

THE SNAKE RIVER EDITION

Oregon-Idaho Conference–The United Methodist Church

OCTOBER 2011

Rev. Kim Fields– Assistant to the Bishop
Phyllis Ross – Administrative Assistant

From our A2B



Almost fifty years ago Bob Dylan penned a song he titled, “The Times, They Are A-Changin’”. Looking back, I have to say we had no idea how right he was. Oh, we knew things were changing, but I doubt if anyone could have guessed how much or how fast. There are the obvious changes that no one can deny. In the sixties who could have imagined personal computers, or cell phones, or cell phones that are far more powerful than mainline computers were then.

And those are only the surface changes. There are also more subtle changes that run deeper and have had a far more powerful effect, at least on our churches. In the 1960’s most families had a stay at home mom and only dad went to work. Today in most families both mom and dad work, and work longer hours than they did back then. In 1960 we had no female pastors. Now, almost half our clergy are women. In the 1960’s we supported church because it was the right thing to do and went to church to be taught right and wrong, to be told how to live. Today, we seek out churches that fit us, that agree with what we have determined to be right and wrong, and we support them only if they touch and inspire us. In the 1960’s we went to the church down the street along with our extended family (grandpa, grandma, kids, and grandkids all together in one place). Now, we select from a multitude of church offerings, and more often than not choose to attend a church filled with people who think like us and appreciate the same things we do. In the 1960’s the membership of the Methodist Church in this country hovered around ten million. Today, there are just under eight million United Methodists in the United States. Those numbers are bad enough, but bear in mind that since 1960 US population has grown from 180 million to over 310 million. That is right. During a period when the US population grew by forty percent, the United Methodist Church lost twenty percent of its members.

The times are a-changin’. As the times change we need to change too. I have written in the past about the ways in which we need to change our programming and the ways we reach out as churches, but there are other changes coming. One that may be most noticeable in the coming year is the way we are changing our structure.

At the last general conference it was decided that each jurisdiction would reduce by one bishop. It is almost certain that in the Western Jurisdiction this will be done by having a single bishop serve the Alaska, Pacific Northwest and Oregon-Idaho Conferences. This does not mean that we will be combining our conferences, but it does mean that we will no longer have a full-time, resident bishop living in Portland and serving our conference. Our bishop, whoever they may be, will divide their time between the three conferences. This reality has led our conference leadership to make a decision that has been talked about for the last fifteen years. Though our bishop will be absent from our conference office far more than has been the case in the past there will still be a need for someone there to provide leadership and shepherd the vision of creating healthy, vital churches. In order to meet this need, the Bishop has announced that he will be appointing a person to serve as General Assistant to the Bishop. The General Assistant will be responsible for providing continuity of leadership and linkage to our bishop when the bishop is not full-time and resident.

However, if we are going to add the position of General Assistant to the Bishop others changes must be made. Thus, the bishop is asking us to support a reduction of the number of districts in our Annual Conference from 5 to 4 as of July 1, 2012. With our economic challenges continuing and with the change in episcopal leadership, the reassignment of churches into 4 districts seems the best way to provide for our leadership needs in an efficient and fiscally responsible manner.

In accordance with the Book of Discipline, a plan to reduce the number of districts must be approved by the Annual Conference. And so the Bishop is issuing a call to members of the Annual Conference to participate in a special session of the Conference. This special session will be convened in order to vote on one question only: **Shall there be 4 districts in the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference beginning on July 1, 2012?** The Special Session will be conducted by mail-in ballot. In early November, members of the Annual Conference who are eligible to vote will be sent additional explanatory material and a ballot.

Over the coming month I will be discussing these changes with colloquies and churches as I move around the state, but if you have any questions or comments you would like registered feel free to contact me. As I said earlier, the times are a-changin' and we have to change along with them.

Blessings,
Kim

Where is our A2B?

