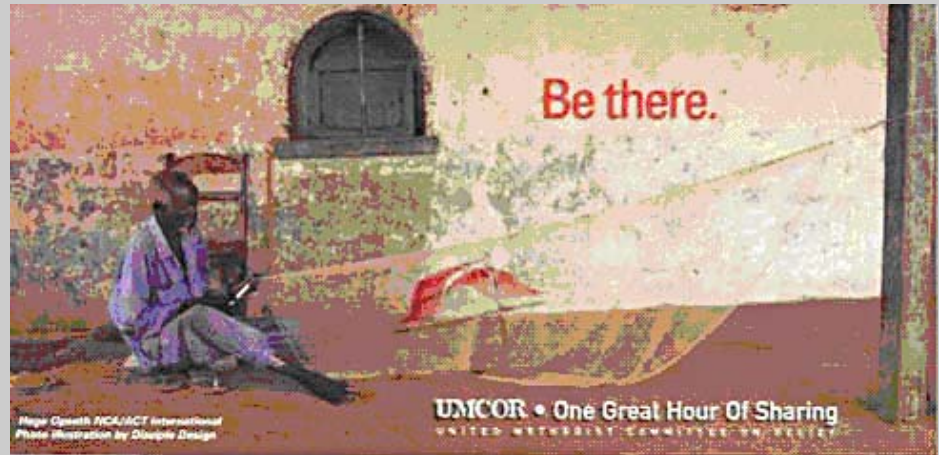


Shoreline Tidings

Shoreline United Methoist Church Newsletter March 2007
Pastors: Melvin Woodworth, Mahesh Giri, Jale Tuirotuma

(Deadline for the April edition is Sunday, March 25 – Put articles in *TIDINGS* mail box)

*“In their distress they cried
Yahweh, Who delivered
them from their woes; Who
sent out a word to heal
them, and delivered them
from destruction.” Psalm
107:19-20, The Psalms in
Inclusive Language.*



One Great Hour of Sharing

Restoring Hope with Dignity

Sunil* is a member of a fishing society in Batticaloa, Sri Lanka. When the tsunami struck, Sunil and other fisherfolk watched their livelihoods wash out with the tides.

Today Sunil is working with members of his fishing society in a project sponsored by the **United Methodist Committee on Relief (UMCOR)** and the **Methodist Church of Sri Lanka (MCSL)**. They are clearing the beach of debris that could tear their nets when they resume fishing.

FOOD TO EAT

UMCOR and **MCSL** paid the now unemployed fisherfolk for their work to help them earn an income. "Today I have something to eat," Sunil says. "Today I have money." UMCOR and MCSL are helping people recover their livelihoods and live with dignity by providing nets, boats, oars and advocacy.

Such far-reaching work is possible through One Great Hour of Sharing. This special offering enables UMCOR to do business and to send 100 percent of all designated funds to the selected programs.

*not his real name

**There will be a special offering on March 18th, please do your part by giving generously to
One Great Hour of Sharing.**

Now more than ever, the world needs you.



Melvins Musings

Candice and I had a fantastic trip to Africa. We missed you all and are pleased to be home. Thank you for your prayers of support, it is knowing that we have a strong and vital congregation supporting us that gives us confidence to undertake work like this.

Now we are home and Lent is sliding winter into spring.

That is what Lent is all about, change. Let is a season for letting go of things that impede our progress toward the Holy City of God. It is about repacking our lives with the things that will help us move forward.

The congregation has been replacing the old with the new. We removed the old carpet from the secretary's office and installed a new one, donated by Flynn's Carpet Cents. In my absence some of you removed the wall in the basement and several are now working to prepare our new social hall.

My yard has been replacing the old with the new. Last year's crocus, daffodils and tulips died down but are now coming back up. The crocus are in bloom and the others will soon follow. Last year I preached in January at the Vashon UMC. After worship a woman let me take three branches of pink pussy willows from the alter arrangement. I started them in water and now have my first crop of pink pussy willows in my back yard.

Are you using Lent to replace the no-longer-useful parts of your past with new perspectives, practices and preferences that will be better adapted to your current needs? My Lenten fast includes changes in diet, changes in self-care, and changes in personal spiritual discipline. I am finding them helpful so far.

I encourage you to be bold in your Lenten fast, and pray God will give you success in your efforts.

