

(As you recall, last month we ended Herminia Esqueda's story as she and her family moved into the Hynes Labor Camp in Paul, Idaho. Here then is part two.)

We moved into Hynes Labor Camp in Paul, Idaho. We lived in a one room wooden box with two sets of metal bunk beds for the six of us and a small two burner gas stove, a window in the back where you could see the outhouse, community bathrooms and showers and a pump outside for water. One morning my dad and I woke up and it smelled funny. My mom and one of my sisters wouldn't wake up. My relatives heard the commotion and my dad was scared, but they finally woke up. Did anybody care how we lived? It's as if we were all invisible! Because we lived at the migrant labor camp, we got to attend summer school. All the kids at the camp loved summer school. We had music, math, and P. E. We even got to go on our first camping trip, to the Sawtooth Mountains in these huge canvas tents. I remember the teachers were all impressed that me and my sister knew how to cook. My favorite class was math. Mr. Eilers made me feel smart. He would give me the toughest math problems and multiplication tables. He didn't make me feel invisible and I started coming out of my shell.

My parents decided traveling back and forth was no life for their kids and decided to stay in Idaho. We quickly found out that real school was so much different than summer school. My sisters got swatted for speaking Spanish at recess. We still worked in the fields in the summer, getting up while it was still dark to weed or then sugar beets. The more rows we could do, the more money my parents could make. My uncle would dish out the rows and me and my cousins would race to see who could finish them first. The adults were always praising the kids who worked the fastest. The time spent with my cousins are actually fond memories. However, I also remember the times the farmer boys from school would drive by and heckle. Especially as a teenager, I felt shame. I vowed when I grew up I would NEVER work in a field again.

In high school, I had Mr. Eilers as my math teacher. He remembered me from summer school, and he convinced me to take all the math and science classes I could take. I took Algebra II, Advanced Math and Calculus. He gave me confidence to sign up for Chemistry, but the Chemistry wasn't like Mr. Eilers. After every test the Chemistry teacher would announce who got the highest score. I have a competitive spirit and my goal was to get the highest score. Sure enough, one day he returns our tests and it looked pretty good. I wondered if I got the highest score. He announces the highest score, but prefaces it with, "I was really shocked at who scored the highest on the test, it's Herminia". Why was he so shocked? This class was also our homeroom class, so they asked us to nominate someone for Homecoming King and Queen, and my class nominated me. A few days later the ballots were handed out and my name was not on the ballot. Someone in class noticed and asked the teacher why my name wasn't on the ballot, and he just casually said, "Oh, I forgot to turn in the names". Again? Really? Am I still invisible? . . . but not to Mr. Eilers. He sent me to Math and Science camp at WSU. I don't even know who paid for it. I always knew I was going to go to college, but he pushed me and encouraged me to look at the University of Idaho, because they had the best Math and Science programs. He didn't know about NNU (Northwest Nazarene University).

I went on to college where there were only a handful of Hispanics on campus, but I was used to assimilating. I got involved with Campus Crusade for Christ. I went on mission trips, graduated, got married and moved to Sunnyside, Washington. (watch for the 3rd installment next month)

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God's Plan For You

Rev. David Madden

To live wisely, we need to build a life plan that is consistent with God's plan. Proverbs 19:21 says "Many are the plans in a man's heart, but it is the LORD's purpose that prevails."

This wise saying presents a contrast between the many intentions, goals and aspirations that characterize the human heart with the single plan of God. Although we might strategize and scheme to accomplish our own goals, ultimately God's plan is the only plan that will be established. The implication of this proverb is that we should make our plans consistent with God's plan.

God's plan for the world is to show people that God is real through our words and actions that reflect the good news of Jesus Christ. God's plan is being part of a church community where we're truly evolving into Christlikeness, where we're learning and giving, and where we're serving. It's helping our children not just be successful, but become passionate followers of Jesus who are equipped to live life in a culture that's often hostile to their faith. It's alleviating human suffering in our culture by embodying Christ's tenderness and compassion. It's speaking out against evil and hatred where we see it, and by showing that many of the ideas in our culture contradict

with God's creation. God's plan is helping people understand the truth of God found in the Bible.

To live wisely, we need to redefine what we mean by success. We need to abandon our quest for self-fulfillment, and abandon ourselves to Christ fulfillment. We need to find out how God has uniquely wired us, and how this uniqueness can be used by God to help other people. We need to break out of our consumer mentality, and begin viewing ourselves as followers of Jesus; men and women who passionately pursue Jesus and God's purposes in our lives.

Today, God is inviting us to pursue wisdom. We begin this pursuit by entering into a personal relationship with God through Jesus Christ. Once that relationship is established, it's a journey that calls us to passionately pursue wisdom, to embrace an accurate moral code and to build a life plan consistent with God's plan. Amen



We are "Easter people." That means that we should be living today, with the boldness of disciples who know Jesus and who live each day proclaiming our faith in him. Will people you meet look at you and know that you are a disciple of Jesus? Not just on Easter, but always? Let us strive to live like "Easter people" each day of our lives! Bob Hoshibata, former Bishop, OR ID Conf.

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Trustee's Report

When it was decided to replace the heating system in the Conference Room and add Air Conditioning to both that room and the Kitchen, the Trustees chose a Ductless Heat Pump System and Cliff Heib with John Johnson and Bryan Bruns took on the task of installing the system. Because of the limited capacity in the electrical Breaker Box which serves that portion of the church building, it was decided by the Trustees to replace the old existing stove and oven units with a Gas stove/oven unit, thus freeing up the electrical breakers necessary for the new Heat Pump and improving the usefulness of the kitchen.

