

Newsletter of The United Church of Moscow
an American Baptist/Disciples of Christ congregation
Roger C. Lynn, Pastor



Notes From The Journey . . .



We are one of the best kept secrets in town! This congregation is a rare and wonderful gift in the lives of those of us who worship and fellowship here. We find a supportive and welcoming community. We find a place to share faith in ways which are open, expansive, challenging and life-affirming. We find what lots of people are looking for - a Christianity that is open, accepting and deeply meaningful

Christianity has always been a "come & see - go & share" proposition. It is about community. It is about telling the good news.

without being rigid or judgemental. There are many people in our community who have given up on Church because they have been looking for what we have here and don't know we have it. They think it doesn't exist. And that is unfortunate for them and for us.

Christianity has always been a "come & see - go & share" proposition. It is about community. It is about telling the good news. The word "evangelism" carries a lot of negative baggage these days. Images and ideas about forcing faith on someone and condemning them if they don't accept it are not at all uncommon. But such images are, in fact, an aberration. Evangelism literally means to tell

the good news - to share something exciting and meaningful with someone else. It is not coercive. Indeed, it is most effective when it is freely and generously offered without coercion.

If you find meaning and support here, if you experience this congregation as a community where you feel welcomed and encouraged, if you find it to be a place where Christian faith is liberating rather than

oppressive, then I invite you to be intentional about sharing that good news with someone you know - perhaps a friend or co-worker, or maybe a member of your family, or maybe the person who cuts your hair or works on your car. It will require sincere listening on your part. It will require sensitivity to their needs. It might require a shot of courage for you to step beyond your usual comfort zone. But if you have good news to share, isn't it worth making an effort to share it? If we don't tell them, how will they know about us? Please consider making this the month you invite someone to join you in church.

- Roger

Stewardship Commitment Update

As of the end of March we have received stewardship commitments from 31 families or individuals (including two new commitments) for a total of \$60,739. If you have not yet turned in a commitment, you can still do so. After filling out an Estimate of Giving card, simply send it to the church (attention: Financial Secretary) or put it in an envelope and drop it in the offering plate on Sunday.



Sunshine Club Field Trip to Palouse Falls - Thursday, May 5th

The Sunshine Club will taking a field trip to Palouse Falls next month. We will meet at the church at 9 a.m. Everyone needs to bring their own lunch.

The cost is \$10 to cover the cost of the van.

If you are interested in participating, please contact Alberta Hill.



Congregational Meeting Sunday, May 1st - Following Worship

In keeping with the by-laws of this congregation, two weeks notice is hereby given regarding the Congregational Meeting now scheduled for May 1, 2005. The agenda for this meeting includes election of officers for the coming year. The Slate of Candidates includes:

Treasurer (2 year term):

Gene Leonard

Clerk (2 year term):

Kevin Cooper

Board of Elders & Deacons (3 year terms):

Pearl Jensen, Lou Stevens & Christine Suquet

Board of Education (3 year term):

Kim Kole



Also on the agenda at the May 1st Congregational Meeting will be the proposed Mission Plan Budget for 2005/2006. This budget is for \$91,414, which represents a \$1,400 decrease from last year's budget. Copies of the complete budget, including explanations for specific line items and details regarding anticipated income, are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary.

Think Big Task Force Update

The "Think Big" Task Force has been focusing on the need to make our building more accessible to people, regardless of their physical limitations. Our facility presents several significant challenges in the area of accessibility. There is also continued concern regarding the condition of the roof over the sanctuary. The Task Force is currently in conversation with an architect to develop options for how best to proceed with these ideas. Members of the Task Force include: *Sandy Cooper, Scottie Hecht, Alberta Hill, Iris Manning, Steve Talbott, Dirk Vanderwall and Roger Lynn.*



Disciples General Assembly July 23-27, 2005 — Portland, Oregon

The General Assembly of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) is a biennial event which draws together five to ten thousand people from across the country and around the world. It is part worship service, part educational event, part service project, part business meeting and part family reunion. It moves around the country, but only rarely shows up on the west coast. The last time it was out this way was 1981 in Anaheim. Before that it was 1969 in Seattle. Portland represents the closest opportunity for you to participate for many years to come. Please give serious consideration to attending. For more information contact Roger Lynn for more details. You can also check it out on the web at www.disciples.org/ga05/.



Personal Glimpses. . .