October 2 – Trinity Idaho Falls

October 4 and 6 – Appointive Cabinet, Portland

October 5 – Ministry Leadership Team, Portland

October 8 – Magic Valley Congregational Leadership Development, Crossroads

October 11-13 – Bishop's Symposium, Rose City Park UMC, Portland

October 15 - Treasure Valley Congregational Leadership Development, Nampa 1st

October 16 – Buhl UMC

October 23 – New Meadows UMC

MISSING PERSONS ALERT:

Mark Bosworth has been missing since the Cycle Oregon event in Southern Oregon, and a friend of his at Christ UMC in Portland has asked that as many Methodist publications as possible spread his photo and information to as many people as possible in hopes that someone will see him. He was last seen on September 16th near the Riddle High School.

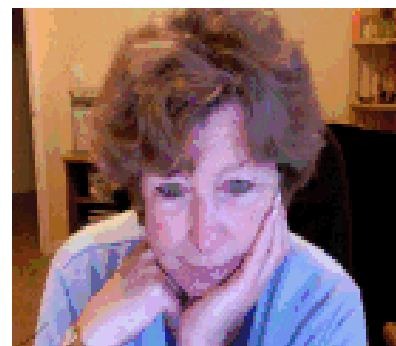
Age: 54 Hair: gray Eyes: blue
Height: 6'0" Weight: 180 lbs.



If anyone has contact or see Mr. Bosworth, they are asked to please call their local authorities or the Douglas County Sheriff's Office Tip Line at (541) 957-2099.

CONGRATULATIONS TO HILLVIEW UMC

Hillview UMC in Boise was acknowledged in Washington D.C. on September 8th at an event sponsored by "Shoulder to Shoulder" (26 interfaith communities of which UMC Board of Church & Society is part). There were 4 faith communities being noted--- for various acts of standing by others faiths, most especially Muslims in our communities. Hillview's participation in Faith Shared Sunday, when they were leafleted by a few zealots, got their attention. Rev. Barbara Nixon flew to D.C to give a 2-minute "speech" and receive the recognition for Hillview.



Read Rev. Barbara's commentary in the September 21, 2011, edition of the UM Connector.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Western Jurisdiction Clergywomen's Consultation for Quadrennial 2008-2012 will be held Feb. 19-22, 2012 at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, NV (<http://www.grandsierraresort.com/entertainment>). It is sponsored by the Western Jurisdiction and GBHEM.....More details to follow.

For more information, please contact:

Rev. Katie M. Ladd
Queen Anne United Methodist Church
Methodist Church
1606 5th Ave. West
Seattle, WA 98119
206-282-4307

<http://www.qamc.org>

<http://www.battlegroundumc.org>

<mailto:katiemladd@comcast.net>

<mailto:pastor@battlegroundumc.org>

Juli Reinholz
Battle Ground United

10300 NE 199th St
Battle Ground, WA 98604
360-687-2542

Annual Holiday Craft Bazaar

Saturday November 12, 9 - 4

Middleton United Methodist Church -- 104 E. Main St. Middleton 83644

Admission: donate 2 cans or items for Middleton Food Pantry.

Vendors contact Renee at 585-3238 by Oct. 14; (vendor fee=\$25/table)

Baked Potato Lunch for \$5. Hours for lunch are 11:30 - 2:30.

For general information call 585-6621.



CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY FUND

As you begin your church school year sometime in September please consider taking the Christian Education Sunday Fund (CESF) offering which supports Christian Education programs and training throughout the conference and is a source of help to people registering for Christian Education related conferences at the jurisdiction and general church level. Send your offering to the Conference Treasurer marked as Christian Education Sunday Fund.

Rhoda Pittman Markus
503-357-3998; 503-201-1233 (cell)
revrpm@frontier.com

Free Resources for your churches

What does it really mean to be a United Methodist?

Here are resources that we hope you will encourage your churches to use, they will find the answer to this question-and more-in these resources.

"The People of The United Methodist Church" U.M. Handbook-Product #84200209

"Together We Can" brochure-Product #420809

"Who We Are" brochure-Product #420709

"Together We Can" DVD-Product #500310

"Why We Apportion"-Product #500810

"Why We Give"-Product#500710

These free resources are available to you and are shipped via UPS at no charge.

