

Volume 78 Issue 3

March, 2013



Hi everyone, hope this note finds you well and at peace. As I sit in my office and watch the rain come down I feel an overwhelming amount of peace. I just love the rain I know many of you don't, sorry, but it seems to relax me and put me at ease. It just seems like God is covering me with His grace and His love, and there is so much of it, that it covers the whole world around me as well. Wouldn't it be nice if we could all lead more peaceful lives? Are you looking for peace this day? Have you ever looked for peace in bible verses?

It's always a good idea to reflect on bible verses about the gifts God has promised us. Peace is one of those promises. We might be worried or anxious about the things we have done in our past, or stressed about our lives right today....even wondering what the future holds. Yet, God's word encourages us to trust in him and pursue the peace that Jesus left with us. Spend some time with these peace scriptures. I pray that they will speak to your heart and help you in your pursuit of peace. I'll give you four of my favorites. There are four weeks left during this Lenten Season, maybe take one of these scriptures and pray it every morning for a week, then move to the next one for the next week, and see what happens. You never know, you may just find that peace you are searching for by being in God's presence.

**John 14:27** - Peace I leave with you; my peace I give you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.

*Ask yourself: what is different between God's peace and the world's peace? Am I afraid?*

**Colossians 3:15** - Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace. And be thankful.

*Ask yourself: is God's peace bigger than I? Are you thankful when you feel at peace?*

**Romans 15:13** - May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace as you trust in him, so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

*Ask yourself: do you trust God? How does that feel? What does overflowing hope look like in your life?*

**John 16:33** - "I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

*Ask yourself: what does my trouble look like? What does overcoming the world mean?*



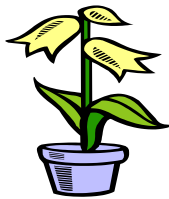
peace to you all, rene'

## Worship Committee

Worship Committee meets right after church on the 1st Sunday of the month. All members need to put this on their calendar and plan to attend. Church members should contact any member of the worship committee with the "3 C's" of growth - concerns, comments, or complements. We will only know what you think and feel about worship services if you tell us! Of course we are trying to meet the needs of a pretty diverse group, but we want to do whatever we can to make your worship meaningful.

Of course the best way for your worship to be meaningful is to be involved. The worship committee is still looking for those who are willing to greet, usher, provide flowers, help with a friendly and caring atmosphere that helps us all to be the parts of the body of Christ. We have some nice things coming and continue to experiment with the general activities in worship so let us know what you think. We are a growing church and will probably continue to change as you can see. We are grateful for your support and prayers.

It will be great if you would like to share Easter lilies for the Sunday worship on Easter. Please bring them to the church during the week prior to Easter. Removing the yellow thing in the middle of the flower will make it easier on those with allergies.



Robert Mumford  
Worship Committee Chair

## NEW YORKER CARTOON

A woman is visiting a man who is in prison, a glass partition separating them. Both are smiling as she tells him over the phone: "The bad news is Lady Sybil died in childbirth. On the other hand, Bates is back home and Tom's sticking around to help run the estate."

## WHAT'S RMN;

### WHAT'S THE GATHERING?



Our church joined the Reconciling Ministries Network (RMN) nearly 10 years ago after deciding to advocate for acceptance of GLBTQs in all aspects of the life of the Methodist Church.

Now, RMN is celebrating its 11th year of annual gatherings. The keynote speaker is Dr. Greg Carey, professor of new testament at Lancaster Theological Seminary in Pennsylvania. "Using and Misusing the Bible in Church Sex-Talk" is the title of his talk.

The gathering is set for March 9 at the Seattle First United Methodist Church, 11:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. The cost is nominal and if we register by March 5 we even get a break on that. In addition, scholarships are available. Child care is provided but RMN needs to know ahead of time.

Check out the flyer posted on the bulletin board in the foyer, then step into the church office to sign up and arrange for carpooling. The discussion groups don't disappoint-- go for it!

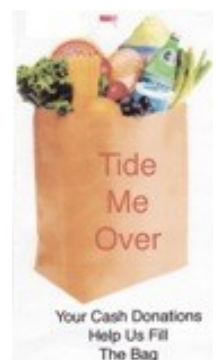
## TELL US IT ISN'T SO!

