



UNITED CHURCH OF MOSCOW

MAY 2009 NEWSLETTER

WORDS FROM YOUR INTERIM PASTOR



On April 26 I spoke in the service about "Crossing Rivers." I reminded folks that in the Bible, references to rivers, found in many of the bible stories, usually implies that we are to pay attention, because some kind of change is coming. And, quite often, if we read carefully, that river crossing mark's a change in the direction of one's spiritual journey. I referenced stories from Moses and Joshua, the Dead Sea and Jordan River crossings and I should have spoken of Jesus' baptism in the river Jordan. Rivers, I think, continue to serve as analogies of our life experiences. It may not always be an actual river that we cross, but many other events and happenings can serve the same function. We seem to have many of these coming towards us every day; sometimes they overwhelm us.

Today we live with economic uncertainty, political unrest, the swine flu fear, and all the tragic events of life. We don't talk about the mid-life crises but it's still around, we know about the empty nest syndrome, the decaying relationship syndrome and the ill and dying parent traumas. And this listing doesn't even mention the usual traumas of just getting through the day and managing the challenges that are part of our daily routines! The "river crossings" are very much part of our lives today.

I will be gone on such a "crossing" experience from May 4 until I return on May 11. I will be in the Nebraska/ Illinois corridor of highway #80 moving my 102 year old mother to a nursing home. The time has come when she can no longer manage in her home. It's sad but it's a river crossing that many people face and move through, so I am confident I can do it. Sarah just got back from a little different kind of crossing, but a change phase in her mother's life that had to be managed. I know that many of you have already crossed to the other side in similar life situations. Historically it's already been proven many times that I'm not a very good swimmer, being born in Nebraska, but I have a good boat and a strong faith that should get me there and back again. And, I hope I can return with a more settled feeling, ready to cross the next river.

Last Sunday the annual meeting of the congregation was held. A new budget was adopted and new officers of the church approved. The search committee is doing its work carefully and thoroughly and appreciating the patience and understanding you are all giving them. It's another river crossing that is being conducted with great care and thoughtfulness. Please keep Glenda Hawley and her able committee in your prayers.

We have so many people in our congregation right now that need your prayers and continued support. And, you all do such a good job of being compassionate and caring people. When people are not in church, you call and find out about them, when they have set-backs, you are there with food or cards or telephone calls. When discouragement sets in, you help with a listening ear or a caring heart. Remembering each other is what makes the United Church of Moscow a good place to be! Please keep up your caring ministries.

Pastor Warren Jensen

THE WEEKLY MOSCOW PEACE VIGIL

Every Friday 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. the Palouse Peace Coalition gathers as a reminder of our need for peace in the world. You are invited to join. Sometimes there is just silence, sometimes someone speaks, sometimes people join in, and sometimes they don't. It's an opportunity for your personal statement to the community and to the world. Feel free to also visit their website at: www.palousepeace.org



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A SPECIAL NIGHT OF GOSPEL MUSIC AT THE CHURCH

Direct from Nashville... Tribute Concert Event!



Performing well loved favorites like "Beulah Land" and "How Great Thou Art"

Blackwood Legacy with
Gospel Music Hall of Fame Member, Rick Price,
former lead singer for the
Blackwood Brothers Quartet

Thursday, June 18, 7 pm
United Church of Moscow
123 W 1st Street
Info: 208-882-2924

Admission is Free! Come Early for Good Seating

Some of you may have heard about or remember the Blackwood Brothers Gospel Quartet. If not, you missed some of the very finest gospel music of the 50's and 60's. (At least to the delight and through the ears of your interim pastor!) The original Blackwood Brothers are part of history now but their ministry of music continues through several other groups they inspired along the way. One of these groups will be coming to our community and to our church to sing!

