

Elder Stu Imbach from First Presbyterian Church in Bellingham was born in Glendale, California, and grew up on a small farm east of Springfield, Oregon. The farm backed up to hundreds of acres of timber land that provided countless hours of fishing, hunting, camping and just being out in God's glorious creation.

Stu attended elementary school in Upper Camp Creek Valley at a one room school house for eight grades with a total student body of seven students. Stu's parents and paternal grandparents helped to reopen a little church to serve both the upper and lower parts of the valley. Stu didn't get to town very often, but who needed it?

Just after Stu turned 15, his family moved to Three Hills Alberta, Canada, to serve on the staff of the Prairie Bible Institute. After high school and a year of Bible School, he moved back to Oregon to work in the lumber industry. Stu was consciously resisting God, thinking that to follow Him would be a very boring life. After experiencing some difficult times, God became a reality to him and Stu understood God was more than a theological concept. God worked a transformation and Stu was convinced he should welcome God into his life equation.

In 1961, God was leading Stu and his wife-to-be, Faith, to cross-cultural mission. After completing Bible School, they went to Thailand with OMF International. "Boring" was hardly the right word to describe their nine years of rural church planting and urban student ministry experience in Thailand. God also blessed them with sons. Their family has grown to include daughters-in-law and the recent birth of their Thai grandson.

After serving for 12 years in leadership/management on the OMF, USA home staff, Stu and Faith joined OMF's International Headquarters in Singapore and worked there until the end of 1998. The 100 plus year old Prinsep Street Presbyterian Church provided a great spiritual home and place to make many enduring friends.

After returning to the United States, they have gratefully served in many ways at First Presbyterian Church in Bellingham. They both love small group Bible studies, cross-cultural mission and keep the future in view by helping with The INN University Ministry.