



The Grapevine



Prosser United Methodist Church – February 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

February Homilies and Scripture

- February 6** Gospel—Matthew 5:13-20
Homily—“Salt & Light”
- February 13** Bread For The World Sunday
Gospel—Matthew 5:21-37
Homily—“Outward & Inward”
- February 20** Gospel—Matthew 5:38-48
Homily—“The Extra Mile”
- February 27** Gospel—Matthew 6:24-34
Homily—“Worries”

Head Usher for February is Rick Boydston.

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 February 6th

The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, February 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 February please bring cans of soup (any kind) 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!

FEBRUARY EVENTS

- February 2 – United Methodist Women, Noon
- February 5 – Men’s Group, 8 AM
- February 13 – Bread for the World Sunday
- February 14 – St. Valentine’s Day
- February 15 – FCCLA students @ PUMC
- February 21 – President’s Day, Office Closed
- February 21 – Jubilee Food bagging, 9:30 AM
- February 23 – Ad Council, 7 PM

Special Offerings

This month we will have a special offering on February 13th for Bread for the World. Bread for the World seeks to eliminate hunger in the world by both providing food to those who do not have any, and also teach them how to grow their own food. Please give generously to this very worthy goal.

Men’s Group

The Men’s Group will meet on Saturday February 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 February 23rd

Ad Council meeting will be held February 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 second meeting of the year.



Bo's Blog

February is the month we celebrate love. St. Valentine's Day is the 14th, but well before that we see the heart-shaped pink and red balloons in the stores, and we start thinking about who we're going to give cards and/or candy. That thinking reminds us, yet again, of who the important people

in our life are, and why we feel they are important to us. It is a good thing to take that time out of our "regular" schedule, to pause and think about the people who mean so much to us--the people who form us and shape our life.

Love is an important part of our faith too. If you looked up how many times the word "love" appears in the Bible, it would be in the hundreds. Think of the phrases you know from the Bible with "love" in it: "For God so loved the world. . ."; "No greater love. . ."; "Love your neighbor. . ."; and "God is love. . ." are some that come to my mind. Throughout the Bible there is the constant theme of God's love for Israel, and for all humanity. And it was because of God's love that Jesus came to live among us, to be a sacrifice for us, and to establish a new relationship between us and God.

Jesus spoke a lot about loving one another. In fact, as the quote at the bottom of the page suggests, loving one another is the identifying mark of being a Christian—a follower of Jesus. "They'll know we are Christians by our love" is more than just a song. It is to be the thing about Christians that identifies for the world who they are, just as a Scout shirt identifies the youth who wears it as being a member of Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts.

It is not always easy to love each other. Some people can give love, but feel uncomfortable receiving love. Some people have been so shaped by their life experiences that they have a hard time giving or receiving love. And, being human, it's often easy to get so focused on getting our needs met that we forget about the needs of others. Love can sometimes languish on the sidelines.

But God's love is always there, to fill us, to support us, and to be a source for us. It is there to remind us that this is the badge we wear for the world, to let them know whose we are. It is there to form us and to shape us. It is good to remember love and to celebrate it.

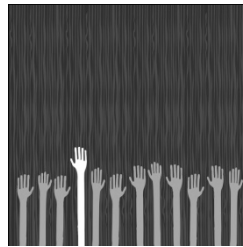
Shalom,
Bo

Food Bagging on February 21st

Monday February 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 FEBRUARY 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 February 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 Titles

Half the Sky deals with oppression on women and girls, especially in the developing countries in Africa and Asia. Among other topics, it tells of prepubescent girls who are kidnapped or sold in the sex trade; of mass rape; of lack of medical attention for women; of high maternal mortality and its causes, and the lack of formal education for females. Each chapter ends with an inspiring story of someone who has risen above local customs and is fighting for women's rights. This book has been on national best seller lists.

I Wish I Knew What to Do?! is listed as a book for teens, but parents, educators and community leaders need to also hear these stories. Every day 1 in 4 children is bullied; every 7 minutes a child is bullied on the playground. In 85% of these cases, no one intervenes. The tale of bullying and what to do comes from the pens of real students, ages 11-18, from across the nation.

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

December Budget -- \$9,099
December Income -- \$16,549
Difference for the Month -- \$7,450

Year-to-Date Budget -- \$115,702
Year-to-Date Income -- \$124,687
Difference Year-to-Date -- \$8,985

UMW NEWS

The Prosser United Methodist Women invite all the ladies of the church to the next UMW meeting on Wednesday, February 2, 2011. Please feel free to bring a friend. We will start off at 12:00 noon with lunch. The main dish will be provided by our hostess, Kay Myers and the rest of the meal is potluck. The program will be presented by Pastor Bo. As a mission project we will be collecting items to make health kits for UMCOR. For individuals or groups that want to contribute basic necessities, UMCOR requests that the following NEW items be placed in a sealed one-gallon plastic bag.

