



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.

September 2003

The Continuing Story of Love

One of the craft projects in Vacation Bible School this year was making a balance scale to remind us of how weights and measures were done in the times of Jesus. The balance scale was made with two small condiment cups tied with string to a stick. Another string tied in the center of the stick was for holding the scale. The side strings had to be the same length and tied in the same places on the stick to make it come into balance. This made me think about how easy it is for our lives to get out of balance.

If we get out of balance physically, our inner ear lets us know immediately and we instinctively reach out to grab something to steady ourselves or we sit down. I remember as a child twirling around to get dizzy, intentionally upsetting my sense of balance and laughing at the strange feeling as I collapsed on the sofa.

What lets us know when we are out of balance spiritually? Is it the fullness of our calendar? A yearning for God? An out-of-touch-ness with our devotional life? An inner weariness? Do we reach out to touch the steadying influence of our church and our Lord? Do we sit quietly in the presence of God to regain stability?

To live a balanced life requires a firm desire to live day by day the life God wants of us, which will bring tranquility in the midst of a most un-tranquil world. It means developing the rhythms and routines that feed our souls. That is different for every person but usually includes times of daily reflection on what is going on in our life, listening to our heart's needs, spending time in nurturing family relationships and friendships, reading scripture, participating in a worshiping community, exercising, maintaining a healthy diet, and prayer.

I would like to challenge you to make spiritual balance your priority as we begin this fall season, one more step in the CONTINUING STORY OF LOVE.

Shalom,
Pastor Carol



Check Your
Calendar

OPEN HOUSE AND HOBBY SHOW SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 14, 2003

Invite your friends and neighbors to our Open House in Worship on September 14. We will have a worship service especially designed to welcome newcomers and help them feel at home in our church. In the evening there will be a hobby show put on by members of our congregation who have hobbies they would like to display in our fellowship hall. If you would like table space, contact John Downs or Pastor Carol. The hobby show will begin at 6:00 pm. Finger foods will be provided. At 6:30 we will gather in the sanctuary for a slide show put on by Frank Shride featuring orchids and animals from South Africa. Frank is an orchid aficionado-- that means orchids are his hobby. He has even developed a new variety and has been in shows around the world. This will be a real treat, so be sure to put it on your calendar now.



Lead a life
worthy of the Calling ...
making every effort
to maintain the unity
of the Spirit in
the bond of peace.
Ephesians 4:1-3



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

We had another wonderful Vacation Bible School this year. "I'm coming back next year!" was a comment heard over and over coming from the mouths of happy children and youth. There were 46 children and youth involved and 25 adult leaders. Stacey Straughn did a beautiful job putting together the program for the preschoolers with the help of Sharon Starr and her niece Stephanie Bergen. Lisa Nunn from Bonney Lake: Foothills UMC did an outstanding job of helping the youth prepare drama presentations for the younger children.

Family leaders were Mardell Bauman, Cheryl Dyson, Pastor Michael Smith (Foothills UMC) and Ilene Hebble (Foothills UMC). Howard Pitts, storyteller for the children in grades 1-6, helped them learn the Lord' Prayer. Neta Stebbins, Pastor Carol's mother, was the storyteller for the preschool. Additional crafts people were George Bauman, Muriel Doolittle, Claudia Purcell (Foothills UMC), Gene Miller (Sts. Cosmas and Damian Catholic Church in Orting), Roger Downing, Shirley Olson, and Pastor Carol. Monica Gaub was the animal tender, Phil Fabel played the blind beggar, Keith Dyson played Jesus, Roger Downing was the tax collector, and Brian Wells was the Roman Soldier.

