

# Bear Fax



November, 2011

A monthly publication of Bear Creek United Methodist Church

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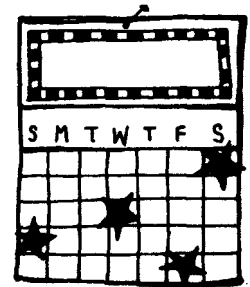
# Advent Festival



Join in the spirit of  
preparation and celebration of  
Advent and the Christmas season  
**Sunday, November 27**  
**4:30-7:30 p.m.**  
(note earlier start time this year)

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- \*Crafts and activities for all ages
- \*Homemade soup and salad supper
- \*Assembly of Advent care packages for our college students
- \*Missions alternative-giving opportunity
  - \*Advent devotional booklets
  - \*Music and story gathering with Pastor Dave and worship band



## DATES TO REMEMBER

*Tuesday, November 1*  
Interfaith Blood Drive  
1:00-7:00 p.m.  
(Woodinville Unitarian)

*Saturday, November 12*  
Women's Group BUNCO  
and Salad  
5:00-8:00 p.m.

*Saturday, November 19*  
Youth Lock-In 6:00 pm

*Sunday, November 20*  
Charge Conference  
4:00 p.m.  
Interfaith Thanksgiving  
Service (Blessed Teresa of  
Calcutta) 7:00 p.m.

*Sunday, November 27*  
Advent Festival 4:30 p.m.



Come and fellowship together  
Friends and family welcome!

(a plate of Christmas cookies for sharing would be welcome, too)

## Pastor's Mumbblings

**D**ear Bearcreekians,  
Earlier this year I said that 2011 was a year of opportunity for Bear Creek. We have taken full advantage of our opportunities.

We are moving forward with our Spiritual Renewal Plan designed to realize our mission to "Grow in love for God, neighbor and self through worship, study and service." Worship, for the first time in 11 years, has shown a five percent growth in attendance.

We have strengthened our study for adults, youth and children. Of particular note is the new Parent's Link where young families

come to know and support each other. We had a great start last spring, and when the fall business with school and sports is over, we will again pick this up.

I am particularly proud of Bear Creek's support for youth through the recent Chrysalis and Jamie and crew's youth group. And our Mission outreach to our neighbors near and far is as strong as ever.

Maybe the most important opportunity we have taken advantage of is the improvement of how we treat each other. It is not that we were bad, but that the inevitable conflict of being family

was difficult for us. We have learned to better put the good health of our relationships ahead of the myriad of tasks. We have learned to listen better and to speak directly to each other in a caring way. Such cultural improvement is much harder than the improvement of programs, and I am so very pleased with what God is doing with us and how well you are responding to God's love in loving ways.

Bear Creek has always been a healing place for many. Now it is a healing place for many more.

Shalom, Dave O

## Is Stephen Ministry for you?

**J**oin other laypeople at BCUMC and sign up for Stephen Ministry training. Stephen Ministry training consists of 50 hours of Biblically-based, psychologically-sound, enjoyable training in Christian caregiving.

After training is complete, each Stephen Minister will be able to provide Christ-centered care to hurting people once a week. For more information about Stephen Ministry, contact Antoinette Ward at [amwrn@aol.com](mailto:amwrn@aol.com).



## Student scholarships are available



**T**hanks to several generous donations to the BCUMC Scholarship Fund, we are able to offer a portion of that money to help our college students purchase a book, pay for supplies, or supplement general college costs by simply sending a short application letter letting us know where you are attending college, your

course of studies, your e-mail and snail mail addresses while in college this year, and any other information you would like to share. Please send or e-mail your letter of interest to Sonya Garrett at [sonyag788@aol.com](mailto:sonyag788@aol.com) as soon as possible so that we can make this possible!

## Help send care packages to college students

**F**all is here and that means it's time to start thinking about Advent!

Bear Creek UMC is again planning to send care packages to our college students. The Family Advent Celebration will be held on Sunday, November 27, at 4:30.

*What we need from you:*

**Addresses.** We need the addresses for all the college students.

Please send an update even if the address has not changed since last year.

**Goodies.** We need things to put in the boxes, such as non-perishable wrapped snacks, candies, dried fruit, peanuts, etc., and small treats—bouncy balls, pencils, Christmas ornaments, etc.

