



The Grapevine



Prosser United Methodist Church – March 2011

824 Sixth Street, Prosser, WA 99350 – 509-786-1097 – www.prosserumc.org
Office Hours: M – Th. 9 AM to Noon E-mail: prosserumc@bentonrea.com

March Homilies and Scripture

- March 6** Gospel—Matthew 17:1-9
Homily—“To the Cloud”
- March 13** Gospel—Matthew 4:1-11
Homily—“Reality Check”
- March 20** Gospel—John 3:1-17
Homily—“Born Again”
- March 27** One Great Hour of Sharing
Gospel—John 4:5-42
Homily—“Living Water”

Head Usher for March is Bob White.

Nursery Care Available: Nursery care is available during our worship services provided by Tanya and Katie Cone. Children up through 1st Grade can be dropped off at the nursery, down the first floor hall of the education wing of the church.

Communion Sunday March 6th

The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, March 6th, during the 11 AM worship service. All are invited to come to the table to share in the meal that reminds us of God’s light entering our world and ourselves.

Jubilee Food Basket

For the month of March please bring boxes of macaroni & cheese dinners to church to donate to our Jubilee food basket. The basket is located at the back of the sanctuary. All donations go to help feed the people in need in our community. Thanks for your generosity!

MARCH EVENTS

- March 2 – United Methodist Women, Noon
March 5 – Men’s Group, 8 AM
March 9 – Ash Wednesday Service, 7 PM
March 13 – Daylight Savings Time Begins
March 18 – Youth Crab Feed
March 20 – First Day of Spring
March 21 – Jubilee Food bagging, 9:30 AM
March 23 – Ad Council, 7 PM
March 26 – Annual Conference Special Session,
10 AM – 4 PM

Special Offerings

This month we will have a special offering on March 27th for One Great Hour of Sharing. This is one of the Special Sundays of The United Methodist Church, and calls for the church to share the goodness of life with those who hurt. Funds raised through this offering go to the United Methodist Committee on Relief, or UMCOR.

Men’s Group

The Men’s Group will meet on Saturday March 5th, at 8 AM in the Friendship Room at the church. We will have coffee, cocoa, and orange juice to drink, and doughnuts to munch on. Following a time of fellowship and planning, we will do some work around the church. All men of any age are welcome to attend, so come join us for the morning!

Ad Council March 23rd

Ad Council meeting will be held March 23rd, at 7 PM in the Friendship Room. All are invited to attend, whether a member of the council or not, and members of the council are encouraged to mark this date on their calendars for our third meeting of the year.



Bo's Blog

March is upon us. Which means Spring is just a few weeks away, officially, and hopefully even closer than that. We look forward to warmer days, daffodils, tulips, and irises in bloom, trees in blossom, the lawn greening up, and more time spent comfortably outside. Daylight Savings time kicks in this

month, so we have more daylight hours in our evening. We have St. Patrick's Day and the youth Crab Feed to tantalize our taste buds. And baseball games (albeit exhibition games) are on the radio (or on podcasts, for those not as nostalgic as I am). Signs, sounds, smells, and tastes of new life after the winter's slumber.

Lent also begins this month. It's late this year, because Easter is late in April. Lent begins with Ash Wednesday on March 9th (with Mardi Gras ending on the 8th), and we will have a service here at the church that evening. Lent, as I've mentioned before, is our time to reflect on our lives, and also, through the stories of Jesus' temptations and trials, on the trials and temptations we face in life. We confront, and are confronted by, the limitations of life—our limitations. Some will give up something for Lent—usually something that's not good for them, like smoking, or a diet rich in saturated fats. Others may take on something for Lent—like getting more exercise, or spending more time each day in prayer. Many find their limitations in being able to do, or not do, these things for the entire 6 weeks. And then, at the end of Lent, we come face-to-face with our ultimate limitation—death.

But death is no longer the end of the story, because Jesus' story continues on after his death and into new life through his resurrection. For us, then, the ultimate limitation has been removed, and that is the Easter celebration of next month. In this month, then, as we reflect on our humanness, we also keep in the back of our mind this wonderful sign of new life through God's grace that transforms the slumber of our wintered lives.

Lent, then, is a time when we take a look at who we are, limitations and all, and who God calls us to be, limitations and all. It is a time to look for those signs, smells, sounds, and tastes of new life appearing in our lives. It is a time to hold on to hope.

Sounds like the start of a baseball season.

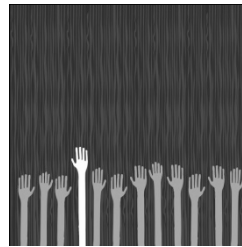
Shalom,
Bo

Food Bagging on March 21st

Monday March 21st is our turn to break down large 50 lb. bags of beans, rice, or oats at the Jubilee Food Bank. We put them into smaller bags that are handed out to families in need during the week. Please come to the Food Bank at 1429 Stacey in Prosser at 9:30 AM that morning for a bit of work and some good fellowship too!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Don't forget to stop by the nametag table at church and sign up for one of our volunteer opportunities on Sunday mornings. We need liturgists, greeters, and coffee hour hosts, as well as folks to step out of the service a couple of times on a Sunday (you'll have the pastor's blessing even!) to check on how our nursery attendants are doing. Sign up this week!



