

Yakima Alliance News

March 2011

Pastoral Search Update

by Derek Sutton



Two weeks ago, the Pastoral Search Committee and Elders met with Matt Boda, the Alliance Northwest District Superintendent, to discuss the pastoral search process. He explained the process and indicated we are right on track in that process.

What does the process involve and what does "on track" mean? Before a church is sent resumes of potential new pastors by Mr. Boda, a church profile must be completed. This profile explains who we are as a body, describes Yakima and what we are seeking in a new pastor. The

Pastoral Search Committee has been working on this profile and it is currently being finalized and submitted to the Elders for their final approval at the next Elder meeting on Tuesday.

Once the profile is complete, it is submitted to Mr. Boda who provides it to prospective new pastors. If someone is interested in the position, they indicate their interest to Mr. Boda who will then pass on their resume to the Pastoral Search Committee. This process involves all prospective candidates going through the District office.

In terms of being "on track," Mr. Boda explained that now is the time to submit our profile and it would have been too early to do it before now. Resumes pass Mr. Boda's desk all year long, but most of the good resumes don't pass his desk until March - July as pastors tend to move and change positions in coordination with the school calendar. Mr. Boda indicated that pastors tend to feel a stirring to move in the spring and then express their thoughts to him for his counsel on the decision and potential openings in the District. Currently, there are five churches in the Alliance Northwest District with openings.

Let's be praying that the man God is calling to be one of our new pastors is starting to feel the stirring in his heart and responds to that stirring. In the mean time, Mr. Boda encouraged us to remain about the business of the kingdom and not become complacent or place all of our hopes on the new pastor. This is sound advice!

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Spring Events on the Horizon

Spring Missions Fest

April 8th - 10th

Speakers: Doyle & Dori Carlblom

The Carlbloms, based in Hong Kong, are part of the China Link Team. They were hosts for Jim, Guy, and the rest of the China team last October.

They will be able to share with us more about the work that we can be involved with in China.

Ladies' Tea

May 7th

2-4 pm



Save the Date!
Watch for more details
coming soon ...

Walk for the World Walk-a-thon

May 14th

9 am to 2 pm

Randall Park



Have you decided how many laps you want to walk and who you are asking to sponsor you? Sponsor sheets will be available the middle of March. In addition to walking laps, there are other areas of help needed. Talk to Nancy Asbury to see where you can serve and/or help financially.



A Word From the Associate Pastor ...

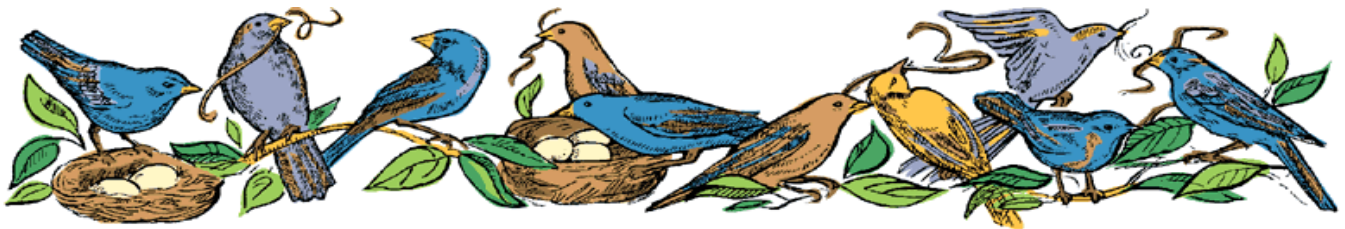
It's all about being CONNECTED! While there are a few folks on the fringe that want to live "off the grid", most of us realize our need to be connected. My family is connected by phone line (which also gives us internet connection), power line, Nob Hill water pipe, city sewer, AT&T cell service.... you get the idea. We need the things connection offers us and enjoy those benefits.

When it comes to being the church at Yakima Alliance, connections are important too. You probably have noticed over the past few months that we have a "Connection Center" in our foyer. It is there intentionally to connect people with important information for the life of our body, both those who have been here for a while and those who have walked through the doors for the first time. Take advantage of the Connection Center and what you will find there.