Paper will be provided at the Advent Celebration so everyone

can write a note to say "Hi!" to our friends away at school.

**Money for postage.** Postage can become quite costly, and any donations given will help defer the costs.

Please send all addresses via e-mail to Joan Thorson at [joan.thorson@comcast.net](mailto:joan.thorson@comcast.net)

Any questions? E-mail Joan or call her at 425 788 7450.

## Donate a turkey to Matthew House

**I**t just wouldn't be Thanksgiving at Bear Creek UMC without the opportunity to donate a turkey to a Matthew House family. Matthew House is an organization that provides support to families who have a loved one in prison. These families are often left behind with financial and emotion-

al struggles.

One way our church likes to assist Matthew House in their support of these families is by providing turkeys for Thanksgiving dinners. On Sunday, November 20, the Missions Committee will be accepting donations to assist in the purchase of these turkeys.

A donation of \$18.00 will cover the cost of one turkey, but any monetary donation will be appreciated. You can even go to the BCUMC website and donate electronically. Please consider helping a family have a brighter, happier Thanksgiving by donating a turkey for their special holiday dinner!

## Support fair trade in November

**F**all is here and with the turn of the season we want to tell you about a change in this fall's fair-trade craft fair. The Missions Committee has decided to change things up and offer a new craft fair from Maya Works—a fair-trade nonprofit organization that promotes economic development for Mayan women and their families by supporting a marketplace for their handcrafted goods.

For those who have become accustomed to the African Team Ministries craft fair or who enjoyed last year's Bead for Life fair, don't worry—they will return as part of a rotation of the fair-trade nonprofits that we support each year.

Maya Works partners with over 125 artisans in six communities along the central highlands of Guatemala. All artisans are paid a fair wage for their work. Additionally, they are supported through microloans to start their own businesses, literacy and skills trainings, and scholarships to send their daughters to school.

When you purchase Maya Works items, you are supporting the economic development of women and girls that goes far beyond the exchange of money for goods made in Guatemala. Maya Works believes that community development happens *through the economic development of women* who otherwise have limited ways to participate or contribute to the

economic stability of their families. Giving women an opportunity to earn an income from their skills gives them self-confidence and hope for themselves, their children, their family and their village.

The Maya Works items, including hand-woven bags, wallets, home accents and beaded jewelry, will be on sale during coffee hour on November 6 and November 13, as well as at the Advent Festival on November 27.

Be sure to check out the special Maya Works Christmas decorations we will have available at the Advent Festival. Thanks for making a difference in the lives of the Mayan women and their families.



## Hands-Only CPR

### Wednesday, December 7

**7:00-8:00 p.m.**

*American Heart Association's  
new technique for bystanders*

"This new CPR technique simplifies the act of saving the life of a person who suffers a sudden cardiac arrest."

Almost 80 percent of out-of-hospital cardiac arrests occur at home and are witnessed by a family member. Only 6.4 percent of sudden cardiac arrest victims survive, because the vast majority of those witnessing the arrest do not know how to perform CPR. This new CPR method is simple to use, easy to remember and, most importantly, can save lives. Participants will have the opportunity to tour the Medic One Aid vehicle after the class. This class is appropriate for the entire family.

No registration necessary. Child care is available upon request.

**Everyone is invited to a chili cook-off at 6:00 p.m.!**

Come vote for the best chili!

(A good-will offering will be accepted for dinner.)

## The buzz from Best Beginnings

On September 12 we began another school year. Thirty-nine students arrived during the week, some with great big smiles eager to get back to school, some a little apprehensive, and a few with tears in their eyes and a quivering lip.

Such is the beginning of the preschool experience. Hopefully by the time you all read this everyone will have left their tears at the door. Usually by the end of the second week the children have settled into the new routine of leaving Mom for fun activities and preschool learning.

The threes begin the year reviewing colors and shapes so we have a baseline of where the class is at and can begin to adapt the curriculum accordingly.

The four's "Start Your Engines" theme gets us to know a little about each child as we create a personalized license for each child.

The Pre-K children are the oldest of all the enrollees at Best Beginnings, and they jump into school learning right away.

The fours and Pre-K classes will have their annual trip to Classic Nursery to check on the returning salmon. Before we know

it, we will take that jump into Halloween, learning about spiders, bats, and the growing of pumpkins.

