



**July 2014**



Photo by Roy Pettit

**A recent service at Asbury Our Redeemer Partnership**

### Communion Sundays

First Service = 1st & 3rd Sundays    Second Service = 1st Sunday

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Grace and peace to you in the name of our Lord Jesus the Christ. It has seemed like an eternity of waiting since my appointment to Asbury Our Redeemer was announced in February, but the time has finally arrived. Melissa, Karthik, and I are with in you Hood River. As I write this, we have not yet had our first worship service together. I have met only a few of you. Nevertheless, I am confident that it is God's will that we have been brought together for this ministry.

Hood River seems to me a place that straddles many borders. Our congregation straddles the border of Oregon and Washington. We stand on the boundary between the rain to the west and the desert to the east. We lie between the mountain and the water, between the pub and the orchard, between the kite-boarder and the farm worker. In a place where so many borders are crossed or blurred, it should be of little surprise that God has called us to transgress one more: the boundary of denomination. While Christ's universal church continues to be carved up into smaller and smaller warring tribes, we have been called, in our small way, to transcend those traditional divisions. We have been called to unity.



But unity is a tricky thing. What do we mean when we say that God calls us to unity, and how is that unity to be achieved?

Unity cannot be uniformity. If God required uniformity in the church, then we could not sustain a congregation of even two people, let alone two denominations. No, unity always means living in and through our diversity. The motto of the nation whose birthday we celebrate this week, *e pluribus unum*, states the point well: out of many, one. Out of a plurality, unity.



That God has called us to be united as one congregation does not mean that we give up our Lutheran-ness or our Methodist-ness and try to settle on some blurry compromise somewhere in the middle. God has not called us to abandon our traditions. Quite to the contrary, God has called us to celebrate our traditions. God has called us to celebrate that we are Methodists who have a rich Methodist heritage. And God has called us to celebrate that we are Lutherans who have a rich Lutheran heritage. God has not called us to give up our Lutheran or Methodist identity, but to be Methodists and Lutherans *together*.

We don't have to scrub away our differences in order to be one community in Christ. Just like we don't have to scrub away our differences in gender or ethnicity or class or orientation or culture in order to be one church in Christ, neither do we need to abandon our theological and religious traditions. We do not need to destroy our diversity, rather we are called to love our diversity, to celebrate our diversity, and through our diversity to prove the truth of that most ancient of hymns:

As grain once scattered upon the hillsides

Was in the broken bread made one,

So from all lands your church be gathered

Into your kingdom by your son.

Yours in Christ,

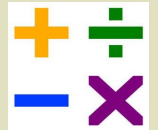
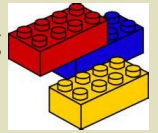
Pastor David

# Faith In Action



Our committee met in early June before everyone got busy with summer activities. We continue to celebrate our prolific ideas for outreach in our region.

Linda reported that **Teacher Grants up to \$50** were awarded for Math teaching tools, Music for choral singing, Trains for history. A hands on manipulative tool teaching place value through 1000 and the Therapeutic Learning Center purchased Legos and yoga mats. We still have money left which will be offered in the Fall for special project needs. What a great help in our Schools!



**Designated Sunday** in June will collect funds for the Native American Congregation in Portland, Good Spirit, which also serves Celilo. Pastor Chuck Hunt oversees that ministry. Helping our friends and neighbors! **(\$572.00 was raised on 6/29 for Good Spirit!)**

**Food on the 4th continues**, with the need for full shelves continuing throughout the year. Please pick up your tan bag or make a cash donation to the FISH operations. Our next collection will be **July 27**.



**Our next designated Sunday will be August 31.** Rather than kits being sent abroad, we will fill the needs in some of our local schools. A list of needed items will be published, but if you see sales, there are always the basic needs of glue sticks, pencils, paper. Contact one of the committee members for updates, and watch your email.

**A huge load of styrofoam** was taken to Far West-Beaverton Recycling last week. Thank you for continued stewardship of our earth!! Collection of non-curb-side recycling is ongoing.

**Our next scheduled meeting will be August 4 at 10:30 in the Fellowship Hall. Join us!**

Utilize your gifts through stewardship of time, talent and money throughout the summer. Enjoy the pleasant time with family, friends, relaxation and sunshine!

Sharon, Debby, Vicki, Gigi, Linda, Pat Petit



## Relay For Life of the Columbia Gorge

9am Saturday July 19th

at Hood River Valley High School

10:30am Survivors Lap

10:00pm Luminaria Ceremony



Within our congregation, **Martha Hoskins 541-387-0213** can accept any donations up until July 13th. You may call her for more information, as needed. **Checks payable to American Cancer Society.**



**Save The Date!** The annual church yard sale will be on Saturday, August 9th. Be thinking about any items around your home, attic, garage or basement that you would like to pass on. The proceeds from the sale help with expenses of the two women's retreats as well as supporting other projects within the church. Also, a tithe from the proceeds goes to a community project. Any questions? Please call Kathy Terry.

