



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLV, No. 30

August 25, 2006

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL HOSTS "SIDE BY SIDE"

In concert with the Mid-Valley chapter of National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) and the Oregon Association of Marriage and Family Therapy we are co-sponsoring "**Side by Side: A Journey With Depression**" on *August 27 and 28*. This play, billed as "a funny look at serious survival," offers insight into clinical depression and addiction and is directed by UCC pastor **Lizann Bassham**.

Since debuting in September of 2004 to sold out shows in Northern California at the Sebastopol Center for the Arts, "Side by Side" has played venues as diverse as Stanford University and Napa State Mental Hospital. **Brian Wetzel** was a professional stand-up comedian whose career and personal life were absorbed by his struggle with clinical depression, and subsequent addiction. Bringing his sense of humor and experiences together, Brian takes his audience on a unique journey of laughter, painful truth, and finally, hope. By walking side by side with the affliction, he finds a way to keep surviving, keep learning, and keep living.

Shows are in the Meeting Hall at 8:00 p.m. on *Sunday and Monday, August 27 and 28*. Suggested donation is only \$10 for mental health workers and consumers, \$15 general admission, but no one will be turned away for lack of funds. This is sure to be a poignant and important play; see you there!

DIRECTORY PHOTO OPPORTUNITY THIS SUNDAY

Brian Lee will be taking photos this Sunday, *August 27*, and *September 10*, following worship, for people who **cannot** be here when the photos for our new directory are taken on *September 14, 15, and 16*.

(continued on page 6)

THIS SUNDAY

August 27

Scriptures: 1 Kings 8:22-30, 41-43
Ephesians 6:10-20
John 6:56-69

Sermon: "Armed and
Dangerous"
Ryan Lambert

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*Ryan Lambert*

Dear Friends,

Late August is upon us and planning for the fall is in full swing! To that end I will use this space to “set the table” for the beginning of the Christian Education program year which will begin on September 10. Fresh off of the success of Vacation Bible School, the Christian Education Board is excited to announce a couple of changes for the upcoming year. **First, this year we will be starting our Christian Education time at 9:15 a.m.** Each Sunday children of all ages **and their parents** are invited to gather in Room 5 for a time when we will sing, recognize birthdays, and share in an opening worship time. This time is meant to connect all our classes together, give us an opportunity to learn some fun “campfire-type” songs, provide opportunities for youth leadership, and give context to our church school program. From this opening time we will separate at 9:30 into age-group classes, thus allowing children and youth to look deeper into our church school lessons in their age-group settings.

For adults there will be two options this year. First is the Adult Forum, which will again take place in the Meeting Hall from 9:30-10:20 and will include presentations and discussions on a wide variety of topics. This is a standard-bearer for our Sunday morning adult education and an interesting list of topics and speakers is currently being developed by the Adult Education Committee.

New this year is a reading and conversation group called “God at Home” that will meet from 9:30-10:20 in the fireplace room. This group is open to all, but will have special focus on faith and parenting. We will be reading from the Faith and Family book series, which examines the impact of faith development in families. The series is funded by a grant from Lilly Foundation, Indianapolis, and is edited by Diana R. Garland. Included in this series are “Seasons of a Family’s Life: Celebrating the Contemplative Spirit at Home” by Wendy Wright and “The Power of God at Home: Nurturing our Children in Love and Grace” by Bradley J. Wigger. No heavy reading loads, I promise! The readings will be used as a basis for conversation and shared reflection and even if you don’t get the reading done some weeks there is still a place for you! Although I will initially be leading this class, the plan is for it to be a self-directed group that will select future texts. I cannot stress enough that although parenting is a focus of this class, all people, regardless of whether you have children young or old, are welcome as many experiences make for rich discussion!

I am excited by the richness of the coming Christian Education year and hope that your whole family will find a place in one of our classes!

Peace,

Ryan



Save the Date!!
We will be kicking off the new program year with a meeting for **all Middle and High School youth and parents** at 7:00 p.m. on *Sunday, Sep-*

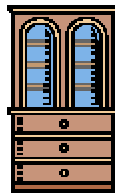
tember 10. At this meeting we will talk about the structure of the up-coming year, spend some time discussing communication, and introduce the meeting schedule for the year. Be there as we plan for an exciting year! Questions? Contact **Ryan** at the church or via e-mail.

