

THE COVENANT CONNECTION

Volume XV No. 19

June 30, 2010

Covenant United Methodist Church

Sister Church Delegation Goes to El Salvador

This year's seven member Sister Church delegation will be departing for El Salvador on Saturday, July 17th, and returning on Saturday, July 24th. The seven delegates include Mahlon and Kathy Dirks, Dave Hayward, Judy Reed, Don and Jeanne Tomlinson, and Pastor Gregg Sealey.

Our 2010 delegation will be completing a tree planting project in conjunction with our Sister Church community in El Paisnal, which was originally undertaken in 2008. With only two weeks before departure, we ask for you to pray for the delegates as they finalize their agenda and prepare for a week walking in solidarity with our brothers and sisters in El Salvador.

Blessings from your Sister Church Committee.



Sister Church Garage Sale

July 16 & 17

The sister church committee is having its annual garage sale to help fund our scholarship program for students in El Salvador. The sale will be held **July 16th and 17th at Bob and Fleeta Holcomb's house (317 E Silver Pines Ct.)**. If you've been cleaning closets, cupboards, garages and sheds this spring and have items you no longer need, please consider donating them to our sale. Nothing is too small or too large! Donations can be dropped off at the Holcomb's, call **Fleeta at 466-3356**. We can also use help before and during the sale itself; if you'd like to contribute your time toward this project, let us know!



****Here are some suggestions that REALLY help us as we are organizing donated items.**

Tie sheet sets together and label with the size.

Group items that go together in the same bag.

Place game or puzzle pieces in a plastic baggie so they don't fall out of their boxes. We have baggies for you to use! Look for the box in room 14 marked Sister Church Baggies.



Tape or secure cords, controllers, accessories, etc. to the items they belong to. We love the instruction booklets if you still have them.

Any pre-sorting you can do, like grouping kitchen items in one bag and children's toys in another, saves us many man hours of sorting. Thank you so much!!

Thank you, Covenant, for your faithful support of our committee's work.
Sister Church Ministry Team

New Hope

Toiletry items and cleaning supplies are always needed by the clients of New Hope Resource Center. Donations can be left at Covenant in the blue bin in the narthex.

Right now they are especially low on:

Razors, light bulbs, lotion and conditioner. Although, all donations are appreciated, all the time!

Sister Church Golf Tournament Fundraiser

The Third Annual Covenant United Methodist Sister Church Fund Raising Golf Tournament is on the calendar!

When: Sunday, September 12, 2010

Where: Deer Park Golf Course

Time: Tee times beginning at 12:00pm

Cost: \$60 per golfer

A hosted BBQ will be held in the church's multi-purpose room following the tournament. Entry forms will be mailed out, and also be available through the church newsletter in early August.

We are hoping to increase the number of participants this year, so please feel free to invite friends and other family members. This year's tournament will again be a mixed four person scramble format, so all skill levels are welcome and encouraged to participate and have fun!

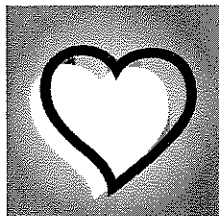
Questions? Contact Dave Hayward
diggerandrobinathome@comcast.net , or 443-0631



UMW Special Recognition

Each year Covenant United Methodist Women select people in our congregation who demonstrate much love and dedication to our church. This year 2 ladies were selected. Rhonda Greco and Carolyn Wika. Two ladies that have spent many hours in the Sunday School wing with our children. The saying about calling on someone that is very busy to get things done certainly applies to these dedicated ladies.

Thank you and God Bless both of you
Covenant United Methodist Women.

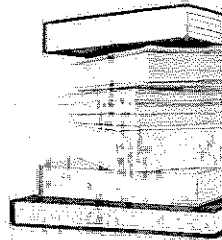
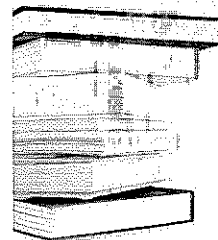


Thank You

The Trustees wish to thank John Scott for mowing down the weeds and grass in the north field of the church property. It is a big job and we appreciate all of your hard work for the church.

Dear Covenant Congregation,
We continue to be blessed by your continued support and generosity. If you had any idea what we were able to purchase with your donation of \$364.70, you would be rejoicing with us! Thank you for your caring and thoughtfulness for our community all the time.
Sincerely,
Mead Food Bank

A big thank you to Stan Gray and Teresa Sherman for planning and organizing the church campout. Thanks go to George & Betty Newell and crew for providing a pancake breakfast on Saturday morning. It was a terrific time for all!



Summer Book Review Schedule

Second Tuesdays at 9:30am

July 13 - *Border Songs* by Jim Lynch

Jeannie Peer will be the reviewer and Barb Miscoi (1812 E Whispering Springs Ln.) the hostess.

The book for August is *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Kidder, about Dr. Paul Farmer, a man who would cure the world. Everyone is invited to join us, whether you've read the book or not.

