

Foothill Notes



Christ's Church
Methodist & Presbyterian United
412 Clay St. W.
Monmouth, OR 97361
503.838.1724
<http://www.christschurchmonmouth.org/>
Sunday Worship: 11 am

We welcome ALL to Christ's Church, knowing that God has created and loves ALL people – Delighting in the gifts and diversity of us ALL ... We invite ALL persons, regardless of age, disability, race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, or gender to participate fully in the life of this Body of Believers – as we experience the Love of God together.

OUR CHURCH



Saying Hello

“Go therefore and make disciples...” (Matthew 28:19a NRSV)

Greetings in the name of Jesus the Christ! Thank you for the opportunity to serve with you as your interim pastor for the next several months. I greatly appreciate the warm and gracious welcome I've received into your unique community of faith and look forward to getting to know you as we minister together.

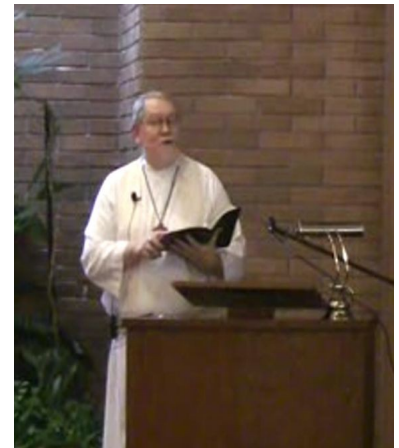
In my time with you I will try, with God's grace, to be a “hinge” to help you gently swing the door open into the new frontier to which God is calling Christ's Church. We will complete the vision work already begun in order to aid in discerning the best pastoral match to help lead the church toward making the vision a reality.

Another focus that I would like to bring to you as we prepare for receiving the new pastor is that of discipleship, particularly discipleship spiritual formation. A critical issue facing most churches today is the loss of membership, mission support, vitality and enthusiasm. There are many reasons for this decline but NONE that we cannot overcome with the grace of God!

One of the over-arching reasons for the decline in the Church is that, generally speaking, we have not given serious focus to discipleship spiritual formation. I hope to initiate a conversation with you about this in the short time I am here. Then, as your new pastor arrives, you may choose to work with her or him to put in place a discipleship process that will help in making many new disciples while also enriching the lives of those – like you – who are already in process!!!

Again, thank you for your warm and gracious welcome. As the next year unfolds may we all be blessed by God's amazing grace! And may we also continue being vessels pouring out that amazing grace in our community and world!

Blessings & Peace in Christ,
Pastor Dave





Saying Goodbye

We gave Pastor James our blessings and love to help him on his new journey.



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL SUCCESS - AUGUST 2013



Getting Started



Outdoor Games - a highlight



Forest Grove Team Helped All 4 Days - Thank you



Linda Teaching A Lesson - Look at them soak it up !

STEWARDSHIP

Finance Statement of Christ's Church through July 31, 2013



Report from Linda Grund-Clampit, Stewardship Team

Income: \$71,348

Expenses: \$70,867

Payments on our denominational commitments:

We have paid \$500 of \$1500 toward the Presbyterian Mission Pledge (33%)

We have paid \$2,831 of \$8,493 toward the United Methodist apportionment (33%)

We are hoping to pay a minimum of 50% of these commitments this year.

We have paid \$801 of \$901 toward our Presbyterian per capita assessment (89%)

We plan to pay this in full this year.

We have not yet paid anything toward our \$400 commitment to the Erbeles (United Methodist missionaries in Alaska) nor our \$400 commitment to Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship.

We hope to pay both these commitments in full this year.

Thank you for your giving! Please see below for information on one of the important ministries supported through our United Methodist apportionment giving. This is something none of us individually, nor as a single congregation, could do alone. But all of us giving together, inspired by the Holy Spirit working in us, can result in miracles!

Founded by the United Methodist Church in 1992, Zimbabwe-based Africa University has 75 full-time lecturers who serve some 1,200 full-time students from 27 countries. These students earn degrees in agriculture, management and administration, theology, peace and governance and more. Then they return to their native countries and serve as physicians, ministers, agriculturalists and teachers.

Today Africa University graduate Manenji Mangundu works in Kerfi, a small town in Chad located along the Sudan border. "My biggest achievement to date," Mangundu said, "has been helping over 200,000 people in Western Darfur gain access to potable water, latrines and medicine in the face of water shortages and water-related diseases.

"Africa University has added value to my work," he continued. "The epidemiology module has helped me to understand ... evidence-based intervention."

As Africa University changes the lives of students enrolled at the Zimbabwe school, it changes the lives of thousands of people across the entire continent of Africa.

When we support the Africa University Fund through our local church apportionments, we help to transform entire communities.

