



Orting United Methodist Church

The Messenger



A neighborhood church in the heart of the community

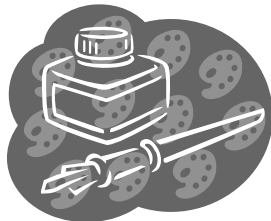
Our Mission is to serve God, the Church, and the Community by raising the Christian awareness of every individual by caring and sharing God's Love.

September 2008

When our daughter Sonia was in Siena, Italy, as an exchange student a few years ago, she took an art class on "Illuminations of Scripture." The next time she came home she brought us a beautiful illumination she had made, copying one from the Middle Ages. An illumination is a hand drawn and painted decoration relating to the scripture on the page it is done on. Illuminations were a common addition to the handwritten copies of the Bible made by monks in

monasteries.

Recently a religious calligrapher, Donald Jackson, undertook the project of creating a modern day rendition of a



handwritten and illuminated Bible, the first one done since the invention of the printing press 500 years ago. He and his team have completed a large section of the Bible and it is on exhibit at the Tacoma Art Museum until September 9. The display is "Illuminating the Word: The Saint John's Bible."

I went to see it last week and was taken in by the expressive beauty of the hand written scriptures and the lucid paintings adding depth and meaning to the words. As I walked through the exhibit, I kept hearing music coming in and out, sometimes floating and ethereal, sometimes strong and emotive, with different melodies blending into a great theater of sound. Then I saw

where it came from. One room was set up with 40 speaker systems.

Each of the speakers was playing a motet sung by a choir - and they were all playing at once. The sounds



wove together and drew me in. The few moments of silence where all the voices came to a rest at the same time were as powerful as the fullness of all the voices together.

This made me think of the church. Each of us has a individual voice and an individual path we follow as we seek God's way for us. We are all engaged at the same time in living our lives. They weave in and out, sometimes coming together in a unity that calls forth everything within us. Sometimes they criss-cross, each creating its own line of beauty, yet almost at odds with each other until they mesh again. Sometimes there is the great silence, in which we wait with bated breath for the director's hand to move us on. Through it all, behind it all, is the power of God's creative spirit, caring for every note, every step, every action, every breath of every thing in this great endeavor of life. This is how it is in the **Continuing Story of Love...**

Shalom.

Pastor Carol

A Special Thank You To:

- All who helped with the yard sale - see article below.
- All who helped with Vacation Bible School - see listing under VBS article.
- John Downs for removing the two big juniper shrubs at the parsonage.
- Cookie Guinn and Larry Guinn for yard work and spreading bark at the parsonage.
- Keith Dyson for replacing the bathroom faucet at the parsonage.
- Dave and Nancy Lillie for yard work and lawn care at the church.
- Worship leaders in August - Denise Mabry, Mike Bettis and Keith Dyson.
- Cheryl Dyson and Denise Mabry for filling in for Judy White as Organist/Accompanist.
- Newsletter crew for the August newsletter--Cheryl Riehl and Liz Larkins. Labels--Emma Ford. Editor--Sharon Starr.

Letters from Campers

Dear ??? (Anonymous donor),
Thank you for letting me go to Camp Indianola. The play was the New York production "God Spell Junior." Every day we practiced 5 hours a day. I got three solo parts. One of them was a soft shoe number. Of course my parts were John the Baptist and Jesus (note: there were 8 Jesus characters in all). I had the 3rd most lines and the 2nd most sobs. One day they brought out a Slip n Slide made of plastic and more plastic. They rolled it out about 70 feet long and added water for 20 minutes and finally you start sliding. We also made tie-dye shirts. Plus they made a podium so you can use a big swing which takes you 50 feet high.

Thank you for letting me go to camp.
Hunter Lillie

Dear Pastor Carol,

I had a lot of fun at camp. We trotted and galloped.

Thanks for helping me go to camp. My horse's name is k.c. and he's a male. And we even got a chance to swim in a 3 to 8 ft. pool.

