

Bear Fax

October, 2007

A monthly publication of Bear Creek United Methodist Church

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Can you hear the joy?

Amid the laughter, squeals, and loud conversations, you can hear the first notes of a tune. Soon the room is full of song and joy as Sara Lambert begins leading a room full of 7th through 12th graders in praise songs.

"God is great...All the time...All the time...God is great." This is the response used to settle youth into a listening mood as they share in prayer, devotions, and more quiet group conversations. Yes, BCUMC has once again geared up for another exciting year of fun, fellowship and outside activities. All 7th-12th graders are encouraged to join in the fun and to bring outside friends. Fun games and good treats are all part of the evening.

Youth have made and adopted their own covenant, with the key words being **"Christ centered" gathering for fun and fellowship.**

"Worship, Study and Service" is the mantra for the year! Our Youth Advisory Council has put together a skeleton schedule of activities and meetings. Youth Group meets *each Sunday evening from 6:30-8:30p.m. in the youth room.*

As the youth begin the service part of their mantra, they have voted

to add \$317 to the scholarship fund; bake cookies for the Sunday worship fellowship; and conduct a car wash on October 14 with all donations to be donated to the BCUMC Capital Fund Campaign.

The adult team working with the youth this year include Marge Kuykendall, Director of Youth Ministries; Ted Kuykendall and Sara Lambert, Youth Leaders; Marny Livingston, Ron Large Dave Thorson and Joan Thorson, Assistant Youth Leaders.

Special calendar dates to note:

Saturday, October 6 7:00 p.m.
Casting Crowns concert at Overlake Church

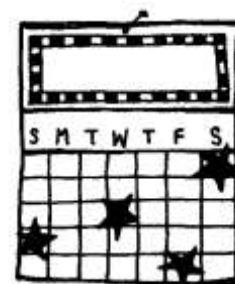
Sunday, October 7 6:30 p.m.
Youth Cookie Bake-in. Cookies will be donated to church's Sunday fellowship time.

Sunday, October 14 9:00-noon
Youth Car Wash to benefit Capital Campaign

Sunday, October 28 6:30 p.m.
Annual Youth Costume Halloween/Pumpkin Carving Party

November 2-4
Sr. High Ft. Flagler Retreat

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DATES TO REMEMBER

Wednesday, October 3
Love and Logic Parenting Class begins

Sunday, October 21
Youth Car Wash
Stewardship Commitment Dinner

Monday, October 22
Bear Fax Deadline

October 28
African Team Ministries
Craft Sale



PASTOR'S MUMBLINGS

Dear Bearcreekians,

I said at the Administrative Council meeting in September that I had been thinking about discipleship. They laughed and suggested (well, maybe it was more like they flat out told me) that I am "always" thinking about discipleship. I was surprised because I thought I was always thinking that "God is love." They made me stop and wonder if maybe I have two sermons: "God is Love" and "Discipleship." But then, in an ingenious move, I am saved and once more only have

my one sermon (although the title gets a little longer).

Even the crowd knows that God is love. It is those who respond to this love who are called to be disciples, the students of Jesus. These students (both in the beginning and now) are not all wise and gifted on the first day of kindergarten. But, by showing up day after day, year after year, they grow into graduates and professors, lifetime learners who serve life well.

Disciples not only know that God is love, they study "God is love" and, by the Holy Spirit, they

mature into living God's love, finally becoming apostles who call and lead others to being disciples.

So, really, discipleship is knowing and living God's love. I pray that you grow as students of Jesus through your worship, study and service and that, when the Spirit guides you, you have moments of being an apostle.

Shalom,
Dave O

WORSHIP CORNER

October 7 World Communion Sunday
"Do We Have Faith, or Does Faith Have Us?"

The apostles ask Jesus to increase their faith. Jesus belittles what faith they have, telling them that it is less than the size of a mustard seed. How do we grow in faith—or does faith grow in us?

Luke 17:5-10

October 14 Children's Sabbath

There is more to being healed than simply no longer having the disease. Only one of ten lepers is fully healed.

Luke 17:11-19

October 21
"Effective Whining" Laity Sunday

Sometimes persistent whining is what is needed to bring the world to justice and compassion.

