



VOICE

The United Churches of Olympia

NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 74, ISSUE 9 • WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2009

THESE FEET WERE MADE FOR CROP WALKIN'

John Bowden, CROP Walk Coordinator



If you haven't signed up or sponsored someone who is walking, **there's still time.** This year's ten kilometer (6.2 mile) CROP Walk takes place on **Sunday, May 3.**

Julie Clark was the first person at TUCO to sign up for this year's Walk and to buy the new CROP Walk tee shirt. Julie likes being part of our compassionate church family and is happy to have the opportunity to help others. Julie hopes you will join her in this wonderful church and community event. She would also gladly have you sponsor her!

Thanks to Julie and many others at TUCO, the Thurston County CROP Walk is one of the biggest in the nation! Our goal this year is to raise \$60,000. Twenty-five percent of the funds raised are given to local food programs. The other seventy-five percent will help supply food and clean drinking water; clear land mines; and provide livestock, seed, and agricultural equipment to other parts of the world.

Registration and pre-walk activities begin at 12:30 between the State Capitol and the Temple of Justice. The walk is at 1:30, goes around Capitol Lake and returns along Capitol Avenue. Refreshments are provided at the halfway point and at the end of the walk. For more information contact **John Bowden** at jbow57@yahoo.com or 956-9888. To sponsor or get pledges on-line, visit www.cropwalkonline.org. Thank you!

NATIVE AMERICAN BOOKS LIBRARY DISPLAY

In conjunction with the PBS series, "We Shall Remain" (on Monday nights at 9 p.m.), both the Adult and Children's libraries feature displays of books on Native Americans. The series highlights five crucial periods in North American Indian history, seen largely through Native American eyes. Upcoming episodes include "Geronimo" (May 14); and "Wounded Knee" (May 21).

Please note: *The Children's Library has been temporarily relocated in Room 106.*

Worship Services

May 3

Fourth Sunday of Easter

8:15 & 11:00 A.M.

"Enfolded by Love"

TEXTS:

- Acts 8:26-40
- Psalm 22:25-31
- John 10:11-18

- ✦ Communion/Food Bank
- ✦ Prayers for Healing
- ✦ CROP Walk, 1:30

6:00 P.M.

Spirit Service
~ Labyrinth

May 10

Fifth Sunday of Easter

8:15 & 11:00 A.M.

"God As Our Loving Mom"

TEXTS:

- Acts 8:26-40
- Psalm 22:25-31
- John 15:1-8

6:00 P.M.

Spirit Service
~ Celebrate Music

YOUTH NEWS

Mark Boyd, Director of Youth Ministry

SUMMER CAMPS FOR ALL

Whether it is kids going to camp there is so much to enjoy. sunning, visiting, reading, or just compare with what you get when someone you share a pew with actually live out what we hear from the pulpit, to work on our spiritual growth, to reach out to each others in ways beyond Sunday mornings, and to explore the relationships God has provided for us.



camp, families going to camp or adults going to There is boating, swimming, skiing, hiking, plain relaxing. But none of those activities can you meet an old friend anew, or get to know on Sundays. Camp gives us an opportunity to

We are fortunate at the United Churches of Olympia because we have three different camps to choose from. Two are in the UCC conference: **Pilgrim Firs** is in Washington, near Port Orchard. Surrounding Lake Flora, this secluded retreat center has 3 lodges and 11 cabins, on 120 acres. **N-SID-SEN** is a retreat center on the shores of Lake Coeur d'Alene in Idaho. Among its 270 acres are 14 cabins, 3 lodges and a private swim cove. **Sound View** is a 105 acre Presbyterian camp on Puget Sound's scenic Key Peninsula, with 2 lodges, 5 chalets and multiple tent sites. Come to camp this summer! See our website: www.theunitedchurches.org/camps.htm

CONFIRMATION FAITH JOURNEY 2009 CONTINUES

Our 3rd Faith Journey retreat, a conference-wide event directed by **Mark Boyd**, was at Pilgrim Firs retreat center near Port Orchard. A number of churches from around the Puget Sound gathered as we explored prayer, heaven, hell, death, and church polity. **Mike Denton**, the UCC Conference Minister joined us for a couple of hours on Saturday. **Kirsten Tollefson York** and **Tim York** were the adult leaders and **Xavia Olson** and **Tierra Hunter** were the youth mentors. The confirmands are **Linnea Arnett, Lucas Bauer, Merideth Bowden, Diedre Denbow, Gabe Fishel, Randy Place, Devin Reynolds, Alice Tweit** and **Gailon Wixson**. Despite the weather, we had a great time looking at our faith journeys, exploring who God is, and getting to know each other better. The dates for upcoming confirmation events are May 15-17. June 7, Confirmation Sunday will be followed by a picnic at Mark Boyd's.

