



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLVI, No. 37

October 19, 2007

CAAIR FUND RAISER UPDATE

CAAIR (Corvallis Albany Assisting Iraqi Refugees) is hosting a delicious **bread and soup lunch** on *Saturday, October 27*, from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. in the Odd Fellows Hall, 223 SW 2nd Street, Corvallis. The menu includes a choice of three kinds of soups, breads, cheese, fruit and cookies, all for a minimum donation of \$6.00. Special desserts and pottery bowls are also for sale, and look for CAAIR gift cards for your family and friends. Join us for lunch.

Volunteers are needed that morning to help with the following: Preparing the soups and slicing fruit (3 people); cleaning up the dining hall and/or dishwashing; and purchasing luscious desserts to be delivered by 10:00 that morning. (Purchased baked goods --cheese cakes, pies or cakes-- from commercial bakeries or grocery stores are needed due to the health regulation for food safety and selling to the public.) We hope to serve 100 people.

The second scheduled fund-raiser is **dinner and entertainment** on *Friday, November 9*, at 7:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church, 1165 NW

Monroe, Corvallis. The menu offers a variety of delicious Middle Eastern foods. The Corvallis Belly Dancing Performance Guild will provide entertainment. It will be a fun evening. Mark your calendar and bring your appetite.

All proceeds go to a Mercy Corps project in Jordan to serve Iraqi refugees who desperately need medical care, education and safety.



THIS SUNDAY

October 21

Adult Forum: **Megan Chambers** and **Aleita Hass-Holcombe** and will report on their experiences in Nicaragua this past summer with Witness for Peace.

Scriptures: Genesis 32:22-31
Luke 18:1-8

Sermon: "A Limp and a Blessing"
Elizabeth Oettinger

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*Elizabeth Oettinger*

Dear Friends,

I called a friend and former colleague today and got his voice mail. The message let me know that if I had called between 8:30 and 10:30 in the morning, that was my friend's study and prayer time and he would return the call when he was done.

The message evokes a range of responses in me. More and more, we live in a world of cell phones, and e-mail, and the expectation that we will be always and immediately available to anyone who seeks us. It's a wonderful thing in times of crisis. We can respond, we can mobilize ourselves and others more quickly than ever when there's a need. But I think we lose something also.

I was walking in MacDonald forest a few days ago. A fellow walker passed me with his cell phone pressed to his ear. I wonder how much he noticed of the sights and sounds around him. I know few persons who work who leave for vacation these days without taking their computers and/or phones with them. "I'll be away for a week," goes the standard message, "but I will check my e-mail/voice mail regularly." How much are we really letting ourselves get away when we're always checking in with work?

How often do you let yourself just be in the world, doing one thing, being with only the people in the room with you, completely "unplugged" from all those who want access to you? Maybe we would all be better off if we put aside two hours a day for prayer and study, or time to be quiet, or time to talk uninterrupted with someone we love, or ...you fill in the blank.

Just because the quantity of our communication is greater does not necessarily mean that the quality of that communication is also improved, or that the quality of our lives are improved. What would you do with two hours a day just for you and what you need? It's an intriguing thought.

Let me know what you think.

Liz



**LET CELEBRITY CHEFS
COOK FOR YOU!**

Tickets (\$20/adults; \$10/children 12 and under) are available this Sunday for the Community Outreach Chili Fund-raiser to be held at our church on *Sunday, November*

4, from 6:00-8:00 p.m. Three of the ten celebrity chefs are members of our congregation, and our youth will help serve! **Karen French** and the Willamette Ceramics Guild will offer donated bowls for purchase for an additional donation .

Proceeds benefit the medical and dental clinics of Community Outreach.



UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY AT OSU

Make a Joyful Noise! A Choral Celebration, featuring choirs and ensembles from Mid-Valley United Methodist Churches and partnering congregations (including First Congregational's!), will be held on *Sunday, October 28*, at 3:00 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1165 NW Monroe, Corvallis. A free-will offering in support of United Campus Ministry at OSU will be taken. Refreshments the concert.

CE POTLUCK FOR FAMILIES

The Children's Committee of the Christian Education Board is hosting a potluck for "families with children in 5th



come!).

grade and younger" on *Friday, October 26* at 6:00 p.m. (older siblings are, of course, welcome!).

The CE board will provide hot dogs, a vegetarian dish, drinks, and cider. Families with last names beginning with **A-L should bring a side dish or salad to share and M-Z families should bring bread or dessert.** The evening will include pumpkin painting, games, and more, and non-violent costumes for people of all ages are encouraged!



LEARN TO KNIT, SEW SAFE TOYS

What to do about lead paint on toys? Make our own! Did you know that there are many books and patterns for knitted toys -- full sets of Snow White and all Seven Dwarves, for example? And remember the old-fashioned rag dolls, with knitted and sewn clothing? Or do you just want to knit a sweater for somebody's Bitty Baby?

Here's your chance: **Sarah Hoffman** is starting a volunteer, drop-in knitting (+crocheting, +sewing) group which will meet at her house Tuesday mornings and Thursday evenings. The goal is to make as many hand-knit and handmade toys as we can to donate to Vina Moses and Community Outreach to replace potentially dangerous imported toys in the community Christmas baskets that go out to low-income families in December. Sarah will teach anyone how to knit or how to sew, how to embroider eyes and how to braid yarn hair. All you need to bring is yourself. Call her at 757-7562 for more information.

OREGON ART BEAT FEATURES KAREN MILLER

Karen Miller is featured this month on Oregon Art Beat, doing as much katazome (Japanese stencil dyeing) as will fit in an eight-minute segment! The program airs *Thursday, October 18* at 8:00 p.m. and again the following *Sunday, October 21*, at 6:00 p.m. on OPB.



