

Emergency Food Pantry



Beaverton First United
Methodist Church
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Beginning January 1st, our food pantry switched from being a full service pantry to emergency food only, furnishing needy persons with a one day's supply of food. They will also be furnished with information about how to get a larger food supply through Care to Share.



For the month of February, we are requesting contributions of food for breakfast: i.e. boxes of instant oatmeal, individual serving boxes of dry cereal, cereal bars, power bars,

shelf stable milk, small jars of peanut butter and jelly. Please put all donations in the large wicker basket in the Fireside Room. Thank you for your help with this new phase of feeding the hungry. (Marlene McCormick, Coordinator)

Apportionments—Episcopal Fund

The Episcopal Fund portion of our Apportionments provides United Methodist bishops worldwide with much-needed support.

This fund is a source of revenue for office operations, travel, salaries, health insurance, pensions, each bishop's residence, and other expenses of the bishops. The fund supports 69 active bishops, approximately 125 retired bishops, and surviving spouses in the five U.S. Jurisdictions and the Central Conferences and Europe, Africa and the Philippines.

Upon retirement, the Episcopal Fund provides health benefits, disability and

pension for the bishop, as well as travel expenses for official business of the Council of Bishops.

The bishops oversee and are responsible for the congregations in their respective Episcopal areas and determine the church appointments for each pastor. Bishops counsel with pastors, encourage congregations and lead in many ways.



Ruth Fellowship and Quilts and Crafts

Ruth Fellowship meeting will be Wednesday, February 8th at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. We will begin a series of videos on the Bible. Robbie Houghton is in charge of the program. Hostesses: Robbie Houghton and Edie Flaming. Devotions: Karleen Johnson. Please bring a sandwich for lunch. Dessert, coffee and tea will be furnished.



Quilts and Crafts will meet on Wednesday, February 22nd at 10:00 a.m. in the Fireside Room. For questions regarding Quilts contact Karleen Johnson 503-646-5882 and for Crafts contact June Reed at 503-646-8079.

The witness

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Meals on Wheels/Loaves and Fishes

Tuesday, February 14th 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.

Message From the Pastor

Someone recently said, "We have Pollyanna for a pastor!" I fully acknowledged the truth of the statement. Before you quit reading for fear of sugar overload, let's recall just who Pollyanna was.

Pollyanna Whittier is the literary creation of Eleanor H. Porter (1868-1920), although the Disney film starring Haley Mills introduced many of us baby-boomers to her. When the book begins, Pollyanna is an orphan, the daughter of missionary, Reverend John Whittier and his wife, both deceased. Pollyanna is sent to live with her less-than-loving Aunt Polly, her mother's sister.

(Like Harry Potter after her) Pollyanna's aunt feels "stuck" with her and is none too pleased with certain of her personality traits! It is Pollyanna's "glad game" that most annoys her aunt, at least at first. The "glad game" begins when one of the "missionary barrels" from their home Parrish arrives with crutches instead of the doll Pollyanna wants. Her father tells her to just be glad she doesn't need the crutches and so begins the "glad game."



I want to assure you that I am as serious as the next ordained clergy person and I take my orders and responsibilities very seriously, but theological optimism is part of Christ's command to make disciples and grow the Christian faith. Without theological optimism Christianity would not have survived.

So let me introduce you to my "theological glad game." First observation: Our church building and property is in need of review, and in some cases, renovation, updating and/or remodeling. Second observation: As an organization the UMC has lost membership for several decades running and, while it is the hope

of many BFUMC members I have spoken to for our fellowship of faith to grow, we have not seen that growth for a while.

These are a couple of difficult, expensive facts facing the people called Methodists here at Beaverton First. Perhaps we should spend time in sorrowful meditation. Things are not the same as they were 20 or 30 years ago and the memories of many persons here go back that far and further. People feel a certain sense of loss for what is gone. That is perfectly OK, I do not question the validity of anyone's feelings.

Me! I am glad for the opportunity God is giving us. God is asking us to find out what this building can be for the future of Beaverton's downtown community of Christians wishing to follow Jesus' Great Commandment to Love One Another (John 15:12) by feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, and giving support to those in the greatest need. Our building can be part of that Great Commandment, but it needs work. I am excited by the challenge and feel glad that God has chosen us for this job. Let's meet the challenge! Let's get going!

Our numbers are down. We lose more people each year than we take in. We take in very few members on "Profession of Faith" that means new Christians that we are bringing to Jesus for the first time.

