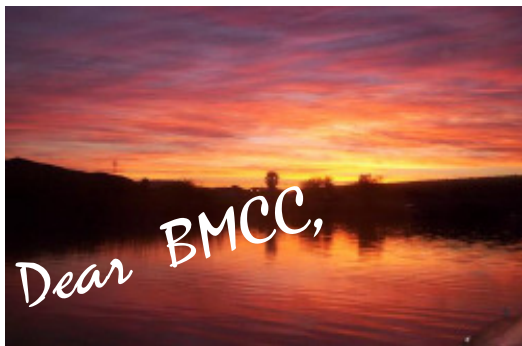




# The Connection

Volume 8, Issue 5, May 2010



The time for Bonnie and me to go on to our Texas assignment is drawing near. May 16 will be my last Sunday as your interim minister. The Board of Elders has extended an invitation to stay until the middle of July. This is something I would gladly do, but the Lord has informed me I must return home and off to Texas.

I have truly enjoyed the amazing spirit and attitude of everyone at BMCC. The office staff are skilled and dedicated workers for the Kingdom of God and BMCC. I could easily make this my home. I love you all dearly and have been assured by the Holy Spirit that there is a great future for this church. God's best peace,

*Pastor Jerry and Bonnie*

**A farewell gathering  
for Pastor Jerry & Bonnie**

May 16<sup>th</sup> after morning service  
Last Name: A-N bring a salad  
O-Z bring a dessert

There will be a basket  
for cards/monetary gifts

## **PUSH becomes Community Venue for Area Youth**

by Pastor Ike

I grew up in a town in western Washington about the size of Walla Walla. There was never anything to do during my high school and community college years. My friends and I spent a lot of our down time at night and on the weekends trying to figure out new ways to keep ourselves busy. I had some friends that turned to the party scene to give them something, others who turned to laziness and didn't do anything.

Then there were me and a few others who decided to pass our time by launching water balloons at the parked cars of teens who were watching people cruise the strip. We had this awesome balloon launcher that took three people to operate, you could get some serious distance. One time we were behind BurgerVille launching balloons over the street into the Wendy's parking lot. One of the shots was lucky enough to land in the middle of a teen's open jeep, right between the seats! ...They saw us and jumped in their vehicles and came after us. We weren't [that] dumb, so we took off. This led to a chase all through town and out into the countryside where we eventually lost them.

This led to another thing we did to pass time. Get people to chase us and lose them in the country.



*continued on page 3*

# Connecting to Life Stories

Page 2

## Celebrate Recovery Returns to BMCC

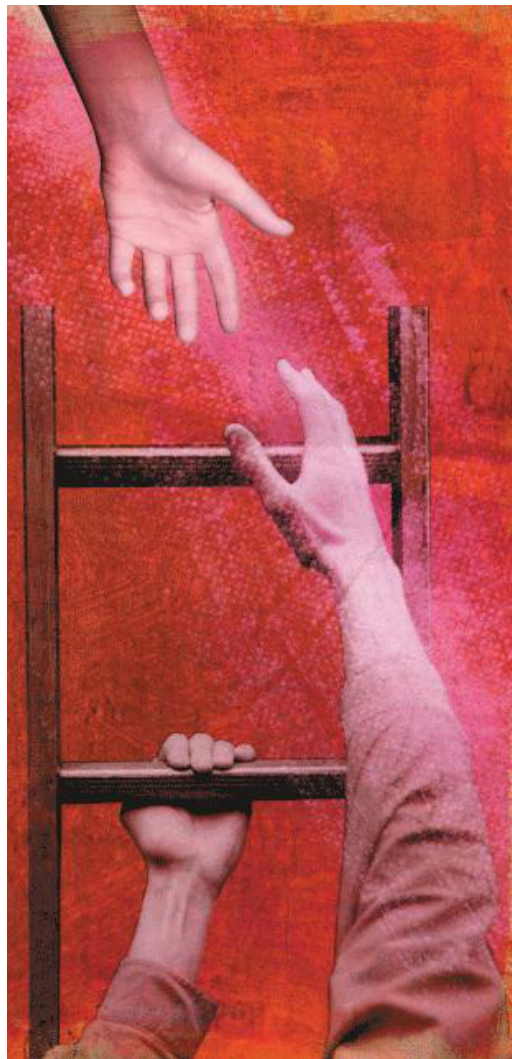
by Julie Caton

On April 23<sup>rd</sup>, BMCC once again opened its doors wide as a hospital for the hurting, addicted and hungup. After a brief haitus, Celebrate Recovery has reignited with passion for bringing hope and whole-

