



FIRST CHRISTIAN CHURCH MESSENGER

(Disciples of Christ)

April, 2009

840 Tenth Street
Clarkston, WA 99403-2121

Church telephone: 509.758.2943
E-mail: firstchr@clearwire.net

Web Site: firstchristianchurchclarkston.com

Our Mission: "Honor God, strive to be more like Jesus, love and welcome all, bring others to discipleship, and put faith into action locally and globally."

Rev. David L. Carringer, Minister

CHURCH STAFF:

LaRose Clark, Administrative Assistant
Dani Layes, Music Coordinator
Cameron Layes, Pianist/Accompanist
Cathy Larrabee, Organist
Becca Koenig, Childcare Attendant
Helen Bowden, Custodial Service

CHURCH LEADERSHIP:

Lee Ann Hancock, Moderator
Bob Packwood, Vice Moderator
Janice Dumbauld, Secretary
Ann Koenig, Treasurer
Sue Wilson, Financial Secretary
Ruth Bosserman, DWM
Marcia Craddock, DWM

MINISTRY CHAIRS:

Bob Packwood, Administration
Ruth Bosserman, Nurture
Linda Mael, HOE
Dixie Carringer, Diaconate
Lee English, Elders

TRUSTEES

Stamey English, Ronnie Mock, Bob Packwood

Is a child only someone who is young or could it be someone who is young in their faith and new to a faith community?

'If any of you put a stumbling-block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea.' Mark 9:42

CONGREGATIONAL NEWS

News from the Pews

We have really enjoyed having Steve English and Debbie Davis and her son Blake join us in worship. They are the children and grandson of Stamey and Lee English.

WELCOME BACK!

It's great to have Helen Bowden and Jo Epperson back amongst us. Jo is here until she sells her house.

Alda McIver will be in Tacoma, WA, for the next month or so recovering from hip surgery. Cards and letters would be greatly appreciated.

Her address is:
12505 26th Ave. East
Tacoma, WA 98445

UPCOMING EVENTS

****VOLUNTEERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED****

Salvation Army Dinner - Every fifth Monday. Contact Vicky Brooks to help.

Children's Education - Sunday mornings. Contact Tamara Byrd to help.

Family Promise - A ministry to those who are without a home. Contact Marcia Craddock to help.

Vacation Bible School - The evenings of July 6 -10. Contact Dani Layes to help.

Holy Week Events

April 5 - **Palm Sunday/Birthday Sunday/Food Bank Sunday.** Don't forget to bring your food donation. The demands on the food bank are increasing every day.

April 9 - **Maundy-Thursday** 7 p.m. Come remember and celebrate the last supper.

April 10 - **Good Friday service** 7 p.m. at FCC lead by the LC ministerial association, a service of remembrance of Jesus' crucifixion.

April 11 - **Easter Party** 10 a.m. Showing of the movie the "Passion of the Christ" at 7 p.m.

April 12 - **Easter Sunrise service** 6:30 a.m. at Pioneer Park in Lewiston. Lead by the ministers of 1st Baptist, Hope Chapel, Church of New Hope, and FCC.

Easter Brunch at FCC 9:30 a.m. No classes just come and eat.

Easter Service at 11 a.m. Come celebrate the risen Lord and enjoy the continuing life of our congregation as we baptize new believers and celebrate the resurrection.

Children's Easter Party

It's true! Easter is right around the corner, and the FCC Children's Easter Party will be Saturday, April 11 with crafts & activities at 10 am with an Easter Egg Hunt at 10:30. We need donations of individually wrapped candy (that will fit inside plastic eggs), small toys (that will fit inside plastic eggs), and people who are willing to help with crafts and activities at the party. Please place any donations in the box in the entry way and contact Dixie Carringer if you can help or have any questions.

Adult Grief Support Group

Tri-State Hospice will be offering a free six-week Adult Grief Support Group for people experiencing grief from the loss of a loved one. This group starts on Monday, April 27, and will

be held Mondays from 4:00 – 5:30 p.m. through June 8. There will be no meeting May 25. This is a confidential group where one can find support and receive education regarding the process of grief. For more information, or to register please call Kathy Slinker at Tri-State Hospice at 758-25768. Registration is open until April 23.

CHILDREN WORSHIP & WONDER

Training Event

At

FCC (DOC) Clarkston, WA

Friday May 8 - 6-9 pm

Saturday May 9 - 9 am-5 pm

Sunday May 10 - 2-5 pm

YOUTH NEWS

Eight youth and three adults attended the Rock and Worship Road Show at Beasley Coliseum. We had a good time and enjoyed a meaningful worship service.

Those who attended this event were Pastor David, Fritz Sarbacher, Marcia Craddock, Shane Blankenship, Jessica Byrum, Garrison and Keegan Layes, Cody Riggs, Landon Klodt, Levi Emerson, and Colben Klodt.

Thank You

FCC for your sponsorship of our youth. We are sending four youth and an adult sponsor to the CYF winter retreat.

