

The Clarion

The Newsletter of Kennewick First United Methodist Church
February 2011



Stephen "Care-Giving" Ministry Comes to KFUMC

Thanks to a generous memorial made in the name of Lee Ilah Marple, our church has enrolled in Stephen Ministry, a program that equips laypeople to do caring ministry. Why the Stephen Series? The Stephen Series trains people in the basic skills necessary for helping others. Through lecture, discussion and experiential learning, people learn everything from how to be an effective listener to specific techniques for ministering to grieving people. Our congregation will reap many, many blessings through our involvement in this ministry of care.

From February 6-12, Pastor Mark Williams and Sarah Longan will attend a leadership training seminar. They will be equipped to work along with Pastor Roger (who received Stephen Leader training in 1990) in implementing the ministry in our church. Training to be provided later this spring by Sarah, Mark, and Roger will benefit many others besides those who receive the care of their Stephen Ministers. The Stephen Ministers themselves grow greatly as they learn about helping others. They learn about themselves. As the hurting members of our congregation grow stronger through this caring ministry, the whole church is built up and made stronger. And, of course, we all can have the confident knowledge that when the pains of life come our way, someone will always be there, ready to care for us, to bring God's love to us, in a special, personal way. Perhaps God is calling you to be one of these caring, committed servants who offer divine love to those who are hurting.

Watch for more information on Stephen Ministry in future bulletin inserts and Clarions.

Men's Biscuits and Gravy Breakfast - February 5

All of the men of the church are invited to breakfast on February 5 at 8:30 a.m. in the Ida Payne Fellowship Hall. Arlan Gadeken will prepare non-dietary, non-low-calorie, good old-fashioned biscuits and gravy. Come for the food, fellowship, and a very brief presentation on the new Stephen Ministry which is coming to our church soon.

Souper Bowl of Caring

Celebrate Super Bowl Sunday this year by participating in the Souper Bowl of Caring! As you leave worship on Sunday, February 6, you'll see big soup pots placed near the doors; they will not be filled with soup, but the dollars *you* place in them will help fill the pantry shelves at our local food bank, feeding many of the hungry in our area. Be the best fan ever, and support a "Bowl" that can make a real difference in the lives of many!

Sr. to Senior Sweetheart Social

February 13 from 2 to 4 pm, our Sr UMY will host a *Sweetheart Social* for Senior citizens. This event is for all Senior citizens, so invite friends and other 'senior' family members. The social will include refreshments, dancing, and photos! The event is free and transportation will be provided if needed by calling the church at 582-2163.

Music Technology Fundraiser

This is an event you won't want to miss! On February 17, we invite you to come and enjoy marvelous music, a mini-message, and some 'heavenly' desserts. This terrific night begins at 6 pm and will conclude at 8 pm. Invite your friends for an evening of good music, food, and fun. Donations will be collected to help defray the costs of upgrades needed for the Praise Music system in our church. For more information, contact Dave Hare at 521-7767. We'll have the buses up and running, so if you need a ride please call Danielle at 539-1030. She will reserve your spot.

And the winners are:

The 18th Annual Chili Cookoff was another great success! We had 24 contestants with their secret recipes ranging from mild to very HOT! Nearly 150 very hungry church family members came for lunch. We were also joined by 5 brave firemen from Fire Station #1 who judged the entries (and asked to be invited back again next year)!

Our winners include:

<i>HOTTEST</i>	1 st - Ryan Shiplet 2 nd - Sean Lamberd	<i>PEOPLE'S CHOICE</i>	1 st - George Boice 2 nd - Mike Boice
<i>UNIQUE</i>	1 st - Donna Kittson 2 nd - Joseph Ahrend		

Of course, these were not the only winners – our local food bank was also a winner, as we raised \$149 for the Souper Bowl of Giving!

Great job everyone! Thanks to Mike and Kim Boice, who help so much, and to everyone who helped set up and clean up, brought their favorite pots, and took care of all the details that go into this fun event.

PS. Big THANKS go to Gloria Harden who really makes the Chili Cookoff cook!

Where Do You Serve?

During this next year, the Missions Committee will draw focus to where our church is in mission in our local area. Each month there will be a Minute Message in the service highlighting an opportunity to volunteer to those in need in our community. Many of you already give of your time and talents, and we would like to establish a data base of who is helping where. Would you please note in the Attendance Register where you volunteer, or let the church office know?

