

Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLVII, No. 16

April 18, 2008

Spring Arts & Crafts Festival

This **Saturday, April 19**, Gatton Hall will be transformed into a splendid arts and crafts venue! Come stroll through the booths and peruse the wonderful items made by local and regional artists. Chat with the vendors and learn a bit about their art forms and how they create their art. There will be something for everyone to enjoy.

If you feel a bit peckish while you are there, you can sit down, relax, and enjoy a yummy snack or lunch in our lovely "food court" area. Items donated by local artists will be raffled off throughout the day, and there will be free activities for the children. Plan to spend part--or all!--of your Saturday at the Spring Arts & Crafts Festival.

By coming to the festival, you will be supporting the youth program of the church, you will be supporting the arts in our community and beyond, and you will be having a fun, relaxing experience, no matter what the weather! Please come!

"THAT'S MY FARMER"

It's that time of year again! The local

markets are ready to provide us with lots of great nutritional choices. The 2008 "That's My Farmer" coupon books can help you be ready for the markets.

Remember the \$20 coupon book does several great things. Of course, it gives you \$18 worth of locally produced food from participating farms (and the list continues to grow). The extra \$2 is a charitable contribution to hunger programs in our community. In addition, the coupon books are reminders to us about taking steps to be a more sustainable community--buying food within a rea-

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THIS SUNDAY

April 20

Adult Forum: Part 4 of the "From Jesus to Christ" series: Peter & Paul, Building the Church, and First Revolt -- **Charles Helsabeck** leads the discussion following the video.

Scriptures: Acts 7:55-60
John 14:1-14

Sermon: "Second Chances"
Elizabeth Oettinger

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*Ryan Lambert*

Dear Friends,

The Christian Education Board is planning a beach party event for our children and you are all invited to come and help with the festivities! The 2008 edition of Vacation Bible School (VBS) will be centered on the theme **Beach Party: Surfin' through the Scriptures** and our summer session will take place from 5:30-8:15 p.m. on the evenings of *July 13-17*. Since many parents and grandparents are making summer plans already, the CE Board would like to make sure that everyone can get these dates on their calendar!

The Christian Education Board is excited about the Beach Party theme and the curriculum which includes interactive experiences with scripture and science-based experiences that will bring the scriptural themes alive in active and hands-on ways. Additionally, the beach party theme will provide many opportunities for us to integrate our proximity to the Pacific Ocean into our experience.

However, all of the CE Board's excitement isn't enough to make Vacation Bible School a success. In order to make Vacation Bible School happen we need your help! Over the coming weeks we will be seeking teachers, recreation leaders, youth helpers, and craft people to help out with our Vacation Bible School and make the week a fun and important part of the summer experience for our children. Vacation Bible School provides a great opportunity for people of all ages to interact with our children as they grow in faith. Additionally, Vacation Bible School is one of the places where we can all play a part in raising our children in faith, which is a key responsibility of a faith community. I hope you will all mark July 13-17 on your calendars and that many of you will volunteer to join us as we welcome our children to the Beach Party and to an exciting week of community, fun, and learning.

Blessings,

Ryan**BENEFIT PROMOTES LOCAL FOOD FOR LOW-INCOME FOLKS**

"Farms Feed Everyone," a benefit for projects linking low-income people with fresh, local food, will be held on *Friday, May 16* from 6:00-8:00 p.m. at the First United Methodist Church Community Center. Enjoy a locally-grown dinner, presentations, music, door prizes, and a

silent auction. Proceeds benefit low-income projects of **Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon**: cooking classes, a buying club, a community garden, and "That's My Farmer!"

Please RSVP by *May 13* to 757-1988 ext. 107, or thatsmyfarmer@gmail.com. A sliding-scale donation of \$12-\$49 is requested.



The youth will be working shifts at the Spring Arts and Crafts Festival this Saturday.

Proceeds benefit the Youth Mission Fund.

The Youth Groups will meet at their regular times on Sunday: 5:00 p.m. for Middle School and 6:30 p.m. for High School. Bring shoes for being outside and feel free to bring a friend!

RELAY FOR LIFE



DESSERT AUCTION

Thank you to all the skilled cooks and bakers that have volunteered to supply goods to be auctioned. We need still more delicious items, so it is not too late to show off your skills! Please bring your contributions by 10:00 a.m. next Sunday, April 27, to the Fireplace Room.

And bring your appetites--and your checkbooks--to the Auction, to be held immediately after the service this *Sunday, April 27*. **Mark Esary** will be our able (and entertaining) auctioneer for this event. Your efforts and your dollars will go to support the American Cancer Society.

THAT'S MY FARMER *from page 1*
sonable transportation area--and at the

same time helping to support our local neighbors (our farmers).

Coupon books will be available after church.

ANNUAL MEETING

Sunday, May 4

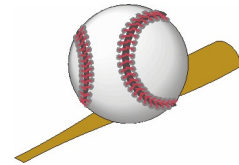
6:30 p.m. -- Dessert

7:00 p.m. -- Meeting

- Submission of new proposed guidelines for the Endowment and Memorial Funds Board (to replace current EMF Board by-laws)
- Report/update by Caring for Creation Committee on its activities and goals
- Election of lay leaders

HOW TO BE A SOX

Want to join the church co-ed softball team? Here's how:



- ✓ Find **Tammy Skubinna** and sign the team roster.
- ✓ Pay the city fees (\$35.00 for Corvallis residents, \$45.00 for outside-Corvallis residents), by giving Tammy a check made out to **Pete Nelson**.
- ✓ Grab your glove and come to practices at Chintimini Park on Thursdays at 6:00 p.m.

