



The Connection

Volume 8, Issue 10, October 2010

Harvest Carnival Returns

by Dana Miller

It's not too early to be thinking about it! Blue Mountain Community Church will be hosting our 9th annual Harvest Carnival on Sunday, October 31st. This event is one of our largest outreaches to the community. It is open to all youth and adults in the Walla Walla valley, and there is no cost to attend. This is our church's opportunity to provide a safe and fun alternative to traditional trick or treating. It is also a great way to introduce families who might not attend church or have a church home to Blue Mountain Community Church.

Jesus promises in John 12:26 (NASB) that, *"If anyone serves Me, he must follow Me; and where I am, there My servant will be also; if anyone serves Me, the Father will honor him."* What a wonderful promise and challenge for those who wish to be His hands and feet!

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Meeting Jesus

by Pastor Ray

Blue Mountain is starting a nine week study entitled, "Meeting Jesus." It will include Sunday morning messages followed up by Bible studies in home groups. We will look at various people who met Jesus as he walked the earth, and see how their encounters with him affected their lives. Individual studies include: The Woman at the Well, The Man Out of Control, The Guy Nobody Liked, and The One Who Went Away Sad. We will be able to identify with these folks, because they are people like us.



As we study them we'll come to better understand how Jesus can make a difference in our lives and in the lives of those we love. This is a great chance for you to get involved in a study group. If you'd like to join a group for this special study, contact the church office at 529-1212.

Meet Pastor Ray Houser Interim Senior Pastor

For the last eighteen years Ray Houser has served as the Senior Pastor at First Church of God in Kokomo, Indiana. He grew up in Wichita, Kansas, and committed



his life to Christ at age 12, then, at age 19, he answered a call to ministry. Ray holds a bachelor's degree from Anderson University and masters degrees from both Anderson University and Indiana Wesleyan. Before going to Kokomo, Ray served churches in Kentucky and California, and planted the Hope Community Church of God in Clarksville, Indiana.

For 34 years he has been married to his wife, Tina, who edits a children's ministry magazine, writes an on-line children's church curriculum, and leads training workshops. They have one son, Jarad, who is a pastor of student ministries in Woodstock, Georgia; and year-old grandtwins who have severely stolen Ray's heart. In his spare time, Ray reads mysteries, writes articles, and is committed to coaching pastors.

FaithLife
FINANCIAL
PRESENTS

Girls Night Out

A night of Fun, Faith, and Fellowship

You're invited to an evening just for you!
Come and laugh with your friends, join in some interactive fun,
savor some delicious treats and hear an inspiring message.

TICKETS ONLY
\$5

featuring
**CONNIE
CAVANAUGH**
Author of "From Faking it to Finding Grace"

**Blue Mountain
Community Church**
928 Strum Avenue, Walla Walla

7:00PM | Sunday, October 10, 2010

TICKETS AVAILABLE AT THE HOST CHURCH &
Christian Supply Center
115 East Main Street, Walla Walla | (509) 529-0810
and online at www.ITickets.com*

www.gnolive.com

A Call to Prayer and Fasting

by Julie Caton

For the past year, we have struggled in finding the new senior pastor for Blue Mountain. It is time for a new approach. Pastor Ray is calling the people of BMCC to a month of dedicated prayer and fasting for God to reveal our new senior pastor. Here's your challenge: From October 24th- November 21st, choose one day or one meal a week to abstain from food. Use the time you would have taken in preparation and enjoyment of the meal to earnestly envoke God for the following:

- preparation and protection of the man or woman God is calling to lead BMCC
- guidance and connections for the people currently searching for the new pastor
- preparation of our church family to receive the new pastor
- a clear vision for BMCC in our new pastor

For those who cannot fast from a meal, try fasting from TV, social networking, or some other time consumer. Let the desire for that activity trigger you to pray. A unified time of prayer can bring us closer together and will call God's attention to our earnest seeking.

"If my people, who are called by my name, will humble themselves and pray and seek my face and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven and will forgive their sin and will heal their land."

2 Chronicles 7:14

To receive weekly encouraging emails from Pastor Ray during this fast, submit your name and email address to the church office.



The IRON SHARPENS IRON Conference Network is made up of individual ministries that are willing to act interdependently to most effectively offer local churches a first class resource for men. Our local conference will be in Tri- Cities on November 6th. Sign up at Ministry Central to attend. The cost is \$39 and includes the following workshops:

- Battling Unseen Forces
- Christianity in the Workplace
- Conquering the Silent Killers: Depression, Loneliness & Anxiety
- Defanging the Snake
- Design in the Details - Evidence of in the Creator's Hand in the Big and Small
- Email is for Grandpas
- Give Your Marriage a Relationship Remodel
- Honoring God with your Finances
- Making a Difference in the Next Generation
- Preparing to Be a Pass-Through Point
- Real Tools for Real Men

For more information, contact Jeff Goodson at 301-4622.