Elsie Hanson (Janice Doyle's mother), is a resident at Aspen Park Care Center. Her health has been declining for some time and that pattern has recently intensified. Please keep Elsie and Janice in your prayers.

Carol Smith (Lois Leonard's sister) recently had a biopsy which came back negative. She is celebrating that good news.

Hillary Talbott-Williams has arrived safely in her new home in Silver City, New Mexico. She is settling in with her new job with the US Forest Service.

Mariah Talbott and Shannon O'Malley moved from Arcata, California to Bozeman, Montana earlier this month, with the help of Mariah's dad, *Steve*.

Linda Fleener is currently in Sacred Heart Medical Center in Spokane undergoing a variety of heart tests. They have found blockage in some of the bypasses they did four years ago. Plans for how been to deal with the situation are still being determined.

Laura Lee Clark (Iris Manning's daughter / Viva Grove's daughter-in-law) was involved in an accident on the WSU campus earlier this month resulting in serious damage to her leg which required surgery in Spokane. She is now recovering.

Eleanor Bradberry (Brent & Bruce's mother) died peacefully in her sleep on Wednesday night, April 13th at Aspen Park Care Center here in Moscow. She has had advanced Alzheimer's for the past several years. Specific plans for memorial services are still pending and will likely be at least a week away and perhaps longer. Please keep Brent & Donna, and Bruce & Lois, and all of Eleanor's family in your prayers in the coming days.

Celebrating Birthdays . . .

. . . *In April*

13th - Allene Goforth
18th - Lois Leonard

19th - Tim Garton
22nd - Donna Spencer

. . . *In May*

1st - Monica Diteman
3rd - Hillary Talbott
4th - Bruce Bradberry
14th - Christine Suquet
16th - Kara (Hawley) Bonine
16th - Veronica Lassen



21st - Marian Barber
23rd - Jodi Garton
24th - Maia Lassen-Purser
26th - Glenda Hawley
28th - Ginny Garton
29th - Rob Macy

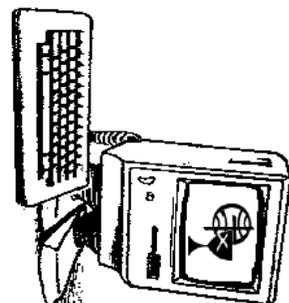
*If we've missed your birthday, please let us know so we can update our records.
We want to include you.*



Don't Miss This Month's Fellowship Event Talent Night & Group Sing-A-Long Saturday, April 23rd @ 7 p.m.

If you have a talent (defined in the broadest of all possible terms) we'd love for you to share it with it. You can sign up with Loise & Bob Leonard. And even if you think your only talent is watching other people with talent, that is needed too. So plan to come and share this fun evening with us.

Roger Lynn's Sermons Now Available In A New Format On The Web
Roger is trying something new. Perhaps you have heard of Blogs (a sort of on-line, interactive journal). This format seemed like a good fit for posting sermons on the church web-site. One useful feature is that there is an opportunity for feedback (a place for readers to post comments). If you would like to check it out, you will find all his 2005 sermons posted at www.unitedchurch.cc (just click on the "Sermons" link at the top of the screen).



— 5 0 0 2 —

— April / May —

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
17	18 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	19 No Bible Study (today only) 5:30 PM, AA Meeting	20 7:00 PM, Choir Rehearsal 	21	22	23 7:00 PM, Talent Night & Group Sing-A-Long 
24	25 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	26 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	27	28 7:00 PM, Elders & Deacons 	29	30
1 Fellowship Fund 12:00 PM, Congregational Meeting 	2 7:00 PM, 4-H 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	3 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	4 10:00 AM, Watercolor 7:00 PM, Choir Rehearsal 	5 9:00 AM, Sunshine Club Trip to Palouse Falls 	6	7
8 Mother's Day 	9 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	10 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	11 12:00 PM, Cancer Support 2:00 PM, Sunshine Club 7:00 PM, Board Meeting 	12	13	14
15 2:00 PM, Care Center Worship 	16 7:00 PM, Spiritual Mysteries 	17 5:30 PM, AA Meeting 7:00 PM, Bible Study 	18	19	20	21



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• Return Service Requested •



Calling All Graduates
If you or someone in your family is graduating this year (high school, college, graduate school, whatever), please contact Roger Lynn so your congregation can celebrate with you.