



The Connection

Volume 8, Issue 6, June 2010

Support the Christian Aid Center

The homeless shelter downtown needs restocking of their shelves. Please consider bringing an item or two from the list below. Boxes are available at both welcome centers for your donations. We will continue to collect items until June 12th. For more information contact the church office.



NEEDS LIST

- toilet paper
- paper towels
- bleach
- Shampoo
- laundry detergent/fabric softener
- Household cleaner (Pine-sol)

Food Items

- Cereal
- Eggs
- Oatmeal
- Ketchup
- Sugar: white & brown
- Syrup
- Hamburger or chicken

Church Landscaping Work Party

by Larry Wachtel

Saturday, May 15th a group of nearly 20 hardy volunteers, young and not so young, male and female, gathered to rake, shovel and plant their way to a more beautiful church landscape. Focusing their efforts on the areas directly around the main sanctuary, the old bark mulch, weeds and old black plastic were removed and existing sprinkler lines were located, tested and repaired as needed. Fresh donuts and beverages provided the energy boost needed to keep the group energized.

Once the prep work was completed, beautiful new shrubs and trees were planted and additional drip irrigation lines surrounding each new plant were added. The crew then installed new water permeable fabric to keep the weeds at bay and new bark mulch applied. The landscape islands in the south parking lot were also given a much needed layer of new bark mulch. Smiles and laughter were in abundance.

While there is still work to be done at the rear of the building, the accomplishments of this fantastic group of volunteers has made a beautiful difference to our churches exterior. It will welcome old friends and new visitors for years to come. Special thanks go to the Birchcreek Plant Factory for their generous support of time and materials.



Connecting to Life Stories

God's Pruning Hands

Page 2

by Debbis Sands
for the Board of Elders

Lately, I've been struggling a little (ok, maybe a lot) with God's timing. When God brought Pastor Jerry to us in February, we were excited to have his godly, competent leadership guiding our church, freeing us up to focus more intensely on the search for a new senior pastor.

We had a commitment from Jerry for three months and we were already in contact with some great senior pastor candidates. Surely this was God's plan for a seamless transition between interim pastor and new senior pastor! To us, it seemed like the perfect timing. But it wasn't God's timing.

And I found myself asking "Why?" Here's what God showed me:

We grow a lot of grapes and produce a lot of wine in our valley. I'm not a winemaker, but it would seem logical to me that to produce good wine, you need to start with good grapes. There is an interesting principle involved in growing good quality grapes – the vines need to struggle a little bit. If everything is nice and comfortable (abundant water, abundant fertilizer), the vine puts most of its energy into producing great foliage. It looks great, but doesn't have a lot of fruit. But if the vine has to work for what it needs, if the

available resources seem a little scarce, the vine puts most of its energy into producing really great fruit. So a grape grower who wants a good harvest is going to provide enough water and nutrients to keep the vines alive, but not enough to let the vine get comfortable.



Can you see what this means for us? God has already told us that a great harvest is in store for us as a church. And when the time for the harvest comes, God wants us to find abundant fruit on our vines, not beautiful leaves.

That means we have to struggle a little bit. We have to dig deep and reach for the resources we need. God is a good gardener. He won't let us go without what we truly need, but He won't hand us everything we want, either. He doesn't want us to be comfortable; He wants us to be fruitful.

So here we are without a senior pastor for a time. Our resources look a little scarce. But God promises in John 15: 1-8 that if we abide in Him, we will have everything we need.

Connecting to Missions

Missions Update

by Jeanne Fox

Our mission is to lead people into a growing relationship with Jesus Christ. We accomplish our mission by creating environments where people are encouraged and equipped to pursue intimacy with God, connection with those in our church and influence with those in our **community** and throughout our **world**.

I would like to speak to our missions in our community and the world. Missions are supported three different ways here at Blue Mountain Community Church. We have Faith Promise, The Penny Plan and Ten Percent Giving.

Faith Promise

Faith Promise is held each year in the fall and pledges are given to support the following missions: Birthright of Walla Walla. Campus Crusade for Christ, Lebanon Cedar Home Orphanage, Chris & Karen Carlile - Flying H Youth Ranch, Egypt Church of God, H.E.A.R.T. Institute, InterVarsity Christian Fellowship, Charlotte McPherson, Mediterranean Bible College. Franco Santonocito, Julie Yerger, RN, Young Life, Galena Alaska. These missions are supported totally by the pledges received. Amount Pledged for November 2009 thru April 2010. \$14,120.00; amount received \$10,622.28. Leaving a negative balance of **\$3497.72**.



