



# Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLVII, No. 21

May 23, 2008



## CWS AND MYANMAR

On *Thursday, May 29*, **Lynn Magnuson**, of Church World Service, will be with us for coffee and conversation about the challenges for aid workers in Myanmar. Join her at 10:00 a.m. in the Music Room.

## HEALTHCARE EQUIPMENT INVENTORY

For those of you who don't know, and those of us who have forgotten, we keep a small collection of equipment on hand, for members to borrow as needed. These are items which may be needed for a period of time following surgery, but then become a problem to store. This is another way we can pool resources and avoid purchasing more items that then may end up in the landfill.

Items are stored in the closet under Gatton Hall. Please contact **Caroline** or **Ann** if you wish to borrow items, so that we can keep track of where they are. I will keep a list in my inbox on Ann's desk, to mark when items are borrowed and returned. Please return items clean. I will try to keep antibacterial cloths with the equipment, for sanitation, as well.

At this time we have the following items:

- 2 folding walkers w/ small front wheels
- 1 3-wheeled walker which works well in smaller spaces
- 2 elevated toilet seats
- 2 commodes
- 1 shower stool w/out a back
- 1 sliding shower bench (this goes over the side of a tub)
- 1 set of toilet rails
- 1 grab bar which attaches to the side of the tub
- 1 automatic blood pressure cuff
- 1 telephone w/ large buttons
- 1 small "companion" wheelchair which folds easily to use for transport

*[continued on page 4]*

## THIS SUNDAY

*May 30*

**Scriptures:** Isaiah 49:8-16a  
Matthew 6:24-34

**Sermon:** "Do Not Worry"  
Elizabeth Oettinger

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you this week from beautiful downtown Minneapolis where, along with 2148 of my clergy sisters and brothers, I am attending the Festival of Homiletics (homiletics being a \$10 word for preaching), a week-long banquet of preachers and talk about preaching. A dozen of the best preachers in the liberal Protestant tradition are here, practicing their art in worship and then lecturing to the assembled multitude about why and how they do what they do in the way that they do. Each one's style is unique; each one has different insights to share about the discipline and craft of proclaiming the gospel. The common thread among us all, presenters and attendees alike, is a love affair--though not always a comfortable love affair--with the Bible, and a passion for the intersection of scripture and life which is preaching.

Large-group presentations take place in the sanctuary of Central Lutheran Church, a space that seats 2000. It's a soaring gothic structure, an enormous space. But not quite big enough. We are routinely enjoined to cozy up just a bit closer to our neighbors so that fewer of us are standing around the perimeter or sitting on the floor. As one who spent one 2-hour session on the cold stone floor, I will confess it's not the most comfortable of venues; however, just the hymn singing makes the discomfort worthwhile. Many clergy sing well; most of us sing lustily. When the big organ swells and 2100+ voices are raised in song, the sheer volume of it gives me goosebumps!

The schedule for the week is full: three sermons, three lectures, and 2-3 workshops a day. We keep at it from 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. For a preaching geek like me, it's close to heaven. Some of you know that I worry sometimes about the future of preaching. In this electronic age, there are those who believe that the ancient art of Christian proclamation--a single, unaccompanied voice sharing theology and story with a congregation--is going the way of the dinosaur, displaced by multimedia events incorporating lights, music, and power-point presentations. I don't know what is right, what will be best for the future of the church. I do know that for myself, for the church to move away from preaching would be a loss, if only because preaching is what I love and know how to do, and the other is unfamiliar territory for me.

But this week, I'm not worrying about all that. This week, at Central Lutheran Church in Minneapolis, I am surrounded by a great cloud of preaching witnesses, 2149 strong, who share this passion, this peculiar mode of expressing their love for both God and their congregations. So life is good.

Thank you for this week of study and renewal.

**Liz**



## UNITED CAMPUS MINISTRY AT OSU

WestM (United Campus Ministry at Westminster House), your UCC campus ministry for students at OSU and LBCC, has several upcoming events for community building, service, spiritual growth, and play. Mark your calendars now and plan to join us! If you need more information, please contact Rev. **Leah McCullough** at [revleah@comcast.net](mailto:revleah@comcast.net).

