



# Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLV, No. 40

November 3, 2006

## A II Saints Sunday

Our traditional All Saints Sunday service in remembrance of the saints in our lives includes the reading of names. The worship bulletin will include a form to fill in the names of the saints you would like read during the service. Also, if you wish, you may bring a candle (with holder) to carry forward and light before or during the prelude, or during the first hymn. (Extra candles will be available in the foyer.)



### STEWARDSHIP CAMPAIGN IS ON

This Sunday begins our Stewardship campaign for the 2007 calendar year. This year, like last year, there are no official Stewardship callers: all of you are the callers! We have paired each member or family with another member or family, your "Congregational Friend/s." You will be receiving a letter this week explaining the process. This year, to lessen confusion, we are asking one family unit in each pair to be the **initiator of the**

**visit** and the other *to receive a call from your congregational friend*. The purpose of the visit is to talk about the church and  
(continued on page 7)

## THIS SUNDAY

November 5

**Adult Forum:** The Adult Forum for this week will continue the discussion of "What Jesus would have to say about our politics." The first session dealt with the question itself and with the issues or topics that participants wanted to raise for discussion in the next two sessions. Preparation for the discussion includes reading Matthew 5-7, Luke 6, and various parables that seem helpful in addressing the topic. One thing to discuss is whether what Jesus said about individual behavior (e.g., "turn the other cheek") can legitimately be applied to national governmental politics, (e.g., the politics of war).

**Scriptures:** Psalm 95:1-7  
Hebrews 12:1-2  
**Sermon:** "Saints I Have Known"  
Elizabeth Oettinger

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK***Elizabeth Oettinger*

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday I participated in the ecclesiastical council of Leah McCullough. Our church was well represented, and I found myself one again impressed by Leah's skills and enthusiasm. After a hiatus of several years, I am going back onto the Westminster House Board because I strongly believe in the need for a liberal church voice with students and on the campus. Leah talks persuasively about making Westminster House a safe space where students can ask the important moral and theological questions of our day. I truly believe that she and Tim Stover have the will and the capability to make our campus ministry that place.

I am also aware that funding for campus ministry is threatened. Sponsoring denominations are working on leaner budgets. Our own Central Pacific Conference has taken its support from campus ministry out of its line item budget. Those engaged in such ministries on all of our campuses must apply for special grants for specific projects. Churches and individuals must pick up the slack. You'll notice that in our church's proposed 2007 budget, we have added \$750 to our outreach to Westminster House, the same amount that was dropped from the Conference budget. This year's United Campus Ministry budget is still several thousand dollars short of its goal. Because we want to support our newest UCC clergywoman (Leah) and because we believe in the work of West-M, the Mission Board has given its blessing to making this month's Soup 'n' Bread on November 12 a fundraising event for the ministry at Westminster House. Leah will be preaching that morning, and students involved in the ministry will be joining us for lunch and a brief presentation. This is a wonderful opportunity for us to learn more about campus life and the work of campus ministry; also our opportunity to support that ministry with our contributions large and small.



So plan to stick around after worship that day. You can make your usual contribution to Soup 'n' Bread or make a larger gift. Though we want to raise money, we also don't want the sense that you have to make some specific level of contribution to keep people away.

The college students of this generation are inheriting a world more volatile and complex than ever before. To have a safe space where they can learn about issues, consider their values, and be offered opportunities to contribute to social justice is so important. It's our privilege really to be a part of that.

Have a thoughtful week.

**Liz**

## Make a Joyful Noise! A Choral Celebration

Featuring choirs and ensembles from  
mid-valley United Methodist churches  
and partnering congregations

(including the First Congregational  
UCC Sanctuary Choir which will sing

"Joy in the Morning"  
by Natalie Sleeth)

Sunday, November 12  
3:00 p.m.

