

Bear Fax

July, 2007

A monthly publication of Bear Creek United Methodist Church

VBS 2007

SOARING TO NEW HEIGHTS WITH GOD

LIFT OFF!

July 16 - 20 8:45 - noon
Kindergarten- 5th Grade

Your high-flying adventure is about to begin as you prepare to give your children a sky view of **God's power and Jesus' love at this year's LIFT OFF!**

With this curriculum, you will give your children an extraordinary adventure filled with fun, excitement, and creative Bible-based activities. Your Sky Scouts will discover five Flight Plans that will help them soar to new heights with God: I will follow, I will trust, I will listen, I will repent, and I will serve.

Your children will begin each day at "Lift Off! Rally," an assembly time featuring Skylar the Sky Squirrel and Scoop, a reporter from the *Hot Air Ballyhoo*. Children will also sing amazing Lift Off! tunes and visit, via video, Dr. B. A. Loon in his skyology laboratory.

After Lift Off! Rally, each Sky Crew will visit several different locations to interact with the Bible stories and their teachings. At High Fly Bible Time, your Sky Scouts will go on a Bible story exploration, meeting Bible people who experienced reaching new heights with God and a deeper relationship with Jesus.

Prayer is an important component of this curriculum. Children will see how the Bible characters were always talking and listening to God and Jesus. Children will learn Power Prayers from the Psalms. These verses are quick sentence prayers that your Sky Scouts

will be able to use in their daily lives.

The curriculum emphasizes sharing prayer requests and teaching children to remember to pray for other people. Each day at the end of their High Fly Bible Time, children will attach a prayer request to a *Power Prayer Hot Air Balloon* figurine.

At the Launch Lab, kids participate in hands-on demonstrations that lead to important discoveries about their faith.

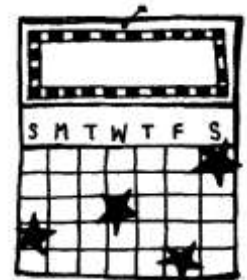
Are you ready to soar?

Registration forms are available in the narthex. Please sign your child up as soon as possible so we know how many kids to expect. Don't miss out on the fun!

Contact Louise Aakre at 425.883.9260 or laakre@yahoo.com for more information.

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DATES TO REMEMBER

July 16-20
Vacation Bible School

Monday, July 23
Bear Fax newsletter deadline

Tuesday, July 24
Community Blood Drive



Join Us At VBS!

PASTOR'S MUMBLINGS

It is a miracle! I am on vacation, probably sailing somewhere in the San Juans, and yet you get this little note from me. I just want to say that Vickie and I miss you (but not enough to come back early) and that we are having a wonderful time.

And, do me a favor, won't you? Attend worship every Sunday. Just because the sun is shining and I am not preaching is no excuse to skip church. It ought to be a reason to go to church to thank God. And the music is still as good (probably better without me butting in on the band), and you have a wonderful opportunity to hear someone besides me share their faith.

So don't be a lazy stinker. Worship God.

Shalom,
Pastor Dave

WORSHIP CORNER

July 1 **"Freedom"**

Do you want a freedom that can be had even in prison, a freedom that exists in death? It can be yours.

Luke 9:51-62

July 8 **"Whoever Finds This, I Love You"**

By the grace of God we are loved and we love. Many of our neighbors and much of our world has no idea of what we are talking about. Unless you share, how will they get the idea?

Luke 10:1-11

July 15 Guest Speaker

July 22 Guest Speaker

July 29 Guest Speaker



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.

It feeds the soul quietly and is good for folks who may not be able to worship on Sunday mornings. It's also a way to close the day with vespers. Won't you join us?



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

Mary K Orendorff, who is recuperating from surgery.

Art Henderson, who is recuperating from knee surgery.

