



The United Churches of Olympia **VOICE**

NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 74, ISSUE 12 • WEDNESDAY, JUNE 10, 2009

REPORT ON CROP WALK

John Bowden, CROP Coordinator

Thanks to everyone who walked and raised money for this year's CROP Walk: **Julie Clark; Alice Tweit; Gailon Wixson Pursley; Brian Hovis; Beth, Rosalie, Meredith, and John Bowden; Gayle Boyd; Trina and Scott Bishop; Libby Penney; Jinny Beekman; Debbie Nickerson and Nolan, William, and John Godfrey; David Webster; Yvonne Wilhelmsen; Amy Roon; Jo Edwards; Anne Fritzel and Tom, Adam, and Samuel Skjervold; Heather Wagner; Tierra and Lynette Hunter; Steve, Eunice, and Doug Robb; Claire and Calla Hansen; Mark Boyd; Linnaea Arnett; Leslie Cushman and Jody Smith and Maria Smith Cushman; Gib and Beth Rossing; Melissa Brinks; Alicia Morton.**

Thanks to all who donated. Thanks to those who prayed for good weather. It was indeed a beautiful day for the more than 450 people who walked on Sunday, May 3 in the 29th annual Thurston County CROP Walk. The num-

(Continued on page 2)

BREAD FOR THE WORLD REPORT

Eleanor Van Noppen, Missions, Peace, and Justice Ministry

Last year 27 letters were mailed by the TUCO office to our Congresspersons. This year 17 letters were mailed. I know of a least five other letters mailed from homes. More and more people use e-mail for all their communications. Several members told me they would be e-mailing their letters. I made three phone calls and I am sure others did as well. Every letter/e-mail/phone call counts toward revamping our Foreign Aid System, so there will be more money avail-

able to help hungry people.

Last year we collected \$279 dollars to send to BFW. This helps them with their administrative costs and maintains our Covenant relationship with them. This year we collected and sent a total of \$312, including 162 dollar bills in the loose collection. Every dollar counts!

MPJ considers this a successful campaign. We thank all of you for your support of BFW and its mission.

Worship Services

June 14

Graduation Sunday

8:15 & 11:00 A.M.

“Flourishing”

TEXTS:

- 1 Samuel 15:34-36
- Psalm 20
- II Corinthians 5:6-10, 14-17
- Mark 4:26-34

6:00 P.M.

Spirit Service

~ Celebrate Music

SUMMER WORSHIP SCHEDULE BEGINS



June 21

9:00 - 9:40 A.M.

Contemplative Service

10:00 A.M.

“In the Boat Together”

TEXTS:

- 1 Samuel 17:1a,4-11
- Psalm 9:9-20
- II Corinthians 6:1-13
- Mark 4:35-41

✚ Gifts for Fathers

6:00 P.M.

Spirit Service

~ Taizé

BIBLE RECIPIENTS

Brooke Johnson, Children's Ministry Coordinator

It has been a tradition on Pentecost Sunday that our third-grade students receive a personalized Bible from the church. This Pentecost Sunday, May 31, a Family Worship Style celebration in our sanctuary, **Dylan Bauer**, **Maria Cushman** and **Nathan Konopaski** were presented their Bibles by their Sunday school teachers Bunny Hooper and Julie Taylor-Boyd. We also congratulate **Lauren Nisco**, **Valerie Schulte** and **Tierra Reynolds** who were unable to attend the service to receive their Bibles.



Maria Cushman, Nathan Konopaski and Dylan Bauer with new Bibles.

Bible Cake created by Trina Bishop.

We hope that all of TUCO's children continue to have an active and dynamic faith. We hope they continue to be engaged by their faith, and to faithfully grow.

CAPITOL CITY PRIDE PARADE

You can walk in the parade! On **Sunday, June 21**, we'll gather in front of the Capital at 11:30 a.m. Wear a solid color bright shirt and look for our TUCO banner we'll carry in the parade.

You can help staff the TUCO booth in Sylvester Park! You can bake cookies (individually wrapped) to distribute at the TUCO booth! You can help defray the cost of the Pride booklet TUCO ad or TUCO booth! These are all ways you can help show our TUCO welcome to all, especially our gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered friends.

Cookies can be brought to church on June 14 or 21 and put into the box in the narthex marked Capital City Pride.

To volunteer or contribute, contact **Gib** or **Beth Rossing** (gibrossing@msn.com, barossing@msn.com)

Won't you join us?

CROP Report (Continued from page 1)

ber of people walking this year was equal to last year and more than 40 of the walkers were from The United Churches of Olympia.