First United Methodist Church  
1165 NW Monroe, Corvallis

Free-will offering in support of  
United Campus Ministry at OSU

Refreshments following



**Let's Bowl!** Both **Middle** and **High School** youth will meet at Highland Bowl, 2123 NW 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Corvallis this *Sunday, November 5* at 3:00 (until 4:30). The cost is \$3.00 for bowling and \$2 for shoes. Friends are welcome too. (If you came to the Corn Maze on October 29, we have coupons for one free game of bowling.) Please contact **Peggy Carrick** (754-9045).



## GIFTS FOR A BETTER WORLD: WHAT IS IT???

GFBW is a seasonal, fair-trade gift store which started many years ago. **Priscilla Zaworski** and **Welcome Lahey** were among the founding mothers. The merchandise sold at GFBW is called "fair-trade" because the artisans and crafts people who make the items receive a much higher percentage of money from the sale of the merchandise than when a middle person takes a profit, as in a regular department store. The clearing houses we buy from are **10,000 Villages** and **SERV**, also known as A Greater Gift. This year we have many new suppliers, but we **only** buy from fair-trade vendors.

Gifts For A Better World invites local non-profit agencies to sell things too. This year several groups will be present, such as Legacy Land Trust, Chintimini Wildlife, and NAMI.

The store is open from *November 11* until *December 2*. The hours are Monday-Friday, 10:00-6:00, Saturday 10:00-5:00, and Sunday 11:30 to 5:00. If you want more information about the store give board members **Libby Ankarberg**, **Rose Hart**, or **Jody Eleveld** a call. And please come and do some holiday shopping with us. Your gift gives twice, both to the recipient and back to support the person who crafted the item.

GFBW does not keep any of the money raised. Historically the store has given grants to local non-profits with the money we make. Because we were of-

ferred space at no charge here at the church, we hope to continue that great tradition.

**NOVEMBER MISSION OFFERING**

**Senior Meals / Meals on Wheels** delivers nutritious, hot noon meals to home-bound people. Our primary target group is set by the Older Americans Act; people over 60, and Medicaid clients under 60 due to disability. Currently, the Corvallis site serves 102 clients in their homes, (last year a total of 27,385 meals).

The Meals on Wheels is very cost effective program. With just this little help people are able to stay in their home with their pets, among their treasures, with their wife or husband, sometimes even their disabled children. We recognize that our delivery volunteers may be the only contact with another person each day.

Due to rule changes, some low-income clients are no longer able to have their meals paid for by Medicaid. The Older Americans' Act requires that we continue to provide meals on a donation basis. We are seeking additional funding to assist this small group of people who cannot afford to donate for the meals that were previously being subsidized for them.

The Corvallis service area extends north past Adair Village, south past Greenberry Road, east to Riverside Drive, and west to Country Club and Philomath Blvd.

Your generous donation will appreciated by many people.

Dear Benton County Faith Communities,

Perhaps you recall filling out a Local Food Survey earlier this summer that asked questions about cooking, gardening, shopping, and the role of your faith community in supporting farmers and ending hunger. That survey was part of a Benton County community food assessment, coordinated by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) in collaboration with OSU, Ten Rivers Food Web, and ten congregations including yours.

After nearly a year of talking with farmers, social service agencies, low-income residents, and faith communities, we are now ready to share our full report and discuss next steps. On *Tuesday, November 14*, from 7:00-9:00 p.m., we will gather at the Corvallis-Benton County Public Library to present the results and talk about how to work together to end hunger and support family farmers in the Mid-Willamette Valley.

Please join us on November 14 to hear about the role your congregation played in the assessment and the insights we gained about faith communities. For more information or to learn more about EMO's Interfaith Food and Farms Partnership, please call me at (541) 757-1988, ext. 107 or e-mail [lgifford@emoregon.org](mailto:lgifford@emoregon.org). Thank you!

Sincerely,  
Liv Nevin Gifford



## **SIGN-UPS START SUNDAY**

November is here and Thanksgiving is coming soon. Our all-church Thanksgiving dinner is set for *November 19*, after worship.

Turkey, stuffing, mashed (real!) potatoes and gravy, as well as beverages, are provided, so it's important to know how many we are feeding! Please sign up this Sunday or the next and also let us know what you will bring to add to the feast. If you won't be in church, you can call the church office to add your name.