On Thursday night, June 18th at 7 p.m. the Blackwood Legacy Trio will be at our church to present an evening of great gospel music. As a national touring group they will be in our area and we have the privilege of hosting them. We will also be issuing an invitation to the community to join with us but wanted to give you some advance time to plan, and maybe line up friends who would like to hear good gospel music. We hope it will be a

wonderful and fun evening of music and we hope you will plan to be part of it. Tickets will not be sold but a free will offering will be received.

SPECIAL REGIONAL ASSEMBLY MAY 16TH

Though the rain and snow may have dampened the winter, spring is coming soon! Please save May 16 for a special one-day regional assembly at Englewood Christian Church in Yakima. We hope to be celebrating several new beginnings together. The ministry plan for the region is due to be presented at that meeting and (hopefully ... if all goes well) we'll have progress toward a permanent regional minister to share. And there may be more causes to celebrate, so please reserve that Saturday on your personal and church calendars to come together with your regional family and friends.

Pastor Jensen and Sarah will be attending the meeting as delegates from our church.

VERY INTERESTING ...

I'm reading a new book! It's written by Charlene Hosenfeld, a clinical psychologist working with addictions and compulsions. She is also concerned about the environment and has written a book called "eco faith", a Pilgrim Press, 2009 publication. The book is a kind of resource guide to churches interested in creating a green and sustainable life-style. She mentions several interesting web sites for those of you interested: www.nrpe.org, www.pcusa.org/hunger/features/climate, and www.webofcreation.org. It would appear that "Green" is an area of interest to many denominations.

PASTORAL SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE

The Pastoral Search committee has sifted many resumes down to two prospective candidates. We are currently awaiting more information about one of them before we can move forward. Keep us in your prayers and thanks for your patience. Aren't you glad we have such a great interim pastor while this search is going on?



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MOVIE NIGHT

Every first Saturday of the month, at 7 pm, will be Movie Night.

The next one will be May 2nd and it will be "Wondrous Oblivion"



Our feature movie will be "Wondrous Oblivion", with Sam Smith, Leigh Conwell, and Dominic Barklem. This is a delightful movie about an eleven year old, David Wiseman, is passionate about cricket but no good at it. So when a Jamaican family move in next door and build a cricket net in the back garden, David is in seventh heaven. But this is 1950's London and they are West Indian, so David's parents find themselves under pressure to put an end to their son's friendship. As they themselves are immigrants from wartime Germany who have suffered bigotry in Britain they have difficult choices to make.

Everyone is invited!

WE ARE ALL INVITED!

The family of our own Glenda Hawley has invited our whole congregation to help celebrate Glenda's 80th birthday. The party will be held on Sunday May 23rd at the Nazarene Church Fellowship Hall from 3:00 – 4:30 p.m. When I pleaded for the party to be held at the United Church, Glenda said: "we wouldn't fit! My family is too large for our fellowship hall!" I think that's a clue for you to get there early for a spot at a table! Cheese cake is the rumored desert. Cards would be appreciated!

PRAYER LIST

Please keep these folks in your thoughts and prayers as they recover and deal with health concerns:



- ✦ Sheila Batey, as she deals with the storms of change.
- ✦ Neva Farnam, as she gains strength and keeps up her courage.
- ✦ Ginny Garton, as she heals from some oral surgery.
- ✦ Pat and Dale Gentry as they work with health concerns.
- ✦ Joan Gustaveson, as she figures out a more dependable heart.
- ✦ Scotte Hecht, he has just returned to his home and will appreciate prayers as he re-adjusts to home life.
- ✦ Agnes Kottke, as she keeps up with a home-bound life.
- ✦ Lois and Bob Leonard, as they Sheppard their family.
- ✦ Peter Lanting, as he continues to gain strength.
- ✦ Tammy and Jerry Leonard, as they continue on a road of recovery.
- ✦ Royce and Iris Manning, as they deal with lots of life issues.
- ✦ Dorothy Roberts, as she recovers and gains strength.
- ✦ Lou Stevens, as she continues to live with a painful back.
- ✦ Kim Stockton, on the loss of a good friend.
- ✦ The American Baptists and the Disciples of Christ Denominations as they both prepare for annual meetings and set agendas for ministries of healing and peace.
- ✦ All of us, as we support one another and find our own peace.