Sharefest 2011 Is Coming This March!

It's hard to believe this is the 7th year of ShareFest in Tri-Cities!

ShareFest is when the Tri-Cities churches come together to show the love of Christ to the community thru the following:

- * *Workday - doing projects for our cities, schools, individuals, etc - Saturday, March 26*
- * *Blood Drive - to fill the Red Cross' blood bank - March 21-30*
- * *Food Drive - to fill the shelves of 2nd Harvest Food Bank*
- * *Supply Drive - to stock the Union Gospel Mission with items they need on a regular basis*
- * *Offering - to give to 2 local agencies helping people in our community.*

Last year was a modest beginning for KFUMC's participation. As of today we are without a coordinator for our church. If you are interested in helping our church participate in Sharefest, please visit the website, <http://www.sharefesttricity.com/>, to learn more and/or speak with Pastor Roger.

Mississippi Needs You!

Katrina relief continues and you can help. April 3 and 10 we will have teams nestled into bunk houses in Gulfport, MS. There is room for you! Cost is \$350 plus airfare. If you want to be a part of these great teams, let Linda Bauer know at golfnbauers@aol.com.

Church Clean Up – April 16

Your church needs *you* on Saturday, April 16, for our annual all-church festival of cleaning. That's right, spring is coming and it will soon be time to attack those dust bunnies and cobwebs that are lurking the church building! But our Trustees have an extra goal this year – clearing out the clutter and organizing the items we plan to keep! Our storage areas are shrinking and it's time to start letting go of what is unneeded and contributing to disorder and confusion! This means that the different groups who have things stored in the buildings need to begin looking at what they have, making some decisions, and labeling those items which should be kept. Make plans *now* to join us on Saturday, April 16!

Trustees Elect New Officers for 2011

At the first Trustees meeting of 2011, our Board elected the following officers:

President – Ron Shuck
Vice President – Kevin Loomis
Secretary – Steven Tucker

A tremendous “thank you” goes to Chris Shuck (past President), Ron Shuck (past VP), and Steven Tucker (Secretary); we do so appreciate their leadership in 2010!

Seniors

Seniors will meet on Monday, February 21, for our monthly potluck. Our guest speaker will be Linda Beagles from Canyon Lakes. She will discuss “Health Care for Seniors and Retirement Living.” She will also discuss how to access the community agencies that are available to support our Seniors.

Our next tour is on Thursday, February 24. Call Glenda at 783-2685 (leave a message if I’m not home) or AJ Foster at 783-2855 to sign up for a tour of SIGN in Richland. SIGN is a Richland nonprofit manufacturer of orthopedic implants. It was started by Dr. Lewis G. Zirkle, Jr., M.D. of Richland. SIGN helps the developing world by providing access to modern orthopedic training, and surgical implants and instruments. We will be touring the manufacturing plant in Richland. Meet at the church at 9:55 am on February 24. The tour will be followed with lunch out (place still to be determined). Bring money for lunch and \$1.00 per person bus fee

Vacation Bible School 2011

PandaMania is coming!! Kennewick First VBS will be held this year from July 25-29 and the theme is ***PandaMania***. Put the dates on your calendar now and plan to bring the kids, volunteer to help out, and get involved! Activities are for children ages 3 - 5th grade, and a nursery will be available for younger siblings if an adult family member is a VBS volunteer. Come join the fun by contacting Deanna Dreier at cddreier@msn.com or 509-380-0851; Danielle Rhoades at 585-8644, or Christy Howard at 582-4948. We're recruiting for all positions--class leaders and helpers, kitchen crew for snacks, activity time, story time... or create your own position!

For Women Only!

If you are not receiving an email news bulletin from our own UMW, it's for one reason only: We don't have your correct email address. Please email Bonnie Taylor at bonnie.matt@frontier.com if you would like to be part of the email friendship circle. We only contact you once or twice a month with a **short** report on events, ideas, and news about your church friends. Try it! It's as easy to remove your email address as to add it; just sent an email to Bonnie, who also welcomes your suggestions.

Girls on the Run

Again this spring, our church will host the non-profit program called *Girls on the Run*. This is a program that encourages preteen girls in grades 6-8 to develop self-respect and a healthy lifestyle through running. Its curriculum addresses all aspects of young girls' development, their physical, emotional, mental, social, and spiritual well-being. *Girls on the Run* is a 10-week program that will be starting Monday, March 7. We will meet for practice every Monday and Wednesday afternoons from 4:00 -5:30 pm.

