

Bear Fax



May, 2011

A monthly publication of Bear Creek United Methodist Church

One weekend, two days, three opportunities to serve

On the weekend of May 14-15, we will be participating with churches across the country and around the world in service projects intended to better the lives of people in our neighborhood and beyond. Church is more than coming to worship on Sunday mornings. This is a chance, as a congregation, to take church outside the building to places where it is really needed. Three of those places are Acres of Diamonds, the Stamp Out Hunger National Association of Letter Carriers Food Drive, and the CROP Walk.

Acres of Diamonds (www.acresofdiamonds.org) serves homeless mothers and their children, providing low-cost, transitional housing at a facility in Duvall. They recently put in a concrete pad as a play area and basketball court for kids that stay there. It is up against a bank that needs a retaining wall which we will be building for them. We will be working both days on this project: 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 14, and after church on Sunday, May 15, until about 3:00 p.m. This project will require some digging and carpentry work (this will be less appropriate for young kids), so we will be looking for a few folks to commit to one or both sessions. During the same time periods, there will be general yard work projects that can be done on a drop-in basis and are suited for all ages.

On the same Saturday, we will be helping process food collected by **The National Association of Letter Carriers Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive** (www.helpstampouthunger.com) between 11:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. We are looking for about 30 people (age 12 and above) to sign up. Working part of the shift is okay.

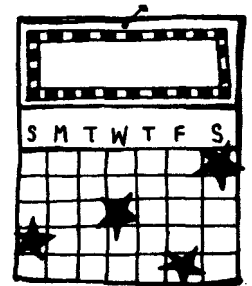
Finally, on Sunday, May 15, we are putting together a team to participate in the **Redmond-Woodinville CROP Hunger Walk** to raise money to help those who are hungry around the world. You can go online (the link is on our web site, www.bcumc.org) to sign up to walk or to donate in support of an individual walker or our team. You can also sign up or donate at church on the Sundays between now and the Walk. Registration on May 15 will be at 1:00 p.m. with the Walk starting at 1:30 p.m. and lasting about an hour.

A limited number of t-shirts commemorating this weekend event will be available (suggested donation of \$5) to wear for the event and afterwards. They will have our church logo on the front and "Change the World" on the back. Let us know if you would like one and your size when you sign up.

The goal is participation by the whole congregation but we recognize that not all will be able to do so. If you cannot participate or want to do a little extra, please consider donating to CROP Walk or to the church for materials for the Acres of Diamonds Project. Thank you!

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Pastor's Mumbblings	2
Worship Opportunities	2
Jewelry Making	2
CROP Walk	3
Family Bible Camp	3
AIDS Update	4
Prayer Shawls	4
Graduates Wanted	4
Bear Chat	5



DATES TO REMEMBER

Tuesday, May 10
Interfaith Blood Drive at BCUMC 1:00-7:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 14
Jewelry Making with Janine 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, May 15
CROP Walk 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 28
Babysitting Course
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.



MAY 14-15, 2011
Get Involved

Pastor's Mumblings

Dear Bearcreekians,
 Every baby born is a miracle of God's love. You are such a miracle. A long time ago you were not, and now you are. What happened? You were born. You were once a baby, and now you are not. What happened? You grew up.

To be born and to grow up is God's gift of life. So that we might be and grow, God has come to us as our Abba, Christ and Holy Spirit. God is with us in our growth, to love us into loving, to heal us into healing, and to comfort us as we labor.



Bear Creek has been born and grows by the love of God. Our vision statement (growing in love for God and neighbor) says it well. And we are growing in spiritual maturity and in those we reach

with the love of God. And, as we grow, our faith deepens and our growth expands. And as we labor, God comforts us and labors with us. As we face the challenges of being in mission to a hurting world, God is with us. As we use our resources of time, talent and wealth, God's generosity expands in and among us.

I pray that in your regular worship, study and service you understand how you and we have grown. And may we be as generous in the growth of Bear Creek as God has been generous with us.

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.

