

# Bethel Congregational United Church of Christ

## *From David's Desk*

One dollar and thirty seven cents doesn't sound like very much. That's about what I spend on a cup of coffee when I visit Starbucks. Yeah, I'm still a regular coffee with room for cream kind of guy instead of a skinny, mocha latté, or anything else remotely exotic from the barista.

If you multiplied one dollar and thirty seven cents by the number of days in a year, most of the time 365, you'd get about \$500. Wonderful, isn't it, how something that seems small and insignificant can grow to something substantial!

Last week, the Mission and Outreach Committee heard a presentation by a Portland State graduate who is originally from Kenya. His name is Wash Jo. As a result of his own challenging upbringing in Kenya, he organized a relief organization called "Mission of Hope". The purpose of the relief effort is to get orphans from rural areas of Kenya out of their dismal and dangerous environment and into a boarding school. Education is one of the most powerful tools of transformation for these children. They learn the essentials of reading, writing and mathematics. But, they also learn about character, responsibility and self-respect. HIV/Aids is the primary cause for their identity as orphans. Without education, it is almost impossible for them to rise above and step away from "the way things are."

\$500 is what it takes to pay for a year's tuition, room, board, uniform and books for one student.

World Mission efforts are on my mind this month. Our Central Pacific Conference spring assembly at Hillsdale UCC will be focused on World Mission. In conjunction with our spring assembly, a training

event hosted by Global Ministries called, "Ministries and Mission Interpreters Training" will be offered (details are outlined later in the newsletter).

The challenge of World Missions is that support of them may translate into less local mission efforts, or that's usually the concern. Our Strategic Plan is extremely effective in calling us into deeper community with local Beaverton and Washington County partners. I am in complete agreement with this focus, and profoundly supportive of it. The hosting of Faith Café is a huge and positive ministry effort in the life of Bethel!

And yet, World Mission, as in the case of Wash Jo's mission to Kenyan orphans nags at me because I'm reminded of the tremendous "bang for the buck" we get from supporting efforts in third world countries. It was very difficult to watch and listen to the situation of these orphans without thinking: "we certainly have our problems in our own neighborhood, but they seem a lot smaller when compared to the obstacles our sisters and brothers in undeveloped countries face."

We can't do everything. But, \$1.37 doesn't seem like too much. I pray that we might find \$500 to transform the life of one child in a distant land as we continue to meet the needs of our sisters and brothers in our own neighborhood. The Mission and Outreach committee is still deliberating what steps to take in response to Wash Jo's presentation. If you'd like to support a Kenyan orphan, please share your support with Fran Jensen, or me.

Grace abounds...