*The purpose of Blue Mountain Community Church's Celebrate Recovery is to fellowship and celebrate God's healing power in our lives through eight recovery principles and Christ-centered 12 Steps. This experience allows us to be changed. We open the door by sharing our experiences, strengths, and hopes with one another. In addition, we become willing to accept God's grace in solving our life problems.*

*By working the steps and applying their Biblical principles, we begin to grow spiritually. We become free from our addictive, compulsive, and dysfunctional behaviors. This freedom creates peace, serenity, joy, and most importantly, a stronger personal relationship with God and others.*

*As we progress through the principles we discover our personal, loving, and forgiving Higher Power-Jesus Christ.*



ness to those brave enough to seek it. For the return night, seventeen people joined in the Twelve step healing process that Celebrate Recovery entails. Small groups formed to build trust and accountability.

One of the main misconceptions about Celebrate Recovery is that it's for "those" people: drug addicts and criminals. The truth is that Celebrate Recovery is for each of us. For "normal" people. Because we all have been hurt by others, made choices we wish we hadn't, or found ourselves stuck in a life we wish we could change. God can change those things in us and Celebrate Recovery is here to help.

Come visit any Friday night and see how Celebrate Recovery can bring amazing freedom and joy in a Christ filled life.

# Connecting Deeper

*continued from page 1*

Oh, the things we did to get people to chase us. Get in front of them then slow down.... Then when they try to pass us we would stomp on the gas and keep them from passing. Then slow down again.

Once we realized that this might have been a little dangerous we decided to modify billboards. We made HUGE cardboard mustaches for one of the senators who was running for re-election and had a big picture of himself on one of the boards. We made him look like Yosemite Sam.

There is also the instances with local land marks... this was the low of our search for something to cure the boredom. A story for a different time.

I share all of this to say, I understand what it is like to grow up in a town where there are not many options for a teen on a slow Friday night. There are PLENTY of kinds of trouble to get into. You could be like my friend Jordan who decided he would fill the time with partying. He ballooned about 50 pounds in a year from all the alcohol he consumed. Not to mention whatever faith he had in God was eroded away by that year with people who couldn't care less for him or his faith.

The PUSH is a place where once a month students from the area can come and have a place where they can skateboard, play pingpong, pool or video games. And they do all of this with people who love Jesus Christ.

The goal of The PUSH is not only providing a safe place for these students to hang out, but to provide an opportunity to build relationships: relationships that allow you to share the love of Christ and the message of his sacrifice for our salvation.

An overwhelming majority of students who come to The PUSH have little to no experience with true Bible believing, Jesus loving, "Great Commission", "Greatest Commandment" Christians. The PUSH is providing an opportunity to foster friendships with students who are broken and lost.



# Connecting to Ministries



Senior Adult Ministries meets May 6<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> 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.

S  
A  
M  
S

**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 at 6:00 PM for a small doantion.

All ladies are invited to  
**The Well**  
a place where . . .  
Women Encounter the Love of the Lord  
*"Celebrate!"*  
This is our end of year party where we will celebrate God's goodness together.  
Please bring a salad to share.  
Monday evening, May 24<sup>th</sup>  
6:30 - 8:00 PM

The WELL

Better Moms Make A Better World  
**MOPS**  
Mothers of Preschoolers  
Mothers of Preschoolers meets May 13<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> from 9-11 AM in Baker Hall. They exist to encourage and equip mothers. Guests are always welcome! Contact Shannon Naftzger at 876-1302.

**home groups**  
FIND A PLACE RIGHT WHERE YOU FIT AND START GROWING TODAY.

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



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

Blue Mountain Community Church  
Monday – Friday  
9:00 – 12:15 pm

Washington Park  
Monday - Friday  
5:30 – 8:45 pm\*  
\*Note time change

**Volunteers Needed for Both Camps**  
Assistant Coaches   Tech Crew   Follow Up  
Interact with Parents

Contact Joyce Paine at 301-2098 to sign up.

Registrations will be coming out in the bulletin on May 16<sup>th</sup>. Children will need to choose morning or evening camp. They will get to choose basketball, soccer or cheerleading camp. The cost for each child will be \$25. Scholarships will be available. Start inviting your friends now and spread the word. This is bound to be an exciting adventure for all!



## What's Happening at . . .

Our project for the month of May will be to recycle, reduce and reuse. Children will learn how to care for God's earth and the resources He gave us.



### Other events for May:

The Preschoolers will hold a Mother's Day Tea, where the children will prepare a refreshment and serve tea for their mom.

We will also have a flower show. The children bring a flower in a vase and will receive an award ribbon. The flowers will be on display in our foyer.

## Summer Camp at Washington Family Ranch

Save the Date  
Middle School Camp  
August 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup>

High School Camp  
July 17<sup>th</sup>-23<sup>rd</sup>



Contact Pastor Ike at 529-1212 for more information.