Order online at www.umcsgiving.org/store or e-mail csc@umcom.org or call toll free (888) 346-3862.

Thank you for making these materials available through your congregations' generous support of the World Service Fund apportionment.

Jason M. Martin
Marketing Services Coordinator, United Methodist Communications

CLERGY OPPORTUNITIES

Northwest 5 Day Academy for Spiritual Formation

Mark your calendars now for February 26- March 2, 2012 and plan to attend **Healing: Personally and Between Religions**. This five day Academy will be held at the beautiful Palisades Retreat Center in Federal Way,

Washington featuring the daily rhythm of study and prayer, rest and activity, and solitude and fellowship.

Dr. Le Zuan Hy and Dr. M. Thomas Thangaraj will be the faculty for the week of sitting asking, and wrestling with questions such as this: Can we find healing separate from one another or is our healing dependent on relationship-

with God, with ourselves, our loved ones, or even with the stranger? Rev. Todd Bartlett and Rev. Roberta J. Egli from UMOI are part of the 2012 leadership team. For more details contact Roberta at Robertaegli@comcast.net or 541-688-3269.

WHAT IS 10-FOLD?

10-Fold is a movement to raise awareness of projects of the General Board of Global Ministries around the world, supported through The Advance—the designated-giving arm of The United Methodist Church. This message of doing something (advocating, raising awareness, or giving) and watching it expand “10-Fold,” comes with the guarantee that 100 percent of all money raised through The Advance goes directly to the project you support or donate to.

10-Fold began as a campaign on October 10, 2010 and initially lasted for 10 days. Since that time, however, advocates gather online the 10th day of each month to learn more about projects supported through The Advance, and to pledge continued support of the mission. Beginning October 10, 2011, the movement will evolve, with 10 new projects being introduced and a renewed challenge each day to ask ourselves, “What can I do? How can I be counted?”

Starting on October 10th for 10 days, visit 10-fold.org to learn about United Methodist Church projects that are changing people’s lives. And when you visit the website, become an advocate and automatically raise financial support for these projects from our sponsors.

Mission never stops, so please spread the word and visit 10-fold.org.

This is a courtesy of:

**United Methodist
Communications
810 12th Ave. S.
Nashville TN 37203**

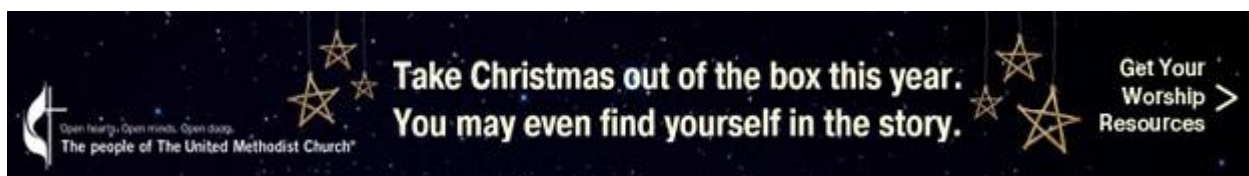
REMINDER

The **Bishop’s Symposium** will be held at Rose City Park UMC in Portland **October 11 thru 13** on the theme “Passionate Worship.”

You should have received preliminary information from the Bishop’s office.

Contact Becky if you have questions: becky@umoi.org or 503-226-1530.

RETHINK CHURCH



Rethink Church has produced a new Advent series called “Outside the Box.” It is available for free download at www.umcom.org/outside. The series is a resource for sermon and worship development. Written by United Methodists serving in local churches, it can also be used by small groups of all ages. “Outside the Box” also offers a [ultimedia bundle DVD](#) (\$25) that provides video segments (appropriate for worship or small groups) of United Methodists living their faith in community and invitational graphics for including new people.

DVD shipping is free via USPS First Class.

Call 1-888-346-3862 or order [online](#).



COLLEGE STUDENTS! VISIT US! 1411 Joyce St. Boise, near the Campus

From Our Table to Yours:

A Thanksgiving Cooking School

at Alton L. Collins Retreat Center

Come join us for a delicious time of food, faith, & fun! We'll dive into culinary techniques perfect for your Thanksgiving feast, and explore themes of blessing and abundance.

