

# Yakima Alliance News

August 2010

## ...FROM THE PASTOR'S PEN

Greetings!

Preachers sometimes tease about having a “last sermon” file. In this file, pastors store up all those things they wanted to say, but didn’t have the courage to say for fear of reaping negative consequences. But now that it’s the last sermon, there’s nothing to lose – go for it!

I’m happy to say that after six full years at Yakima Alliance Church, I don’t have a “last sermon” file. There is no one I have a grudge with, there’s no controversial topics I’m working up the courage to speak out against, there’s no dirty laundry to air. Let me add though, that if I’ve offended anyone or if anyone has felt neglected or put off, I hope you’ll forgive me and not hold a grudge against me; I know that would be the Christian thing to do. The truth is, I thank God for you, for this church, for the last six years and really there’s not much I would change if I were to do them over.

August will be a month of transitions for both the church and the Langfords, and as we transition ourselves, I can say that while I may be sad at times, I’m not unhappy. As I squint into the future I see us taking everything positive and good we’ve gathered over these years and applying those lessons to more church pastoring, even better expository preaching through whole books of the Bible, and an even sharper focus on the Acts 2:42 model – Word, Prayer and Fellowship, as God’s given blueprint for making disciples and building His church.

We love you, Yakima Alliance Church – and together we will rejoice in eternity and give Him all the glory for the final harvest. Please pray for us and we will certainly pray for you. I promise.

In Christ,  
Jonathan Langford  
T.B.I.Y.T.C.

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*And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in prayers.*  
*Acts 2:42*

## August Sundays

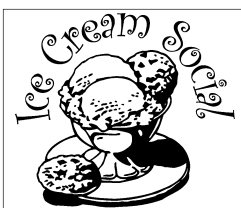
August 1st	Ken Simon
August 8th	Pastor Jonathan Mark 3:20-21, 31-35
August 15th	Pastor Jonathan Mark 3:22-30
August 22nd	Pastor Jonathan Mark 4:1-20
August 29th	Pastor Jonathan Mark 4:21-34

If you missed a Sunday, and would like to hear the sermon, they are now available on our Website. The church calendar, special events, etc are also available to you ...  
[www.yakimaalliancechurch.com](http://www.yakimaalliancechurch.com)



# Ice Cream Social

## Sunday, August 15th



Watch the fun as we have an ice cream feeding frenzy competition between 4 teams of 2 people!

Then create your own ice cream sundae and enjoy the fellowship.



Invite your friends to attend church with you and stay for the Ice Cream Social!

## General Fund Giving for 2010

### January thru July

Budget \$ 212,912

Giving \$ 167,514

Great Commission Giving \$15,895

### Don't Forget To Give



With summer traveling and busyness, it is sometimes easy to forget to send in your tithes, gifts and offerings. Our expenses continue throughout the year and bills need to be paid. Help us out and remember your giving to the Lord's work.

### Memory Album for the Langfords

As the Langford family moves on to the place God has for them next, we want to give them an album that will help them to remember their 6 years of ministry with us. Several ladies will be assembling a 12" X 12" binder with pages from our church families. You can contribute to this album in several ways.

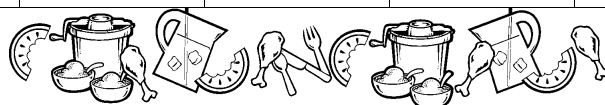
- Take a sheet of album paper from the box in the café and decorate it scrapbook style. Be creative. Use photos of your family to remind them of you. Embellish it however you would like. Write encouraging notes...whatever you would like to do to personalize it.
- Less creative? Becky Sutton has put together several page kits that you can assemble and personalize.
- Totally scrapbook challenged?? Feel free to submit cards, note, photos, etc. and our gals will use them to build the album.

Please turn in your contribution for the album by Sunday, August 15<sup>th</sup> so we have time to put it all together to present to the Langfords as they close out their ministry with us.





Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 5 pm Picnic at Franklin Park  <i>Mark Day</i> <i>Vic Immel</i> <i>Jeff &amp; Lynn Kiser</i> <i>Grant &amp; Pam Thompson</i>	2	3 6:30 am Prayer 9 am SWIFT 7 pm Deacons 7 pm Elders 7:30 pm Ignite  <i>Ben Conrad</i>	4 6:45 pm Rooted	5   <i>Faye Fulton</i> <i>Tim Fulton</i> <i>Don &amp; Nancy Asbury</i>	6   <i>Beth Knutson</i>	7
8 2-5 pm Wedding Reception  <i>Karen Allen</i> <i>David Langford</i> <i>Kloii Tajima</i> <i>Phil Wells</i>	9  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">5 Day Club Monday</div> <i>Glenn &amp; Beth Knutson</i>	10 6:30 am Prayer 9 am SWIFT 7:30 pm Ignite	11 6:45 pm Rooted  <i>Andrea Simon</i> <i>Miles &amp; Karen Allen</i>	12 10 am Stamp Meeting  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">9 am till 12 noon</div>	13   <i>Derek &amp; Becky Sutton</i>	14   <i>Tracy Trepanier</i>
15 11:30 am Ice Cream Social	16	17 6:30 am Prayer 9 am SWIFT 7:30 pm Ignite	18 6:45 pm Rooted  <i>Melody Attaway</i>	19 7 pm Financial Board	20  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Youth Silverwood Trip</div>	21   <i>Debbie Eells</i> <i>Jeff Kiser</i>
22  <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Silverwood</div>	23 7 pm WOW Shoebox Gifts  <i>Stefanie Platt</i> <i>Doug &amp; Judy Erickson</i> <i>Mark &amp; Vicky Washam</i>	24 6:30 am Prayer 9 am SWIFT 7:30 pm Ignite	25 6:45 pm Rooted  <i>Mark Johnson</i> <i>Louise White</i> <i>Tim &amp; Faye Fulton</i> <i>Mike &amp; Diane Woods</i>	26 6:30 pm Deaconess  <i>Joshua Langford</i>	27   <i>Tim Wagar</i>	28
29	30   <i>Anne Marie Boothman</i> <i>Bob White</i>	31 6:30 am Prayer 9 am SWIFT 7:30 pm Ignite	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; display: inline-block;"> <b>Note:</b>  <i>Birthday and Anniversary Dates are shown in Italics.</i> </div>			



### A Word From the Associate Pastor ...

In a recent sermon, Pastor Jonathan preached about the calling of the 12. It strikes me that Jesus' call to "follow me" was a grand, but costly calling. Even from the start, Jesus warned his followers that they would face opposition and hardship. (See, for instance, Matt. 5:9-12) It was true in those days and it will be true in ours. The severity might be different or the source could be varied, but we will face difficult times.

In light of that reality; I believe that a couple of things should be considered. First, we don't know the length of our days here on earth so let's make the most of them and be prepared. We are blessed to have a variety of opportunities to be stretched and grow in our walk with the Lord. Take advantage of the Sunday School classes, Bible studies, community groups and programs for you and your kids. Don't just attend, but engage!

Secondly, plug in and serve. The Lord designed us to be a vital part of His body, the church. The impact we have for God's Kingdom here on this earth is multiplied when we use our gifts and abilities to build each other up. We were not meant to go it alone and each member of the body is needed to fulfill the mission of the church.

I am optimistic in the future of Yakima Alliance Church. We have a heritage of making a difference as we yield ourselves to the King of Kings and allow Him to direct us and use us. Re-commit yourself to the unique role God has for you as we... *introduce people to Jesus, help them get to know Him better and develop fully devoted followers of Christ.* It is likely as we do so we will face opposition and hardship. Remember, that just might be a sign that we are truly following Jesus.

Pastor Jim

Have you filled out your  
'Church Interest &  
Participation Survey'  
**and** turned it into the office?  
In case you have misplaced your form,  
copies can be found in the  
Information Center in the foyer.



Filling out this form does not commit you to anything. Rather, it is meant to give our church staff & boards a better system of correctly matching a person's interest to a need within our church body. With that in mind, would you please take a moment now to fill out your form?

**Remember ...** They won't go away until everybody submits one!

## Welcome



We extend a warm  
welcome to our  
newest member

**KELSEY JOHNSTON**

Kelsey has been attending Yakima Alliance Church since birth! Always willing to help, Kelsey has been working with our Middle School Youth for the last year or so.



If you're not acquainted with Kelsey take a few moments to visit with this vibrant young lady with a bubbly personality. Whether Kelsey is new to you or not, please welcome her to our membership.