Melvin

March at Shoreline

- 1 7:00 PM Trustees Meeting
- 4 10:30AM COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 1:00 PM Fijian Worship
- 3:00 PM Fijian Fellowship Comm.
- 5:00 PM South Asian Worship
- 5 7:00 PM Ladies Bible Study
- 6 7:15 PM Choir rehearsal
- 7 7:00 PM Fijian Bible Study
- 8 7:00 PM Administrative Council
- 11 10:30AM English Worship
- Mission Committe after Church
- 12:00 PM Worship Comm.
- 1:00 PM Fijian Worship
- 5:00 PM South Asian Worship
- 13 7:15 PM Choir rehearsal
- 14 7:00 PM Fifiian Bible Study
- 15 Outreach/Evangelism Comm
- 18 10:30AM English Worship
- 1:00 PM Fijian Worship
- 5:00 PM South Asian Worship
- 19 7:00 PM Ladies Bible Study
- 20 7:15 PM Choir rehearsal
- 21 7:00 PM fijian Bible Study
- 25 10:30AM English Worship
- 1:00 PM Fijian Worship
- 5:00 PM South Asian Worship
- 27 7:15 PM Choir rehearsal
- 28 7:00 PM Fijian Bible Study



Prayers

Watch over our family and friends



Birthdays

- 10 Evangeline Digan
- 20 Marvita makuneke
- 25 Merle Patterson
- 29 Parmod Peter



Anniversaries

- 7 Mahesh & Lalita Giri
- 7 Anu & neelam Sharma
- 26 Lok & Shanta Yier

Missions at Shoreline United Methodist Church

The first Missions Team meeting was held on Sunday, Feb. 4, 2007. Our Missions leader is Mele Kete; members are Pastor Melvin Woodworth, Ardis Steel, Nellie Ann Mills, Anshu Sharma, Scott McPherson, Makereeta Tuirotum, Melania Navu, Ruci Rabuku and Jan Kreidler. While some members were unable to attend the meeting, those present had a productive meeting. We would like to share some of our upcoming plans.

Church of Mary Magdalene: Shoreline UMC will provide a total of three dinners for the CMM during 2007. The first dinner was on February 3rd. (Many thanks to all who provided and served the food and the Fijian women who sang for the women of CMM.) The other two scheduled dates are March 17th and Sept. 8th.

Coins of Compassion: weekly donations of pocket change that are dropped into the container (on table at back of sanctuary). Each month there is a different focus. The March recipient will be One Great Hour of Sharing. OGHS supports our wonderful organization UMCOR (United Methodist Committee on Relief) that responds to disasters and emergencies world-wide, with 100% of your donations going to the cause!

Sand Point Community Housing Association: Located on the former Sand Point Naval Air Station and provides 94 transitional housing units for people who have been homeless. The four housing programs are Family Housing, Harmony House (*for teen moms*), Passages (*for teens*) and Santos Place (*for single adults*). Residents of SPCHA are allowed to stay in this program up to 2 years. It is a helping hand for people who truly want to turn their lives around.

An inter-faith missions group has created a Resource Room (a place where the residents can get some needed small household items at no cost. The different congregations / synagogues take turns staffing the Resource Room (first 3 Wednesday evenings of every month.) It also provides Welcome Baskets for new residents, Thanksgiving Dinners for each household and Giving Tree items at Christmas time.

Members of Shoreline UMC's community are invited to donate items for the Resource Room. Beginning Ash Wednesday, there will be a large container near the hospitality table to place your donations. *The specific items needed are: pots and pans, blankets, pillows, towels, sheets, spatulas, serving spoons, cutlery and silverware.* Items may be used but *must* be in good condition. Other items that are always welcome: bars of soap, bottles of shampoo, toothbrushes, and toothpaste (*original, unopened packages, please*). This will be an on-going project.

Fundraiser: To create a budget for future projects, we plan to have a fundraiser on Saturday, June 9. We are still working on the details and will share them as soon as we can. Please save the date ... and watch for details! Your support is appreciated!

If you would like to help with any of the projects, please feel welcome to contact any member of the Missions team.

Special Lenten Worship

Lent provides three special opportunities for our different fellowships to worship together. Each fellowship will host one of the three special services. All three groups are expected to attend all three evenings. These are special opportunities to invite friends to see what God is doing at Shoreline United Methodist Church.

Ash Wednesday was March 1 at 7:00 PM, hosted by the English speaking congregation.

Maundy Thursday will be **April 5 at 7:00 PM**, hosted by the Fijian congregation.

Good Friday will be **April 6 at 7:00 PM**, hosted by the South Asian congregation.



....And the Wall Came Tumbling Down



For some time we've been talking about creating a fellowship hall on the first floor of the church by combining the two biggest rooms there.

On Saturday, February 10, we took the first step by removing the wall between those rooms. Although there's lots of work still to do, it looks like we'll have a nice space. The windows provide lots of light. I was worried that the combined room would feel too long and skinny, but I think the proportions actually feel pretty good.

Jale Tuirotuma, Lorima Saurara, Fee Lesinaivolia, Nico Baleiverata, Sitivani Beraqusa, Tevita

Seru and I spent about 5 hours on this transformation. We moved furniture and clutter out of the way, put up plastic sheeting to contain the wallboard dust, secured the electrical wiring, sawed through the wallboard with power saws, removed the fiberglass insulation, and cut out the studs and floor plate. We hauled the wallboard and insulation to the dump. The studs will be re-used in projects at the church's rental house. The clouds of dust were amazing - luckily we had



breathing masks and goggles. The sheeting did a pretty good job of keeping the mess contained, but there was still a layer of fine dust everywhere downstairs. The crew swept and mopped the floors when the demolition was done, leaving the place pretty tidy, considering what it had looked like at its worst.

