



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

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June 30, 2006

Warning!

During the nice summer weather, many children are outdoors around the church on Sundays and during the week. Please drive slowly and cautiously and watch out for them.



name with the number of tickets to be reserved for you (adults and children [11 and under]).

SALMON BARBECUE TICKET SALES, SIGN-UPS CONTINUE

Salmon Barbecue sign-ups for sub-committees (and chairs!) continue this Sunday. We still need volunteers for **Set-up,**

Barbecue Crew, Hospitality, Beverages, Food Coordinators, Clean-Up. We especially need a **Fellowship Activities** (for children) chair. This person is responsible for setting up the croquet, badminton, ping pong, slip 'n' slide and possibly a wading pool, as well as asking parents to supervise these activities for an hour before the meal and about an hour afterwards.

Tickets are \$6/adults; \$3.50/11 and under. If you won't be in church this Sunday or next, but want to attend, just call the office (757-8122) and leave your



THIS SUNDAY – July 2

- 8:30 leader:** Priscilla Zaworski
- Scriptures:** 2 Samuel 1:1, 17-27
Mark 5:21-43
- 9:30 sermon:** “A Theology of Interruption”
Lon Rycraft
- 9:30 music:** Justin Chi, viola;
Emily Chi, piano

NEXT SUNDAY – July 9

- 8:30 leaders:** Eileen Marma and
Sue Richmond
- Scriptures:** Mark 6:1-13
2 Corinthians 12:2-10
- 9:30 sermon:** “Embracing the Imperfect”
Elizabeth Oettinger
- 9:30 music:** Robin Miller, cello

Dear Friends,

My body is back from vacation. I'm not so sure about my brain yet. It may be somewhere still over the Atlantic. I had a great trip, but, as always, it's good to be home.

I had the chance to spend several days in both Amsterdam and Paris. I know we think of the United States as the world's melting pot, but it appeared to me at first glance that at least those two large cities in Europe were equally diverse in their populations and perhaps more integrated. Granted my sample was not at all scientific. However, I noticed large numbers of inter-racial couples on the subways and in the streets. I saw women in Muslim "hajib" mixing freely with those not so dressed. My taxi driver to the airport in Paris was a Laotian woman who had left Laos during the war. She and 37 of her family members live and work in Paris, part of a large Laotian population.

Both in France and in the Netherlands, people asked me about American politics. A restaurant owner, the night porter at my Paris hotel, an Irish couple sitting next to me in a cafe. It was somewhat embarrassing to realize my relative ignorance about European politics in the face of their knowledge and interest in the U.S., George Bush, and the war in Iraq in particular.

I was in Paris alone, which means that I probably spent more time there noticing the people around me. My last night, I sat eating dinner in a cafe watching the world walk by in the square beyond me. People from all around the world walking, talking, laughing, mixing together. Again, there was no science here. But it made me hopeful nonetheless that someday we might do better, all of us, at loving the diversity of human race and culture.

Have a thoughtful week.

Liz

Come to the Movies!

"An Inconvenient Truth," a film which offers a passionate and inspirational look at Al Gore's work to halt global warming, will begin at the Dark-side Theatre on *June 30*. This is an important movie with great theological and moral implications. **Ryan Lambert** is

gathering a group of people who would like to see the film and talk about it afterwards. Show times have not yet been determined, but we will plan on seeing the 7ish show on *Thursday, July 6*, and go for coffee/dessert/discussion after the film. Childcare will be available at the church. Please contact **Ryan** for more details or to RSVP for childcare.



Youth are needed to help with **Vacation Bible School (VBS)** from *July 23-27*. We have slots for classroom help, crafts, and recreation. This is a great opportunity to work with the children of our church and a great chance to develop leadership skills. Please contact **Ryan** at church or via e-mail to sign up!

REMEMBER YOUR EVALUATION

Please complete and return the church evaluation form by ***Sunday, July 2***. Your opinions are important.

Reminder: On the first page of the “Survey of Congregational Life,” a box mysteriously printed over the first three categories. These categories are: Overall, Music, and Preaching. Please evaluate each on the scale 1 - L, indicating, F, O, S, or N for each category.

TAKE ACTION, SUPPORT THE HEALTH CARE INITIATIVE

Health care for all has for several years been a priority with the United Church of Christ; in Oregon it has become a grass roots movement. There are several efforts to promote this through the legislature this year. There is immediate need to take action to study and support Initiative Petition 40 and Initiative Petition 122.

July 7 is the deadline for all initiatives. These two initiatives are struggling and need your help to qualify for the fall

ballot.

Initiative Petition 40: The HOPE Initiative amends the state constitution to make access to affordable health care a right and require the Legislature to come up with a plan by July 2009 to achieve this incrementally. The website is <http://www.hopeoregon.org>, or you may call 503-292-2223. Either phone or the web will give you access to signature sheets or more information.

Initiative Petition 122: The Oregon Prescription Drug Pool—to allow Oregon to negotiate for discount pharmaceutical prices (via bulk purchasing) that would be available to all uninsured Oregonians and those with Medicare Part D. For signature sheets or more information call AARP at 1-866-554-5360 or go to <http://www.aarp.org/states/or>

Perhaps the most promising development of the last year in Oregon was the launch of former Governor Kitzhaber’s Archimedes Movement. This truly comprehensive effort offers an opportunity for a more affordable, effective, efficient health care system for all Oregonians. Please visit their website for more information and join their effort: <http://www.joinAM.org> or <http://www.archimedesmovement.org>

Over 600,000 Oregonians do not have health care. Both the Just Peace Committee and the Health Ministries Committee ask you to take steps now to move toward health care for all Oregonians. Tell your friends and get signatures of registered voters.



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, July 11.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, July 2

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel worship
- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary worship
- (following) Fellowship

Monday, July 3

- Office closed**
- 5:30 p.m. Basketball
- 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Tuesday, July 4-Independence Day

Office closed

Thursday, July 6

- 7:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice

Friday, July 7

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

Sunday, July 9

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel worship
- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary worship
- (following) Fellowship
- 4:20 p.m. Holy Sox, Porter Park
- 7:00 p.m. Read & Feed,
Wickes

Monday, July 10

- 5:30 p.m. Basketball
- 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Tuesday, July 11

- 9:00 a.m. Staff
- 6:30 p.m. Outreach and
Evangelism Committee
- 7:30 p.m. Personnel Committee
- NO Diaconate**

Wednesday, July 12

- 7:15 a.m. Breakfast Group

READ & FEED

The book for July is *Heart Mountain* by Gretel Ehrlich. **Bill** and **Susan Wickes** will host the meeting on *Sunday, July 9*, at 7:00 p.m.

Bouquets of thanks

... to our Grounds Crew: **Dale Kirk**, **Susie O'Shea**, and **Wayne Phillips**. These gardening angels have been faithfully planting and manicuring the church grounds, creating and maintaining beautiful surroundings for us all.