

Bear Fax

A monthly publication of Bear Creek United Methodist Church

Crocodile Dock is coming!

All children, kindergarten through 5th grade, are invited to join Skeeter and the Bible Buddy pals in the bayou this summer! At Vacation Bible School, children will play exciting outdoor games, eat incredibly delicious bayou snacks, make fun crocodile crafts, sing and dance to rocking bayou tunes and learn about God's always brightly shining light! So hop on a flat-bottom boat and drift through lazy, hazy waters under tall cypress trees—until the big adventure begins! \$10 donation per child: \$25 max. per family. To register, Go to www.bcumc.org, call the office at 425.788.2953, or call Tresje at 425.788.7077.



Crocodile Dock Needs YOU! Join us in serving God, our church, and our community this summer! Everyone can help to make VBS a huge success. Here's How:

- Invite your friends and neighbors to join us! Use the yellow Crocodile Dock postcard invitations in the narthex to help.
- Are you between the ages of a sixth grader and 110? VBS needs Station Leaders and Crew Leaders. July 13-17, 9-noon

Station Leaders are adults who run each of the VBS stations: Singing, Drama, Crafts, Games, Snacks, Bible Study, Small Group Lessons.

Crew Leaders are middle- and high-school age people who can have fun with the kids doing VBS activities, support Station Leaders, and help VBS run smoothly.

- Are you unable to be at VBS, but want to help out anyway? VBS needs materials and food items! See the mostly yellow Crocodile Dock display in the narthex, or call Tresje 425.788-7077.

Picnic Potluck in the Park

Sunday, August 30
after worship

Cottage Lake Park

Games! Music! Food!



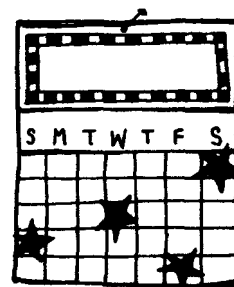
PICNIC POTLUCK



July, 2009

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastor's Message	2
Worship Opportunities	2
Golf Tournament	3
Cantata DVDS	3
Save the Date	3
Honduras Hygiene Kits	4
Hopelink Luncheon	4
Prayers	5
Finance Report	5



DATES TO REMEMBER

July 13-17
Vacation Bible School

July 19-24
White Swan Mission Trip

PASTOR'S MUMBLINGS

Dear Bearcreekians,
 What I have learned about myself over years of ministry is that I need extended vacation to really rest and be physically, mentally and spiritually ready for the next program year. So I save up my vacation during the year and try to take it all at once. Then, Vickie and I get the time we need with each other and I can really relax and again get creative and energized. I take a pile of books with me and pray a lot. I come back refreshed and with new insights.

Vacation is the time I prepare my body and soul for the next year. This is the rhythm that works best for me. I am truly grateful to Staff/Parish Relations and to you for granting me this time.

We have a big year coming up. We will all need rest and energy for this, so I hope you have re-creation time planned in your summer as well.

We spent the last year in a Time of Discernment, and we have learned a lot. I have given you this information in previous columns. Now we are entering a Time of Action for Spiritual Renewal. Spiritual renewal is a time to focus on our relationship with God and with each other. This relationship plays itself out in our culture (how we interact with God and each other) and our programs (what we do together for God and God's creation).

Culturally, we will deepen our relationship with God as individuals and as a community.

- We will review (and amend if desired) and, as a congregation, recommit to our Mission, Vision and Values. Our MVV defines our God-given purpose, what living our purpose looks like, and how we relate to God and each other along the way.
- And we will build a system of relational accountability (a cornerstone of the Wesleys'

method for spiritual growth) into all we do, whether it is a committee or a small group.

Programmatically, we will improve what we do together in service of God's love.

- We will make the program improvements we heard called for in our Time of Discernment and from our four listening teams.
- We will watch for emerging ministries to which God leads us.
- We will align all we do with our God given mission.
- And we will hold ourselves accountable to accomplish what we plan.