Please remember all these people in your prayers and surround them with your support and concern.



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AMERICAN BAPTIST WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The American Baptist Women's Conference met at Yakima, April 17 – 19. The theme this year was "Created To Do God's Work," Ephesians 2:10.

The mission speaker was Chris Marziale from International Ministries of American Baptist Churches. She spoke to us about the ministries of White Cross in many counties around the world. She also sends us our White Cross assignments. I taped one of her messages if anyone would like to listen to her.

We spent Friday night ripping 3 inch strips from sheets, to make 15 foot lengths, and rolling them to make bandages for hospitals and clinics in Congo, India, Nicaragua, Philippines, and Thailand. Our region goal of making 10,000 bandages was met. Two workshops I attended were in English/Spanish conversation and White Cross.

Our Bible Study leader was Reverend Patti Duckworth, the Associated Executive Minister of ABC/NW. "For we are his workmanship, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand, that we should walk in them," Ephesians 2:10. She gave Susan Boyle of Scotland as a current example. It was Susan's vision to become a singer. Even though she lived in a village in poverty caring for her ailing mother, God prepared her for this dream. Where did she get her experience? Singing in a church choir! The purpose of good works is to glorify God.

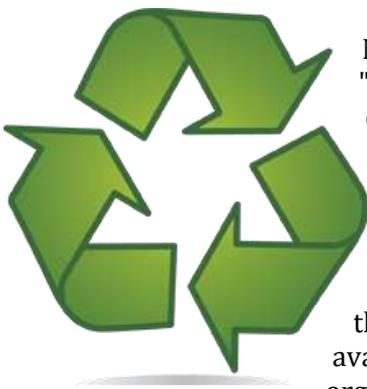
We had 148 attending the Conference this year. Our Special Missions Offering totaled \$8,083.84 for Break the Chains Projects. Our national goal for two years was \$250,000 which we have exceeded. These projects help rescue people from human trafficking. This year projects will help victims in Ghana, Italy, Lebanon, Los Angeles, Sioux Falls, and Peoria.

Our live Gift Offering amounted to \$1,036.77. This offering first began in 1932 to strengthen American Baptist mission work.

It was a very inspiring Conference.

Charlene Vail Hettinger

REUSE, REUSE, RECYCLE



We have all heard the term: "Reuse, Reuse, Recycle." A group called "RE-ZY: Making Re-use Easy," formed during the 2007-2008 academic year and created a "Move Out" program for students. When they left their residences in May, students could donate their unopened, non-perishable food and gently-used clothing, furniture, appliances, and house wares. The food was immediately donated to three local food banks and the other items were made available to the community, Sojourner's Alliance, Hope Center International Friendship Association, Salvation Army, and Goodwill.

So many people expressed gratitude for the program and were grateful that they could make a donation and keep items from going to the landfill and making them available to ease household budgets. This year, RE-ZY is offering community organizations another opportunity to participate. Five collection tents will be located near two residence halls, one fraternity and one sorority and bins will be inside four residence halls for the last three days of finals week: Wednesday - Friday, May 13 - 15, 2009.

Everyone is invited to share their surplus and unused items.



