

Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLVI, No. 27

July 13, 2007

Salmon Barbecue Sunday

Worship

Garth Greenup, principal trumpet of the New Jersey Symphony and featured performer at last month's Chintimini Festival, will play for worship this *Sunday, July 15*. He and **Kristin Rorrer**, organ, will perform Giuseppe Torelli's *Andante* and *Allegro* from Sonata G. 1, and "Elegy" by Alexander Arutiunian.

Barbecue

Remember to bring your potluck dish: **two items** for families (vegetables or bread, and salad or dessert; singles bring one item. Beverages are provided, but bring your own table setting(s). Food service begins at noon in Hanson Grove.

Late morning activities on the lawn for kids include slippery slide, croquet, and badminton.

Entertainment during the barbecue will be provided, once again, by **Pink Salmon**, featuring musicians **Chris Rorrer**, **Steve Milligan**, **Gavin Milligan**, and **Joaquin Acosta**.

LAST CHANCE FOR SUITCASE MINISTRY DONATIONS

If you want to contribute school supplies or children's clothing to the Guatemala Suitcase Ministry, this *Sunday, July 15*, will be the last Sunday to do so.



Summer Worship

THIS SUNDAY – July 15

Scriptures: Deuteronomy 30:9-14
Luke 10:25-37
Music: [see above left]
Sermon: "The View from
the Ground"
Elizabeth Oettinger

NEXT SUNDAY – July 22

Scriptures: Luke 10:38-42
Music: Justin Yun, violin

Sermon:	VBS participants "A Letter to Martha" Elizabeth Oettinger
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THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*Ryan Lambert*

Dear Friends,

I believe that ecumenism is a key part of the work of the church, and for the United Church of Christ, ecumenical fervor played a large role in our very existence. As you know, the United Church of Christ was formed by the merger of the Congregational Christian Church and the Evangelical and Reformed Church in 1957. In fact, at that time there was some debate about whether we should be called the United Church of Christ or the Uniting Church of Christ, which was thought to model the hope that the church would some day be united as one through more mergers. My own sense of the church was informed by the ecumenical spirit of my experiences at summer camps that joined the United Church of Christ, the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), and the Church of the Brethren. Thus, it was with more than a little frustration that I read Pope Benedict IV's statement that reinforced the Catholic Church as the "one true church" at the expense of ecumenical connections. It is my hope that no matter what proclamations come from denominational leaders or what disputes might exist at the upper levels of denominational leadership, that local congregations might find ways to work together in Christ's service. In fact, my experience in Corvallis shows that ecumenical work is foundational to our congregation and many others who "do" ministry. The list of ecumenical work in Corvallis is long and includes Westminster House, Stone Soup, the cold-weather homeless shelter, the Pastoral Counseling Center, and WeCare. This is a terrific list that speaks to the importance of ecumenical work and the strength that comes in working together.

One new way that we are building upon our ecumenical connections is by sharing a booth at the fair with First United Methodist Church. Sharing a booth will allow us to connect with members of that congregation while we spread the word about the work of both congregations. Our churches are both traditional mainline congregations, both are active in responding to the peace and justice needs of our region, both are open and affirming congregations, and we both have been present at the fair over the last couple of years with separate booths. This year, by combining forces, we can be present while also requiring fewer volunteers and modeling ecumenical cooperation. Beginning **this Sunday** there will be sign-ups for shifts throughout the fair. The plan is to have one volunteer from each congregation on hand from noon-10:00 p.m. during the fair. Over the next few weeks the Outreach and Evangelism Committee will be seeking volunteers to staff the booth. Shifts will be noon-3:00 p.m. 3:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m., and 6:00 p.m.-10:00 p.m. Look for the sign-up sheet on Sunday and help us as we carry on our ecumenical tradition!

Blessings, **Ryan**

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be happening from *Sunday, July 14* through *Thursday, July 19*. We will gather each evening at 5:30 for a brown bag supper and we will begin our program by 6:00 p.m. Children aged 3 through (entering) Grade 5 are invited! Plan to join us beginning this Sunday night.

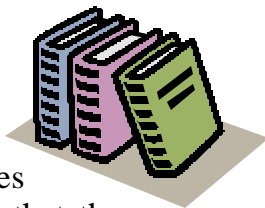
STONE SOUP, COUNTY FAIR NEED YOU

We're up for **Stone Soup** preparation and serving this month on *Tuesday, July 17*. Some of the "regulars" are helping with Vacation Bible School that day, so this is a great time for some new people to volunteer. Look for the sign-up sheets this Sunday and plan to help at First Christian Church kitchen for part of the 3:00-8:00 time period.

We will also have **County Fair booth** sign-ups after church this *Sunday, July 15*. If you want to participate, but won't be in church, please call the church office to volunteer. The fair runs *August 1-5*.

READY FOR SUMMER READING?

A new display in the library features some books of fiction that the librarians are suggesting for your summer reading. There are still a large num-



ber of books which have been checked out for a very long time and it would be helpful if they could return to our shelves! Also, we plan to move the videos to a top shelf in the back of the room to make space for the large number of newly cataloged volumes. Many thanks to **Janice Engle** and **Marion Whitney** for their assistance with library projects.

THERE'S STILL TIME! REGISTER FOR KAH NEE TA

Extra registration forms for the Northwest Regional Women's Conference VIII (*November 2-4*) are located in the literature rack at the Gatton Hall entrance. This year's keynoter is **Valerie Tutson**, a story teller who performed at General Synod in Hartford lastmonth. The conference theme is "Recreate! Re-Create." The registration fee includes all meals. Housing costs are not paid until check-out time at the lodge and depend on the type of room you select. Financial aid is available from the Rev. Anne Smith Educational Loan/Grant Fund and application forms for that are available in the church office. Carpools will be arranged from Corvallis. Contact **Linda Hadfield**, registrar, for additional information.

Our Thoughts and Prayers

... are with **Sara Fisk** and her family, following the death of her brother **Verlan** in Spain, where he had lived for many years.



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

Salmon Barbecue

Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, July 24.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, July 15

9:30 a.m. Worship
(following) Salmon Barbecue,
Hanson Grove
5:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School
begins

5:40 p.m. Holy Sox, Pioneer Park

Monday, July 16

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

Tuesday, July 17

3:00-8:00 Stone Soup
5:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School
 7:00 p.m. Trustees Board

Wednesday, July 18

5:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School
 5:30 p.m. 40+ Basketball
 7:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice
 7:00 p.m. Endowment Board

Thursday, July 19

11:45 a.m. Lunch Group
5:30 p.m. Vacation Bible School

Sunday, July 22

9:30 a.m. Worship
 3:00 p.m. Holy Sox make-up
 game, N. Chintimini
 4:20 p.m. Holy Sox,
 N. Chintimini

Monday, July 23

5:30 p.m. Basketball
 7:00 p.m. Mission Board
 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Tuesday, July 24

9:00 a.m. Staff
 4:00 p.m. Pastoral Relations
 Committee
 7:15 p.m. Church Council

Wednesday, July 25

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

HOLY SOX DOUBLE-HEADER

Fans!: Two games are scheduled for
Sunday, July 22, at North Chintimini
 Park: 3:00 (make-up), and 4:20. Join us!