It is an exciting time to be a part of Bear Creek and I am ready to get started.

But first—vacation.

Shalom,
 Dave O

WORSHIP

Join us Sundays at 9:30 a.m.

Make worship a regular part of your life of discipleship. Whether the music is loud or soft, the sermon good or bad, our worship of God with our brother and sister disciples of Jesus will be just right.

July 5—5th Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 6: 1-13

8:00 p.m. *Vespers*

A half hour of music, scripture, meditation and prayer.

July 12—6th Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 6: 14-29

July 19—7th Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 6: 30-34, 53-56

July 26—8th Sunday after Pentecost

John 6: 1-21



Golf tournament benefits Habitat

Habitat for Humanity of East King County and Thrivent Builds invites you to the 2009 Golf Tournament and Auction on Monday, August 31.

The schedule is:

11:30 a.m. Shotgun Start

4:30 p.m. Social Hour/
Dinner/Auction

The event will be held at Bear Creek Country Club in Woodinville.

To date, Thrivent Builds volunteers have built more than 1,000 homes across the US for families in need of simple, decent, affordable housing. These two new Thrivent Builds homes will be the sixth and seventh houses that Habitat for Humanity of EKC has built through the Thrivent Builds Homes project.

For more information, go to www.habitatekc.com/golf. Reg-

ister today to participate as a golfer and/or attend the dinner and auction. You may also become an event sponsor to receive valuable exposure for your company.



The Dog (and Cat) Days of Summer

What we can learn from our pets:

If you love someone, show them. Greet them at the door, snuggle up next to them on the couch, sleep on their head. (You may want to skip that last one.)

Enjoy simple things: a scratch behind the ears, riding in the car with the windows down, a new toy, a bowl of food.

Be loyal, When your people are threatened, come to their defense.

Give the occasional random gift. It shows you care. (Remember that when your cat drops a half-dead mouse at your feet.)

Play hard,

Nap often.

Save the Date

Vacation Bible School	July 13-17	9:00-noon
White Swan Mission Trip	July 19-24	
Evening Family Bible School	August 2-6	6:00-8:30 p.m.
Honduras Mission Trip	August 16-22	
Community Blood Drive	August 18	1:00-7:00 p.m.
All-Church Picnic Potluck at Cottage Lake Park	August 30	11:00 a.m.
Sunday School resumes	September 13	
Reach Out Sunday/Ministry Fair/BBQ	September 27	
Charge Conference	October 4	Noon
Love and Logic Parenting	October 14	6:30 p.m.
Community Blood Drive (Cottage Lake Presbyterian)	October 27	1:00-7:00 p.m.
Stewardship Commitment Sunday	November 15	
Advent Festival	December 6	5:30 p.m.
Unrehearsed Children's Pageant	December 24	6:00 p.m.
Communion Worship Service	December 24	11:00 p.m.

www.bcumc.org

Click on "Calendar" to get up-to-date information and plan your committee's events!

MISSIONS

Morning hygiene kits needed for Honduras

You too can be a part of the mission trip to Honduras. As a church, we have contributed generously to the August mission trip through prayer, donations and participation. However, another opportunity is at hand.

Honduras is one of the poorest countries in the Western Hemisphere, and the Olancho region in Central Honduras, consisting of some 200 villages, is the poorest area of Honduras. Honduras Outreach, Inc. (HOI) has been working with community members in the area for many years in efforts to provide schooling, health care and education in farming and husbandry, as well as to foster economic development. HOI hosts weekly visits by groups such as our mission team to assist in their many community projects.

Among the projects HOI has helped implement in the area is a morning hygiene education program and kit for school children. This kit is a baggie with soap, comb, small cup, and toothbrush and toothpaste which is kept in the classroom for the children to use each morning, along with a hygiene education program.