While the donations are still coming in and being counted, it appears the total collected will be around \$40,000. Unfortunately this is down from last year's record of nearly \$60,000. In these difficult economic times, charitable giving seems to be down all over. People do not have the money to give or are fearful to do so. However, the good news at TUCO is that we raised over \$5,000 – about the same as last year. This means that even though times are hard for many, we continued to help feed some of our local neighbors and help provide neighbors in other parts of the world the ability to feed themselves. Your generosity is truly making a difference. Thank you!

BBQ & MOVIE ON JUNE 27

Join us for our Spiritual Cinema following our All-Church BBQ on June 27. We meet at **6:30 p.m.** to share a **dessert potluck** and then view our film together, followed by discussion. This film is part of the Spiritual Cinema recommendations:

“Baptists at Our Barbeque” - in this fun feature we follow a sweet young Mormon park ranger to his new assignment in a town of 262 Mormons and 262 Baptists. What follows is an adventure in comedy, romance, friendship, satire, family and community that asks us if we are willing to open our hearts and homes to those different than ourselves.

SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

Mary Russell, Scholarship Committee

The TUCO Scholarship Committee announces that two \$500 scholarship certificates will be presented to **Joel Nightingale** and **Bryce Hunter** at the June 14 worship services.

Joel will be attending either Gonzaga or Willemette University, or the University of Portland. Bryce will be attending South Puget Sound Community College next year. Both boys have been active participants in the church's senior high programs.

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Office Hours-

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

9:00 a.m. - noon, Friday

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connecting faith and life—
TUCO members write

The Sound of Your Voice

What is Traditional Marriage? Part 2

Gib Rossing, Guest Columnist

Gib Rossing is the author of Dignity, Dogmatism, and Same-Sex Relationships. Part 1 of this article was printed in the April 1 Voice, available on our website.

Carrie Prejean, Miss California USA, recently vowed that she would work to defend traditional marriage defined as the union of one man and one woman only. With due respect to those defending traditional marriage against gay marriage, to what tradition do they refer? Abraham's descendents had multiple wives as well as concubines! Some strongly patriarchal societies allowed a man a mistress along with his subordinate wife. Polynesian cultures had group marriage in which each of several men and women shared conjugal privileges. Many Native American tribes allowed 'two-spirit' people (we'd identify as homosexual) to marry persons of either gender.

Perhaps what is meant by *traditional* is The Columbia Encyclopedia definition of marriage as "a socially sanctioned union that reproduces the family." To "reproduce the family" clearly implies procreation that obviously involves a man and a woman, and fits well the Biblical injunction to be fruitful and multiply. In classical Greece and Rome, marriage existed for the sake of the procreation and education of children. A typical Christian view of marriage set out in the Anglican Book of Common Prayer, first published in 1549, identified three objects of marriage: procreate children, avoid the sin of fornication, and provide partners with mutual companionship, help and comfort, both in prosperity and in adversity.

In general, the traditional functions of marriage are four: reproductive, economic, social and educational. These functions are universally found in socially sanctioned unions regardless of time, culture, customs or sexual mores. Within the family that these unions reproduce--whether patrilineal, matrilineal, polygamous, monogamous, tribal, nomadic, agrarian, or urban—reproduction is fundamental. Procreation perpetuated the family, wife and children were critical for economic survival, and a family obligated parents to adapt their offspring to the social mores of their communities and to teach them skills of survival.

Editor's Note: This occasional column is for reflective writings from members and friends of our congregation, many of whom are inspired by faith to pursue activities and studies beyond the four walls of TUCO.

The subject matter need only connect faith and something that moves you—a spiritual practice or study, a favorite cause you are involved in, an autobiographical account of a spiritual experience, or an opinion piece.

Anyone so moved is invited to submit something. Contact editor Yvonne Wilhelmsen at ywilhelms@yahoo.com. Suggestions, feedback, etc. are welcomed.

This is the universal and time-honored tradition of marriage--until recent times. New influences now erode the traditional function of marriage, primarily in highly developed cultures like those of Europe and America.

- **Reproduction:** Because of modern reproductive technology, heterosexual sexual relations have become more consensual and recreational, encouraging many couples to delay marriage, sometimes permanently. Having children is an option to which increased numbers of heterosexual couples say 'no'.
- **Economics:** Women, no longer economically dependent upon husbands, are able to live singly with or without children, or may become the family's main breadwinner. Children no longer are essential to procuring or producing the economic necessities of family survival, nor are they necessary to guarantee the economic support of elderly parents.
- **Socialization:** Trivial to most families today is the importance of perpetuating family cultural identity, like my childhood Norwegian, Lutheran milieu. Society now frees an Asian, Buddhist father and a European, Christian mother to raise a child in America who marries a Muslim. In so many cultural ways, adult children are not like their parents.
- **Education:** Public education, not parents, teaches the majority of our nation's children, not to mention the power of the media and the internet to instruct youth.