BENTON FURNITURE SHARE NEEDS YOUR HELP WITH SALE!

Benton Furniture Share (BFS) recycles furniture, at no cost, to low-income families, and diverts waste from the landfill. In July, 52 families in Linn-Benton counties received 341 pieces of furniture from BFS. Annually, we serve 350 single parents, the elderly, the disabled, those escaping domestic violence, and other low income households.

BFS serves the community on a "shoe-string budget" with three employees who together work less than one full time position. This year, a MSTA Volunteer works full time.

BFS needs your help! Quality furniture, antiques, and household goods are needed for a **fund-raising sale** on *Sep-*



tember 16. Furniture in good condition can be donated to help parents, families, and others in need in our community. Cash donations or volunteer help with the sale are welcome and will aid in the sustainability of this program.

Please call or leave a message to arrange your furniture donation at (541) 754-9511 or send a note to: P.O. Box 2224, Corvallis, OR 97339.

Thank you and I hope to see you at our sale!

Emily Steadman, VISTA volunteer
and **Ray William** (753-1979)

WHAT HEALTH CARE SYSTEM DO YOU WANT?

During the past year, the independent, nonpartisan Citizens Health Care Working Group heard from thousands of Americans and formulated interim recommendations based on this public input.

Many people expressed their concerns, wishes, and expectations about the health care system and how they want it changed. It's not too late to tell Congress what you want. Your Citizens' Working Group needs to receive **YOUR** Comments before it prepares and sends Final Recommendations to Congress and the President.

Read the Interim Recommendations and comment on them by *August 31, 2006*. You may make your comments at: www.citizenshealthcare.gov

ATTENTION, ALL SINGERS

Sanctuary Choir begins rehearsals on *Wednesday, September 6*, at 7:15 p.m. and sings in worship starting *September 10*. Newcomers are invited to get in on the ground floor!

REGISTRATION BROCHURES HERE FOR WOMEN'S CAMP

Brochures for UCC Women's Camp are available in the literature rack at the entrance to Gatton Hall. "Let Your Spirit Soar!" is the theme for the weekend with **Marsha Gulick** as our resource leader at Camp Adams on *October 6-8*. The total fee is \$90 (which includes two nights lodging and six meals); \$50 is due with the registration. Questions and requests for additional information should be directed to **Nancy Klingeman**. Forms for financial assistance are available from the church office. The deadline to apply for such requests is *September 22*. Carpools will be arranged from Corvallis to camp, so sign up to join in the fun!

MUSICAL SHOWCASE IN CENTRAL PARK THIS SUNDAY

Corvallis First Christian Church will host a Musical Showcase featuring local well-known bands and musicians to raise money for Benton Habitat for Humanity. The event starts at 3:00 p.m. this *Sunday, August 27* in at the gazebo in Central Park, 501 SW Madison Ave.



Over seven groups are scheduled to play 30-minute sets, including **Pink Salmon**, whose members are **Gavin** and **Steve Milligan**, **Chris Rorrer** and **Rob Turkisher** (at 3:40). Donations will be collected during the concert and a check presented to Benton Habitat at 6:00.

Soda and ice cream will be available at the event, but people are encouraged to bring a picnic and lawn chairs to enjoy the variety of musical groups playing throughout the afternoon. This is a great chance to spend a beautiful summer day in the park enjoying local bands and new talent and support a community housing program at the same time.

CANDIDATES AND BALLOT MEASURE FORUM

Candidates for the state legislature from this area will talk about their views on health care issues at a Candidates and Ballot Measure Forum at 7:00 p.m. on *Monday, September 18* at the Corvallis Public Library, 645 NW Monroe. The forum is free and open to the public.

Candidates participating in the forum are: **Andy Olson** and **Sam Sappington**, House District 15; **Robin Brown** and **Sara Gelser**, House District 16; **Mario Magana** and **Frank Morse**, Senate District 8.