May 1—2nd Sunday of Easter "Tell a Suffering World"

Mission Moment: CROP Walk

1 Peter 1:1-9

May 22—5th Sunday of Easter Heritage Sunday

"It's a Big, Big House"

Mission Moment: Pride Fest

John 14:1-7

May 8—3rd Sunday of Easter Native American Ministries Sunday Mother's Day

"It's Your Choice"

Mission Moment: Change the World

Psalms 23

May 29—6th Sunday of Easter "A Promise Kept"

Mission Moment: Paint the Building

John 14:15-21

May 15—4th Sunday of Easter "On a Walk to Emmaus"

Luke 24.13-35



Jewelry Making with Janine at BCUMC

Saturday, May 14 10:00 a.m.

\$15 for materials—free to watch! All women are invited.

Call Janine at 425.350.6197 for more information

You, too, can walk for hunger on Sunday, May 15

Hunger Facts

◆ Over one billion people are hungry worldwide. That's one out of every seven people in the world.

◆ Each day almost 16,000 children die from hunger-related causes—one every five seconds.

◆ People are hungry in the US, too. If all 36.2 million Americans faced with food insecurity stood in line at a food pantry in New York, the line would stretch to Los Angeles and back. Twice.

One Step at a Time

Have you ever been hungry? If you know you are going to be able to eat sometime soon, it's not bad; our bodies are reminding us that it's time to refuel. But, if you don't know whether you will be able to eat at all, that's something very different. And, even worse, if you don't know if you will be able to feed your hungry children, that's crushing. Imagine what that must be like.

We can do something to help! The CROP Hunger Walk is coming soon and we need you. We need



CROP Hunger Walk

people to walk. And we need people to sponsor our walkers. We need *each* of you. And together, step by step, we can make a difference in the lives of hungry people around the world. What kind of difference? Listen to the voices of hungry people struggling to find hope and the impact you make through supporting our CROP Hunger Walk.

A young girl in the US says, **When you are hungry, you can't think of anything else.**

Up to 25% of the money raised in a CROP Hunger Walk supports hunger-fighting efforts in that local community. Last year CROP Hunger Walks provided over \$4 million dollars to some 3,000 soup kitchens and food pantries across the US.

A poor man in Brazil sighs, **What is poverty? To come home and see your children hungry and not have anything to give them.**

Last year CROP Hunger Walks raised over \$15 million to assist hungry people around the world, providing food and other essentials to those recovering from disaster, as well as tools and training to communities as they seek to establish food security for themselves in places like Guatemala, Indonesia, Haiti, Cambodia, Kenya and more.

A farmer in Niger who received help through a CWS-supported program celebrates, **Thanks to the new well and the increased cultivation, we have more food for our family and are able to sell the extra to gain a little income.** From despair to hope. From hunger to food security. That's the difference you make by support our CROP Hunger Walk.

Together we're ending hunger—one step at a time. Please join our Bear Creek team on Sunday, May 15, at 1:00 p.m.



Family Bible Camp! June 18-19

Family Bible Camp is coming soon! Come experience Joseph's journey from slave to royalty in Egypt. We'll have shops, food, stories, drama and projects for our whole meta-family and friends! Please contact Vickie Orendorff if you have questions or would like to help out.

Boundless Compassion

By Tracy Daugherty

In that first decade since it was named 30 years ago, fear of AIDS was so great, huge segments of the population were shunned or ignored. An AIDS diagnosis branded its victim as deviant, outcast by family, friends, schools, jobs and churches, with barriers to medical, mental and emotional health care, insurance and housing. It was during this period my brother took me on a long drive and told me he had AIDS.

Bret had kept his diagnosis a secret for more than a year and was asking my advice on whether or not to risk telling the rest of the family. I've allowed myself to remember little of that day, but

one particular comment made clear the affect of AIDS stigma on my brother: "No red ribbons. Please, no red ribbons." The AIDS red ribbon was intended as a symbol of compassionate solidarity to end AIDS, yet Bret saw it as a scarlet letter—a label on which judgments were made and compassion withheld.

Love for my brother put me on a bike 15 years ago; compassion for the vulnerable keeps me riding it today. This spring I'll pedal another 1,000 miles to call attention to those still at risk and affected by AIDS, raising money for services that fill gaps left by fear and stigmatism and to keep the brightest minds in innovative

research progressing toward effective prevention, sustainable treatments and a cure. One can always choose how to act on their compassion but compassion itself must never be a choice.