## Moon-Cakes *By Dia Gary*

If you are lazing around these hot summer days, thinking about cool breezes and azul oceans consider thinking about my latest quandary. What do Valentines, Hallmark, fruitcake, and egg yolks have in common? If this is a burning question, read on. If not, read on anyway, you might learn something. It is true that the days are growing shorter and darkness comes earlier, summer is about to turn to autumn. Autumn can be an extremely busy season with school starting, crops to harvest, and camping equipment to be cleaned and stored in the garage. Now that we have established that autumn is coming, on to my quandary. Hmmmm, let's see, Valentines, Hallmark, fruitcake and egg yolks. In my lazy days of summer I have been reminiscing about my exciting past of experiencing autumn in China. Every year around the middle of October my students brought me a round sweet pastry better known as a moon-cake. The students frequently were in competition with each other on who could present the most attractive, and delectable moon-cake to their favorite teacher. I received them by the droves, much like the Valentines I received in the States in February. The moon-cake is generally given to anyone who will accept it as a token to celebrate the Mid-Autumn Festival which is celebrated in every province in the People's Republic of China. It is a token that represents longevity and harmony to most folks who are ethnically Asian. My first taste of a moon-cake was truly *one of a kind* experience. The colorfully wrapped pastry came in a bright red box adorned with a dragon on the lid. I opened it, not knowing what to expect. Inside were four individually wrapped circular moon-cakes. I opened the first one salivating as I thought about how tasty it would be. Much to my surprise it tasted a bit like fruitcake which I happen to enjoy. The second bite was not quite as good as the first, but I continued on. The third bite was a real surprise as I bit into something round and yellow. I gagged a little as I realized I had just munched into an egg yolk, which is not my favorite dairy product. In my zest for knowledge I found that the egg yolk represented the moon, thus referring to moon watching, and lunar worship. The original festival had its foundation in the worship of a mythical Moon Goddess of Immortality. In my passion to avoid eating moon-cakes (from that time forward), and trying not to offend anyone, I came to the conclusion that immortality was probably the antitheses of what a moon-cake might bring. This leads me to my next ardor.... *International Missions*. In our congregation we have two very distinguished and brave individuals who may have the privilege of tasting a moon-cake first hand. An up-coming trip to China for Jim Paine and Guy Garret may bring us a different opinion about moon-cakes. They will be visiting Xiamen on a fact finding tour for future Missions endeavors for Yakima Alliance. Please pray for their trip in advance as well as the actual dates of October 4-19. We will be waiting in anticipation for their views on the delectable treat that without a doubt is a cultural experience.



With our mortgage paid off, we are exploring ways we can invest in the expansion of God's Kingdom here at home and around the world. Pastor Jim and Guy Garrett will be traveling to China this fall to explore possible opportunities to partner with Alliance works there. A fund has been created for that trip and the ministries that may be established, as God leads, after the trip. Watch for more details on the trip and possible opportunities to minister to the Chinese people from the comfort of your home or on short-term missions trips. Please keep these possibilities in your prayers!

It is our desire that giving to the "International Partnership Fund" would not replace General Fund, Great Commission Fund or Benevolence Fund giving, but be in addition to those categories of giving. If you would like to invest in this endeavor, please designate your gifts to the "IPF" or "International Partnership Fund".

Yakima Alliance Church  
 902 South 36th Avenue  
 Yakima WA 98902

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Phone: 509-966-9111  
 Fax: 509-966-3763  
 E-mail: yaccma@hotmail.com  
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WEBSITE  
 WWW.YAKIMAALLIANCECHURCH.COM


**DOUBLE  DAUGHTER  DEBT-FREE**

*“We exist to introduce people to Jesus,  
 help them get to know Him better, and  
 develop fully devoted followers of Christ.”*

**Women of the Word**

Operation Christmas Child  
 Shoebox Campaign

*Christmas will be here before we're ready  
 - join us Monday, August 23rd at 7 pm in  
 the Fellowship Café as we learn what to  
 put in a shoebox and how to 'fit it all in'!*



*We'll have ....  
**Christmas in August** with  
 buying guides, wrapping tips,  
 carols, **gingerbread**,  
 coffee, & tea (iced!)*

The Financial Board has set up an account allowing you to give financially to Shelby Holmes for her YWAM mission trip. You may give to her support by indicating on your check or envelope 'Shelby -YWAM'

**FALL KICK-OFF  
 SEPTEMBER 12TH  
 A SEASON OF GROWTH**

New Community Groups,  
 Potluck, and more.  
 Watch for more details, coming soon!