



Orting United Methodist Church

# The Messenger



*A neighborhood church in the heart of the community*

*Our Mission is to serve God, the Church, and the Community by raising the Christian awareness of every individual by caring and sharing God's Love.*

April 2003

## The Continuing Story of Love

On behalf of the Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church, Bishop Elias Galvan has sent us the following letter written by Sharon Brown Christopher, the president of the Council of Bishops and I want to share it with you here.

*Dear United Methodist Brothers and Sisters,*

*In this season of Lent, with the world caught in the grip of war, we United Methodist remember Jesus' words, "My house shall be called a house of prayer for all the nations." I call on all our churches in every place to be such a welcoming house for all people. In the midst of our feelings of insecurity and lack of control, Jesus' words invite us to gather in prayer.*

**Let us pray** for all the leaders of the nations who are involved and affected in this present crisis.

**Let us pray** for the military personnel and for their families and friends who wait, worry, and wonder.

**Let us pray** for a just resolution of this conflict.

**Let us pray** for the innocents in harm's way, especially the children.

*In the midst of the increasing inter-nation polarization over the appropriateness of this war, Jesus' words teach us that our church sanctuaries are houses of Christian hospitality.*

**Let our sanctuaries** welcome the anxious and fearful, providing for them a place of safety and power that we know through the saving power of Jesus.

**Let our sanctuaries** be gathering places for respectful and honorable Christian conversation across political perspectives.

**Let our sanctuaries** be centers for inter-religious dialogue, especially between Christians, Muslims, and Jews, that we may grow in understanding of one another.

**Let our sanctuaries** generate support for humanitarian relief for the citizens of Iraq now and in the future.

**Let our sanctuaries** be venues of peacemaking in our families, our local neighborhoods, and our global community.

*God is calling us, the church of Jesus Christ, to be "a house of prayer for all the nations." Please join us, your Council of Bishops from around the world, in prayer and witness to God's vision in which the lion and the lamb lie down together in peace.*

*In the name of Christ, the Prince of Peace,  
Sharon A. Brown Christopher*

As your pastor, I want to call us all to a firm resolve and commitment to pray for each other as Christians, to pray for our community here in Orting--including the strangers and those we disagree with, to pray for our world struggling to find ways to justice and peace, to pray for our enemies, even as Christ would have us pray. May we each do all we can to contribute to rather than to break the Continuing Story of Love.

Pastor Carol



**You are welcome!** On Maundy Thursday, April 17, at 7:00 pm, we will be doing a re-enactment of the Lord's Supper. This will include the twelve disciples, Holy Communion, extinguishing of Lenten candles, stripping the altar and leaving in darkness.

**You are welcome!** Sunrise Service begins in our church yard at 6:30 am on April 20, with the lighting of the Paschal Candle from the flaming torch and the releasing of the Alleluias. We proceed into the sanctuary where the major part of the service is held.

**You are welcome!** Easter breakfast will be served by the Missions Committee (donations accepted) from 8:00 to 9:30am in our fellowship hall.

**You are welcome!** Easter Celebration Worship at 11:00 am with choir and brass, piano and organ--everybody come to acknowledge the resurrection of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.



## DAFFODIL AND EASTER COOKIES

We will again be making and decorating daffodil cookies to sell on Daffodil Parade Day--April 12. The cookies will be sold at the church, so tell all your friends to come and buy--free drink if you buy a beautiful, scrumptious daffodil cookie on April 12. If you want to help bake and decorate cookies, come on Thursday, April 10 at 9:00 am. Or you may contribute by putting together a couple of batches of dough and/or icing the day before. Please use the recipes available from the church office and deliver to the church for our Thursday decorating party.

In addition to the daffodil cookies we will be making personalized decorated Easter cookies for those who order in advance with forms available at the church office (call 360-893-2740). There will be bunny, egg, butterfly and bird and daffodil cookies with your child's, grand-child's or friend's name written in icing. These are very high quality cookies--far superior than anything you can buy in the stores. And they sell for only \$1.00. Money from the cookie sales will go to our mission work.