## **Together We Prepare Oregon Preparedness Presentation**

**Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup> 6:30 – 7:30 pm**

**in the Fellowship Hall**

Through the Red Cross *Together We Prepare Oregon* program, participants will receive information on how to prevent, prepare for, and respond to disasters by making personal disaster plans, establishing family meeting places and addressing emergency communication strategies. In this free presentation, you'll learn how easy it is to assemble a disaster kit and have the opportunity to ask questions related to your own preparedness plan. These presentations are provided through a partnership with Oregon State Service Corps and the Red Cross.

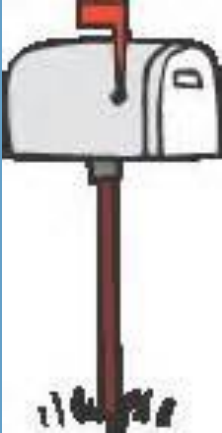
- Carly Squyres

Edu. & Vol. Coordinator @ The History Museum

Americorps Member



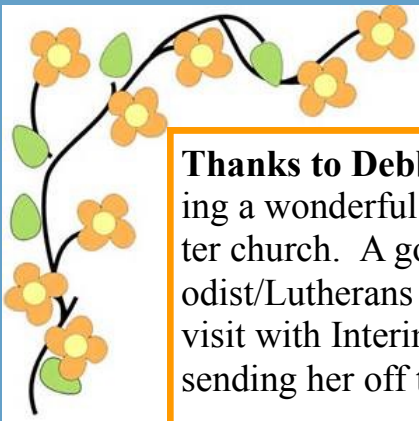
# Quick Notes



## The following groups/individuals have mailboxes in the office:

Pastor David, Board of Directors, AUMC Trustee Council, Finance, Treasurer, Staff-Parish relations, Payroll, Jennifer F., Linda B., Quilters, Happy Hands, WELCA, Women's Spirituality Group.

**Be sure to check your mailboxes!** Thanks—*Jennifer*



**Thanks to Debbie Chenoweth** for hosting a wonderful grilled chicken lunch after church. A goodly number of Methodist/Lutherans enjoyed having one last visit with Interim Pastor Katheryn, and sending her off to her new assignment.



## FISH Construction

The construction trailer has been placed in the East end of the parking lot. The office is still accessible for parking. Updates will be posted/emailed as this changes.

Phil Jensen, Pat Pettit, Jean Sheppard, Jim Siekkinen	1
Skip Fowler, Bette Yenne	3
Constance Henderson, Frances Woody	10
Cate Kyger	13
Lisa Godard, Marjorie Oates, Doug Swanson	16
Blanche Donahue	21
Alden Gendreau, Nathan Koch	22
Danielle Miller	23
Candace Henderson	25
Maggie Ishazaka	27
Evan Jacobson	29



Rick & Jill McBee	12
Kristin & Brian Marcroft	14
Margaret & Robert Godard	17
Jim & Marjorie Oates	20
George & Ingrid (Flanders) Bentz	29

# July 2014

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Communion for 9am service is the 1st and 3rd Sunday	Communion for 10:30 service is the 1st Sunday	1 10am Men's Coffee @ Rosauers	2 9am WELCA Quilting	3 11am GEM	4  Happy 4th of July	5
6 9am Worship 10 Fellowship 10:30am Celebration Worship	7 9am Happy Hands	8 10am Men's Coffee @ Rosauers  6:30pm Disaster Preparedness	9 9:30am Worship/Music Early Srvc Meeting 10am Bible Study @ Down Manor	10	11 4:30pm Celebration Serv Prac	12 9am Women's Spiritual Group
13 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:30am Celebration Worship	14 9am Happy Hands 4:30pm FISH	15 10am Men's Coffee @ Rosauers	16 9am WELCA Quilting 10am Bible Study @ Down Manor	17	18 4:30pm Celebration Serv Prac	19 8am Men's Breakfast @ Charburger
20 9amWorship 10am Fellowship 10:30am Celebration Worship	21 9am Happy Hands  Nwsltr Items Due	22 10am Men's Coffee @ Rosauers  6pm Finance Comm. meeting	23 10am Bible Study @ Down Manor	24	25 4:30pm Celebration Serv Prac	26
27 <u>Food on the 4th</u> 9am Worship 10am Fellowship 10:30am Celebration Worship	28 9am Happy Hands	29 10am Men's Coffee @ Rosauers	30 10am Bible Study @ Down Manor	31		



**August Newsletter submissions**

Due: July 21, 2014

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Partnership**

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