The food was purchased, prepared and served by Mary Lou and Vernon Lewis with help from Rosalie Gronka, Shirley Olson and Roger Downing. Special thanks should go to Roger Downing for building the Tabernacle and Ark of the Covenant; to Shirley Olson, Muriel Doolittle and Mardell Bauman for sewing together the sheets for the Tabernacle; to Sulmo Mariano for designing and making the kits for the wooden boxes so the children each could put together their own small Ark of the Covenant; to Ilene Hebble and her husband for making small, wire strung harps for each child; to Arnie Olson for yeoman's duty on the coins. Shirley Olson did a great job of making costumes for the adults and Muriel and Shirley both spent many hours preparing the costumes for the children.

Thanks also to those who loaned tents and awnings, contributed items for crafts, and helped with set-up and take down.

At the Friday night barbecue and program we had 99 people. It was a great celebration and a fitting tribute to a wonderful week! THANK YOU, THANK YOU THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to its success.



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

COLOSSAL YARD SALE

By Mardell Bauman

All the preparations, the many willing hands that put prices on thousands of items, the beehive of activity as hundreds of boxes were hand carried from the Education building to the church yard and then displayed on 20 tables for the shoppers on sale day, is over for another year. That was teamwork!

The weather was moderate during the day so the heat did not keep bargain hunters away. Oh, yes it rained a couple of nights, but everything was safe under cover of plastic, even the big stuff around the yard stayed dry.

Our church has the distinction of having the best and the biggest yard sale for miles around. That could not happen without each person who donated and/or bought items or helped in any way to make this endeavor successful. That includes packing everything up and dispersing items after the sale was over.

Please know that all your hard work was greatly appreciated, and because of it our church has \$3129.30 to help spread the love of God in our church, our community and into the far corners of the world.

Thank you, each and every one for a job well done!

MISSION CORNER

It's almost September, the yard sale is over, Bible school is history for another year, and both were a great success, thanks to all the wonderful help that we get from this congregation at Orting United Methodist Church. It's time once again to turn our attention to the mission fund- raisers. We are planning mission lunches on Sept 21 and Oct 19. The mission lunch on Sept 21 will be a BQ picnic style, with hamburger, hotdogs, and side dishes. This church has been great to support the missions that we have done in the past years and I hope that you will continue to do so in the future. Many good things have been done with the money that has been raised through these lunches, and I know that the people that receive this help truly appreciate your generosity. Pastor Derel Olson recently visited our Sister Church in Jaramillo and reports that the Day Care Center is going well. There will be no lunches in Nov and Dec, but we will continue them starting in Jan 2004. Thanks again for your support and God bless.

Your Servant in Christ, Roger

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

By Bette Scott

Summer is nearly over and it is time to re-group. We meet Wednesday, Sept. 3 at 10:00 o'clock at the church. Bring a sack lunch and some new ideas for projects.

A Special Thanks to...

- ◆ Church cleaners in August: Vernon and Mary Lou Lewis, Roger Downing, George and Mardell Bauman, Phil Fabel.
- ◆ Worship leaders in August: Denise Mabry and Roger Downing and to Roger Downing for preaching August 31.
- ◆ For special music in worship: Shirley Olson and Denise Mabry, Roger Downing, Leigh Starr, Cheryl Dyson and Pastor Carol.
- ◆ Cheryl Dyson and the Praise Music Team for an uplifting choir concert August 24. There were 53 people at the concert and we raised an additional \$300 for the choir fund, bringing our balance to well over \$900.
- ◆ Those who donated money and supplies for the Orting School Supply Drive.

Please Pray for...

- ◆ Les Spangler has just been diagnosed with lung cancer.
- ◆ Mary Jo Walker has completed radiation treatments for lung cancer.
- ◆ Rhiannon Scott's heart defect is not improving. Open-heart surgery will most likely be done in late September or October.
- ◆ Shyanne Phillips came through the stem cell transplant very well. After a month of recuperating, she will begin radiation treatments. Thank you to all who contributed to a special offering for Shyanne. We delivered a check for \$500 to Ellen and Dave on August 11 and it was greatly appreciated.
- ◆ Marilyn Johnson is suffering with COPD lung disease.
- ◆ Roy Gronka is struggling with degenerative arthritis.
- ◆ Noelle and Randy Mauer are prospective adoptive parents of twins due in October.
- ◆ Remember to pray for Benita Tshala, our adopted orphan in the Congo.
- ◆ For our shut-ins: Ernie Thompson, Louise Hause, Hazelle Woods, and Dorothy Bosshart.

