

The Connection

Volume 6, Issue 4, April 2008

from Pastor Mike...

Servanthood

“For even the Son of Man did not come to be served, but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many.” Mark 10:45 (NIV)

What a great Easter we’ve just celebrated! As we remembered that Jesus Christ gave his life so that we might have life eternal and enjoy his presence and power for living each day. Is that all there is? Is it just about me? Surely there is more? Yes!

Jesus models and teaches in Mark 10:45 that our Christian life is to be a life of servanthood. We are called to use our gifts and talents for his glory.

On April 13th we will be hosting a ministry fair to display all of the ministries of our church. I trust that you will take some time to come and see what is happening in and through your church and then ask the Lord where He would have you serve. You say: “Pastor, I am not sure where I belong or in what ministry area I should serve?” Let me encourage you to ask yourself two questions — 1. *What am I passionate about?* Children, teens, young adults, middle aged adults or senior adults. 2. *Do I enjoy tasks or relational things better?* Knowing how God has wired you up for service can provide you with helpful understanding; this is why we offer Class 301. In this class we discover each person’s S.H.A.P.E. — Spiritual gifts, Heart or passion, Abilities, Personality, and your life Experience.

Ask yourself this question: “Lord where would you have me serve this next 6 months in our church”?

Ministry Fair and Potato Bar!!

April 13th 12-2:00 pm

by Amy Freeman

There are many ways that BMCC serves the needs of its church family and community. On April 13th from 12 -2 PM you can come and see the many opportunities to be a part of serving in the church body. *“For as the body is one, and hath many members, and all the members of that one body, being many, are one body: so also is Christ.”*

1 Corinthians 12:12

You can also come to support our youth who will be going to Guatemala this summer. During the ministry fair you can enjoy baked potatoes, chili and all the toppings, hot dogs for the kids and dessert served by students. \$5 per person or \$15 per family.





From Your Administrative Pastor

Last month I reminded you of some very important upcoming dates and events. I need to bring them to you again...

All commissions need to submit their 2008-2009 budget forecasts to me no later than April 4th. I will get them to the Board of Elders by April 16th. If you need help with this process, please contact myself or Bob Loar.

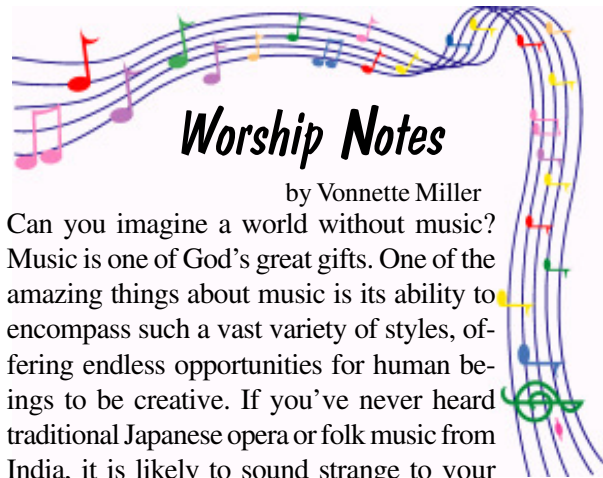
All 2007-2008 Annual Reports are due in the church office no later than May 30th. These reports must be in a printable format (ask Kim or Julie for details).

Our Annual Business Meeting will be on Sunday, June 22nd. Time to be determined but will most likely follow our morning Worship Service. Absentee ballots should be available on June 15th. In addition, we hope to have the Annual Report booklets available on Sunday, June 15th as well.

Let me also give you an update on how we are doing on our current budget. As of the end of February our income was \$456,055.73, which was \$71,626.71 less than our budget forecast for this time period. The upside is that our expenses are \$105,360.50 less than we had forecasted. As of the end of February we are \$33,733.79 in the black (actual income to expenses)!

Until next time...

Pastor Dan
Administrative Pastor



Worship Notes

by Vonnette Miller

Can you imagine a world without music? Music is one of God's great gifts. One of the amazing things about music is its ability to encompass such a vast variety of styles, offering endless opportunities for human beings to be creative. If you've never heard traditional Japanese opera or folk music from India, it is likely to sound strange to your western ears! This is because these cultures use an entirely different musical "language" than we do. Aside from cultural variations, music varies greatly from century to century and from generation to generation. Certainly, the God who created our world with such an amazing variety of plants, animals and people, delights in the variety of music used to praise Him!

When we realize this, it seems strange to think that missionaries used to tote pipe organs to Africa to teach the native people "proper worship music." Did they think God only listens to our praises if they are sung in a certain style? The truth is that music, like so many things in life, is cultural. It would be wrong to force our musical preferences on another culture (to whose ears Bach may sound just as odd as Japanese opera sounds to us!) However, this is not to say that we can't find common ground. As Christians, that should be especially easy to do, because regardless of our preferences, our goal in worship is the same: to glorify God. God loves our music, but it is not the music that He wants: God wants our hearts. That is what worship is truly about. So, the next time you lift your voice on Sunday morning, ask yourself if you are lifting your heart to God in true worship.