Luke 18:1-8



October 28 United Methodist Men's Day
"On Being a Real Man"

If being a real man is being athletic, sexy and rich, Jesus was not a real man. Who are the real men?

Luke 18:9-14

LATE BREAKING NEWS

New Sunday Evening Worship!
Wednesday Worship moves to Sunday
starting October 7, 8:00 – 8:30 p.m.
All are welcome!

Looking for a worship service that is easy on the soul and quietly meditative? Did you have a soccer match on Sunday morning? Go skiing or out of town on the weekend? The Sunday evening worship will help meet your need for regular worship in growing discipleship. In cooperation with the Sunday evening youth program, this worship will be an opportunity for our youth, their friends and parents, and all others to end the day and begin the week in harmony with the love of God.

Sadly, we will no longer offer midweek worship. Please join us, however, for our other Midweek at Bear Creek activities, including dinner on Wednesday nights at 6:00.

NURSERY NEWS

Nursery is staffed and ready to serve

Welcome back to Shallon Tagg and Tiffany Tagg, our adult nursery staff. Our youth staff includes Shannon Cebron, Kirsten Litchford, Kristina Thorson, Alyssa Powell, McKenna Powell and Kennedy Stewart.

As we begin our fall quarter of worship and activities, Marge Kuykendall, Director of Children's Ministries, has reviewed current nursery procedures and updated procedures where needed to keep with our church's established Safe Sanctuary policies.

We are staffing the nursery area for infants through two years

of age. The adjoining preschool room will be staffed for toddlers three and four years of age. Older children will be in Sunday School classes. During Wednesday mid-week activities, older children are welcome to participate in a supervised activity in room E-5.

Entrance to both areas will be through the one nursery room door.

Folks bringing children to the nursery/toddler area will be asked to fill out a registration form and **have their children's photograph** taken with them. The pictures and registration will be stored in a

secured cabinet. Photo files will be very important to our nursery/toddler staffs if they must contact parents during the time children are being cared for.

Marge is asking that all unauthorized persons refrain from entering the nursery/toddler area during the times of operation. Doors from hallway entrances will remain locked.

If anyone has concerns or suggestions about the nursery/toddler area, please direct your questions to Marge Kuykendall at 425.883.0248 or in person on Sundays or Wednesdays.

MISSIONS MOMENT

Bring blankets and backpacks for homeless

Each year as the holidays approach and the cold weather settles in, the Caldwell family makes a trip to the heart of **Seattle's homeless population**, pulls the van to the curb, opens the hatch and hands a blanket to a man or woman obviously in **need. Within minutes, they've distributed an entire vanload of blan-**

kets and backpacks, the generosity of an entire BCUMC congregation warming the body and souls of men and women facing another winter living on the streets of downtown Seattle.

Through October, the Missions Committee will once again collect new or very gently-used adult backpacks and small, lap-size

blankets for distribution to **Seattle's homeless community later** this year. Look for the collection bin at the narthex Missions table.

While you're at it, talk to Kevin or Andrea Caldwell about joining them in this simple yet meaningful mission opportunity to bring the Holy Spirit into your giving.

Ride for White Swan

Do you like to ride your bike *and* help build community? Riding your bike in the Tour de Swan ride will help us support a community activity on Saturday, October 6. This activity is organized by MarLu, pastor of White Swan Methodist Church on the Yakima Reservation. **We'll ride our bikes from Bear Creek UMC to scenic Fort Simcoe and back.** Please see the flier on the kiosk for details.

An elderly woman died last month. Having never married, she requested no male pall bearers. In her handwritten instructions for her memorial service, she wrote, "They wouldn't take me out while I was alive; I don't want them to take me out when I'm dead."

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Sunday school is up and running!

There is excitement in the air in the education wing on Sunday mornings! A wonderful team of dedicated people have volunteered to teach. These fabulous people are:

Pre-K/K: Vickie Orendorff; Kristina Thorson, assistant.

1st/2nd grade: A permanent teacher is still needed; thank you to Shelly Torset and Carla Woodworth for stepping in while we continue our search; Kirsten Litchford, assistant.

3rd/4th grade: Tracie Rakus

5th/6th grade: Ruthann Litchford

Jr. High (7th/8th grades): Terri Stewart and Louise Aakre; Michelle Johnson, assistant.