CHURCH POTLUCK MARCH 6TH

Join the fellowship with your friends and church family in the Fellowship Hall following the service this first Sunday of the month. Bring a dish, if you wish



SOUP & SALAD POTLUCK

The youth will be hosting a Soup & Salad Potluck following the service on March 20th. Donations given to the youth at the potluck are split between the Youth Mission Trip and Camperships. Support the youth and enjoy some warm company and soup

BOOK TABLE

Although the book table in the narthex is supplied and maintained by the UMW, the books are available to everyone. Just sign your name on the card found inside the front cover and put it in the box provided.

New Title

Same Kind of Different as Me is the true story of two men, told in their own voices. One is a homeless drifter who grew up picking cotton in virtual slavery. The other is an upscale art dealer accustomed to the world of Armani and Chanel. How a remarkable woman of deep conviction and vision brought these two into a deep and understanding friendship is the heart of this story. This is a fascinating and very readable book. It is available on the table in the narthex.

You can also browse the table and choose something that fits your interests. See Marilyn Knight, Pam Serrano, or Carolyn Hart about other books.



PUMC Finances

January Budget -- \$10,726
January Income -- \$11,611
Difference for the Month -- \$885

Year-to-Date Budget -- \$10,726
Year-to-Date Income -- \$11,611
Difference Year-to-Date -- \$885

Youth Donations

Our youth group is raising funds for a mission trip to New Orleans this summer. It's an exciting time for them as they work to reach their goals, and it's an exciting opportunity to be able to support them with our donations. This is just a reminder to please be specific in making your donations by writing "Youth Mission Trip" on your check or envelope so that we know what your intention is for your donation. Donations simply labeled "Youth" will continue to be split 50/50 between campships and the mission trip. Thank you!

Youth Announcements & Functions

Save the Dates!

Youth Crab Feed – The world famous Youth Crab Feed will be March 18th, 2011. The time will be announced. We kindly ask if you would pre-purchase your tickets in advance so we can make sure we have enough crab for all those that will attend. Cost of tickets are \$30.00 per person with an alternative menu option. Advance notice is requested for the alternative menu. If you have questions, please call Christine Cromar 786-4622.

Spring Cleaning: Save your items for the youth inside yard sale coming in April 2011. If you need a place to store your treasures before the sale, please contact Christine Cromar, 509-786-4622. Sale date to be announced.

Scholarship Applications Available

Applications for scholarships are now available in the church office. The scholarships are for graduating high school students going on to college or trade school, or for students already in college or trade school who will be continuing that education next year. Completed applications are due back to the office by March 31st. Those interested in applying may stop by the office to pick up an application, or call and have one mailed, or e-mailed, to you.

Happy Birthday!

Our church has been given the gift of a cake a month for this year! We have decided to use it the first Sunday of each month to celebrate all of the birthdays and anniversaries in that month during coffee hour. Come down after church, enjoy the potluck, and join in the celebration!

~March Birthdays~

| | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Beverly Anderson - 1 st | Laura Crawford – 3 rd |
| Bob Serrano - 5 th | Brandon Cromar - 9 th |
| Karen Taylor-Ferris - 9 th | Katherine Johnson - 10 th |
| Mark Clarke - 11 th | Chelsea McPherson - 11 th |
| Shan McPherson - 11 th | Pam Serrano - 12 th |
| Kevin Corliss - 13 th | Megan Waddle - 14 th |
| Scott Cromar - 15 th | Tim Mears - 15 th |
| Wyatt Cone - 16 th | Shirley Knox - 16 th |
| Georgia Thompson - 20 th | Tere Gould - 20 th |
| Bob Wilson - 21 st | Matthew Clarke - 26 th |
| Becky Mejia - 27 th | Vance Glasscock - 27 th |
| Darlene Wilson - 27 th | Esther Blake - 28 th |
| George Herold - 30 th | Zoey Klingele - 30 th |
| Summer Slater - 31 th | |



Available Programs

Below you'll find a list of the programs available at The Priory Spirituality Center in Lacey, WA during March. There are interesting programs available that can be found at their website (www.stplacid.org).

Self-Care for the Caregiver
March 5, 2011
(Saturday 9:15AM-3:00PM)
Kayce S. Hughlett, MA, LMHC
Register by prior Friday: \$60

Walking through Lent
March 11-13, 2011
(Friday 7:15PM-Sunday Noon)
Benedictine Sisters
Register by prior Friday: without spiritual direction - \$130;
with spiritual direction - \$165

Soul Searching: The Journey of Thomas Merton
March 12, 2011
(Saturday 9:15AM-3:00PM)
Morgan Atkinson
Register by February 26: \$60

Spring-Cleaning the House of Self (Cultivating Spirit in Daily Life series—may do 1 session)
March 16, 2011
(Wednesday 9AM-noon)
Jan Lawry
Register by prior Wednesday: \$55

The Celtic Pilgrimage: A Daily Journey to the Sacred
March 19, 2011
(Saturday 9:15AM-3:00PM)
Carol Spangler, M.A., MPH
Jane Valencia
Register by prior Friday: \$60

Celebrating the Gift of Years
March 26, 2011
(Saturday 9:15AM-3:00PM)
Jim and Linda Henry
Register by prior Friday: \$50

See fuller description www.stplacid.org
To register call The Spirituality Center at 360-438-2595 or email
spiritualityctr@stplacid.org