

Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLVI, No. 18

May 4 2007

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

COME
TO THE
C E **OPEN HOUSE**

Join us for coffee in Room 5 after worship this *Sunday, May 6*. Besides offering a look at the Sunday school rooms and what is going on there, the Open House gives you a chance to review the VBS curriculum, and maybe sign up to help with this summer program. It is also an opportunity to learn about teaching church school in the fall.

NEWSLETTER ALERT

The *Congregational News* for *May 11* will be edited by **Ann Hawkins**. Please send *all* e-mail submissions for that issue to her at office@ucc-corvallis.org. Written information can be placed in the newsletter mailbox as

usual. Phone messages should also go to the church (757-8122). Thanks!

COUPON CORRECTION

Eagle-eyed (and mathematically able) readers noticed that the “That’s My Farmer” coupons, as announced, were a little bit *too* good a deal. The booklet actually has six (not eight) \$3 coupons (leaving \$2 for low-income families) for \$20. Get yours this Sunday.

CLARIFICATION ON CASH GIFTS

At last Sunday’s Adult Forum, confusing information was given about cash
(continued on page 4)

THIS SUNDAY

May 6

Adult Forum: “Lessons from the Dalai Lama” with **Michael Henthorne**

Scriptures: John 13:31-25
Acts 11:1-18

Sermon: “Pushing the Boundaries”
Elizabeth Oettinger

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*Ryan Lambert*

Dear Friends,

There are several Christian Education events on the horizon that I wanted to bring to your attention. First, our coffee hour and fellowship time after church this week will feature a “CE Open House” in the CE wing. Our hope is that you will walk through our education spaces to discover a little bit about what our education classes have been doing this year and consider whether you might see yourself taking a role in our CE program next year. Although we will have interest sheets available for next year, this is primarily an opportunity for folks to see our education spaces and how they are used. Plan to join us and enjoy some treats too!

Another upcoming event is our Vacation Bible School(VBS) that will occur from July 15-19. We will have information and even some “crafty” samples available so that parents, youth, and adults may get an advance look at our VBS plans. Vacation Bible School offers a great chance for a fun and well-rounded church experience for our children and gives them a chance to interact with adults from the church that they may not otherwise know. We are setting up our Vacation Bible School so that there are opportunities to help for the whole week or even just for one night. I hope that as you make your summer plan you will make Vacation Bible School a part of your plans!

Finally, as many of you know I was away last weekend at Camp Adams with our confirmation class. Our time at Camp Adams provided the opportunity to delve deeper into theological issues than we might otherwise do in during our shorter meetings. Additionally, as we shared meals and living space we gained a little insight into the physical and emotional work involved in building the kingdom of God. Our young people ask many inspired questions and leave me with hope for the future of church and our world. I hope you will all mark May 20th on your calendar and make plans to join us that day for Confirmation Sunday. During our worship service that day we will hear about the faith journeys and the faithful hopes of our confirmands and celebrate with them!

It is a busy and inspiring time of year. See you in church!

Ryan

SIGN UP FOR

This month, our Tuesdays to prepare Stone Soup are *May 15 and 29*, so we will need



volunteers for two meals this month. Please consider taking a shift to help cook, serve or clean up. Sign up in person on Sunday or by calling **Pat Johnson** or **Ryan Lambert**.



The youth groups will have a joint meeting from 3:00-5:00 p.m. on *Sunday, May 6*, where we will be looking at the impact of anger and violence on our society. To build our response we will look at how the media covers violence, dramatize possible responses, and look to the bible for guidance.

Although the groups will be meeting together we will be separated by age-groups during most of the afternoon. Join us and bring a friend if you would like!

The youth are having a garage sale *Saturday, June 2*, at 2825 NW Mulkey Ave. (**Dana Poling's** house) and are seeking donations of items you are ready to part with. We, the youth, will be available to take donations the three Saturdays (9:00 - noon) prior to the sale to help you unload your donations at Dana's house as she has graciously offered to store our "merchandise" in her garage until Sale Day. Dana's house is located two blocks north of Grant Ave. on 29th St.



If you have items you would like to donate but are unable to deliver them please call **Molly Chambers** (754-5824) and will be happy to make arrangements to pick them up. Thanks in advance for your support.

TIME IN: SHARING SACRED SPACE

On *Wednesday, May 9*, from 5:15-6:00 pm., the Interfaith Community of Corvallis invites you to take a few minutes at the end of a busy day to sit in contemplative silence with others of many different faiths. This time of silence, called "Time In," is held in the Chapel of First United Methodist Church, 11th & Monroe, on the second Wednesday of each month. (Please use the 11th Street entrance.)

From 5:15-5:30 p.m., a contemplative/devotional practice will be led by Lynn Walker. Silence is then observed from 5:30-6:00 pm, offering an opportunity to deepen one's experience of the practice presented or to engage in one's own form of silent contemplation, devotion or spiritual study. Participants may enter and leave at any time.

"Time In" offers an opportunity to sit in contemplative silence or devotional practice with others of many different faiths. With the objective of setting a tone of peace and unity for our community, Time In is open to people of all faiths or of no specific faith tradition, who wish to experience spiritual practice in the company of others.

A D CIRCLE MEETS

The A D Circle will meet on *Wednesday, May 9*, at 1:30 p.m. at the home of **Anna Marie Holmes**. All are welcome. For further information, contact **Coral Torley** (752-0114).

