



# Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLVI, No. 23

June 8, 2007



## SUITCASE MINISTRY

This summer  
**Charles Helsabeck**  
and **Caroline Zaworski**

will be going to Guatemala on a pilgrimage sponsored by Faith@Work in Falls Church, Virginia. The theme will be from Isaiah 43:19, "Behold, I am doing a new thing!"

The group will focus on one main project: a school-building project. The school will provide an education site for the children as well as a community center for the village people. The purpose of the pilgrimage is to go as learners and as seekers with open hands and hearts. At all times the group will literally work side-by-side with the local people.

If you have children's school supplies or gently used children's clothes that would like to travel to Guatemala this summer, please bring them to the church anytime through *July 14* and place them in the suitcase in the foyer. Caroline and Charles will take them when they leave on *July 20* for the 11-day trip. Specific items needed are: Girl's clothing, sizes 4-14; sweatshirts and sweaters; Boy's

clothing, sizes 4-14: T-shirts, jeans, sweatshirts. Any school supplies, soccer balls, simple children's play items (balloons, Frisbees, yo-yos) will also be appreciated.

**JOIN THE  
YOUTH  
FOR FUN AND**  
The middle



school and high school youth will host the congregation for games on *Sunday, June 10* from 4:00 to 6:00 in the Meeting Hall. Please come join the youth for your favorite board game or word game. Learn a new game such as Settlers of  
*(continued on page 2)*

## **THIS SUNDAY**

*June 10*

**9:30 WORSHIP TODAY!! NO C E**

**Scriptures:** 1 Kings 17:8-24  
Luke 7:11-17

**Sermon:** "A Continuous History  
of Grace"  
Elizabeth Oettinger

**THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK***Ryan Lambert*

Dear Friends,

Officially summer begins on June 21, which is the date of the summer solstice in the Northern Hemisphere, marked by the sun's location directly above the Tropic of Cancer. This is, of course, the official beginning of summer, but summer seems to start on different dates depending on who you talk to. For instance, the summer movie season has been in full swing since Memorial Day, summer break begins for the Corvallis schools on June 15, my first opportunity to water ski will mark the official beginning of summer in my mind, but at church we are beginning our summer worship schedule **THIS SUNDAY WHEN WORSHIP MOVES TO 9:30 a.m.**

Summer is my favorite season of the year because of the long warm days, the summer fruits and vegetables (especially raspberries!), Holy Sox games, and the change of pace that seems to accompany the hot days of summer. I also appreciate summer because it is a vacation time for many and upon people's return I love hearing about the many interesting places that have been discovered. Finally, summer means church camp and our congregation is once again sending children, youth, and several adults to Camp Adams this summer.

While the summer schedule at the church definitely has a more relaxed feel, there is still worship every week, there are still bills to be paid, board meetings still occur, programs are still being planned, and even on the hottest days there are still many community needs that the church is called upon to assist in addressing. Our summer schedule does not in fact really change the workload of the church much at all. Summer volunteers are needed for Stone Soup and Vacation Bible School, undoubtedly emergency meals will be needed, and preparations have already begun for the new program year that will start in September. As we move into our summer schedule and enjoy the beauty and warmth of this season in the Willamette Valley it is my hope that amid our vacations and barbecues we might be refreshed enough to find a little extra time for supporting the programs and outreach work of our congregation. Enjoy this season and the work we are called to do together!

See you at church and outside in this beautiful place!

**Ryan**

**GAMES NIGHT *from page 1***

Catan, Ticket to Ride, or RoboRally, or play an old favorite such as Dominoes, Pictionary, or Outburst. Having youth is

not required, but feeling young may be helpful. For further details you can contact **Arne Larson** (754-9045) or **Eileen Milligan** (757-7756).



## BUY STOCK IN OUR YOUTH'S GENERAL SYNOD TRIP

The youth are selling “stock” in their General Synod trip. These stocks cost \$25 and “mature” in the form of 2 postcards from General Synod and an invitation to our post-Synod dessert. The stock purchases help pay for our youth delegation and their chaperones. Our delegation includes: **Megan Chambers, Jenny Koch, Natalie Lucker, Robin Miller, Chris Rorrer, Julie Rorrer, Kyle Thackray, Grant Smith** and their chaperones **Aleita Hass-Holcombe, John Hawkins, Charles Helsabeck, Ryan Lambert, and Shauna Lambert**. To purchase your stock look for the table in Gatton Hall after worship on *June 10 and 17* or contact Ryan at the church or via e-mail.

## THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

The youth who are going to Synod were able to raise over \$2000 at the rummage sale on June 2. Thank you to everyone who donated and purchased items! Special thanks go to **Dana Poling** for allowing us to use her yard and garage as a collection and sale site and for her copious pricing and sale knowledge.

Thanks also to **Rhonda Mueller-Warrant** and **Libby Ankarberg** for their help on pricing, set up, and more! Thanks to **Wayne Phillips** and **Julie Corbett** for the use of their trucks; to **Ann Hawkins** for handling many

phone calls and helping above and beyond the call of duty! Thanks also to the **youth** for all their hard work and finally, thanks to the **Chambers** and **Lucker** families for their hours and hours of work to make the sale a huge success!

## 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY FOR PCC

This year, the **Pastoral Counseling Center** marks 30 years of service to Benton and Linn Counties and a celebration of **Jeff Lindner's** 25 years as the center's director. All who have a connection to PCC or just support its work are invited to the anniversary celebration and farewell to Jeff on *Thursday, June 21* at 7:00 p.m. at Good Samaritan Episcopal Church.



## FILL THE FOOD BARREL

Let's fill the food barrel this Sunday—and every Sunday. The barrel's contents are picked up every two weeks by representatives of the South Corvallis Food Bank, and someone will be coming this next week. They are very thankful for the contributions we make and it would be wonderful to have the barrel overflowing. Needed items now are: **hearty soups, toothpaste, sugar, jams, breakfast cereals.**

During the summer, please be mindful of the need for this support to folks in our community for whom food insecurity is a reality.

## Ask Reverend Manners

Dear Rev. Manners,

**I take advantage of the church's electronic giving program, and therefore no longer put my offering in the offering plate at church. This brings up the question of what to do when the offering plate is passed to me – especially when I sit on the end of an almost vacant pew. Is there a particular church etiquette that covers this situation?**

**An Inquiring Mind**

Dear Inquiring Mind,

Many church members these days give electronically, or give in one lump sum, or mail a quarterly or monthly check. As your church treasurer would say, the church's response to the many forms of giving outside the weekly offering plate is to say "Thank you!"

Concerning etiquette when the plate is passed, if you have nothing to put in, you simply need to check with the usher whether it is best to pass the plate down your row or simply hand it back. Especially in summer, when attendance goes down, it is often easier in pews where people are seated only at the ends for the ushers on each side to take care of those people. You certainly should not feel bad about not putting anything in. You have already made your gift.

Cordially,  
Rev. Manners

### **SALMON BARBECUE IS COMING**

Mark your calendars so you don't miss out on this summer's Salmon Barbecue. This long-standing traditional event happens at noon on *Sunday, July 15*. The "job sign-up fish" will be swimming your way starting this Sunday. Prized committee chair positions are still available and lots of committee members slots.

### **PRESIDENT'S CONCERT THIS SATURDAY AT FCC**

At our church, this *Saturday, June 9*, the **OSU Chamber Choir**, under the direction of Dr. **Steven M. Zielke**, will perform the President's Concert: "Around the World in 80 Minutes: Exotic Choral Music from the Four Corners of the Globe." Tickets are \$10.



... to **Karen French** for being selected "First Year Club Woman" for Altrusa International of Corvallis. Karen has jumped into all kinds of service projects and has created marketing pieces for the club.

... to **Beth Caldwell** who received her Ph.D. from the University of Colorado, Boulder, in Speech, Language and Hearing Science on May 11. And she did it with two children under 2½ at home!

... to the **Nelson** family. **Pete** and **Susie** have a new grandson! **Finn Peter Nelson** was born on May 15, in Oakland,

California, weighing 8 lb. 4 oz. Dad **Greg** and Mom **Caitlin** and baby are all doing well.

