



Volume 78 Issue 2

February, 2013



Word From The Pastor

Hello everyone. It seems like this new year is moving already at the speed of light...with the hustle and bustle of Thanksgiving, Charge conference, Advent, Christmas, and meetings galore. Topped off with New Years Eve, leadership training and the end of the year report, it is very hard to slow down and catch your breath. I was definitely ready to slow down a little as we moved into January and towards Lent, but I'm not sure I have done that. So, being introverted (yes it is true I am. I get energized from quiet alone time), I have always looked forward to Lent. Lent is a season of soul-searching and repentance. It is a season for reflection. Lent originated in the very earliest days of the Church as a preparatory time for Easter, when the faithful rededicated themselves and when converts were instructed in the faith and prepared for baptism. By observing the forty days of Lent, the individual Christian imitates Jesus' withdrawal into the wilderness for forty days.

In case you were looking, the word "Lent" isn't found in the Bible anywhere! Originally, "Lent" was nothing more than the English name of the season between winter and summer, the season when the snow melts and the flowers bloom. German and Dutch have the same word, but with slightly different spelling. In German, "Lenz" means "spring" in poetry. In Dutch, the word "lente" never changed its meaning. It is still the name of the season between winter and summer, and it is still used in everyday life. The church observance took place during the season of lent. In England, "Lent" came to mean the observance rather than the season.

So Lent is a forty-day period before Easter. It begins on Ash Wednesday. We skip Sundays when we count the forty days because Sundays commemorate the Resurrection. Lent this year begins on the 13th of February and ends on the 30th of March, which is the day before Easter. In many countries, the last day before Lent (called Mardi Gras, Shrove Tuesday, Carnival, or Fasching) has become a last fling before the solemnity of Lent. For centuries, it was customary to fast by abstaining from meat during Lent, which is why some people call the festival Carnival, which is Latin for farewell to meat.

How will you make this Lent a season of soul-searching and repentance, a time for personal reflection, and becoming more Christ-like? Some like to make a symbolic sacrificial offering by giving something up like, sugar, TV, liver etc. Others like to add something that includes thinking about or spending more time God. Which would work better for you? If you are interested in spending some more time with God we can help you. We (the Presbyterian, Lutheran, Episcopal, First Christian and Methodist Churches) will be joining in a joint Lenten study for Monday nights at 7:00 pm, Feb. 18, 25, March 4 & 18. We will do ONE Tuesday night on March 12. The theme will be "Foundations" and each pastor will share biographically with reference to their cornerstone scripture.

(continued next page)

Feb. 18: hosted by the Longview Presbyterian Church; led by Eric (First Christian).

Feb. 25: hosted by Longview First Christian; lead by Rene'

March 4: hosted by St. Stephen Episcopal; lead Meghan (Longview Presbyterian).

TUESDAY March 12: hosted by Longview UMC; lead by Shelley (Bethany Lutheran).

March 19: hosted by Bethany Lutheran; lead by Kathleen (St. Stephen Episcopalian).

Come on out and let's support each other in our community.

Also here at the Methodist church we will be offering several opportunities to meet together.

- We will have our traditional Shrove (Pancake Supper) Tuesday on the Feb the 12th @ 6pm.
- Ash Wednesday Service (Feb 13th) @ 6:30.
- Our High 5 Membership Class on Saturday February the 23rd 9am to Noon.
The Gospel of Mark, a one man reading. 3pm @ St. Stephen Episcopalian Church.
- A Traditional Seder Feast on Thursday March 28th @ 7pm
- Good Friday Service also @ 7pm
- followed of course by Easter Sunday Worship March 31st.

These are many opportunities to grow closer to Christ. My prayer for this Lenten Season is for each of you to find the path that most fits you, and if I can be of any help in any way, please let me know.

Peace my friends,
rene'

Board of Trustees

Trustee members, Gene and Frank, have gotten all three of the lawnmowers working again. Thanks for their continued work.

Work has begun on sanding in the hallway by the kitchen to prepare for painting. Trustee's also authorized removal of one of the

limbs of the pine tree near the entrance. The tree has been growing toward the parking lot and needs a good pruning.

We also need help in cleaning. Tina Bacon, a faithful and quiet volunteer who cleaned the bathrooms and hallway has moved away.