This erosion of traditional marriage, however, should also remind us that there is a fifth function more vital to a stable society than the previous four: companionship that is loving, caring, faithful and durable. Any couple that sustains this function--whether gay, lesbian or straight--truly defends marriage.

TUCO Summer Events Calendar

- June 14** Graduation Sunday, Sunday School wrap up, reception for graduates and intern Jill Komura.
- June 21** **10:00 am Summer Schedule** for Worship begins.
- June 21** Capitol City Pride Parade, noon. Meet at 11:30 a.m. on Capitol steps under church banner.
- June 27** All Church Summer Kick-Off BBQ, 5 p.m., followed by comedy "Baptists at Our Barbecue".
- June 28** Dixieland Jazz Worship Service at 10:00 a.m.
- July 11** Kayaking and potluck at Mark Dowdy's Hood Canal house. See article below.
- July 18** Yard Sale in Upper Parking Lot – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. See article below.
- 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 last issue or contact **Brian Hovis**.

DIXIELAND JAZZ SERVICE, JUNE 28, AT 10:00 A.M. WORSHIP

Featuring The St. Louis Rivermen, under the leadership of David "Red" Lehr, Sousaphonist

"Red" replaced Jean Kittrell as band leader upon her retirement in 2008. We have enjoyed his sousaphone playing in past Dixieland services. The St. Louis Rivermen will again be a featured band at the Greater Olympia Jazz Society Dixieland Festival, the last week of June, at St. Martin's Pavilion in Lacey.

For further information on the band or the festival, go to www.stlrivermen.com or www.olyjazz.com.

FELLOWSHIP, FUN(DS) & FOOD IN JULY *Debbie Nickerson, Congregational Life Ministry*

Three events arranged for this month are brought to you by your Congregational Life Ministry. On **Saturday, July 11**, all are invited to Mark Dowdy's cabin on Hood Canal for a day of kayaking and a potluck picnic. The fun begins at 10 a.m. and continues until 5 p.m. Bring your boats but do see about carpooling since parking is scarce. For those who wish to spend the night by the Canal, look into camping at Twanoh State Park, not far from Mark's.

Then, a week later, on **Saturday, July 18** from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., we are having a fundraising yard sale in the upper parking lot. Please bring your items to the lot that morning or

leave them in the Narthex the day before. We do not have storage for this at church. Items will be sold by donation. **We need several volunteers to assist us.** Specifically, we need labor that morning to load items to the parking lot and arrange for sale. We need sellers and cashiers. Lastly, we need people to haul away leftover items Sunday morning. Please contact **Deb Nickerson** to volunteer.

Finally, on **Sunday, July 26**, those attending the Symphony concert on the Capitol grounds can meet at 4 p.m. for a picnic together before the concert. Bring your own food and of course your chairs or blankets.

The **ALL CHURCH RETREAT** is happening August 21-23 at Pilgrim Firs. It promises to be a great time for all. Joining us as we explore our theme, "Breakthrough", is storyteller and musician **Dayton Edmonds**, an enchanting speaker and weaver of tales. Our very own **Brooke Johnson** will be leading a wonderful VBS session for our children and youth. Come worship in the woods.

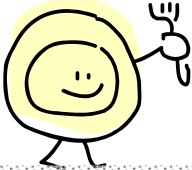
The cost for two wonderful nights and six scrumptious meals relaxing on the shore of Lake Flora is only:

Families	Couples	Singles
\$270	\$180	\$90

These prices reflect the discount the church is offering you, because we want you to "Come to Camp". However if you want to assist others who may need a scholarship, simply add 10% to the above prices when writing your check.