Wow! I am so glad that God chose me and called me to the ordained ministry during this time in history! I am so glad God chose all of you to this call as well! There is so much work to be done and we live right in the middle of the mission field! We don't have to send people a world away to "make disciples of Jesus Christ" - We can do that right here! When guests, seekers, visitors and young Christians walk through our doors we can show them what it means to be a disciple by our worshipping energy and by our own commitment to the Great Commission of Christ (Matthew 28:18-20).

When we walk out among the people as Christ's disciples they will know that a believer is with them and there is an opportunity for their lives to change, too.

Is an up-dated office and new bathrooms part of our mission? yes it is along with the other visions and plans that all of you will help us develop for our building. We care for our building, we care for the people in it, and we care for the people who make it their home on a weekly, monthly, daily basis. Because they were hungry and we fed them, cold and we gave them a place to come, needy and we gave them solace.

Will this bring us new disciples? It gives us a front door. It is our job to walk out that door into the mission field and bring back disciples. It is our job to keep that front door open. I am so glad for that opportunity!

Pollyanna Whittier was a PK who did not live an easy life. First, an orphan before her teen years, it is towards the end of the story that she is injured and loses the use of her legs. It is her friends, neighbors, and yes, her aunt, who must re-teach her the "glad game." Of course the story has a happy ending. My mom cried every time she read it to us. But if it is only a story to you, you've missed the point.

"Pollyanna" is a metaphor for taking the hard-knocks of life and seeing the opportunities waiting for you inside them.

"Pollyanna" can be annoying, always seeing the good, especially if you are grieving the past, the loss, the pain that has not yet past. I shall try to be a gentle "Pollyanna," guiding us to see that the past is a celebration and what is to come is an opportunity God does not want us to miss! If you are something of a "Pollyanna," embrace it and help us see all the opportunities God has in store for each and every one of us.

On the Path together!
Pastor Kathy

Thanks from Rebuilding Together

Thank you for making this Christmas a bit brighter for a family in need. A few days before Christmas, we received a call from a hospital hospice asking for help in getting heat restored to a family in Beaverton. The 39-year-old mother of three children wanted to spend her last days at home with her husband and children, and, while they were keeping her warm

with a small space heater, the rest of the family were wearing coats and gloves in the house. Rebuilding Together was able to fix their furnace, but their desolation, the thought of losing their mother and possibly their home due to large health related bills, was very sad. The generous donation you made of the Target gift cards which we delivered to

this family helped to bring a bit of comfort to their lives. They were very thankful. (Joan Goldhammer, Rebuilding Together Washington County)



A Bit of Levity

A paramedic was asked on a local TV talk-show program: "What was your most unusual and challenging 911 call?"

"Recently we got a call from that big white church at 11th and Walnut," the paramedic said. "A

frantic usher was very concerned that during the sermon an elderly man passed out in a pew and appeared to be dead. The usher could find no pulse and there was no noticeable breathing." "What was so unusual and

demanding about this particular call?" the interviewer asked.

"Well," the paramedic said, "we carried out four guys before we found the one who was dead."

News from the District and Around the Conference

"Lazarus, Come Forth!" Author to Visit Tigard UMC

John Dear is a Jesuit Priest and peace activist and has been nominated by Desmond Tutu for the Nobel Peace Prize. The author of over 28 books will be visiting Tigard United Methodist Church on February 6 as part of their Pathways Ministry series. The evening will begin with an informal gathering time in the jubilate coffee shop at 6:00 p.m., followed by Fr. Dear's presentation in the Sanctuary at 7:00

p.m.

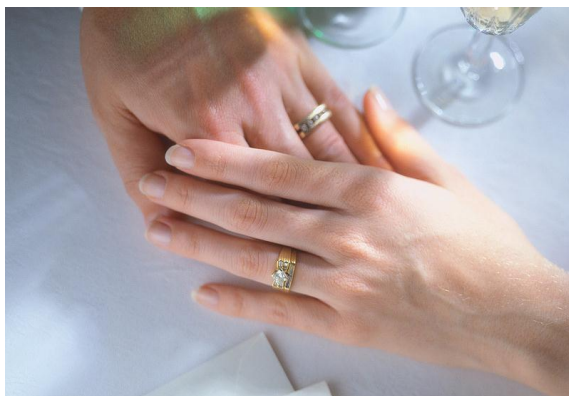
John Dear's ground-breaking new book, *Lazarus Come Forth!*, explores the story of the raising of Lazarus in the Gospel of John, Chapter 11, and suggests that Lazarus represents "humanity" stuck in the culture of death, and that Jesus represent "the God of life" calling humanity out of the tombs, out of the culture of violence and war, into

"the new life of resurrection peace." This book invites us to carry Jesus' liberating work by obeying his commandments "to take away the stone that keeps us trapped in our violent culture of war, to call each other out of the tombs, to unbind one another and to set each other free to live in peace and nonviolence."