As we worked through the research and bid process, it became clear to us that our original idea of installing a commercial gas stove oven combination was not feasible. The commercial units have open pilot lights and electronic ignition 'upgrades' cost around \$5,000. We decided to install a drop-in "café grade" cooktop and a set of stacked double wall ovens. Cliff and Kris did a bunch of research, read a million reviews and ratings charts and eventually found what we hope will be a workable and user friendly cooking system.

The new cooktop is stainless steel with 6 sealed gas burners ranging from 12 to 18,000 btus; it has electronic ignition, front control knobs and cast iron grates.

The ovens are 30" electric convection with separate knob controls for each oven. One of the main features which helped us choose this set was the control board which is a 'turn the 'selection' knob to 'bake or convect or clean' and turn the 'temperature' knob to 350*' system (no electronic touchpad) .

The appliances will be delivered the end of March and Leo Ketterling has agreed to build the cabinets for them. Thank You, Leo!

Our April meeting will be a work meeting on April 10, 2018 @ 7:00 P.m. We will be packing Menstrual kits and have invited someone from the new Humanitarian Center to come talk to us about the Center. Ruth Circle will be providing a 'Substantial Snack' and All women in the church are invited to come !

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



You know, the phrase 'case lot sales' has taken on a whole new meaning since becoming involved with the food pantry. We are looking for 'deals' all the time. Case lot sales are now going on in some stores. If you would like to participate, all you need do is write a check, we will do the shopping and the hauling. If you would like to do that on your own, our suggestions are canned fruit, canned vegetables, pasta, pasta sauce, raman noodles, and the old standby, always needed, toilet paper. Thank you.

We would like to thank the following partners for their support over the past year:

- The congregation of Rupert United Methodist
- Paul United Methodist
- Trinity Lutheran Church
- St. Matthew's Episcopal Church
- Mt. View Christian Center
- Bishop's Storehouse
- The Idaho Food Bank
- Jack & Mary Zarybnisky
- Lem Miller
- Gossner's Milk
- McCain Foods
- The American Legion
- The Snake River District Boy Scouts
- Syringa Lady Lions
- Kat Country Radio & Stoke's Foods
- The Blue Room
- Kentucky Fried Chicken
- Our Volunteers: Cheryl Juntunen (the heart and soul of the pantry), Roger Juntunen, Tim & Linda Gregersen, Leanna Bruns, Penny Berg, Scott Stanfield, David Madden, John Eilers, John & Chris Paulson, Andrew Paulson, Don & Juanita Wiedenheft, Peggy Hess, Dan Jarolimek, and I truly hope I did not forget anyone. We appreciate each person who has helped in any way, and do help to keep the pantry running smoothly.



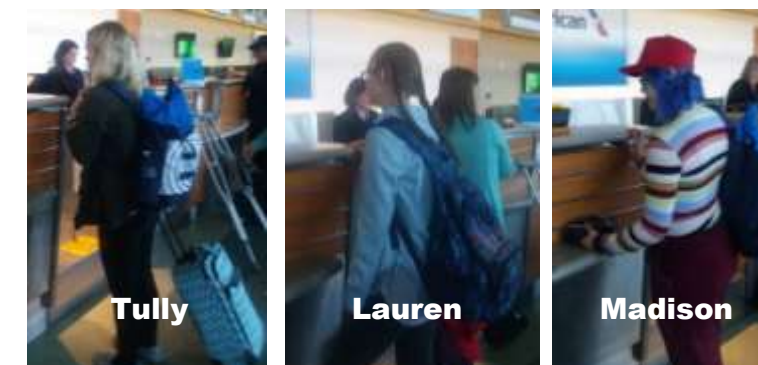
Start cleaning your closets, attics and garages – I've heard rumors of the Annual Yard Sale happening. Stay tuned for confirmed date most likely early May



By now some of you have noticed the new Easter Cross banner hanging in the Sanctuary. Thanks goes to Leanna Bruns for her handiwork. She always does such beautiful work.

We help teachers and students experience cultures, navigate new languages, and explore historic sights, all while developing the global perspective needed for success in today's interconnected world.

This statement is from the website of EF Tours, a world-wide educational touring company that has been in business for 50 years. Three youth connected with RUMC are on a tour right now in Costa Rica. Tully Munden, Lauren Tully and Madison Hieb, have spent over a year raising money for the opportunity to travel and learn about other people, their customs, and how they earn a living. This program is sponsored by the Key Club and Science Club at Minidoka Co. H.S. They do not raise money as a group, each youth is responsible for raising their own trip money. Fourteen youth and 4 adult supervisors are on this trip. The second day out one of the adults fell and broke her leg, but is hanging in for the duration. They have experienced a day in the Rain Forest planting trees, and some down time on a lovely beach. Tully plans to share her experience with the people of Rupert UMC upon her return.



Tully, Lauren & Madison Boarding the plane and Later working in the Rain Forest of Costa Rica. (Madison is holding the rake, on the right).



Sherrie Maloney, Joyce Orem, Cheryl Juntunen and Stan & Leanna Bruns left this past Sunday travelling to the UMCO depot in Salt Lake City. They took with them the 41 Hygiene Kits that Grace Circle put together from donations received by people in our congregation.

Box of hygiene kits ready for shipment. Some of our group working on more kits – Stan Bruns on the left; Joyce Orem & Cheryl Juntunen on right, at end of table.



Leanna actually found a one of the cleaning buckets from RUMC which we put together several months ago. Thanks for the pictures guys.