

JUNE 2006 CARUS UMC NEWS

RANDOM NOTES

One of the changes that are found in our current edition of the *United Methodist Book of Discipline* (our denomination's book of doctrine, covenant & operational policy) is what it means to be a Member of the Body of Christ. In previous definitions of church membership, there was only what was known as a *Full Member*. This was a person who had been baptized & had taken vows of membership. They then had all the rights & privileges of said status in the congregation & denomination. If someone was baptized as a child or youth, they then took what was called *Confirmation Classes* to prepare them for the day they would become a full member by *Profession of Faith*.

We now have a new-& I believe more Biblical-definition of how to connect with a congregation as a Member. (The term *Member* in the Scripture almost always refers to a part of one's physical anatomy. Hence, to be a *Member* in this sense means to be connected to the rest of the Body. It also assumes that this is the normal & healthy relationship for all body parts.) There are now two official categories of recognizing this reality:

- **A Baptized Member** is anyone of any age who has received the Sacrament of Christian Baptism in any Christian community of faith. This status recognizes that *all* the baptized have been incorporated into the mighty acts of God's salvation in Jesus Christ & are *each* a *Member* in the Church Universal, the Body of Christ. The bottom line here is that to be baptized = to be a Member, including in the local congregation.
- **A Professing Member** is anyone who, having been baptized, stands before the congregation to make their *Profession of Faith*. If they have been members of other Christian denominations or United Methodist congregations, they may be received by *Letter of Transfer* from their previous congregation. *Professing Members* are connected to the Church Universal, the *United Methodist Church*, & the local congregation in which they worship, fellowship & serve. Being a Leader in our congregation usually means that one has become a *Professing Member*.

What I like about this understanding is that it recognizes we come part of a congregational family more by God's grace than by human choice. Just like God created the parts of our bodies so that they thrive only when connected to all the others, so we have been redeemed so that we thrive when connected to Christ our Lord & His Holy People. Both categories allow us a place/understanding to thankfully love God & find the specifics of serving others that best fits us at the present time.

Hopefully, what I have shared will be helpful in understanding & claiming what the Lord has done for you with power. If you have some questions, let's get together & share. In the meantime, let me wish you a wonderful Summer, full of the blessing of our gracious God.

By Grace Alone,
Rand D. Sargent

COMMUNION SUNDAY COMING ON JUNE 11TH

Sunday, June 11th will be our monthly celebration of **Communion Sunday**. Join us @ 10:45 AM for a wonderful time of Worship & sharing the Lord's Supper. It will be a great day, so be there to lend your life to this event in our community of faith.

INTERESTED IN JOINING THE *CARUS UMC*?

Pastor Rand would like to offer a Membership Orientation Class to those interested. If you would like to explore about the congregation, the Christian Faith, & what becoming a Professing Member of ***Carus UMC*** means, please contact him @ **503/829-5508**. This opportunity is also open to current Members who would like to grow in their discipleship as well.

CONNECTING MISSION IS BLESSING PEOPLE

Our congregation is participating in an area network of other United Methodist Churches to be an agent of blessing to the larger community. *Canby, Carus, Clarkes, Molalla & Oregon City* have jointed with us to work together to these ends:

- Sponsored a Work Retreat @ *Suttle Lake Camp* to repair cabins & prepare the grounds for Summer Camps.
- Engaged congregation members in the *Habitat for Humanity Disciple Build* in Woodburn.
- Is planning a Welcome Event this Summer for new pastors in *Molalla & Clarkes*.
- Is planning to host an event with a UMC Pastor from Liberia to share about what Christ is doing in his country.

If you would like to know more about how to get involved with this network for blessing others, talk to *Pastor Rand* or Lay Leader *Carol Johns*.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN NEWS

The All Daughters Tea was awesome. We had 48 daughters attend and the entertainment was great. The theme was "Cream and Sugar Sets" and many stories were enjoyed about each set that was brought for display. Thanks to all who participated by setting up, decorating, bringing food, serving, and attending. A special Thank You to Ed Jacobson for taking pictures of individual daughters and their guests/families.

Thank You Mary Foix for hosting the May UMW Meeting. This was the last meeting before summer starts. Betty Fish-Ferguson provided the program entitled "A Quiet Day Service for Prayer and Self-Denial – Disparity and Discipleship". The next meeting will be our annual salad potluck at Carol Johns on Thursday, September 14, 2006, at 6:30 PM. This will kick off the fall season and planning for 2006/2007 events/projects. Enjoy your summer.

PLAYGROUND UPDATES

We had a great time at the All Church Movie Night, the last fundraiser for Phase II of the Playground. Thanks to all who participated by attending and donating towards the final expenses for the Playground. We raised \$125.00 and will continue to collect popcans through June 30, 2006. By that time we should have enough money for the cedar chips and cement needed to complete Phase II. A tentative date for the Playground Dedication is scheduled for Sunday, June 25, 2006. The dedication will depend on the completion of setting up the playground equipment and if necessary the dedication can be postponed until July.

2006 OR-ID ANNUAL CONFERENCE "MISSION DEPOT" PROJECT

Bishop Hoshibata has named the elimination of hunger a priority goal of our Annual Conference for the next two years. As a kick off project, every congregation is challenged to collect change

(coins or paper) and bring a check for that amount to the 2006 Annual Conference Session in Nampa, Idaho. The money collected will be donated to the Idaho Food Bank to aid the elimination of hunger in our host state. This replaces the previous "Mission Depot" and "Parade of Boxes" Projects for Annual Conference.

Carus Church had two Sundays to collect before the start of Annual Conference. Pastor Rand will be taking a check from Carus to the 2006 Annual Conference for \$200.55. Thank you to everyone who participated in this mission project on such short notice.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS FOR JUNE 2006

June 4, 2006 – Pastor Rand is at Marquam and Carol Johns will be delivering the message at Carus. No Communion.

June 5, 2006 through June 10, 2006 – Pastor Rand and Carol Johns attending OR-ID Annual Conference at Nampa, ID.

June 9, 2006 through June 11, 2006 – Men's Ministries per Ron Uhl. The Prophecy Club presenting "The Portland Power of Jesus Crusade!" at the Red Lion Hotel on the River, 909 N Hayden Island Dr., Portland, OR. Doors open at 8:00 AM, meetings 9:00 AM to Noon, 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM, and 7:00 PM to 10:00 PM. Call 785-266-1112 to register.

June 11, 2006 – Communion and the last day of Sunday School until fall.

June 13, 2006 – PPRC Meeting with Pastor Rand at the Church at 6:00 PM.

June 18, 2006 – Father's Day celebration. Coffee Hour honoring all Fathers after Worship Service.

June 20, 2006 – Church Council Meeting at the Church at 7:00 PM.

June 25, 2006 – Tentative Playground Dedication and Birthday Sunday. Set-up and Clean-up by Regis Peregrin.

June 28, 2006 – Deadline for News Articles for July 2006 Carus News.

June 29, 2006 – Hilliary Ferguson's baby shower at the Church at 7:00 PM.

BIRTHDAYS FOR JUNE 2006

June 10 – Natasha Bello

June 11 – Jenny Seagren

June 12 – Nathaniel Seagren

June 13 – Ian McKenna

June 16 – Sherry (Mattes) Mulhern

June 18 – Travis Ferguson

June 20 – Ann Reeves

June 21 – Hannah Seagren

June 22 – Patti Pearson-Deller

June 23 – Steven Eggleston

June 30 – Jim Reeves