

# The Lewiston First UMC Messenger

...a bi-monthly newsletter publication of  
the Lewiston First Methodist Church

## Pastor's Path "Simple Board Governance" By: Rev. Chuck Cram

On Saturday, November 19, Liz Chavez, Cottie Hood and I attended a seminar in Spokane about a form of church governance known as Simple Board Governance. The workshop was facilitated by Rev Stephen Ross, a United Methodist minister who now works with churches full-time through the Oregon-Idaho Conference. Stephen has also authored a book on this topic, "Leadership and Organization for Fruitful Congregations".

The primary goals of Simple Board Governance are to create a more nimble church governing body that has the flexibility to respond to ministry opportunities when they arise. After attending the presentations and discussing in-depth all that was presented over lunch, the three of us concluded that we are already functioning very close to the outlined model; the difference being we did not have the language or the guidance to name our particular governing model. Now we do!

Even though our church is already functioning close to this mode, there are some adjustments to our language and methods that will allow us to align more closely with the UMC sanctioned model of Simple Board Governance. Some of the adjustments you may begin to notice in the future may include things like the following:

## December 2016

### Weekly Events

#### Sundays

- Bell Choir Rehearsal 8:30am
- Adult Sunday School - 9:15am
- Worship - 10:30am
- Coffee Shop - 11:30am

#### Tuesdays

- Bible Discussion - 10am

### Regular Monthly Meetings

SPRC: 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday - 6:30pm -  
Liz Chavez

Worship Committee: 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday -  
4:00pm - Meurial Nystrom

Salvation Army Dinner: 2<sup>nd</sup>  
Wednesday - 3:00pm

\*Trustees: 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday - 6:00pm -  
Monte Boardman/Carl Paulson

\*UMW - 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday - 10:00am -  
Mary McNish & Kathy Bostrom

Men's Breakfast: 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday -  
9:00am - Main Street Grill

Church Council: 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday -  
7:00pm - Cottie Hood

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# From My Heart to Yours

This is a letter from my heart to the hearts of all those of Lewiston First United Methodist Church. My association with Lewiston First began in 1960 when my Dad came to Lewiston for a job interview to work on the Spalding Bridge. He called Mom and said, "I'm taking this job, get the girls ready to move to God's country." Our family found a home and church family here, and although Mom and Dad are gone and my three sisters have moved away-even today they hold Lewiston First in their hearts.

My Dad was a crane operator, and just the nature of construction is feast or famine and as I was growing up I watched my Mother as she put aside for the time of famine during the time of plenty and make due when the famine came and we had few dollars to hold us until the next good time came. My Mother was a questioner all her life, my Dad simply believed without seeing. However, Mom made sure that we had a grounding for finding the answers. That was evident in the way she paid the bills each month. When I was old enough to know what she was doing I asked her about the stacks of bills and how she knew what to do if the bills and the money didn't match. She told me that the first check she wrote was to the church, because taking care of that obligation made the others manageable. I pay my bills that way to this day because it not only made sense but I see the good work in our community and I am fed spiritually through that giving.

I don't think any of us have all the answers to the steps that need to be taken for our church to impact our community but this I know is true....to do nothing or stay "as we have always been" will surely mean the loss of something vital to our planet, our community and our church family.

In the revitalization of First UMC this conversation began in earnest with the arrival of Pastor Chuck. He is certainly not the first pastor to suggest a similar plan-other plans just never got off the ground. He first spoke with us, individually and collectively in Church Council and from the "pulpit" about revitalization in September of 2015-this document was clearly laid out in a sequential order with achievable goals. After that all church meeting, to meet the goals and ensure continued clarity and transparency this was taken to the District Superintendent, on to the Bishop and Council. At our charge Conference in October of 2015 this same information was again put before our church family with the blessing of our District Superintendent Dale Cockrum and Council. Again in March of 2016 another all church family meeting was held to discuss additional sources of revenue to move the revitalization plan further along and sharing what had already been done according to the original plan. During this whole process I could hear my Mom and Dad cheering for First UMC! My Dad would have said "yes" to selling the lots-just having land to have land and leaving it fallow ...to my Dad, was wasteful. Mom would have said "yes" because it answered her questions about good works and how to pay for them.

