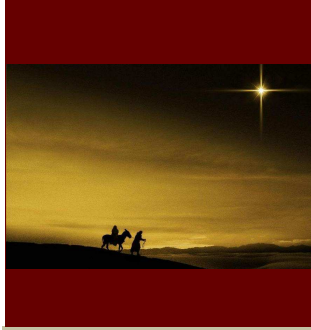


# Message From the Pastor



**Beaverton First United  
Methodist Church**  
12555 SW 4th Street  
Beaverton Oregon 97005  
503-646-7107  
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# The Witness

Happy Advent and Merry Christmas! How excited I am to be spending this first Christmas with all of you. Advent is a time to prepare our homes and our hearts for the coming of the Christ Child. And, although, Christmas comes every year like clockwork, I have a child-like excitement each year as I set out the Advent wreath and the Nativity scene. The coming of the Christ Child is new again, and exciting again, every year... every day.

Advent and Christmas are also times of celebration. I feel as though you and I have much to celebrate this year. There is a prophecy in Isaiah that speaks of the Spirit that will guide and anoint the Messiah:

<sup>2</sup> *The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.*  
<sup>3</sup> *His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.*  
*Isaiah 11:2-3a*

I believe the Holy Spirit is moving at Beaverton First U M C and here is some the fruit I see and celebrate with you...

**Worship!** I feel the spirit moving in worship every Sunday. And each week seems to bring visitors to our church! It is great to have babies in worship!

**Sunday School!** In addition

to Bob Munger's adult class we celebrate the return of Sunday school for children!!! Thanks to our fabulous Education Committee our kids are learning God's word here at BFUMC again. And did you count those 11 kids at Children's Time the First Sunday of Advent!

**Child Care in the Nursery!**

From 9:00 AM to 12:30 PM Brittany Green and Sarah Kingstad are available in our nursery to care for restless little ones!

**Our Trustees!** It seems that just about every week something in our facility needs care. You might think of that as a negative, but just think about it. We have a team of men and women who care for our building and make sure it continues to run. And they do it in a spirit of love and joy! Yes, our facility needs work but, this is an opportunity given to us by the Spirit to see how this facility can serve Christ and his people in the years to come! (Yes, my mother did call me "Pollyanna" when I was a child, but I think the Spirit knows when a dash of "Pollyanna" is OK.)

**The lay leadership of this church.**

Not just Juanita Villareal, the woman who has served tirelessly as our Lay Leader for many years and who will be "retiring" from that post at the end of this month, (THANK YOU Juanita and Bless-

ings!) and not just Jack Cone who will become our Lay Leader in January 2012 – although both of them are fabulous and are models for lay spirit and leadership. But there are other great lay leaders who are part of the Congregational Leadership Development (CLD) team, the 2012 Committees that keep the church going, the new Building Committee that will begin looking at the needs of our facility as we move into the future and... all of you! You all play a role in leading this church.

**The Discipleship of Giving.**

I believe what I told you over and over again. To give to God is simply to give back in love to the God who first loved us. Our money is just a part of the time and talents we give in return to the God who gives to us without measure. Our giving this year is up **%18!**

Celebrate with me the movement of the Spirit here at Beaverton First United Methodist Church. Do not hesitate to give thanks to the Child in the manger, who came to share a joyous message of love for all and grace without price. Remember that it is more blessed to give than to receive, and yet... in giving we receive more than we ever could have imagined!

Peace, Joy, Hope and Love,

*Pastor Kathy*

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# Local Church News

## Changes in Church Food Pantry Operation

There have been rumors with regard to changes made by the Oregon Food Bank in the distribution of food to small food pantries. In mid-summer we learned that Oregon Food Bank-West had been divided into 4 districts with one goal: to combine smaller food pantries within a district with larger pantries to serve more people at one location.

Due to the current economy, loss of state and federal funds, as well as FEMA, no food pantry which distributes less than 50 food boxes a month will be allowed to get food from the Oregon Food Bank. Consequently, after December 31<sup>st</sup>, our pantry will not be allowed to purchase food from the Oregon Food Bank.

The Outreach Committee has decided that we will no longer prepare

food boxes for Care to Share or for emergency walk-ins. After we use up any food on hand, we propose to distribute only emergency bags containing items that can be eaten immediately without cooking like peanut butter, crackers, tuna, small cartons of fruit, and energy bars. Care to Share's number will be included in the bag so the recipient can contact them for food boxes or food pantries close by where they can get a larger supply of



emergency food. We would appreciate your continued financial support to pay for the items needed for the emergency bags.

