



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

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January 13, 2006

FUN ON THE MOUNTAIN!



Winter Weekend is an annual tradition of this congregation. It's an intergenerational, family-friendly weekend of fun and fellowship designed to bring folks together in the casual, relaxed atmosphere of a lodge at Suttle Lake. It is always from noon on Saturday to noon on Monday of President's weekend (this year **February 18-20**). The lodge has separate sleeping rooms, communal bathrooms and showers, and we all take a turn at creating and cleaning up a fabulous breakfast or dinner for the group. We'll have snow to play in and a tubing hill to slide down as well as HooDoo Ski Resort which is about 20 minutes away. Puzzles, board games and dominos are all popular ways to interact and get to know our fellow weekenders a little better. The lodge holds about **45 people** and is comfortable and accessible for all ages and abilities.

Space goes quickly so if you think you'd be interested in a very laidback, sweatshirt-and-slippers kind of weekend, be sure to sign up and pay your deposit (50%) early, as it is on a first come/first serve basis. Two nights lodging is Adults (18+ years) \$45; Youth (13-18) \$36;

Children (6-12) \$32; Children (2-5) \$21. Communal meals are paid for equally and run around \$8 per person for the weekend.

We, the veteran Winter Weekenders, are looking forward to welcoming some "Newbies" on the Mountain this year to create great Congregational family memories together. Sign up will begin this *Sunday, January 15* before and after worship. Contact **Peggy Carrick** (754-9045) if you have questions.

ANNUAL BUDGET MEETING
Sunday, January 22
following the worship service

THIS SUNDAY

Adult Forum: Martin Luther King, Jr. presentation and celebration

Scriptures: 1 Samuel 3:1-10
Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18
John 1:43-51

Sermon: "Come and See"
Ryan Lambert

Dear friends,

On Monday our nation will pause from its normal patterns to celebrate the birthday of Martin Luther King, Jr. Our church office will be closed, our mailboxes will remain empty, and public schools will be closed as we remember the life and ministry of Martin Luther King, Jr. For many of us this holiday comes at the perfect time, as we would like just one more day to catch up on all the stuff that has fallen by the wayside since Christmas.

Holidays are in fact set aside so that we can all take a break from our normal activities. Catching up on the ever-mounting list of household chores, spending a quiet day with family, or even scheduling a mid-afternoon nap are all fine ways to enjoy an extra day off. However, as we celebrate Dr. King's numerous contributions to our nation's history, I also want to suggest a few books and films that might help contribute to your celebration. Some of these relate directly to Dr. King's life, while others focus on the themes of freedom, justice, or civil rights.

My suggestions include the following films:

- "4 Little Girls": A documentary directed by Spike Lee that recalls the 1963 bombing of the 16th Street Church in Birmingham, Alabama.
- "Ghosts of Mississippi": Directed by Rob Reiner, this film details the third trial of the accused killer of Civil Rights leader Medger Evers and includes the superb acting of James Woods in the role of the accused and unrepentant Byron de la Beckwith.
- A&E's Biography – "Martin Luther King, Jr.": This one-hour bio-pic about Dr. King can be found in most video stores and offers a view of many key moments in the civil rights movement.

I also suggest the following books:

- *An Autobiography of an Ex-Colored Man*: James Weldon Johnson's 1912 novel offers a turn of the century view of being black in America. Johnson went on to become the first black Executive Secretary of the NAACP and one of the leading voices of the Harlem Renaissance.
- *A Picture Book of Martin Luther King Jr.*: Written by David A. Adler and Illustrated by Robert Casilla. This picture-book biography of Dr. King is suitable for grade school children.
- *Days of Grace: A Memoir*: Written by Arthur Ashe and Arnold Rampersad, this book details Ashe's life as a tennis player, activist, husband, and father. The final chapter, written to his daughter, includes some of the most touching

and faithful words I have ever read. AIDS took this courageous voice for justice and peace from us too soon!

There are many other voices to hear in books [*see next article*], films, or music, but these are good places to begin. Enjoy the holiday as we celebrate the yet-to-be completed work of Dr. King.

Blessings,

Ryan

READ ALL ABOUT MLK AND CIVIL RIGHTS MOVEMENT

Currently on display in the church library, are books by and about **Martin Luther King** as well as some about the civil rights movement in general. There are books for both children and adults.

Please be sure that children sign the book cards with first and last name and place them in the “checked out” basket.

LEARNING BELL CHOIR STARTS

The new Bell Choir for beginning and early intermediate ringers will start following worship next *Sunday, January 22*. Join conductor **Adam Grieve** in the Music Room for this opportunity to try your hand at handbells!

JANUARY’S MISSION OFFERING

CARDV (the Center Against Rape and Domestic Violence) is the Mission Offering for January. The staff and volunteers of CARDV have served Benton and Linn counties for over 27 years helping survivors of abuse and their children stay safe. The mission of CARDV is to provide services and support to those affected by sexual assault and domestic violence and then provide educational

leadership within the community to change the societal conditions that cultivate these forms of violence. All services are confidential and without charge. Support comes from a variety of organizations including United Way, area churches and government and grants. Specific services include confidential emergency shelter, legal advocacy, support groups/advocacy, hospital advocacy. Details of these services will be outlined in the January newsletters. Please support the work of CARDV, our mission offering for January.

FROM THE PARISH NURSE

Anyone still confused about the Medicare Prescription Drug Plan and wanting help with enrolling, please contact me – by phone (753-1108) or e-mail czaworski@comcast.net

Caroline Zaworski

Our Thoughts and Prayers

... are with **John Erkkila** and his family. A memorial service for **John’s** father, **Mauri**, will be held at St. Mary’s Catholic Church, Corvallis, at 2:00 p.m. on *Friday, January 13*.



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, January 17.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Friday, January 13
 2:00 p.m. Memorial service for
 Mauri Erkkila (p. 3)

Sunday, January 15
 9:00 a.m. Sanctuary Choir
 9:30 a.m. C E classes`
 10:30 a.m. Worship
 4:30 p.m. All youth

Monday, January 16 – MLK, Jr. Day
Office closed
 5:30 p.m. Basketball
 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Tuesday, January 17
 9:00 a.m. Staff
 Noon Lectionary class
 7:15 p.m. Church Council
 7:30 p.m. Spirit Quest

Wednesday, January 18
 5:30 p.m. 40+ Basketball
 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, January 19
 11:45 a.m. Lunch Group
 7:00 p.m. Women’s Fellowship

evening program
 7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 142
 7:30 p.m. Men’s Spirituality

PLAN AHEAD FOR LENT

Class opportunities for the six weeks of Lent (from *March 1* until *April 5*) will be offered again this year. The **Wednesday** schedule will be:

5:45 p.m. Lenten supper
 6:00 p.m. Child care begins
 6:30 p.m. Lenten worship, Chapel
 7:00 p.m. Classes
 7:30 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Further details and sign-ups will be available soon.

ELECTRONIC TRANSFER HELP

For anyone who has questions about the new electronic funds transfer program, or who would like help filling out the authorization form, **Jim Cantey** will be at a table in Gattton Hall after the *January 15* worship service.