- 1 hand towel (15" x 25" up to 17" x 27"). No kitchen towels.
- 1 washcloth
- 1 comb (large and sturdy, not pocket-sized)
- 1 nail file or fingernail clippers (no emery boards or toenail clippers)
- 1 bath-size bar of soap (3 oz. and up)
- 1 toothbrush (single brushes only in original wrapper, no child-size brushes) NONE NEEDED
- 6 adhesive plastic strip sterile bandages
- \$1.00 to purchase toothpaste

(NOTE: Toothpaste is purchased in bulk to be added to health kits to ensure that the product does not expire before they are sent.)

Because the emergency kits are carefully planned to make them usable in the greatest number of situations and strict rules govern product entry into international countries, UMCOR requires that the kits contain only the requested items – nothing more.

Please bring your items to the church before March 19, 2011. We will assemble kits during the Seven Rivers District "March Mission Madness" an event to be held on March 19, 2011 at the Wesley United Methodist Church. For event details and registration forms, please contact Linda Key- 509-882-3110.

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 camperships and the mission trip. Thank you!

Youth Announcements & Functions

The youth would like to thank all of you who donated money for our Christmas family. We spent an evening shopping by trying to find the right presents for the kids. It was a lot harder than you would think! We finally broke down and found some kids the same age to get advice.. Ken was shocked to find out that "hot wheels" are not so "hot" after all. The following week, we spent an evening wrapping all the presents which became a new task for some of us. Lots of tape and paper flying, we got it down. We delivered the pile of wrapped presents on December 21, to a surprised family. All of them received new coats and a couple of new outfits for each family member. We bought some toys for the boy, who will love his new basketball hoop, scooter, battleship, and other games to play with his sister or family. The little girl will have a new doll and a fancy car to give it a ride. She also will enjoy coloring and painting with her new craft supplies. We bought the entire family new blankets, one pink for the girl, one camo for the boy, and had to test and approve all the new pillows. I am sure the family enjoyed selecting their Christmas dinner with the gift card that we enclosed. Thank you for blessing this family with your generosity. The youth would also like to thank all of you who bring dishes to eat and contribute money on Souper Sunday's. We could not do it without you and want to let you know you are appreciated.

Save the Dates!

March 12th, 2011- The youth are raising money for the 2011 mission trip. We are hosting the Famous Crab feed again.

Spring is not to far around the corner. The youth are planning on doing an indoor yard sale this Spring. So while you are cleaning, please keep us in mind. If you need a place to store your treasures before the sale, please contact Christine Cromar, 509-786-4622. Sale date to be announced.

Missing in Action

The church is missing a few items that have disappeared over the past six months or so. If you have borrowed some chairs, coffee pots, roasters or hot water dispensers, or other such items, and just haven't gotten around to returning them yet, please do so. If you don't have a key to get inside the church, please call the church office (786-1097) or Bo (303-0512) to arrange a time to drop them off. Thank you!

Mere Christianity

Pastor Bo will be leading a study of the book by C.S. Lewis entitled *Mere Christianity* during Lent. The book is a collection of talks given by Lewis, including such topics as right and wrong, what Christians believe, Christian behavior and doctrine of trinity. The class will meet Saturday mornings at 10 a.m. at the church. It begins February 26th and goes until April 23rd. See Pastor Bo before the first class to get a copy of the book and class schedule.

Available Programs

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

Embracing Our Shadow and Learning Daily to Live with Our Choices

February 5, 2011

(Saturday 9:15AM-3:00PM)

Jan Lawry

Register by prior Friday \$60

See fuller description www.stplacid.org

Moving with Jesus

February 12, 2011

(Saturday 9:30AM-3:30PM)

Roy DeLeon

Register by prior Friday \$50

See fuller description www.stplacid.org

Lectio Divina and the Creative Arts

Feb 19, 2011

(Saturday 9:15AM-3:00PM)

Lucy Wynkoop, OSB

Register by prior Friday: \$50

See fuller description www.stplacid.org

Let Your Calling Seek You: Discernment as a Way of Life

Feb 26, 2011

(Saturday 9:15AM-3:30PM)

Sister Monika Ellis, OSB and Jim Henry, M. Div

Register by prior Friday: \$55

See fuller description www.stplacid.org

To register call The Spirituality Center at 360-438-2595 or email

spiritualityctr@stplacid.org