surprise, when I

tried to add more brass to each braise, it melted the original braising, which meant carefully re-braising each joint. Success!

13. I reconnected the two sections, re-oiled, re-cleaned and re-polished.

14. I got the okay to begin work on the seven-foot cross.

15. I repeated steps three through nine on a much larger scale and with more experience.

Humorous notes: While purchasing necessary tools, I first bought a small hand-held torch, which did not work at all. Went out and bought a \$300.00 oxygen tank and regulator and tips to use with my welder. While braising, the nails not only stuck together but also adhered to the metal table. Re-did the table. What was needed was a 200-pound metal heat sink top to absorb the heat so that the cross did not stick to the table as I braised it.

I also had to purchase a wire wheel to polish the brass. The first wire wheel I purchased was a soft wire wheel. I discovered that concrete nails are very hard! It knocked all the metal bristles out immediately. The bristles came flying out

(Continued on page 5)

## STEWARDSHIP CORNER

# Stewards of God's Household... a Wesleyan Perspective

All creation is part of God's household! This includes "every person, every creature, every thing in heaven and every thing on earth."

As a "household" we share in God's abundance. Although there is no scarcity in God's household, not all receive the same amount. This is what stewardship is all about... protecting the household for the future and sharing the abundance with each other. As always, our best example is Jesus. He gave of himself to share God's abundance.

As stewards, it is our duty to "serve and preserve" God's abundance so that all may share in it.

Each day we need to ask what we can do to serve and preserve God's household. It could be protecting the environment, giving our time to others, or giving our riches to others. It is all about sharing God's gifts to us. There is abundance and enough for all!

Wesley offered three stewardship practices based on his theological convictions..."earn all you can...save all you can...give all you can."

"Earn all you can" is an invitation to offer our full lives, energy, strength, and talents to making God's household economy a reality.

"Save all you can" is Wesley's call to a simplified lifestyle.

"Give all you can" invites us to deliberately, courageously, joyfully (maybe even recklessly) render unto God—all that is God's.

By following Wesley's thoughts, we not only will support the abundance of God's household, but we will be better for it.

Adapted from  
"Stewards of God's Household"  
A Theological Statement on the  
Foundations of Christian Stewardship  
from a Wesleyan Perspective

## It's not too late to sign up for the women's retreat May 18-20

This year's BCUMC Women's Retreat at Camp Indianola on May 18-20 is fast approaching. The theme is "God's Extravagant Grace...and Chocolate." All women college age and older are welcome—invite a friend!

Allergic to chocolate? Come anyway! You don't want to be left out, thinking, "Oh, fudge, I wish I'd signed up!" Don't end up feeling bittersweet! You'll be in the chips if you just mark your calendar and come. It's all good! Nothing semi-sweet about it!

The cost of the retreat is \$75.00, which covers two nights lodging, delicious food, an inspirational program, music, worship, quiet time, crafts, the ROPE SWING, chocolate—and more. Scholarships are available (please speak to Nancy Larson, 425.869.9887).

A limited number of private or semi-private rooms are available for \$85. If you can't come for the whole weekend, consider coming for the day on Saturday. Nancy Larson or Connie Gagnon (425 402.4797) can talk to you about your options.

Carpooling is available, so don't let that hold you back, either.

P.S. Families, this would make a wonderful Mother's Day gift for you know who! See Connie Gagnon or Ann Rupley.

Your committee for this event is Connie Gagnon, Nancy Larson, Joan Pierce, Ann Rupley, Sonya Garrett, and Susan Leveridge.

(Continued from page 4)

and were stuck all through the front of my sweatshirt. I appeared to be a human porcupine! I went back and purchased a hard wire wheel, which did the job correctly.

I am very satisfied with the agreed upon price of \$1,700 for construction of this project. I enjoyed the challenge and have

learned a great deal from this project and was very pleased with the results. It is my hope that your congregation will enjoy these crosses and be as pleased with them as I am.

Blain Kuykendall

\*Our thanks to Blain for his contribution in believing that it could be done and for doing it! To Ted and

Marge for offering Blain's artistic abilities to us when we needed to find a talented sculptor. To the Worship Committee, Furnishings Committee, Trustees, and Pastor Dave for seeing this all the way through. And to our Lord, Jesus Christ, who reminds us of the Way of the Cross.

submitted by Sonya Garrett, Chair  
Worship Furnishings

If you like to sing or play an instrument, this is your opportunity to be heard!

Do you have a special musical talent? Are you interested in sharing your gift and Praising the Lord through music? Here is your opportunity!

The Worship Committee is looking for vocalists and instrumentalists—solos or combos—to provide offertory music on the first and third Sundays of each month. Don't be shy—we'll help you put together a group or find an accompanist if needed.

This is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate our Bear Creek musicians, so if you would like to participate, please contact Kay Forrester at 425.882.2709 or music@forrestersong.com.



# All-Church Work Party

Saturday, June 2

9:30 a.m. - ???

Mark your calendar!

Outdoor projects will include spreading bark and moss control. Many inside projects are also planned. Come join in the fellowship and fun! Food will be provided.

Questions?

Contact Karl Brackmann or Carla Woodworth



Thank you to Randy and Sonja Garrett and their many assistants in organizing the Maundy Thursday Last Supper drama.

Thank you to David and Vickie Orendorff for their efforts in preparing a wonderful Seder dinner.

Thank you to Ted Rupley and Dave Thorson and the Board of Trustees for their hard work and dedication in getting the new sound system installed and for doing the sound training.

Your efforts are greatly appreciated!