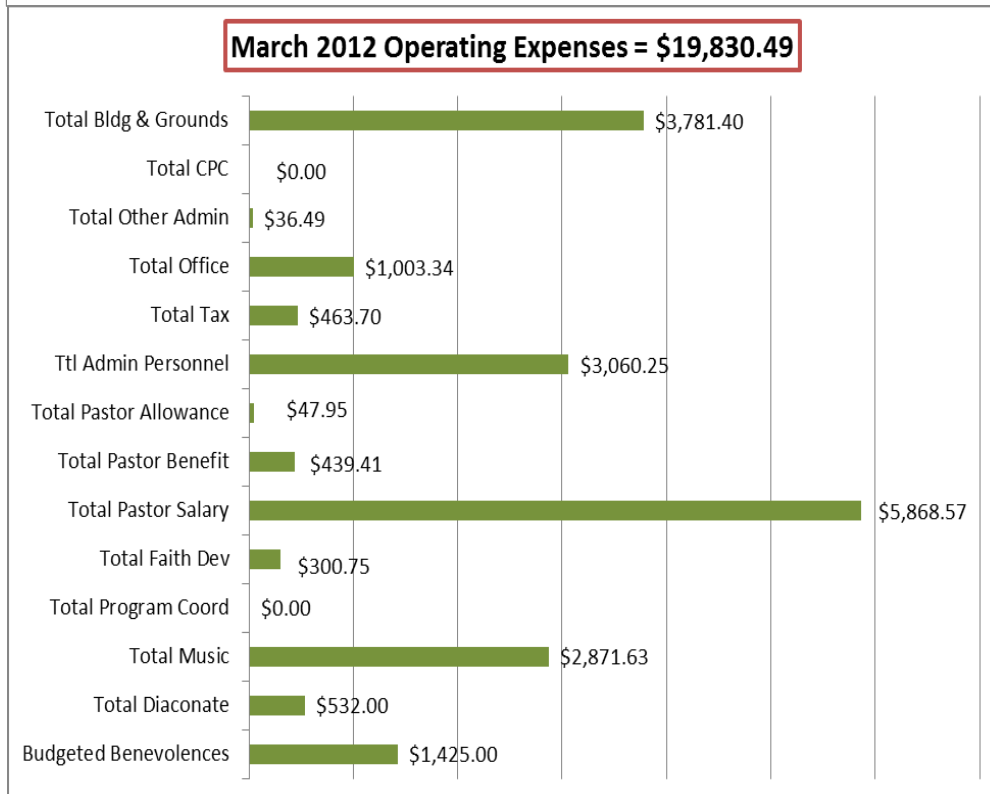
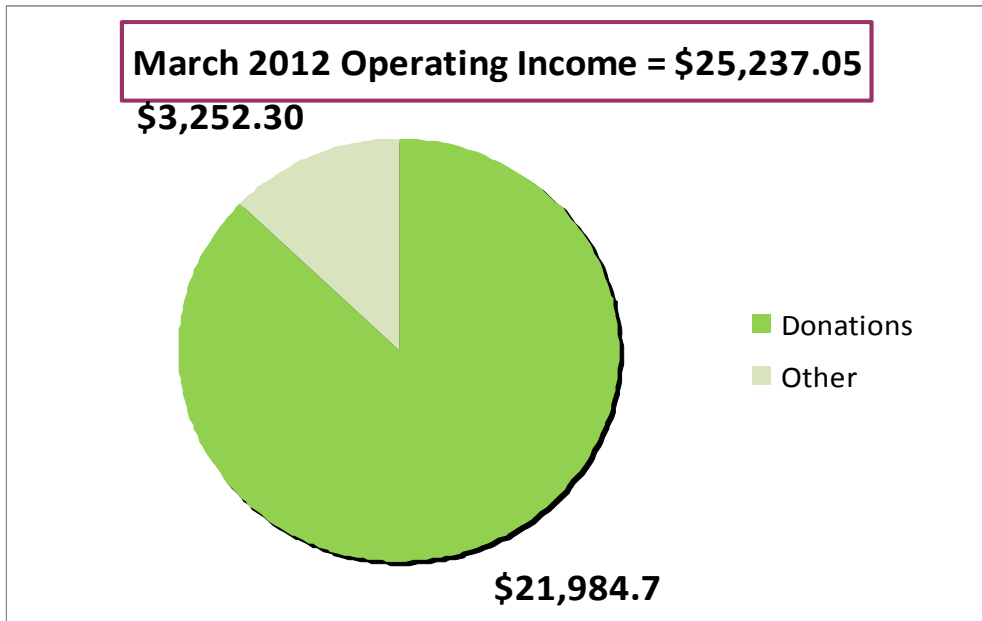
Rev. David R-B



March saw General Fund Operating Income exceed Operating Expenses by \$5,406.56. Help support the Bethel strategic plan and 2012 action steps. With your help Faith Café was launched at Bethel on April 22nd and Program Administrator vision will become a reality later this year. Write a check to Bethel UCC Strategic Planning Launch Fund to help shape our efforts. Donations to date are \$14,200 towards our \$20,000 goal.

Grace abounds,

Your Bethel Board



# May Birthdays

May 1	Robert Elbert	May 12	Matthew Doane
May 1	Ryan Sullivan	May 12	Annabelle Lindsey
May 2	John Bentley	May 14	Patricia Bowen
May 6	Mykah Flannery	May 14	Caleb Randall-Bodman
May 7	Liz Patch	May 16	Grace Hite
May 8	Pat Kimball	May 18	Wallace Boleen
May 9	David Green	May 18	Andrew Schlueter
May 10	Elsie Moorhead	May 19	Jim Doane
May 10	Tess Griffio	May 19	Alan Kronenberg
May 11	Nicholas Keniston	May 23	Pam Schlueter
May 11	Kelsey Brielle Rundorff	May 25	Mary Jane Hollen
May 12	Michael Doane	May 26	Ed Nichols

## ONLINE SIGN UP FOR SUMMER SUNDAYS

Busy summer schedules make assigning Sunday tasks difficult. We are going to do an online sign up for JULY. Take a preview look at [www.volunteerspot.com](http://www.volunteerspot.com) and see how easy this could be. This site has a video to introduce you to the concept. Take a peek.

