



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 2007

Public school begins in Orting on September 4. It is an exciting time when families come home from their summer activities and prepare for another year of school. We of the United Methodist Church care about public schools. We believe they are the backbone of a democratic society. For that reason we are setting aside Sunday, September 9, as a special day of blessing of children, teachers and administrators of our public schools.

We know that prayer doesn't have to be a part of the program of the public schools if prayer is carried in the heart of those who go there. We have a great and wonderful God! We have a savior, Jesus Christ, who walks with us and holds us by the hand through all of life's good times and hard times. He is the one we can lean on when we need a special friend and an understanding heart. Thom Shuman states it well in his poem, "Leaning."

Leaning . . .

i am only a little boy:
my first day at school
starts tomorrow;
i'll be brave for my Mom,
and not let her see me cry.
but, can i lean on you?

i am only a young girl:
i'll get back on the bus
this week wondering
if the boy who teased me last year
will be in his old seat;
if that group of girls
who giggled behind my back

will still be knotted together.
so, can i lean on you?

i am only a teacher,
not a super hero:
i have good days
and rotten mornings;
i have tears
shimmering in my eyes
behind the happy face
i wear every day.
can i lean on you?

i am only a hypocrite
putting on my clay feet every day,
striding forth into the world
bent over by my skeptic spirit,
hoping that today,
i might be bowled over
by faith.
till then, can i lean on you?

We want you to get off to a good start and to have the best possible year in school. Whether you are a kindergartner, graduate student, parent, teacher, administrator or crossing guard, if you are part of the educating of children, youth or adults, come to Orting United Methodist Church on September 9, at 11:00 am, and receive a "Back to School Blessing." Children may bring their school back packs to be blessed.

Continuing Story of Love.

Shalom.

Pastor Carol

THANK YOU

- To all who helped in any way with Vacation Bible School--we had a great week (see article elsewhere).
- Arnie Olson for lawn care and Dave Lillie, Janet Bjork and Karen Moroney for yard work.
- George Bauman for fixing the steps behind the Christian Education Building.
- Janet Bjork for kitchen cleaning.
- Karen Moroney for cleaning Pastor Carol's office.
- Rosalie Gronka for supplemental church cleaning and for providing and arranging flowers on the altar.
- To worship leaders in August: Denise Mabry, Mike Bettis, Shirley Olson and Nancy Lillie.
- Greta Gleydura for purchasing a new table cloth for the round table in the fellowship hall.
- Newsletter mailing: Lila Lee, Liz Larkins, Rosalie Gronka and newsletter editor Sharon Starr.
- Praise music--Nancy Lillie.
- To Muriel Doolittle for providing bread and juice for Communion and setting it up.

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FINANCIAL UPDATE

Budget for 2007	\$74,958
Needed monthly (av)	\$ 6,247
Income in July	\$ 8,530
Disbursements in July	\$ 7,020

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PRAYERS

- Harlan and Ethel Ford, moving into assisted living in Stafford Suites in Sumner.
- Bob and Jeanne Wolford are moving into senior housing in Tacoma. We will miss them and pray God will help them in this transition.
- Harrison Ford has had a return of his cancer.
- Randy Larson is facing a procedure to put stents in two clogged arteries in his heart.
- Helen Larson had a blackout spell lasting nearly half an hour. They changed her medications and she seems to be fine now.
- Jean Webster is at home, but is needing live-in care. Please keep both Jean and Howard in your prayers.
- Jason Chase in Iraq.
- Continue to pray for shut-ins: Dorothy Bosshart, Mary Lou Geels, Anne Spangler, Margaret Eilers, Rosemary Todd, Harlan and Ethel Ford, Harrison and Vonnie Ford.

CONFIRMATION CLASSES TO BEGIN

Confirmation will begin September 29 and thereafter will be on the second Saturday of each month, 9:00 am to 1:00 pm. The culmination will be a Confirmation Worship Service led by Bishop Paup on May 18, 2008 at Puyallup UMC. Please contact Pastor Carol if you know of a youth interested in attending confirmation classes in preparation for joining the United Methodist Church.

DO YOU LIKE TO SING?

DO YOU LIKE TO TRAVEL?

HOW ABOUT JOINING THE JUBILATE CHOIR TOUR TO THE PHILIPPINES!!!

The tour will be August 11-25, 2008 (with pre-departure rehearsal Aug 7-10). It will be hosted by David Valera from our Pacific Northwest United Methodist Conference office. His parents, Andring and Carling Valera, still live in the Philippines, at Baguio, and have invited Jubilate to bring a choir to sing there. Erin Walker, talented director and voice coach, will be the choir director. Some non-singers will also be accepted. For more information e-mail Diane Walker, registrar, dbwalker@uidaho.edu or visit the Jubilate web site www.gbgm-umc.org/jubilate!/

OH! MY! OH! MY!

OUR CHURCH IS LOOKING VERY SHABBY!

Paint is peeling, shakes are bare, color is fading and who will climb "way up there on the peaks and steeple" to paint all those dangerous places.

We have received 5 bids to have it done professionally and they have quoted a bid from \$14,000 to \$18,000. We must remember a special hoist has to be used to reach the steeple and the peaks. The Liability of having a volunteer do it is too risky.

We will be discussing this problem at our next Administrative Board meeting on Thursday, September 13th. This would be a wonderful time for all of you to come and help us make this expensive and important time. The meeting will start at 7:00 pm. Hope to see many of you there.