## **PLYMOUTH CHURCH RECORDS**

If it meets with the congregation's approval, I would like to transfer the records of the Plymouth Congregational Church to the Benton County Historical Museum. The church was once located at 53<sup>rd</sup> Street and Plymouth Drive where Suburban Church is today.

In sorting through the church's papers and documents I found the records for the Plymouth Church. Attached to the papers was a note that they had been given to our church by T.J. Starker.

The Plymouth Church was disbanded in the 1930s. How T.J. came to have the records is unknown, but what is known is that T.J. had a strong desire to save the history of our church and the surrounding community. Since these documents do not relate directly to our congregation, I believe the museum would be the best repository. At the museum, the records would be more accessible to re-

searchers. It appears that the church was the center of activities in the Plymouth community, and these documents will offer insights into the history and people of the community.

If you would like more information or have comments on this request, please contact me at [jrmjuntunen@aol.com](mailto:jrmjuntunen@aol.com).

**Judy Juntunen**, Church Historian

## **INFORMATION WORKSHOP ON CLIMATE CHANGE SET**

Mark your calendars for an informative workshop on *November 18*. "Climate Change and the Common Good: A Catholic Theology for Climate Justice" is an opportunity to follow up on the message of the DVD "Inconvenient Truth" that our church and other local churches presented in October.

While based in Catholic social teaching, the presentation co-sponsored by EMO's Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns, is essentially a spiritual approach to "caring for creation."

The workshop will be conducted by two professors from University of Portland: Steven Kolmes, Ph.D., Science Chair; and Russel Butkus, Ph.D., Dept. of Theology. They make it clear that poor countries will suffer the greatest impact of global warming.

**THERE IS NO FEE** for the workshop –just sign up. Registration forms will be available at church this Sunday.

The workshop is *November 18*: 9:30 a.m. to noon. at St. Mary's Church, 501 NW 25<sup>th</sup> Street, Corvallis.

## LINCOLN K-8 SCHOOL ESL NEEDS YOUR HELP!

As many of you know, I am teaching English as a Second Language at Lincoln K-8 School. Currently, I am trying to build a picture file catalog to motivate children to speak in English. The way a picture file catalog is compiled is to find interesting pictures in magazines, discarded books (science, social studies, art, etc.), old calendars, travel brochures, posters, etc. I am looking for any pictures that will spark an interest for children to talk. They can be related to an academic subject, but can also just be a "cool" picture that children will like.

Ways you can help:

1. Donate used magazines (especially *National Geographic*, *Sunset*, travel, parent and food), discarded books (science, social studies, etc.), old calendars, travel brochures, posters, etc.
2. Volunteer to cut out pictures. This can be done in the comfort of your home.
3. Volunteer to mount pictures onto colored paper. This can be done in the comfort of your home.
4. Volunteer to run the mounted pictures through the laminator at Lincoln K-8 School.

Please drop donations off at Lincoln School at 110 SE Alexander. The school is usually open from 7:30-4:00, M-F. I am also happy to pick up any materials if you are unable to drop them off.

Thanks for your support,

**Peggy Carrick**

## THAT'S MY FARMER

*Sunday, November 4* will be the last chance to purchase "That's My Farmer" coupons. This project to raise awareness of the bounty grown by our valley's local farmers has been a big success. The project initiated by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon went from two participating churches last year to eight churches this year. Our congregation is to be congratulated for its consistent support of this project throughout the summer.

Our church has only 8 coupon books left to sell. The Saturday Market and Wednesday's Farmers Market continue to have wonderful fall produce and will be open through the middle of November. The participating farm stands are also a treat to visit.

Remember also that two dollars of each \$20 purchase goes to help fight food insecurity in our community. Purchase your last coupon book of the season on Sunday!