We will bring laptops in on two Sundays mid May (likely May 13 and 20th) to assist folks with sign ups for July and get you familiar with the site. Moving to online sign ups will make the scheduling and reminders easier for all of us. If members will regularly USE IT, we may be able to get rid of the assigned tasks altogether. We of course will fill in any blanks from the existing time and talent sheets.

More detailed information will be available regarding Bethel's specific sign up program, but take a look at the site now. Reviewing the video was a great way for me to learn what the site does and requires (your email address and a password). I am not very computer literate, and I think this method will be fun and easy. Certainly it would avoid the schedule assignments, which you now have to adjust into your existing calendars.

And, Thank you for being willing to try something new.

Nancy H

Bethel Publication Deadlines  
Bulletin—Tuesday, noon  
Weekly Highlights—Thursday, noon  
Monthly Newsletter—15th of the month, noon



## FAITH DEVELOPMENT WANTS YOU!

Faith Development Committee is a small and mighty committee looking for more members to help achieve all of the goals set forth by the strategic planning committee. We are responsible for adult education, Sunday school, vacation Bible school, youth groups, Easter egg hunt, beginning and end of year celebrations and various other events. If you are interested in participating in this active involved group, please see Karen Hudspeth or Pastor David.

## LOOKING FOR LEADERS FOR VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

With summer on the way, the Faith Development Committee would like to get a start on plans for Vacation Bible School (VBS). We are looking for one or more persons who would like to provide leadership for the 2012 VBS. VBS is usually held for a week in August, but the dates and times could be changed to fit the schedules of the teachers. Let Jeanine Elliott, 503-289-3704, [elliottjeanine@earthlink.net](mailto:elliottjeanine@earthlink.net), or Karen Hudspeth, 503-628-1344, [hudspeth@centricata.com](mailto:hudspeth@centricata.com), know of your interest.

## SUMMER INTEREST CENTERS

It's not too early to think about summer plans, June is just around the corner. Faith Development plans to have interest centers each Sunday as we did last year. Any teen or adult is invited to choose a Sunday to share a special interest, play a game, lead a craft, share a song or anything you can imagine. Last year we had leaders for baseball, decorating cupcakes, camp activities, flying kites, making puppets and art projects to name a few. Sign up sheets will be available on the bulletin board or see Karen Hudspeth. Think about all of the things you can share with the children, without having to commit to a whole year of teaching Sunday school!



## BETHEL RECURRING MEETINGS

### Ongoing Weekly:

Adult Conversations—  
Sunday, 9am  
Worship—  
Sunday, 10 am

### Committee Meetings:

Facilities—  
2nd Sunday, 11:30 am  
Diaconate—  
2nd Wednesday, 7 pm  
Faith Development —  
2nd Thursday, 7 pm  
Mission & Outreach—  
4th Tuesday, 12:30 pm  
Personnel —  
3rd Wednesday, 7 pm  
Church Board—  
4th Wednesday, 7 pm

### Auxiliary Groups:

Morning Star Circle—  
2nd Weds, 10 am  
Ladies Night Out—  
4th Tuesday, 5:30 pm  
(Shari's on Allen & Murray)  
Men's Group Breakfast—  
1st Thursday, 7:30 am  
(Black Bear Diner on TV  
Highway, Beaverton)

## MISSION AND OUTREACH NEWS

Faith Cafe opened at Bethel on Sunday, April 22. They had ninety-eight people attend and service 150 meals. The first opportunity for volunteers from Bethel will be Sunday, May 13. More information about available jobs, times etc. are available from Susan Hanson.

Bethel's food cupboard could use three or four more names on the list of volunteers, especially folks to call when a "vacation" is needed by the current volunteer. If you could help out, even occasionally, please let Fran or Nancy know. We would love to add you (or an interested friend or neighbor) to our list of helpers.

Thanks to the congregation for food and money donations for the labyrinth. By purchasing through the Oregon Food Bank and Grocery Outlet, we saved \$170 over grocery store prices. That means more food for food cupboard clients.

Did you know that just by registering your Safeway card with eScrip, Bethel can earn money? We earned over \$400 this year. If you haven't registered your Safeway club card, stop by the scrip table and we'll take care of it or go online and register at [escrip.com](http://escrip.com). Any purchases you make at Safeway help us to add to Mission and Outreach causes. Safeway also donates all the bakery goods that are out on the table for the Food Cupboard. So a big thanks goes to Safeway!!