Shirley Olson

CARD FROM MONTANA

Dear Friends, You are in our thoughts and prayers. Hope all is well with you all and that you are enjoying the summer. We hope to see you all again sometime. We are staying busy. Blessings, Pastor Jody and Suellyn Campbell.

CONGRATULATIONS

Randy and Helen Larson celebrated their 65th wedding anniversary August 15. Doug and Bette Scott celebrated their 60th anniversary August 12.

YARD SALE -- ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Although the final count is not in, it looks like we made more than \$2500 at the August yard sale.

A huge thank you goes to Shirley Olson for being in charge this year--and to all of the wonderful helpers: Rosalie Gronka, Eloise Schinnell, Jane Miller, Catherine Sorensen, Cheryl Holmes, Muriel Doolittle, Janet Bjork, Nancy Lillie, Carol Mariano, Stacey Straughn, George Bauman, Arnie Olson, John Downs, Dave Lillie, Neil and Jeri Schweitzer. It was wonderful the way you all pitched in to help when needed. Set up and take down went smoothly. We had great weather! Bless you all!

NOTE OF THANKS

To Orting Congregation: Thanks so much for the check. We can really use it with our move to LaCrosse in eastern Washington. It is much appreciated. God bless you, Janet and Roger Downing.

THANK YOU FOR A WONDERFUL WEEK AT VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

On August 19, after a very full week of Vacation Bible School, Pastor Carol's sermon was on the scripture of Hebrews 11 that focuses on the meaning of faith. Here is an excerpt from the sermon.

By faith...OUMC sponsored Vacation Bible School despite the fact that we only have 5 or 6 kids in our Sunday School and our faith was rewarded with 30 children coming to participate in the events of the week.

By faith...the Education committee got together and made plans and had work day to prepare crafts and ordered and purchased materials, helped by Nancy Lillie, Stacey Straughn, George Bauman, Cheryl Riehl, Lila Lee. And wooden stool kits were made by Tom Thompson of Summit UMC and by Ron Pearson of Puyallup. And Larea Greer got Weyerhouser to donate 100 tiny fir trees for the children to plant.

By faith...Summit UMC decided to join with us, contributing their skills and talents and hard work and bringing a few of their children to participate.

By faith...many people stayed last Sunday to help set up tents and awnings, tables and the Tabernacle—George Bauman, Dave and Nancy Lillie, Stacey and Jeff Straughn, Mark and Greta Gleydura, Ken Gould, Don Ward and Judy Skog (from Summit), Janet Bjork, William and Joey Knowles, Sulmo Mariano.

By faith...Nancy Lillie, Cheryl Dyson and Stacey Straughn became family leaders, taking on the responsibility of teaching and supervising the children. And La Roy King worked with the youth in presenting dramas for the younger children each day. And Judy Skog, Larea Greer, Karen Saxon and

Estella Wallace developed a preschool program.

By faith...Ruby Midgette worked on music and dancing, so she could lead singing and play her guitar and teach the children Israeli dancing.

By faith...Neta Stebbins came to Orting, giving up the comfort of her home in Fern Prairie, Washington, to be the storyteller and help the children learn about the meaning of the Lord's Prayer. And by faith she helped them make bread and butter in the Market Place.

By faith...Dave Lillie played the tax collector; George Bauman, the Roman soldier; Brian Wells, the blind beggar; Keith Dyson, Jesus.

By faith Ken Gould played the part of a rabbi and helped the children write the Ten Commandments on clay tablets.

By faith...Janet Bjork planned, purchased, prepared and served the daily snacks, with the help of Rosalie Gronka. And Janet and Stacey and George put together the

Friday evening barbecue and 50-60 people came to the dinner and program.

By faith...parents brought their children each morning to Orting UMC and watched them don their costumes and gather around the well to learn about the life and times of Jesus Christ in 29 AD.

What a list of heroes of faith!

Now faith is the assurance of things hoped for.

What we hope for is that children's lives will be forever changed because of their experiences here at VBS.

We hope that the memories of this week will stick with them and influence their lives and maybe even the lives of their families.

We hope that they felt the love of Christ coming to them through the things we said and did here. Praise God for your faithfulness!



You Are Invited!



The United Methodist Women of Orting
request the pleasure of your
company to celebrate
"A Taste of Methodism"
Dinner and Entertainment
on
Sunday, September 16th, 2007
Shortly after Sunday Service
Bring your favorite side-dish or desert
The Entree - Coffee - Punch - and
Service will be provided.
There will be lite-entertainment and
surprises!
RSVP: Janet Bjork and Shirley Olson
Janet Bjork 360-893-2226 -- Shirley Olson
253-875-4248

Fall Schedule



Choir practice begins Wed.
Sept. 5 at 7:00 pm. Cheryl
Dyson invites all who want to
sing with the choir to come. You are
welcome.



The first day of **Sunday School**
is Sept. 9th. Sunday School is
held during the church
service, with the children
leaving right after the Children's Time at
approximately 11:15 am.



Invite your friends and
neighbors to our **Open
House**, September 16.
Following worship there
will be food--**A Bite of Methodism**--
provided by the great cooks of our
church (that may mean you!) and
entertainment.

Orting United Methodist Church
Pastor Carol Mariano
P.O. Box 537
109 Train St. S.E.
Orting, WA 98360
(360) 893-2740

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