The games will be Sunday afternoons or evenings through early August; the first one is *May 11*. Contact Tammy

(752-4214) or Pete (752-1278) for more information.

Congratulations!

**KIM THACKRAY IS A
NATIONAL WINNER IN NEW
OGHS LOGO INTERPRETATION**

Our church received a letter this week from the United Church of Christ Wider Church Ministries office notifying us that **Kim Thackray's** interpretation of the new One Great Hour of Sharing logo was a winner of the "What Do You See?" contest. Only two interpretations were selected.

Kim's words: "Your new logo is beautiful--lots of interesting images form as I continue to look at it. The first thing I see is an apple, symbolizing the food that OGHS donates to the hungry of the world. The colors surrounding the white apple make me think of our earth, the land and sea that we must care for. The two people that grow from the colored background are reaching toward each other, made, themselves, of the earth's element, and working together to create the food that sustains us all. These people don't look very comfortable -- their work is not easy, but it is important. And it is impossible for each individual to do this work by themselves. Thanks for the new thought-provoking image."

**CELEBRATE 25 YEARS OF
YOUNG MUSICIANS**

There will be a **Corvallis Youth Symphony 25th Anniversary Concert**

on *Sunday, April 27*, at 7:30 p.m. at the LaSells Stewart Center. Preceding the concert is a dinner at 5:00. This concert is titled "Orchestravaganza" and will feature the Junior Symphony as well as CYS alumnus. The dinner tickets are \$85 which come with reserved concert seating, while concert tickets are \$10. Students are admitted free with an adult. The tickets can be bought online at www.cysassoc.org and sales can be credited to CYS musicians in this church, who are **Justin Chi, Robin Miller, Chris Rorrer, Julie Rorrer, and Patrick Yun.**

PLAN TO DONATE BLOOD

Here is an idea of what to expect at your blood donation.

1. **Registration** – When you come to donate blood, you will need to sign in and provide a Red Cross donor card or photo I.D. You will be asked to read some information to help you determine your eligibility.

2. **Health History** – In a confidential and private interview, you'll answer some questions about your health history and places you have traveled. If you have had a certain illness or traveled to a certain country, you may not be able to donate. This is called being deferred. Most deferrals are only temporary. Talk to a Red Cross representative at the drive to find out when you will be eligible to donate again.

If you are eligible to donate, they'll take your blood pressure, pulse, tempera-

ture and a small sample of your blood to test your iron level to ensure that you have enough red blood cells to donate. If your iron level is too low, you may not feel well after donating, so you will be deferred from donating blood that day.

3. **Blood Donation** – They will cleanse the area of your inner arm and insert a sterile needle. This feels like a quick pinch and is over in seconds. The blood or blood component is then drawn from your arm and you are well on your way to helping save lives. The actual whole blood collection only takes about 10 minutes. Platelets, red cells and plasma collections can take up to two hours. The collections staff takes the utmost care to make the experience safe and pleasant for you. If at any time you feel uncomfortable, please be sure to tell someone.

4. **Relax** – After donation, you can relax in the refreshment area for as long as you like. (We recommend at least 10-15 minutes.) A Red Cross volunteer will serve you juice and a snack to help boost your blood sugar and fluids. This short rest is more important than you might think to ensure you feel well after your donation. This is also a good time for you to reflect on the gift of life you've shared.

UPCOMING BLOOD DRIVES

These local drives are open to the public.

April 17 HP 8:00-1:00 (open to the employees and family members)

April 21 Boys and Girls Club, Albany
9:00-2:00

April 22 Alesa Clinic 1:00-6:00

April 23 Zion Lutheran Church
2:00-7:00

April 24 Stoker's Vitaworld 10:00-3:00

April 25 Creekside Spring Creek
Apartments 11:00-4:00

American Red Cross

Pacific Northwest

Blood Services Region

475 Cottage Street N.E, Suite 110

Salem OR. 97301

(503) 779-1266 (p)

To our church family,

Thank you so much for all your prayers, good thoughts and supportive actions during Gavin's fight with Hodgkin's Lymphoma. We are beginning to truly believe that he is healthy again and can think about other things such as thanking you! When we reflect on the last 9 months, we are amazed at the support and help that was given to us. It was a huge feat and all of you should be hugged individually! So if we haven't yet given all of you a hug, know that you have a special place in our hearts and we are ever so grateful.

The Milligan family

P.S. The boys especially appreciated the wonderful food because they know they may not have been fed otherwise!!!



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, April 22.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Saturday, April 19

**10:00-5:00 Spring Arts & Crafts
 Festival, Gatton Hall**

Sunday, April 20

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
(following) Inquirers' Class
 5:00 p.m. Middle School Youth
 6:30 p.m. High School Youth

Monday, April 21

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

Tuesday, April 22

8:30 a.m. Staff
 Noon Lectionary class
 7:15 p.m. Church Council
 7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Wednesday, April 23

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group
7:00 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, April 24

11:00 a.m. Spirituality Group
 5:30 p.m. Church Basketball
 6:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice,
 Chintimini Park

LOOKING AHEAD:

Sunday, April 27: The Church of the Good Samaritan, Corvallis, is hosting a **Choral Festival** as part of their Fourth Sunday at Four series. Four choirs from local churches (First United Methodist, First Presbyterian, Good Sam, and our own) will sing music from all the Christian seasons at 4:00 p.m. (More info next week)

May 18: Music Recognition Sunday;

June 1: Christian Education Recognition Sunday;

June 8: Graduation Sunday

Our Thoughts and Prayers

... continue to be with those who are undergoing medical treatment.