COME JOIN US

Every Tuesday the Middlers gather from 5:30-7:30 in the youth room. We share a meal, some games and perhaps a story or two. The Senior High youth meet on Sundays from 12:30-2:30 and we also break bread together. So now you know, come join us!

INTERFAITH YOUTH CAMP

Kathy Erlandson, Director, Interfaith Works

Camper and staff applications are now available for Puget Sound Interfaith Youth Camp to be held August 23 to 28 at YMCA Camp Seymour. Located near Gig Harbor on Puget Sound, the camp has 1/2 mile of shoreline and 160 wooded acres. A collaborative effort of Interfaith Works, Associated Ministries of Tacoma, and a number of congregations of diverse faiths, this summer camp for middle school kids has swimming, hiking, kayaking and sailing, archery, field sports and campfires. What differs is the time spent talking and learning about one another's religions, beliefs, and customs. Adult faith-leaders from many traditions will be resources to the campers of their faith as well as to the campers of other faiths. No proselytizing whatsoever is allowed.

Camp fee is on a sliding scale. Scholarships are available. Applications are available on-line at www.soundinterfaithcamp.org or by calling Interfaith Works at 357-7224.

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Office Hours-

9:00 a.m. - 3 p.m., Tues.-Thurs.

9:00 a.m. - noon, Friday

PASTORS

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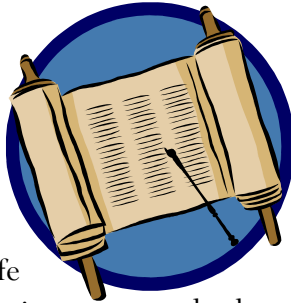
amy@theunitedchurches.org

DEAD SEA SCROLLS CLASS

Since their discovery in 1948 by a little boy throwing rocks in the hills along the Dead Sea in Israel, The Dead Sea Scrolls have tremendously informed biblical scholarship.

Continuing through June 7, **Dr. Ian Werrett**, Assistant Professor of Religious Studies, and Director of The Spiritual Life Institute at Saint Martin's University leads a six-session course introducing modern students to the ancient scrolls of the Dead Sea. (No class on May 31—single Family Style Worship, 10 a.m.)

This course is also exploring the circumstances of their discovery, interesting archaeological factors, what we know about authorship and language used, and the scrolls' contents. Special attention will be placed on the relationship between the Dead Sea Scrolls and our English Bible. All are invited.



INVITATION TO SPIRITUALITY

Mark Dowdy, Pastor

You are invited to consider a wonderful opportunity for your further spiritual formation and growth. Char McMullen, Karen Watts, Sherri and Tom Wills-Green, and I were part of this amazing program last year.

Tending the Fire 2009-2010, an 18 session, twice-monthly program on Spirituality and Prayer, is featured as a pdf file in The Priory Spirituality Center section at www.stplacid.org. The Priory will also send you a brochure and an application upon request.

The deadline for applications is August 7, 2009 and a \$100 deposit with an application is required. For further information call the Priory Spirituality Center at 360-438-2595 or e-mail Sister Lucy at lucy-wynkoop@gmail.com or speak to any of us who were part of Tending the Fire last year.

MEMBERSHIP ORIENTATION

Sunday, May 17

9:30—10:30, Room 106.

Please see Pastors Amy Roon or Mark Dowdy for details.

READY, SET, READ

R. Peggy Smith

The TUCO book group, **Reading for Faith and Action**, has had a bit of a "winter break." But, we are up and running, or should I say "reading," again. The book we will be reading this month, and sharing our opinions about on May 19, is *Home*, by Marilyn Robinson. This book, highly recommended by our librarian, Paul McCann, is a follow-on novel to one we reviewed in the fall, *Gilead*. The group enjoyed that book and looks forward to talking about this one by Marilyn Robinson.

Due to scheduling conflicts, this month we will be meeting on the third **Tuesday, May 19, at 6:30 p.m.** This may be a good opportunity for readers who have not attend before join up. We meet at Jacky Crow's house, 1111 Archwood, #338, near Capital Mall. Call Jacky, 786-1711, for further information or exact directions.