HEART OF THE VALLEY CHOIRS FUND- RAISER

Jenny Koch will be selling poinsettias from Peoria Gardens to raise money for HVCC's tour to Somerset, England this summer. The cost is \$10 per plant. They will be delivered the week of Thanksgiving to you at church or to your homes.

SUBMIT YOUR FAVORITE INSPIRATIONAL WORDS!

The **Worship Committee** is starting a project to print a booklet of inspirational words for publication by the start of Lent. We are looking for submissions by members of the congregation of their favorite words whether prose or poetry. Black and white art work may also be considered for the booklet.

So we invite you to submit your favorite words -- words that you turn to time and time again -- words that maybe you yourself have written or words that have been penned by others (credit will be given to the authors). Please bring your submissions to the office or to one of the Worship Committee members: **Michael Henthorne, Pat Phillips, Patrick O'Dell, Monine Stebbins** or **Jerry Groesz** by *December 1*.

We hope that this booklet of encouragement and spirituality will become a resource to our members when a sense of inner peace may be needed.

WOMEN INVITED TO CLUSTER MEETING

Next *Wednesday, October 24*, there will be a Central Pacific Conference Women's cluster meeting at Beaver Creek United Church of Christ. The gathering begins at 9:30 a.m. with a brief worship service at 10:00 a.m. The Rev. **Jean Doane** will give a power point presentation on Global Ministries of the UCC. She has just completed a six-year term as a member of the national Wider Church Ministries Board so is very knowledgeable of this subject. The registration fee will be \$7, which includes lunch. This meeting will probably be over by 2:00 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please contact **Nancy Klingeman** (753-3350) by Monday morning, *October 22*, so she can make your reservation with the Beaver Creek church and arrange your transportation.

CARPOOLS FOR KAH NEE TA ARE FORMING

Around 30 women from our congregation are registered for the Northwest Regional Women's Conference at Kah Nee Ta in November. We will attempt to carpool for the drive over there instead of taking 30 cars----so please let **Nancy Klingeman** know whether you plan to drive or will need a ride!

“ Even if I knew that tomorrow the world would go to pieces, I would still plant my apple tree. ”

Martin Luther

THANKS FOR SEPTEMBER MISSION OFFERING

Dear Friends at UCC,

Thank you for your continued and regular, generous support of WE CARE. Each week we are stretched to help the most needy amongst us [with housing, utility, medical, transportation, employment, etc.]. It is with your generosity [\$425] that we are able to do this work of "people helping people."

Sincerely,

The WE CARE Board

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Mike McNally 11/1,
Cathy Phelps 11/4, Gin-
nie Esary 11/6, Arne
Larson 11/6, Tammy
Skubinna 11/9, Rowland
French 11/13, Katie
Richmond 11/13, Jan Thornton 11/15,
Kathy Hall 11/15, Jean Adams 11/16,
Claire Goldner 11/16, Mark Thackray
11/16, Joan Caldwell 11/25, Tim Thorn-
ton 11/25, Kent Sherwood 11/27, Susan
Pisias 11/29, Colin Frojen-Andersson
11/29, Rick Nafshun 11/30



NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

John and Sandy Murphy 11/24 (35th)

Caroline Zaworski and Charles

Helsabeck 11/25 (1st)

* * * * *

Not on the birthday/anniversary list?
Drop the information in the office news-
letter box or e-mail **Susan Wickes** to be
included.



COMING THIS FALL

November 4: All Saints Sunday -- The "sermon" will be presented by the **Sanctuary Choir**, singing the Fauré *Requiem*. The original four movements will be performed: *Introit* and *Kyrie* (Grant them rest eternal), *Sanctus* (Holy, Holy, Holy), *Agnus dei* (Lamb of God), and *In paradisum* (In paradise). The choir will be accompanied by a 10-person orchestra. People are invited to bring a candle to light in memory of the saints in their lives; the names of our saints will then be read during the worship service.

November 4: Stewardship Sunday -- In the three weeks before Stewardship Sunday, you will receive three letters discussing our stewardship theme, "Gather Us In." The letters will include a copy of the proposed 2008 budget (which is voted on at the end of January). This year's Stewardship Chair is **Mike McNally**.

November 18: Thanksgiving Sunday -- pledges to be turned in during worship

December 2: Advent Festival -- Crafts and other Advent activities for all ages before and after worship in Gatton Hall - no C E this Sunday



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, October 23.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Friday, October 19

7:00 p.m. Badminton, Gatton Hall

Sunday, October 21

9:15 a.m. Church School, Room 5
 9:30 a.m. Adult Forum
 10:30 a.m. Worship
 (following) Inquirers' Class
 5:00 p.m. Middle School Youth
 6:30 p.m. High School Youth

Monday, October 22

5:30 p.m. Basketball
 7:00 p.m. C E Board

Tuesday, October 23

9:00 a.m. Staff
 Noon Lectionary class
 7:15 p.m. Church Council
 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Wednesday, October 24

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

Thursday, October 25

11:00 a.m. Spirituality Group

Friday, October 26

6:00 p.m. Halloween potluck
 (see page 3)

7:00 p.m. Badminton, Gatton Hall

Reminder: Updated church directory information is available on the name tag cabinet this Sunday, so, if you haven't picked one up yet, remember to do so. This insert, contains approximately 60 information changes.

THANKS TO THE CHURCH COMMUNITY

The memorial reception for **Betty Johnson** was ably supported by **Karen Herold, Eleanor MacDonald, Alice Morrow, Susie Nelson and Anna Marie Holmes**, with additional contributions from **Monine Stebbins and Joni Peterson**. Thanks to all for providing service to honor a special lady.

Ellie Erkkila, Receptions