

THE SNAKE RIVER EDITION

Oregon-Idaho Conference-The United Methodist Church

SEPTEMBER 2011

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

From our A2B



Theologically I know that God is everywhere, but having grown up on a ranch in the Sawtooth Mountains I have to say that I seldom feel as close to God as I do amidst the beauty of God's creation and few places are more beautiful than the Sawtooth Mountains. Which explains why I was delighted to accept the invitation of the 13 churches of the Magic Valley to join them at Camp Sawtooth for a church camp Sunday.

I went up the day before to have time to reflect and prepare and as I sat outside my cabin watching the flames rise toward heaven and listening to the bubbling of the

Boise River in the background I could not help but know God was there.

God was most certainly there on Sunday as 88 folk from 10 churches gathered in the camp lodge to praise God and then sat around tables in fellowship enjoying a wonderful BBQ meal as we discussed what it meant to serve one God together. A special offering was taken in memory of Karen Hargreaves and 667 dollars was raised. But more importantly we had the opportunity to experience God together and be reminded that we are not isolated churches seeking ways to survive. We are a vibrant worshipping community who together bring a great many gifts to the table.

I am excited about this fall and the possibilities the Healthy Vital Church programs bring. But I am even more excited about what the body of Christ can do as we all learn to work together In Christ.



Who knows, maybe next year I will see more of you at the Magic Valley camp weekend. Who knows, we may even have to try camp weekends for the Treasure Valley and Upper Snake. May we be open to all the ways that God is calling us to work together to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

Blessings,

Kim



NEW RULES FOR CRIB SAFETY AFFECT CHURCH NURSERIES

As of June 28, 2011 the federal government has passed new requirements for all cribs, including cribs that are used in our church daycare and nurseries. The new rules apply to full-size and non full-size cribs, prohibit drop-side rail cribs, strengthen crib slats and mattress supports, improve the quality of hardware and require more rigorous testing. By December 28, 2012, all facilities must use only compliant cribs that meet the new federal safety standards. *(from the 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

SAVE THE DATES FOR SNOW FUN

Youth leaders and youth groups—make a note on your calendars that the popular winter youth retreat at Suttle Lake will be held over Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday weekend this coming January (2012). More info coming as soon as it's in!



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; 503-2011233 (cell)
revrpm@frontier.com

Christian Education Sunday Funds Offering


Celebrate Christian Education-2011

Plans for Christian Education Sunday Funds Offering

It's time to plan for your annual Christian Education Sunday Funds Offering in support of conference wide funds for training and new projects. Last year's total was good. Let's make this even better. If your church has not participated before, now is a good time to start.

Grants are available for training and for new projects related to Christian Education. Contact Nurture team Jill Plant at jill@madrasumc.org or Turella Woods at turella@umol.org for an application.

If you have a Christian Educator that might be interested in attending the National CEF Conference in Green Lake, WI in October 2012 a grant would be available.



couragement. It is one that will last me a lifetime. Thank you."

Fellow participant Amy Wood says "Having just returned from Lake Junaluska I feel giddy! It's inspiring to hear of how much hard work people all over the country put into this passion of mine that has so much potential to change and transform the world."


S. Gutierrez also received funds to help her attend IMPACT—a young people's leaders' conference.

- Announce Christian Education Sunday Funds Offering for September 11 (or another September Sunday that works best for your congregation.)
- Encourage \$1.00 from each person in attendance.
- Send total to Conference Treasurer marked for Christian Education Sunday Funds or CESF.

SUPPORT FOR CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Christian Education Sunday Funds are administered by the Conference NurtureTeam and supported by the Oregon-Idaho chapter of Christian Educators' Fellowship. (CEF)

If your church is interested in any training or collaboration with others in developing a plan for Christian Education, please feel free to be in touch with Louie Jones louiej@wildblue.net Louie is chapter president. CEF is a great place for local Christian Educators to network with others with a similar position.



WHERE IS OUR A2B?

August 29 – Magic Valley Colloquy – Rupert

September 6-9 – Cabinet Retreat – Alton L Collins Retreat Center

September 17-18 – Congregational Leadership Development Training – Portland

September 20 – DCOM – Meridian

September 21 – Treasure Valley Colloquy

October 2 – Preach Trinity UMC

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.

August 7	Chubbuck	Rev. Davey Lefler Karen Smith
August 14	Collister	Rev. David Thompson Clair Imaye
August 21	Crossroads	Rev. Gary Ross Sarah Breeding
August 28	Eagle	Rev. John Grimsted

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

Dear Friends,

It seemed fitting to have a time of coming together on 9/11 for hope and healing... it is a day that cries out for an interfaith presence, for working together and creating bridges. And so we have been working with many faith communities to plan such an event...

"Healing Our Future"

September 11, 6pm at Temple Ahavath Beth Israel

Sharing gratitude & conversation over a light Mediterranean (vegetarian) meal with some opportunities to learn from each other and simply enjoy the possibilities.

We would hope to have at least four members from each house of worship.
Seating is for 200.