Although our original plan was to purchase the items here and carry them to Honduras, we have decided to solicit monetary donations and buy the items in Honduras instead. Even though our economy needs the stimulus, our thought is that items donated to a community are best purchased in that community, if possible, to bolster their economy. The items are less expensive purchased in Honduras, as well.



The cost of each kit is about \$5.00. If you would like to donate, please make a check out to BCUMC, being sure to put Honduras/Morning Hygiene Kits on the memo line.

Thank you for your participation, and we look forward to sharing our experiences with you when we return.

Hopelink holds annual Reaching Out Benefit Luncheon in October

Keynote Speaker and Moderator: Lisa Ling, Investigative Reporter, Journalist and Special Correspondent

As our community continues to recover from the economic crisis of this past year, we bring together Lisa Ling and special guests to address the challenges of poverty, workable solutions for families struggling to get by, and inspiration to meet the extraordinary needs in what can only be called extraordinary times.

On Monday, October 19, from noon until 1:15 p.m. at the Hyatt Regency in Bellevue, Lisa Ling will speak to the issues of poverty nationally and moderate a timely discussion about the impacts of poverty, homelessness, and hunger in our community.

Ms. Ling is known for her work as co-host of ABC's *The*

View, host of *National Geographic Explorer* and reporter on *Channel One News*. In early 2010 she will begin hosting her newsmagazine series on the Oprah Winfrey Network: *Inside: Lisa Ling Investigates*.

For more information please contact Venetia Vango at rsvp@hope-link.org.

Five steps to a friendlier church

Speak to the other person first. Don't wait for him or her to take the initiative.



If there is someone you don't know, introduce yourself to him or her.

Be pleasant in your words and expressions. A great church cannot be built with frowns.

Invite newcomers to a worship service or to a church event and introduce them to other members.

Encourage people to participate in those church activities that interest them.

What one pastor values in his members

When asked what qualities he values most in church members, a pastor in Michigan responded:

1. **Prayer.** Without this everything else matters very little.
2. **A caring spirit about persons.** Too often church work is done without a real caring for people—strangers, other church members and, first of all, family.
3. **Faith and expectancy.** The need for these is critical for the life of the congregation.
4. **Honesty.** Parishioners should be able to give honest feedback to the pastor—both negative and positive—about both the church and the pastor.
5. **Stewardship.** This includes giving in all areas, including finances: "Where your treasure is, there is your heart, also."



Please keep these people and their families in your prayers:

Norm Broome as he recuperates from a heart attack.

Debbie Brown as she continues to deal with health issues.

2009 FINANCE REPORT



Amount budgeted for 2009	\$329,368	
2009 Offerings <i>to date</i>	\$150,030	94.7%
2009 ahead/(behind)	(\$8,320)	-5.3%

Remember to keep up with your summer offerings!



DON'T TAKE A VACATION FROM CHURCH

Bear Creek United Methodist Church

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David Orendorff, Pastor
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A family place
of belonging

We're on the Web!
www.bcumc.org

July 

The Bear Fax is published monthly and is offered electronically or by mail. To change the format in which you receive the newsletter, contact the church office or news@bcumc.org. The deadline for submitting articles is the 20th of each month.

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

On the Horizon



August 2-6
Evening Family Bible School

August 11
Charge Conference

August 16-22
Honduras Mission Trip

August 18
Community Blood Drive at
BCUMC

Sunday, August 30
Picnic Potluck at Cottage Lake
Park after worship

Sunday, September 13
Sunday School resumes

Sunday, September 27
Reach Out Sunday/Ministry
Fair/BBQ

Sunday, October 4
All-Church Conference

Wednesday, October 14
Love and Logic Parenting Class

Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m.

Sunday School
11:00 a.m.

Sunday Vespers
8:00 p.m.
(first Sunday)

All are welcome!

Office hours
9:00-3:00
Monday-Thursday
Closed Fridays

The mission of Bear Creek United Methodist Church is to create a diverse family place of belonging for all people and to reach out and make disciples of Christ.