

Notes From The Journey . . .



I've been thinking about what it means to be a pastor. And among the many things that come to mind, one that rises to the top of my attention has to do with representing the Church. On many occasions I have the wonderful and humbling experience of embodying the Church. When I walk into a hospital room, it is more than

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just Roger Lynn standing there. You are there with me. When I am at a meeting in the community, it is more than just me speaking. You are there with me. When I stand before the bride and groom at a wedding, it is more than just a single individual officiating. You are there with me. When I rise to speak at a funeral, it is more than just a solitary voice. You are there with me. Being a pastor means having the privilege of ministering on your behalf. But it does not mean doing everything

by myself. Paul's image of the Church being the Body of Christ comes to mind. It really does take all of us sharing our gifts. There are times when it's my job. The whole congregation won't fit into the average hospital room. And there are times when each of you have gifts which are perfectly suited to the occasion. After 25 years

of ordained ministry I'm still discovering what my gifts are and how they can be used. What gifts are you discovering? How can you use them? Where do you fit in the Body of Christ? Thank you for the countless ways you are already sharing your gifts and for the privilege of being your pastor. - Roger

Thank You for Christmas Gift
 Every year I am surprised, and overwhelmed, and grateful. And this year was no exception. Thank you for your generous Christmas gift and the wonderfully supportive notes you included on the accompanying card. I read the names and the notes and was amazed at how blessed I am.

Thank You for 10 Years
 On Sunday, January 22nd we celebrated 10 years of partnership in ministry. And what a fun day it was. I am still smiling when I remember the surprise at the end of the worship service, when the curtains were opened and the musicians launched into a spritely Celtic tune while Veronica led me through the arched arms of the congregation (reminiscent of the first dance at our wedding). What a delight it is to be your pastor.

Sign Up To Help

There are a number of simple but important ways in which you can contribute to the ongoing ministry of The United Church of Moscow. In addition to regular and generous financial support, you can check out the bulletin board across from the office. There you will find sign-up sheets for everything from baking communion bread, to shoveling snow, to serving as usher/greeters. It takes all of us to keep this congregation going. Thanks for doing your part.



Campus Christian Center Annual Meeting – Sunday, February 12th – 2 p.m.



The annual meeting of the corporation

is a time for receiving reports, electing officers, adopting the budget – and re-visioning the future.

Our congregation is allowed 10 delegates to this meeting.

If you would like to represent us, please check with Roger Lynn ASAP.



Chocolate & Dessert Frenzy – Feb. 11th – 7 p.m.

It's become an annual tradition. More sweets than can possibly be good for us! The trick is to take really small servings so you can try lots of different things. Bring your favorite chocolate treat (or other sorts of desserts) and join us for a fun evening. This year, since it is just around the corner from Valentine's Day, you are also invited to bring a recording of a favorite love song that could be played while we are eating. If it is on CD, and you can get it to Roger earlier in the week, that would be helpful. If it is on cassette, please have that song queued up. There will also be a sing-a-long of some favorite old love songs, along with a special solo from *Kezia Schrag*. You won't want to miss this fun evening.

Fair Trade Coffee, Tea & Cocoa

Did you know that you can buy Equal Exchange brand organic Fair Trade coffee, tea and cocoa right in the Fellowship Hall? Fair Trade means that the people who grow the products can actually earn a living wage. More information is posted on the wall. A new shipment is due to arrive soon.



Lent Begins March 1st



Lent is the liturgical season which spans the 40 days (not including Sundays) prior to Easter. Traditionally it has been a time for reflection and prayer. Many people have also used it as a time of personal sacrifice as a way of focusing their attention on spiritual growth. Others have used it as a time to take on some new project or task. However you choose to approach this time, may you experience it as a season of growth and renewal.

Special Thanks . . .

