

March
2006

The United Messenger
Newsletter of The United Church of Moscow
an American Baptist/Disciples of Christ congregation

Roger C. Lynn, Pastor



Notes From The Journey . . .



This past month has been a powerful time of growth and change for me and for my family. It began on February 4th with a call from my mom telling me of my dad's sudden and unexpected death while they were on vacation in Hawaii. In the days and weeks since then I have begun a journey down a very unfamiliar path - the path of loss and grief. I've been here before in other roles - as pastor and as friend. But this is the first time I've been here as the grieving one. And what I am discovering is remarkable. The lessons learned, both large and small, are far too numerous to mention here. One lesson in particular, however, rises

I've been on this path before in other roles, as pastor & as friend, but this is the first time I've been here as the grieving one.

to the top of the pile. We have been surrounded by an overwhelming abundance of love and support, in the form of cards, phone calls, e-mails, hugs, kind words, and food. And such manifestations of support matter more than I ever could have imagined. I have experienced the presence of God in very real, very tangible ways. Knowing that I do not have to walk this path alone makes a real difference. I am still discovering all the ways in which I miss my dad. And I am forever grateful for the love and care you have so graciously bestowed on me and on my family. Thank you.
- Roger

Lent Begins

The liturgical season of Lent is made up of the 40 days (not including Sundays) preceding Easter. It has traditionally been a time for prayer and reflection, often associated with making some personal sacrifice. Some people use it as a time to take on a new project or task. You may choose to talk with Roger about specific ways to make it personally meaningful for you. However you choose to approach this season, may you experience it as a time of growth and renewal.



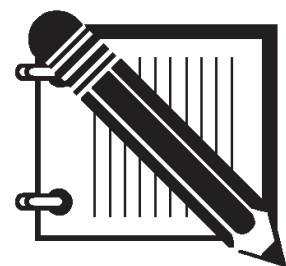
Adult Faith Explorations Class

The Adult Faith Explorations class meets on Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We are currently viewing and discussing the documentary "Three Faiths, One God: Judaism, Christianity, Islam." It features a variety of voices from all three of these traditions speaking about both common themes and differences. You are invited to join us for this interesting presentation and the lively discussion which follows. We expect to continue this topic until Easter.

Daylight Saving Time Begins April 2nd

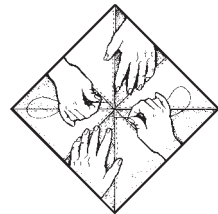
It's that time of year again! Before you go to bed on Saturday, April 1st (*April Fools Day*), be sure to set your clocks ahead one hour. Otherwise you'll be walking in to the sanctuary just about the time the rest of us are leaving, and then the joke will be on you.





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. On the bulletin board across from the office 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.



NW Disciples Regional Assembly – May 19-21

There's a family reunion happening at First Christian Church in Kent, Washington, and you're invited. The Northwest Region of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) will join together for worship and work as we explore the theme *God Calls the NWRCC – Church, Congregation and Me*. Dr. Sharon Watkins, new general minister and president of our denomination, and Dr. Robin Hedgeman, pastor of Bethany Christian Church in Cleveland, will bring special messages Friday and Saturday. Workshops on Saturday afternoon and Saturday evening hold the promise of very special celebrations. Early bird registrations are due by April 19. All reservations are due by May 10. For more information, contact Roger Lynn or go to www.disciplesnw.org.



Prayer Shawl Project

The Pullman Moscow Religious Society of Friends (the Quakers) are sponsoring a multi-faith initiative to provide shawls and lap quilts to the Hospice of the Palouse and Whitman Hospice. Their goal is to make enough prayer shawls and quilts so that hospice volunteers will be able to share them with any clients or family members who might be comforted by a handmade, anonymous gift of love. Towards that goal, there will be a meeting at The Needle Nook (705 North Main Street in Moscow) on March 14th (and every 2nd Tuesday) at 7 p.m. For more information you can call Melynda Huskey (882.8085) or Carmen Wilbourn (332.5362).