Interfaith Health Care NETWORK includes representatives from First Congregational United Church of Christ, First Presbyterian Church, First United Methodist Church, Good Samaritan Episcopal Church, Grace Lutheran

Church, St. Mary's Catholic Church, Corvallis Friends Meeting, and the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, which is assisting in planning the forum, is an association of 17 Christian denominations including Protestant, Orthodox and Roman Catholic religious bodies that work together to respond as a people of faith to the needs of Oregonians.

The Candidates and Ballot Measure Forum follows the initial NETWORK project, the *Seeking Justice in Health Care Workshop* in February, 2006.

FROM COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Dear Friends,

We thank all of you so much for the \$962 donation, which we received on August 16th.

Because of your support, and that of others like you, homeless families and individuals can find a safe place to live at Community Outreach, along with long-term help in breaking the cycle of homelessness. Those in our community with no health insurance can receive medical and dental care, mental health counseling, and drug and alcohol treatment. The Transitional Housing program allows clients to work towards their goals and objectives so they may become self-sufficient and productive members of our community.

Anyone in need will find enough food to eat here (as well as a kitchen to cook in), a shower, a telephone, and a message service, which allows people

with no phone service to keep in contact with employers, friends, and family.

Richard Donovan, Executive Director

SEPTEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Vera Aas 9/2, Brenda Cochran 9/2, Gary Enschede 9/6, Teresa Bodwell 9/7, Eileen Milligan 9/9, Kathy Mason 9/9, Mark Esary 9/11, Billie Grant 9/15, Alison Pentland 9/15, Grant Thackray 9/15, Justin Yun 9/15, Elizabeth Pearce-Smith 9/16, Sharon Calhoun 9/17, Nick Piasias 9/20, Kyle Thackray 9/20, Libby Ankarberg 9/21, Alexander Mueller-Warrant 9/22, Eric Mason 9/24, Sarabeth Pearce-Smith 9/25, Rick Mason 9/26, Patrick O'Dell 9/27, Peggy Carrick 9/28, John Estabrook 9/30



SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Kent and Marilee Sherwood 9/1
John and Ellie Erkkila 9/6 37th
Rich Holdren and Anna Harding 9/6 9th
Linda and Earl Hadfield 9/9 45th
Doug and Joan Caldwell 9/9 45th
Larry and Kathie Merriam 9/13 59th
John and Ann Hawkins 9/14 38th
Becky Flitcroft and Jeff Snyder 9/18 2nd

Our Thoughts and Prayers

... are with **Eleanor Martin** and her family. Eleanor's only brother died recently in Worcester, Massachusetts, following a stroke.



Congregational News (USPS 128-820)
PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT CORVALLIS OR
Postmaster: Send address changes to:
Congregational News, 4515 SW West Hills Rd
Corvallis OR 97333-3925 Published weekly
except twice a month in July and August by
First Congregational United Church of Christ

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, August 29.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, August 27

- 8:30 a.m. Chapel worship
- 9:30 a.m. Sanctuary worship
- 8:00 p.m. **“Side By Side” play,**
Meeting Hall (p. 1)

Monday, August 28

- 5:30 p.m. Basketball
NO Boy Scouts
- 8:00 p.m. “Side By Side” play,**
Meeting Hall (p. 1)

Tuesday, August 29

- 9:00 a.m. Staff

Wednesday, August 30

- 5:30 p.m. 40+ Basketball

Friday, September 1

- 7:00 a.m. First Friday Forum,
Shari’s, 1117 NW 9th

LOOKING AHEAD:

LABOR DAY SERVICE

On *Labor Day Sunday, September 3,* we will participate in the Ecumenical Labor Day Worship in Central Park at

10:00 a.m. There will be no worship service at First Congregational that day. The following Sunday, *September 10,* our worship time returns to 10:30 a.m.

DIRECTORY PHOTOS *from page 1*

The suggestions from Olan Mills Studios for dress are as follows: bright, harmonious and conservative clothing and contrasting colors within the family group look best; adults should wear long sleeves. Children may wear any sleeve length.

CARPET CLEANING SCHEDULE

Newly-cleaned carpeting is off-limits for foot traffic as follows:

Monday, August 28:

Room 3 and Nursery

Wednesday, August 30:

Fireplace Room and Library

Thursday, August 31:

L-shaped corridor outside Fireplace Room to the entrance to Gatton Hall