### **PFLAG SUPPORT GROUP MEETS**

This month's meeting of Parents and Friends of Lesbians, Gays, Bi and Transgendered People will be held *Monday, June 11* at 6:45 p.m., in the basement of First United Methodist Church, 1165 NW Monroe, Corvallis

The speakers will be a representative from the Jackson Street Youth Shelter and Tab Dansby who recently went on the Equality Ride. The Jackson Street Youth Shelter is a wonderful place that meets the needs of our youth in crisis. The Equality Ride is a countrywide journey to further the cause of ending religious-based LGBT oppression, and is modeled after the Freedom Rides of the fifties and sixties.

There will also be a time for sharing during the second hour. People who support equality for all people are welcome to come. Questions? 231-9598.

### **JUNE BIRTHDAYS**

Barbara Cormack 6/1, Anna Harding 6/2, Ruth Freund 6/5, Karen Jones 6/5, Kyle Skyllingstad 6/8, Daniel Jones 6/9, Amy Nafshun 6/10, Nadine Skyllingstad 6/18, Jerry Groesz 6/22, David Zielke 6/23; Sandy Piper 6/24, Wally Christianson 6/24, Kristin Rorrer 6/25, Hans Eleveld 6/27, John Erkkila 6/27, Aleita Hass-Holcombe



6/27, Cynthia Janes 6/27, Michael Hen-thorne 6/28, Carl Lucker 6/28

### **JUNE ANNIVERSARIES**

Larry and Jan Small 6/9 (44<sup>th</sup>)  
 Don and Ruth Leeper 6/9 (56<sup>th</sup>)  
 Irwin and Kay Harris 6/11 (65<sup>th</sup>)  
 Jim and Chris Cantey 6/12  
 Jerry and Nancy Groesz 6/12  
 Pete and Susie Nelson 6/14 (40<sup>th</sup>)  
 Russ and Mary Youmans 6/15 (49<sup>th</sup>)  
 Norm and Marj Elwood 6/16  
 Terry and Sally Robertson 6/17 (40<sup>th</sup>)  
 Kim and Karen Jones 6/18 (30<sup>th</sup>)  
 Doug and Sue Richmond 6/20 (26<sup>th</sup>)  
 Ray and Nancy William 6/21 (38<sup>th</sup>)  
 Neal and Joni Peterson 6/24 (40<sup>th</sup>)  
 Mike and Carol Huntington 6/25 (19<sup>th</sup>)  
 John and Brenda Cochran 6/25 (19<sup>th</sup>)  
 Ching-Yue and Chunhuei Chi 6/26 (25<sup>th</sup>)



*Mary Seeman and Jim Hall  
 invite you to share in the  
 celebration of their wedding  
 Saturday, July 7, 2007  
 two o'clock in the afternoon*

*First Congregational Church  
 4515 SW West Hills Road  
 Corvallis, Oregon*

*Reception following at the church  
 No gifts, please*

*Please reply to 752-7967*



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, June 12.

### WEEKLY CALENDAR

*Friday, June 8*

7:05 p.m. Holy Sox make-up  
 game, Washington

*Saturday, June 9*

**7:30 p.m. President's Concert**  
*(see page 4)*

*Sunday, June 10*

**9:30 a.m.** Worship  
**4:00-6:00 All-church game night**  
 Meeting Hall *(page 1)*

7:00 p.m. Holy Sox,  
 N. Chintimini

7:00 p.m. Read & Feed,  
 Christianson

*Monday, June 11*

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

*Tuesday, June 12*

9:00 a.m. Staff  
 Noon Lectionary class

*Wednesday, June 13*

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

7:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice

*Thursday, June 14*

7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 142

*Friday, June 15*

7:30 p.m. Badminton, Gatton Hall

### READ & FEED MEETS

**Greg** and **Rose Christianson** are hosting this month's gathering of Read & Feed. The discussion of *Color: A Natural History of the Palette* by Victoria Findlay starts at 7:00 p.m. on *Sunday, June 10*. Dessert will follow.

### UCC PRESIDENT'S SPRING ASSEMBLY ADDRESS

In her sermon on May 27, **Liz** referenced several observations from UCC President **John Thomas's** address to the Central Pacific Conference Spring Assembly. A complete copy of his remarks titled, "Hope for the Future," will be available by the sermon rack on the name tag table for pick-up this Sunday.