Those attending will be:

Aaron Riggs, Shane Blankenship, Cody Riggs, Judi Key and Dakota Dynes.

Thanks again for your generous support.

2009 Summer Camp Dates at Zephyr

Kids (grades 2, 3) August 10 – August 13

Junior (4, 5, 6) August 10 – August 15

Chi Rho (7, 8, 9) June 22 – June 27

CYF (10, 11, 20, grads) July 20 – July 25



Splinters from the Board

The Board approved raises for our Administrative Assistant, Pianist, Music Coordinator, Lawn Mowers and Pastor.

The Board also approved realigning our outreach giving, so that 5% of our 10% tithe goes to Disciples Mission Fund. 10% of all offerings received by FCC are given in outreach. In time the pastor hopes we will be able to increase it to 15%.

Pastor David introduced a vision of where the church might be headed. God is going to send us hundreds of people in worship every Sunday, resulting in the need to serve those people, which will require new staff positions, increased parking, expansion of the existing facility, acquisition of adjoining properties, which would result in more opportunities for outreach to the Valley.

Where is GOD leading us? The lure is there are we going to bite? I love this adventure.

Ministry Reports-

Admin- This Ministry is responsible for the physical and financial well being of our church, it will insure that the administrative functions of the church are performed and that the gifts we are given are stewarded appropriately, which will be discerned through prayer and study.

Last month this ministry agreed to recommend the above raises. It also had the standpipe from south side of building removed and a new faucet installed at the parsonage. It scheduled a meeting with our insurer to review insurance coverage. It also recommended the shift in outreach giving.

Nurture- This ministry is responsible for nurturing the congregation's relationship with God through Jesus our Christ, both individuals and the corporate body. It will do this by assisting and providing resources for study and prayer.

This ministry reviewed the Holy Week events. It also started work on possible job descriptions

for new staff positions involved in Children and Youth ministries.

Hospitality, Outreach and Evangelism-This ministry is responsible for sharing the Love of God with the world outside of the walls of our congregation. They will do this by sharing the gifts our congregation has received and by introducing Jesus Christ into our community in a variety of ways, to include witnessing, inviting and showing hospitality to others, including visitors to our church.

This ministry is looking for any members who might like to share in outreach ministries, Salvation Army Soup Kitchen, Family Promise, committee work, welcoming at the doors on Sunday, Vacation Bible School, Coffee Hour after church on the first Sunday of the month and other service as required. Contact Linda Mael or Sue Wilson for more information

Elders Report-The Elders are the spiritual leaders and Shepherds of our church.

The Elders met Sunday, March 1, following Worship. They discussed schedules, changes in homebound calling and continued to study "Your Calling as an Elder."

Lee English
Chair of Elders

Words from the Pasture

Change is on my mind. Our church is changing radically. This is causing disruption and discomfort. Since February 2008 we have had 60 people join our church. Most but not all are still attending. Our average worship attendance is up to 94, a regular crowd not seen in more than a decade. It all sounds so good and it feels good too. We are watching our church fill with more and more life and when 11 people came forward this past Sunday to join our congregation it was awesome. I told someone it was crazy, like being at the center of a storm.

With the growth has come new problems and new issues and that is what brings me to

change. There is not a lot I can guarantee about the change occurring. I can't promise that everyone understands all the implications to coming forward, I can't even guarantee that they all know they are joining our church or asking to be baptized. I can't promise that the offering will increase or that our worship won't be negatively impacted. I certainly can't promise that I will have all the people straightened out and flying right anytime soon.

What I can guarantee though is that change will happen regardless of what we do or don't do. Our congregation will grow both spiritually and numerically or it won't. There is no perfect situation that can be maintained, the deep spiritual moments, those instances when it is all going right, can only be enjoyed with a thankful heart when they occur. I think that in order to be faithful to God we have to ask what God would have us do and then trust that God will lead us, rather than demand that it be our way or the highway.

I hope our response to our changing dynamic is that we enter into a relationship with all the people in our congregation, to love them and give the respect they deserve as children of God. D.C.



REGIONAL CHURCH NEWS

Dear First Christian,
Thank you for your generous giving to Disciples Mission Fund so far in 2009. Your giving allows our shared regional ministries in the Northwest to thrive and flourish.

With Thanks,
Rebecca L. Hale
Interim Regional Minister

***DISCIPLES HOME MISSION & NWRCC
SPONSOR PRODUCTIVE WORK DAYS AT
YAKAMA CHRISTIAN MISSION***

Fog, rain, and cold did not keep workers away from accomplishing some big jobs during the work week at the Mission. YCM staff, David and Belinda Bell and Jill Delany hosted the group and kept everyone working and well fed. Carl and Robin Zerwick from Disciples Home Mission, Office of

Volunteering, organized the days and coordinated the work each day. Members from Country Homes Christian, United Christian Yakima, Englewood Christian, Northwest Protestant Richland, All Pilgrims, and First Christian Kennewick, were joined by folks from Shalom UCC in Richland and two congregations from South Idaho Region. The workers completely sided Friendship House – a big and necessary task!

Office of Disciples Volunteering hopes to sponsors more work days later this year at the Mission and would love to see representatives from more Northwest congregations.

"Living Forward"

Special Regional Assembly

May 16, 2009 10:00 – 3:00 Englewood Christian Church, Yakima

Join the NWRCC in celebration as we "Live Forward" into God's rich future with a special regional assembly. Together we will consider:

- The RISE Ministry Design Plan for the NWRCC
 - The Calling of a new regional Minister
 - Becoming a Global Mission Region
- Registration materials can be found at:
www.disciplesnw.org/assembly09.html

GENERAL CHURCH NEWS

Disciples Home Missions is partnering with Interfaith Power and Light (IPL) to participate in Earth Hour. On March 28, 2009, 8:30 p.m. (your local time), for 60 minutes, congregations can send a strong message by turning off steeple lights and other decorative lighting.

IPL is partnering with Earth Hour to send the message that the faith community is concerned about climate change and to demonstrate commitment to finding solutions.

Last year, 50 million people representing 400 cities on all seven continents turned out their lights in the largest climate event of all time.

Won't you join DHM and IPL in this effort?

Remarkable Blessings

In a country of division and strife, the churches of South and North Korea meet together regularly each year to pray and plan joint mission priorities. This in itself is remarkable, but the growing confidence and strength in their shared faith and vigilant attention to human rights is gaining influence on governmental practices and humanitarian treatment.

Last year the National Council of Churches in Korea (NCKK) and the Korea Christian Federation (KCF) in the North agreed to use a common prayer in all of the churches of South and North Korea on Easter Sunday. They ask all of us to join in their prayer journey for healing and reconciliation. The prayer reads in part:

O God, Lord of our history as well as of our nation!

Today we praise you, Lord, who have risen as Eternal Life through the struggle for righteousness, between lies and truth, at the fork of the path of dying or living

O Lord, who is still alive and is with us!

As the one day of resurrection has brought a new day continuing through all eternity, and as you accomplish the salvation of all humankind

and all creation through the risen One, Free us from the reality of war and conflict and from the world of antagonism and jealousy through your mercy and grace.

O Lord!

Help us, churches of North and South, sisters and brothers of North and South, to achieve resurrection itself with one accord. Help us to enjoy a life of peace through our belief and action. Help us to be reborn as one nation wearing white clothes, a new nation of white and cleanness. Help us to build a kingdom of peace serving our neighbors, to open a new day of reunification standing firmly as light for the world. Amen

The prayers and help you provide through your local congregations make possible the work and witness of GLOBAL MINISTRIES, which is supported by Disciples Mission Fund of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Our Church's Wider Mission (OCWM) of the United Church of Christ.

WWW.GLOBALMINISTRIES.ORG

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God."

MATTHEW 5:9

GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE

At the Indianapolis 500 Race, quickness counts. Moving quickly over the next week will help you take advantage of special spring registration discounts for the upcoming General Assembly, that will be held in Indianapolis. Early registration discounts for the 2009 Assembly have been extended to March 31. That means there are just a few days left to save \$25 off the price of an adult registration. Register online today at: www.disciples.org/ga.



SCHEDULES, FACTS AND FIGURES

March Attendance and Offering

	Attendance	Money given to support our ministry
March 1	97	\$2,444.83
March 8	89	\$1,381.63
March 15	111	\$2,073.70
March 22	121	\$1,061.79

Scripture Passages for the Sundays in April

Read ahead, pray and ask questions of the pastor.

April 5: Isaiah 50:4-9a
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29
Philippians 2:5-11
Mark 11:1-11

April 12: Acts 10:34-43
Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24
1 Corinthians 15:1-11
John 20:1-18

April 19: Acts 4:32-35:17
Psalm 133
1 John 1:1-2:2
John 20:19-31

April 26: Acts 3:12-19
Psalm 4
1 John 3:1-7
Luke 24:36b-48

Sunday Schedule

9:30 am – Christian Education for children and adults.

11:00 am – Worship

Fellowship

There is always a time of Fellowship in the Fireside Room, immediately following worship.

* An Elevator is available*

First Christian Church

(Disciples of Christ)

840 Tenth Street (Diagonal & Sycamore)
Clarkston Washington 99403



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Michelle Smith
- 2 Cameren Fisher
Marie Shinneman
- 9 Dorothy Eatmon
- 10 Iva Peer
- 12 Barbara Brown
- 16 Bob Marshall
- 19 Becca Koenig
- 22 Denise Kuntz
- 23 Charles Koenig
- 25 Michael Goold
- 30 Janice Dumbauld

APRIL WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

- 23 Ed and Dani Layes
- 25 Dan and Iva Peer

APRIL BAPTISM ANNIVERSARIES

- 2 David L. Carringer
- 10 Winnie Packwood
Crystal White
- 14 Dani Layes
- 17 Vie Davis
Ellie May Morrison
- 21 Lee Ann Hancock
- 22 Cameron Layes
- 27 Keegan Layes
Garrison Layes
- 30 Bob Packwood