Finding the Center Conference – March 24-26

Registration is now open for the second annual Idaho-Washington regional "Finding the Center" Human Rights Conference for the Inland Pacific NW, which will take place in Moscow March 24-26 at the University of Idaho and University Inn Best Western. The conference is designed to provide new tools, techniques and skills for furthering the cause of human rights and dignity for all.

Participants will attend an opening address, four workshops and a banquet presentation. The keynote speaker is Paul Wesselmann, founder and CEO of Stone Soup Seminars, Inc. His topic will be "Open Hearts, Open Minds." He will also present conference workshops on "Higher Bridges, Lower Walls: Using Social Justice Activities to Overcome Barriers." Corey Saylor, from the Council on American-Islamic Relations will lead a workshop on "Challenging Hate and Stereotypes in a Time of Crisis." Members of The National Coalition Building Institute (NCBI) will demonstrate their national model of prevention-oriented techniques to deal with prejudice and community tension. And Michael Chin, Moscow High Graduate and current Gonzaga University Law Student will lead a panel of area young people on the topic, "Emerging Leaders: Developing and Nurturing New Leaders for Future Human Rights Efforts."

Registration and detailed information is available on-line at www.uidaho.edu/ftc.



Personal Glimpses

Lewis Tribble (Helen's husband) was hospitalized in February and is now being evaluated in a care center following a series of TIAs (mini-strokes). Please keep *Lewis and Helen* in your prayers.

Bob Means was hospitalized for several days in February and is now at home under hospice care. His health continues to decline. Please keep *Bob & Barbara* in your prayers.

Lloyd Wilson, Iris Manning's father, has moved into Avalon Care Center in Pullman.

Joan Gustaveson and Pearl Jensen have both been experiencing some medical distress that the doctors are still trying to figure out. Please keep them in your prayers.

Please keep *Tim Garton* in your prayers. He was recently diagnosed with a chronic intestinal disease. He is responding to treatment.

Congratulations to *Bob Johnson and Linda Rasmussen*. Bob has accepted a three-year contract as a school counselor in The Hague in the Netherlands. They will be leaving sometime in July. We will miss them, but they do promise to return.



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. Pick up some today.

Celebrating Birthdays . . .

. . . In March

1st - Clint Westberg	19th - Joan Gustaveson
14th - Calvin Macy	20th - Donna Francis
16th - Bret Barber	23rd - Elaine Russell
18th - Heather Leonard	23rd - Dolores Sanchez

. . . In April

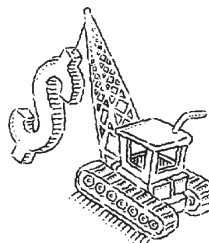
5th - Mariah Suquet	19th - Tim Garton
13th - Allene Goforth	22nd - Donna Spencer
18th - Lois Leonard	29th - Larry Francis

If we've missed your birthday, please let us know so we can update our records.

We want to include you.

Possible Sale of Old Parsonage

We are engaged in a very preliminary conversation with Zion Bank (the one located right behind the church) about the possibility of selling the house on Jackson Street (the one that used to be the parsonage and is currently occupied by Success by Six). The bank is exploring ways to expand sometime in the next couple of years. At this point the conversation has only gone as far as "would you be interested in exploring the possibility?" Nothing has been decided. In fact, nothing is even on the table. But we are interested in hearing from you if you have any thoughts or concerns about this issue. Please feel free to contact *Roger Lynn* or *Sandy Cooper*.























New Church Directory

There is a newly updated edition of the church phone directory now available at the back of the sanctuary. Have you picked up your copy yet? It is also available in pdf format on our web-site. It has been password protected. Ask for instructions on how to download it.


March / April

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Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
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
12 2nd Sunday in Lent 	13 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	14 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	15 7:00 PM, Choir Rehearsal 	16	17	18
19 3rd Sunday in Lent 	20 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 4th Sunday in Lent 	27 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	28 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	29 7:00 PM, Nominating Committee 	30	31	1 • April •
2 Daylight SavingsTime Fellowship Fund 5th Sunday in Lent 	3 7:00 PM, 4-H 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	4 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	5 10:00 AM, Watercolor 7:00 PM, Budget Committee 7:00 PM, Choir Rehearsal 	6	7	8

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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