



# Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLV, No. 18

May 5, 2006

## ANNUAL MEETING

*This Sunday evening, May 7*  
**Dessert at 6:30, Gatton Hall**  
**Meeting at 7:00, Sanctuary**

### WORSHIP LEADERS NEEDED FOR EARLY SUMMER WORSHIP

Explore your faith in a new way this summer! We would like to offer an informal summer worship service at 8:30 Sunday mornings again this year. This service is designed to be led by members of the congregation. Purposes include offering the congregation an option that may better fit a busy summer schedule, providing a chance to explore a different style of worship and giving lay worship leaders an experience leading a small service. The service typically runs 45 minutes and is held in the chapel. In lieu of a sermon, the worship leader facilitates a discussion on the day's scriptures. Training will be available to support the design of a service. If you are interested in leading or co-leading a worship service, contact **Sue Richmond** (745-7994 or [suedougrich@msn.com](mailto:suedougrich@msn.com).) Interest

forms will also be available in the Sunday worship bulletin.

### FIRE DRILL REMINDER

Please remember that during the Christian Education hour **this Sunday May 7**, we will be having a fire drill. Please remind children that fire drills are not scary, but a necessary part of being prepared for an emergency. The fire alarm will be going off during this time and we are asking all people to clear the building and move to the front lawn until  
*(continued on page 6)*

## THIS SUNDAY

*May 7*

**Adult Forum:** **Liz Oettinger** offers "Ask the Preacher" this week. Bring your questions about religion, church practices, even the Da Vinci Code! (The planned fire drill will interrupt.)

**Scriptures:** Acts 4:5-12  
Psalm 23  
John 10:11-18

**Sermon:** "A Word to the Sheep"  
Elizabeth Oettinger

Dear Friends,

The Endowments & Memorial Funds Board of the church, formerly the Foundation, has been active in the past six months creating an avenue whereby church members could easily make contributions to the church's endowments. The church's endowments are important in the overall financial stability of our church. They allow us to offer camperships to both children and adults attending church camps and denominational meetings. They support the Minister's Discretionary Fund that allows us to provide financial assistance to both church members and others seeking aid. They provide a source for church special needs as diverse as hand chimes for our children's music program, new office computers, a new lawn mover, and correcting the sanctuary lighting problem. Without these funds, we would be hard pressed when needs arise outside the annual budget.

We are fortunate to have several existing endowments, named in memory of church "saints" whose memorials or bequests established the endowment. For example, our Ruth Page endowment supports our Parish Nurse, our Miriam and Earnie Liddell endowment funds Christian education; Cecil Compton's endowment will perpetually support the church's landscaping; while the Bruce Starker endowment provides undesignated funds for church needs.

All of the endowments provide income into what we call the "expendable funds" in six major categories: Christian Education, Outreach & Pastoral Care, Music & Worship, Building, Grounds, and Undesignated. What the EMF Board has established lately are open endowment accounts, in each category. The Board's hope is that these categorical endowments will provide church members with an attractive opportunity for "over and above" giving to the church. One church member suggested to me recently that she planned to give a small amount monthly to the worship endowment alongside her pledge, and she thought others might like to do something similar. ("Liz, you should do a 'Thought for the Week' about this!") There are probably special occasions when others of you might like to contribute to one of these permanent funds that will bless our congregation for generations to come.

I would like to celebrate the EMF Board for the work it has done over the past several years in managing our endowments and creating new avenues for giving to the church. Endowments should never become a substitute for strong annual giving. However, used alongside of strong annual budgets they can enhance and extend a church's ministry and allow creative programming otherwise not possible

Have a thoughtful week.

**Liz**



**UNITED  
CAMPUS  
MINISTRY  
AT OSU**

**Student Gathering, Every Wednesday 5:30-7:30 p.m.** Dinner will be followed by our program featuring the DVD-based series, *Living the Questions*, that will help us explore the questions of faith that serve as the basis for meaning in our lives.