October 24-26, 2011
Monday, 2:00 pm
through
Wednesday, 2:00 pm

For just \$155, here's what you receive:

- overnight lodging in comfortable, motel-style accommodations (double occupancy)
- six delicious meals
- expert instruction & hands-on practice in the kitchen with emphasis on fun & fellowship
- tour of our organic garden with tips on growing your own Thanksgiving menu items
- insights on creating Thanksgiving rituals for your family or congregation



Sample Menu

Roasted Turkey with Gravy
Cranberry-Blood Orange Chutney
Challah Bread
Corn Bread-Walnut Stuffing
Vegetable Puff Pastry Tart
Roasted Vegetables
(asparagus, tomato, mushroom)
Mixed Greens with Lemon Vinaigrette,
topped with goat cheese, walnuts,
golden raisins & cranberries
Mashed Sweet Potatoes
Roasted Potatoes
Pumpkin Pie
Apple Tart

A great opportunity for clergy, laity, couples, youth....Come enjoy a relaxing weekend in the forest with opportunities for trail hikes and salmon viewing....Learn about local food resources for Thanksgiving & beyond....Celebrate the bounty of God's abundance!

To Register:

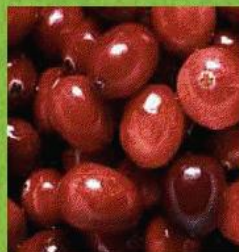
[www.collinsretreatcenter.org/
events](http://www.collinsretreatcenter.org/events)

Questions?

call 503-637-6411



Alton L. Collins Retreat Center
32867 SE Highway 211
Eagle Creek, OR 97022



And if you fall into the "like to eat" category, but cooking's not your thing, consider the "Food & Fix-It" retreat, which will run at the same time (Oct. 24-26). You pay only for lodging, and work on a variety of minor maintenance projects in order to "earn" your meals, which will be the very delicious output from the Thanksgiving Cooking School! No experience needed--there are projects for every skill level.

Rev. Laura Jaquith Bartlett - Program Director, Alton L. Collins Retreat Center
32867 SE Highway 211 - Eagle Creek, OR 97022
phone: [503-637-6411](tel:503-637-6411)
cell: [541-409-8447](tel:541-409-8447)
email: ALCollinsProgramDirector@gmail.com

Cough CPR.

Sounds like what to do after dialing 911 also.

What are you to do if you have a heart attack while you are alone.
If you've already received this, it means people care about you.

The Johnson City Medical Center staff actually discovered this and did an in-depth study on it in our ICU. The two individuals that discovered this then did an article on it, had it published and have had it incorporated into ACLS and CPR classes.

It is very true and has and does work. It is called **Cough CPR.**

A cardiologist says it's the truth, if everyone who gets this sends it to 10 people, you can bet that we'll save at least one life. It could save your life!

Let's say it's 6:15 p.m. And you're driving home (alone of course), after an unusually hard day on the job.

You're really tired, upset and frustrated. Suddenly you start experiencing severe pain in your chest that starts to radiate out into your arm and up into your jaw.

You are only about five miles from the hospital nearest your home.

Unfortunately you don't know if you'll be able to make it that far. What can you do?

You've been trained in CPR but the guy that taught the course didn't tell you what to do if it happened to yourself. Since many people are alone when they suffer a heart attack, this article seemed to be in order.

Without help, the person whose heart is beating improperly and who begins to feel faint, has only about 10 seconds left before losing consciousness.

However, these victims can help themselves by **coughing repeatedly and very vigorously.**

A deep breath should be taken before each cough, and the cough must be deep and prolonged, as when producing sputum from deep inside the chest.

A breath and a cough must be repeated about every two seconds without let up until help arrives, or until the heart is felt to be beating normally again.

Deep breaths get oxygen into the lungs and coughing movements squeeze the heart and keep the blood circulating.

The squeezing pressure on the heart also helps it regain normal rhythm. In this way, heart attack victims can get to a hospital.

Tell as many other people as possible about this, it could save their lives!

