



February 2012



Inside this issue:

Youth Corner	2
Announcements	2
Ash Wednesday	2
Helping Hands	3
Committee Meetings Calendar	3
February Birthdays	3
Upcoming Events	4



**Worship
Schedule**

Every Sunday

8:40 Adult Sunday
School

9:30 Worship

10:45 Fellowship Hour

7:00 Youth Group

Glorifying God In One Accord

Dear Friends,

There's an old saying, "the more things change, the more they remain the same." This seems to hold true for the change we are anticipating on the first of July when, hopefully, Bishop Hoshibata will announce my appointment as your half-time pastor.

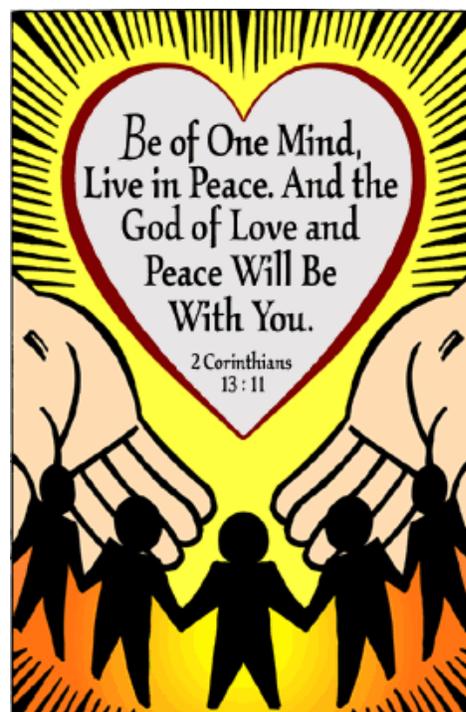
Although the details are still being worked out by our Staff-Pastor-Parish Relations Committee, this will entail a reduction in work hours to 20 hours a week. This means that most of my time will be allocated to the Sunday worship services, sermon writing, bulletin and newsletter preparation, committee meetings on Sunday after coffee fellowship, office hours as requested and hospital visitation as needed. In short, things won't change that much except that I will be less available during the week.

This reduction will help offset the unmanageable debt that was looming over our shoulders, casting a dark shadow over the spiritual well-being of our church. The possibility of removing this financial albatross and reducing the worry and tension has already brought a greater sense of unity into our committee proceedings and a renewed commitment to revitalizing our church. We will be able to better meet our financial obligations to retire our debt retirement and pay our annual conference apportionments.

Further, we will be able to strengthen and revitalize our worship services by hiring a song-leader and instrumentalist to accompany Cindy on piano.

In short, this is not a time for hand-

wringing, but rather, a time to regroup and rejoice. As the Apostle Paul prayed for perseverance, encouragement, and hope, so shall we.



"Now may the God who gives perseverance and encouragement grant you to be of the same mind with one another according to Christ Jesus; that with one accord you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ... Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:5-6, 13)

— Pastor Penny

YOUTH CORNER



Mark your Calendars!

Mystery Dinner

Our annual Mystery Dinner will be Saturday, March 10 at 6 pm. It will be a blast!



Panini Lunch

On Sunday, March 18, the youth will host a Panini Lunch following worship to raise money for Youth Group activities!



Youth Group Meetings

- Feb 5 7 to 8:30 pm
- Feb 12 7 to 8:30 pm
- Feb 19 7 to 8:30 pm
- Feb 26 7 to 8:30 pm

YOUTH GROUP

Anyone in 6th to 12th grade is welcome to join us on Sunday evenings from 7 pm to 8:30 pm.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

First Women's Breakfast Group for 2012 will be held Sunday, February 5 at 8:15 am. Come join us and bring a friend!

United Methodist Women will meet Wednesday, February 15 at Rebekah Hall for their 11:00 am luncheon meeting. All women are welcome.

Memorial Service for Martha Gruver Reifenrath, daughter of Jack and Ester Gruver will be held at SUMC on Saturday February 18 at 3:00. Reception to follow.

NOTE: UMM Annual Shrove Pancake Dinner has been **cancelled** due to scheduling conflicts.

Stay Tuned for more details about an upcoming UMM-hosted Pancake Brunch and other church-family social gatherings.

Ash Wednesday Service will be held on Wednesday, February 22 at 7:00 pm.



Song Leader/ Instrumentalist

SUMC is looking for a dynamic song leader and instrumentalist to sing and play for Sunday morning worship services.

IMPOSITION OF ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY

Lent begins on Wednesday, February 22 with an Ash Wednesday service at 7:00 pm.

Our Ash Wednesday service is a brief and yet powerful recognition of our human frailty, sinfulness and mortality as we let down our pretenses to be truly honest within ourselves and with God.

Each worshipper will be invited to receive the imposition of ashes, prior to receiving Holy Communion. The Pastor applies ashes in the shape of the cross on the forehead of each person while speaking the words, "For dust you are and to dust you shall return," God's word to Adam and Eve after they disobeyed God by eating the forbidden fruit (Genesis 3:19).

The imposition of ashes reminds us of our mortality and our need to repent and accept God's grace. The cross of ash reminds us of the good news that through Jesus Christ crucified and risen there is forgiveness for all sins, all guilt, and all punishment.



Many Christians choose to leave the ashes on their forehead for the remainder of the day, not to be showy and boastful (see Matthew 6:16-18). Rather, they do it as a witness that all people are sinners in need of repentance and that through Jesus all sins are forgiven through faith.