*Many thanks from the Sandgren family for the services of church and staff to provide Nelson's memorial celebration. Please accept our deepest appreciation.  
Sincerely, Olive Sandgren*

### **STEWARDSHIP from page 1**

to forward any significant comments to the Stewardship Committee, who will make sure that compliments as well as concerns are forwarded appropriately. To help you through the visitation and pledge process, you and your congregational friend have a "shepherd," a caring individual who will be calling to answer any questions you might have about this process or the church budget. Your shepherd will also be arranging with you to make sure your pledge card gets to the church by *November 19*, Thanksgiving Sunday, when we will be dedicating our pledges and giving thanks together. Our annual Thanksgiving dinner follows worship on that Sunday. Plan to attend and rejoice in the bounty we have been given.

### **GENERAL SYNOD PLANNING MEETING NEXT SUNDAY**

High school youth and their parents are invited to a meeting on *Sunday, November 12* following worship to discuss plans for attending General Synod XXVI. Synod will take place from *June 21-27, 2007* in Hartford, Connecticut. Join us for the meeting to find out details about fast-approaching deadlines. Questions? Contact **Ryan** at church or via e-mail. (He will return from Japan on *November 7*.)

### **DOOR-TO-DOOR FOOD DRIVE**

Over 1000 local Boy Scouts and other service groups will be collecting food and cash donations during the Door-to-Door Drive on *Saturday, No-*

*vember 11*, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Food will be delivered to the Benton County Fairgrounds for packing.

Types of foods needed are: **canned fruits and vegetables, canned pumpkin, and canned milk; peanut butter, stuffing mix, tuna and other canned fish and meats, baby foods, olives, Jell-o and cake mixes; fresh apples and fruits, winter squash, potatoes and other fresh vegetables.** No home-canned goods can be accepted.

Thank you to all who were present at my Ecclesiastical Council on Sunday. I appreciate your presence, encouragement, thoughtful questions, and vote of confidence at such an important event in my life. I feel completely affirmed, both personally and professionally, by this wonderful church community. I look forward to now transitioning into my new standing as a minister in the United Church of Christ with the continued support of First Congregational UCC.

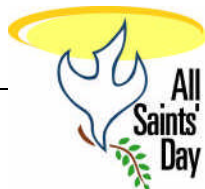
Thank you, too, for the gift certificate to purchase a new alb (robe), which to me signifies this transition from the ABC-USA into the UCC. (I always associate albs with UCC ministers.)

Finally, I am grateful to Liz, Ann and any others who were involved in hosting the event, including set-up, clean-up and providing yummy refreshments.

Shalom,  
Leah



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, November 7.

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

*Stewardship Sunday, November 5*

- 9:15 a.m. Church School, Room 5  
9:30 a.m. Adult Forum  
9:30 a.m. God at Home class  
10:30 a.m. Worship  
3:00 p.m. Youth bowling at Highland Bowl (p. 3)

*Monday, November 6*

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

*Tuesday, November 7*

- 10:30 a.m. Staff  
Noon Lectionary class

*Wednesday, November 8*

- 1:30 p.m. A D Circle (*below*)  
5:30 p.m. 40+ Basketball  
7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

*Thursday, November 9*

- 7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 142

**LOOKING AHEAD:** *Sunday, November 12:* Fund-raising Soup 'n' Bread for West M

### A D CIRCLE TO MEET

The A D Circle will meet on *Wednesday, November 8*, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of **Anna Marie Holmes**. **Priscilla Zaworski** will lead the discussion. Women interested in Christian women's lives are invited. For more information, contact **Coral Torley**.

### NOTE NEW CHURCH E-MAIL ADDRESSES

Please update your church directory and e-mail address book with our new addresses for church related communications:

Rev. **Elizabeth Oettinger**  
[liz@ucc-corvallis.org](mailto:liz@ucc-corvallis.org)

Rev. **Ryan Lambert**  
[ryan@ucc-corvallis.org](mailto:ryan@ucc-corvallis.org)

Church office, **Ann Hawkins**  
[office@ucc-corvallis.org](mailto:office@ucc-corvallis.org)

Our website will continue to be at:  
[www.ucc-corvallis.org](http://www.ucc-corvallis.org)