From Health Cares, Rochester General Hospital via Chapter 240s newsletter 'AND THE BEAT GOES ON '
(reprint from The Mended Hearts, Inc. Publication, Heart Response)

BE A FRIEND AND PLEASE SEND THIS ARTICLE TO AS MANY FRIENDS AS POSSIBLE

**God's richest blessings to you,
Pastor Davey Lefler & Roberta**

Fall Conferences are coming!

These are the forms that will need to be completed at your charge conference. There are some changes from past years so please use the 2012 documents. Please check to be sure they are properly signed. Your presiding elder will collect the forms and submit them with his evaluation to the District Office.

The forms are available on the Conference website www.umoi.org or call the district office if you need help.



DUE AT FALL CHARGE CONFERENCE

- Compensation Worksheet
- Circuit Compensation Worksheet
- Certification of Housing Allowance
- Extension Ministry Reports
- Financial Report
- Trustees Report
- Safe Sanctuary Policy/Review
- Membership Report
- Lay Speakers Reports

Additional Reports due that require no form

Retired Clergy Reports

Lay Leadership Report

Minutes of the Charge

The Snake River Youth

Fall Rally is officially scheduled for November 11-13 in Glenn's Ferry/King Hill at the Glens Ferry Methodist Church.. Part of the event will be to pray for the Glenn's Ferry and King Hill churches and wrap them in love as they struggle to stay open.

More details will be available to you all soon.



OR/ID CONFERENCE UMW ANNUAL MEETING

*Sharing the Gift of Ideas...
Celebrating Creativity*
October 22, 2011 8am to 3pm

Registration begins 8am - singing starts at 8:40

Hillsboro UMC
168 NE 8th Ave. (On the corner of 8th and Lincoln)
Please consult map quest

Send completed form by October 10 along with \$12.50 registration fee to:
Kathy Hanna
541 N.E. Goldie Drive, Hillsboro, Oregon 97124

Glenn's Ferry United Methodist Church and King Hill Presbyterian

As I was driving from Annual Conference in June, I heard God tell me to have Whitney pray for a church that was struggling. The next day as I drove some more, I heard God say that church was Glenn's Ferry UMC. The more I drove, the more of the vision God gave me. Whitney would bring hope to Glenn's Ferry UMC so that the church can bring hope to the town.

After much prayer with our vision prayer team and with discussion with Kim Fields and with Ed Dunn (From the Presbyterian Church), it has become more clear that Whitney and Trinity Presbyterian in Boise are to help Glenn's Ferry and King Hill Presbyterian. Both churches are near closing their doors without some help. God seems to be telling us that we are part of that help.

What that help looks like at this point is

~Whitney UMC and Trinity Presbyterian will help provide lay leadership for worship.

~The District Youth will be holding their Fall Youth Retreat at the Glenn's Ferry/ King Hill Churches. As part of that retreat they will wrap the church in love and do a mission project to help the church.

~We are looking at helping the church form a prayer group to pray for their future.

~There has been some discussion about having Whitney and Trinity Presbyterian go to the churches at some point this year and do a mission project for them. This is still being determined.

I ask each of you to pray for these two churches and ask God to continue to help us see God at work with the people of Glenn's Ferry UMC and King Hill Presbyterian. I am grateful for these opportunities to remember that we are all in ministry together.

Blessings,
Rev. Christina Thompson

Ethnicity: why do we ask?

You may have noticed that when the annual church/charge conferences come around, one of the pieces of information that we ask you to provide is the ethnicity of church officers and people in leadership positions. Some people question the validity of seeking and recording that information.

The United Methodist Church is committed to having representation of all types of people in duties and committees in the governance of the local church, district and conference committees, as well as at the Jurisdictional and General Church level. In today's society it is often difficult to determine how to "classify" someone, and we are often hesitant or uncomfortable to do it. But, it is only by taking the time to record this data that we can be pro-active about including everyone in the conversations that affect our church at so many levels.



DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL

September 26, 2011

Dear Snake River District,

Now that we have sent our children back to school, we are reminded that they are students in a new world with limitless information at their fingertips. Just as technology has changed the way we educate our kids, it has also introduced new dangers from which we need to protect them.