Your worship commission members are Elissa Stites, Melanie Berger, Vonette Miller, Dona Rahn, Marty Huie, Rod Harmon, and Nicole Redman. We welcome your comments, concerns, and compliments.



Do you speak their language?

Today's American youth live in a world surrounded by communications technologies; the internet, MP3 Players, IPOD, video games, and cell phones. Our tech-savvy children use modern technology as an extension of themselves to communicate emotionally and socially with their peers. Chat rooms, blogs, and text messages come with their own special language or abbreviations.

- LOL**= laughing out loud **OTP**= on the phone
JK= just kidding **W/E**= whatever
POS= parents over shoulder
A/S/L= age, sex, location (often asked by predators)
420= code for buying or smoking marijuana

The latest statistics show:

- 87 % of teens go online daily
- Children ages 2-11 make up 8% of internet users
- 1 in 5 children ages 10-17 are victims of sexual solicitation over the internet

As scary as some of these statistics are for parents, we cannot let fear paralyze us. Here are some tips for the non-techie parent.


1. Start teaching internet safety to your child.
2. Become a net savvy parent – Focus on the Family has great information on this subject.
3. Protect your computer – Here are a few safety programs: Bsafe and Safe eyes.
4. Explore the internet as a family- check out internet sites together to find the age appropriate web sites.
5. Remember you are the parent – You reserve the right to check any and all sites, blogs, my space, and email accounts. Your child's safety trumps all privacy issues.

GTG = Got to go

Pastor Sharon

Join the Team!

We are looking for partners that have a big

2  , and love holding



No teaching required — just loving on God's children 4-6 times a year.

There is no greater joy in life than serving the Lord!

Please contact Pastor Sharon
or the office at 529-1212.



MISSIONS CORNER



Coming summer of 08
Youth Mission trip to Guatemala
July 22-31
Reservations required
(Space available for youth ages 12-18)
Call Ike at 529-1212



Celebrating April Birthdays and Anniversaries

- 1 *Bob Branscum*
Karen Buchanan
Gene Cowles
Brett Fleming
Seth Harris
Evan Jameson
David McDaniels
Dorothy VanStone
- 2 *Nicole Culbertson*
Joyce Paine
Carolee White
- 3 *Roy Clark*
Grace Freeman
- 4 *Devin Howland*
- 6 *Parker Eaglestone*
Ernie Silva
Ariel Skifstad
- 7 *Jami Brumbach*
Marty Huie
Orvil Wilson
- 8 *Terry Conwell*
Brianna Elmore
Aimee Royse
- 9 *Mike Adkins*
Vic Phillips
- 10 *Donna Hendricksen*
Mary Luisi
- 12 *Kailee Davisson*
- 13 *Sandy Goodson*
- 14 *Kyle Jameson*
Ibbie Steen
- 15 *Dorothy Palmer*

- 9 *Don & Carolyn Groat*
- 12 *Paul & Janice Davisson*
- 18 *Ernie & Gail Silva*
- 21 *Jim & Debi Evans*
- 21 *Marty & Susan Huie*
- 23 *Jeremy & Andrea Pellicer*
- 28 *Gary & Kim Burns*

- 16 *Allen Alexander*
Pam Gregerson
Patty Harmon
Samuel Hinrichsen
Raymond Kelso
Pamela McBride
Tracy Shea
Matt Stephens
- 17 *Christopher Eagon*
Larry Harris
Maddie Redman
- 19 *Wendy Baird*
Ken Paine
- 20 *Timothy Hoppen*
Betty Zier
- 21 *Frank Trapani*
- 23 *Trey Erb*
Paul Howard
Nya Neissl
Sierra West
Dan Wooton
- 24 *Angela Queen*
Sonia Trapani
- 25 *Emily Redman*
- 26 *Zeana Miranda*
Andrew Paine
- 27 *Bob Stewart*
Bill Whipple
- 29 *Cindy Houk*
Devin Paine
Jason Vicari
- 30 *Scott Graves*
Anna Pettyjohn
Robert Rice





Monthly Events

- 3 SAMS 10:00 AM
Celebrate Recovery Leaders 6:30 PM
Baptism Classes 7:00 PM
- 8 Quilter's Guild 6:30 PM
- 10 MOPS 9:00 AM
Board of Elders Meeting 6:30 PM
- 12 Men's Breakfast 7:30 AM
- 13 Ministry Fair 12:00 PM
- 14 EOD Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
Worship Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 17 SAMS 10 :00 AM
Missions Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
Building & Grounds Commission 7:00 PM
CE Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 21 The Ark Commission Meeting 6:30 PM
- 24 MOPS 9:00 AM

* SAMS- Senior Adult Ministries

MOPS- Mothers of Preschoolers

Weekly Events

- Sunday**
Families in Training 5:30 PM
- Tuesday**
Taking Off Pounds Sensibly 5:30 PM
Boy Scouts 7:00 PM
- Wednesday**
Women's Bible Study 9:00 AM
Adult Bible Study 6:30 PM
High School Youth Group 6:30 PM
- Thursday**
Worship Team Rehearsal 7:00 PM
- Friday**
Celebrate Recovery Dinner 6:00 PM
Celebrate Recovery 7:00 PM

MEN – Get in the Game!