If you can help, please contact Sharon Klump, 423-4587 or see her at church.

In November and December Vern and Sharon Klump delivered toilet paper collected at church to our friends at the Longview Community House. The organization is full (just under 100) and they continue to be in desperate need of toilet paper and other paper products as paper towels, feminine hygiene products, Kleenex and diapers. Anything you can donate will go immediately to them. Please join me in helping.

Sharon Klump, Trustees Chairperson

Staff Parish Relations Committee

Please welcome our new accompanist, David Wilson. If you have worshiped with us in January, you have had the privilege of hearing and participating in his lively piano playing. David comes to us with impressive musical and church worship skills. He was the accompanist and worship leader at Kelso UMC for several years. We are blessed to have him join our Sunday worship and look forward to his continued participation. Let him know you appreciate the addition he brings to our worship experience.

Barbara Vining

Staff Parish Relations Chair



Dave Wilson

United Methodist Women

Our next big project will be the "Fat Tuesday" pancake supper February 12th at 6:00 pm. We have done this the last several years and it has been very well received. We will have a free will donation available, rather than having a set charge for the meal. We hope you will join us and donate as you are able.

Watch for our annual "Blanket Sunday" in February.

Our March meeting is when we assemble the hygiene kits we distribute to the Emergency Support Shelter and to Community House. Here is a list of items you can donate to go into these kits.

Small bars of soap (hotel size)

Shampoo/conditioner

lotion

Combs

Nail files

Hand towels

Wash cloths



It is wonderful to have these items donated so we don't need to use our treasury to purchase them. We are grateful to Kaiser Permanente for their generous donation of tooth paste & brushes and dental floss.

With your support we are able to a lot with a little!
Thank you all.

Sharon Fosburg, UMW President

ANNOUNCEMENTS

United Methodist Women

- All women of the church are welcome and encouraged to attend

United Methodist Men

- All men of the church are welcome and encouraged to attend
- 2nd Wednesday of each month 7:00 pm

Women's Book Group

- Meets 2nd Wednesday at 7:00 p.m. (except July and August) in member's homes.

Sunday School

- Each Sunday Sept through May
9:30 a.m.

Adult studies

- Sundays 6:00 pm at Fosburgs 2673 42nd Ave. "Immigration and the Bible" available at the church or through Amazon
- "Walk with Jesus"
Sunday 9:30 am

Music

- The "Unity Crew" rehearses Tuesdays at 7:00 pm

Music

Hope you are all enjoying the music of our worship service. The Unity Crew (Christian Band) is working hard to get you into the spirit of worship and inspire you to be involved in the message of Jesus. It is so special to have David Wilson now providing keyboard accompaniments. On top of that he has a great voice too!! That along with Rene on guitar, Rachel on the bongos, the return of Sharon P., and Wow! Hope you feel the same. We are still looking for other instrumentalists that could join us. If you or someone you know wants to join us please let me know. We would especially like to find a drummer and if someone came forward would we try to see if we could get a drum set (kind of essential if we have someone to use it).

We are also adding other musical elements for our services - did you like having the "background song" to sing and being played during communion? Also what do you think about our new fellowship song? Talking about that, many congregations choose one song and sing it all the time (kind of like our doxology). In the past our church has changed the fellowship (last) song occasionally (usually changed with the liturgical season). Which do you like? We have had some nice fellowship songs -- songs like: On Eagles Wings, Love Came Down at Christmas, and our newest one -- Offering and then in the past songs like Shalom, Make Us One, Bind Us Together, God Be With You, Go Now in Peace, Gloria Gloria, Thank You Lord, and the Trees of the Field. Do you have a favorite? Do you want us to just choose one to sing all the time? This would allow everyone to really learn it. Or do you like the variety of changing? Also if you have suggestions for hymns, songs, special music, etc. --- please don't be shy!

Christmas is hardly over and we are going to have the choir jump back in to prepare Easter music. Easter comes early this year (March 31st), so we have to get going. I thought our choir did well for Christmas, but it is small and we are really lacking for tenor and bass parts - we need to recruit!! Please come join us if you can. Ladies, start "thumping" on those men who are just being shy with their talents!! LOL You will soon see an announcement for rehearsal times.