### **Student Gathering**

**Every Wednesday, 5:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

Students gather weekly for a free meal followed by a time of fellowship, study, singing, and prayer. This quarter we'll be sharing our faith stories using images and truths from various forms of media, literature, scripture, and art that have informed and formed our spiritual journeys.

### **Stone Soup**

**Tuesday, May 27, 3:30 – 7:30 p.m.**

Students prepare and serve a free community meal to those who need food assistance. Call or e-mail to schedule a time to volunteer.

### **Prayers for the Journey:**

**An Evening of Contemplative Prayer**

**June 2, 7:30 – 9:30 p.m.**

Just as we need food for our physical bodies, so too we need spiritual sustenance for our souls. Join us in this space that is set apart for you to be still and to listen to your heart, reflect on your jour-

ney, and attune to the Sacred. You are invited to just sit, be, and contemplate, or to engage experientially in prayer stations through art, writing, music, lighting candles, and movement. Choose your own pace, engage in the stations of your choice and stay as long as you like



No youth groups this week due to Memorial Day weekend. Plan now to attend our youth group End of the School Year celebration. [See the box below.]

## **End of School Year Party!**

**All Middle and High School Youth  
of the church  
are invited to a party**



**Saturday, June 14, 5:00-8:00 p.m.  
at the Rorrers'  
4002 NW Walnut Court**

**Please bring a dish to share.  
Drinks, hot dogs and BBQ chicken  
will be provided.**

**Music by Pink Salmon!**

**HEALTH EQUIPMENT** *from page 1*

- 2 pairs of crutches

I am happy to consider donations of equipment that is in good condition, if we have space and need. Unfortunately, the good wheelchair which was donated by **Velma Seat** never returned, so we could use one full-sized wheelchair to keep at the church for visitors to use.

Thank you!

**Caroline Zaworski**, Parish Nurse

**VISITING GLEE CLUB CONCERT**

Join us for a special vocal concert on *Wednesday, May 28*, at 7:30 p.m. The **Occidental College Glee Club** (of which **Alison Pentland** is a member) from Los Angeles will perform a joint concert with the **OSU Meistersingers** in our sanctuary. Tickets are \$5 at the door; OSU students are free with ID. A reception will follow the concert.

**PASTORAL COUNSELING  
CENTER ANNUAL MEETING**

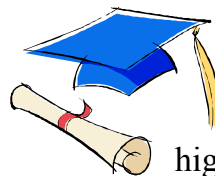
The Executive Committee of the Pastoral Counseling Center invites all interested members of our sponsor church communities to attend the Annual Meeting of the Board of Directors on *Thursday, June 12*, 7:00 p.m. at St. Alban's Episcopal Church, 1730 Hill Street SE (11<sup>th</sup> and Hill), Albany. Please join us for fellowship and hospitality before we *briefly* elect new officers, approve our budget, and revise our by-laws. Come and listen to our new executive director

report on the growth and health of this ecumenical ministry of healing and reconciliation that First Congregational supports and sustains. Come and hear the personal stories of our clinical pastoral residents as they share their formation experiences with us. We hope to see you there!

**ART SHOW TO BEGIN**

There will be an Artist Reception for **Mary Youmans**, on *Saturday, May 31*, from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall.

Mary's paintings, *Downstream-Upstream: Phases in the life cycle of Pacific Northwest Salmon*, are currently displayed at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis, 2945 NW Circle Blvd. The Fellowship Hall is open for viewing, if there is no activity in the Hall, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Monday through Friday until *June 3*.

**GRADUATION  
NEWS REQUEST**

Please submit information about 2008 high school and college graduates for the *Congregational News*. E-mail [sbwickes@comcast.net](mailto:sbwickes@comcast.net), or drop off in the office the following about your graduate: **graduate's name, school, plans for the coming year(s), plus any other pertinent information**. The deadline is **June 3**, but sooner is better. (Corrections/additions are welcome up to the deadline.)



### FROM MUSIC RECOGNITION SUNDAY

For those who missed last Sunday or who want to enjoy again the wonderful lyrics from the "hymn" the choir sang in its own honor for Music Recognition Sunday:

Immoral, impossible, God only knows  
How tenors and basses, sopranos, altos  
At service on Sunday are rarely the same  
As those who on Wednesday to choir  
practice came.