If you would like to receive this newsletter in your email in-box instead of your postal mail box please send a message Carin. office@beavertonumc.org.

February 2012

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 9:30 am Prayer Group 7:30 pm Choir Practice	2	3	4 CLD
5 9:00 am Sunday School All Ages 10:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Faith Café (our week)	6 3:30 Grief Support Group	7	8 9:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 am Ruth Fellowship 7:30 pm Choir Practice	9 6:30 pm Crafter's Corner 7:00 pm Board of Trustees	10	11 9 am Men's Group
12 9:00 am Sunday School All Ages 10:30 am Worship/All church Potluck 6:00 pm Faith Café	13 7:00 am Men's Meeting 2:00 pm Hospitality Committee 7:00 pm Finance Committee	14 Loaves and Fishes/Meals on Wheels	15 9:30 am Prayer Group 7:30 pm Choir Practice	16 7:00 pm Church Council Meeting	17	18
19 9:00 am Sunday School All Ages 10:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Faith Café	20 7:00 am Men's Meeting 3:30 Grief Support Group 7:00 pm Outreach committee	21	22 9:30 am Prayer Group 10:30 Quilts and Crafts 7:00 pm Ash Wednesday service	23 6:00 pm Faith Café	24	25
26 9:00 am Sunday School All Ages 10:30 am Worship 6:00 pm Faith Café	27 7:00 am Men's Meeting	28	29			



Happy Anniversary!

2/09/2002 Carl & Nancy Stewart

Happy Birthday!

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| 2/01 Linda Adams | 2/13 Daniel Newton |
| 2/03 John Young | 2/18 Maxine Zerba |
| 2/03 Grace De Bruyne | 2/18 Halleigh Blanding |
| 2/07 John Himes | 2/27 Selita Taufou |
| 2/08 Andy Morrill | 2/28 Debbie Munoz |
| 2/10 Bill Wendt | 2/28 Shannon Fast |
| 2/12 Kirah Hoffman | 2/28 Dan Faxon |
| 2/13 Brian Conley | |



Craft Corner

The new crafters group invites all crafters, experienced, beginners, or those wanting to learn a new craft to join us on Thursday the 9th at 6:30 pm in Wesley Chapel. We would love to have you. For more info. Call Gloria at 503-858-7260



Save the Date!

Sunday, February 12, 2012

The Hospitality Committee will host a potluck dinner after Church ó we will use a valentine theme. Invite your special friend to



come with you and bring a dish to share, enjoy visiting with each and look forward to what we have planned for our

gathering. Everyone is welcome ó so if you forget to bring something, stay anyway.

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12555 SW 4th Street
Beaverton, Oregon 97005

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

*Open Minds,
Open Hearts,
Open Doors*

News From Around the Globe

Minnesotans Adds \$2 Million to Malaria Fight

Minnesota United Methodists have raised \$2,226,023 in pledges and gifts for *Imagine No Malaria*, The United Methodist Church's campaign to eliminate malaria deaths in sub-Saharan Africa by 2015. That total the highest amount raised by a United Methodist annual (regional) conference to date, is a vivid demonstration of the vitality of our participating churches, said Minnesota Bishop Sally Dyck. They have vision for the realm of God and compassion for people outside of their immediate community. Their creativity in raising awareness and giving generously is inspiring.

Malaria, a preventable disease spread by mosquitoes, no longer occurs in developed nations such as the United States. The church's *Imagine No Malaria* campaign has stated that deaths from malaria can be prevented even in sub-Saharan Africa, where a child dies every 45 seconds from the disease.

Imagine No Malaria, in partnership with the United Nations Foundation and working alongside organizations like the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, the World Health Organization and others, has already dimin-

ished the death toll through medical aid, preventive measures, education, and communication. United Methodists around the world are working to raise funds for the mission.

Because of better prevention and control measures, malaria mortality rates have fallen by more than 25 percent globally since 2000 and by 33 percent in Africa according to the World Health Organization.