Did you know that every month Mission and Outreach provides a birthday cake to the Salvation Army's Homeless Vet center? This new center is located just west of Murray on Farmington. Rick Slavens recently took a cake and a lady stopped him and asked if he was the one who brought the beautiful cakes because she had had a birthday last month and it was the first time in 10 years that she had had cake or have anyone acknowledge her birthday. Your scrip purchases and donations to food ministries are changing lives. Thanks!!



## HABITAT FUNDRAISING BREAKFAST

TUESDAY, MAY 8, 7:15am

EMBASSY SUITES

If you have not received an invitation to this program and fundraiser and you would like to attend the free breakfast, please notify the office or contact Bob Leitner.

Our mission partner, Oregon Food Bank recommends that we educate ourselves about public policy issues that intersect with our Christian mission and discipleship.

**OREGON FOOD BANK**  
*... because no one should be hungry.*



Dear Friends,

On March 29, 2012, the U.S. House of Representative passed Rep. Paul Ryan's budget and sent it to the Senate for consideration. The House version of the budget raises significant concerns for Oregon Food Bank because of proposed cuts to anti-hunger programs. The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)—which helps more than 46 million Americans afford an adequate and nutritious diet—would be cut by \$134 billion over ten years—a whopping 17 percent. A cut of this size would mean reducing or ending nutrition assistance for millions of families.

While we recognize that the national debt is an important issue, it is unacceptable for the budget to be balanced on the backs of struggling low-income households. Contact your House member today to voice your strong support for SNAP.

If you live in the district of Oregon Representative Bonamici, Blumenauer, DeFazio, or Schrader, please thank them for voting against the budget plan. If you live in the district of Oregon Representative Walden or Washington Representative Herrera Beutler, please express your disappointment in their support for a budget that drastically cuts anti-hunger programs like SNAP.

[Click here to email your Representative now](#)

Sincerely,  
Sarah Flynn  
Public Policy Outreach Coordinator Oregon Food Bank

[www.oregonfoodbank.org/advocate](http://www.oregonfoodbank.org/advocate)

## MODERATOR UPDATE



In February I asked you to picture a day in the not too distant future where Faith Café moved from their home at the Beaverton First United Methodist Church to an improved kitchen at Bethel to serve their first meals in our larger fellowship hall.

Well it happened on April 22<sup>nd</sup>! And what a beautiful Earth Day was delivered for the celebration of the grand opening and 7<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Faith Café. Everyone there was in high spirits and the Fellowship Hall looked great! Several members of Bethel were there to witness the ribbon cutting ceremony. Fran Jensen and I had the privilege to participate in the ceremony representing Bethel. All in all, a great start for Faith Café and a proud moment in Bethel's continued mission of service to the community!

Thank you so much for your time and talent contributions to make this part of our strategic vision a reality. A special thanks to all who have contributed to the campus upgrades.

For more information on Faith Café, check their website at <http://www.faithcafeor.org/>

Grace abounds,  
Paul Griffo  
2012 Moderator



Faith Café Opening Night



# THE DAIRYVILLE PLAYERS AT ALPENROSE OPERA HOUSE

Bethel UCC Beaverton has partnered with a new theatre company, The Dairyville Players, providing audition and rehearsal space for their production of Gilbert & Sullivan's "HMS Pinafore", to be performed at the Alpenrose Dairy Opera House this summer.

The relationship has blossomed from the initial dialogs between Paul Griffo, this year's Moderator for Bethel, and Paul Roder of the Central Beaverton Neighborhood Association (NAC), regarding Bethel's new strategic plan and community involvement efforts.

The upcoming Dairyville Players performance dates at Alpenrose are as follows:

**Saturday & Sunday at 2:00 PM**  
**June 23, 24, 30 & July 1**

A sliding-scale donation is suggested. Pay what you can; no one is turned away for lack of funds. There will be ice-cream treats at intermission!

Also, in celebration of the mutual support agreement, the company will perform the hour-long condensed version for members of the local community at Bethel on **Sunday July 8<sup>th</sup>**. This performance will support Bethel's hosting of the Faith Café. Faith Café recently served its 50,000th free meal to members of the local community!

For further info or questions, contact Paul Roder at [stephenhero\\_98@yahoo.com](mailto:stephenhero_98@yahoo.com)



New and updated!

