



# The Grapevine



## Prosser United Methodist Church – September 2010

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

### September Homilies and Scripture

**September 05** – Labor Day Weekend  
Helping Others  
Galatians 6:1-10

**September 12** – The Desert  
Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

**September 19** – Christian Education Sunday  
Is There No Balm in Gilead?  
Jeremiah 8:18-9:1

**September 26** – Buying a Field  
Jeremiah 32:1-3, 6-15

Head Usher for September is Bob White

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



### COMMUNION SEPTEMBER 5

The sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday, September 5, during the 10 AM worship service. All are invited to come to the table to share in the meal that reminds us we are united in Christ's body.

### SEPTEMBER EVENTS

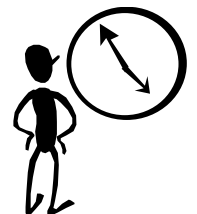
- September 01 – UMW, Noon
- September 06 – Labor Day, Church office CLOSED
- September 11 – Men's Group, 8 AM
- September 12 – 11 AM worship begins
- September 18 – Grandview work party, 9 AM
- September 19 – Christian Education Sunday
- September 19 – Nursing Home Service, 4 PM
- September 20 – Jubilee Food Bagging, 9:30 AM
- September 29 – Ad Council, 7 PM

### THANK YOU!

Ralph Oldfield is retiring as Head Usher after more than 40 years of service as an usher. These days when people change jobs, houses, e-mail addresses and phones numbers faster than we can keep up with, that's an extraordinary feat! Please take a moment to tell him thanks as you see him this month. He has been as much an institution as the Sunday morning service itself, and we will miss his help.

### Worship Time Change

On Sunday, September 12, we will be changing our worship time back to the 11 AM hour for the fall, winter, and spring. Remember to come an hour later starting that week—or be prepared to sing with the choir!





## Bo's Blog

When I was in college, I was still living at the house in which I had grown up. It was next to the elementary school I had attended, and one day I went for a walk through that school. No students or teachers were there that day, and as I looked into the window of my 5<sup>th</sup> Grade classroom I saw something that looked both

familiar and different. The classroom looked pretty much the same as when I had been there years before, and yet it looked strange, because everything—the student desks, the counter tops, the teacher's desk, even the blackboard—looked smaller than I remembered. It surprised me that being older, and taller, made such a difference.

As we get older, that difference in perspective becomes less surprising to us, but usually only with things that stand out like that. We tend to forget that such a difference also applies to less tangible things. Our understandings about life and the world and the way things work grow and mature, and things we thought we already knew instead become new again, or gain a richness and depth we had not recognized before.

I particularly notice this when I teach a class, or prepare a sermon, or simply read the scriptures. Stories in the Bible that I thought I knew turn out to have another character in them I hadn't paid much attention to before, but who seems to stand out this time. The meaning of a sentence, or a word, may seem more complex or multi-faceted, or just simply different this time I read it. Or I might be reading it in the context of a new commentary or book which provides a different view of a familiar verse.

In a way, this is exciting, because it's like having something new to learn even when I work with something I've read before. As we celebrate Christian Education Sunday this month, think about the ways you are still learning, particularly from scripture. In the sermons you hear, or your reading at home, or your participation in classes, do you sense that feeling of familiarity and newness? Each time we come back to a familiar passage, we have the opportunity to learn something new because we come to it from a different perspective. Our Christian education is a lifelong journey, full of surprises, and new insights, and God's Spirit working within us.

Shalom,  
Bo

## Born of a Woman

Here's a pop quiz for you.

- 1) True or false: Joseph and Mary lived in Nazareth before Jesus was born, journeyed to Bethlehem, where Jesus was born, then returned to Nazareth after Jesus was born.
- 2) Which of the following is correct?
  - a) Joseph and Mary walked from Nazareth to Bethlehem.
  - b) Joseph walked while Mary rode a donkey from Nazareth to Bethlehem.
  - c) Joseph and Mary both rode a donkey from Nazareth to Bethlehem.
  - d) None of the above.
- 3) True or false: Three kings riding camels followed a star from the Far East which led them to the stable where Jesus was born.

If you want to know the answers to these questions, and a whole lot more about the birth narratives of Jesus, sign up for Pastor Bo's fall class. It is a 12-week study of the book [Born of a Woman](#) by Bishop John Shelby Spong. Classes will be at 7:00 PM on Thursday evenings at the church, beginning September 16.

## Men's Group

Join us the second Saturday of the month, September 11, at 8 AM for Men's Group. We'll have some coffee, hot chocolate, orange juice, and doughnuts (yum!), and a time of fellowship before getting down to business. This month, Ralph Oldfield will be joining us to orient us to the job of Head Usher. All men of any age are welcome to come!



## JUBILEE FOOD BASKET

For the month of September, please bring in harvest items, such as apples, grapes, apple sauce, and juices for our Jubilee food basket. The basket is located at the back of the sanctuary, and the food donated goes to Jubilee Ministries, providing food for those in need in our area.

