



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

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May 20, 2005

Music Appreciation Sunday

Music is the focus of the Adult Forum for this *Sunday, May 22*. **Myles Criss** and **Steven Zielke** will discuss "Music in Worship and Music as Worship" at 9:30 in the Meeting Hall.

The Sanctuary Choir has prepared a special anthem, *Festival Sanctus* by John Leavitt. A reception, in honor of all who brought us music during this past year, will follow in Gatton Hall.



YOUTH CAR WASH

This Sunday (weather permitting), beginning at 8:45, the youth will be washing cars in the parking lot during choir practice, church school, and worship. If you would like to have your car washed please see the youth attendant as you enter the parking lot. We ask that you leave your keys in the car and place the brightly colored paper in your front window so that we know which cars to wash. After worship you will return to a clean and shining car. All youth, whether you are going on the mission trip or not, are welcome to

come get wet and help bring clean cars to First Congregational Church.

Clergy Surveys are due this *Sunday, May 22*. Surveys may be returned to the Diaconate church office mailbox, the box on the name tag cabinet in the entryway, or mailed to: **Doug Richmond**, 2422 NW Molly Ct., Corvallis 97330

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

Last Sunday, six of our youth presented (and impressed us with) their faith statements, conducted worship, and were confirmed. They are: **Megan Anne Chambers**, **Justin L. Chi**, **Natalie Catherine Lucker**, **Robin Louise Miller**, **Steven James Milligan**, and **Kyle David Thackray**.

THIS SUNDAY

Adult Forum: (*see above left*)

Scriptures: Matthew 28:16-20
2 Corinthians 13:11-13

Sermon: "Co-Missioned"
Ryan Lambert

The United Church of Christ's website is one of the places I often wander to during the day. Although I was disappointed that funding problems have led to decreased print editions of the *United Church News*, the national office has made a commitment to making the website (ucc.org) a place for constantly updated church news. Their commitment to a constantly updated website allows all of us an opportunity for greater connection with our national offices and with UCC churches around the nation.

Currently available on the website are a couple of things I would like to highlight. First, is the coverage of the upcoming General Synod. General Synod will be held in Atlanta from July 1-5 under the theme, "Come Listen, Go Serve, God is Still Speaking." General Synod is the biennial meeting of the United Church of Christ. Delegates from Conferences, Covenanted Ministries, and a broad range of interest groups meet every two years to consider the business of the church and its relationship with the wider world. Because every UCC congregation is self-governing, its resolutions speak "to" but not "for" the local church. General Synod will include debate on resolutions, election of officers and national leaders, worship, and service projects. Coretta Scott King is among those who will address the synod. All the resolutions that will be discussed at General Synod are available to be read online, which gives each of us an opportunity to know what will be debated and contact our conference's delegates if we would like to talk about a particular issue.

The second thing that I would like to highlight is an article and link that I found entitled, "UCC pastor's public battle with cancer ends." This article speaks of a colleague named Donel McClellan from Bellingham, WA who recently died after a battle with prostate and renal cancer. Shauna and I spent some time with Donel while we were at Family Camp last year and I have followed his life and journey through cancer as he posted his thoughts via an online weblog (blog) at www.hellbox.org/donel/. The mention of his death on the UCC website speaks to the ministry he had at First Congregational Church in Bellingham, WA, and also his pioneering use of the internet to continue to minister and teach even during illness. His weblog is not an easy read, but it is a powerful witness to life and hope. I would encourage you to take a look if you are interested.

Have a thoughtful week and happy (web) surfing!

Ryan



The **Middle School youth** group will meet at the church from 3:30-5:00. If you have a favorite stuffed animal or toy from your childhood, please bring it to youth group. These toys and stuffed animals will help us begin our discussion and games about “Needs, Wants, and Ethics.”

The **High School youth** will meet at the church at 5:00 to go to Westminster House at OSU. They are hosting an Open House for high school students to learn about our local campus ministry. Our congregation has a long history of shared ministry with Westminster House so this is a great opportunity to learn a little about our connection to “West-M” and begin to think about what campus ministry might offer wherever you go for college. We will be back at the church by 6:45.

Save the Dates

This year we are planning to have a **Vacation Bible School** that will run in the evenings from *August 22-26*. The program will incorporate children from pre-school age through Grade 5. More information will be coming later, but as you plan your vacations we wanted you to know these dates.

Mission Trip Fund-Raising

In Gatton Hall foyer after worship we will also have **stock and calendars** for sale. The stock price is \$25 and entitles you to postcards from the trip as well as seats at the post-trip dinner on *July 9*.

The calendars are 2006 calendars that

feature shots of church activities as photographed by **Mark Thackray** and **Brian Lee**. This calendar was put together by Mark Thackray and is a wonderful pictorial look at our church – and practical too!



IT'S COMING SOON

The art exhibit, “**Children Behind the Wire: Art From Wartime, Camps, and Refugee Situations**” will be displayed in our sanctuary in time for the Memorial Day Weekend. This American Friends Service Committee art collection shares drawings done mostly by children and youth gathered from areas where AFSC has worked, including Germany and Spain, the United States, Africa, Afghanistan, Eastern Europe, Central Europe, the Middle East, and Latin America.

The art exhibit will be the backdrop for the OSU Chamber Choir's concert in our sanctuary on *June 4*. "Creation's Journey Toward Peace: The President's Concert" will feature the Libby Larsen piece commissioned by the 1978 OSU Chamber Choir as a gift to the current Chamber Choir. The composition incorporates poetry from the UNICEF book "I Dream of Peace: Images of War by Children of the Former Yugoslavia." Fifty tickets to the concert (\$5) will be available in the church office for purchase by members of our congregation beginning the week of *May 23*.