We also have "Connection Cards" in our bulletins each week. They have been an important tool that helps us connect with people in a variety of ways. We have repeatedly seen the power of prayer and are able to connect your requests with people who are faithful to raise those concerns up to the Lord. Notes of encouragement that have been written on the cards have been used by the Lord to cheer people on in their ministries. Please use these cards to keep us connected with ways we can serve you better. You may not realize it, but as visitors see you filling out the cards, they are encouraged to fill them out as well. That allows us to do a better job of personally following up on our guests and gives them something to put in the offering making it less awkward for them when the bags are passed.

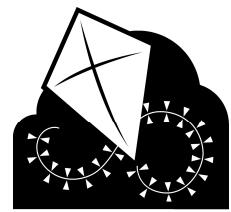
In an increasingly electronic world, I would encourage you to use the internet to stay connected with Yakima Alliance as well. Our website has all kinds of information and resources to help you know what's happening. We have recently added **facebook** as another way of staying connected. Be sure to check it out and choose the "Like" button next to the title to receive updates from our page as they are posted.

All of these tools are ways of staying connected to information that we hope is helpful in getting and staying connected with our Lord and with each other. That is what we are all about as we continue to seek to *"introduce people to Jesus, help them get to know Him better, and develop fully devoted followers of Christ."*





March 2011



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 7 pm Elders 7 pm Deacons 7:30 pm IGNITE <i>Mike Dawson</i>	2 9:30 am Exodus 6:45 pm ACTION 6:45 pm ROOTED 6:45 pm Exodus <i>Deborah Irving</i>	3 6:30 am Prayer	4	5
6 <i>Steve Wagar</i>	7 7 pm WOW <i>Grant & Sally Masini</i>	8 5 pm WOW 7:30 pm IGNITE	9 9:30 am Exodus 6:45 pm ACTION 6:45 pm ROOTED 6:45 pm Exodus	10 6:30 am Prayer 10 am Stamp Mtg 6:30 pm Missions	11 Men's Camp Casey Retreat <i>Jason Navarrete</i>	12
13 After church: Baked Potato Feed	14	15 7 pm Elders 7:30 pm IGNITE 6:30 pm Deaconess	16 9:30 am Exodus 6:45 pm ACTION 6:45 pm ROOTED 6:45 pm Exodus	17 6:30 am Prayer <i>Jennifer Eells</i>	18 <i>Don Asbury Carol Wagar</i>	19
20	21	22 7:30 pm IGNITE <i>Joe & Donna Kelly</i>	23 9:30 am Exodus 6:45 pm ACTION 6:45 pm ROOTED 6:45 pm Exodus	24 6:30 am Prayer 11:30 am 55+ Lunch 7 pm Financial Board	25	26 <i>Moriah Immel Abe Navarrete Tim & Sharon Conrad</i>
27	28	29 7:30 pm IGNITE	30 9:30 am Exodus 6:45 pm ACTION 6:45 pm ROOTED 6:45 pm Exodus	31 6:30 am Prayer	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px; text-align: center;"> Note: <i>Birthday and Anniversary Dates are shown in Italics.</i> </div>	



Women's Spring Retreat

Friday through Sunday

April 8-11

This is always a very fun event.

- * Spend time with women from our Church
- * Meet women from other Alliance Churches in the PNW
- * Hear from our missionaries
- * Be challenged by our speaker
- * Strengthen relationships
- * Grow spiritually
- * Saturday afternoon free time, with many options available.



Our speaker this year is Janet Kronback. Janet and her husband, David, have served in Mali, Cote d'Ivoire, West Africa, been on special assignment with Gatehouse Ministries and are now with Barnabas International.

We will be staying at the Shilo Inn at Ocean Shores, Washington. Room reservations must be made directly with Shilo Inn by March 25th.

Pick up a brochure/registration form at the Connection Center in the foyer, find your roommates, & make your reservations! Please let Nancy Asbury know if you plan to attend and need roommates. We will plan to carpool and will try to help you line up roommates.

"I am Worshiping the God I love!"

In Europe many generations ago, the dear old saint of God, Brother Lawrence, was on his deathbed. Rapidly losing his physical strength, he witnessed to those gathered around him: "I am not dying, I am just doing what I have been doing for the past forty years, and doing what I expect to be doing for all eternity!"

What is that?" he was asked. He replied quickly, "I am worshipping the God I love!"

Worshipping God - that was primary for Brother Lawrence. He was also dying, but that was secondary. He knew why he had been born again.

Yes, and Brother Lawrence is still worshipping God. He died and they buried his body somewhere, but his was a living soul, created in the image of God. So, he is still worshipping with all the saints around the throne of God.