For sign up and registration information, please contact the YMCA office at 374-1908. If you have any questions, please contact Christy Howard at 582-4948 or visit the web site at www.girlsontherun.com.

Koins for Kenya

After a brief hiatus, the 4th and 5th Grade Sunday School is restarting the *Koins for Kenya* campaign, which will run through the end of the school year. Proceeds from the drive will be sent to our sister congregation in Kenya to help support its needs, including its new school. Containers will be found in each classroom and at the welcome desk. Let's see which class can raise the most funds!

Donate Bibles

Help spread the Good News in our local jails through the Chaplaincy Jail Ministry. A collection box is located in the church library for donations of Bibles and Bible study materials. Check your bookshelves; is there something there that could be put to use? Sharing the word of God can and will change someone's life! For more information call Lisa Enderlin at 783-2764. Thank you.

Piecemakers Ministry

Another ministry area of this church is the *Piecemakers*, a sewing group that turns fabric scraps into warm and wonderful quilts for local hospitals, missions, and charities. *Piecemakers* is always looking for volunteers to help them cut or sew their creations. It is a great way to fellowship while you work to serve others. *Piecemakers* meets at the church every 2nd Wednesday and the last Saturday of the month from 10:00 am to noon. The group is also appreciative of any fabric donations, especially children's fabric. In addition, they accept new and 'gently used' stuffed animals, because every quilt given to a child has one attached with a big bow! Call Phyllis Merrill at 586-3784 or AJ Foster at 783-2855 if you would like to help or have donations to give.

Prayer Shawl Ministry

Our prayer shawl group began in January of 2005 and has provided hundreds of beautifully crafted shawls to surround people with love in times of tragedy, distress, and illness. If you know of someone who is in need of prayer, and the tangible comfort of a shawl, or if you are interested in helping knit shawls for others, please contact Pat Walker at 585-5170 or Vicki Crosby at 585-0628.

Our Church Family

Our prayers go out to Ruth Anderson, the entire Anderson family, and the many friends of ***Don Anderson***, who passed away on January 19. We are all better for having known him.

Our prayers are also with Steve and Darryl Vaughn and their family and friends. ***Lawrence Wilber Vaughn***, Steve's father, died January 14.

We also lift Courtney Blanchard in prayer, who recently lost his mother, ***Donna Jean Curtis***.

We have many others in our extended church family in need of prayers for healing, comfort, guidance, and wisdom including:

Gayle Canada, Mary Shoop, Joe Mauer, Bill Mandell, Carl Ficker, Terri Hurlbut, Betty Bauman, Vere May, and the 1650 Hanford employees who are being laid off.

"The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective." James 5:15 NRSV

Notes of Thanks

Through your consistent prayers and actions, you have especially blessed our family during this difficult time. God bless you all,

Ruth Anderson and family

Last Sunday I was recognized for over 20 years of ministry. What a wonderful surprise, and it truly was a surprise...good job church! The gift basket was filled with all of my favorite things including slippers and bubble bath!! I truly appreciated each card and hand-written note, so very special. Bob Kelly presented me with flowers and said the nicest things about me...it was very moving to have Randy beside me being honored as well for his ministry and support too!!! Thank you, dear church family, for showing such love and kindness to this sometimes tired youth director!!

In His Love,
Cynthia and Randy

"Breathe a prayer of gratitude. And give those you love an extra measure of affection. Life is fleeting, and love is precious. Cherish both."

-Galen Guengerich

Thank You Office Volunteers

Deb Reeve extends a heartfelt thank you to all the volunteers who have helped sort old files and organize the office work space. This would have taken her a great deal of valuable time and she does appreciate your hard work. Thank you to Inie and Duane Pepiot, and Dorothy Block for paper ‘wrangling,’ George Block for working on and around the computers, and our ‘regulars,’ Vicki Crosby for stuffing bulletins and Marlene Wood for tracking attendance. You all make life easier and your company is very enjoyable!

