



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.

August 2003

The Continuing Story of Love

It's a hot July day as I write this and I am feeling lazy. It is time for me to "get the lead out" as they say. Lead is heavy and it holds you down. So if you get the lead out, I guess that means you spring up into action. We have been getting the lead out of our stained glass window and now it is all taken apart--dozens of pieces spread out on the table. It needs the lead back in to hold it together. The reason we had to take the lead out was because it had become lazy and sagging. It had lost its ability to hold the glass in place. The window looked as if it were about to give way, to crash to the floor. Lead is not bad when it is firm and strong. It holds the glass together making it beautiful, keeping it upright and connected. Lead is like the tradition of the church. If it loses its elasticity, becomes brittle and begins to let the glass sag, its own weight can pull down the whole shebang. But if it remains strong and flexible, it holds the church together and makes it beautiful. We have some wonderful traditions here at Orting UMC, not the least of which is our annual yard sale. The yard sale becomes a strength to us as it brings us together to work for the good of the church, as it extends a welcoming hand to neighbors in the community, as it contributes to our church finances, as it reaches out to help those in need. It's harder to see the traditions that are pulling us down, holding us back. Is it the way we see ourselves? Is it a style of worship or music? Is how we relate to others in our community (or fail to)? Is it memories of past failures? Is it lack of knowledge about who we are, lack of vision about who we might become? Let us pray for the wisdom to let go of traditions that are sagging and threatening us with collapse. Let us praise God for traditions such as the yard sale that build us up as the body of Christ. May God guide us in addition new traditions that will increase our strength and our faithful witness to Jesus Christ.

Shalom,
Carol

**IT'S HERE!!!!
THE ANNUAL CHURCH**



**August 8-9, 9-5:00pm
August 10, Noon-5:00pm**

**Tell your friends and neighbors.
It's the best deal in town.**

(See page 2 for details)



**MARKET PLACE 29 AD:
THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**August 18-22, 2003
9:00 am to 12:00.
Orting United Methodist Church**

(See page 2 for more details)



SUMMER CONCERT SERIES Cheryl Dyson

Thanks to all who have supported our summer concert series. We have had a wonderful time. More than 80 came to the June concert and we raised \$350 toward choir robes. By the time you receive this newsletter we will have had the second concert. The third one will be Sunday, August 24, 6:00 pm. Put it on your calendar now and plan to join us for an entertaining and enjoyable evening.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Preparations are progressing well for MARKET PLACE 29 AD: THE LORD'S PRAYER, our VBS which will be August 18-22, 9:00 am to 12:00. Bonney Lake: Foothills UMC will again be joining us as will the Latino group from Sumner. This year we will be erecting a Tabernacle and decorating an Ark of the Covenant as we talk about the Ten Commandments. The story teller, Howard Pitts, will help children learn the Lord's Prayer as they sit in the Tabernacle and feel the sense of history, worship and prayer come together. We will sing songs and dance around the well. At the Market Place a variety of crafts reminiscent of the times of Jesus will be available. Many helpers are needed to make the week a success and we already have most of the positions covered. We still need a tax collector, a few craft workers, a preschool helper, and help with registration on Monday. We need two more tents and one awning. If you have questions or would like to help, talk to Stacey Straughn (360-897-1118) or Pastor Carol (360-893-2740).

SCHOOL SUPPLY DRIVE

Remember the Orting School Supply Drive. A collection box will be available soon in our sanctuary for your donations to help children in Orting be prepared for a successful year. Items needed will be listed on the side of the collection box. Watch the sales so you can pick up things at a good price.

YARD SALE

By Mardell Bauman

This will be another huge sale! Many thanks to all of you who donated items, and to all of the women who have worked many, many hours in the sorting and pricing room. It takes a lot of willing hands to make this a success. We will be setting up in the yard on Thursday, August 7th. Please come help if only for a while, to set up tables and move things out of the Sunday School building. Please plan to help on sale days if you can. There will be a sign up sheet. Thanking all of you for your hard work.

HOBBY SHOW

By John Downs

We are tentatively planning a hobby show put on by you for the afternoon or evening of September 14. Are you interested? Do you have a hobby you would like to display for folks at the church to see? Let John Downs know what you think of this idea and if you would like to participate.

CHURCH
What's missing?
UR (you are)



VISIT OUR CHURCH WEBSITE at www.gb-gm-umc.org/ortingumc. We are now posting the newsletter on the website.

A Special Thanks to...

