



VOICE

The United Churches of Olympia

NEWSLETTER • VOLUME 77, ISSUE 4 • FEBRUARY 15, 2012

A VERY GOODBYE TO UNITED CHURCHES

Mark Boyd, Director of Youth Ministries

Dear Members of The United Churches and Friends,

I have accepted the position of Site Director at Camp N-Sid-Sen in Coeur d'Alene Idaho. N-Sid-Sen is one of two camps belonging to the United Church of Christ PNW Conference. I am very excited for this incredible opportunity.

My last day at TUCO is Sunday March 11. There comes a time when we all must move on, and for me that time has come. The decision to move on has been one that Julie and I have wrestled with, prayed over, and finally gave to God.

The United Churches of Olympia has been a huge part of my life since I first

(Continued on page 2)

CONGRATULATIONS & FAREWELL, MARK BOYD

Dear TUCO members and friends,

By now many of you will have heard that **Mark Boyd**, our Director of Youth Ministry, is moving to a new job with the UCC Pacific Northwest Conference, as Site Director for the N-Sid-Sen Camp in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. Please see Mark's letter to us, below, and on the church website. We are sad to see Mark and Julie leave after twelve years of service with us, but we rejoice with them at this new opportunity for growth in service to the youth and adults of the entire Conference.

A celebration of Mark's time with us is planned for Sunday, March 11. At that time, we would like to present Mark with a cash gift honoring his years of leadership with our youth programs. You are invited to contribute to this gift. Please send your contribution to the church office or place it in the offering plate, clearly marked "**Mark's Gift.**"

Thank you so much for sharing in this celebration of Mark's many gifts to us.

Yours in Christ,

Cynthia Cook, Moderator

Tammy Stampfli, Interim Pastor

PSC ANNOUNCES CHURCH PROFILE

The Pastor Seeking Committee (PSC) is proud to present the completed church profile. The PSC has been hard at work on this important document which is central to the process of calling a new pastor. It was approved by Council on February 9, and has now been submitted to the Pacific Northwest United Church of Christ Conference office. It will be posted nationally and we will soon receive responses from interested candidates.

Several copies of our local church profile are in the library and the document is also available on-line: http://www.theunitedchurches.org/wp-content/uploads/2012_Local_Church_Profile.pdf

Sunday Worship Services

February 19

"Thin Places"

9:00 A.M. - Chapel

10:30 A.M. - Sanctuary

TEXTS

• 2 Kings 2:1-12

• Mark 9:2-9

✚ Jill Komura preaching

February 22

ASH WEDNESDAY

6:30 P.M. - Chapel

Service of Ashes

TEXTS

• Joel 2:1-2, 12-17

• Psalm 51:1-17

• Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

February 26

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

"Hope and Promise"

9:00 A.M. - Chapel

10:30 A.M. - Sanctuary

Family Worship

TEXTS

• Genesis 9:8-17

• Mark 1:9-15

March 4

SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT

"A Glimpse Outside"

9:00 A.M. - Chapel

10:30 A.M. - Sanctuary

TEXTS

• Genesis 17:1-7, 15-16

• Mark 9:2-9

✚ Communion

✚ Food/Other Bank Wagon

A Very Goodbye (Continued from page 1)

entered the sanctuary in early 1989. With that began my adventures in our church, teaching Sunday school, volunteering with Youth groups and then holding the position of Youth Director for 12 plus years. Although the title I held may have changed over the years, the unconditional love and acceptance from the congregation never wavered. Watching the youth of our church and even my own children grow up, go to college and get married at TUCO are some of the greatest moments of my life. So it is with a sad heart that I write this.

I realize that my leaving at this point leaves some things up in the air. The Mexico Mission trip, Youth groups, Sunday school, Easter brunch, and the Retreat. Tammy Stampfli, Mike Segawa [Personnel Ministry Chair] and I have met and are currently working on options for all of those areas. We felt it important that the church know now, and then we can work on these together.

With Peace and Love,

Mark A Boyd

Youth Ministries Coordinator

“COMMUNICATIONS FOR RELATIONSHIPS”

February 26 - March 25, 10:30



In this Adult Education class, you will explore various dimensions of your most valued interpersonal spirits, good humor, and mutual respect.

This participatory class is intended to deepen your understanding and skills as communicators. Taught by **Reverend Susan Yarrow Morris**, a retired United Church of Christ minister, and **David Morris**, a Certified Relationship Coach.

SIX WEEK LENTEN INTERPLAY SERIES

Sundays, February 26-April 1 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Fireside Room By donation Nursery care available

What is God's Longing for your life? Do you sometimes find it hard to hear the voice of God with just your ears? This Lent, listen with your entire being. We invite you to join us for Sunday evenings of movement, voice, and storytelling joined with Lenten themes. Come sing your soul, improvise in prayer, dance through 40 days in the desert, and speak sacred stories. Find more ease, grace, and joy within the struggle in the wilderness or just within the mystery of daily life.

InterPlay helps integrates body, mind, heart and spirit. www.interplay.org.

Come for one week or for all six and bring your grandparents, join your neighbor, meet up with your sister, or InterPlay with a friend. Those under 16 must be accompanied and supervised by an adult at all times. Suggested amount of \$10 per family per week or \$50 per family for all six weeks when paid in advance.