To be a follower of this God means you have to try to enhance the love that's available in this world. John Shelby Spong

# United Methodist Women

Wednesday, September 1, United Methodist Women will resume its monthly gathering and noon potluck. During our first gathering, we will plan our programs for the year, develop mission goals, and discuss the "Fall Country Fair", our fund raising event. Ladies, come and bring your friends, ideas, and passion for mission. Any questions or comments, contact Linda Key at 882-3110.

## Thank you from Peggy and Bill Edom

Thanks so much to the following PUMC men and women who helped with our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary celebration at the church on August 7. Carolyn Hart was in charge of organizing the event...thanks Carolyn for a great job and thanks so much to each and every one of you:

Carolyn and Dick Hart  
Marilyn Knight  
Pam and Bob Serrano  
Alys Means  
Pat and Jim Raney  
Kathy Corliss  
Jean and Jim Corliss  
Kay Myers

Love and blessings to all,  
Bill and Peggy Edom

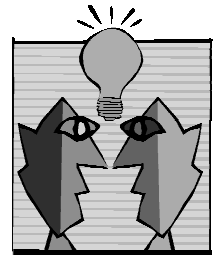
## FOOD BAGGING SEPTEMBER 20, 2010

A reminder that Monday, September 20, is our day to bag food at Jubilee Food bank. Come out at 9:30 AM to the food bank at 1429 Stacey to help break down 50 lb. bags into smaller amounts to be handed out to families in our community.



# Opportunity for Inspiration

Our Annual Conference speaker, Rev. Adam Hamilton of the United Methodist Church of the Resurrection in Kansas, was very inspirational. You may hear Bo Bryan, or Peggy or Bill Edom talking about how inspirational he was and wonder "What did that guy say to get them so excited about him?" Well here's your chance to find out. Rev. Hamilton and his church are having their 12th annual Leadership Institute on October 7 and 8, entitled "Preparing for a Future with Hope," and our Administrative Council would like to get a group of at least five or six people (or more) to go. Your job will be to become inspired (that should not be difficult, if Annual Conference was any indication), and to bring back ideas from the general sessions and workshops that we can try out here in Prosser. For more information, or if you want to sign up to go, contact Bill or Peggy (786-6996) or Bo (303-0512).



## Grandview Mission Facility Clean-up

Rev. Lyda Pierce has invited the Prosser and Toppenish United Methodist congregations to help her spruce up the Grandview mission facility of our Annual Conference (formerly known as the Grandview UMC) on Saturday, September 18, from 9 AM to 1 PM. Lyda will be providing a list of projects to help the facility get ready for winter, including some roof patching on the breezeway, toilet repairs, and more. She will also be providing pizza and sodas for lunch. Come and help us exercise our connectional nature as United Methodists!

To be a follower of this God means you have to try to enhance the love that's available in this world. John Shelby Spong

# Prosser UMC Men's Group Making Plans for Ushering

Ralph Oldfield has been head usher at the Prosser Methodist Church for many years. He and the Administrative Board asked the Men's Group to develop a plan for addressing ushering duties for the next year. The men have been discussing this for several months and developed a plan that was passed by the Ad Board on July 28<sup>th</sup>. Briefly, church men and women can volunteer to lead and be responsible for head ushering duties for one month. It will be up to this monthly head usher to schedule ushering duties for all the Sunday's of that month. Bob White has volunteered to lead the efforts starting September 12<sup>th</sup> when our winter schedule begins. Lyle Klostermeyer has been working with Ralph to develop a schedule of responsibilities that goes on a typical Sunday service. This will be provided to each monthly usher and will be posted near the back of the sanctuary.

Traditionally men have been the ushers at Prosser Methodist Church. The Men's Group would like to open these volunteer duties to the ladies of the church as well. In that regard Donna Barr and Alys Means have volunteered to be the head ushers for December. At this time the months of April and May are still open and we invite all the church ladies to volunteer for ushering either of these months and more months in the future.

Pastor Bo will be announcing each month in the newsletter who volunteered to be head usher and we encourage all members to take a turn at this opportunity over the next couple years.

A listing for the next few months follows:

- September, 2010 ..... Bob White
- October, 2010 ..... Rick Boydston
- November, 2010 ..... John Myers
- December, 2010 ..... Donna Barr and Alys Means
- January, 2011 ..... Jim Raney
- February, 2011 ..... Rick Boydston
- March, 2011 ..... Steve Fransen
- April, 2011 ..... **Open**
- May, 2011 ..... **Open**

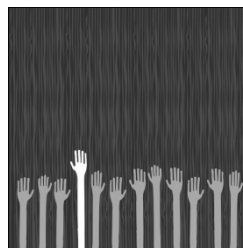
# Special Offering



On Sunday, September 19, we will be taking up a special offering in honor of Christian Education Sunday. The funds collected from this offering go to our Annual Conference and are used to provide educational supplies and teacher training for the churches in our conference. Please give generously to this cause.

# 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!

# PUMC FINANCES

July Budget -- \$9,324  
 July Income -- \$7,570  
 July Expenses -- \$5,385  
 Difference for the Month -- \$2,185

Year-to-Date Budget -- \$70,032  
 Year-to-Date Income -- \$66,270  
 Year-to-Date Expenses -- \$64,120  
 Difference Year-to-Date -- \$2,150

To be a follower of this God means you have to try to enhance the love that's available in this world. John Shelby Spong