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Officers of the United Church of Moscow currently serving

(Those shown in italics leave office this year)

Board of Directors

Chair – Iris Manning (2010)
Vice-Chair – Brent Bradberry (2010)
Treasurer – *Linda Fleener (2009)*
Financial Secretary – Oz & Ginny Garton (2010)
Clerk – *Kevin Cooper (2009)*

Board of Education

Sandy Cooper (2009)
Chris Talbott (2010)
Christine Suquet (2011)

Board of Elders and Deacons

Chair – Bonnie Nelson (2011)
Tammy Leonard (2009)
Lee Fruits (2009)
Bruce Bradberry (2010)
Karen Davis (2010)
Steve Talbott (2010)
Glenda Hawley (2011)
Alberta Hill (2011)

Officers elected Sunday, April 26, 2009

Board of Directors

Treasurer – Bob Johnson (2011)
Clerk – Chris Talbott (2011)

Board of Education

Ruthanne Orihuela (2011)

Board of Elders and Deacons

Lee Fruits (2012)
Barbara Means (2012)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THOSE CELEBRATING BIRTHDAY'S IN MAY!

1st - Monica Diteman

3rd - Jerry Leonard

3rd - Hillary Talbott-Williams

4th - Bruce Bradberry

14th - Christine Suquet

16th - Kara Bonine

21st - Marian Barber

23rd - Jodi (Garton) McClory

24th - Maia Lassen-Purser

26th - Glenda Hawley

28th - Ginny Garton

29th - Rob Macy

BIRTH ANNOUNCEMENTS!



Paul Santoro & Christine Suquet were blessed with the arrival of their eighth grandchild, Ilyera Baumann, born in San Diego on March 27th.

Brent & Donna Bradberry have been blessed with their sixth grandchild, Mira Sprenke Bradberry, born March 26th in Tacoma. She is the third child of their daughter Cassandra Bradberry and her husband Jon Sprenke.



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Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2 Movie Night 7pm "Wondrous Oblivion"
3 9:30 am Adult Education 11:00 am Morning Worship	4 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 7 pm Spiritual Ministries	5 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 5:30 pm AA Mtg.	6 10a -12p Palouse Water Color 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	7 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 5:30 pm AA Mtg.	8 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial	9
10 9:30 am Adult Education 11:00 am Morning Worship	11 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 7 pm Spiritual Ministries	12 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 12 pm Grief Support Group 5:30 pm AA Mtg.	13 12 pm Cancer Support Group 7 pm Board of Director Meeting	14 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 5:30 pm AA Mtg.	15 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial	16 NW Regional Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) Regional Meeting Yakima, WA 10 a.m. - 3 p.m
17 9:30 am Adult Education 11:00 am Morning Worship	18 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 7 pm Spiritual Ministries	19 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 5:30 pm AA Mtg.	20	21 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 5:30 pm AA Mtg.	22 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial	23
24 9:30 am Adult Education 11:00 am Morning Worship	25 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 7 pm Spiritual Ministries	26 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 12 pm Grief Support Group 5:30 pm AA Mtg.	27 7 pm Choir Rehearsal	28 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial 5:30 pm AA Mtg.	29 10:45 – 11:45 am Janitorial	30
31 9:30 am Adult Education 11:00 am Morning Worship Choir						

Serving in May

Date	Elders/Deacon	Liturgist	Communion Prep	Communion Bread	Church Phone: 208-882-2924 Pastor's cell: 515-314-7759 Email: ucmoscow@gmail.com Pastor's e-mail: wejensen123@netzero.net Website: http://www.unitedchurch.cc/ Pastor's Office Hrs: Tues, Wed, Thurs, 10-12 pm Church Office Hrs: Mon, Wed. & Fri 8:00 am – 10:30
5/03	Alberta Hill	Steve Talbott	Bruce & Lois Bradberry	Volunteer Needed	
5/10	Steve Talbot	Steve Talbott	Oz & Ginny Garton	Volunteer Needed	
5/17	Bonnie Nelson	?	Frank & Linda Fleener	Volunteer Needed	
5/24	Karen Davis	?	Paul Santoro/Christine Suquet	Volunteer Needed	
5/31	Lee Fruits		Steve & Chris Talbott	Volunteer Needed	

May Meetings

Date	Time	Meeting
5/06	7:00pm	Choir Rehearsal
5/13	7:00 pm	Board of Directors Meeting
5/27	7:00 pm	Choir Rehearsal



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