SONOUS CONCERT CHOIR

On **Thursday, March 15, at 7:00 p.m.**, the Sonous Concert Choir, of Eagle High School, Eagle, Idaho, performs in a concert of varied selections from renaissance through contemporary classical choral literature. Admission is by free will donation.

Directed by **Seth McMullen**, whose parents **Bob and Char McMullen** are active TUCO members, the choir has received numerous honors and invitations to perform at music conferences. They are noted for technical brilliance, powerful dynamics and amazing musical sensitivity. Their performance in our Sanctuary is the next event in our Fine Arts Event Series.

2012 Ecumenical
Lenten Carbon Fast

We invite you to renew your commitment to reducing your carbon footprint by joining us in the 2012 Ecumenical Lenten Carbon Fast. We think you will find it engaging, informative and transformational.

From Ash Wednesday through Easter, you will receive daily e-mails with carbon reducing suggestions for you and your church or group. You'll discover suggestions that are new to you, others you may have forgotten, along with some ideas you already use.

<http://www.macucc.org/carbonfast>

The 2012 Ecumenical Lenten Carbon Fast is a project of NEREM (New England Regional Environmental Ministries).

EASTER FESTIVAL CHOIR

Easter Festival Choir rehearsals begin the morning of **February 25 at 9:00 am**. A light lunch at 11:30 am follows the “Read-Through” rehearsal. All singers, please come, and bring a friend to sing, too. Rehearsals continue Thursdays at 7:00, except Wednesday, March 14. Dress rehearsal is Saturday, April 7, at 9:00 am. Festival Choir sings Easter Day, April 8, at the 10:30 service. Child care is provided for all rehearsals. Call **Dee Morton**, Director, at 360-866-9250. See you there!

*I am a Stephen Minister,
and I have a simple request: please
tell me what I can do for you.*

*Listen? Pray? Encourage? Be-
friend? Take a look at the Stephen
Minister bulletin board in the
church hallway to see who we are.
If you would like to explore the pos-
sibility of enlisting a Stephen
Minister, please contact
Janet Tolman at 438-5343.*



THE UNITED CHURCHES OF OLYMPIA

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February 15, 2012

SHROVE (FAT) TUESDAY PANCAKES

Trina Bishop

Tuesday, February 21, 5:30-7:00 Social
Hall Cost: by donation



Come join us for some tasty food as we celebrate Shrove Tuesday together!

Shrove Tuesday marks the end of the season after Epiphany, with Lent itself starting the next day (Ash Wednesday). And since Lent is typically seen as a more austere season, Shrove Tuesday (also referred to as Mardi Gras or "Fat Tuesday") was traditionally a time to use up richer foods (milk, eggs, fat, etc) in preparation for the simpler fare of Lent.

Here at United Churches we mark Shrove Tuesday with our great strawberry pancakes and whipped cream or syrup, ably served by our great Middlers youth. Pat Dickason will again be bringing her yummy ham. And gluten free pancakes will also be available, thanks to Liz Frey. As a special bonus this year, we will have an introduction to a fun new Lenten offering called Inter-Play (see article on page 2).

If you feel like joining our friendly, energetic team of servers and batter mixers, we would love to have more willing hands – just contact **Trina** at tsbishop@comcast.net or one of our wonderful Congregational Life Ministry folks. So bring your friends along, and join us in the Social Hall for a fun and delicious little supper, as well as our Ash Wednesday service as we move into the contemplative season of Lent.

JUSTICE LEADERSHIP TRAINING MAR 9-11

Justice Leaders Engaging and Developing (Justice LED) is a UCC program exploring the justice dimensions of Christian faith and discipleship. You will be empowered to discern and act with others in your congregation. Pilgrim Firs. Cost & Registration info: Kathleen Morgan, revkathleenm@cs.com

SAT., MARCH 10 CHURCH WORK PARTY

We are having a Work Party! March 10, 9 am to Noon to clean up the grounds and get some other essential chores done around the building. Rake leaves, painting, weeding, etc. If you are interested, please respond to **Mark Hunter** at Myxocephalus@comcast.net. Thanks for helping out.

"FLIRTING WITH DEATH"

Saturday, February 18, 6:30
Fireside Room

February's Spiritual Cinema movie: "In this fun, dark comedy, a man who is living a truly uninspired life unexpectedly meets death - and she is gorgeous! In fact, hanging out with death seems a whole lot more fulfilling than continuing on with life. What ensues is a battle between his desires, death's intentions, and his guardian angel's holiest manipulations."

Who wins the battle? Come join us in the Fireside Room and find out!

Potluck goodies at 6:30 pm,
film at 6:45 pm.

Prayers For

- ✦ **Dan, Paula & Peter Lowe**, on the death of Dan's mother Ethel Lowe, 88, Des Moines, WA on February 1
- ✦ **Judy Schultz**, recent surgery
- ✦ **Tyra Lindquist**, cancer treatments
- ✦ **Muriel Hastings**, Panorama C&R
- ✦ **Renette Gillihan**, recent surgery
- ✦ **Mark & Julie Boyd**, time of transition