Actual Headlines of 2003

- * Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says
- * Police Begin Campaign to Run Down Jaywalkers
- * Iraqi Head Seeks Arms
- * Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant
- * Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures
- * London Couple Slain—Police Suspect Homicide
- * Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges
- * Teacher Strikes Idle Kids
- * Miners Refuse to Work after Death
- * War Dims Hope for Peace
- * **If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile**
- * Astronaut Takes Blame for Gas in Spacecraft
- * Typhoon Rips through Cemetery—Hundreds Dead

MONEY MATTERS

Pretend like you're immortal

Today will soon be gone. Like yesterday is gone. Like history is gone. Just try and prove me wrong...and pretend like you're immortal."

It seems like Switchfoot, one of the great Christian rock bands, is stuck on the same theme as me. Earlier this year in *Money Matters*, I asked if you were who you wanted to be, referencing their hit song "This Is Your Life." The above lyrics come from their hit song "Gone."

Perhaps you recall the discussion around stewardship versus consumerism, and that maybe we should be content with what we have. And that you were challenged to reflect on that and decide to take conscious, decisive action with your wealth and put it into the service of God and others—to be great Christian stewards.

Well, now that challenge is even more significant with the summer months here—typically the hardest for our church in terms of meeting its financial obligations. More impor-

tantly, now that half the year is "gone," we're nearly 10% behind in our pledges. Continued unchecked, we will end the year well over \$30,000 over budget. We will have spent all of our cash reserves to cover this deficit, and by October we'll be unable to meet basic monthly expenses like salaries and utilities, much less fund the benevolences that we're called to do in the first place! "Gone, like Frank Sinatra. Gone, like Elvis and his mom. Gone, like Al Pacino's cash—nothing lasts in this life."

Dave O recently reminded us that, "Our lives are vulnerable to poverty, homelessness and a loss of meaning." Switchfoot's "Gone" goes on to say that... "Life is a day that doesn't last for long. Life is more than money—time was never money—time was never cash—life is more than \$100 bills—life is more than fame or rock and roll and thrills—all the riches of the kings."

So, the opportunity is still right in front of you. Pretend like you're immortal. Check your attitude

towards money—to make a conscious decision to take decisive action with your wealth; to revisit your commitment to growing Christ's kingdom through your support of his church; to re-examine your financial responsibility to Bear Creek United Methodist Church and its programs and ministries. And perhaps more importantly, to understand where you are personally in returning your wealth to God's service.

Now is the time to give some back. So don't forget your church this summer. In Brandon Heath's newest hit song "I'm Not Who I Was," he sings, "Well, the thing I find most amazing in amazing grace is the chance to give it out; maybe that's what love is all about." I think he's on to something. Just try and prove me wrong!

In Christ,

Tom Litchford, Chair,
Committee on Finance

References: Switchfoot, "Gone"

\$ FINANCE \$ REPORT

Amount budgeted for 2007
\$332,260

Year to-date offerings
through June 17
\$139,995 91.3%

Year-to-date Ahead/(Behind)
(\$13,356) -8.7%



Bear Creek UMC Confirmation—June 2007

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Summer Sunday School

Elementary Sunday School **classes are in "summer mode."** Summer is a busy time for vacations, which means many children have "hit and miss" attendance during the summer months.

Therefore, summer Sunday School has set stand-alone lessons. Please join us on Sundays at 11 a.m. this summer!! Children going into grades K-5 in the fall will meet in room E8/9 for a one-room Sunday School lesson.

Summer Sunday school will **end on September 2. We'll** resume regular classes on Sunday, September 9.

SS teachers/helpers

The success of elementary Sunday School depends on volunteer teachers!!! A signup sheet for volunteers is posted in the Christian Education section of the narthex (by the double doors that lead to the classroom wing).

Please consider signing up for a week or two as a teacher or a helper. If no volunteers are available **on a given Sunday, children's** classes will be cancelled for that day.

VBS helpers

Vacation Bible School at BCUMC needs you! Station Leaders and Crew Leaders are needed to help out July 16 - 20 from 8:45 a.m. until noon each day. Youth and adults are encouraged to volunteer for this opportunity. Don't miss out on the fun!