* **Please RSVP** * by Sunday, September 4.
to Barbara Nixon, Hillview United Methodist Church: 375-0392
Email: Barbara, revbabs2000@gmail.com

What Every Child Should Experience:

A Guide for Leaders and Teachers in United Methodist Congregations

is a new resource from GBOD available as a free downloadable PDF at

[http://www.gbod.org/atf/cf/%7B3482e846-598f-460a-b9a7-](http://www.gbod.org/atf/cf/%7B3482e846-598f-460a-b9a7-386734470eda%7D/WHATEVERYCHILDSHOULDEXPERIENCEUMC_2011.PDF)

[386734470eda%7D/WHATEVERYCHILDSHOULDEXPERIENCEUMC_2011.PDF](http://www.gbod.org/atf/cf/%7B3482e846-598f-460a-b9a7-386734470eda%7D/WHATEVERYCHILDSHOULDEXPERIENCEUMC_2011.PDF)

What Every Child Should Experience is a guide for leaders and teachers of children in the area of faith formation. The resource contains a comprehensive guide to scripture significant for children as they develop cognitively and theologically. It also contains a chart of what children need and understand developmentally around the beliefs and concepts of God, Worship, the Bible, Home and Family, Everyday Life, Community, and Wesleyan Heritage.

Melanie Gordon

Director, Ministry with Children

Leadership Ministries Division

GBOD - The United Methodist Church

877.899.2780 - ext.1762

Ministry with Children Website



We are now forming the two Snake River District Congregational Leadership Development (CLD) classes for this fall. They will meet one Saturday a month for 5 hours. The six session course will begin in October. The Eastern CLD will be co-led by Kim Fields and Gary Ross and will meet in Twin Falls area. The Treasure Valley CLD will be co-led by Kim Fields and John Watts and will meet in Nampa.

The CLD is intended primarily for groups made up of congregational teams including the pastoral leader and at least five other leaders from each congregation. The purpose of the course is to equip congregational leaders to lead their churches into greater vitality through readings, coursework, peer mentoring, coaching, and if they choose a weekend consultation. The cost will be \$100 per participant plus the cost of the six books.

For more information contact Steve Ross at 971-237-2040 or Kim Fields at the SRD office at 208-385-0598.

If you are ready to sign up for this fall's CLD simply fill out and send in the following enrollment application.

Congregational Leadership Development Application for Enrollment

Congregation/Church Name:

Participant Names: (pastoral leader + at least 5 other leaders or potential leaders)

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.
- 5.
- 6.

We understand that participants agree to:

Read each of the six books before the session for which they are assigned.

Attend all six sessions as a high priority.

Participate with their leadership team in creating and carrying out action plans.

Purchase their books and pay registration of \$100 each for the course.

Describe why you believe God is calling your congregation to this commitment at this time.

Name of person submitting application:

Please attach a \$50 refundable registration deposit. (applicable to registration fee)

Complete this application and send with your deposit to your District Office

PLANTING NETWORK

Dear Friends:

Jesus once told a parable about a mustard seed. His point? From seemingly insignificant beginnings God can bring amazing growth. God is still doing big things today. We are pleased to tell you about a mustard seed opportunity, the UMC Planting Network.

Let's begin with what the UMC Planting Network can help your church accomplish. At its most basic, it can help your church create a vision of what you can become. It can also help you develop a vision and plan for a new worship service, a satellite outreach, or even a plan to birth a new church plant. In brief, it can help you gain God's vision for reaching the lost and unchurched.

Basically, what we are offering is a training course that will walk us through all the elements necessary to create a new church or a new church service. The materials are excellent, but it is not about the materials. The class and materials simply exist to provide a framework. Around that framework, we will help you to build a plan and vision to go forward.

We don't want to mislead. This training course will require a significant commitment. It has to, in order to produce the desired result. The training will take place over 10 sessions held monthly on Saturdays, starting September 17 and ending in May of 2012 (there will be a summer hiatus). Each session will be 6 hours in length. The Treasure Valley training will be held at the Meridian United Methodist Church and will go from 9 am until 3 pm (lunch is provided and included). The total cost for each participant is \$100 to be paid by session 4 (so you will have a chance to opt out if the program turns out to be wrong for you). Scholarships are available.

Our Planting Network design team will lead the class. They are a mixture of clergy and laity and are listed below. For more information, contact one of us. To register contact Turella Woods at Turella@umio.org.

God Bless,

John Grimsted, Eagle UMC jgrimsted@gmail.com

Wendi Homan, Kuna UMC whoman@cableone.net

Lisa Payton, Amity UMC revpayton@msn.com

Cathy Peterson, Meridian UMC cap0824@cableone.net

"Passionate Worship"

Bishop's Symposium 2011

October 11 - 13, 2011

Rose City Park UMC

5830 NE Alameda St.

Portland, OR 97213

"Passionate Worship" is the theme for the Bishop's Symposium to be held October 11-13, 2011 in Portland, Oregon. Brochures and pre-registration will be available in September. The event will begin Tuesday evening at 6:00 p.m. and will include a welcome session and evening reception. The event will conclude at 12:00 noon on Thursday. It is with great excitement and anticipation to announce Dr. Marcia McFee as the event presenter. Dr. Marcia McFee is an author, worship designer and leader, professor, preacher and artist. Her engaging and interactive style has been called "refreshing," "inspiring," and "unforgettable." Marcia combines her background and experience in professional companies of music, theater and dance with a variety of worship and preaching styles in order to bring a fresh experience of the Gospel to each worship setting. Marcia has provided worship design and leadership at numerous national and regional gatherings. One of her current positions is Worship and Music Director for The United Methodist Church's 2012 General Conference.