



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLIV No. 21

May 27, 2005

MISSION TRIP FUND-RAISERS

This is the last week to purchase **stock (\$25) and calendars (\$20)**. We appreciate all those who have already purchased these items to help support the Mexico City Mission Trip.

Our last fundraiser provides an opportunity to purchase a **T-Shirt** in support of the Mission Trip. These shirts also provide a visible sign of the mission work of our congregation and celebrate our youth in wearable form. Shirt colors are: Teal Blue, Yellow, and Lime Green and shirts are only \$17. Orders will be taken on both *May 29* and *June 5*.

GRADUATION NEWS REQUEST

It's that time of year again! Please submit information about 2005 high school and college graduates. The list will appear in the *June 10 Congregational News*, so be sure to e-mail sbwickes@comcast.net or write and drop off in the office the following about your graduate: **graduate's name, school, and plans for the coming year(s), plus any**



other pertinent information. The deadline is **June 7**, but sooner is better.

THIS SUNDAY

Adult Forum: Gary and Betty Masoni will lead a discussion on Voting Rights: the 1965 Campaign in Selma, Alabama, and the Voting Rights Act – why it was passed and why it's still needed today. Gary went to Selma in 1965 in response to Dr. King's call for people of good will to come to Alabama to support the voting rights struggle and marchers who had been beaten. Later that same year the Voting Rights Act was passed. Enforcement sections of the Voting Rights Act will expire in 2006, and there is concern among civil rights advocates that voting rights will be further eroded by proposals to revise or eliminate key protections.

Scriptures: Genesis 6: 9-22, 7:24, 8:14-19

Matthew 7: 21-29

Sermon: "Will Build To Suit"
Ryan Lambert

Dear Friends,

It was wonderful to see so many of you in worship last Sunday! Yes, I am back from Harvard and from my 5000-mile odyssey across country. We traveled through 24 states, took in some sights in New England, Pennsylvania, North and South Carolina, New Orleans, San Antonio, Santa Fe, and Moab, Utah. We also had the chance to connect with several family members and friends. I'm here to tell you that Texas is a BIG state. But it was a great trip, the perfect ending to my sabbatical.

By the time this newsletter is printed, I will be in Seattle to spend some time with my mother and sister. My mom is having minor surgery Thursday, and I'll be staying with her for a few days to help her out. I hope to be home sometime over the Memorial Day weekend and back to work June 1. I am so eager to share with you some of what I have learned. I don't know how much I said about it in my monthly news bulletins home, but the field of New Testament studies has changed radically since I was in seminary. I'm thinking of titling my first sermon for you all "The things I have been telling you for the past 13 years that aren't really true!"

I know it's been a long time, but the church looks great. Obviously Ryan has done well in my absence—not a surprise, but I am delighted anyway.

On to the next chapter. It's good to be home!

Liz

**FIFTH SUNDAY MISSION
OFFERING BENEFITS
FREEDOM CAMP ON THE ROAD**

This week our special Fifth Sunday Offering will be for the "Freedom Camp on the Road" project of the Oregon Diversity Network (ODN). For the past five years ODN has used the King Holiday to hold "Freedom Camp" at Ainsworth UCC in Portland, an education program for children and youth to help them learn the history of the Civil Rights Movement and its connections to their lives today. **Betty Massoni** of our congregation has been an active participant in ODN since its inception.

Now ODN is also developing a trip, "Freedom Camp on the Road", for thirty youth and adults to extend their learning and connections as they visit some key sites of major civil rights struggles in Alabama. The group must raise the necessary funds for the trip and has been working on various fund-raising events, in addition to deeper study of the issues, people and events connected to their visit.

SPECIAL MUSIC SUNDAY

We welcome back **Zander Emery**, trumpet, who will provide special music for Sunday's worship.



Mission Trip Meeting Sunday

All youth (and their parents) who are participating in the Mission Trip are encouraged to come to a meeting on *Sunday*,

June 5, where we will discuss logistics, packing, cultural issues etc. Please plan to attend this important meeting. We will need to be selling T-Shirts after worship so this meeting will run from approx 12:15-1:15. Let **Ryan** know if you cannot be present.



ART SHOW OPENS

The art exhibit, “**Children Behind the Wire: Art From Wartime, Camps,**

and Refugee Situations” will be displayed in our sanctuary this weekend. An opening reception will be held in our Fireplace Room at 10:00 a.m. on Memorial Day, *May 30*. Opening remarks will be offered by **Ryan Lambert, Aleita Hass-Holcombe** and Corvallis public officials.

This American Friends Service Committee art collection shares drawings done mostly by children and youth gathered from areas where AFSC has worked. 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 this *Sunday, May 29*, and continuing during daily office hours. Tickets are also available at Gracewinds Music, and Grass Roots Bookstore, and, if any remain, at the door.

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.

MISSING!!! My favorite apron disappeared from the Gatton Hall area the night of the University of Miami Chorale concert. It was made by a friend, of black flannel, with a bright colored Laurel Birch bird design all over it. Please let me know if you've seen it. Thanks !

Rhonda Mueller-Warrant (758-1667)

STRAWBERRY JUBILEE HELPS FUND GRACE CENTER

Grace Center for Adult Day Services invites you to its 17th annual Strawberry Jubilee, on *Wednesday, June 8*, from 5:30-8:00 p.m. at the Chintimini Senior Center, 2601 NW Tyler Ave. Local, luscious strawberry short cake, ice cream and chocolate dipped strawberries will be served. This year's raffle prizes include \$1000 trip of your choice, \$500 package to Salishan Resort, and many other items.