Contact Louise Aakre at 425.883.9260 or laakre@yahoo.com for more information. Adult (over 18) leadership is especially needed for the *games* and *music* stations.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

Be a good steward this summer

The sun is shining again in Seattle (probably!). In the Pacific Northwest, this is the most fabulous time of the year. It is a time of long days, boating, hiking and outdoor activities of all sorts.

However, just like in your home, the activities and expenses of our church continue. Enclosed with this month's Bear Fax is an envelope for your contribution to the church's work. Please keep up with your contributions over the summer and, if possible, get a little bit ahead.

During three Sundays in June, the Stewardship team outlined the goals for a fall capital campaign. This is the first campaign that we have had in over ten years. Our goal is to become debt free so



that we can invest the money we pay in debt service (over \$110,000 a year) into the work of the church. We will also use this campaign to create some much needed additional Sunday School space, support our churches involvement in Habitat for Humanity, and potentially support

some additional staff in the near term.

Once we become debt free, we will be able to increase our outreach to the local community, expand our outreach to the world, expand our educational programs and improve our facility and worship experience. Our goal is to raise \$800,000 over a three-year period.

It is a large commitment, but we have already raised \$256,000. We are well on our way!! Please prayerfully consider what your commitment to the campaign will be. We can each make a difference!

Jim Morris, Chair
Stewardship Committee

TRUSTEES

Help needed at parsonage

The Trustees will need help with a few projects at the parsonage between July 10 and July 16. Projects to finish include painting outside trim, some outside electrical, painting inside ceiling and finishing inside electrical.

If you would like to help, please contact Carla Woodworth, Chuck McKee, Norm Broome or Karl Brackmann. We are trying to get work done while David and Vicki are on vacation.



"I want to thank all the children who participated in this year's Star Choir. I had a wonderful time singing with all of you. The congregation loved listening and seeing you take part in worship, giving your gifts of songs and smiles."


Ms. Vickie

Star Choir: Lexi, Cassie, Sophia, Gabe, Elyssa, Kellen, Caitlyn, Emily, Maya, Hailey, Taylor, Kelly, Bailey, Emily, Keith, Danyka, Daryia, Hanna, Aubrey, Nathan and Aaron.



Many thanks to Dewey and Kay Forrester for bringing us a very special event—The Sojourners concert on Sunday, June 3. The "reviews" were wonderful and over \$1,100 was raised for Hope for the Children of Africa.

Your efforts are greatly appreciated!



Tuesdays 6:00 a.m.
 Shari's Restaurant
 in Kirkland
 All are welcome!



OFFERING COUNTERS NEEDED

We need another person who would be willing to count the offering on Sundays. The commitment would be once or twice a month for approximately a half hour after the worship service.

Anyone interested in volunteering please contact Joanne Wright either by e-mail (joanne-wright@comcast.net) or phone 206.218.7629.

Dear friends;

I think most of you know I have moved to Montana—my blood family is there. But I will have left a piece of my heart here with my church family. I will come to visit with you from time to time.



Thank you for being my family and friends when I felt so lost. You showed me

We'll miss you, Jennifer!

Christ's love when I didn't feel very loved—when, in fact, I felt abandoned by my life. The church gave me distraction when I needed it and left me alone when I needed to sort things out. A hug was always to be had by male or female when I needed reassurance and comfort. Someone was generally present for me when I had to vent or bust!

I know many didn't understand that there was no one at home anymore, so the church became my family here in Woodinville.

Thank you Bear Creek UMC for the love and support I have received from you. As I travel to Montana and work on making new friends, I will know that there is another place that I am loved. I am blessed!

Love in Christ,
Jennifer Maxwell

MISSIONS

End Summer Hunger

A Hopelink campaign to feed local kids

Who we serve:

- ◆ There are more than 11,000 children in Hopelink's service area who receive free and reduced-fee lunches during the school year.
- ◆ 60% of Hopelink's homeless population are children, of which half are under the age of seven.