MEN'S BREAKFAST

Meet **Friday, May 8, 7:00 a.m.** at The Spar Restaurant to continue telling life stories.

The greatness of a church is determined not by what it takes in, but by what it sends out.

- Talmadge Johnson

Coming Attractions for Summer

Congregational Life Ministry has planned these summer events for TUCO folks—fellowship, fun and games, food, bargains, cultural events, and outdoor activities—there is something for every one. Mark your calendars, and watch for more detailed information.

- May 30**— Potluck and Game Night – 6 p.m., Social Hall.
- June 27**— All Church Summer Kick-Off BBQ – 5 p.m., Social Hall and Lower Parking Lot.
- July 11**— Kayaking at Mark Dowdy's Hood Canal house – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Bring a dish for picnic. Optional – camping at nearby Twanoh State Park Saturday night.
- July 18** – Yard Sale in Upper Parking Lot – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- July 26** – Picnic at the Symphony Concert at the Capitol grounds – 4 p.m..
- August 21-23** TUCO Annual All-Church Retreat at Pilgrim Firs.
- August 28-30** Bike Ride on John Wayne Pioneer Trail – all day Saturday with optional camping Friday and Saturday evenings at Lake Easton State Park. See related article.

TUCO'S CHURCH RETREAT

Our annual All-Church Retreat is scheduled for **August 21-23** at Pilgrim Firs. Our theme is "Break Through" and **Dayton Edmunds**—story teller, artist, musician—will be joining us as we break through our day to day lives and enjoy the weekend. Watch this space for more details.

SAVE THE DATE FOR PRIDE

Save the Date! Olympia celebrates Capital City Pride on **Sunday, June 21**, acknowledging our diversity by celebrating with our gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered citizens.

Members of The United Churches will again highlight our inclusive welcome to all with a walking contingent in the parade and an information booth in



FAMILY CAMPING AND BIKE TRIP


Join other TUCO families for a **bike ride** on the John Wayne Pioneer Trail between Hyak and Cle Elum on **Saturday, August 28**. The ride starts at a higher elevation and follows a gentle downhill grade. The trail surface is not paved, but is suitable for all but the smallest tire bikes. If you are interested, please contact *brian-hovis@msn.com*.

We hope that many of you will also join us on a **camping** outing on Friday and Saturday nights. Camping reservations should be made soon at: www.parks.wa.gov/parks/?selectedpark=Lake%20Easton. The Hovis Family has reserved Site 47.

Prefer to not camp? Another good place to stay in the area, if camping is not your thing, is South Cle Elum's The Iron Horse Inn (www.ironhorseinnbb.com).