**Lunch, Luke and Lectio Divina, Every Monday, Noon-1:00 p.m.** Bring a lunch and we'll gather in the WestM Student Lounge to eat and share together. Following lunch, we'll utilize Scripture texts from the gospel of Luke to engage in the spiritual practice of *Lectio Divina*. *Lectio Divina*, also called "sacred or holy reading" is the ancient art of reading the Bible contemplatively and allowing it to speak to us at the most intimate depths of our hearts.

**TNT (Thursday Night Thing) Thursday, May 4, 6:00-8:00 p.m.** Meet at WestM. This week we'll take advantage of the gorgeous weather and get outside for a hike in Chip Ross Park. Wear comfortable, sturdy shoes and bring along your dinner for a picnic along our way. Please RSVP to let us know you are coming so that we have enough transportation. Thanks!

(Next Week, *May 11*: Ultimate Frisbee – or hanging out in the park – and homemade ice cream)

**Reel to Real, Friday, May 12, 8:00 p.m.** Kristin Sweeney will host this R2R

event at her place (with the big screen TV!). Watch next week for details

**Habitat for Humanity Work Day, Saturday, May 13, 7:30 a.m.- 3:30 p.m.** Join us as we hang sheetrock and paint at the worksite in Albany. We'll meet at WestM at 7:30 a.m. so that we can be at the site and ready for work at 8:00 a.m. Please RSVP to Leah by *Wednesday, May 10* if you will be joining us so that we may arrange transportation.

If you have questions or need more information about any of the events, please contact Rev. **Leah McCullough** at [revleah@comcast.net](mailto:revleah@comcast.net) or 753-2242.



The youth groups will not be meeting this Sunday due to our church's Annual Meeting. All youth are invited to come share in the dessert at 6:30 and participate in the meeting that will begin at 7:00 p.m. Those youth who have been confirmed are especially encouraged to be present for this meeting where we will elect officers and a slate of board members for the up-coming year. Plan to be there for this important part in the life of the church.



**PLAN NOW FOR  
SUMMER CAMP**

The first (cheaper!) deadline for summer camp at Camp Adams is May 15. This year's theme for

camp is “Peace Talks,” a curriculum that will introduce campers to peace themes within the biblical text and focus on how we might help create the peaceable kingdom in our own communities.

**Ryan Lambert** is directing the Genesis/Seekers camp for those who have completed 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> grades and there is a full compliment of camps for all ages. Additionally, there is a campership fund from our Endowment and Memorial Funds Board that pays half for all youth who attend camp.

For specific dates please look for the bright yellow camp brochures in the church office and in the foyer. The camping ministries of the conference are a key element of our programming for children and youth and as such parents are encouraged to make every effort to include UCC Summer Camps in your summer plans! For further information contact Ryan at church or via email.

### **MEN’S CHOIR CONCERT THIS MONDAY**

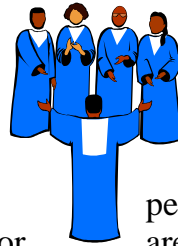
Don’t miss the concert in our sanctuary on *Monday, May 8* at 7:30 p.m.. On the program are the University of Michigan Men’s Glee Club and the OSU Meistersingers. Admission is \$10; students and children are free.



### **SOUP ‘N’ BREAD SIGN-UPS THIS SUNDAY**

We will be serving Soup ‘n’ Bread

on *Sunday, May 14*. Please volunteer to provide soup or bread, or help out with set-up or clean-up. That day is also Choir Appreciation Sunday so we will have cake too! Plan to be there.



### **TEST THE CHORAL WATERS**

What kind of person are you like at the pool? Are you one of those people who just dives right in, or are someone who sneaks in the water, as slowly as possible? This is the perfect time to sneak into the choir, with no strings attached. Consider joining us for our last five Sundays this year and find out if maybe choir membership meets a need in your life. We meet on Wednesday evenings from 7:15 until 8:45 and then Sunday morning from 9:00 am until 9:30 am. Come on in. The water is warm!