YOUTH EVENTS



Welcome WOU Students around the Fire Pit

The temperatures are cooling a bit. Fresh vegetables and fruits are appearing at the church's front door. The schools are full of energy. And, yes, soon the college students will be showing up at WOU.

A welcome to Monmouth, to a new year for new students and to families who care is scheduled for late Sunday afternoon, the day before classes start. Christ's Church and Western Compass, our ministry to the campus, are working together to create a fun afternoon around food, games and, of course, the fire pit.

With the exception of the Talent Show that evening in the Werner Center on campus, this is the last scheduled event for the week-long New Student Week. After a week of orientation, testing and getting to know their new world, this will be a transition into the community with barbecued hamburgers, hotdogs and picnic food as well as friendly faces, laughter and yard games in our big backyard.

Join in at 4:00PM on September 29 with hospitality, a dessert or salad. You may even find a special student you may wish to spend time with throughout the year. It would be their family away from home.

THIS AND THAT



Book Cart

You are already familiar with the “book cart” that is always near the bell choir platform in our beloved sanctuary. For years the collection has been lovingly maintained by CCW (Christ’s Church Women, AKA Jo King). Thank you.

Five new items have been added to the cart. These UMC studies are published annually and are useful in classes or for private study. They have been used in the School of Christian Mission (Mission U) held every summer at John Fox University. Sample and enjoy.

LIST OF BOOKS FROM SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION

Indonesia in Shadow and Light 1998

Haiti Challenges and Hope 2011

Poverty 2012

The Roma of Europe 2013

The Call; Living Sacramentally, Walking Justly 2013

FUN FUN FUN - BABY SHOWER

We helped celebrate the pending arrival of a new baby girl with Weiwei and Rob Zhang-Troyer. with a Baby Shower on Sept. 20th. Diane McBurnett and Gail Saxowsky decorated up a storm and we all came ready for games, prizes, & laden with gifts for the baby. Many wonderful gifts were given chosen with love and caring, some were hand made, and there was even an elephant in the room. Denvy Saxowsky made a wooden elephant that converts to a rocking cradle.



Who won that game?



Trying out the Elephant Ride

CHURCH TEAM REPORTS



Jo Ann King Reports On Annual Conference

DISCIPLE IS A VERB

This year at the Annual Conference of the United Methodist Church, Bishop Grant Hagiya set the bar of expectations very high with the theme "disciple is a verb"- not just a noun.

Not only are we disciples, but we can disciple other people. How? you ask. Share your faith and your story, Invite others to Church, teach a class, Nurture new people, Mentor a student, invite new attendees to coffee hour or to lunch and show them you care.

We can't all be evangelists but there are many things we can do. Welcome your new neighbor and invite them to church. You get the idea!

Bishop Hagiya has defined his goals for us in a very helpful way.

1. Increase worship attendance by 10% in the coming year. We do keep attendance so we need to pick a Sunday to start counting and then when to stop and compare!
2. Increase the numbers of "professions of faith" by 10%. This is usually the first time a person comes forward to commit their life to Jesus Christ and/or join the Church.. This takes a little more figuring!
3. Set up a relevant "discipling" system within our local Church. This means to organize a way to help members and/or regular attenders to know more about the church and be able to share their faith with others.
4. Engagement in the mission field- We have a lot of activities that fit in this category: When we assess them all we may need to make changes or add on!
5. Provide Real Answers to Real Needs. - This one hit me on the head! Yes! None of us wants to do something that doesn't need to be done! We do a lot of answering real needs - check it out on Sunday mornings.

Now I'll briefly summarize our 3 main speakers:

Bishop Hagiya interpreted Jesus' command to the disciples in the "feeding of the 5,000", "You give them something to eat", to mean literally meeting their needs, physical and spiritual! In his new book, "Spiritual Kaizen", He speaks of the need to continue to grow spiritually and make positive changes regularly throughout life, not just until we retire. God needs us and we need him all the way home!

Bishop Tom Bickerton is in charge of the, "Imagine no Malaria", campaign internationally. I cannot imagine a more charming and effective spokesman. He spoke eloquently of holding a dying baby in his arms in Africa. That moment cemented his willingness to go all over the world raising millions of dollars to rid the world of the disease that has killed so many!

Phyllis Tickle is a former college professor who spoke on her book, "The Great Emergence-How Christianity is Changing". Apparently Christianity has been changing and reinventing itself about every 500 years. Some of our Christian friends are renewing their connection to faith on their own terms. They are discovering ways they can share with their neighbors. Tickle also feels that most of a whole generation has missed out on Christian education and grandparents can take up the slack! Phyllis Tickle sounds hopeful! We can all use a little hope.

Of course other things happened at Conference-
business meetings, elections, budgets, worship services with WONDERFUL SINGING-

and the ordination service with James being ordained!