Robert Mumford
LUMC Music Director



Vancouver District

The 2013 District Leadership training is scheduled and ready to go. This year we will hear from Molly Harper Haines, who is our PNW Ministry Fund Drive consultant. She will be speaking about our stewardship and the fund drive and how they both will serve to enhance the local church now and into the future. One of my mentors-from-afar, Bill Hybels says, "The local church is the hope of the world." I truly believe that. And the local church deserves the best leaders possible - both lay and clergy. The goal of the Fund Drive is to bring the best available training and coaching to our leaders so that our churches will be well led.

The goal of this year's training is to provide a good introduction and begin a foundation of leadership that will encourage our churches and enhance our ministries. We have divided up the district into two regions to elicit the greatest participation possible. The AM location will be in the south at Salmon Creek UMC and the PM location will be in the north at Hoquiam UMC. It is my hope that you will invite all your leaders and potential leaders to this training so that you can get a glimpse of the larger development in our Annual Conference and also to get some hands on training that will apply directly to your work in the local church.

I hope to see you there.

Your Superintendent,

David Nieda

Salmon Creek UMC Saturday, March 2, 2013

8:30 Registration

9:00 Gathering/Presentation

9:30 Workshop 1

10:45 Break

11:00 Workshop 2

United Methodist Men - Will be meeting quarterly, rather than monthly. The next meeting will be April 17th at 7:00 pm

Finance

Our first Communion Sunday Special Offering will be the first Sunday in February. We will be adding to the national UMC special offerings by adding a selection to benefit our community. We hope that you will look at the following list and choose ones that you wish to support. Baskets will be on the front pews to gather these special offerings; they will go directly to the fund or organization designated for the month.

February 3	Camperships (local)	August 4	Tide Me Over Fund (local)
March 3	One Great Hour of Sharing	Sept. 1	Community House (local)
April 7	Native American Ministries	Oct. 6	World Communion Sunday
May 5	Peace With Justice	Nov. 3	United Methodist Student Day
June 2	Angel Fund (local)	Dec. 1	Angel Fund – Christmas Eve (local)
July 7	Community House (local)	Jan 2014	Human Relations Day

Cynda Webb, Finance Chair

Habitat for Humanity



Current Needs

STORE VOLUNTEERS

A tablet or notebook computer to limit the amount of paper for committee, Board of Director events and meetings

Construction Team: Volunteer Materials Manager

Volunteer Demo committee

Lunch providers

A Brush with Kindness volunteers

Construction volunteers

The Habitat Store is growing and busier than ever and needs volunteers! The Store is looking for volunteers on a consistent basis. Would you consider 2 to 4 hours per month by working at the Store with warehouse support; driver assistance in picking up donations; cleaning and moving donations out on the Store floor; and so many other Store opportunities? The Habitat Store is located at 1145 11th in Longview (the old "feed store" next to Bob's Administrative Offices). The Store is open Wednesday through Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Please SHOP, DONATE and VOLUNTEER! Call our Store Manager, Judy at 360-636-6765 or our Volunteer Coordinator at 360-425-6177 to arrange volunteer schedules at the Store. It's great fun and supports our mission of serving families! CALL NOW – We need you!

LONGVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

2851—30th Ave.

Phone: 360-425-4927

Email: lumcoffice@cni.net



**Check out our brand new
website!**

www.umclongview.com

New Adult Study

**"The Bible and Immigration" A guide
for radical welcome**

Sundays 6:00 pm

@ Fosburgs 2673 42nd Ave.

Books available in the church office

Also available from Amazon

All are welcome at this study

Lent schedule

Feb 12th Pancake supper 6:00 pm

Feb 13th Ash Wednesday service 6:30 pm

Feb 18th Study @ LV Presbyterian 7:00 pm

Feb 23rd High Five class 9:00 am to noon

Feb 25th Study @ LV 1st Christian 7:00 pm

March 4th Study @ LV Episcopal 7:00 pm

March 12th Study @ LV UMC 7:00 pm

**March 18th Study @ Bethany Lutheran
7:00 pm**

**March 28th Seder observation @ LV UMC
7:00 pm**

March 29th Good Friday service 7:00 pm