In Memoriam..

- ◆ Rochelle Zirkle passed away August 5.
- ◆ Patricia McMullen passed away August 25.



Please remember the Zirkle family and the McMullen family in your prayers.

Congratulations...

- ◆ Mary Lou Geels celebrated her 80th birthday with a party in our fellowship hall on September 7.

Celebrating Birthdays in September

- 7 Mary Lou Geels
- 10 Emma Ford
- 12 Theresa Downs
- 16 Vino Dewan
- 17 Howard Pitts
- 28 Keith Dyson



A LETTER OF RECOGNITION AND THANKS RECEIVED AUGUST 16

Pastor Carol Mariano,

The enclosed offering (\$500) is in appreciation to George Bauman. George is a proctor for the Certified Public Accountant exam held at the Puyallup Fairgrounds semi-annually. While taking the exam in May 2003, George made me feel comfortable in a very intimidating atmosphere. I was able to overcome test anxieties and concentrate specifically on the exam. I believe that George's kindness was a large part in my success in passing the CPA exam. The Orting UMC is very lucky to have George Bauman as part of their congregation.

Sincerely /s/ Roger K. Gray.

FINANCIAL UPDATE

Budget for year	\$ 62,244.00
Needed monthly (avg)	\$ 5,187.00
Receipts in July	\$ 3,880.00
Disbursements in July	\$ 4,689.00
Transfer from Savings	\$ 500.00
Total General Fund receipts for the year as of 7/31/03	\$33,593.00



September Lectionary

September 7	Psalm 125 or 124 Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23 James 2:1-10 (11-13), 14-17 Mark 7:24-37
September 14	Psalm 19 Proverbs 1:20-33 James 3:1-12 Mark 8:27-38
September 21	Psalm 1 Proverbs 31:10-31 James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a Mark 9:30-37
September 28	Psalm 124 Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22 James 5:13-20 Mark 9:38-50



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A prayer in remembrance of 9/11/01

God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come, our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!

We bring before you our sad memories of our fellow citizens who lost their lives during the tragedy of September 11, 2001. We are yet pained when we consider lives ended by the heartlessness of those who believed they were achieving good, when unspeakable evil was the end result.

Our hearts still cry when we recall the countless families who lost loved ones. Blessed Lord, please grant them an extra portion of your grace and comfort so they may find solace in their sorrow, alleviation in their distress, and light in their darkness.

Enable us as citizens of our homeland to rededicate ourselves to supporting one another in concern and love. Stir us awake that we may offer help for the helpless, assurance for those who are losing hope, consolation for those who mourn and fair play for those who suffer injustice.

Prevent us, O Lord, from calling America "one nation under God," and then do little to make it so.

Thank you, blessed Creator, for hearing our prayers, for without that assurance, we would be hopeless indeed.

Through Christ our Lord. Amen



We work on gaining this all our lives. It's especially important when we're in school! Use a Bible (NIV) to look up the verses listed below. Find a word in each verse that fits in the boxes. The heavy boxes spell the answer.

1 Corinthians 8:1		N				
Philippians 1:9					H	
2 Peter 1:5						S
		A			2 Timothy 3:7	
Matthew 24:32				S		
John 7:15			R			
				I		Isaiah 33:6
2 Peter 3:18					E	
		W				Proverbs 24:5

"By wisdom a house is built, ... through _____ its rooms are filled with rare and beautiful treasures."

Answer: know, insight, goodness, always, learning, foundation, grace, powers; knowledge