



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.

December 2004



Adoration of the Magi - Perugino

December 1, 6:00 P.M.—Advent Event # 1
December 8, 6:00 P.M.—Advent Event # 2

December 15—Advent Event # 3
December 22—Advent Event # 4



THANK YOU VERY MUCH

On December 14th, we collected the pledges for the year 2005. We are not a big church in numbers, but an enormous church in Heart. Almost 100% of all who attend church regularly have committed to pledging. This is helpful to us who have to plan the budget for the year. God has blessed us. We give thanks.

Shirley Olson, Financial Chairman

ADOPT A FAMILY

Our church will be adopting two families for Christmas this year. If you would like to help, pick up a tag from the small white tree in the fellowship hall. Purchase the item listed on the tag and return the wrapped gift along with the tag to the church before December 19.

**Lord
our God,
the heavens are
the work of your hands,
the moon and the stars you
made;
the earth and the sea, and every
living creature came into being
by your word. And all of us, too.
May this tree bring cheer to this house
though Jesus Christ your good and holy Son
who
brings life
and beauty to us
and to our world.
Lighting this tree, we hope in his promise.**

I would like to thank everyone for their prayers, phone calls, cards, visits and flowers following my total knee replacement surgery..

Sincerely,

Mary Lou Lewis

A Special Thanks To:

- ❖ Arnie Olson, Brian Kolar, George and Mardell Bauman, Pastor Carol for yard work, moving shrubs and planting heather
- ❖ Phil Fabel, Roger Downing, George and Mardell Bauman, John Downs, Vern and Mary Lou Lewis for cleaning the church in November
- ❖ Roger and Janet Downing and Janet Bjork for preparing the missions dinner. We raised \$200 for missions
- ❖ John Downs, Roger Downing, George and Mardell Bauman, Patricia Chouery, Brian Wells and Pastor Carol for working at the Youth Coffee House
- ❖ Janet Bjork and Stacey Straughn for working on the Thanksgiving baskets
- ❖ Cheryl Dyson for directing the combined choir of Orting, Foothills, Sumner and Puyallup United Methodist Churches on Thanksgiving Eve. We had 69 people at the service and it was a great celebration! Janet Leonard from Puyallup UMC directed the combined handbell choir. Keith Dyson helped with the video presentation. Nancy Lillie and Ruth and Frank Shride prepared the reception following the service.

Please Pray for—

- ❖ Mary Jo Walker is doing better after some recent medication changes. She was featured in a film about Hospice.
- ❖ Lynn Johnson, lung cancer
- ❖ Jo Perzel, lung cancer
- ❖ Mike Perzel was taken in for an emergency blood transfusion just before Thanksgiving because of heart problems, but he is doing fine now.
- ❖ Jean Webster, congestive heart failure
- ❖ LeRoy Bush, Parkinson's Disease and other complications
- ❖ Shut-ins: Louise Hause and Dorothy Bosshart
- ❖ Our nation and its leaders
- ❖ Our men and women in military service

IN MEMORIAM

Hazelle Woods
Jean Harrison
Nancy Hamilton

Please pray for their families.

Celebrating Birthdays in December

- 18 Kim Kalina
- 29 Vonnie Ford
- 30 Janet Langowski



Celebrating Birthdays in January

- 2 Carol Mariano, Hazelle Wood
- 5 Linda Overman, Mardell Bauman
- 15 Kaelin Zirkle
- 19 Shirley Olson, John Downs
- 23 Marilyn Johnson, Mary Lou Lewis
- 28 Rena Shawver

MONIQUE BARTEAUX HONORED

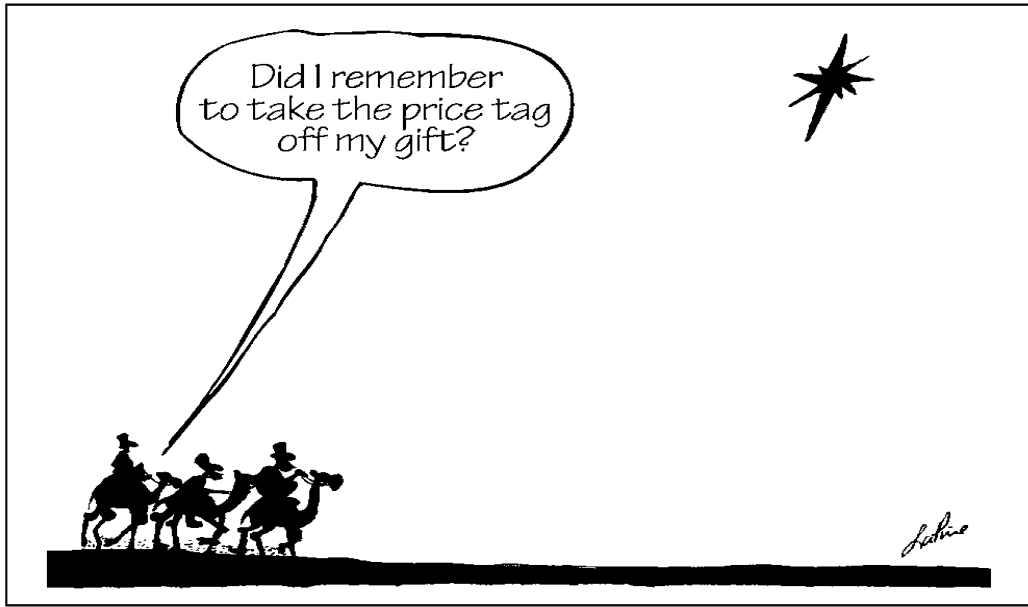
Rosalie Gronka's granddaughter, Monique Barteaux, was recently granted the Youth Activist of the Year Award for outstanding work contributing to Mothers Against Drunk Driving's mission to help save lives, prevent injuries and serve victims in the state of Alaska.