Visit my blog for more information about HIV/AIDS and my cycling mission. Subscribe for regular email updates: www.Kickstandup.blogspot.com/

"A new commandment I give you: Love one another. As I have loved you, so you must love one another"

- John 13:34

Prayer shawls available for loved ones

Have you seen the basket of prayer shawls in the Celebration Space? These beautiful shawls are handmade and have been prayed over before beginning the project, during the process of knitting or crocheting them, and again as they are placed in the basket.

These prayer shawls are for someone you know who needs prayers for faith, courage, strength and understanding in



times of stress, serious illness, death of someone close, when the warmth of God's love and comfort

is desired. Each shawl has a card attached which tells the recipient that the shawl was handmade with prayers by the Bear Creek Prayer Shawl Ministry.

These shawls are permanent gifts; we only ask that you sign the register with the recipient's name when taking one. May all who need Christ's love find comfort in this ministry, which blesses both the recipient and the giver.

We're looking for graduates!

If you are graduating from high school, college, a trade school or another secondary school this year, we would like to know so we can honor you on Recognition Sunday (June 5).

Please contact the church office at 425.788.2953 or office@bcumc.org.



**Are You
GRADUATING?**

Bear Chat

Church needs funds for paint and lighting

After 11 years of service in the Northwest environment, the church is in need of a coat of fresh paint. We need to pressure wash, caulk, and repaint this year.

Unfortunately, due to our current budget shortfall, we cannot add this significant amount of cost to the church/trustees budget. While we are still working on an

estimate, it will probably be in excess of 100 gallons of paint.

Other urgent needs include replacement light bulbs throughout the building and interior paint.

Individuals who would be willing to contribute a gallon or more of paint can donate \$25.00 per gallon. Just put the desired amount in an envelope marked

"paint" or write "paint" on the memo line of your check.

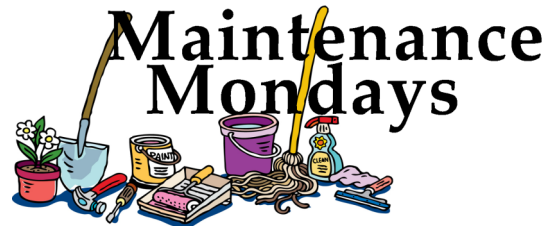
For lighting donations, please mark your envelope or check as "lighting."

Any amount given toward these church needs will be appreciated!

The Bear Creek UMC
Board of Trustees

2011 FINANCE REPORT

Amount budgeted for 2011	\$364,290	
2011 Offerings to date	\$91,462	87.4%
2011 ahead/(behind)	(\$13,150)	-12.6%
Projected Y/E Overage (Shortfall)	(\$7,177)	



Chuck McKee, Gordy Brown, Gordon Kyle and crew are working around the church most Mondays to take care of items that need maintenance or repair.

Please come and help at 10:00 a.m. any Monday that you are available. All hands are welcome!

Also, if you see things around the church that need attention, let the church office or Chuck McKee know.

don't pray, commune

when you are down upon your knees beseeching or sitting still as a lump in the sanctuary stop.

don't pray.

enter into community with the ground of all being in that liminal spot where you experience ancient words of hidden power drawing on the cloud of witnesses.


commune.

What if

the daffodil blooms sweetly and slowly within Mystery's true love?



by Terri Stewart



Tuesdays 6:00 a.m.
Shari's Restaurant
at Totem Lake
All are welcome!

**MEN'S PRAYER
♦ BREAKFAST ♦**

Bear Creek United Methodist Church

16530 Avondale Road N.E.
Woodinville WA 98077-9178

425-788-2953
info@bcumc.org

David Orendorff, Pastor
pastor@bcumc.org

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



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

Saturday, June 4
Women's Group Brunch/Auction 10:00 a.m.

Sunday, June 5
Graduate Recognition/Potluck

Sunday, June 12
Youth Sunday/Confirmation/
Last day of Sunday School

Sunday, June 12
Amazing Grace Seminar 11:00 a.m.

June 18-19
Family Bible Camp

Tuesday, July 12
Interfaith Blood Drive 1:00-7:00 p.m.

Sunday, August 28
Picnic in the park after worship

Sunday Worship
9:30 a.m.

Sunday School
11:00 a.m.

Midweek at Bear Creek
Wednesdays
6:00 p.m.

All are welcome!

Office hours
9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.
Monday-Thursday
Closed Fridays