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## Come - In - Unity

*By Muriel Doolittle*

The Council of Tacoma District Churches met at the Puyallup Methodist Church in January with a large attendance and about 30 churches represented. The topic was to help people in need in our community, especially children. Com-in-unity--community. Reps. from each church had 3 minutes to tell what their church is doing for missions, community, youth, reaching other nationalities in the community and the world, the needy and abused. Roger Downing spoke for our church and had a display board of our activities. Sumner Methodist has a complete Spanish service on Sunday. Others have Samoan or Korean and another has a complete Hawaiian Luau each year. The catchy slogan from one church was that their members consist of Go-go's; Slo-go's; or No-go's. It was a fire-me-up-let's-go meeting with lots of enthusiasm. Our neighbors at Bonney Lake are in the process of building a new church with 80 members to raise \$90,000. Let's have a neighborhood "church raising".

## United Methodist Women

*By Muriel Doolittle*

United Methodist Women met their usual first Wednesday of the month in the church dining room. Janet Bjork, vice president, called the meeting to order and Pastor Carol led in prayer. The group is planning on adopting an orphan of Africa after June when the pastor of Sumner Methodist goes there. She can choose one for us. We've been invited to luncheons at the Christian Church, Summit and Spiritual Day Apart in Belfair. We may try using the van to attend. We will make daffodil cookies to sell at the Orting Daffodil Parade and Easter. We will also furnish a light, buffet style Easter breakfast after sunrise service and again around 10am. Just a reminder that talent table is set up with old and hand made items. Also, the two new books are available for the Reading Program.

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## EASTER'S COMING!

### PREPARE YE THE WAY OF THE LORD!

*By Cheryl Dyson*

And prepare for a joyous celebration. The choir will be presenting special music for Palm Sunday and Maundy Thursday. For Easter, at the Sunrise Service Pastor Carol will play her harp, and at the 11:00 am service there will be Brass accompaniment by Leigh Starr and Cheryl Dyson. The choir will sing Handel's Halleluiah Chorus plus two shorter anthems, and there will be a piano and organ duet by Cheryl Dyson and Judy White. Plan on a great day of resurrection music!



It was Palm Sunday and because of a sore throat five year old Johnny stayed home from church with a sitter. When the family returned home, they were carrying several palm branches. The boy asked what they were for. "People held them over Jesus' head as he walked by," his older brother explained. "Wouldn't you know it," the boy fumed. "The one Sunday I don't go, he showed up!"

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A Special Thanks to...

Joe Langowski for his leadership of the Lenten Adult Bible Study series.

Church cleaners in March: George and Mardell Bauman, Roger and Janet Downing, Vernon and Mary Lou Lewis, Phil Fabel.

Arnie Olson for power cleaning the sidewalk and lawn mowing.

George and Mardell Bauman for yard work.

Roger Downing for building and installing the three Lenten crosses in our backyard.

Praise Music team: Leigh and Sharon Starr, Shannon Scott, Cheryl Dyson and Pastor Carol.

Coffee House workers: Roger Downing, George and Mardell Bauman, John and Theresa Downs, and Pastor Carol.

Please Pray for...

Cathi Zirkle, inoperable brain tumor.

Mary Lou and Vernon Lewis in the death of Mary Lou's father.

Doug Scott, recovering from knee replacement surgery of both knees.

Pat McMullen, brain tumor. As of this writing her tumor has stopped growing, but she is unable to walk due to paralysis on the left side and is receiving hospice care.

Shyanne Phillips, three year old in treatment for stomach cancer. Chemotherapy is shrinking the tumor and she will be facing surgery in May with the possibility of stem cell transplant in July. Dave and Ellen Phillips need added prayers, as Dave's mother will be moving in with them because her house has burned to the ground and Dave's father has been institutionalized with complications associated with Alzheimer's.

Joe Bates, whose lymphoma has worsened.

Joan Cook in the death of her husband.

Kathy, daughter of Mardell and George Bauman, who is struggling with depression, and Marti, their daughter-in-law's sister, who has lung cancer.

Noelle and Randy Mauer, preparing for the adoption of a second child, which may occur as soon as April. They have asked to be held up in prayer.

Shut ins: Ernie Thompson, Louise Hause, Hazelle Woods, and Dorothy Bosshart.