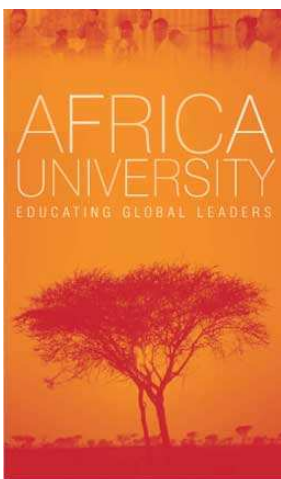
Each month we will request our congregation to purchase specific items for the emergency bags.

One month it might be peanut butter, the next tuna, small cartons of fruit, or power bars, whatever is needed to keep emergency bags filled and ready to hand out. Another suggestion might be to donate \$10 Fred Meyer cards to include in the emergency bags to allow recipients to buy eggs and milk.

Please discontinue making miscellaneous food purchases for the food pantry after December 15<sup>th</sup>. When the New Year begins, or when our current supply of food is used up, we will ask for the particular items needed for the emergency bags.

We have had the church food pantry for many years, but we can no longer sustain it without the availability of food from the Oregon Food Bank. (Outreach Committee – Marlene McCormick, Food Pantry Coordinator)

## Apportionments—Africa University Fund



Africa University is supported by our contributions to Apportionments

Africa University, located in Zimbabwe, is the first fully accredited Methodist institution on the African continent. It opened in 1992 with 40

students and now boasts a student body of about 1,200, representing 25 countries.

Africa University offer courses in agriculture and natural resources, management and administration, theology, and education. The students have the opportunity to discuss the different cultures and beliefs of the 25 countries gaining a better understanding of their neighbors.

Approximately 3,500 students have graduated from Africa University since it opened. The first

graduation in the spring of 1994 included 18 graduates in Agriculture and Natural Resources, and nine students in Theology. Today the students are trained in Sustainable Agriculture, Disease Prevention, Peace, Leadership and Governance, Education, Church Growth and Development, Business Management and Administration, and Ethical Leadership.

Africa University has 135 faculty members and, additionally, multiple permanent and visiting lecturers. (Ivan McCormick)

## Mission Church

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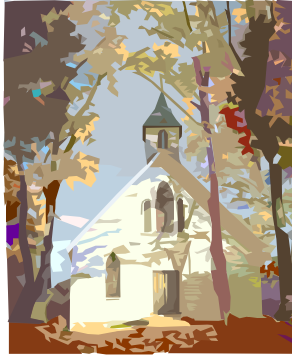
Many years ago I was 1 of 38 people to be involved in forming a new church in our neighborhood. That was quite an experience.

We had to find and purchase land, secure a Minister, Architect, and Contractor, purchase office furniture, stationery, typewriters, copier, and postage, all of the office supplies we now take for granted. One of the local churches gave us their extra hymnals. And these mundane items went on and on, all requiring cash to acquire.

It was an eye opener, working with the Architect and Contractor (both members of our 38

forming members), and the County Building Department to develop the plans for the church building. Then came securing the financing for all of this. Our Minister was coming from the mid-West so we had moving expenses in addition to his salary to contend to. The Minister and his family would need a place to live so we needed to purchase a parsonage. The expenses just kept accumulating.

This is where the Methodist Church stepped in. They de-



clared our church a Mission Church. That is a church vitally needed in the community but the membership unable to finance the total program by themselves.

Money given by the other churches to the Conference Apportionments made it possible for the Conference to financially support this church until its membership increased to allow it to support itself. That church now has a membership over 400 people.

Supporting the Mission Church is part of our Apportionment giving. (Ivan McCormick)

## Outreach Committee

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The Committee gives thanks for all of the contributions of food needed to fill nine boxes for the needy for Thanksgiving. The boxes were packed and ready to be picked up on November 22<sup>nd</sup> and they were gratefully accepted by each recipient. I even received a big hug from a little boy whose eyes really lit

up when he saw the big turkey. My thanks, too, to Pam Smith, Maxine Zerba and Pat Tervooren for their help in sorting food and packing the boxes. (Marlene McCormick)

Christmas is coming and we are asking for \$20 or \$25 Target gift cards to help as many families as possible to purchase gifts for their children. We will put the gift cards in envelopes, and one will be given out to each person who comes into the office asking for help. The need is so great, a day does not go by that hasn't had someone ask in the



office for help. We believe that each child should have a gift for Christmas. We hope you agree. (Outreach Committee).



## New Nursery Room Attendants

We have hired two new Attendants in the nursery to take care of the little ones during Sunday School and Church.

Brittany Green graduated from Beaverton High School in June 2011. She is a member of the National Honor Society and received a Double Letter in Thespian Troupe #1634 and is certified in first aid, CPR, and AED. She is enrolled at Portland State University majoring in

biology and Pre-Med program. Brittany has lived in the Beaverton for most of her life.