Grace Center is the adult day care facility for our community, providing special care for frail elderly and disabled adults, and respite for their caregivers.

Admission to the Jubilee is \$10 for adults and \$3 for children; children under 3 are free. Raffle tickets are \$5 each, or 3 for \$10. Tickets are available at Grace Center, or may be purchased in advance from Board members, 'Friends' of Grace Center, or at the door.

INTRODUCING CIRCLE OF HOPE

After hearing about the needs at the **Circle of Hope** in last week's newsletter, you might be wondering "What exactly IS this Circle of Hope?" Here is my impression of what it is, and what they do there. The Circle of Hope is a drop in center located at 215 NW Monroe, in downtown Corvallis. It is designed to be a place that folks who struggle with mental health issues and/or homelessness can feel welcome to spend some time. Many of those who drop in are youth.

Here's what they find there: someone to share good news with, a person to help them fill out forms to access services such as Social Security, a place out of the rain where they can join others watching a video. There's a can of soup they can warm up in the microwave, or a cool drink on a hot day. The director Darlene goes to court with people, tries to locate funds for needs like bus tickets, arranges for AIDS testing. But most of all, she sees the dignity of each person who comes in. She hears about where they camp, who's sleeping bag was stolen, who is ill and needs to get to the doctor. More than anything else, Darlene would appreciate volunteers who can simply be present with the folks who drop in. Because each one of them would like a little time with Darlene, and with more than 50 people dropping in on an average day, there's just not enough of her to go around. If you have questions I'll try to answer them (758-1667).

Rhonda Mueller-Warrant

MEN'S CLOTHING DONATIONS STILL NEEDED

Circle of Hope continues to need 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 office on Sunday or contact **Ryan** to arrange a pick-up.

CONFLUENCE TO SING IN SALEM, CORVALLIS

Confluence: Willamette Valley Mixed GALA Chorus, a 50-member chorus, ends its fifth season with a concert titled "Diversity." The first half of the concert features songs chosen by chorus members to reflect their personal life journeys, while the second half is a presentation of a ten-song piece by Seattle composer David Maddux entitled "Boys and Girls with Stories."

The concert will be held in Salem on *Saturday, June 4*, at 7:00 p.m. at First Congregational Church, 700 Marion St. NE and in Corvallis on *Sunday, June 5*, at 4:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 2945 NW Circle Blvd.

Confluence is a non-auditioned chorus of men and women who are gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and straight. Members live in Portland, Corvallis, Salem and towns in between and around the mid-valley. Confluence performs music that is particularly relevant to the lives of gay men and lesbians with a goal of singing "high quality music that isn't stuffy."

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Barbara Cormack 6/1, Anna Harding 6/2, Ruth Freund 6/5, Karen Jones 6/5, Tamara Andreas 6/5, Kyle Skyllingstad 6/8, Daniel Jones 6/9, Amy Nafshun 6/10, John Sams 6/14, Nadine Skyllingstad 6/18, Jerry Groesz 6/22, Sandy Piper 6/24, Wally Christianson 6/24, Kristin Rorrer 6/25, Hans Eleveld 6/27, John Erkkila 6/27, Aleita Hass-Holcombe 6/27, Cynthia Janes 6/27, Mike Henthorne 6/28, Carl Lucker 6/28



JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

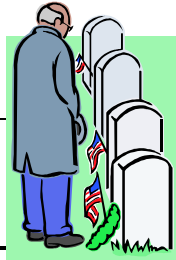
Larry and Jan Small 6/9 (42nd)
Don and Ruth Leeper 6/9 (54th)
Irwin and Kay Harris 6/11 (63rd)
Jim and Chris Cantey 6/12
Tim and Elizabeth Budd 6/12
Jerry and Nancy Groesz 6/12
Pete and Susie Nelson 6/14 (38th)
Russ and Mary Youmans 6/15 (47th)
Norm and Marj Elwood 6/16
Terry and Sally Robertson 6/17 (38th)
Kim and Karen Jones 6/18 (28th)
Doug and Sue Richmond 6/20 (24th)
Ray and Nancy William 6/21 (36th)
Neal and Joni Peterson 6/24 (38th)
Mike and Carol Huntington 6/25 (17th)
John and Brenda Cochran 6/25 (17th)
Ching-Yue and Chunhuei Chi 6/26 (23rd)

Not on our list? Send info on birthdays and anniversaries to **Susan Wickes** or leave a note in the office mailbox.



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, May 31.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, May 29

- 9:30 a.m. C E classes
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- NO** youth groups

Monday, May 30- Memorial Day

Office closed

- 10:00 a.m. Art show opening reception (page 3)**
- 5:30 p.m. Basketball
- 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Tuesday, May 31

- 9:00 a.m. Staff
- Noon Lectionary class

Wednesday, June 1

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

Thursday, June 2

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

Friday, June 3

- 7:00 a.m. First Friday Forum, Burton's

LOOKING AHEAD: Thursday, June 2:
 Central Pacific Conference Women's Annual Meeting at Cedar Hills Community Church.

DON'T MISS DEADLINE 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.*

A Sunday school teacher was discussing the Ten Commandments with her five and six year olds. After explaining the commandment to "honor" thy Father and thy mother, she asked, "Is there a commandment that teaches us how to treat our brothers and sisters?"
 Without missing a beat one little boy (the oldest of a family) answered, "Thou shall not kill."