Hopelink's goals:

- ◆ Provide nutritious meals for children during the summer when they are not in school.
- ◆ Replenish Hopelink's food banks and emergency financial assistance resources during the lean summer months
- ◆ Raise awareness of hunger- and poverty-related issues of children and their families.

How YOU can help:

- ◆ **Donate funds and utilize Hopelink's food**-buying power and augment our emergency financial resources.
- ◆ Hold a food and fund drive.
- ◆ Just \$20 will provide 16 children with a nutritious meal this summer.

For more information, contact Ben Martinka at benm@hope-link.org or 425.869.7835.
www.hope-link.org

Two easy and exciting ways to earn funds for Eastside Baby Corner

Let Amazon.com help contribute

Do you shop at Amazon.com? Did you know that Amazon will donate a percentage of every sale via a cash donation to Eastside Baby Corner? It will not increase your price—and it's easy to do!

Simply go to the Eastside Baby Corner web page, www.babycorner.org, and click on the Amazon.com icon. *Important:* The entire ordering process, including putting items in a shopping cart, must have originated via the Amazon link found on the Eastside Baby Corner's web page in order for EBC to get credit for your transaction.

Contribute when you search the Internet

Do you search the Internet? EBC is registered as a GoodSearch charity. GoodSearch.com is a new search engine that donates half its revenue, about a penny per search, to the charities its users designate. You use it just as you would any search engine and it's powered by Yahoo!, so you get great results. Just go to www.goodsearch.com and be sure to enter Eastside Baby Corner as the charity you want to support. If you load the GoodSearch toolbar or add a GoodSearch icon on your desktop after you filled in Eastside Baby Corner, it will automatically be ready each time you want to search. Just 500 of us searching four times a day will raise about \$7,300 in a year without anyone spending a dime.

MOMS Club will meet at BCUMC—you're invited!

MOMS Club of Woodinville will meet at BCUMC on the first Tuesday of each month beginning July 3 from 9:30 a.m. until noon.

The MOMS Club is a support group designed for stay-at-home moms who are interested in the world around them, want a variety of activities for themselves and their children, and are proud to be an at-home mother.

The MOMS Club provides:

- ◆Monthly meetings with guest speakers, discussions and other interesting programs.

- ◆Playgroups for infants, toddlers, preschoolers and school-age children, along with adult activities such as a book club, scrapbooking, running, arts and crafts, bunko and a recipe club.

- ◆MOMS Night Out to relax and socialize with fellow club members.

- ◆Babysitting Co-op where mothers give each other freedom for social activities, appointments or time alone.

There are currently over 1,500 chapters with more than 75,000 members nationally and around the world. Woodinville MOMS Club would like to have you as a member, too!

If you would like more information, please contact Kate Aiken at 425.533.7084 or Angie Pezzee at 425.488.4362.

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 10th in the series. (Note: Last month's prayer was mistakenly identified as a *Native American* prayer; it was actually a *Native African* prayer. This month we are printing the correct *Native American* prayer for peace.)

Native American Prayer for Peace

Oh Great Spirit of our
Ancestors, I raise my pipe to you.
To your messengers the four winds, and
to the Mother Earth who provides
for your children.
Give us the wisdom to teach our children
to love, to respect, and to be kind
to each other so that they may grow
with peace of mind.
Let us learn to share all good things that
you provide for us on this Earth.



**NATIVE
AMERICAN**
Prayer for Peace

Bear Creek
United Methodist
Church

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Woodinville WA 98077

Phone: 425-788-2953
Email: info@bcumc.org

David Orendorff, Pastor
pastor@bcumc.org

A family place of belonging

We're on the Web!

bcumc.org



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On the Horizon



Wednesday, August 1
CE Training

Wednesday, August 29
Lifeline Screening

Sunday, September 9
Back-to-School Sunday

Sunday, September 16
Kick-Off Sunday

Wednesday, October 3
Love and Logic begins

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.