A life-long member of BFUMC, Sarah Kingstad attended Sunday School and participated in the Youth Program. Now as a young adult enrolled at PCC, Sarah is spending part of her Sunday helping in the nursery. "It's fun to be in the nursery. The kids are so cute and I get a chance to play!"

## Ruth Fellowship Christmas Luncheon

The Ruth Fellowship Christmas luncheon will be on Wednesday, December 14 at 11:45 a.m. at Ernesto's Italian Restaurant, 8544 SW Apple Way, Beaverton. Cost (including drink and gratuity) will be \$12.70 for the buffet and

\$10.85 for the salad bar. Husbands are invited. Reservations are needed by December 8. Please contact Sharon Keeney at 503-704-1454 or Edie Flaming at 503-590-2331 if you plan to attend.



## End of Giving Year Information

**Please note** any giving you would like to be recorded for the 2011 giving year must be received in the church office by 2:00 pm on Tuesday December 27, 2011. According to tax law, contributions can only be counted based on when the church deposits the funds. The church office will be closed December 26, 2010 – January 2,



2011 all contributions need to be in the office before 2:00 pm on Tuesday December 27, 2010. Please remember that the postal system can move slowly at the end of December and plan accordingly.

The Church Office will be closed December 26, 2011-Jan 2, 2012. During this time the Pastor and Church Administrator will be in the office finishing up

administrative work before the year end. We may not answer phone calls but voicemail and Email will be checked and monitored during this time as the hours we are in the office will vary. Any urgent needs will be addressed as quickly as possible. Please let us know if you have any questions.

503-646-7107

[office@beavertonumc.org](mailto:office@beavertonumc.org)



## Meals on Wheels/Loaves & Fishes

Tuesday, December 11th will be our church's day to volunteer for this Outreach Program at Elsie Stuhr Senior Center. Kitchen crew should be at the Center at 9:30 a.m. Drivers should be at the Center at 10:00 a.m. Contact Pat Tervooren, 503-644-7475.

## Thanks From India

Good Samaritan Ministries India Satellite would like to thank First United Methodist Church congregation and friends for their support. We received \$404 to help pay for new windows at the orphanage in Kakinada, India. Thank you! We are praying for you. I have included a picture of the new windows being installed.

Michael R. Wild  
GSM India



## Stewardship

The Finance Committee wants to thank everyone for his or her support for next year's budget. The 2012 pledges total \$129,710.00, an increase of \$19,500.00 from

last year that is an 18% increase. We are now working on the next year budget and this success has made this task so much easier.

## A Bit of Levity

Nine-year-old Joey was asked by his mother what he had learned in Sunday School.

Well, Mom, our teacher told us how God sent Moses behind enemy lines on a rescue mission to lead the Israelites out of Egypt. When he got to the Red Sea, he

had his army build a pontoon bridge and all the people walked across safely. Then he radioed headquarters for reinforcements. They sent bombers to blow up the bridge and all the Israelites were saved."

"Now, Joey, is that really what your teacher taught you?" his mother asked.

"Well, no. Mom, but, if I told it the way the teacher did, you'd never believe it!"

# Metro Church News

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Company is coming!! Not just for Thanksgiving, I mean for the Advent and Christmas season. Christmas, especially Christmas Eve is one of the times that un-churched and less-churched people will come to church. It

may be to join family, or because of spirit of the season, or because they are struggling with emotional pain and depression during the season. No matter why, we need to be ready to welcome them.

And, remember, that out of town family members may never come back to your church, but you still have the chance to plant a seed by showing them extravagant hospitality and the welcome that Jesus calls for us to offer. (Greg Nelson – Director of Communications)

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## Oregon Governor Halts Death Penalty

Oregon Governor John Kitzhaber put a stop to the December 6<sup>th</sup> execution of Gary Haugen. Further he said he would block any other executions while he is Governor, Stating that the death penalty “Fails to meet basic standards of justice,”

Kitzhaber has echoed the values of the United Methodist Social Principles. Kitzhaber cited that his physician’s oath to “do no harm” was a key factor in the decision. Bishop Hoshibata, the Methodist Federation for Social Action, Oregonians Against the

Death Penalty, and many individual United Methodists have contacted the governor to urge him to take this action.

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## Portland First UMC Recognized for Hunger Ministry.

The Oregon Faith Roundtable Against Hunger has awarded Portland First United Methodist Church a “Special Award” for their ongoing commitment to the fight against hunger. The announcement said: “For as long as any of those involved in

serving the hungry, the poor or the vulnerable can remember, Portland First Methodist has reached out and served other faith communities and not for profits with the same compassion and dedication as it has in its direct service.”