Unready, unable to sight-read the notes,  
Nor counting, nor blending, they tighten their  
throats;  
The descant so piercing is soaring above  
A melody only a pastor could love.

They have a director, but one wonders why;  
No one in the choir deigns to turn him an eye.  
It's clear by his flailing, he wants them to look  
But each singer slouches with nose in the  
book.

Despite the offenses, the music rings out.  
The folks in the pews are enraptured,  
no doubt.  
Their faces are blissful, their thoughts appear  
deep,  
But it is no wonder, for they are asleep.

### JUNE BIRTHDAYS

Barbara Cormack  
6/1, Anna Harding 6/2,  
Karen Jones 6/5, Kyle  
Skyllingstad 6/8, 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, Mi-  
chael Henthorne 6/28, Carl Lucker 6/28



### JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

Jan and Larry Small 6/9 (45<sup>th</sup>)  
Don and Ruth Leeper 6/9 (57<sup>th</sup>)  
Irwin and Kay Harris 6/11 (66<sup>th</sup>)  
Chris and Jim Cantey 6/12  
Jerry and Nancy Groesz 6/12  
Pete and Susie Nelson 6/14 (41<sup>st</sup>)  
Ed and Nancy Henderlite 6/14 (49<sup>th</sup>)  
Mary and Russ Youmans 6/15 (50<sup>th</sup>)  
Marj and Norm Elwood 6/16  
Terry and Sally Robertson 6/17 (41<sup>st</sup>)  
Karen and Kim Jones 6/18 (31<sup>st</sup>)  
Doug and Sue Richmond 6/20 (27<sup>th</sup>)  
Nancy and Ray William 6/21 (39<sup>th</sup>)  
Joni and Neal Peterson 6/24 (41<sup>st</sup>)  
Carol and Mike Huntington 6/25 (20<sup>th</sup>)  
Brenda and John Cochran 6/25 (20<sup>th</sup>)  
Ching-Yue and Chunhuei Chi 6/26  
(26<sup>th</sup>)



If your family's names are not on our list, and you'd like to be, you can e-mail the information to **Susan Wickes** [sbwickes@comcast.net](mailto:sbwickes@comcast.net), or leave a note in the office "Newsletter" mailbox.



**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 97333-3825. Published weekly  
 except twice a month in July and August by  
 First Congregational United Church of Christ



Office Hours: 8:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.  
 Office Phone: 757-8122  
 Facilities Coordinator: 753-2106

Susan Wickes, Editor: 754-0117  
 e-mail: sbwickes@comcast.net  
 Website: www.ucc-covallis.org

Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, May 27.

**WEEKLY CALENDAR**

*Friday, May 23*

7:30 p.m. Badminton

*Sunday, May 25*

**NO** Choir  
**NO** Adult Forum  
**NO** Church School

10:30 a.m. Worship

*Monday, May 26-Memorial Day*

**Office closed**

*Tuesday, May 27*

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

*Wednesday, May 28*

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group  
**6:45 p.m.** Sanctuary Choir, Rm. 5  
 7:30 p.m. Concert [see page 4]

*Thursday, May 29*

**10:00 a.m.** Coffee on Myanmar,  
**Music Room**  
 5:30 p.m. Church Basketball  
 6:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice,

Adams School

*Friday, May 30*

7:30 p.m. Badminton

**COME TO OUR BEACH  
 PARTY AND HAVE A BALL!**



Plan now for Vacation  
 Bible School, *July 13-17.*  
 The beach party theme will make for a  
 fun and educational week.

**HOLY SOX GAME SCHEDULE**

Come out and cheer for our church  
 softball team at their Sunday games!

June 1: 5:40 p.m. N. Chintimini  
 June 8: 7:00 p.m. Porter  
 June 15: 8:40 p.m. E. Sunset  
 June 22: 7:20 p.m. W. Sunset  
 June 29: 4:40 p.m. E. Sunset  
 July 13: 4:20 p.m. Porter  
 July 20: 4:20 p.m. S. Chintimini  
 July 27: 6:00 p.m. Pioneer  
 August 3: 5:40 p.m. Washington