From the Pastor's Desk

Hello Friends,

Since our June "Family Meeting" I have already been *extremely* encouraged by the conversations generated – especially around the concept of our call to be an "Multigenerational" or "Intergenerational" community of faith! In multiple conversations with individuals and ministry teams, this has sparked a moving of the Spirit among us. As your pastor, I am also interested in helping us to more deeply understand what this will mean in order to attain this vision. In order to have true peace and justice (which requires equal distribution of power and privilege among all people), we will have to negotiate the difficulties and roadblocks that we will inevitably encounter.

One particular aspect that we will have to consider is how different generations and cultures view power very differently. Here is the way it works... Generally, folks that are in positions of power and control think that power is distributed fairly equally while those that have less power view a greater distance between the "top" and the "bottom." In this congregation, I think this plays out in the following ways: "Baby Boomers" (generally defined as those born between 1945-1964) make up the majority of folks here at Covenant, have been here for quite awhile, and generally hold most of the positions of leadership and authority in the life of our congregation. Because of this, most of what we do is geared toward the Baby Boom generation because those are the folks that are making the decisions. Many of us feel comfortable saying that we would be open to doing things a new way, but there isn't any impetus to change if our actions and ministries already support what "we" think is important.

Younger generations within the church (especially our youth and children) may wonder if our feedback is truly desired or accepted in the planning and implementation of church activities. In fact, younger folks may not feel truly comfortable giving input or feedback if they feel like it won't really matter much. Are we as a congregation really ready to invite all of the generations to be involved in every aspect of the church? As much as someone says that they want to be "multigenerational," what really matters is how those who hold positions of responsibility might give up some of their power and invite those who feel relatively powerless to pick it up and claim it. How might this shape our community of faith? How might this look for any of our various, vibrant ministry teams?

My prayer for us moving forward is to engage our faith and each other with love. Only then can we be deeply authentic and reach out as broadly as God is calling us to do.

May God continue to empower all that we do!

Peace,

Gregg

PS – You can contact Karen in the church office and she can email/mail/copy the summary documents for you.

In Our Prayers

Angie Canavan
Marilyn Fisher
Boosie Longmeier
Gloria Murphy
Mark Reser
Laura Stuart
Pam Tsuchida



Strength For the Journey

is a four-day spiritual retreat for persons living with HIV/AIDS. Again this year the retreat will be held at Camp N-Sid-Sen on Lake Coeur d'Alene, in late August.

Though the retreat is sponsored by the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Methodist Church we need (and have) a broad base of support from other denominations, churches, and individuals. Our all-volunteer staff is comprised of clergy, counselors, medically skilled workers, retired persons and many other caring, compassionate colleagues.

We'd like to present the members of your community with an opportunity to support this ministry and offer the following possibilities.

- Prayers for the participants as they travel and spend time in retreat
 - Donations for scholarships to the retreat. Checks can be made out to "Strength For the Journey"
 - Snacks and home-baked cookies, or fresh fruit and veggies.
 - Notes to the participants which will be placed in their "mail box" every day. You can write "To a friend" using words of encouragement and inclusiveness. You may sign your name or just sign "a friend".
- There will be 40 participants and 15 staff at the retreat this year.

Thank you for supporting others in their journey by making **Strength for the Journey** possible.

Flora Bowers, UMC Pastor, Chaplain
Strength for the Journey

Summer Worship Schedule

Sundays10:00am
Tuesdays..... 7:00pm

Covenant Staff

PastorRev. Gregg Sealey
Church Secretary Karen King
Worship Arts/Children's Ministry Coordinator .. Sarah Marken
Pianist Mac Merchant
Custodian..... Stan Gray
Assistant Custodian Kyle Smith
Youth Director..... Bethany Pyle
Nursery Supervisor..... Shawna Viren
Preschool Director..... Angie Canavan

Summer Office Hours:

Mon.-Thurs..... 9:30am-3:00pm
Closed Fridays

"The Covenant Connection" is printed twice a month by Covenant United Methodist Church. **Deadline to turn in articles for the next newsletter is Tuesday, July 13**

Covenant United Methodist Church
15515 North Gleneden Drive
Spokane, WA 99208-9743
Phone (509) 466-1768
Fax 466-0273
Email: info@covenantmethodist.org
Website: www.covenantmethodist.org

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An Ecumenical Festival & Retreat of Worship and the Arts

July 26-31, 2010

*Immaculate Heart Retreat Center,
Spokane, Washington*

The 5½-day Jubilate Festival & Retreat is a smörgåsbord of spiritual and creative activities. You can take workshops, shop the mobile Cokesbury store, and celebrate your faith during artistic and musical worship experiences, including global music.



2010 KeyNote Speaker - Dr. Ron Davids. This year's theme: Worship that Transforms. He will also be leading the Exploration of Liturgical Scripture workshop.

Jubilate Chaplain - Rev. Phil Harrington. Phil is the pastor at Snoqualmie First United Methodist Church.

Jubilate Choir Director - Erin Walker. The choir is the heart of Jubilate! All are invited. Choir members get to learn and sing a potpourri of music, culminating in the singing of inspired anthems and songs during each evening's worship service. Our rehearsals build community and lead to meaningful worship experiences.

Registration...go to www.gb-gm-umc.org/Jubilate! and select "registration form"... fill it out, and send it in with your check or money order! The earlier you register, the lower your cost.

Worship and evening events are free and open to everyone.