Art exhibit viewing for the public will begin on *Saturday, May 28*. Public viewing will continue after church on Sunday the 29th until 4:00 p.m. Public weekday viewing will be Monday-Thursday from 8:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. The display will be in the sanctuary through *Sunday, June 12*. Public viewing of the art exhibit is free.

LOCAL CENTER NEEDS HELP

Circle of Hope is a local drop-in center that is trying to assist in meeting the needs of some local residents. Several churches are beginning to get involved in helping this center. **Aleita Holcombe**, **Rhonda Mueller-Warrant**, and **Ryan Lambert** have attended recent meetings in attempts to support this innovative assistance facility. At our last meeting (May 17) there was an expressed need for men's socks, pants, and shirts of all sizes. If you have clean items that are in good repair that you would like to donate please leave the items in the church of-

fice on Sunday or contact Ryan to arrange a pick-up.

They would also appreciate the donation of a working color scanner, plain paper fax machine, or an all-in-one unit to donate. If you can help, contact **Brian Lee** (bclee@peak.org).

STRAWBERRY JUBILEE HELPS FUND GRACE CENTER

Grace Center for Adult Day Services invites you to its 17th annual Strawberry Jubilee, on *Wednesday, June 9*, from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at the Chintimini Senior Center, 2601 NW Tyler Ave.

Admission to the Jubilee is \$10 for adults and \$3 for children; children under 3 are free. More info next week.

CREATION STEWARDING CLASS

A workshop called "Energy-Efficient Building and Renovation: A practical workshop to help congregations save money and steward creations" is sponsored by Energy Trust of Oregon and Oregon Interfaith Power and Light, a project of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. The workshop is being held from 11:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., at the Corvallis United Methodist Church Community Center (Jackson and 12th) on *June 2*. The registration fee is \$20 each or \$30 total for a total of two to six members of the same congregation; includes lunch and materials.

For more information or to register, please contact **Ann Bateman** at 752-2491 or go to www.emoregon.org to download a registration brochure.

HOW CAN I KEEP FROM SINGING?

Cantus Chamber Choir brought the gift of music from our sister city, Uzhgorod, Ukraine, to 24 venue hosts, 120 host families, 450 volunteers, and 2500 attendees. On behalf of the organizing committee and Corvallis Sister Cities Association, we thank you for helping achieve broad financial and community support to make this exchange a huge success including dinner for community choirs as part of the Choral Festival!

Cantus members described home stays as the highlight in America! They expressed surprise about the courtesy and respect among family members. Also, the keen interest shown by host families to communicate and know about

Ukrainian culture, life, and family was appreciated. They also complemented schools for having music within the curriculum.

Bringing the choir to the Pacific Northwest was a challenge. Your enthusiastic support is sincerely appreciated. How can I keep from singing “thank you!”

Ray D. William, Chair

Cultural Exchange Committee, CSCA

REGISTER FOR SUMMER CAMP

Red brochures with registration forms for **Camp Adams** are available of the Justice & Witness table in the foyer. The deadline for registration is *Friday, June 10*. This year’s schedule follows below.

SUMMER CAMP SCHEDULE

Camp Adams

Work Camp	Camp work projects for youth 12-17 and adults	June 26-29
Young Adult Camp	For those post graduation to age 30	June 29-July 2
Discoverers	For those who have completed Grades 4-5	July 10-16
Genesis/Seekers	For those who have completed Grades 2-3	July 24-30
Family	For those who want to join the camp community	June 29-July 2
High Schooler's		
Alternative	Off site-destination TBA (20 camper limit)	June 29-July 2
Pathfinders	For those who have completed Grade 6	July 3-9
Sojourners	For those who have completed Grades 7-8	July 17-23
Exodus	For those who have completed Grades 9-12	July 24-30

(This year will be at Pilgrim Cove, McCall, ID)



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, May 24.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Friday, May 20

Music Appreciation Sunday, May 22

- 8:45-noon** Mission trip car wash
- 9:00 a.m. Sanctuary Choir
- 9:30 a.m. C E classes
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 3:30-5:00** Middle School youth
- 5:00 p.m.** High School youth
(meet for West-M trip)

7:20 p.m. Holy Sox, Pioneer Park

Monday, May 23

- 9:00 a.m. Staff
- 5:30 p.m. Basketball
- 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Tuesday, May 24

- Noon Lectionary class
- 7:15 p.m. Church Council

Wednesday, May 25

- 5:30 p.m. 40+ Basketball
- 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, May 26

- 11:00 p.m. Spirituality Group
- 6:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice
- 7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 142

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL ACTOR

There is still time to catch **Hans Eleveld** in the LBCC production of "The Unknown Soldier and His Wife," a comedy about the idiocy of war by Peter Ustinov. The play is performed at 7:30 p.m. on *May 20, 21, 26, 27, and 28*, and at 3:00 p.m. on *May 29* (when there is an ASL translator). Gracewinds Music Store in Corvallis, Sid Stevens Jewelers in Albany and LBCC'S Russell Tripp Performance Center box office (6500 Pacific SW, Albany) all have tickets (\$8/adults; \$6 seniors and students).

ATTENTION, SOFTBALL FANS!

Last Sunday, the Holy Sox won 9-8 over G & R Body Shop. Come out for the next game at 7:20 p.m. on Sunday at Pioneer Park. The number to call if weather is questionable is 766-6921 after 1:00 p.m. on Sunday.