

THE WITNESS

Beaverton First United Methodist Church
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**Our Vision: Here at the heart of Beaverton, Christ calls us to feed our community; body, mind and Spirit.
Our Mission: Knowing that our works change our community and ourselves; we seek to ensure that no one in the Beaverton area goes hungry, investigate the teachings of Christ through research and communion with others, and respectfully share the love of God with all.**

AUGUST, 2015

PASTOR'S MESSAGE



♪ “Celebrate, Celebrate, dance to the music!” ♪

Do you remember that great old Three Dog Night song from the seventies? In fact there are lots of songs that invite us to celebrate! It is one of the most important things we can do as a congregation. Every expert, author and specialist in church leadership development and revitalization tells us that it is very important to celebrate our “wins!” What do you think about when I ask, “What are BFUMC’s wins in 2014-15? What should be on a list of our accomplishments?” And I do mean wins!!! This is one time when I do not want to make a list of pros and cons, just pros! No achievements and failures, just achievements! No wins and losses, just wins. Sure, everybody makes mistakes, but now it is time to celebrate and remember all of our accomplishments in the past year.

So, I’m asking you... what do you remember as our biggest wins since summer of 2014 to summer 2015. Here’s my short list (and it is a short list – you are going to help me remember what I’ve forgotten or what just isn’t on my short list):

- 2012 – The new Worship & Song Hymnal was added to our collection of options for raising our voices in song! In 2014 a kind donor added to our collection by purchasing 50 of the pew editions for our use!

- 2012-13 – Remodeling and painting was started and completed on the exterior of the building, the interior of the sanctuary, in all of the downstairs bathrooms, Wesley Hall and Wesley Chapel
- Summer 2013 – A generous donation was made and work began towards an updated sound system for the sanctuary. We now have a plan for how the system can be improved and a beautiful new sound cabinet!
- Spring 2014 – Church Council began working on a Vision, Mission and a long range plan for the future of BFUMC (on-going)
- Spring 2014 – Hired Julie Berry!
- Fall 2014 - February 2015 – the Congregation participated in Town Halls, Surveys, and a World Café to determine what was important to them about BFUMC and how it would continue in the Future.
- March 2015 – Vision and Mission statements based on lots of Council and Congregational input and hard work were unveiled!
- Summer 2014 – Council heard the first proposal on Reconciling Congregations
- Winter 2015 – The congregation was offered educational opportunities, Listening Posts and speakers where information was offered regarding the Reconciling Congregation movement and where questions could be asked and answered.

Pastor's Message Cont.

- April 2015 – The BFUMC congregation voted to become a Reconciling Congregation.
- Winter 2015 – A generous donation was made so that we could purchase new software for keeping member and donor records. This is a more user friendly and up-to-date system offers us many advantages over the old, antiquated system we are using. Conversion to the new system is ongoing.
- Winter 2015 – Another generous donation was made so we could upgrade our internet connection! This allows us to have a much faster connection throughout the church, which enables us to rent to larger groups.
- Spring 2015 – a total-congregation effort allowed us to get our parsonage ready for a new renter! There was a HUGE amount of work needing to be done in the old parsonage to get it ready to be rented at market value and have it become an asset to the church. From all new floors to all fresh paint, hundreds of work hours were clocked to prepare that house!
- Spring 2015 Served our first Homeplate Youth Meal at Merlo Station High School!

That's my short list! What would you like to add? I know you will come up with many more and turn my short list into a long list of all this successful congregation has accomplished! Email me or fill out the short form, below and leave it in the box on the office door and let me know what you would like to celebrate (you notice my short list included some dates further back than 2014... yours can, too) and on **August 23** we will Celebrate and Dedicate all the wonderful things that have happened at Beaverton UMC in the past years with a **special worship service**. Don't miss this special day and don't forget to share what you would like to see celebrated that day as well.

Wins are not wins until you celebrate them. And who knows... Maybe we'll dance to the music, too!

In Faith,
Pastor Kathy

**I would like to “Celebrate and Dedicate” a BFUMC
Win/Achievement/Accomplishment that happened in the year _____.**

Give a brief explanation/description

Name_____ (entirely optional)

August

Anniversaries:

Richard and Bonnie Sunderland 7/5

Phil and Karen Miller 7/10



Birthdays

Jackson Warner 7/1

Sheri Conant 7/13

Nicholas Rosenbaum 7/5

Diane Huckaby 7/7

Kurt Muramatsu 7/12

Esther Nichols 7/15

Jake Skrydlak 7/18

Liz Allen 7/19

Melanie Sedler 7/21

Beverly O'Dell 7/21

Anna Thomas 7/21

Wyn Ward 7/22

Rev. Orville Nilsen 7/25

Linda Bunga 7/30

Crystal Miller 7/31

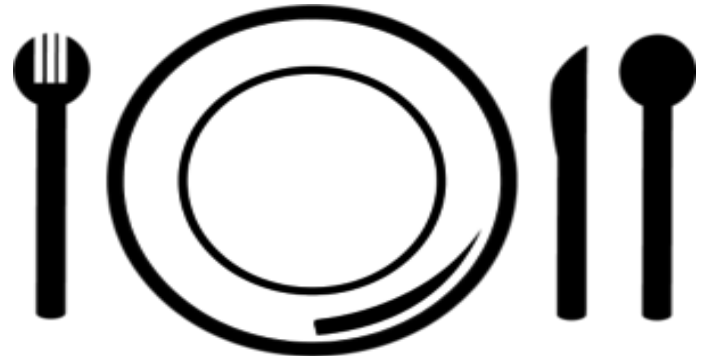


BfUMC Missions in Action!