We appreciate so much all the work that Tresje Seeley has done in her new role as our liaison. She has, with lightening speed, taken care of any issues brought to her attention. It has made for such a smooth beginning to our school year. Thanks also to Karl Brackmann for working with us to keep the rent in line with our less-than-full classes. We are enjoying the freshly painted building as well. It looks wonderful.

*Sally Smith  
Director*

# Redmond Rousers has openings

Dear Bear Creek Friends and Community Volunteers,

The Redmond Rousers Rotary Club is looking for YOU this season. We have some openings in our membership that we need community members and business people to fill. We will be working a lot with disadvantaged kids and youth, families, and the disabled.

In order to do this we need your help and support. We are a high energy, diverse group that meets every Tuesday evening from 5:30-7:00 p.m. where we serve dinner (a \$5.00 donation is helpful but not required.) We are non-political, non-religious, and open to all who want to serve others. Our mottoes are "Service Above Self" and "We make a difference."

Rotary is an international organization of people helping people, 1.2 million strong. We have 20 members in our local club right now. We would like to grow

to 40 members ASAP. If you are curious about Rotary and what we do, please come see us at the OLD Redmond Schoolhouse, 16600 - N.E. 80th in Redmond. Go to our website to see our speaker line up. We are always looking for local, speakers too.

**We are looking for volunteers and participants for the following events:**

☺ Planning a holiday kids' party, REK (Rotary Embraces Kids), with the theme "World Holiday."

Do you have a special party planning talent, decorations, or music? Like to work with kids? Have organization skills?

☺ Taco Tuesday party for 50 people to help low-income families this holiday season on November 29 at 5:30 p.m.

Everyone is welcome for \$15 at the door. The party is at Ixtapa at Redmond Ridge—bring a friend!

☺ Community Garden at Juel Park. We are planning a groundbreaking soon. We need people to help us plan long-term solutions and short-term implementations onsite at the park. The park will become a community garden, and all food produced will go to the local Hopelink food banks.

☺ Large auction in the spring of May 2012. Help with a holiday kick off party in December. We are looking for "sponsors" to help the Coup de Cascades Bike Race and the "End Polio Now" campaign.

Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Peace and love,  
Kelly Kyle  
[www.redmondrousers.com](http://www.redmondrousers.com)

# Youth training offered on December 3

Are you a parent, pastor, youth worker, volunteer, or anyone interested or involved in youth ministry? Join us for an afternoon with world-renowned speaker Mark Yaconelli as he shares his insights on the purpose of youth ministry and how to develop an approach to it.

This will be a truly worthwhile afternoon for anyone with a passion for young people. The work-

shop is Saturday, December 3, from 12:30-4:30 at Faith UMC in Issaquah. There is no cost to you!

We need to register as a group, so please contact Jamie Wilson at [youthdir@bcumc.org](mailto:youthdir@bcumc.org) or 206.920.0132 by Sunday, November 13, if you are interested in attending or would like more information.



## Thanksgiving Celebration

Sunday, November 20 7:00 p.m.

Blessed Teresa of Calcutta Catholic Church 13632 NE 177th Place Woodinville

Bring nonperishable food to share our blessings with those in need.

# 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**

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



## On the Horizon

*Saturday, December 3*

Walk to Emmaus Christmas Ultreya  
7:00 p.m.

*Wednesday, December 7*

Chili Cook-off 6:00 p.m.  
Hands-on CPR 7:00 p.m.

*Sunday, December 11*

Amazing Grace Seminar

*Christmas Eve*

Candlelight Services 7:00 and 11:00 p.m.

*Saturday, January 7*

Church Council Retreat

*Saturday, January 21*

Women's Group Soup and Movie Night  
5:00 p.m.

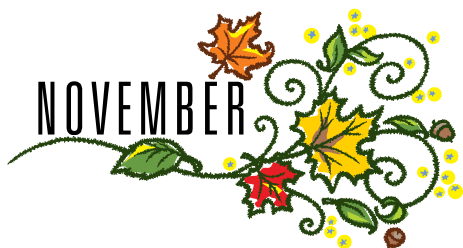
Sunday Worship  
9:30 a.m.

Sunday School  
11:00 a.m.  
(all ages)

Midweek at Bear Creek  
Wednesdays  
6:00 p.m.  
(September-May)

All are welcome!

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



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.