Change can be uncomfortable, there have been many changes-both in the building, the pastors, the community and culture since I came to Lewiston First 56 years ago but we have the opportunity to bring faith and our church family those who are yearning for questions to be asked and answered, to fall in love with us because we reached out in love to them, to make our community a place of tolerance and support for the unloved, unnoticed and wandering. No change is ever easy or perfect but I 'm not hesitating -this is within our grasp.

Respectfully, Liz Chavez

## INLAND NORTHWEST HANDBELL CONFERENCE

The organizing committee of the Inland Northwest Handbell Conference would like to invite members of your handbell choir to attend its third annual workshop, to be held next March 24th and 25th at the First United Methodist Church in Lewiston, Idaho. Brian Tervo will be the clinician. The conference, which starts on Friday night, will include classes as well as massed ringing, culminating in a concert open to the public on Saturday evening. Whole choirs and individual ringers are both welcome. Detailed information and a registration form are attached to this letter. We are trying to get word about this opportunity out to as many handbell ringers in our area as possible. If you know potentially interested ringers outside your choir, please forward this information to them as well.

We hope that you will be able to join us.

# Church Council Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2016

**In Attendance:** Chuck Cram, Kathy Bostrom, Jim Bostrom, Lois Chesnut, Gary Chesnut, Susie Paulson, Carl Paulson, Gayla Ballantyne, Larry Ballantyne, Patty Mills, Liz Chavez, Cottie Hood, Lois Woelfel

Cottie Hood called the meeting to order

**Finance Committee:** See Attached.

**Revitalization Committee:** Larry Ballantyne reported that carpet in the Narthex and breezeway will be installed Monday, December 5th.

**SPR:** Liz reported personnel issues and 2017 Ministry Team

**Trustees:** No Report

**UMW:** Kathy Bostrom reported that UMW has speakers come each month to inform us about local services. Snake River Community Clinic, and the YWCA.

**Worship:** It was reported that the church was decorated for Christmas November 20th & 21st.

**Lay Leader:** No Report

**Pastor's Report:** Chuck reported that the church is on track with his general overview of the life of the church. Chuck also reported that the "Inclusive Experience" was well received and attended. The Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be at 6:00pm, December 24th.

As part of his continuing education requirement, Chuck will be attending an Iliff series in Colorado in February.

Chuck will be going to be mentoring a member of the Clarkston United Methodist Church for Ministry Candidacy

Chuck has experienced technical difficulties recording the worship service and putting it on the website, Carl Paulson has some insight on how to facilitate the process.

**Old Business:** None

## **New Business:**

Electronic Giving Station – Chuck has found a company that provides churches with a device which could be mounted in the Welcome Center to facilitate electronic giving when at the church. The hardware is free but has a monthly/transaction fee. It will interface with Church Windows. Chuck will check into the company.

**Joys, Petitions & Closing Prayer:** Prayers for Rita Mills, Olene Teel, Chris Weatherwax, Irene Roth & Melody Boardman.

**Next Meeting** – January 26th, 2017

Submitted by Liz Chavez

## Charge Conference Minutes

November 30, 2016

**In Attendance:** Chuck Cram, Kathy Bostrom, Jim Bostrom, Lois Chesnut, Gary Chesnut, Susie Paulson, Carl Paulson, Gayla Ballantyne, Larry Ballantyne, Patty Mills, Liz Chavez, Cottie Hood, Lois Woelfel

Pastor opened with info on meeting format & prayer.

1. Question & Answer of annual budgets for 2016 & 2017 - See attached. Liz Chavez and Carl Paulson seconded to accept 2017 budget. Motion passed.