Child predators often use social media and the internet to identify and target child victims. Social media has also given rise to a new form of schoolyard intimidation - cyber bullying. Every parent should know how to protect their children online, but many may not know where to start. Below are a few practical tips for parents:

Get wise about online privacy. Review the privacy settings on social networks and websites that your children frequent and use them to limit who can view your child's profile. Minimize the amount of publicly available personal information such as phone numbers, email addresses, where they live, birthdates, family financial information and other identifying information shared online. Even with the most stringent privacy settings, a lot can be deduced about a person by what they post. Help your kids understand what information is okay to share and what should not be shared at all.

Go where your kids go. Join the social media sites your children use to see what types of comments, images and videos they are posting or being exposed to. Joining your kid's social networks will not only help you spot suspicious social interactions - you may also get some day-to-day insight about thoughts and feelings that they aren't telling you.

Keep the family computer out in the open. Granted, this won't work for cell phones, tablets and other mobile devices, but keeping the family computer in a highly-trafficked area will discourage your kids from going to inappropriate sites. Kids who primarily access the internet in their room are more likely to seek out unsuitable content, interact with potentially dangerous people, or take foolish risks.

Talk to them. Even if it doesn't always seem to be the case, kids want your guidance and wisdom on confusing topics like emotions, health, friendships and relationships. Let your kids know you accept and are open to any question about these or other difficult topics. You may feel distress when talking about sensitive topics, but you can listen and guide lovingly, even when you are worried.

For more information please see OnGuardOnline.gov, an in-depth resource from the federal government and technology industry to help parents learn more about internet safety.

DOJ also offers free presentations on internet safety. If you are a member of your local PTA or another school or community group and would like to learn more about this opportunity, please contact attorneygeneral@doj.state.or.us.

Sincerely,
JOHN R. KROGER

Oregon Scam Alert Network

There is concern that more and more churches are being targeted by scams so this is a program you may sign up for and receive automatic notices.

In partnership with the Department of Consumer and Business Services, Oregon District Attorneys' Association, Oregon State Sheriffs' Association, Oregon Association of Police Chiefs, AARP and Elders in Action, Attorney General John Kroger created the Oregon Scam Alert Network. This network coordinates the Department's regular scam alerts with the media, elected leaders, consumer watchdogs, and advocates for the elderly and disabled across the state to get important consumer information out to you.

If you would like to be notified of emerging scams, fraud and other consumer threats as they arise, please join the Oregon Scam Alert Network. We will keep you updated about important consumer information to educate and protect your friends, family, coworkers and anyone else before they fall victim to scams and fraud. The link to their site is: <http://www.oregonattorneygeneral.gov/>. In the message box indicate that you are a part of the Oregon-Idaho Conference of the United Methodist Church.

Intercessory Prayer List

Please offer prayers of intercession for the following churches, clergy, and lay leaders on the dates indicated. Pastors may also name these people during intercessory prayer time at their worship services.

October 2	Emmett	Rev. Linda Biggs Carole Sullivan
October 9	Filer	Rev. Carol J. Thompson Paul Remaley Bill Shropshire
October 16	Gooding	Pastor Jeffrey Rickman Duke Morton
October 23	Hagerman	Rev. Mike Hollomon
October 30	Jerome	Rev. Carol J. Thompson Charlie Correll

Please let us know of the happenings in your Church that we can include in our newsletter.

Snake River District Office

717 N. 11th Street, Boise, 83702

208-385-0598

srdumc@qwestoffice.net

FAX 208-385-0599



COMING IMPORTANT EVENT.....

The Oregon-Idaho Leadership Institute – **March 8 and 9, 2012**, at First United Methodist Church, Boise, Idaho. Whether you are a pastor, lay staff member, or volunteer leader, plan to attend for ministry-specific workshops, dynamic speakers and the opportunity to energize and enhance your ministry. Guest speakers include Sue Nilson Kibbey and Eric Geiger. For more information and registration go to: www.cathedraloftherockies.org