Back Pack Buddies Monthly
Summer Food Drive Marches on!
Thank you for bringing in lots of yummy granola bars last month! This month of August we are asking for **Cereal** donations. Although School is out for the summer, each month we are focusing on one item to help stock our shelves for September. Please place any donations in the large basket located in the Fireside Room. Thank you!!

**Home Plate
at Merlo
Station**



UMCOR School Kits:

The following is a list of the materials to go into each bag. Please deposit them in a box labeled for UMCOR School Kits in the Fireside Room or office **thru August 9th**.

School Kit Materials

- **1 pair blunt scissors**
 - Rounded tip only;
 - No plastic scissors, please.

- **3 pads of paper**
 - Spiral- or top-bound pads;
 - 150 sheets or less of loose-leaf paper can be substituted for 1 pad;
 - Combination of spiral, top-bound, side-bound, or loose-leaf paper is acceptable;
 - No composition books, please.

- **1 hand-held pencil sharpener**
 - Must be at least 1 inch long;
 - Remove from packaging.

- **1 30-centimeter ruler**
 - Hard or flexible;
 - Cartoon characters are acceptable;
 - No advertisements please.

- **6 unsharpened pencils**
 - No advertisements, religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols, please;
 - Cartoon characters are acceptable.

- **1 2-inch or larger-size eraser**
 - No advertisements, religious, patriotic, military, or camouflage symbols, please;
 - Cartoon characters are acceptable.

- **1 24-count box of crayons**
 - Only 24-count boxes, please

. We will need volunteers to make the 14" x 16" school bags (all pre cut, just need to assemble according to instructions) A date will be announced for assembly of all kits after August 9th.



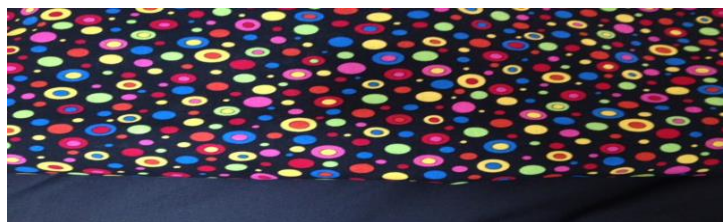
Tuesday, January 13th will be our church's day to volunteer for Meals on Wheels People at Elsie Stuhr Senior Center. Drivers should be at the Elsie Stuhr Center at 10:00 a.m. Please call Pat Tervooren at 503-644-7475 regarding this program.



Come and Meet Our New District Superintendent!

At Annual Conference in June we said “good bye” to District Superintendent Lowell Greathouse and wished him well as he starts his new job as the Coordinator of Missions and Ministries for the Conference. We also had a chance to say “hello” to our new DS (district superintendent) Erin Martin. Erin was, most recently, the pastor at Wesley UMC in Eugene. She is married and has four children. On Sunday, August 16, at 2:00 pm Beaverton First UMC will be the site of a “Meet & Greet” for Erin so that the Portland area churches can have a chance to meet her in an informal setting. It is going to be an “old fashioned” Ice Cream Social. Can you help? We need ice cream, ice cream toppings (syrops, sprinkles, spray whipped cream) and brownies or cookies. We could also use folks to arrive early to help set us and stay late for clean-up. Let’s show Erin our BFUMC spirit and thanks in advance!

Stoles for 2016 General Conference



Reconciling Stoles Fabric

We have received the fabric to make the Stoles for the 2016 General Conference held in Portland this coming spring. It is not the striped rainbow colors as previously shown, but circles of colors, that could be labeled "Circle of Love". Look for a future date for the "BFUMC Church Sew Bee" that everyone that desires be involved in constructing the stoles. Needed will be cutter's, presser's, sewer's, ripper's, packer's, and shipper's to complete this mission. If you would like to participate in this Mission, and have fantastic fellowship with each other, look for the announcement of date for this event in BFUMC.

May 2015 Finance Report

Pledged Giving:	\$12,514
Unpledged & loose Giving:	\$1,022.03
Other Income:	\$8,255.17
Fundraisers:	\$0.00
<u>Total Income:</u>	<u>\$22,217.20</u>

Transfers: **\$ 0.00**

Special Giving: \$426.00

(Includes gifts to special funds: not part of the operating funds. Includes building fund, Hunger Ministries, UMCOR, etc.)

Total Expenses this Month: 20,943.53

Net income or loss: \$-1,392.67

An average of \$18,500 is needed to cover monthly Apportionments and all bills due.
Remaining balance on both Church Loans: \$65,253.38

2015 Budget Comparisons May

Projected income	\$20,589.00
Actual Income	\$21,791.20
Projected expenses	\$18,768.00
Actual Expenses	\$20,690.91

Year to date total net income: \$-4,739.55

Correction on last month's Finance page. The numbers were for **APRIL being **reported** in May.