The cupboard for supplying Tide Me Over bags is looking pretty bare and budgeted money is dipping low. Especially needed are canned meats and peanut butter. A complete list of items is available in the office. Our congregation is very generous but there's a lot going on and it's not always easy to remember it all. (Says the one who is supposed to be reporting on the status but who doesn't always remember to do so!)

Any ideas?

Niis

425-7121



## POP QUIZ

For old time's sake, here's a true or false quiz. It's on immigrant realities. Answers are posted somewhere in the church. Or, come to the next immigration study at the Fosburgs, 6:30 p.m., Sundays. True or False:

- There are a lot more immigrants in our country today than at any time in our history. T or F
- For most of our history there were no laws barring entry. T or F
- We can't do much about addressing the causes of migration -- that's a problem of the country of origin. T or F
- People who want to come here don't need to come here without documents -- they can get a visa or a green card. T or F
- Undocumented people earn a lot less than U.S. workers of equal skill levels. T or F
- Immigrants take the jobs of U.S. workers. T or F
- Immigrants are major contributors to our economy. T or F
- It's easy to tell who is an immigrant and who isn't. T or F
- Immigrants commit more crimes than non-immigrants. T or F
- Immigrants use public services without contributing. T or F
- Immigrants don't want to learn English. T or F
- Family unity and the needs of women and children and youth are impacted by current immigration realities. T or F



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

UNITED METHODIST



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### United Methodist Women

- All women of the church are welcome and encouraged to attend
- 1st Thursday of each month 10:30 am

### 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
- Easter Choir rehearses Wednesdays at 7:00 pm



Donni Martelle, one of our newest members, scoped out a number of churches before landing with ours. She was looking for a church that meets her needs and that needs her, she said.

GLBTQ issues are important to her: "It's a passion that I have," she said. "I have a lot of good gay friends."

Donni and her husband Jeff, who live in Longview, left Thursday for a vacation in Hawaii, where she was born and lived until age seven. She has many relatives there but she said they're just meeting one relative and a few friends "because I don't want to overburden Jeff."

It doesn't take long to realize she's outgoing and energetic and humorous. Donni describes herself as "always thinking," adding that she's "always talking." She attends the pastor's class and is highly interested in the Immigration and the Bible class at the Fosburgs. She intends to join the adult Sunday School class after returning from her trip.

Two auto vehicle accidents left her no longer able to work at a job she loved. Donni said she had a private counseling business before joining state employment as a case resource manager. She has worked with developmentally disabled people, and has experience in family counseling and leading groups taking on issues such as mental health; sex abuse and assault; domestic violence, including domestic violence perpetrators; marriage counseling; and transgender counseling.

## Trustees

We continue to work with the Roof Doctor to fix the continuing roof leak. It may be coming from the steep part of the roof. Many thanks to Gene and Frank who keep watch on this. Thanks to Terry Bowser who has helped me with picking up leaves in front of the storage sheds and in sanding in the hallway by the kitchen in preparation for the upcoming paint job.

Keep March 23 (Saturday) open to help us for any amount of time you can give to yard clean up if weather permits or indoor cleaning if it rains.



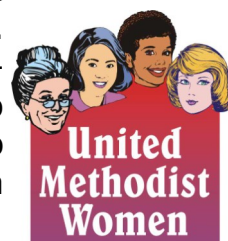
Sharon Klump, trustee

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## United Methodist Women

At our March 7th meeting we will be assembling the hygiene kits we have been collecting materials for all year long. We hope to make 100 of them and divide them between the Emergency Support Shelter and Community House. Thanks to all who donated goods for kits. Special thanks to Gina and the employees of our Longview/Kelso Kaiser clinic for donating so much for this project.

We'll be providing brunch on Easter morning again this year. There will be a free-will offering for the meal. We hope you will all plan to be there. We'll be taking a free will offering for the meal. We'd also like to invite any of you who are so inclined to bring a bread item to share.



Sharon Fosburg, UMW president

**LONGVIEW UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

2851—30th Ave.

Phone: 360-425-4927

Email: lumcoffice@cni.net



**Check out our brand new  
website!**

**[www.umclongview.com](http://www.umclongview.com)**

## **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**

**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**

**March 30th Easter egg hunt 10:00 am**

**March 31st Brunch by UMW @ 9:30 am**

**Worship the Risen Christ**

**10:30 am**