The Penny Plan (Children of Promise)

The Penny Plan supports the following six Children of Promise. By sponsoring children through Children of Promise, you provide them with food, education, basic medical care, and spiritual nurture. **You can change the life of a child forever.**

Child	Birthdate	Country
Maung Si Thu	08/16/1996	Myanmar (Burma)
Elron Jhay Bayra	11/02/1998	Philippines
Leah Marie Braga	02/18/1993	Philippines
Paskalina Bilo	07/31/1993	Tanzania
Stephen Saate	07/07/1989	Uganda
Sara Kolongo	01/12/1994	Uganda

Received Jan 2010 thru April 2010: \$777.12; Amount paid \$640.00. Leaving a positive balance of \$137.12

Ten Percent Giving

Ten percent of the churches monthly tithe goes to support the following missionaries and missions. The missionaries named individually each receive a fixed amount and the balance of the money is divided by percentage to the other missions. (This gives the Ten Percent Giving a zero balance each month)

Tod & Kathy Wood, Patrick & Jamie Nachtigall, Mark & Kim Agrelas, Justin & Heidi Reid, Franco Santonocito, Pacific Northwest Association, World Services, Warner Pacific College, Helpline, Christian Aid Center, and Double K Ranch.

Projected for January 2010 thru April 2010 \$23,381.40, amount received \$16,132.15. Difference is **\$7249.25** less than projected.

Connecting to Ministries



All men are invited
Saturday Morning, June 12
8:00 AM

Senior Adult Ministries meets June 10th at 10 AM in Baker Hall. They have a speaker or movie, then potluck lunch. Anyone 55 years or older is welcome to come and see what they're all about. Laughter is the best medicine. Come join in the fun and fellowship.

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Celebrate Recovery

Everyone is invited! Meet Friday nights at 7:00 PM to share in support and encouragement to conquer your hurts, habits, and hang-ups. Dinner provided the fourth Friday each month at 6:00 PM for a small donation.



Coffee with Jesus

Come to Hot Mama's Espresso on Pine from 9-10am every Tuesday this summer starting June 1st! Come as you are, when you can and get what God has for you in the study of the gospel of Mark. For more info, contact Kathy Nelson at 526-5518.

We have 12 home groups that meet weekly. Grow close to others in relationships centered on our faith in Jesus. For more info on joining a home group, contact the church office at 529-1212.

Connecting to the Next Generation

Page 5

Summer Camp at Washington Family Ranch

This camp is a great opportunity for your student to get together with youth, both BMCC and others. And there is a money back guarantee if they don't have the best week ever.

This year we chose to team up with Young life and WyldLife (Young Life's middle school ministry). Young Life is known for AMAZING camps! If you haven't gone to the website, here it is: www.washingtonfamilyranch.org. You can see all that the camp has to offer and see what Young Life stands for. This camp lasts 6 days for the High School and 4 days for the Middle School.

All leaders who go on the camp are able to spend 99% of their time being with the students, not worrying about running the camp. All operations and programs are done by the Young Life staff. This is great, and means that our leaders can spend their time building relationships with the students!

The BMCC youth will be going to camp with other kids from the Walla Walla valley. This means that the leaders as well as the students will get to know and build relationships with many kids that they may not have known prior to the camp.

We are really EXCITED about this summer camp!

What's Happening at . . .

The Ark is a busy place during the summer. Each class goes on 2 field trips a week.



Examples of some of the field trips are swimming, local parks, the library, the children's museum, plus more. We have had a Luau, and Crazy Days (face painting, popsicles, water slides, special movies) and the month of August we will hold our annual Ark Olympics.

We also have Spiritual Emphasis weeks the first and last weeks of summer, as well as a weekly chapel time where all the classes gather together to learn more about God's love through His Son Jesus. Our service project for the month of June is for the children to send letters and art work to soldiers in Afghanistan. We will be sending a care package as well.