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## Musical Interlude

The many musicians from Lake Oswego United Methodist Church invite you to receive a gift of Christ-



mas music on December 11 at 4:00 p.m. Take a break and hear the music of the Chancel Choir, Flipside, Lake Carillion, Vesper Bells, Youth Bells, Organist

Bob Hinson and Recording Artist John Nilsen. Lake Oswego UMC is located at 1855 South Shore Blvd.

# December 2011

Sun                      Mon                      Tue                      Wed                      Thu                      Fri                      Sat

				1	2	3 CLD
4 9:00 am Sunday School All Ages 10:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Faith Café	5 3:30 Grief Support Group	6	7 9:30 am Prayer Group 7:30 pm Choir Practice	8 7:00 pm Board of Trustees	9	10 9 am Men's Group
11 9:00 am Sunday School All Ages 10:30 am Worship/ 6:00 pm Faith Café	12 7:00 am Men's Meeting 2:00 pm Hospitality Committee 7:00 pm Finance Committee	13 Loaves and Fishes/Meals on Wheels	14 9:30 am Prayer Group 11:45 am Ruth Christmas Luncheon 7:30 pm Choir Practice	15 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	16	17
18 9:00 am Sunday School All Ages 10:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Faith Café (our week to Host)	19 7:00 am Men's Meeting 3:30 Grief Support Group 7:00 pm Outreach Commit-	20	21 9:30 am Prayer Group 7:30 pm Choir Practice	22	23	24 <i>Christmas Eve Candlelight Services at 6:30 pm &amp; 11:00 pm</i>
25 9:00 am Sunday School All Ages 10:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Faith Café	26 7:00 am Men's Meeting	27 <i>Any Donations to be counted for 2011 must be in the office TODAY</i>	28 9:30 am Prayer Group 7:30 pm Choir Practice	29 6:00 pm Faith Café	30	31
<b><i>Church Office Closed for Administrative Work</i></b>						

## Happy Birthday To:

11/06	Cathy Merrill	12/15	Harold Ayres
12/08	Michelle Cressman	12/15	Barbara Berger
12/09	Bill Newton	12/15	Jenifer Hernandez
12/10	Dan Gray	12/18	Norm Berger
12/10	Patti Gupstill	12/20	Jeanne Fast
12/10	Chris Jackson	12/23	Andy Wilson
12/11	Lois Newton	12/25	Gordon Morris
12/13	Marc Muramatsu	12/27	Ken Anderson
12/13	Alex Skrydlak	12/29	Juanita Villarreal
12/14	Mary Beth Elliott	12/30	Robert Blanding
12/14	Megan Mendyke	12/31	Phyllis Conant



## Happy Anniversary To:

12/24/2007 Neal Haines and Pat Lidrich

Beaverton First United Methodist Church

12555 SW 4th Street

Beaverton, Oregon 97005

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

*Open Minds,  
Open Hearts,  
Open Doors*

## News From Around the Globe

### New Quake in Turkey

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After a second earthquake in just over two weeks struck eastern Turkey, the United Methodist Committee on Relief is responding with partners International Blue Crescent (IBC) and Global/Medic.

Muzaffer Baca, vice president of IBC, said that some survivors of the first quake on October 23, already had returned to the damaged city of Van and were living in their homes or hotels when the second quake struck.

The 5.6 magnitude quake toppled buildings, including a six story hotel and a children's hospital, Baca reported. There were journalists and representatives of nongovernmental organizations (NGO) in the hotel, including the Turkish Red Crescent team in Van. "The hospi-

tal was accommodating about 100 children," he said.

Early news reports indicated that 8 people had died and dozens more could be trapped underneath the rubble. 25 buildings, including two hotels, were destroyed in the second quake. The people are now once again in the streets, fearful and looking for shelter. The temperature is -4 Celsius (about 25 degrees F.) and the electricity has been cut, so electrical heaters are not working.

Many of those who did not return to their homes have been enduring the frigid temperatures in tents and makeshift dwellings since the 7.2 magnitude quake occurred two weeks before. That tremor killed 600 people, damaged or destroyed

about 3,700 buildings, and heavily impacted the city of Van and the villages that surround it.

UMCOR already was working with IBC after the October 23 earthquake, providing food, medicine, blankets, and other emergency needs to survivors, while also considering long-term recovery and rebuilding needs. With this second quake, UMCOR will partner with Global/Medic to provide winterized tents and a field hospital in Van.

Your support for **International Disaster Response, UMCOR Advance #982450**, helps UMCOR respond to both emergency and long-term recovery needs in Turkey. Please earmark your check "Turkey Earthquake".