Sr. High (9th-12th grades): Priya Mahanti

The topics/curriculum being studied for October will be:

Pre K - 4th grade: Live B.I.G.: We believe that by choosing to be faithful to God, we set an example for others.

"With my whole heart I seek you." Psalm 119: 10

5th/6th grade: a study of the Torah.

Jr. High : Seasons of the Spirit/ sermon discussion.

Sr High: "The Gospel According to The Simpsons"

All are encouraged to walk through the education halls during Sunday School and experience God working in our church!!

In support of our teaching staff, we are linking our teachers with prayer "warriors." Anyone interested in praying for a teacher and their class can contact Joan Thorson at 425.788.7450 or dthorson@verizon.net.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER

It's all about discipleship

Are we part of the crowd or disciples of Jesus? An important part of our discipleship is our stewardship. Stewardship is about the faithful use of our time, talents, gifts and service. It is about enabling the activities of our church—programs, mission, staff, building and outreach to the community.

Our financial gifts are a key enabler of many of the things we do at Bear Creek as we practice our faith through Worship, Study and Service.

Sunday, November 18, is Commitment Sunday, when we make our commitments to our church for both the operating budget and the capital campaign. Both are critical to our future.

In preparation for Commitment Sunday, we all need to prayerfully consider the question, "What percentage of our income **should we give to the church?**" Each of us at Bear Creek needs to participate in any way we can in both the Capital and Operating Budget Campaigns

After the service on November 18 we will have a Celebration Luncheon. This will be a time of fellowship, celebration and, most importantly, commitment of our discipleship to each other. Don't miss it!!

Jim Morris, Chair
Stewardship Committee



If you have lost a clear stone—possibly cubic zirconium or a diamond—please call the church office or Carla Woodworth at 425.788.3679 to claim it.



Tuesdays 6:00 a.m.

Shari's Restaurant
in Kirkland

All are welcome!

YOUTH NEWS

Chrysalis is coming!

Chrysalis is an interdenominational retreat for youth and young adults aged 15-19. It is a three-day expression of God's love through community; talks by peers, adults, and clergy; plus wonderful singing, great food and surprises!

The next girls' Chrysalis will be held at Mt. Vernon UMC on November 9-11. Pastor Dave and I will be there, and they hope to see many Bear Creekians there as well!

For further information, please go to www.pschrlysalis.com or contact me at jensven-jack@comcast.net.

Susan Jackson

Our studies demonstrate that if you engage in helping activities as a teen, you will *still* be reaping health benefits 60 or 70 years later. And no matter when you adopt a giving lifestyle, your wellbeing will improve. Generous behavior is closely associated with reduced risk of illness and mortality and lower rates of depression. Even more remarkable, giving is linked to traits that undergird a successful life, such as social competence, empathy and positive emotion.

Stephen Post, PhD, and Jill Neimark,
Why Good Things Happen To Good People



CAR DIRTY?

Now is your chance to start your week shiny and bright!

Sunday, October 14

9:00 a.m.-Noon

BCUMC Youth will be washing cars by the education wing. Come early and be first in line! Donations will benefit the Bear Creek UMC Capital Campaign Drive

\$ FINANCE REPORT \$

Amount budgeted for 2007
\$332,260

Year to-date offerings
through September 23
\$219,969 90.6%

Year-to-date Ahead/(Behind)
(\$22,836) -9.4%

Impact to Annual Budget
(\$40,592)

Help wash windows or hang sound panels

Volunteers are needed to help clean windows in the sanctuary and hang sound panels in the narthex on Saturday, October 20, at 9:30 a.m. We will be taking advantage of having a lift at church to reach the high spots. Any time you can spend helping will be greatly appreciated.

Call Carla Woodworth at 425.788.3679 if you have questions.

Weekday book group will resume in October

I would like to start the Wednesday morning book study group again, but I have heard from several that Wednesday mornings are busy. If you are interested in a weekday morning Bible or Biblical study, would you please let me know what day or days would work for you

I'm planning to use *Luke's Message: Good News for the New Millennium* by J. Ellsworth Kalas for the first seven weeks. Then we might go on to John after that or change to another study, as determined by the group.

This group is open to men and women. We will start on Wednesday, October 10, unless I receive information that another day is better.