# Connecting to One Another

## Celebrating May Birthdays and Anniversaries

1 Andrea Gonzalez  
Ken Jurgensen  
2 Linda Cline  
Teresa Maxwell  
4 Skip Harrold  
Joshua McDaniels  
5 Bettie Baker  
Pat Hanford  
Cody Turner  
6 Darby Clark  
7 Dodie Bruggeman  
9 Frank Aichele  
10 Ryan Houk  
Bev Kuljis  
11 Kris Eagon  
Tanner Gorze  
Maggie Miranda  
Christene Thrasher  
12 Anna Rice  
Herb Smeed  
Maranatha Snider  
13 Caleb Mountain  
Cy Barnes  
14 Ed Voss  
15 Alec Carrera  
Frankie Weed  
16 Cindy Blair  
Judi Easton  
Kelly Hutcherson  
Joan Owens

17 Jared Burns  
Timothy Goodwin  
Jarod Mings  
Adora Osborne  
19 Dora Wilson  
20 Janice Aichele  
Spencer Conwell  
Ethan Harris  
Dianne Mosher  
Joelie Voeks  
21 Dina Anderson  
Lin Myers  
Andrew Somers  
Chelsey Wood  
25 Beverly Lemons  
Bernice Shivley  
27 Dave Hale  
Vonda Rand  
28 Brenda Jones  
31 Jennifer Edwards  
Donnette Filan  
Jerry Musick  
Donna Raugust

1 Gene & Cheryl Cowles  
4 Michael & Wendy Baird  
7 John & Betty Hamby  
13 Rick & Cyndi Walters  
17 Bob & Diane Benfield  
25 Jim & Cindy Tackett

## May

### At a Glance

6 SAMS\* 10:00 AM  
8 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM  
10 EOD Commission Meeting 6:30 PM  
Worship Commission Meeting 6:30 PM  
The Ark Commission Meeting 6:30 PM  
Building & Grounds Commission 6:45 PM  
11 Quilter's Guild 6:30 PM  
13 MOPS \* 9:00 AM  
Board of Elders Meeting 6:30 PM  
17 CE Commission Meeting 6:30 PM  
18 Missions Commission Meeting 6:30 PM  
20 SAMS\* 10:00 AM  
24 The WELL 6:30 PM  
27 MOPS \* 9:00 AM  
**Annual Reports Due**  
31 Office Closed for Memorial Day

\*SAMS- Senior Adult Ministries  
MOPS- Mothers of Preschoolers

# Connecting to Missions

Page 7

## Young Life Gifts Galena Prom

by Steve Pavish

Several female staff from Young Life collected prom dresses to bring to Galena, Alaska, for an amazing outreach event. The event centered on a distribution and fitting of prom dresses to high school girls. There was also a fashion show for the participants in which one of the leaders, Natalie, presented a message about the inner beauty of a woman who follows Christ. Over 150 dresses were donated to the project, as well as shoes and accessories.

During the fitting time, Christian women were able to connect with and bless 45 high school girls. Many women who live in the community also came to share their sewing skills.

Through all these activities, village teens witnessed the love of God's people in action! Nothing like this had ever happened in the village before.

As is so often the case when the Lord answers our prayers, He goes far beyond all that we could have imagined when we first sent our petitions up. Many, many other awesome things happened in Galena. Suffice it to say that the Lord answered in a very big way and impacted many people in and out of Galena.



Please continue to pray for David and the Young Life volunteers. Their work tends to become more intense as the school year winds down. Ask the Lord to provide them with an extra measure of endurance and grace. April and May are months when spirits of abuse, suicide, depression, anger and jealousy often rise in power in villages all over bush Alaska. Continue to ask the Lord to restrain evil spirits from doing damage among the high school students in Galena and from interfering with the work of his servants there.

 **younglife**<sup>®</sup>  
You were made for this.<sup>™</sup>

# Quick Connect



## Mother's Day Service

May 9



## Sunday Nights Are Alive

Prayer 4:00 PM

Bible Study 5:00 PM

All are invited.

Pray for the renewing of our church and join Pastor Jerry as he unlocks the doctrines of the Bible.

A monthly publication of **Blue Mountain Community Church** 928 Sturm Ave., Walla Walla, Washington 99362, (509) 529-1212, [www.bluemountainchurch.com](http://www.bluemountainchurch.com), Editor: Julie Caton, [bmcbulletin@gmail.com](mailto:bmcbulletin@gmail.com). Deadline for submissions: 9:00 AM, the second Tuesday of the month prior to publication. Editor reserves the right to edit for content and space. Unsolicited materials welcome.

© 2010 Blue Mountain Community Church