

Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

As we begin a new year, I would first of all like to say a word of thanks to all the people who have been involved in the ministry of our congregation in the past year. Since we are a small church, many of you have been active in the ministry of our congregation in more than one way. Thank you so much, our church would not be the same without you!

As we start a new year, we also welcome many folks in various positions of leadership. As a reminder of this, we have repeated below the leadership list that was handed out and voted on at Charge/Church Conference in October. I wish to thank everyone for their willingness to serve! This "report" does of course not describe all we are doing as a congregation, but it describes in some ways how we are organized as a United Methodist Church.

Since we had a cluster Charge Conference in October, we did not really have the opportunity to speak with our District Superintendent, Rev. David Nieda. It was helpful to have him return to HUMC on Sunday, December 11 to preach and be part of a congregational meeting following the service. I appreciate it that so many of you took part in that conversation with him. Our hope is to follow up on that conversation with a **CONGREGATIONAL PLANNING MEETING** on **Saturday, January 21 from 9:30 – noon**. Again we hope that many of you will be able to attend. If we wish for the ministry of our congregation to be fruitful and to move it forward, it will take the best efforts of all of us. As a reminder of our conversation with Rev. Nieda, we have printed below some notes taken by Frankie. These may help us as we prepare for the meeting on January 21. I look forward to seeing you at that meeting.

Finally, from our family to yours, God's richest blessing for 2012!

Shalom, Pastor Willem

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING NOTES:

12-11-2012

Sunday, December 11, 2011: **Congregational Meeting with DS Rev. David Nieda** (after a potluck meal). (David preached this Sunday.)

Pastor Willem~

- *Gail Grossman focused on evangelism (adding an evangelism component to what the congregation is already doing rather than trying to do more different things)
 - form 1 or 2 small groups that could meet during the day..."Elder Circle"
 - more training on evangelism
 - reducing financial aid we receive from the conference

Pete~

- *\$5000/month in pledges (similar to last year)
- *our attendance is pretty much a wash with last year with some new attendance and some who have left

David Nieda~

- *conference intends to continue support (January 2012-June 2012)
 - Toni asked, "Why every 6months vs. every year?" David to find out answer.
- *"Is there an endowment program in the greater church to help support HUMC?"
 - Dennis (from Vancouver) can come and speak to our church if needed
- *HUMC has been on conference support for 12 years! At some point, it WILL decrease!
- *WORK THE PLAN! (set by Gail Grossman)...don't develop a new one
- *we have a 6-month window of support...how do we want to use Willem and his talents for our ministry?
 - ACTION! We need to take action with what we have NOW!
- *how can we combine Aberdeen and Hoquiam in reality?
 - Aberdeen against reconciling congregation.
 - do we need to form a committee to focus on the merging of the two congregations?

Notes by Frankie

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP Per November 30, 2011



Fund balances per November 30 were as follows:

General Fund - \$ 19.95

Building & Capital Improvement Fund - \$ 1,580.02

Special Funds - \$ 2,993.09 (Consisting of Memorial Fund of \$ 2,027.66 and Missions Fund of \$ 965.43)

Parsonage Fund - \$ 299.54

A word of thank to all who supported the ministry of HUMC with their prayers, presence, gifts, service and witness! An end of the year Treasurer's report will be available at the next Council meeting on January 22 and a copy will be posted on the bulletin board. We were able to pay almost all of our bills. Apportionments were paid at 59%, partly thanks to some extra giving at the end of the year (See article above about COOKIES, etc.)

ABOUT COOKIES, COLLECTIBLES AND APPORTIONMENTS

A word of thanks to all who contributed to the **Cookie and collectibles** sale. A total of \$541.50 was raised. The proceeds were designated for apportionments. In combination with special gifts during the Christmas season, we were able to send in an additional \$1,000 for payments of our church's apportionments (our portion of the United Methodist Church's budget).

Let me just lift up one project for which this money will be used: the new emerging **UMC in Mongolia**. In an article in *New World Outlook* of October 2010 the Rev. Jong Sung Kim wrote:

Mongolia is a nation with 2.8 million people. Mongolian people sparsely reside in an area that is more than 11 times larger than New York State. Although Mongolian people had a brief encounter with Catholicism during the time of Genghis Khan in the 13th century, it was after the collapse of Communism in 1990 that Protestant Christian ministries were able to share the work of Christ in Mongolia. At this point, it is estimated that less than one percent of the total population in Mongolia is Christian.

The Rev. Jong Sung Kim is the Director of Mission Initiatives in the Evangelization and Church Growth unit of the General Board of Global Ministries (GBGM). The Mongolia Mission Initiative is one of them. Korean United Methodist churches in the USA and South Korea, in partnership with the Board of Global Ministries, have taken a leading role in spreading the work of the UMC to Mongolia. Chingeltei UMC in Alaambaatar, the capital of Mongolia, was until recently housed in two gers (Mongolian tents). In the last few years, a church and Mission Center have been built with support from GBGM and individual churches. The staff of this mission initiative includes UM missionaries and mission interns. It includes things like the development of a hospice program, under the leadership of a UM missionary who also is a nurse; teaching, literacy work, an after school program, helping people with meals, job training and starting two new satellite churches. The UMC presence may not be very large in scope but it is making a difference in the lives of people, I read that one of the new church starts is led by a woman who accepted Christ only a few years ago and who is now a trained local pastor. If you wish to find out more about the United Methodist presence in Mongolia, you can just browse the internet, for example by looking for the Chingeltei UMC and Mission Center in Alaambaatar, Mongolia. The following link may help as well: <http://www.skumc.com/13789>

In a way, all of us have helped giving birth to this mission initiative in Mongolia through the payment of apportionments. As you can see, even the sale of cookies can make a difference a long way from home – through the connection we call The United Methodist Church.

Shalom! Pastor Willem

PS: According to the last information I read the hospice program, led by a UM missionary, includes now three teams. Each consists of a doctor, a nurse and a social worker.

KITCHEN MYSTERY

We have a mystery in our church kitchen. Two extra large pans used for our community dinners and a number of tablecloths in fall colors are missing. Please call Kitty if you can shed some light on this mystery!

COMMUNITY EAT TOGETHER

Our next Community Eat Together will be on January 27, 5:30 – 6:30 p.m. All are invited. A word of thanks to Rick and Janine for providing the meal in December. About 50 people from the community and the church attended.

CALENDAR

January/February 2012

January	1 st	11:45 a.m.	Epiphany Party
January	8 th	2:00 p.m.	PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)
January	10 th	6:30 p.m.	Small Group Alpha
January	14 th	3-6 p.m.	Girl Scouts
January	21 st	9:30 a.m.	Congregational Planning Meeting
January	22 nd	11:45 a.m.	Church Council
January	24 th	6: 30 p.m.	Small Group Alpha
January	26 th	11- 2 p.m.	Clergy Cluster Meeting @ Montesano UMC
January	27 th	5:30 p.m.	Community Eat Together Alden Room
January	28 th	3-6 p.m.	Girl Scouts
February	5 th	2:00 p.m.	PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)

Sundays: **Service of Worship 10:30 a.m.**

Sunday School for Adults at **9:30 a.m.**

Our vision is to welcome, embrace and grow disciples of Jesus Christ.

Our mission is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world.

(See Matthew 28:16-20)

What We Value: We are open and welcoming, actively embracing all people

Our mission is to live and share God's Word as we grow in every way...

through worship, Christian education, fellowship and community outreach.

We are a '**Reconciling Congregation.**' This means we explicitly welcome everyone, including all sexual orientations and gender identities, fully into the life of the church.