We stopped for lunch around noon, and were done by 3:00, so we didn't get worn out. We got in, got the work done, hauled away the debris and left the place in pretty usable condition. And as you can tell by looking at the pictures, we had fun. All in all, a good day!

What's next? We need to tidy up the edges where the old wall met the ceiling and the side walls. We have a lot of residual clutter to dispose of (old copier, old altar railing, some furniture awaiting shipment to Fiji, etc.) Once that's out of the way we'll take up the nasty old rug. After that comes the biggest job - putting in a nice new vinyl tile floor from one end to the other. If we can come up with people who've got the time and skills we may take that task on ourselves; if not we'll hire it out. After that, some painting and lighting and wiring work, and we'll call Phase I complete. (Later on we may add a kitchen area at one end of the room, but that's Phase II!)

We hope to have this work all done by the end of April. If you'd like to help out, get in touch with me, or any of the Trustees, or with Melvin or Tui or Mahesh.

Andy Proudfoot



The Lame Shall Walk

One of the reasons that Candice and I went to the Congo was to get medical reports, X-rays and pictures of Tantine, Candice, and Emmanuel. These are three children with leg problems that cannot be corrected there.

Dr. Shaw, of United Methodist in Spokane is working with the Heal the Children program and Shriner's hospital. IF we can get everything worked out, Candice and I will return to the Congo in August and bring one, two or three of these children back with us for surgery.

The United Methodist Church is a connectional church. We do not work alone as Christians or as congregations. In this case, United Methodists in Lubumbashi, Spokane and Shoreline will all work together with the Holy Spirit to fulfill God's promise that the lame will walk. Keep your eyes open, there are many more miracles inviting us to help make them happen.



Emmanuel was born without feet. Leprosy took parts of his fingers. He is bright, energetic and a child of God. Pray that we may help make his body and life as whole as his spirit is.

Unexpected Blessings

What wonderful and unexpected blessings pour from the Shoreline United Methodist Church. You are Awesome!

Each and every one of you is involved in ministry in some way. Still your generosity led you to present us with prayers and a startling love offering as we departed on our trip to the Democratic



Some of the boys being fed and trained at Mama Kawambwa's Center for Boys of the Street.

Republic of the Congo. As we prayed about the best way to invest this precious gift, we were mindful of how Lea Ann Steele and others of you were active in the food banks of this area.

Mama Kawambwa is a friend who coordinates women's programs for the United Methodist Church in the southern DRC, but who has also has organized the Centre Mama Kawambwa for Boys of the Street. This program provides a safe haven and nutritious food three days a week for boys who have been orphaned or abandoned and are living on the street.

We have visited this center on each of our visits to the DRC and wished that we could do more to support its life changing ministries. Your love offering fulfilled our prayer. Your gift, plus one or two from other friends, allowed us to donate \$500 to the boy's feeding program.

We thank you for empowering us to do this.

Then you received us home with a cake and warm welcomes. While we had been working all week we had not fully adjusted to our time zone and were suffering a bit in our stomachs. Your friendship and thoughtfulness helped us transcend our discomfort and made our first Sunday back very special.

Thank you for your generosity and may God bless each of you as you have blessed us.



Mama Kawambwa, coordinator of Women's Ministries and Candice



*Howard & Ardis
Steele*

February 15, 2007



Student Loans

Student Loans Available Now, Scholarship Applications Open

NASHVILLE, Tenn.(GBHEM/FYI) – College students who find they need additional funds for the semester beginning in January can apply for a United Methodist Student loan through the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry. About \$2 million is available for student loans in 2007. A college student who has been a member of a United Methodist Church for one year is eligible to borrow up to \$2,500 in any calendar year at a 6 percent interest rate, lower than the current federal Stafford Loan rate of 6.8 percent or ParentPlus at 8.5 percent. To learn more about applying for a loan or scholarship, visit www.gbhem.org/gbhem/loans2.html. Students can request an application for a loan or scholarship online.

Kids In Church

Out of the mouth of a 3 year old:

*“Our Father, Who does art in heaven,
Harold is His name. Amen.”*

After the christening of his baby brother in church, Jason sobbed all the way home in the back seat of the car. His father asked him three times what was wrong. Finally, the boy replied, “That preacher said he wanted us brought up in a Christian home, and I wanted to stay with you guys.”

A wife invited some people to dinner. At the table, she turned to their six-year-old daughter and said, “Would you like to say the blessing?” “I wouldn’t know what to say,” the girl replied. “Just say what you hear Mommy say,” the wife answered. The daughter bowed her head and said, “Lord, why on earth did I invite all these people to dinner?”

This is your newsletter. Please feel free to contribute articles, pictures or anything that might be of interests to the congregation.