- ◆ Roger Downing for the addition to the back deck.
- ◆ Arnie Olson for lawn care.
- ◆ Those who have been working with Dick Seiber on our stained glass window: George Bauman, Arnie Olson and Frank Shride.
- ◆ Church cleaners: Roger Downing, Vernon and Mary Lou Lewis, Phil Fabel, and George and Mardell Bauman.
- ◆ Worship leaders: Denise Mabry, Keith Dyson, Joe Langowski, Roger Downing, and Leigh Starr.
- ◆ Rosalie Gronka, Muriel Doolittle, Mardell Bauman and Emma Ford for beautiful flowers on the alter.
- ◆ Those who provided special music in June and July: Cheryl Dyson, Judy White, Keith Dyson, Roger Downing, Judy White, Pastor Carol, Leigh and Sharon Starr.
- ◆ Coffee house volunteers: Roger Downing, George and Mardell Bauman, John Downs, Patti Chouery and Pastor Carol.
- ◆ Roger Downing and John Downs for putting together the new foosball table for the Coffee House.
- ◆ Stacey Straughn for work as office volunteer.
- ◆ Cheryl Dyson and the choir for beautiful summer musical concerts.

Please Pray for...

- ◆ Pat McMullen is still struggling with her brain tumor and requests your prayers.
- ◆ Sulmo Mariano in the death of his mother and brother in Argentina in June.
- ◆ Baby Rhiannon Scott is holding her own. It looks like she will have open heart surgery this fall.
- ◆ Shyanne Phillips has been amazingly resilient. She is now at Children's Hospital in Seattle undergoing a stem cell transplant.
- ◆ Roger Downing is at Claremont Theological Seminary taking the course of study for licensing as a local pastor. In June he was approved by the District Committee on Ministry as a candidate for ministry. He thanks you for your donations toward seminary expenses and asks for your prayers.
- ◆ Remember to pray for Benita Tshala, the orphan from the Congo whom we have adopted this year.
- ◆ Please pray for God's wisdom and guidance as Noelle and Randy continue the adoption process for a second child.
- ◆ We also ask your prayers for those who are grieving at this time.
- ◆ For our shut-ins: Ernie Thompson, Louise Hause, Hazelle Woods, and Dorothy Bosshart.

Congratulations...

- ◆ Daris Poole and her son, Robert Poole, were baptized in our church on July 20th.



Carrying hope

Vaclav Havel served a total of 13 years as the leader of Czechoslovakia and then the Czech Republic. His hope and perseverance helped him endure the years before, while he and his country suffered under the oppression of Communism. Longing for his land to be free, he wrote books and encouraged others during that time of suffering.

When he became the elected leader of the freed Czech nation he wrote these words: "Hope is a feeling that life and work have meaning. ... I cannot imagine that I could strive for something if I did not carry hope in me. I am thankful to God for this gift. It is as big as life itself."

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Budget for year	\$ 62,244.00
Needed monthly (avg)	\$ 5,187.00
Receipts in June	\$ 5,261.00
Disbursements in June	\$ 4,885.00

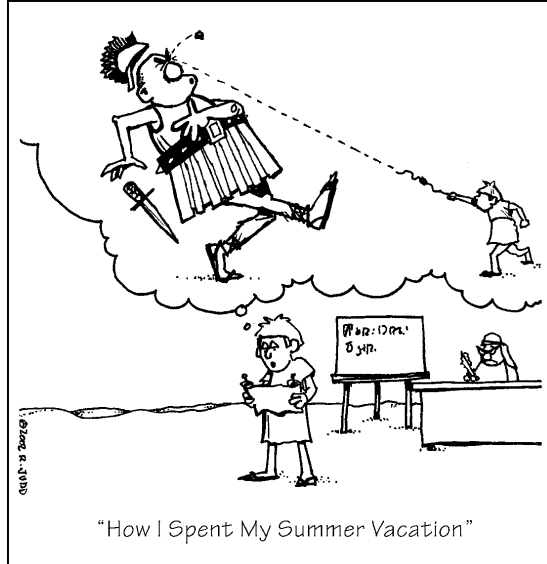
Total General Fund receipts
for the year as of 6/30/03 \$29,673.00



Celebrating Birthdays in August

- 1 Linda Nothstein
- 7 Donald Anderson
- 10 Bo Roberts
- 12 Pat Mc Mullen
- 13 Judy Cash
- 19 Roger Downing
- 20 Roy Gronka
- 25 Connor Oakes
- 30 Madeline Mauer





"How I Spent My Summer Vacation"

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