**Steve Zielke**

### **CRS PRESENTS THE SHAKESPEARE FROLICS**

**Corvallis Repertory Singers** give their final concert **this Sunday afternoon, May 7**, at 3:00 in our sanctuary. The songs

— witty, flirtatious, or downright luscious — are all based on poetry from Shakespeare’s plays. Besides music of Vaughan Williams and others, the Singers perform part of an opera “The Tem-



pest” attributed to Henry Purcell.

Familiar faces will include **Virginia Stockwell** and **Joan Caldwell** in the alto section—and, of course, our favorite Congregational conductor, **Steve Zielke!**

Tickets are \$15 for adults, \$4 for students. at Scandinavian Trading Company and Grass Roots Books, The Frame Shop in Timberhill, and Sid Stevens in Albany – or at the door.

Tied up Sunday afternoon? You can catch the same concert *Saturday night May 6*, at 7:30 at LBCC’s renovated performance hall in Albany.

### MAINTAINING ANONYMITY OF WESTMINSTER HOUSE DONATIONS

Westminster House (United Campus Ministry at OSU) is one of the organizations supported directly from the church annual budget. Westminster House is also pleased to receive direct donations.

The Westminster House Board adopted a new policy of publishing the donor’s name and dollar level of donation. Those who do *not* wish their names to be published should

a) include a *signed* note with their donation indicating such, or

b) write the donation to First Congregational with a note designating it for UCM (or Westminster House). The Financial Secretaries will record the donation on your giving record which is maintained in a confidential manner. The church will accumulate the donations and then forward a totaled amount

to Westminster House without donor information.



### THANKS FROM LINN BENTON FOOD SHARE

Dear Friends at First Congregational,

We deeply appreciate your support of the Food Share program (\$146). Your contribution is crucial to our success in keeping our member agencies stocked with food so no one in need is ever turned away.

### Our Thoughts and Prayers

... are with **Cliff Trow**, doing fine after an adverse reaction to blood pressure medication during last Sunday’s service;

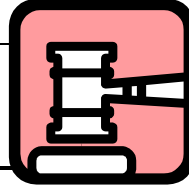
... are with **Jane Capizzi** after a diagnosis of lung cancer.



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## Annual Meeting



Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 Office Phone: 757-8122  
 Facilities Coordinator: 753-2106

Susan Wickes, Editor  
 e-mail: sbwickes@comcast.net  
 Home Phone: 754-0117

Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, May 9.

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

*Friday, May 5*

7:00 a.m. First Friday Forum,  
 Elmer's  
**NO** Bridge Group

*Sunday, May 7*

9:00 a.m. Sanctuary Choir  
 9:30 a.m. C E classes  
 10:30 a.m. Worship  
 (Activity Hour) Children's Chimes,  
 Meeting Hall  
**6:30 p.m. Dessert, Gatton Hall**  
**7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting**

*Monday, May 8*

5:30 p.m. Basketball  
 7:15 p.m. Mission Board  
**7:30 p.m. Concert: Men's Glee**  
**Club of University of**  
**Michigan and OSU**  
**Meistersingers,**  
**Sanctuary**

7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

*Tuesday, May 9*

9:00 a.m. Staff

Noon Lectionary class  
 7:00 p.m. Adult Confirmation

*Wednesday, May 10*

7:15 a.m. Breakfast Group  
**NO** A D Circle  
 5:30 p.m. 40+ Basketball  
 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

*Thursday, May 11*

7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 142  
 7:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice,  
 Chintimini Park

*Friday, May 12*

11:00 a.m. Pastoral Relations  
 Committee, HP

### **FIRE DRILL from page 1**

we have turned off the alarm and given the "all clear" for people to re-enter. This is the first fire drill we have done at church and it is as much a learning events as anything else. If evacuation problems occur please take note of them and let **Ryan** know so that we can be better prepared in the future.