Lectionary for April

April 6 Psalm 51:1-12  
Jeremiah 31:31-34  
Hebrews 5:5-10  
John 12:20-33

April 13 Liturgy of the Palms  
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
Mark 11:1-11

Liturgy of the Passion  
Psalm 31:9-16  
Isaiah 50:4-9a  
Philippians 2:5-11  
Mark 14:1-15:47  
Mark 15:1-39 (40-47)

April 17 Maundy Thursday  
Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19  
Exodus 12:1-4, 11-14  
1 Corinthians 11:23-26  
John 13:1-17, 31b-35

April 20 Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
Acts 10:34-43  
1 Corinthians 15:1-11  
John 20:1-18  
Mark 16:1-8

April 27 Psalm 133  
Acts 4:32-35  
1 John 1:1-2:2  
John 20:19-31

Celebrating Birthdays in April

- 1 Rosalie Gronka
- 19 George Bauman
- 21 Dorothy Bosshart

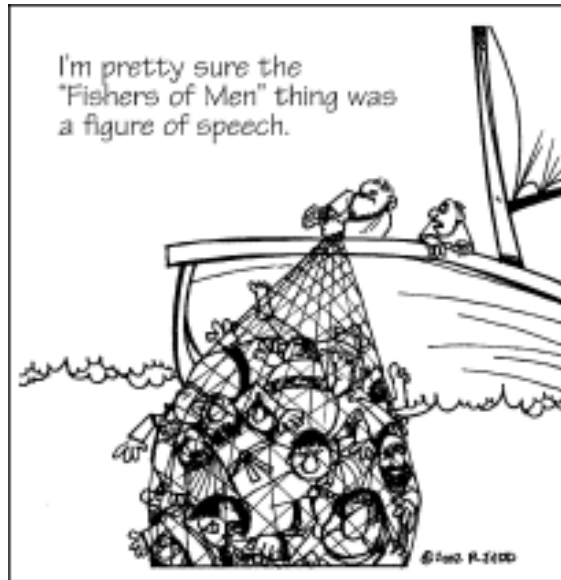


**FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Budget for year	\$ 62,244.00
Needed monthly (avg)	\$ 5,187.00
Receipts in Feb.	\$ 5,059.20
Disbursements in Feb.	\$ 6,022.73



**VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE**  
at <http://gbgm-umc.org/ortingumc>



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## The symbols of Easter

Christianity has many symbols; the most recognizable is, of course, the cross. There are a number of symbols linked with Easter or the Resurrection: the butterfly, the lily, the pomegranate, the phoenix and the peacock.



**The butterfly** represents the Resurrection and eternal life. It emerges from its cocoon or chrysalis and gloriously rises into the sky in its splendid new body. Similarly, Jesus and his followers are born into a new life on Easter.

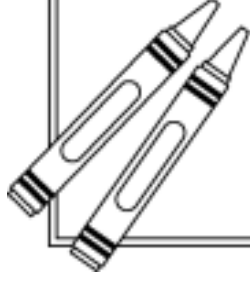
**The lily** is perhaps the most common Easter symbol because it's displayed during Easter worship services and blooms around this time each year. The lily's bulb decays in the earth, yet new life sprouts from it in the form of the flower — reminiscent of the new life that emerged from the tomb so many years ago.



**The pomegranate** is used as a symbol of the power of Christ and his Resurrection because of the many seeds that burst forth from the fruit. These seeds represent the many believers who follow Christ. They also represent the magnificence of divine grace and the fertility of the Word. **The peacock** sheds his feathers annually. Each year the feathers grow back more beautiful and more brilliant in color. This renewal symbolizes eternal life or resurrection. There's also a myth that the peacock's flesh doesn't decay after death — immortality. (The peacock is sometimes used to represent human vanity, because of the way he proudly struts and displays his plumage.)



**The phoenix** was a mythical bird that lived in the Arabian Desert for five hundred years. It set its own nest on fire and perished in the flames. But on the third day it rose from its own ashes and ascended into the sky as a new and beautiful creature. It's easy to see why the phoenix represents immortal life and the Resurrection.



## Just for KIDS

### An Easter Message

Mary went to the tomb and found it empty! Find the words that an angel spoke to her. Write the name of each picture on the lines. Transfer the letters to the other spaces to find the verse.



1 2 3 4 5



6 7 8 9 10 11 12 13 14



15 16 17 18 19 20



21 22 23 24 25 26 27



28 29 30

"

18 42 14 31 3 14 17 7 13 3 17 34 15 17 20

8 42 10 16 25 38 25 23 30 36 35 3 23 29

44 42 19 31 27 43 31 42 19 25 4 23 3 9

42 10 24 19 ; 42 28 42 36 5 24 25 5 27 23

!"

Luke 24:5

Answers: cross; butterfly; flower; sunrise; egg; duck; man; vine; hat; do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here; He has risen!