2. Revitalization Committee - Simple Board Governance/Nominations

Pastor explained Simple Board Governance - if members of current ministry teams wish to move off one team to another team, there is a simple way for that to occur - some idea for creating or joining another ministry team. Using the reference by former Methodist pastor in Oregon

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& Idaho, Rev. Stephen Ross, Chuck gave a synopsis of his research and book.

Question & Answer regarding how the Ministry Teams would function, for how long, need for resources, etc. Also discussion regarding the budget and the financial history of Lewiston First UMC and moving forward with the Ministry Teams

Pastor's Compensation Package - see attached  
Susie Paulson moved & Kathy Bostrom seconded accepting the Pastor's Compensation Package - Motion passed.

Submitted by Liz Chavez

## Thank You

*Dearest Community and Heavenly Partners  
of the Methodist Church,*

*Thank you kindly for your generosity  
in remembering the at risk and vulnerable  
children in our community as we together  
help make Christmas a special time of  
honoring Christ's birth and gifting those less  
fortunate. We thank God for you and your  
loving spirit of helping us cherish and care  
for His children.*

*Blessings from Homes of Hope  
JoAnne, for all of us.*

## December Service Schedule

### Greeters:

04 - Karen Smith & Jeri Turner  
11 - Colleen Mahoney & Kay Walker  
18 - Lois Woelfel & Heidi Cram  
24 - Jim & Kathy Bostrom  
25 - Jim & Kathy Bostrom

### Ushers:

04 - Donna Weaver & John Ehrenreich  
11 - Kay Walker & Lois Chesnut  
18 - Jim Hood & John Stalter  
24 -  
25 - Lois Woelfel & Carl Paulson

### Liturgists:

04 - Douglas Crook  
11 - Colleen Mahoney  
18 - Donna Weaver  
24 -  
25 - Patty Mills

### Counters:

04 - Carl Paulson & Meurriel Nystrom  
11 - Larry Ballantyne & Leonard O'Brien  
18 - Fred Weaver & Lois Woelfel  
24 -  
25 -

### Accompanists:

04 - Laureen Trail  
11 - Anna Geidl  
18 - Laureen Trail  
24 - Laureen Trail  
25 - Hymnal Plus

### Coffee Shop:

04 - Potluck  
11 - Mary McNish  
18 - Sherri Kole  
24 - None  
25 - None

## Upcoming Birthdays December

01 - Colleen Mahoney  
01 - Mary McNish  
03 - Aidin Weber

07 - Boyd Founds  
12 - Kailey Druffel  
14 - Donna Weaver

19 - Madi Stoddard  
21 - Marylene Statham  
22 - David Walker

26 - Gary Chesnut

## January

01 - Zoey Vogel  
02 - Arabella Bringman  
03 Jill Ralstin  
06 - Larry Nystrom

11 - Kendall Forge  
13 - Susan Mahan  
15 - Herb Hobbs  
16 - Olene Teel

17 - Carley Lawrence  
21 - Steve Combellick  
26 - Frankie Anderson  
28 - Doris Olin

30 - Rita Mills

## February

01 - Lynn Ballantyne  
04 - Helen Lombard  
05 - Kelly Hillman

11 - Larry Ballantyne  
17 - Douglas Crook  
19 - Rosemary Founds

20 - Steve Bringman  
21 - Tysha Bringman  
23 - Beth Calkins

24 - Fred Weaver  
25 - Jim Hood

# Holiday Grief Workshop

On Wednesday December 7, 2016 there will be a Holiday Grief Workshop in Conference Room C @ St. Joseph Regional Medical Center from 2 to 3:30.

At this workshop we will talk about ways people cope with the holidays after they have lost a loved one. Ideas will be shared; there will be a prayer service in which names will be spoken aloud and the some time for refreshments and social. All are welcome to come and be a part of this time. For more information call Margie at 799-5204

Our 6th annual HarvestFest & Chili Cook-Off was held on November 4th. We had 11 chili entries with many tasters. The judges and the peoples choice awards went to Kay Walker, Pat Shrump, Colleen Mahoney and Chuck Cram.