EVENTS AT CHURCH

Thursday, June 11 - Saturday, June 27

Thursday June 11	Sunday June 14	Monday June 15	Tuesday June 16	Wednesday June 17	Thursday June 18	Friday June 19
<p>10:00 am Prayer Shawl knitting group, Fireside Room</p> <p>Noon Faith in Flux brown bag lunch discussion group, Fireside</p> <p>7:00 pm Council Meeting, Fireside Room</p> <p>Friday June 12</p> <p>7 am Men's Breakfast, The Spar Restaurant</p> <p>Saturday June 13</p> <p>9-3 pm Camp Quixote Yard Sale, Westminster Pres.</p>	<p>GRADUATION SUNDAY</p> <p>8:15 am Worship, Chapel</p> <p>9:15 Coffee Fellowship, Narthex</p> <p>9:30 Last day of Sunday School</p> <p>9:30 Small Group Leaders Mtg., Rm. 106 (10:20 Chancel Choir, Sanctuary)</p> <p>11:00 Worship, Sanctuary</p> <p>Noon Graduation Reception, Fireside Room</p> <p>6:00 pm Spirit Service, Chapel ~Celebrate Music</p>	<p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>  <p>MUSICIANS— End-of-Season Potluck at Dee's house Sunday, June 14, 12:30 p.m.</p>	<p>1:00 pm Worship Planning, Rm. 106</p> <p>3:00 Staff Meeting, Rm. 106</p> <p>5:30 Middlers, Youth Room</p> <p>5:30 Generation Next & Now, Narthex</p> <p>6:30 Stephen Minister Trng, Fireside Room</p>	<p>6:00 pm VOICE Articles Due</p> <p>6:00 SpiritSing, Chapel</p> <p>7:00 Drum Fun, Social Hall</p>		<p>10:00 am Car-ing Friends, Fireside Room</p>
<p>Saturday June 20</p> <p>Saturday June 27</p> <p>5:00 pm All church BBQ, Social Hall</p> <p>6:30 Spiritual Cinema, comedy "Baptists at Our Barbeque"</p>	<p>Sunday June 21</p> <p>Summer Worship Schedule</p> <p>9:00 - 9:40 am. Contemplative Worship, Chapel</p> <p>10:00 am. Worship, Sanctuary (No Sunday School, Adult Education, or Chancel Choir)</p> <p>11:15 am Coffee Fellowship</p> <p>12:30 Senior Highs, Social Hall</p> <p>6:00 pm Spirit Service, Chapel ~Taizé</p>	<p>Monday June 22</p> <p>OFFICE CLOSED</p>	<p>Tuesday June 23</p> <p>1:00 pm Panorama Communion, Quinault Chapel</p> <p>1:00 Worship Planning, Rm. 106</p> <p>3:30 Staff Mtg, Rm. 106</p> <p>5:30 Middlers, Social Hall</p> <p>6:30 Strengthening Families Training, Rm. 106</p> <p>6:30 Stephen Ministry current and new trainees, Fireside Room</p>	<p>Wednesday June 24</p> <p>6:00 SpiritSing, Chapel</p> <p>7:00 Drum Fun, Rm. 106</p>	<p>Thursday June 25</p> <p>10:00 am Prayer Shawl knitting group, Fireside Room</p>	<p>Friday June 26</p>
<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>CONFIRMATION SUNDAY</p> <p>Our youth and confirmands did an outstanding worship service on June 7! Here is a link to photos: www.theunitedchurches.org/Youth_Confirmation/</p> <p>If you have photos from the service, please send them to Pat Sonnenstuhl at cnmpat@comcast.net so she can include them.</p> </div>						
<div style="border: 2px dotted black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> <p>THREE SUMMER WORSHIP EXPERIENCES BEGIN JUNE 21</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 9-9:40 a.m., Chapel <i>Reflection, Contemplation, and Prayer,</i> led by Mark Dowdy • 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary Worship with a variety of styles and music • 6:00 p.m., Chapel <i>Spirit Service of Labyrinth, Taizé, Music, and Prayer</i> </div>						

YARD SALE FOR CAMP QUIXOTE JUNE 13

Saturday, June 13, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. 1925 Boulevard Rd. S.E.

Between Westminster Presbyterian and old Boulevard Nursery

This is a fundraiser for the Camp. Please come and find some treasures! It will be held at the Camp and if the weather is bad, inside the church.

Donations to the sale can be brought to the Camp anytime or Westminster Presbyterian Church from 9 a.m. - noon, and 1-3 p.m.).

CALLING ALL GRADUATES

Mark Boyd, Director of Youth Ministry

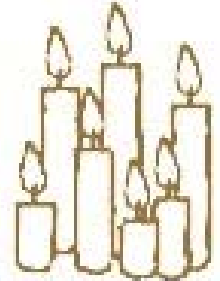


If you are graduating from high school or college we need to hear from you. On June 14 we are honoring all graduates connected with our church family. So if you are, or know of someone who is graduating, please contact **Mark Boyd** so we can be sure to give those folk the honor they deserve.

Please provide the following information: Name, connection with church, school graduating from, awards or club involvements, and plans for the future. E-mail it to hippobmw@comcast.net or leave it with the church office. We will be sure to put that information in the Voice as well as announce it during the service.

Prayers For

- ✦ **Our graduates**, transitioning.
- ✦ **Dorothy Cheatham**, throat surgery June 3.
- ✦ **Heidi Lynch**, Bunny Hooper's granddaughter, recovering from serious boating accident.
- ✦ **Bunny Hooper**, recovering from shoulder surgery May 11
- ✦ **Dorothy Butler, Clara Mitchell, L.D. McNall, Mary Webster**, Panorama C&R.
- ✦ **Doris Carberry**, congestive heart failure, at home and under hospice care.



THE UNITED CHURCHES OF OLYMPIA

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