Joan Pierce
(jpierce622@verizon.net or 360.668.9691).



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 last in the series.

Zoroastrian Prayer for Peace

We pray to God to eradicate all the misery in the world:
that understanding triumph over ignorance,
that generosity triumph over indifference,
that trust triumph over contempt, and
that truth triumph over falsehood.

September 14, 2007
Dear Pastor David and
Members of Bear Creek
UMC,



I just wanted to thank you for the opportunity to share my program with you last Sunday [September 9]. It was a joy and privilege to be back in my home church again. Thank you also for your openness and generosity. It was truly an honor to serve at Bear Creek again.

I pray that the message I shared with you will encourage you to continue to listen to the voice of our Lord; to figure out where He wants to use your gifts and talents. We have all been gifted and have a place and calling on the Lord's team.

Blessings to you, and I pray that I will be able to come and share with you at some time in the future. Maybe the next time, the whole band will be able to make the trip! Thank you again for everything. I pray that this will be a great year for the church.

Cindy Luke-Reed
Clr Music

Song for Thought

Ocean

There's something about the ocean
Makes me rise up and praise;
There's something about the heavens
Makes me stand in awe again;
There's something about the sunrise
Reminds me of Your faithfulness;
There's something about Your presence
And I'm lost in love again.

From the album *Much*
Ten Shekel Shirt

2007-08 Administrative Council

Chair	Ron Large
Vice Chair	Marcie Nashem
Recording Secretary	Lillian Russo
Lay Leader	Jeannie Morris
Lay Leader	Doug Woodworth
Finance Chair	Tom Litchford
Treasurer	Marny Livingston
Finance Secretary	Joanne Wright
Assistant Finance Sec'y	Dave Thorson
Lay Member to Annual Conference	Eric Shankland
Reserve Lay Member to Annual Conference	Ellen McKee
Board of Trustees Pres.	Carla Woodworth
Membership Secretary	Marge Kuykendall
Staff/Parish Relations	Susan Jackson
Church and Society	Debbie Leyva
Fellowship	Sonya Garrett Connie Gagnon
Community Programs	Ruthann Litchford
Nurture	Jeannie Morris
Education	Amber Oleson
Sunday School Superintendent	Joan Thorson
Children's Ministries	Marge Kuykendall
Worship	Sara Lambert
Witness	Ellen McKee
Missions	Chris Aakre
Stewardship	Jim Morris
Special Services Coordinator	Marge Kuykendall
Kol Ami Liaison	Tina Stroh
Youth Council	Marge Kuykendall
At-Large Members	Steve Stroh Susan Mahan Susan Schneider



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

Gary Linstedt, who is recovering from heart surgery and possibly facing another liver transplant.

The **Becker family** on the death of **Jan's** brother.

The **Law** family:
Melissa's successful completion of Navy boot camp.
Sara's healing from shoulder surgery
Shannon's healing from two eye surgeries for a torn retina.



Thank You Note

Over the past 18 months I have moved four times! I hope I have now settled in for at least the next four years. I would really like to publicly thank the following people who have helped me move, given me furniture, given me boxes, helped me clean, and been there for general support. You know a church is fulfilling its mission when you ask for help moving (for the 4th time!) and you actually have to turn people away because you get so many offers! Thank you to: Chris Aakre and Anthony Pearce; Andy and Joan Pierce; Steve, Tina, and Merideth Stroh; Shelly, Debby and Jeremy Heimfeld; Geoff and Dana Culbertson; Sue Hicks; Tim and Tracy Allen; Joan Thorson; Ted and Sheryl Smith; and everyone who has remembered me in their prayers over a very difficult summer.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart!

Sincerely, Debbie Leyva



Have you seen our website? Rob Dickerson has done a great job of getting information on there for you. You can see Dave O's sermons, get the latest calendar dates, and lots more! Check it out now! www.bcumc.org

Bear Creek United Methodist Church

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David Orendorff, Pastor
pastor@bcumc.org

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belonging*

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bcumc.org



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On the Horizon



Sunday, November 4
African Team Ministries Craft
Sale

Sunday, November 18
Commitment Sunday/
Celebration Luncheon

Sunday, December 2
Advent Festival

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.