

Notes From The Journey . . .



In my sermon on Sunday, November 12th, I did something that I don't often do (at least not in quite so dramatic and definitive a manner). I announced that I am taking a stand regarding what I have come to believe is an important issue of justice, equality and fairness for our day. In light of the current legal realities in this state (and most other states) concerning marriage, I have decided that I will no longer be complicit in the injustice of our current system. I will no longer lend my name to state-sanctioned discrimination. I will no longer sign state-issued marriage licenses, until such time as all people have equal access to the rights, privileges and protections currently associated with marriage. I will continue to officiate at religious marriage ceremonies, but anyone who wants their relationship to be legally recognized will need to take care of that at the court house.

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This has been a very prayerful decision and not one which I have come to lightly. As many of you are already aware from other comments I have made over the years, this is an issue about which I have strong convictions. I finally reached the point

where I simply could not do nothing any longer. And I also recognize that not everyone shares my views. There will be some people who will not understand why I am doing this. Some may even disagree with my position. Please know that I do not have any desire for this to become a point of division. I remain open to dialogue with anyone who wants to share a conversation around this important issue. You can read my whole

sermon by picking up a copy at the back of the sanctuary, or by pointing your browser to www.room2breathe.org/blog/index.php?itemid=156

I also recognize that this is not the only issue about which attention needs to be given. There may be important subjects which you would like to see addressed. There may be important projects which you would like to see undertaken. There may be important stands which you would like to make. The church ought to be a place where such discussions can occur, in an atmosphere of mutual respect based on the common bond of God's love which we share. So bring up your issues. Let's see what happens when we seek to be a community of faith together. - Roger

Christmas for Kids

Again this year our congregation will be participating in the local Christmas for Kids program. We will be providing gifts for 3 families, with a total of 10 children. Tags for specific gifts will be available to pick up beginning Sunday, November 19th. You are invited to pick up a tag, purchase the gift, wrap it, put the tag on the outside, and return it to the church no later than Sunday, December 9th. For additional information, or to volunteer to help, contact *Alberta Hill*.



Faith Explorations Class for Adults

On Sunday mornings at 9:30 a.m. a group of interested and interesting adults gathers in the fellowship hall to participate in study, reflection and discussion around a variety of topics related to matters of faith.

We are currently using various episodes of the NPR program "Speaking of Faith" to inform and inspire our time together. You are invited to join us.

- Holiday Activities -



The Advent/Christmas season is upon us, and with it comes lots of activities at the church. It is a great time to get involved. It also provides a wonderful opportunity to invite someone to join you.

Decorating the Sanctuary - Sunday, December 3rd @ 8:30 a.m.



Come help us prepare the sanctuary for the season. In two hours, with help from you, we will transform the sanctuary with greenery, wall hangings and various other decorations. There is something for everyone to do. Bring work gloves and/or pruning tools if you have them. We are in need of greenery for the swags and boards. If you have some you can donate, please contact *Roger Lynn* ASAP.

Caroling & Chili - Sunday, December 10th @ 4 p.m.

We always have a good time traveling around town singing carols to folks from the church who have a hard time getting out. Then we return to the church to eat chili. Remember to dress warm. If you would like to provide some of the chili, please contact *Roger Lynn*.



Christmas Music in Worship - Sunday, December 17th @ 11 a.m.



The choir is singing every Sunday during Advent. And on the 17th the morning worship service will feature them singing several seasonal selections.

Christmas Dinner - Sunday, December 17th @ 6 p.m.

The turkey, dressing, potatoes, gravy and rolls are provided. (You can volunteer to help with this portion of the meal by contacting *Roger Lynn*) The rest of the meal is potluck. This is our "church family" holiday feast. It is a great time to bring family and friends. The evening will also include a time for singing favorite carols, and perhaps even a visit from a bearded gentleman dressed in red.



Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship - Sunday, December 24th @ 7 p.m.



This traditional service features a simple, quiet evening filled with candles, carols, scripture readings, stories and communion. It provides an opportunity to reflect on the wonders of God's love as we share the evening with family and friends.

Tree Burning - Monday, January 1st @ 5 p.m.