- December 5* *2nd Sunday of Advent*
Psalm 72: 1-7, 18-19; Isaiah 11: 1-10;
Romans 15: 4-13; Matthew 3: 1-12
- December 12* *3rd Sunday of Advent*
Luke 1: 47-55; Isaiah 35: 1-10;
James 5: 7-10; Matthew 11: 2-11
- December 19* *4th Sunday of Advent*
Psalm 80: 1-7; Isaiah 7: 10-16;
Romans 1: 1-7; Matthew 1: 18-25
- December 26* *1st Sunday after Christmas*
Psalm 148(UMH 861); Isaiah 63: 7-9;
Hebrews 2: 10-18; Matthew 2: 13-23

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Budget for year	\$70,784
Needed monthly (average)	5,899
Receipts for Oct	5,247
Disbursements in Oct	4,587
Savings deficit for year	1,500



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MISSIONS

By Roger Downing

This year we didn't do any missions outside the country, but we continued to support Benita Tshala at Jamaa Letu, the orphanage the North West Conference built in Lubumbashi Congo, Africa. We have not been able to establish contact with our sister church in Jaramillo Mexico this year, the pastor that had been appointed there was moved to another church and we don't really know what is going on there at this time. We still support the food bank in Orting, and the school supply drive for Orting schools, and sing Christmas Carols at several retiree homes each year. The church staffs the Youth Coffee House, which is an independent organization, started by Pastor Carol, and other members of the City of Orting. It continues to be a great source of evangelism for the Church, through the contact we have with the kids and parents from the Orting area.

Another great mission and out reach for the church is our vacation bible school. We draw fifty children from the neighborhood each year, which is our best opportunity for evangelism that we have at this time. There is a great amount of hard work put into this bible school, and the people who participate are to be commended. We are currently in the process of setting up a mission to the Blackfeet Reservation in North West Montana. While in COS at Claremont School of Theology, I met the missionaries Jodie and Sue Ellen Campbell, who had just been appointed for a twenty year stint as pastor of three churches on the reservation. We are at this time waiting for information from there so we can start planning for this mission. We expect it to encompass some building work projects and bible school. This will be a great opportunity for many of the congregation to participate, which otherwise could not, because of having to travel out of the country

The Orting Church, in spite of its financial struggles, still finds the strength and the means to support and carryout badly needed missions, when and where they are most needed. This is a great church, a great congregation, and I can't think of any place I would rather be.



EVERYTHING YOU WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT A CONNECTIONAL MINISTER

(Reprinted from Summer UMC newsletter--thank you Rev. Anne Hayes)

Since many of you did not grow up as United Methodists, or you just never knew, or have forgotten, I would like to share with you some of the details of what it means to be an Ordained United Methodist Elder. First, we are ordained "Elders" or "Deacons." UM Elders are what most people think of when they think of pastors or ministers of reverends. UM Elders are appointed to local UM churches by the area Bishop through the cooperative action of the District Superintendent and the local Pastor Parish Relations Committee. Once an Elder is appointed to a local church, the local church through the cooperative action of the Elder and the PPR Committee determines the duties and priorities of the Elder and the compensation. The "cooperative" emphasis is very important to assure that the local church (that is, **each of you individually, and each of you as a body--YOU!**) can indeed act as the body of Christ. Our people are our church, and everyone and everyone's dedication is vital to our existence.

All full-time pastors are guaranteed:

- * A minimum compensation package set by the conference (this is what Pastor Carol receives. The minimum for next year is \$31,538 whereas the 2005 denomination average compensation is \$50,931.)
- * An Account Reimbursable plan that should cover the Elder's reasonable expenses;
- * Four weeks of paid vacation;
- * One week of continuing education time;
- * Adequate housing or a housing allowance;
- * A pension plan, comprehensive protection plan (disability), and adequate health insurance.

In addition, Elders are **strongly encouraged** to participate in missions, camping ministries, and conference committees.