Join the men of Blue Mountain Community Church at the Iron Sharpens Iron 2008 Men's Conference

When: Saturday, May 3, 2008
8:30 am – 4:55pm

Where: Bethel Church
600 Shockley Rd.
Richland, WA

Cost: \$39 when you sign up before April 23rd
Contact: Bob Stewart Jr at 525-0753

More info: www.theoutdoorconnection.org/isi



Keynote Speakers:

Napoleon Kaufman - Former NFL Player,
Pastor, The Well

Rick Kingham - President, National
Coalition of Men's Ministry

"As iron sharpens iron, so one man sharpens another."

Prov. 27:17



When: Friday and Saturday, June 27-28, 2008

Where: Key Arena Seattle, WA

Cost: \$119 for conference package*

Contact: Carolee White at 525-1650

*Conference package includes Friday Preconference, Infinite Grace Friday evening and Saturday, and box lunches on both Friday and Saturday.

Speakers include: Sandi Patty, Nicole C Mullen, Marilyn Meberg, Allison Allen, Natalie Grant, Patsy Clairmont, Sheila Walsh, Luci Swindoll

"And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that in all things at all times, having all that you need, you will abound in every good work." 2 Corinthians 9:8



REJUVENATION UPDATE

As expected, the city of Walla Walla has determined that we will need to install sprinklers in the new building. The next issue to be de-

termined is whether or not they will require sprinklers in the adjoining areas including Baker Hall, the hallway to the Ark, etc. We'll schedule a meeting with the fire marshal once we finalize our plans to determine that. We hope to be able to get around that by having fire doors installed instead.

The building committee and Board of Elders met again on March 13th to review the latest floor plans and elevations. We continue to refine things to make the best use of our new facility. Be sure to check out the latest version located in the foyer. I'll be meeting with our designer on April 7th to go over the next round of modifications we want him to incorporate, so look for another revision to be posted somewhere around mid April.

Thanks again for your input, prayers and contributions to the project. We're now over the \$300,000 point!

In His service
Larry Wachtel

Newsletter Deadline

If you have an upcoming event you'd like to promote, faith story or poem you'd like to share, or anything else that pertains to the life of the people of Blue Mountain Community Church, please consider writing a small article (300 words or less) and submitting it to the newsletter. The deadline for articles is the second Wednesday of each month. The editor reserves the right to edit for content and space.



Celebrate Recovery

By Penny Knight

I did not come to Celebrate Recovery by accident but I also did not come for myself. My sister was going through a hard time and I came to support her. I fell in love with the ladies in the group that night. It wasn't long before God 'revealed' my hurts, habits and hang-ups to me. I actually had been in denial of these for years.

Driving home tonight after CR, I was praying for the needs of the ladies in my small group as I always do. These women are my friends, my family, people I trust to know my hurts, habits and hang-ups. We all are broken people, sick and tired of trying to do things on our own. We are here to support each other, not fix each other. James 5:16 states: *"Therefore confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed."* Now I count Celebrate Recovery as one of the many blessings that God has given me.

Have you tried on your own to get over a stumbling block or hurdle in your life but it just hasn't worked? I would be negligent if I didn't invite you to visit CR. But I must tell you that the people of Celebrate Recovery are real people, unpretentious and open, accepting, kind and loving. When you come, you will feel a warmth and love like no other. When one of us hurts, we all feel the pain. And when someone has something to celebrate, we all celebrate.

Do you, or does someone you know, need life-healing? Please let me extend the invitation: Come celebrate recovery with us. There is healing in sharing.



From Pastor Ike

"Have you been 'gnomed' yet?" This is a question I believe we will begin to hear a bit more often here at BMCC. Maybe you have already been "gnomed," maybe you are expecting it and anticipating opening your door one fateful morning to the welcoming faces of 45 gnomes looking lovingly up at you.

As a youth group we have had the pleasure of taking into our delicate care a family of 45 gnomes who have been displaced by the deforestation of their natural habitat. So with your help for a minimal charge of \$20 you may choose where you believe the gnomes as a species will flourish.

As a note, the gnomes prefer to dwell in beds of flowers and small grassy fields all near the front door of a human family dwelling. So you may suggest that they habitate near the home of a family member, friend, or even co-worker.

The wonderful thing about the gnomes is that they have no denominational background, let alone a religious background, so they will flourish near a house of someone who does not attend BMCC or even attend a church for that matter.

To find out more about how you can do your part in relocating these poor displaced gnomes contact Pastor Ike at the church (529-1212), on his cell (200-1946) or by email bmcc_pisaac@charterinternet.com.

*All proceeds go directly to helping lower/ eliminate the cost for youth to go on the Guatemala mission trip this summer.



*...and
the heaven
gave rain, and
the earth brought
forth its fruit.*

James 5:18

Our Ministry Team

Senior Pastor — Mike Hinrichsen
Administrative Pastor — Dan Huntley
Children's Pastor — Sharon Wiles
Student Ministries Pastor — Isaac Freeman
Worship Interim Pastor — Richard Easton

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