Middle School Camp
August 8th-12th

High School Camp
July 17th-23rd



Connecting to One Another

Page 6

Celebrating June Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 Miles Plucker	3 Don & Donna Raugust	
2 Rachel Clark	Bill & Lydia Whipple	
Stacey Larreau	4 Robert & Laura Rice	
3 Cheryl Cowles	7 Ed & Donna Hendricksen	19 Roland & Carol Schirman
4 Sydney Harris	8 John & Melanie Berger	20 Harold & Bonnie Raugust
Cary Rahn	9 Bryce & Yvonne Henline	22 Richard & Judi Easton
5 Jeremy Gonzalez	12 Mike & Laura Bowe	23 Don & Kathryn Logosz
Don Hoppen	15 Vic & Eloise Phillips	Bob & Nancy Stewart
Kolby Wood	17 Don & Paula Hoppen	25 Donny & Kandee Hoppen
6 Mark Anderson	Sonny & Linda Reyburn	Scott & Renee Krivoshein
Wysen Branscum		Tom & Dianne Mosher
Jessica Ramsey	17 Kay Benzel	26 Jerry & Sue Willsey
7 Amy Freeman	18 Jeff Goodson	29 Nick & Julie Caton
9 Karen McDaniels	Jamie Matheny	30 Barry & Leslie Culbertson
10 Joshua Lyons	19 Becky Brashear	Bret & Stacey Larreau
11 Conner Heimbigner	20 Myrna Bowen	Dustin & Nicole West
12 Isaac Freeman	Lauren Clark	
Rebecca Landstrom	21 Don Raugust	
13 Adrienne Harris	22 Glen Shivley	
Mindy Neissl	Bob Stewart Jr.	
14 Nancy Jennings	23 Brianna Branscum	
John Blom	Heather Sept	
Clifford Frazier	24 Carl Banks	
Nicholas Matheny	Jeanne Fox	
Shayla Mountain	Brianna Mountain	
Rick Walters	25 Chalene Waltner	
15 Steve Nelson	26 Andrew Hoppen	
16 Dorothy Atwood	27 Nancy Cornelius	
Tom Mosher	Debi Evans	
Jackie Wolske	Larry Laughlin	
	Robert Miller	
	Sean Shea	
	28 Stephen Miller	
	29 Beverly Jeffris	
	Larry Wachtel	
	30 Amanda Nielsen	
	Jack Shea	

June

At a Glance

- 2 Ark End of Year Program 4:30 PM
- 7 Building & Grounds Commission 6:45 PM
- 8 Quilter's Guild 6:30 PM
- 10 SAMS 10:00 AM
- Board of Elders 6:30 PM
- 12 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
- 14-18 Vacation Bible School**
- 14 EOD Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- Worship Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- The Ark Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 18 Push Outreach 8:00 PM
- 20 **Annual Reports Available**
- 21 CE Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 22 Missions Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 27 Annual Business Meeting

*SAMS- Senior Adult Ministries
MOPS- Mothers of Preschoolers

Connecting to Summer

It's Here!

Vacation Bible School
June 14-18, 2010
For children 6-12
Years of Age

Camp Cost \$25 (Scholarship available)

Sports Camp Registration Medical Release Form

For Office Use Only
Paid: Cash / Check # _____
Form signed _____
Entered on roster _____

Registration Form

Circle Camp Choice:

Day Camp (BMCC) Evening Camp (Washington Park)

Circle Sport Choice:

Soccer Basketball
Cheerleading

Circle Shirt Size: YXS YS YM YL AS AM AL AXL

Name _____ Age _____ Grade _____ DOB ____/____/____ M F

Address _____ Phone _____

City _____ State/Zip _____ Alt. Phone _____

Parent(s) Name _____

Emergency Contact/Phone _____

Allergies _____ Health Concerns _____

Register Today

by mailing this form to:

BMCC
928 Sturm Ave
Walla Walla, WA 99362

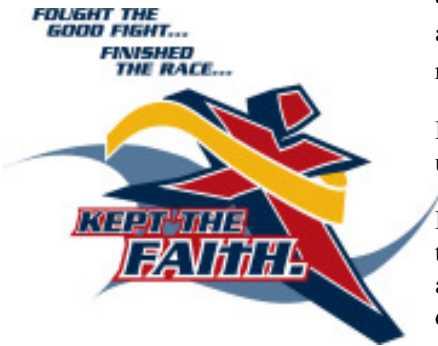
Medical and Liability Release

We realize that no activity is without the possibility of unforeseen hazards which could result in injury to an individual. As a parent or guardian, you are to be aware of your responsibility to instruct your child of the importance of conduct which will insure safety and enjoyable time while participating in this activity. By signing this form, you, as a parent, guardian or other responsible party, agree to assume the risks and hazards which are inherent in this kind of activity. You also agree to absolve and hold harmless the sponsoring organizations and their representatives for damage, loss or injuries to the child for whom you sign.

I further give my permission for the use of any photo or likeness of my child to be used by the sponsoring organizations for their use in promotional materials.

I give my child, _____, permission to participate in this activity, and give my permission to the leaders of this function to authorize any treatment deemed necessary by a licensed physician due to accident or illness during this activity.

Parent's / Guardian Signature: _____



Quick Connect



Graduation Sunday June 6

Celebrate this year's high school and college graduates in our worship service.



Vacation Bible School June 14-18

Morning and Evening Camps
Registrations on Page 7

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