EVENTS AT CHURCH

Thursday, April 30 - Saturday, May 16

<p>Thursday April 30</p> <p>Noon Faith in Flux brown bag lunch discussion group, Fireside 6:00 p.m. Presbyterian & UCC Potluck / Meeting, Fireside</p> <p>Friday May 1</p> <p>11:30 Stephen Leaders, Mark's office 5:30 Labyrinth Walk, Social Hall</p> <p>Saturday May 2</p>	<p>Sunday May 3</p> <p>COMMUNION/FOOD BANK/CROP WALK</p> <p>8:15 a.m. Worship, Chapel 9:15 Coffee Fellowship, Narthex 9:30 Sunday School & Adult Ed (10:20 Chancel Choir, Sanctuary) 11:00 Worship, Sanctuary Noon Coffee Fellowship 12:30 Senior Highs, Social Hall 6:00 p.m. Spirit Service, Chapel ~Labyrinth</p>	<p>Monday May 4</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>  <p>Crop Walkers meet at Capitol Steps, Sunday, May 3, 12:30 p.m.</p>	<p>Tuesday May 5</p> <p>1:00 p.m. Worship Planning, Rm. 106 3:00 Staff Meeting, Rm. 106 5:30 Middlers, Youth Room 5:30 Congregational Life Ministry, Rm. 106 6:30 Stephen Minister Trng, Fireside Room 7:00 Stewardship Ministry, Rm. 106</p>	<p>Wednesday May 6</p> <p>6:00 p.m. VOICE Articles Due</p> <p>6:00 p.m. Christian Ed Ministry, Rm. 106 6:00 SpiritSing, Chapel 6:00 Daughters of Eve, Fireside 6:30 Administration Ministry, Library 7:00 Drum Fun, Social Hall 7:00 Chancel Choir, Sanctuary</p>	<p>Thursday May 7</p> <p>Noon Faith in Flux brown bag lunch discussion group, Fireside Room 6:00 p.m. Personnel Ministry, Mark's office 7:00 Mission, Peace & Justice Ministry, Library 7:00 TNSCC Ministry, Chapel 7:00 Worship Ministry, Fireside Room</p>	<p>Friday May 8</p> <p>7:00 a.m. Men's Breakfast, The Spar 4:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Retreat begins, Pilgrim Firs...</p>
<p>Saturday May 9</p> <p>... Stephen Ministry Retreat at Pilgrim Firs, continued</p> <p>Saturday May 16</p> <p>... Youth Confirmation Retreat, cont'd</p>	<p>Sunday May 10</p> <p>8:15 a.m. Worship, Chapel 9:15 Coffee Fellowship, Narthex 9:30 Sunday School & Adult Ed (10:20 Chancel Choir, Sanctuary) 11:00 Worship, Sanctuary Noon Coffee Fellowship 12:30 Senior Highs, Social Hall 6:00 p.m. Spirit Service, Chapel ~Celebrate Music</p>	<p>Monday May 11</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>Tuesday May 12</p> <p>1:00 Worship Planning, Rm. 106 3:30 Staff Mtg, Rm. 106 5:30 Middlers, Social Hall 6:30 Stephen Ministry, Rm. 106 6:30 Stephen Ministry training, Fireside Room 5:00 2nd Tuesday Dinner Prep & Serving at the Salvation Army kitchen</p>	<p>Wednesday May 13</p> <p>6:00 SpiritSing, Chapel 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry Network Gathering, First United Methodist Church 7:00 Drum Fun, Rm. 106 7:00 Chancel Choir, Sanctuary</p>	<p>Thursday May 14</p> <p>Noon Faith in Flux brown bag lunch discussion group, Fireside Room 7:00 p.m. Council Meeting, Fireside</p>	<p>Friday May 15</p> <p>10:00 Caring Friends, Fireside Youth Confirmation Retreat, through Sunday...</p>

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Confirmation Sunday, **June 7**
- Graduation Sunday, Sunday School wrap-up, last day of Choir, Commission Stephen Leaders, **June 14**
- Single Summer service begins, **June 21**, 10 a.m.
- Dixieland Jazz Service, **June 28**, 10:00 a.m.

UCC & PRESBYTERIAN POTLUCK

Mark Dowdy, Presbyterian Moderator and Louise Bohe, UCC Moderator

Thursday, April 30, 6:00 p.m. in the Fireside Room

All UCC and Presbyterian members are invited to a shared potluck followed by separate gatherings of each denomination, this **Thursday, April 30** at 6 p.m. in the Fireside room. In the past this gathering has been for all UCC members, but only for the Session of the Presbyterians. Because of the discussion going on in Session, as Moderators we feel it is important to make it possible for as many Presbyterian Members as possible to attend the Presbyterian discussion.

Bring whatever you wish plus your own table service for the potluck. At 7 p.m. we divide into our separate groups. For Presbyterians, the discussion will be "What might it take to establish a process of considering become a "More Light" congregation?" "More Light" is the rough equivalent of "Open and Affirming," chosen by our UCC members in the early 1990s. With lots of changes on the horizon, this is an important discussion for our Presbyterian members, as well as for our UCC and TUCO members as well. If you have any questions, you may contact **Mark Dowdy**, 943-1210 or markd@theunitedchurches.org, **Louise Bohe**, 705-1405 or louise.bohe@gmail.com, or Council Moderator **Joan Knapp**, 786-9346 or JoanKI6@comcast.net. And of course, as in all events of our church, everyone is welcome, member or not!

Prayers For

✦ **L.D. McNall**, Panorama C&R, hospice care.

✦ **Mary Lee McNall**, Quinault Assisted Living, #137.

✦ **Peter Lowe**, son of Dan & Paula Lowe, two broken fingers and unable to work for a month.

✦ **Susan Thomas**, friend of Pat Dickason, emergency appendectomy at St. Peter Hospital, more cancer found.

✦ **Clara Mitchell, Mary Webster**, Panorama C&R.

✦ For all our members and friends who are uncertain about their jobs.



THE UNITED CHURCHES OF OLYMPIA

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