Connecting to Ministries



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.

Senior Adult Ministries meets October 7th and 21st at 10 AM in Baker Hall. They have a speaker or movie, then pot-luck 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.

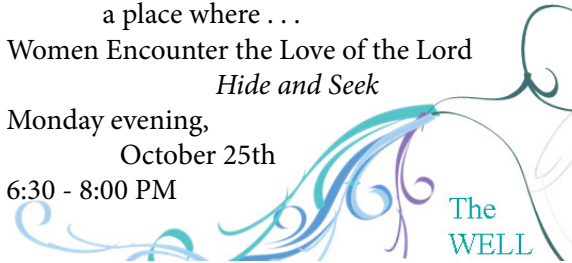
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Grow close to others in relationships centered on our faith in Jesus. For more info on joining a home group, contact the church office at 529-1212.

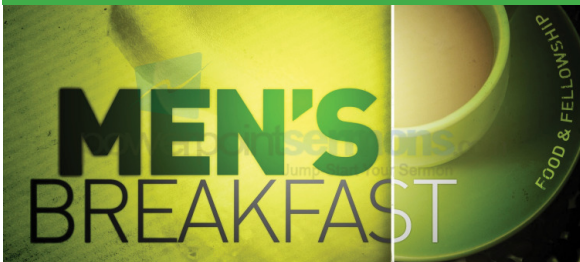
All ladies are invited to *The Well*
a place where . . .

Women Encounter the Love of the Lord
Hide and Seek

Monday evening,
October 25th
6:30 - 8:00 PM



All men are invited
Saturday Morning, October 9
8:00 AM



Better Moms Make A Better World

MOMPS
Mothers of Preschoolers

Mothers of Preschoolers and MOMSNext meet October 14th and 28th from 9-11 AM in Baker Hall. They exist to encourage and equip mothers. Guests are always welcome! Contact Shannon Naftzger at 876-1302.



Harvest Carnival

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How can I help?

Pray! Please pray that this event may bring families and students to Jesus and the relationship He longs to have with anyone who seeks Him.

Sign Up! Look for sign up sheets coming the first week of October to help run game booths, registration, hospitality, clean up, etc. Most jobs only need about an hour and a half of your time!

Bring Candy! We need your donations of bagged candy (no lollipops, please!) Please bring bagged candy to the church office during business hours or to drop boxes in Baker Hall.

Donate! If you are a business owner or manager, we would appreciate donations of gift certificates and/or prizes. These prizes may be raffle giveaways or for use in a silent auction to benefit church ministry projects.

Feel free to contact the church office at 529-1212 or Dana Miller at (509) 629-0331 with any questions about the event.

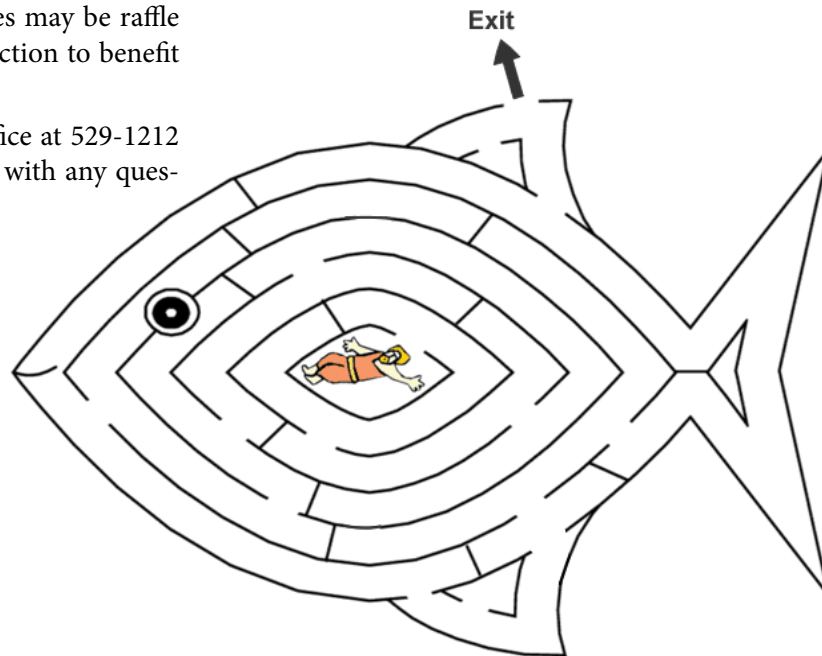
Youth Happenings

by Ken Paine

Community Service Project (to be determined) on Saturday, Oct 16 from 9:00 AM to noon, followed by lunch.

On Saturday, Oct 23 we'll be having a chili feed at the church at 5:00 PM, followed by a trip to the corn maze. Bring money for the corn maze, and flashlights if you have them.