## \$ FINANCE \$ REPORT

Amount budgeted for 2007

\$332,260

Year to-date offerings  
(through April 22)

\$94,693      92.6%

Year-to-date Ahead/  
(Behind)

(\$7,541)      -7.4%

**MONEY FOR**



**MISSIONS**

# Africa Mission Trip Stockholder's Dinner

Have you always thought of participating in a Mission Trip but your schedule is already full?  
Here is a great opportunity for you!

**You can purchase shares of "stock" in the mission trip for only \$10 each!**

## Friday, May 4 6:30 p.m.

Items needed for Africa mission trip

Beanie Babies

Hot Wheels

Pencils

Small Note pads

Storybooks appropriate for 6-12 year olds

(Look for the collection box near the missions table)



Wednesdays

6:00 p.m.

All are invited

Dinner is on us!

May 2	Nurture Committee cooks!
May 9	Open
May 16	Open
May 23	Connie Gagnon cooks!
May 30	Open

Wednesday, May 30, will be the last midweek dinner until September.



Tuesdays 6:00 a.m.

Shari's Restaurant  
in Kirkland

All are welcome!

## Contact Information

Pastor	David Orendorff pastor@bcumc.org
Admin Assistant	Bonnie Peltola office@bcumc.org
Newsletter Editor	Bonnie Peltola news@bcumc.org
Youth Director	Marge Kuykendall youthdir@bcumc.org
Music Director	Bill Hoppe music@bcumc.org
Worship Coordinator	Sara Lambert worship@bcumc.org
Childcare Supervisor	Cindy Powell 425.844.4014
Treasurer	Marny Livingston treasurer@bcumc.org
Finance Secretary	Joanne Wright finance@bcumc.org
Congregation Kol Ami	Lil Klein lil@kolami.net
Counselors	Barbara Brown Laurence Hill counselor@bcumc.org
Best Beginnings	Sally Smith 425.881.3468

**BEAR CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

INVITES THE COMMUNITY

**Babysitting Basics**

Presented by Evergreen Hospital Staff

**SATURDAY, MAY 12**

**9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.**

A one-day class intended for youth, ages 11-16, to learn how to handle emergencies and care for infants and children  
Participants will need to bring a sack lunch and be registered by an adult.

This class is provided to the community through special funding via Bear Creek United Methodist Church. **There is no fee to participate.**

**Register now—space is limited 425-788-2953 or office@bcumc.org**



Please keep the following people and their families in your prayers:

The **Seeley Family** as they mourn the death of **Tresje's** cousin.

**Geoff and Dayna Culbertson** as they struggle to find new housing and prepare to move again.

# The Sacred Prayers for Peace

On October 27, 1986, spiritual leaders from each of the world's 12 major religions came together, for the first time in history, to share their most sacred prayers for the "Day of World Peace," celebrated in Assisi, Italy, in commemoration of the United Nations International Year of Peace.

In honor of the 20th anniversary of that meeting, we are printing one prayer each month in the Bear Fax. This is the eighth in the series.

## Muslin Prayer for Peace

In the name of Allah, the beneficent, the merciful.

Praise be to the Lord of the Universe who has

Created us and made us into tribes and nations

That we may know each other,

not that we may despise each other.

If the enemy incline towards peace,

do thou also incline towards peace, and trust God,

For the Lord is the one that heareth and knoweth all things.

And the servants of God,

Most gracious are those who walk on the Earth in humility, and when we address them, we say "peace."



Raise funds for the hungry of the world by getting pledges from friends, family, and coworkers!

Sunday, May 6

Check in at 12:30

Start walking at 1:00

St. John's Episcopal Church

105 State Street South

Kirkland (walk along the waterfront)

The standard distribution is 25% for Hope-link in Puget Sound, 75% to Church World Services. However, pledges can be designated for any number of organizations (see the information sheet at church).

Look for pledge sign-up sheets and envelopes at church on Sunday, May 6.

## Song for Thought Cry Out to Jesus

This month's song is in remembrance of the victims of Virginia Tech following the horrendous massacre and the escalating violence in Iraq.

Words by Mac Powell / Music by Third Day

To everyone who's lost someone they love  
Long before it was their time  
You feel like the days you had were not enough  
When you said goodbye

And to all of the people with burdens and pains  
Keeping you back from your life  
You believe that there's nothing and there is no one  
Who can make it right

There is hope for the helpless  
Rest for the weary  
Love for the broken heart  
There is grace and forgiveness  
Mercy and healing  
He'll meet you wherever you are  
Cry out to Jesus, Cry out to Jesus

For the marriage that's struggling just to hang on  
They lost all of their faith in love  
They've done all they can to make it right again  
Still it's not enough

For the ones who can't break the addictions and chains  
You try to give up but you come back again  
Just remember that you're not alone in your shame  
And your suffering

When your lonely  
And it feels like the whole world is falling on you  
You just reach out, you just cry out to Jesus  
Cry to Jesus

To the widow who struggles with being alone  
Wiping the tears from her eyes  
For the children around the world without a home  
Say a prayer tonight

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A family place of belonging

We're on the Web!

bcumc.org



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## On the Horizon



*Saturday, June 2.*  
All-Church Work Party

*Sunday, June 3*  
Youth Sunday  
Confirmation Sunday  
All-Church Conference  
Sojourners Concert

*June 13-16*  
Annual Conference

*Saturday, June 23*  
Amazing Grace Seminar

*July 16-20*  
Vacation Bible School

*Tuesday, July 24*  
Community Blood Drive

*Wednesday, August 29*  
Lifeline Screening

Sunday Worship  
9:30 a.m.

Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.

Wednesday Worship  
8:15 p.m.

*All are welcome!*

*Office hours*  
*9:00-3:00*  
*Monday-Thursday*  
*Closed Fridays*

*The mission of Bear Creek United Methodist Church is to create a diverse family place of belonging for all people and to reach out and make disciples of Christ.*