Monte Boardman was the very lucky winner of the beautiful wood bowl made by Jim Hood. The entertainment was provided by

Clearwater Confluence Ensemble, Chris Weatherwax on the piano and Amy Baker Stout and her son Connor topped it off with some terrific singing.

We had some very nice items for the auctions. We thank you each and everyone for bringing the auction items, helping serve the meal and chili tasting, entering a chili, selling tickets and helping with the auctions, setting up and cleaning up.

Thank you for coming and supporting this event. We hope you had a good time!

Sue Stutzman, Suzie Paulson, Gayla Ballantyne, Sally Davies, Mary McNish, Barb Maple, Becky Riendeau



## NEWSLETTER MAILING!

Returning to bulk mailing to send the newsletter to home addressees is being evaluated. In the meantime, if you know of anyone who is unable to get to worship on Sunday or does not have an email address, please let Arrie know and she will put a copy in the mail.

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\*In language and practice the "committee" structure will be transitioned into multiple "Ministry Teams". It is the goal of Simple Board Governance that every church member identifies themselves with a ministry team of some kind. (it may be a one-person team). The idea being that we are all in ministry together.

\*Ministry teams have the flexibility to form as opportunities for ministry arise, and then disband if the need has been met or the opportunity no longer exists. Examples of how we are already functioning in this manner are the organic ministry teams that has formed around the Fall Festival, Chili Cook-off or the Pumpkin Patch. These groups may meet together as needed, like a committee meets, but are not a standing committee that feels obligated to meet every month. Further, these groups are staffed by people who are passionate about and interested in the particular ministry or need being met. There is no formal nomination process, nor is there a pre-determined schedule of service or rotation; there is no minimum or maximum number of committee members, someone may take notes, but there isn't a formal minutes requirement nor are the ministry teams bound to Robert's Rules of Order, etc. As you can tell, it is a little more relaxed approach to ministry.

\*The existing church council will seek to expand representation in three primary areas of governance; Finance, SPR and Trustees. The recommended number of individuals is 3 people from each area, but the slots are to be filled based on passion and interest rather than being "drafted" and then elected by a nominations committee. If you are passionate about finance, human resources (SPR) or care and upkeep of the building (Trustees) please let me or someone on those committees know!

The bottom line is that our basic structure will not change dramatically nor will there be any immediate change of leadership in our current structure. We will maintain status quo while we experiment and seek to implement what we feel represent the best ideas of what we were presented and those that will enhance what we are already doing.

Stay tuned, these are exciting times!

Peace,  
Chuck

PASTOR'S PATH - (CONTINUED)

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
				1 STEERING COMMITTEE 4P	2	3
4	5	6 SPR MEETING 6:30P	7 YOGA - 9A	8 TRUSTEES MEETING 6:00P	9	10
11	12	13	14 SALVATION ARMY DINNER 3P YOGA - 9A	15	16	17 MEN'S BREAKFAST 9A
18	19	20	21	22	23	24 CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE - 6PM
25 MERRY CHRISTMAS	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3 SPR MEETING 6:30P	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 SALVATION ARMY DINNER 3:00P	12 TRUSTEES MEETING 6:00P	13	14
15	16	17	18	19 UMW MEETING 10:00A	20	21 MEN'S BREAKFAST 9:00A
22	23	24	25	26 CHURCH COUNCIL 7:00P	27	28
29	30					

We welcome you to Lewiston First United Methodist Church! Our church is always open to all the children of God in all our wondrous diversity.

Our Services are lively, informative, thought provoking and relevant to the challenges of living in the 21st Century. It is our view the warmth of the Spirit will be evident every time we gather for worship, Bible discussion or a small group



Discipleship gathering. We hope the love of the Divine will bring you comfort and serenity in our sometimes stressful and chaotic lives. Thank you for taking a minute to look over this newsletter and we hope to see you again in the near future, so you can *share our view!*

## Church Office Hours

Monday - Friday  
8:00am - 12:00pm

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