We also had generous offerings:

1. Change Hunger fast: \$4,280.31
2. Idaho Food Bank; \$1,546.65
3. "Undies"- overwhelming amount!,
4. Imagine No Malaria-\$7,304.31,
5. Hispanic Ministry in Washington County, OR- \$2,879.65

OK, I'm done. If you would like to know more, I do have a notebook you can borrow, and there are several copies of the 2 books I mentioned, so just ask me!

Love, Jo Ann King



TAKING ACTION

Homeless Discussion Draws Large Group

City, County and State Officials were in attendance as concerned local citizens gathered to discuss the causes of homelessness and what existing efforts there are to assist those without housing. The discussion was informative, and aided those present in a better understanding of the situation, while stimulating interest in helping our local homeless people. If you are interested in being part of this effort, talk with Denvy.



EXTEND YOURSELF



Introducing new HORIZONS Bible Study: *An Abiding Hope, The presence of God in Exodus and Deuteronomy*

CHAPTER ONE PEOPLE OF THE WIND, Native American Perspectives on Migrating Communities

We begin this journey at 1:00PM Wednesday September 4. Tentatively, we will meet at Heron Point on the first Wed of each month for 9 months. Of course we are able to do our reading in the peace and quiet of our homes BUT the best part is meeting and sharing with our sisters in these small informal groups. All are welcome. Bring a snack to share if you wish while we cover the miles and years from Genesis, thru colonization of the Americas by Europeans, then on toward today's controversy about the "undocumented". There is room for everyone at God's table.

Call Jo King for information. She will bring the study books to the first meeting. Jo Yeager will try to convince you that a donation can cover the book plus a one year subscription to the women's magazine *HORIZONS*. Our library has copies of the HORIZON books from 2001 thru 2014.

LOOKING FORWARD



Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) is formed

After a series of events in a long evolving process, the congregations of Christ's Church and Falls City Methodist have chosen persons to represent them in the nomination of a new pastor for the yoked churches. The SPRC set the date for a congregational meeting of Christ's Church to elect members to the Pastor Nominating Committee. John Mahon, executive presbyter for our area, has visited with the church leaders. The Church Board nominated members for the election and set the PNC size at nine plus two from Falls City who were selected by their board last month. Eileen Scheelar of John Knox, our liaison to the Commission on Ministry in the Cascades of the Presbytery visited with the Board this month and will continue to guide, support and advise the PNC throughout the entire process. She will be with us up through the installation of our next pastor.

This may sound very complex which is not unusual when everyone's voice and opinion is considered important. Eileen reminded us that we are not hiring a minister as the corporate world would hire an employee but we are prayerfully listening to respond to God's calling of a person to serve with us.

Persons elected to the PNC from Christ's Church are Bev Davis, Janna Moser, Bill Leedy, Linda Grund-Clampit, Carol Brown, Denvy Saxowsky, Lisa Fowler, Sherry Pittam, and Maggie Triplett. Barbara Goodman and Kristy Major are the PNC members from Falls City. Their first meeting will be Thursday, August 29, and their first and primary task at that time will be to get to know each other and "become a team." Our Plan of Union indicates that we will call a designated pastor which will fully involve the congregation in finding a pastor called to serve the two churches but will allow us the opportunity to experience a Methodist pastor in the future and it may abbreviate some of the process.

Before actually reading dossiers or resumes, the PNC will conduct a Mission Study which is the term used for the process of each church determining who we are, where we want to go in the future and what characteristics we would like to see in our next pastor. Fortunately the information from the monthly meetings that we had after church earlier this year will help move this process forward, as well as other on-going and past reflections into our church personality.

SOME CALENDAR ITEMS

Please Note, This Calendar (by it's nature) is always incomplete; for a listing of monthly events see the posters in the church, or posted on the web site calendar)

Peace Offering date is near

On **October 6th** we will collect one of our four denominational special offerings: the Peace offering. This offering is utilized in both denominations to support efforts of education and social action locally and globally to help transform cultures of violence into communities of peace.

A portion is kept for our local church to find new ways to offer peace at all times in all ways in our community.

Pastor Dave's Sermon Series off to a WOW start, don't miss the rest of this series.

Pastor will be starting a Sermon Series about Things that He Wished Jesus Had Said, following the theme of the Book by Barbara Nixon, a friend of many in the congregation and a Methodist Pastor in Boise Idaho. His first Sermon was titled "Don't Believe Everything You Read". The series will continue up to our Advent Season. What an exciting way to bring in Advent.

Pastor Dave to begin a Pastor's Forum

Why: To discuss the sermon or other items urging you to ask questions.

When: After fellowship on Sundays

Where: Library

How: Casual and Relaxed