



**Mayflower Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
THE LOG
July 2010**



Father Pierre-Jean De Smet was a Belgian born Roman Catholic Jesuit priest active in missionary work among Native Americans of the western United States in the mid-1800s. His extensive travels as a missionary were said to total 180,000 miles. He was known as a friend of Sitting Bull. De Smet has many namesake places including Desmet, Idaho. The Coeur d'Alene Native American tribe resides near Desmet. The tribe has been in this area for thousands of years. The original homeland spanned almost 5 million acres, stretching from Montana to east of the Spokane River in present day Washington State and from near the Canadian border in the north, to the confluence of the Snake and Clearwater rivers in northern Idaho.

The first Caucasian people to encounter this tribe were French trappers. They found the tribe to be vastly experienced and skilled in trading, thus the name Coeur D'Alene, meaning "heart of the owl." The nickname stuck. One Frenchman described the tribe as "the greatest traders in the world." They actually called themselves "Schee chu'umsch," which in their native Salish language means, "those who are found here." Tribal tradition includes respect and reverence for natural law, and creates a powerful voice for **environmental stewardship**. The tribe's current enrollment is over 2,190 members. The tribe has sovereign

authority on a reservation covering 345, 000 acres of mountains, lakes, timber, and farmland, spanning the edge of the Rocky Mountains and the Palouse country.

As most of you know, twelve youth and four adults will be traveling to Desmet Idaho for a youth mission work camp among the Coeur D' Alene people. We will join and work with two hundred youth and adults repairing homes on the reservation. This is a tremendous opportunity to learn more about this Native tribe, their customs and way of life. Our theme for the week will be "Underserved" based on the parable of the Prodigal Son, found in Luke 15:11-32.

By choosing to serve, our youth are making a commitment to show Christ's love to others in real and tangible ways. We will be in Desmet from July 18 through 24. We ask that our Church hold us in its prayers throughout our experience. In Christ's love'

Steve

COME CELEBRATE!

On July 25th we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Mayflower Church. The worship service will be a tribute to our journey through the past 50 years. Highlights by Charter members, opening the time capsule, special music, a history display, and the reception of new members, promises to make it a **very** special day. After worship we will share a hosted luncheon.



Don't miss the celebration!

ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual meeting will take place immediately following the hosted anniversary luncheon, July 25th. Come and experience the new "vision" for Mayflower.

***Note to Committee Chairs:** Annual reports are due in the office by July 12th for inclusion in the Annual Report to the congregation.

NEW MEMBERS will be received into Mayflower Congregational Church, July 25. If you would like to become a member, you can speak to Rev. Steve or Rev. Ken. Mayflower is an open & affirming church, where ALL are welcome for worship, nurture and growth." There will be an orientation meeting July 11, following our worship service

CAMP MIMANAGISH IN JULY:



July 3-10 60's & 70's Reunion
July 13-17 3/4 Grade Camp
July 18-24 5/6 Grade Camp
July 25-31 10/11/12 Grade Camp
August 13-16 Women's Retreat

Registration and payments for the camps are due two weeks before camp's start date. After that an additional late fee of \$35 must be added to your full payment which must be received one week before the camp you are attending begins.

IHN UPDATE: IHN was presented a check by the Billings Association of Realtors for \$10,000. These funds will be used to renovate the transitional housing apartments, painting, fencing and landscaping. **IHN** continues to be deluged with calls from homeless families. These families look to IHN for help, and IHN looks to the community to support our continuing ability to help families in crisis. We are asking you to support Cardboard Box City again this year. The funds raised go to help IHN families. The 2010 Cardboard Box City will be Saturday, October 9 on the Rocky Mountain College Campus. We urge you to register for the event today. Registration forms and detailed information is on the IHN website: www.billingsIHN.info or call 294-7432.

IHN thanks you for believing in our homeless families and helping to giving them hope for the future through your support.

WESTERN REGIONAL YOUTH EVENT will be held at MSUB July 6-10. Representing Mayflower will be **Molly Markus, Hannah Hansen, David & Anna Jurovich, Chloe Rector and Hannah Roche**, along with **Ellen Hoy** and **Rev Ken**. **DESPERATE NEED: rides to and from the airport on Tuesday July 6. Saturday, July 10 we especially need rides for the (4:30 AM pick-up).** Volunteers are still needed to work in the Event's bookstore. Please speak to **Rev Ken** if you can work any of the days or provide rides to and from the airport. What a wonderful experience this will be!

CONFERENCE REPORT

June, 2010

Conference Annual Meeting was held at United Christian church in Miles City the 4th and 5th of June. This church was originally Highland Park Congregational, but when it merged with the Disciples in Miles City became United Christian church. It gave all those attending an extravagantly hospitable welcome!

Significant actions were taken in the business sessions among which were:

1. Further affirmation and approval of the UCC/DOC partnership agreement which would provide for $\frac{3}{4}$ time Conference (UCC) and Regional (DOC) ministers with a conference office shared by both denominations and a merging of administrative duties.
2. Election of Kathy Kelly from Kalispell as moderator, Steve Gordon as vice moderator and June Genger as treasurer.
3. Passed a Global Ministries resolution which declares the conference to be a Global Ministries conference and urges all churches to renew their commitment to the wider ministries of our denomination.

It goes without saying that one of the most important benefits of attending conference is the renewing of friendships and links with other churches throughout the state. Would that it were possible for all church members to have this kind of experience!

Ed Stickney
28Jun10

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MISSION WORK WEEK: Leaving on Saturday, July 17, will be twelve youth and four adults for a **Mission Work Week** in Idaho. **Katie Welch, Trai Kouwenhoven, Hannah Hansen, Gus Goldberg, Maria Fulton, Sierra Alberti, Sara Heard, Molly Markus, Kelly Bjordahl, Emma Fulton, David, Jurovich, and Steve & Julie Gordon, Mary Helgeson, and John Atwood** will represent Mayflower and be blessed by the experience. We wish them safe travel!

NATIVE TRAUMA ISSUES STUDIED

Mission & Outreach Committee is studying historic trauma absorbed by indigenous peoples over time as described in a collection of articles written by Canadian researchers. We invite others in the Mayflower community to read these papers and consider the issues raised. Two copies of these materials in red notebooks are in the office available for checkout.



WOMEN'S RETREAT August 13-16

This year's theme is "The Golden Rule For All." All are welcome. Come and discover, share, enjoy, and relax. Register at the conference office 656-8688 or online @ www.campmimanagish.org. Dee Dee Welhaven is the guest speaker. She will be speaking about the history of the leper colony in Moloka'i, Hawaii and her mother's experience. Activities will be weaving prayer shawls, book discussion ("Moloka'i" by Ellen Brenneg), good food, yoga, crafts, hiking, fishing, scrabble, massages.

WOMEN OF MAYFLOWER is offering scholarships to interested church members. Contact Sherry Ferguson or Dee Dee.



ATTENTION: There are still several opportunities to lead the Adventure Hour. This is an opportunity to work with some of our youth and get to know them a little better. The sign-up sheet is on the table in

the narthex.