During the Advent / Christmas season we had several extra events which helped to enhance the enjoyment of all who participated. These events were successful because of the contributions of a great many people. The list includes (but is certainly not limited to): *Frank & Linda Fleener* for providing the Christmas tree which graced the sanctuary; everyone who helped decorate the sanctuary; *Deanna Herschbach* who provided multiple pots of chili for the post-caroling meal (along with several others whose names elude me at the moment); *Kyle Hawley* for driving the hayride truck which transported all of the carolers; *Kezia Schrag* and the choir for all their hard work in preparing wonderful music throughout the season culminating with their presentation on the Sunday before Christmas; everyone who helped prepare the turkeys and trimmings for the Christmas dinner; *Veronica Lassen* for creating the wonderful new angel which is hanging in the sanctuary; *Dirk Vanderwall & Allison Willoughby (& Morgan & Maddy)* for opening their home for the tree burning party; and everyone who participated in any of these events. The United Church of Moscow is the community of faith which it is because those who participate share their gifts so freely. Thank you!



Personal Glimpses

Long time member *Virgie Read* died on Sunday, January 22nd, following an extended period of declining health. Because of family complications, memorial service plans have been postponed indefinitely.

Barbara Hisel's sister, Helen Louise, died in Manson, Washington in January. Please keep Barbara and her family in your prayers.

Bob Means spent a couple of days in the hospital at the end of January because of complications related to pneumonia. He is now at home recovering.



Celebrating Birthdays . . .

. . . In February

6th - Donna Bradberry

7th - Bonnie Nelson

26th - Linda Fleener

18th - Oz Garton

20th - Greg Skinner

. . . In March

14th - Calvin Macy

16th - Bret Barber

18th - Heather Leonard

23rd - Dolores Sanchez

19th - Joan Gustaveson

20th - Donna Francis

23rd - Elaine Russell

*If we've missed your birthday, please let us know so we can update our records.
We want to include you.*

Roof Fund

Late last year we replaced the roof over the sanctuary. The total bill was just over \$23,000 (it's a big roof). To pay for all of this we borrowed money from our own Edna Durbin Fund, which is intended to support educational programs at the church. It needs to be repaid. We have had one \$500 donation from an anonymous donor, along with several other smaller gifts. Without donations specifically earmarked for this purpose, repayment will come out of the general fund, thus reducing our ability to do ministry. If you would like to contribute to the repayment of this loan, you can do so by writing "roof fund" in the note on your check.



Who Can You Invite?

Our congregation is a vital and vibrant community of faith. People's lives are enriched through their participation with our congregation. And to remain vital and vibrant it is important that we continue to grow. Please give careful and prayerful consideration to who you might consider inviting to come share in our congregation. Perhaps it is a friend from down the block, or the neighbor next door, or the co-worker in the next office, or the family member across town, or the acquaintance at the grocery store. If being a part of this congregation is important to you, then perhaps it can be important for someone you know. Invite them to join you for worship. Invite them to join you for one of our social events. Share the good news. If not you, then who?





















New Church Directory

*A newly updated edition of the church phone directory
is now available at the back of the sanctuary.
It is also available in pdf format on our web-site.
Ask for instructions on how to download it.*


Feb / March

2006

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
5 Fellowship Fund	6 7:00 PM, 4-H 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	7 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	8 12:00 PM, CancerSupport 2:00 PM, Sunshine Club 7:00 PM, Board Meeting 	9	10	11 10:00 AM, Watercolor 7:00 PM, Chocolate (& other desserts) Frenzy 
12 2:00 PM, Campus Christian Center Annual Meeting 	13 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	14 Valentine's day. 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	15 7:00 PM, Choir Rehearsal 	16	17	18
19	20 President's Day 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	21 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	22 7:00 PM, Elders & Deacons 	23	24	25
26	27 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	28 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	1 10:00 AM, Watercolor 7:00 PM, Choir Rehearsal • March 	2	3	4
5 Fellowship Fund 1st Sunday in Lent 	6 7:00 PM, 4-H 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	7 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	8 12:00 PM, CancerSupport 2:00 PM, Sunshine Club 7:00 PM, Board Meeting 	9	10	11

This Newsletter is now available on our web-site in PDF format. If you would like to be removed from our mailing list & added to our e-mail notification list, please send a note to: newsletter@unitedchurch.cc

• Return Service Requested •


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