On Oct 29 - 31 we'll have whale/jail time, constructing the whale and jail for the Harvest Carnival, and the evening of the 31st, we'll be manning them, and then tearing it all down.



Connecting to One Another

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Celebrating October Birthdays and Anniversaries

2 Diane Benfield
Kyle Erb
Bill Luisi
Elijah Wilson
6 Irene Fisher
Don Lynch
7 Syvila Priday
Julie Wooton
8 Francesca Cannone
11 Scott Leamy
Lorene Buff
David Houk
Alison Knight
Bonnie Raugust
Houston Rice
12 Levi Haen
Delmer Criss
13 Teri Stewart
Laura McNeil
14 Michael Baird
15 Wayne Kaaen
16 Tanner Baslee
17 Jeremy Groat
Gary McAlvey
20 Nicole Redman
Nate Swisher
21 Sonia Walker
22 Andrew Easton
Jim Evans
Megan Evans



23 Nathaniel Rice
Ron Skifstad
Rebecca Stewart
24 Evelyn Cornelius
25 Jillian McDaniels
Karen Nielsen
Noralea Ordway
27 Sara Erb
Amanda Agrellas
Frank Johnson
28 Brandon Hoppen
31 AJ Bennett

3 Cary & Dona Rahn
5 Glen & Bernice Shivley
6 Glenn & Rosalie Vogt
12 Rick & Brenda Jones
15 Skip & Jane Harrold
21 Jack & Tracy Shea
23 Jerold & Doris Cook
29 Don & Nicole Redman
Earl & Connie Stanley

October

At a Glance

1-2 High School Retreat @ Lake Cle Elum
6 Building & Grounds Commission 6:45 PM
7 Senior Adult Ministries 10:00 AM
Celebrate Recovery Leaders 6:30 PM
9 Men's Breakfast 8:00 AM
10 Girls' Night Out 7:00 PM
11 EOD Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
Worship Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
The Ark Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
12 Quilter's Guild 6:30 PM
14 Mothers of PreSchoolers 9:00 AM
Board of Elders Meeting 6:30 PM
17 Pastor Appreciation Sunday
18 CE Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
19 Missions Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
21 Senior Adult Ministries 10:00 AM
25 The WELL 6:30 PM
28 Mothers of PreSchoolers 9:00 AM
31 Harvest Carnival 5:30 PM

Obeying the Call

by Jean Bell

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

In this passage Jesus is speaking to his disciples. He is also speaking to you and me. You might say, “but it is impossible for me to go to other countries,” and dismiss it. That is what I did for many years. Then I began to realize that when I support our missionaries with my encouragement, money, and prayers, I do have a part in their work. Having part in their work, I am obeying Jesus’ command.

Encouragement- our missionaries need it. Think how discouraged you could become – far from home in a strange land and everything seemingly going wrong. **Money**- this is essential for our missionaries. They need food, clothing, shelter, supplies, etc. How can they do their work without these? **Prayer** – maybe the most important. Just think how good you feel when someone prays for you.

Maybe you think you don’t have time to write those letters of encouragement and appreciation. You don’t have much money to give. How can you pray for someone you don’t even know? All good excuses, but they are just that – excuses. I challenge you to stop in the hallway and look – really look – at the missions display. Get acquainted with our missionaries and their work all over the world, as well as Helpline and the Christian Aid Center right here in Walla Walla. That is right: Walla Walla. Not all missionary work is in far away places.

What do you know about the Penny Plan? You must have seen the blurb in the bulletin the first Sunday of every month: “Today is Penny Plan Sun-

day.” And there is that big glass jar in the front of the sanctuary to put coins in. How often do you walk down, take the coins from your pocket and drop them in the jar? If those coins stay in your pocket they may be able to buy you a latte on your way to work Monday morning. If you drop them in the jar they may provide a meal for a hungry child in a third-world country. Or perhaps some school supplies so that child can get an education and become a productive member of society. This program is called “Children of Promise.” Again I say look -really look- at the pictures of some of the children we are helping with our loose change dropped in the jar.

We have just finished our faith promise weekend. Did you know that the money you have pledged to give over the coming year will go to work in places like Lebanon, Rwanda, and Eurasia? That is not all- there is Young life in Alaska, Campus Crusade, and InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. All three of these groups are working with young people. Young people whose lives are being changed. Even though as individuals we have a small amount to give: not much time, not much money, and difficulty praying; when we all combine our efforts we can do great things. I ask you to make the effort to become an active part in supporting missionaries at BMCC. Working together we can say, “Yes, Lord!” and mean it when we read-

Go therefore and make disciples of all nations. . .

Matthew 28:19a



Quick Connect



Meeting Jesus

Sunday Sermons with home group study. Join a home group today by contacting the church office. More information on Page 1.



Harvest Carnival

October 31

5:30-8:00 PM

Invite your friends and neighbors to this fun free event for children.



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