Following worship on December 31st we will take down the greens from the sanctuary. Then the following evening (New Year's Day) we will gather at the Leonard Farm on Robinson Park Road for a bonfire, followed by chili and other goodies to eat and drink. You are invited to bring the tree from your home to add to the fire if you like. If you would like to provide some of the chili, please contact *Roger Lynn*.



Personal Glimpses

We celebrate with *Karen Davis* who received a second opinion concerning a some medical problems she's experiencing. The good news is that it appears she does not need to have the really risky surgery she thought was in her future.

We keep *Lewis & Helen Tribble* in our prayers. *Lewis* recently experienced another serious stroke. He is currently undergoing therapy and is a resident at Aspen Care Center.

Celebrating Birthdays . . .

. . . *In November*

11th - Jeanette Talbott

12th - Kalena Suquet

. . . *In December*

5th - Charlotte McCallum

17th - Lois Bradberry

11th - Ed Goforth

21st - Pat Gentry

. . . *In January*

2nd - Lisa Hawley

21st - Naomi Blacker

5th - Mariah Talbott

21st - Agnes Kottke

13th - Iris Manning

22nd - Dale Gentry

16th - Lou Stevens

28th - Scotte Hecht

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

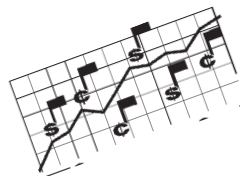
Interfaith Community Thanksgiving Vigil Tuesday, November 21st @ 5:30 p.m.

The Moscow Interfaith Association is sponsoring a Thanksgiving Vigil in Friendship Square (downtown Moscow) beginning at 5:30 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to Thanksgiving. The event is expected to be about a half hour in length. It will bring together people from across our diverse community and provide an opportunity for expressing gratitude. You are invited to participate. Dress appropriately for the weather. You may bring a candle or other light source. Donations of food and/or money will be accepted for the local food banks.



Replace the Copier Fund

At the Congregational Meeting in October several people remarked on the poor copy quality of the report, which was produced on our aging photocopier. Some discussion ensued about getting a new one, which resulted in one person present writing a \$100 check to start a copier fund. If you would like to contribute to this fund, you can simply write "copier" in the notation line on your check. It looks like it will be possible to get a good quality, lightly used one for somewhere between \$750 and \$1,500.



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. If we're out of something you want, let Roger know and we can order it.



There are sign-up sheets on the bulletin board for all of these important jobs.

There are a variety of ways for you to get involved in the life of the church and make a difference, including

Volunteer Opportunities

Help with Sunday Snow Removal this winter


















Bake communion bread

Serve as an usher/greeter on Sunday morning

Serve as a liturgist for worship

— Nov / Dec —

— 2006 —

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
19 Thanksgiving Sunday 2:00 PM, Care Center Worship (Aspen Park / Latah) 	20 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	21 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 5:30 PM, Interfaith Thanksgiving Vigil - Friendship Square 7:00 PM, No Book Study (today only)	22	23 <i>Thanksgiving Day</i>	24	25
26	27 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	28 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Book Study 	29 7:00 PM, Elder / Deacons 	30	1 <i>December</i>	2
3 <i>Fellowship Fund</i> 1st Sunday in Advent 8:30 AM, Decorate the Sanctuary 	4 7:00 PM, 4-H 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	5 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Book Study 	6 10:00 AM, Watercolor 7:00 PM, Choir Rehearsal 	7	8	9
10 2nd Sunday in Advent 4:00 PM, Caroling 6:00 PM, Chili Feed 	11 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	12 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Final Book Study of the year 	13 12:00 PM, <i>CancerSupport</i> 2:00 PM, Sunshine Club 7:00 PM, Board Meeting 7:00 PM, Choir Rehearsal 	14	15	16
17 3rd Sunday in Advent 6:00 PM, Christmas Dinner 	18 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	19 5:30 PM, AA Meeting	20	21	22	23
24 4th Sunday in Advent 7:00 PM, Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship 	25 <i>Christmas!</i> 	26 5:30 PM, AA Meeting	27	28	29	30



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• Return Service Requested •