CASH GIFTS *from page 1*

contributions. The term “cash” complicates the matter; checks to a charity are considered cash gifts, as opposed to common stock or real estate for example. The following quote from the IRS website may clarify the issue:

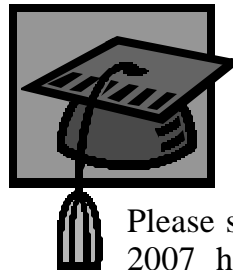
"What's New for 2007: New record-keeping requirements for cash contributions. You cannot deduct a cash contribution, regardless of the amount, unless you keep as a record of the contribution a bank record (such as a canceled check, a bank copy of a canceled check, or a bank statement containing the name of the charity, the date, and the amount) or a written communication from the charity. The written communication must include the name of the charity, date of the contribution, and amount of the contribution."

Loose cash dropped in the collection plate will not qualify for deduction on your income tax. If you put that same cash in an envelope and include your name, that gift will get recorded on your giving statement and will qualify for a tax deduction. Questions? Contact **Verlyne Phillips**.

NORTHWEST REGIONAL WOMEN'S CONFERENCE BROCHURES ARE AVAILABLE

Brochures with registration material for the Northwest Regional Women's

Conference VIII are now available in the literature rack outside Gatton Hall. The meeting will be at Kah Nee Ta resort in Central Oregon on *November 2-4, 2007* and feature storyteller Valerie Tutson as the keynoter. Registration fee which includes meals is \$150 before *July 1*, after that the price increases by \$25. This year's theme is "Recreate! Re-Create" and there will be nine workshops to sign up for after you register. For additional information, contact **Linda Hadfield**, registrar, at 752-3168. Carpools from Corvallis will be arranged this fall.



GRADUATION NEWS REQUEST

It's that time of year again and we don't want to miss anyone.

Please submit information about 2007 high school and college graduates for the newsletter. The list will appear in the *June 1 Congregational News*, so be sure to e-mail sbwickes@comcast.net, or write and drop off in the church office the following about your graduate: **graduate's name, school, plans for the coming year(s), plus any other pertinent information**

The deadline is **May 29**, but sooner is better (additions and/or corrections are welcome right up to the deadline.).

STAMPS HELP PAY THE BILLS

Help pay utility bills for needy folks in Washington County by saving the

cancelled postage stamps from your mail. Simply **cut stamps off the envelopes, leaving a ¼-inch margin** and bring them to the church. The second drawer closest to the office on the name-tag cabinet is designated to collect these stamps for Church Women United. This same drawer is the collection box for “Labels for Education” and Campbell or Swanson soup labels to be sent to Crossroad residential school in Indiana (a UCC-affiliated agency for troubled children).

LOOKING AHEAD: A MUSICAL MOTHER’S DAY!

On *Sunday afternoon, May 13*, here at our church (and the night before at LBCC in Albany), **Steve Zielke’s** Repertory Singers celebrate the City’s 150th Birthday. There’s a Baroque setting of Psalm 150, with double choir and eight brass instruments, rousing spirituals, and works by Corvallis composers, including Ron Jeffers, Hal Eastburn, and Judy Walls Freeman.



CONGRATULATIONS

... to **Patrick Yun**, who tied for fifth place for violin in the Oregon School Activities Association solo competition on April 28 at Lewis and Clark College in Portland.

TWO THANK-YOUS FROM COMMUNITY OUTREACH, INC.

Dear Friends,

Community Outreach appreciated your thoughtfulness in [delivering] casseroles for our clients [from Easter breakfast]. They were tasty and our clients lingered over them.

* * *

First Congregational UCC,

I am a four-year board member of Community Outreach who is thanking you personally for your financial contributions to help people help themselves. I can see the difference in people’s lives. I want to invite you to tour the facility if you have not already done so – in February: 298 nights of housing was provided for 19 homeless men, 391 nights of housing for 10 homeless families and 220 nights of housing was provided for 14 homeless women, 311 visits were to our 3 medical clinics. You are making a difference.

Thank you,

Shirley Peterson



SAVE THE DATE!

“**Lift Off: Soaring to New Heights with God**” will be the theme of our summer Vacation Bible School that will take place in the evenings from *July 15-19*. Vacation Bible School will feature programs for children aged 3 through 5th grade. Please save these dates to ensure that your children can participate!



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, May 8.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Friday, May 4

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

Sunday, May 6

9:15 a.m. Church School, Room 5
 9:30 a.m. Adult Forum
 9:30 a.m. God@Home class
 10:30 a.m. Worship
 (Activity Hr.) Children's Chimes
 (following) Children's Choir
 Noon-3:00 Confirmation class
 3:00-5:00 Youth groups
6:30 p.m. Dessert, Gatton Hall
7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting

Monday, May 7

9:00 a.m. Staff
 5:30 p.m. Basketball
 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Tuesday, May 8

Noon Lectionary class

Wednesday, May 9

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
 5:30 p.m. 40+ Basketball
 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, May 10

6:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice,
 Chintimini Park
 6:00-8:00 Planning Giving dinner,
 Fireplace Room
 7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 142

LOOKING AHEAD: *May 13:* Music and Christian Education Appreciation Sunday; *May 20:* Confirmation Sunday; *June 3:* Graduate Recognition Sunday; *June 17:* Summer worship schedule begins.

Our Thoughts and Prayers

... are with **Dorothy Price**, recovering from back surgery on April 30.

Many thanks for your thoughtful cards and visits. They have been such a joy and support as I recover from hip surgery. I feel truly blessed to have been a part of such a caring and helping congregation.

Warren Hovland