I never got home sick.

We played arena games and the winners get a horseshow from our horses. I was one of the winners. Hailey Moody

More Letters

Dear Rev. Mariano,

Thank you for helping us during our recent trip to Orting. Our young friend, Paige Moore, is improving at a slow rate after suffering a serious stroke at 29 years of age. Please continue prayers for Paige and her family. Thank you all for your concern. Gates and Mary Whitaker

Pastor Carol and Congregation,

Thank you for caring about my family and taking the time to assist with the rebuilding of our home that was severely damaged in the December flood. Your generosity is graciously and humbly appreciated. God bless you!

Heather Loose

Thank you so much for working on my house. Thank you, Kendrick Loose (age 11).

Letter from a Coffee House Kid

Many thanks to the United Methodist Church. You're really great. And thanks Pastor Carol for being a great person!
Beverly Gonzales

Please Pray for:

- ☆ Jason Chase is home from Iraq for a year. Thank you for all your prayers for him while he was there.
- ☆ Thank you for your prayers for Neta Stebbins, Pastor Carol's mother. She is doing much better and was able to be here during Vacation Bible School.
- ☆ Please hold in prayer John Down's sister-in-law with terminal cancer.
- ☆ Margaret Eilers, recovering from an broken hip.
- ☆ Arnie Olson's brother Wayne has been diagnosed with Lou Gehrig's disease.
- ☆ Shirley Olson, struggling with internal bleeding.

\$

Financial Update

Operating Expenses

| | |
|-----------------------|----------|
| Budget for year | \$79,962 |
| Needed monthly (avg.) | \$ 6,664 |
| Received in July | \$ 4,832 |
| Disbursed in July | \$ 5,710 |

\$

Trustee Report

The Trustees have been hard at work this summer doing improvements and needed maintenance to the church and parsonage. We replaced the roof on the Education Building. Our next big project is painting the exterior of the parsonage. We will need help with scraping, caulking and priming during September. If you can help, contact John Downs to find out when.

Vacation Bible School

We had another wonderful Vacation Bible School: Market Place 29 AD this year, despite the rain. There were 29 children and youth involved. We learned about the disciples of Jesus and what it means for us to be modern disciples. Thank you to the following people who contributed their time and talent to make it come together.



Family leaders – Nancy Lillie, Cheryl Dyson, Jamie Roden.

Craft leaders – Mary Roden, Jan Fleming, Neta Stebbins, George Bauman, Stacey Straughn, Cheryl Riehl
Drama leader – Lisa Nunn

Song and dance leader – Pastor Carol
Storyteller – Neta Stebbins and Pastor Carol

Food preparation – Cookie Guinn, Rosalie Gronka, Stacey Straughn, George Bauman.

Games – Pastor Carol

Special events people – Keith Dyson, Dave Lillie, Jeffrey Straughn, Nate Delo.

Set up and tear down crew – George Bauman, Frank and Jan Fleming, Keith Dyson, Nancy and Dave Lillie, Cookie Guinn, Larry Guinn, Alicia and Jason Chase, Angie Tague, Markus Dennis, Dana and Gregg Rose, Stacey Jeffrey and Allan Straughn, John Downs, Pastor Carol.

Yard Sale – Wheeew!

Although' it rained a little bit, the sun finally came out and the sale was on!

It took many days and many helping hands, a lot of lifting and bending, cutting tape, losing pens and filling boxes to make our yard sale a success. Along with the work, we enjoyed each other, laughed together enjoying the wonderful treasures we found.

I want to thank everyone who contributed to our sale and especially want to thank all those wonderful women who helped to make it a success. A special “Thank you” to Jane Miller, Eloise Schinnell, Katherine Sorenson, Muriel Doolittle, Janet Bjork, Ruth Shride, Rosalie Gronka, and Greta Gleydura.

To date Yard sale that proceeds have reached \$2061. Total sales of were deposited into the general fund.