From the New Bookkeeper

Our new bookkeeper, Lisa Urlacher, can be reached through the email address set up *specifically* for the bookkeepers. That address is bookkeeping@kennewickfirst.com. Since her position is very part-time, please keep in mind that several days may pass before she responds to your email; however, she *will* respond. Lisa has other employment and will be in the office as it fits her schedule, so also be aware of the time constraints for reimbursements. Lastly, regarding reimbursements, we do insist that **reimbursement forms be filled out** and receipts stapled to them so Lisa can track expenditures and apply them to the correct account. Reimbursement forms have always been expected when turning in receipts for repayment, but in the past, we have been lenient when they are missing. Since Lisa is new, and does not know individuals or our committees yet, it is imperative that she have these forms turned in for proper accounting. Please help her out in this area. Thank you!

Reimbursement Forms

As reimbursement forms are required to be turned in by all persons purchasing supplies for the church, the office will be sending out new forms via email this week. If you are a committee chairperson, please download and print several copies and distribute them to your members. Forms can also be located in the new entry next to the Suggestion Box and in the church office. They are hot pink, you can't miss them!

Change in Office Hours

Please note that the church office will now **close at noon on Fridays**. Regular office hours apply Monday through Thursday, 8:30 am to 4:00 pm. We are always closed on Saturday and Sunday. In addition, if we have dangerous road conditions, we follow the closure policy set by the Kennewick School District. If they delay in starting, we delay in opening. If they are closed, we are closed. In the event of an early release due to freezing rain or snow, we cancel evening events and meetings. When we are closed, please call the pastors in case of an emergency. Thank you.

Kennewick First United Methodist Church
Worship Services

9 am and 10:30 am every Sunday
9 am Sunday School for Children, Youth and Adults

Nursery provided at each service
Handicapped Accessible

Church Office Hours

8:30 am - noon and
1 pm - 4 pm,
Monday through Thursday
Fridays, 8:30 am—noon

(509) 582-2163

Visit our website at *www.kennewickfirst.com*



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Q&A Answers to the Most Frequently Asked Questions about the Stephen Series®

■ Why is it called the Stephen Series?

Stephen was one of the first laypeople commissioned by the Apostles to provide caring ministry (Acts 6). *Series* describes the sequence of steps a congregation follows to implement the caring ministry system, which is commonly referred to as *Stephen Ministry*.

■ How many congregations are using Stephen Ministry?

More than 10,000 congregations are enrolled, with hundreds more enrolling each year. They represent more than 150 denominations and come from all 50 United States, 10 Canadian provinces, and 24 other countries. Many congregations have had Stephen Ministry going strong for 20 or 30 years—or longer. Stephen Ministry is built to last!

■ What size congregations are involved?

Stephen Ministry congregations range from fewer than 100 members to more than 10,000. No matter the size of a church, opportunities abound to extend care to hurting people in the congregation and community.

■ What are Stephen Leaders?

Stephen Leaders are pastors and lay leaders who direct Stephen Ministry in their congregation. They attend a one-week Leader's Training Course (LTC) where they learn how to:

- build support for Stephen Ministry;
- recruit, select, and train Stephen Ministers;
- find people in need of care and link them with Stephen Ministers; and
- provide Stephen Ministers with regular support and supervision.

Our organization provides ongoing support to Stephen Leaders to help them have a successful, long-lasting Stephen Ministry.

■ What are Stephen Ministers?

Stephen Ministers are laypeople who receive 50 hours of Christian caregiving training in their congregation—and then provide one-to-one Christ-centered care to hurting people. Each Stephen Minister typically has one care receiver at a time and meets with that person once a week for about an hour. They also meet with their Stephen Leaders twice a month for ongoing support and continuing education.

■ What types of caregiving situations are Stephen Ministers used in?

Stephen Ministers are equipped to provide high-quality, one-to-one Christian care to individuals facing a variety of crises or life challenges—people who are experiencing grief, divorce, cancer, financial difficulties, hospitalization, chronic illness, loss of a job, disabilities, loneliness, a spiritual crisis, or other life struggles.

In addition to caring for *members* of the congregation, Stephen Ministers can provide care to *nonmembers*, which means Stephen Ministry can be a powerful outreach ministry to unchurched people in crisis.

■ How does Stephen Ministry benefit pastors?

Pastors tell us that Stephen Ministry deepens, expands, and extends the caregiving capacity of their congregations. A team of Stephen Ministers can provide *more care* on an ongoing basis to *more people* than a pastor ever could alone. This lifts a tremendous load from pastors' shoulders and frees them to invest *more time* in other important ministry areas.

Pastors also experience deep satisfaction in equipping laypeople for meaningful ministry that helps them grow in Christian maturity.