-A.W. Fager

Dear Ladies,

We write to urge you to consider going to the Alliance Women's Ladies' Retreat this April. Last year, we went with our mother, and we truly enjoyed the meaningful time pursuing spiritual growth as a family group.

This year, it is our prayer that not only our biological family surround us at the retreat, we want the ladies of our spiritual family there, too. It is a sweet time of escaping the demands of the world together, so that we may renew our focus on Christ, *together*.

Individual spiritual growth is key to having a relationship with our Lord, but in a family, a child does not relate to the Father one-on-one only. Our Lord designed us to be communal individuals, but sometimes it is hard to get to know each other well enough to truly love, serve, and rely on each other, beyond our immediate friends and family.

I Corinthians 12:7 says, "*There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit. There are different kinds of service, but the same Lord. There are different kinds of working, but the same God works all of them in all men. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good.*"

"The common good." Ladies, by coming together and growing in both friendship and our common faith, we can better learn to complement and serve one another as the *body of Christ*. Don't give an immediate "yes" or "no" in regard to this retreat; rather, pray that God would guide you in making the right decision, according to "*his good, pleasing and perfect will*" (Romans 12:2)

Love in Christ,
Jennifer & Julianna Eells

Year 2011

General Fund Giving

Giving for February (to date)

\$ 41,762

Great Commission Giving

\$ 4,334

We want to keep you up to date on all the things going on at Yakima Alliance Church so we are using this forum to fill you in. Let the church office know what you would like to know about in upcoming issues.

Elder News: February continued to be a busy month for our elders as they met twice for board meetings and they also met with the Pastoral Search committee and Matt Boda, District Superintendent. The work of the search committee was distributed for the elders to review at their first February meeting and further discussed and assignments made at the second meeting. They also approved Pastor Jim's request to take a team back to Xiamen, China, discussed other missions issues and plans for Good Friday and Easter.

Deacons Notes: As always, campus maintenance issues were discussed and plans made to address those issues. Our deacons are also exploring offering bus service to those who would appreciate it and made plans to arrange the details necessary to make this service available. Options were also discussed for coordinating a Spring Fling clean-up of the church campus in preparation for Easter and beyond.

Deaconess Notes: For Valentine's Day, the ladies put together a wonderful fun-filled evening with scrumptious desserts, a barbershop quartet, and a valentine card making table. Next is a Baked Potato Feed on March 13th after the morning worship service. They continue to keep the Connection Center open and have someone there to answer your questions.

Financial Board: As the board reviewed the report for January, it was noted that general fund giving was only \$576 below budget. Income is usually low in January so it was encouraging that we were so close to meeting our monthly goal. The board discussed several purchases including a video projector for portable use and new software for managing the church's data.



Did You Know?

Did you know God is doing some amazing things with our youth? Both the high school and middle school groups started the year averaging about a dozen kids on Wednesday nights. Both groups are now hitting near 20.

Most of the growth in the middle school group involves unchurched kids. Currently, the middle school group has been studying foundational issues of the Christian faith. Two weeks ago the middle school group held an all-nighter and approximately 25 kids participated. Just last week two middle school kids asked for Bibles. God is at work!

In our high school group, 24 students went to DYC (a youth retreat with 550 other young people in Portland, Oregon) over Presidents' Day weekend. There was amazing sharing amongst our group involving confession of sin and the struggles our teenagers face everyday. Decisions were made to get right with God and try to restore relationships. We want to thank everyone who was praying for us during this trip. People who specifically agreed to pray for a staff member or student included: Mike and Diane Woods, Jim and Carolee Crook, Jack and Tricia Gage, Mark Sample, Bob Sharp, Guy Garrett, Mona Purcell, Ernie and Henrietta Eells, Tom and Nola Attaway, Linda Seaman, Stan Johnson, Fran Dyk, DiAnna DiAntonio, Sally Masini and Carol Wagar.

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*"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



Monday, March 7th at 7:00 pm
Fellowship Café & Kitchen

*We invite you to join us in preparing a Meal for the Youth at Madison House -
The Union Gospel Mission Youth House*



Tuesday, March 8th Meet at the church 4:30-5:00 pm

We'll load up the prepared food and go to Madison House to serve this wonderful meal

*We know you are busy and may not be able to do two nights in a row
(that is a lot to ask), if that is true for you, please join us for
the evening that best suits your schedule.*