Traditionally, the forty days of Lent has been a time of fasting and prayer in preparation for Easter. The emphasis has been on "giving up something for Lent" like desert.

However we chose to observe Lent it's important to link spiritual awareness with any Lenten discipline whether it's giving up chocolate or offering additional gifts of time, talent or treasure. Lent is a time to think about one's life choices and mortality, as well as reflect on life directions.

Helping Hands Update

By Nancy Ellingson

As Dottie frequently says, "You can't outgive the Lord!"

The **Helping Hands** volunteers just crossed the finish line thanks to having lots and lots of help. We survived the very busy holiday season with the count around 150 families for each Thanksgiving and Christmas food distribution.

Recipients enjoyed special treats for their holiday dinners including turkeys, hams, dressing, cranberry sauce, along with the usual canned goods, bread and potatoes. Oh My!

Food poured in from so many places. Our community must be one of the most generous in the country. While other food banks struggle to stock their shelves, we have an abundance. Many hands make light the work. Well, light might be stretching it but many hands got the work done. Gerry has moved the stores to his warehouse in Newberg, closing out the two rented units here in Sherwood. He set up a production line for sorting and repacking the supplies for monthly use at the church. Thanks to so many we can't list them all...but you know who you are. Gerry ran a shuttle from the church to Newberg where community volunteers worked alongside volunteers from our church. Thanks to Bailey and company...he has been Gerry's right hand man. Brother Jim Edy and Jim Morton have helped Gerry as well.

Give N' Gobble was its usual successful event and Helping Hands received a generous gift of \$30,000 to carry on the mission of meeting the hunger needs of our community. We thank them for this gift.

The students at Sherwood High School sent a check for \$5200. Can you believe it? We are so proud of these students who give their time for such a good program as providing food where it is needed. Thank you as well as your advisor Aurora Taylor.

Many individual donations came from many families. Some families in

Sherwood generously send a monthly check, having made it a part of their budget. It is so amazing to see the community response to Helping Hands that just come to us unsolicited.

We are truly blessed to have such good leadership in the Edys and Joe Salmonese and his daughters and their husbands and brother Tony who assist every single month. There are "regulars" that show up every month to pack on Friday evenings and back again on Saturday morning to distribute food boxes.

Holly Dhynes our church administrative assistant is now extending her hours by one each Tuesday and Thursday to assist Helping Hands for mid-week food distribution (by appointment) This allows Gerry and Dottie to schedule appointments to pick up food rather than making multiple trips to the church daily. This has worked well since it was started this month.

The backpack program is thriving in five schools. Food is sent home on Friday so that the children are assured meals for the week-end. If you can provide individual servings, toiletries, snacks, etc for this program, you can drop off donations at the church Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9am-1pm or bring them to church with you on Sunday.

Cash donations are always appreciated if you are able to help in that way.

Helping Hands has a new dedicated phone number (Dottie and Gerry are still the operators) at **503-625-7975**. Helping Hands mailing address is:

Helping Hands Food Bank

PO Box 686

Sherwood, OR 97140

We (the volunteers) have seriously missed Dottie since she has been out of service. We hope and pray that she can return to us soon. We have managed to stay afloat, but you can easily see the effect of her absence.

We miss you Dottie! Hurry back.



February Birthdays

7 Zelda Kittel
13 Eileene Gillson
13 Madi Lewallen
16 Kenny Ross
30 Bailey States

Give a Hand to Helping Hands

Donate food, help with sorting, or volunteer on box packing or distribution days (third Saturday of the month).

Call Gerry or Dotty Edy for details:

(503) 625-7975

Committee Meetings

Finance

Monday, Feb 13 6:00 pm

Trustees

Thursday, Feb 23 @ 6:00 pm

Ad Council

Sunday, Feb 19 following worship

Sherwood United
Methodist Church
Staff

Pastor
Rev. Dr. Penny Christianson
penny.christianson@comcast.net

Youth Director
Lana Cole
lcole@rcinv.com

Pianist
Cindy Souza
armza2@yahoo.com

Administrative Assistant
Holly Dhynes
hollysherwoodumc@gmail.com

Church Calendar for February 2012

2/5	Women's Brkfst Grp Kick-Off	2/19	Fellowship Hour 10:45a
2/5	Adult SS 8:40a	2/19	Ad Council 11:15a
2/5	Worship 9:30a	2/19	Youth Group 7p
2/5	Fellowship Hour 10:30a	2/22	Ash Wednesday Service 7p
2/5	Youth Group 7p	2/23	Trustees 6p
2/7	Vintage Creek HOA 6:30p	2/26	Adult SS 8:40a
2/12	Adult SS 8:40a	2/26	Worship 9:30a
2/12	Worship 9:30a	2/26	Fellowship Hour 10:30a
2/12	Fellowship Hour 10:45a	2/26	Youth Group 7p
2/12	Youth Group 7p		
2/13	Finance 6p	3/10	Annual Mystery Dinner 6p
2/15	UMW 11a	3/18	Panini Lunch after worship
2/17	Pack Food Boxes 6:30p		
2/18	Give out Food Boxes 10a		
2/18	Gruver Memorial 3p		
2/19	Adult SS 8:40a		
2/19	Worship 9:30a		



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PHONE:
(503) 625-7115

OFFICE HOURS:
9:00 - 12:00 Tues & Thurs

PASTOR'S HOURS:
10:00 - 2:00 Mon - Thurs

We're on the Web!
www.sherwoodumc.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED