



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLVII, No. 11

March 14, 2008

This *Sunday, March 16*, we will gather before the service in Gatton Hall to form a palm procession and then move into the sanctuary. Those with mobility issues are invited to take their seats in the sanctuary when they arrive, as usual.



about noon. Sign up in the entry hall at church this Sunday or call **Monine Stebbins** at 754-8039 or the office to volunteer.

EASTER SIGN-UPS -- FINAL WEEK

If you have not had a chance to put your name down, call the office this week or sign up Sunday. There are still openings for Easter Breakfast kitchen help (Saturday: 10:00 a.m. set-up; Sun-

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GATHERING EASTER FLOWERS



Easter is early and spring is late, so the flower situation seems a little scarce in our yard.

If you have some flowers that you could share with the church for Easter, please bring them to Gatton Hall on *Saturday, March 22*, at 10:00 a.m. That's when the flower arrangers will be doing the bouquets. We need to gather up enough to decorate the sanctuary, the Easter Breakfast tables, and the entries. We plan to buy extra flowers so we can have plenty, but whatever you can spare will be appreciated.

Flower arrangers are needed for *Saturday, March 22*, from 10:00 a.m. until

THIS SUNDAY

March 16

Adult Forum: Palm Sunday through Contemporary Film: Using scripture, film clips and discussion, we will look at how film portrayals of Palm Sunday add to or confuse our understanding of Palm Sunday.

Scriptures: Psalm 118
Matthew 21:1-11

Sermon: "The Truth of Hosannas"
Elizabeth Oettinger

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*Ryan Lambert*

Dear Friends,

Spring break in White Swan!?! On Monday, March 24 (the day after Easter!) ten of our senior high youth and adult sponsors will head toward White Swan, Washington and the Yakama Indian Mission. The Yakama Indian Mission was begun as a missionary site of the American Christian Missionary Society in 1921 and has been related to the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) since its denominational formation.

While in White Swan we will participate in a learning and serving experience that will engage our group in service opportunities and learn about justice issues that are especially relevant to reservation life. Over the course of five days our youth will spend time working on the Mission's Just Living house (which is similar to a Habitat for Humanity build), doing other labor projects at the mission and its farm environment, and participating in workshops that will teach about reservation life, the ramifications of privilege, and other justice topics. While we are at the Yakama Indian Mission we will also be joined by a group from the Disciples of Christ congregation in Aloha, Oregon.

As I have been preparing for this trip I have realized how little I really know about life on Native American reservations, even though I have always lived in the Pacific Northwest where reservations abound. Since we all live in a region that has many reservations this trip will provide an opportunity to give us all insight into local cultures that are often ignored or forgotten. It is my hope that this opportunity to travel to the Yakama Indian Mission will provide our youth with an opportunity to explore the contemporary life of one of the Pacific Northwest's Native American tribes and also provide experiential context and insight into the complicated nature of justice issues—an opportunity that could have life-changing ramifications.

If you are interested in seeing learning more about what our youth will be doing and experiencing please check out the Yakama Indian Mission's website at: www.disciplesnw.org/yakama/main.html. As a part of translating this experience to our congregation the youth will be helping to lead worship on March 30, when the sermon time will feature stories of our experiences.

Blessings,

Ryan

Sign up this Sunday to help prepare and serve Stone Soup on *Tuesday, March 18*, or call **Pat Johnson** to volunteer or for more information. Cooks, servers and cleaners-up are needed, starting at 3:00 p.m. at First Christian Church, Corvallis.



The youth will be going bowling at Highland Bowl on *Sunday afternoon, March 16.*

The current plan is to meet at the bowling alley at 4:00 p.m. Note that this is a combined activity for the Middle and High School groups. Please RSVP by Saturday afternoon to **Ryan** at the church or via e-mail so that he can reserve enough lanes.

Looking ahead, the High School youth will be taking the Friday night (actually Saturday morning) midnight to 1:00 a.m. slot at the Easter Vigil on *Friday, March 21.* After participating in the vigil as a group we will be going to Shari's for a late night dessert. Adult drivers are needed to help out with this event! Please contact Ryan to let him know that you are planning to participate in the vigil or to let him know if your parents can drive.

UPDATE YOUR PICTURE!

The **Outreach and Evangelism Committee** is continuing to work on updating the picture board outside of the church office. To make it easy for people to have updated pictures, **Mark Thackray** will be taking pictures this Sunday at the south end of Gatton Hall during Coffee Hour. If your picture hasn't been updated in the last couple of years please seek Mark on Sunday?

Dear Friends,

I am so fortunate to be surrounded by your care. There is no question in my mind that you are a factor in how well I am tolerating my treatment. I love a good beginning! There are harder days ahead, but that is a concern for another time. Right now I am enjoying feeling well and going about my days with quite a bit of "normal" to them. Thank you for your prayers and all the other ways you have given support to both Wayne and me.

Verlyne Phillips

Our Thoughts and Prayers

... continue to be with **Julie Corbett** as she recovers from knee surgery;
... and with all in the members of the congregation undergoing treatments.

Dear Liz, Ryan and other members of Jean's church,

My sister Mary and I wanted to thank you for helping us through, and after Jean's passing. The service you gave and the reception were beautiful. I'm sure Jean would have approved (or maybe she was there enjoying it with us).

The Heath clan is grateful to you all.
Thank you.

Charlie [Heath]



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

Palm Sunday, March 16

10:30 a.m. - Worship service begins with a Palm Procession. Adults (except the choir) will gather in Gatton Hall just before the service; children and youth in Room 5. People with mobility issues are invited to take a seat in the sanctuary as usual.

Maundy Thursday, March 20

6:30 p.m. - Service starts with a festival meal in Gatton Hall. Worship continues with a Tenebrae service in the sanctuary and the stripping of the church. Cellist Nancy Sowdon will play. (Please

call the church office or sign up on Palm Sunday to let us know if you will be attending this service.)

Good Friday, March 21

8:00 p.m. - Service is based on the Passion story as told by Luke. The Sanctuary Choir will sing.

The Easter Vigil

Between 9:00 on Good Friday until 6:00 Easter morning, take one hour to attend, to meditate, to be present in the sanctuary in silence.

Easter Sunday, March 23

8:30 a.m. - Be a part of the dramatic transformation of the sanctuary from darkness to light as the Vigil ends and we first hear the good news of the Resurrection. Communion will be served and youth will act as worship leaders and musicians.

9:15 -10:30 a.m. - Easter Breakfast is served in Gatton Hall (\$2/person).

11:00 a.m. - Celebration service, with music by the Sanctuary Choir with brass and timpani

REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

Gathering in the Garden: Empowering Low-Income Neighbors by Growing Food on Faith Community Land



Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) is seeking proposals from Corvallis faith communities with a desire to develop a community garden that emphasizes low-income community involvement. The ideal project partner would be a congregation with sufficient land, water, growing conditions and institutional commitment to launch a thriving garden located within reach of low-income people. Candidates must be willing to participate in a larger effort to enhance access to fresh, locally grown food for low-income people and to examine the advantages and disadvantages of using faith community land for gardening projects.

Total funding available is \$8,662 for garden supplies and infrastructure and \$12,375 toward staffing. Funding must be used by *September 30, 2010*. Depending on the readiness of the congregation, gardening activities could begin immediately. Alternatively, 2008 could serve as a planning and building period. A collaborative effort between more than one faith community is also acceptable.

To apply, please submit a 1-2 page letter describing your interest in developing a low-income community gardening program as part of EMO's Corvallis-

based Community Food Projects Grant, Toward a Vibrant Food System. Address issues such as how a garden fits within your faith community mission, how you might recruit low-income participants to fill garden plots, and what kinds of educational and community-building events you might host. How would your garden serve as a model for other faith communities? Send letters to lgifford@emoregon.org by *April 11, 2008*.

Liv N. Gifford

Interfaith Food & Farms Partnership
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon
(541) 207-2001 -- cell

CAMP ADAMS 2008 SCHEDULE

(campers should have completed the grades listed)

Work Camp:	<i>June 22-25</i>
(Must be 18, or 12 and up with a parent/guardian)	
Young Adult Camp	<i>June 25-28</i>
(ages 18-20)	
Family Camp (all ages):	<i>June 25-28</i>
Family Camp	
Open House Night	<i>June 27-28</i>
Pathfinders (Grades 6/7):	<i>June 29- July 5</i>
Genesis/Seekers	
(Grades 2/3):	<i>July 6-12</i>
Discoverers (Grades 4/5):	<i>July 13-19</i>
Sojourners (Grades 7/8):	<i>July 20-26</i>
Exodus (High School):	<i>July 27- August 2</i>



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, March 18.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Palm Sunday, March 16

- 9:00 a.m. Sanctuary Choir
- 9:15 a.m. Church School, Room 5
- 9:30 a.m. Adult Forum
- 10:30 a.m. Worship
- 4:00 p.m. Middle and High School youth, Highland Bowl

Monday, March 17

- 7:00 p.m. C E Board
- 7:30 p.m. Badminton

Tuesday, March 18

- 8:30 a.m. Staff
- Noon Lectionary class
- 3:00 p.m. Stone Soup
- 7:00 p.m. Trustees Board
- 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir**
- 7:30 p.m. Spirit Quest
- 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Wednesday, March 19

NO Sanctuary Choir

Maundy Thursday, March 20

- 11:45 a.m. Lunch Group

6:30 p.m. Worship (includes dinner)

Good Friday, March 21

- 7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir
- 8:00 p.m. Worship**
- 9:00 p.m. Easter Vigil begins**

Reminder

SHOP AT FIRST ALTERNATIVE IN MARCH; BENEFIT SOUTH CORVALLIS FOOD BANK

When you shop at the Coop during March and use the South Corvallis Food Bank's number, **64**, the Food Bank will be credited with 2% of your purchase, up to \$1,000 total from Coop shoppers.

EASTER SIGN-UPS *from page 1*

day: 8:15 and 9:15 a.m. kitchen help and 10:30 clean-up shift). Casserole makers are still needed. There is still time to add your name for the Maundy Thursday service -- with dinner, so we need a count -- and the Easter Vigil.