# Ministries and Mission Interpreters Training

Sponsored by

The Oregon Region, DDC and Central Pacific Conference, UCC



**Thursday May 17, 2012**

**9:00 am – 4:30 pm**

**Lynchwood Christian Church**

**3815 SE 174th St. Portland, OR 97236**

**Invite the members of your congregation  
to a spirit-filled day of creative  
Global Mission ideas and inspiration.**

## **Speakers include:**

**Bishop Melzar Labuntog, partner from the Philippines**

**Rev Xiaoling Zhu, Area Executive for East Asia and the Pacific**

**Michael Joseph, missionary to Colombia**

**Jan Aerie, Executive for Mission Education**

**Cost: \$7 for conference, morning snack and lunch**

## **Questions? Contact:**

Jean

Phone: 503.642.1701

Email: [jeandoane@comcast.net](mailto:jeandoane@comcast.net)

# May

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 <b>10:30am</b> Worship committee <b>10:45am</b> Meditation <b>7:00pm</b> ESL Classes	2 <b>10:30am</b> Staff meeting	3 <b>7:30am</b> Men's Breakfast <b>7:00pm</b> ESL Classes	4	5
6 <b>9:00am</b> Chancel Choir rehearsal <b>9:00am</b> Adult Conversations <b>10:00am</b> Worship <b>11:30am</b> All Church meeting <b>5:00pm</b> Faith Café	7	8 <b>10:45am</b> Meditation Group <b>7:00pm</b> ESL Classes	9 <b>10:00am</b> Morning Star <b>10:30am</b> Staff meeting <b>7:00pm</b> Diaconate	10 <b>7:00pm</b> Faith Development <b>7:00pm</b> ESL Classes <b>7:30pm</b> Chancel Choir rehearsal	11	12
13 <b>Mother's Day</b>	14 	15 <b>10:45am</b> Meditation Group <b>2:00pm</b> Called to Care <b>7:00pm</b> ESL Classes	16 <b>10:30am</b> Staff meeting <b>5:30pm</b> Personnel	17 <b>7:00pm</b> ESL Classes <b>7:30pm</b> Chancel Choir rehearsal	18	19
20 <b>9:00am</b> Choir <b>9:00am</b> Adult Conversations <b>10:00am</b> Worship <b>11:30am</b> Handbell rehearsal <b>5:00pm</b> Faith Café	21	22 <b>10:45am</b> Meditation <b>12:30pm</b> Mission and Outreach <b>5:30pm</b> Ladies' Night Out <b>7:00pm</b> ESL	23 <b>10:30am</b> Staff meeting <b>7:00pm</b> Church Board	24 <b>7:00pm</b> ESL Classes <b>7:30pm</b> Chancel Choir rehearsal	25	26
27 <b>9:00am</b> Choir <b>9:00am</b> Adult Conversations <b>10:00am</b> Worship <b>11:30am</b> Handbell rehearsal <b>5:00pm</b> Faith Café	28  <b>Memorial Day</b>	29 <b>10:45am</b> Meditation <b>7:00pm</b> ESL Classes	30 <b>10:30am</b> Staff meeting	31 <b>5:00pm</b> Faith Café <b>7:00pm</b> ESL Classes <b>7:30pm</b> Chancel Choir rehearsal		

# Bethel Congregational United Church of Christ

May 2012



## Sunday Worship 10 AM

### Staff

Senior Minister	David Randall-Bodman
Director of Music Ministry	Stephen Galván
Office Manager	Beverly Woolf
Nursery Attendant	Megan Lucas
Treasurer	Nancy Speer

### Office

Monday-Friday, 9am-noon, 1-3pm  
503-646-1191

Email: [office@bethelbeaverton.org](mailto:office@bethelbeaverton.org)

Newsletter Editor: Beverly Woolf

Visit our website at: [www.bethelbeaverton.org](http://www.bethelbeaverton.org)

We at Bethel are people on a journey—a journey through worship, education, fellowship and mission—a journey of acceptance, seeking, and positive faith rather than judgment. We are an inclusive, open, and affirming community.

You are invited to join us on the journey of faith as we participate in worship, education, and mission, celebrate the joys of life, and care for each other in difficult times. We learn more about our faith through biblical study and reflection. We are challenged to interpret scripture for relevance in today's world and to respond as the spirit moves us. We seek to honor all of God's richly diverse creation.

If you are a visitor from out of town, we hope we can be a church away from home. If you are a newcomer seeking a church home, we hope you will find that home with us.

We invite you to join us for Sunday Worship at 10 am, including child care and Church School.

God Welcomes Everyone—and so do we!

Bethel Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
5150 SW Watson Avenue  
Beaverton, OR 97005