Working together with all those who helped set up tables, racks, and moving heavy items, and then taking it all down and repackaging the boxes, trips to Goodwill, and disposal of what could not be used showed the true spirit of our congregation and our love for each other as a Church Family. Thank you all again for a job

Shirley Olson

Espresso Drama Fall Production

You are invited to the fall production of Espresso Drama to be held September 6, 7:00 pm, at the multi-purpose center by the Library. No charge, donations accepted.

School Supply Drive

Thank you for your gifts to the school supply drive. The Communities In Schools workers were overwhelmed at your response. It looked like about \$350 worth of supplies.

Food Fight

The food bank was extremely grateful for your donations. You brought in 357 items.

Thanks to George Bauman for counting and Pastor Carol for delivering the items.



Pastor's Fund in Need of Donations

There have been several requests for help for families in need this summer and our Pastor's Fund is depleted. If you would like to contribute to this worthwhile cause, make a check to the church and mark it for the Pastor's Fund. Thank you for your generosity.

Fall Schedule to begin Sept. 7th

Worship time change back to 11:00 AM, with singing 15 minutes before the worship service begins.

- ☆ September 7 we will have a special Back to School Blessing in the service. Bring your school friends to receive a blessing for their school year.
- ☆ September 7 will be the first day of Sunday School for the children.
- ☆ September 14 will also be OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY. Invite your friends and neighbors. A welcoming meal and dulcimer music will be provided following worship.

Mission Report - Neighbor helping Neighbor

Things are moving ahead on Heather's house. The foundation has been partially poured and possibly by the time you receive this newsletter the house will be attached to the foundation.

We received a grant from UMCOR for \$1500 to go toward the foundation work. We have sent a check for \$1000 of that money to Heather. The other \$500 was put into the Neighbor Helping

Neighbor account to replenish part of the money spent on rental equipment for the old foundation removal.

We have received donations from several of the East Pierce County Circuit UMC's.

Jim Simpson and his wife attended the volunteer appreciation barbecue in Centralia on August 23 and had a great time there.

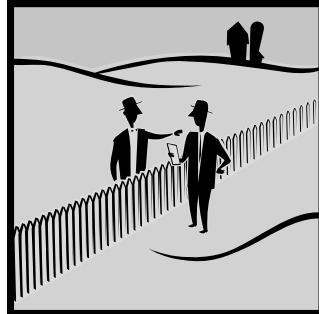
At this time we need a licensed electrician and a licensed plumber before we can set the next work day. Can anybody help us out with this?

Heather has sent us the following progress report:

Aug 15, 2008

Good Morning Pastor Carol,

I apologize for not giving you an update sooner but I really didn't have anything to report until now. The inspector approved the prep work for the foundation and footings on Wednesday and the foundation was finally poured into the molds yesterday afternoon. They are supposed to be removing the



supports today. I have a call into a potential framer to see how much it will cost to reattach the house to the foundation. Once the house is reattached, the other part of the foundation will need to go through the same process.

I am still in need of a licensed plumber and electrician that would be willing to work with volunteers or give deep discounts. I have contacted 3 plumbers for bids and just to "rough-in" the plumbing will be around \$6,800. I did meet with 1 electrician who said that he would be willing to have

volunteers run the wire and he would hook it up, but he has still not provided a bid after several weeks and is not returning phone calls.

I have been working with the architect on obtaining a break down on how much it will cost to complete the house with the bare necessities, and it's right around \$85,000 without padding any of the numbers. It appears that I will be about \$15,000 short.

My short term goal at this point is to get the house closed in before winter time which means putting the house back on the foundation, pouring the addition, framing it all up, running electricity, rough-in plumbing, sheathing, siding it, putting in windows, trusses, and a roof. Which is a lot to get done, in a short amount of time and I am just worried sick about it all.

Once it's all sealed in, we can work on insulating the walls, sheet rocking, and all the other finish work.

Thanks again for all your prayers and support,
Heather and Kendrick

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