



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLVII, No. 25

June 20, 2008

CAMERATA TO PLAY SUNDAY

The Corvallis Camerata Orchestra will perform a ten-minute special postlude this *Sunday, June 22*. The piece is Ernest Bloch's *Concerto Grosso #1* (Maestoso, Allegro, Andante). These Crescent Valley and Corvallis High Schools musicians, including several of our church youth, leave soon for their performing tour of Italy.



SIGN UP FOR SALMON BARBECUE

The Salmon Barbecue is coming (*July 13*)!. Sign up on "the big fish" this Sunday to help with this annual all-church event. (Early volunteers get their choice of jobs!) Tickets sales start soon: \$7/adults; \$3.50/11 and under.

CAN YOU HEAR US NOW?

We are evaluating our hearing assistance system at the church. If you have input for us, please pick up and complete a hearing survey form. These may be found in a box in the narthex.

FREE TO A GOOD HOME

Some of the large potted plants at the

church have outgrown their spaces! If you have an well-lit, indoor spot in your home or workplace, and would like a Norfolk Island pine, or a ficus, please let the church office know.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED IN NEW INTERFAITH COMMUNITY GARDEN

Westside Community Church is offering space to low-income families interested in growing their own food in its new community garden at 4000 SW Western Blvd. The garden is part of the Interfaith Food and Farms Partnership, a program of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon that promotes links between local farmers, faith communities and low-income consumers. The garden offers family plots as well as community farm-

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THIS SUNDAY

June 22

Scriptures: Matthew 10:40-42
Sermon: "A Second Cup of Tea"
Elizabeth Oettinger

Dear Friends,

During this time of year camp songs run through my head. The music of folk musicians like Pete Seeger, Bob Dylan, Jim Manley, Jim Strathdee, Tom Hunter, and Peter, Paul, and Mary were made known to me as I gathered around campfires during my childhood and teen years. This music resonates often when I read our Holy Scriptures, when I work with youth, and as I work around the church. As the camping season begins at Camp Adams and at UCC camps across the country the work of these songwriters is again upon my heart. Their songs have become prayers for young people who go to camp, for those who work as counselors and directors, and for those who remember their church camp days with great fondness as the summer begins.

As this summer camp season begins I am painfully aware that the Rev. Tom Hunter, one of the singer-songwriters whose songs resonate deep within me, is currently dying of Creutzfeldt-Jakob Disease in Bellingham, Washington. Tom's disease was just diagnosed in May, shortly after he was called to serve as the lead pastor at First Congregational Church in Bellingham (the prior church home of Kent and Merilee Sherwood) and his impending death has led to an outpouring of remembrances of his ministry and educational career. Although I never was privileged to know Tom beyond a few friendly conversations, a couple of his songs often play as the soundtrack to my camp memories. In this space I would like to share the lyrics of one of his songs to celebrate his life and his ministry, and also to offer a prayer of thanksgiving for the importance of the lessons learned courtesy of outdoor ministry.

ROCK ME TO SLEEP (Copyright 1977, Tom Hunter)

All I can hear are the crickets
 And the whistle from some lonely freight
 I've been working so hard to make everything right
 But for now it'll just have to wait

CHORUS

'Cause tonight I'd like you to rock me to sleep
 I'd like you to sing me a song;
 I'm tired of trying to figure things out
 And I'm tired of being so strong

 I've never been too good at asking
 I'm more apt to do it alone
 And it's strange how a lot of us think something's wrong
 If we can't do it all on our own

It's funny how times when you're hurting
 Make what's so familiar seem strange
 So when you need help, it's hardest to ask
 And it always takes so long to change

I wish you all Summer Blessings, and Godspeed to Tom Hunter!

Ryan



Thank you to **Kristin, Greg, Chris, and Julie Rorrer** for hosting last Saturday's Summer Youth Celebration. Thanks also to **Pink Salmon** for ushering in the summer with tunes!

Watch this space for information about our upcoming trek to the drive-in movie theater in Dallas!

VBS WISH LIST

We are practicing sustainability at Vacation Bible School this summer by using what we have on hand instead of buying new supplies. To that end, we are asking you to look in your homes and donate (or lend) any of the following to our kids:



- Seashells (any size)
- Macramé string (jute, hemp, etc)
- 8 oz sour cream containers – no lids
- Driftwood
- Candlewicks

Check our list next week for additional items for our science lessons each night.

COMMUNITY GARDEN *from page 1*
 ing space devoted to growing produce for cooking classes and food banks. Bring your committees or youth groups and join a work party. Contact **Sue Domingues** at 754-7239 or sdomingues@emoregon.org.

Thank you so much for the warm, and caring reception you gave me on Sunday, to honor my 25th ordination anniversary. I was overwhelmed by your ovation in worship, and I will treasure the beautiful stole with its very personal touches, and the very thoughtful notes I received. Sharing time reminiscing in the reception was a special treat— we have all come through our journeys in these 25 years with grace and faith and love. I feel so privileged to be a part of this community of faith, to give back a bit of what you shared with me on my faith journey to ministry and nursing. I am blessed to work under and with two amazing pastors who nurture and challenge me, as well. May we continue to journey together in ministry here and in all the places we are called by God.

With gratitude for all of you,

Caroline



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.
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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, June 24.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Friday, June 20

7:30 p.m. Badminton

Sunday, June 22

9:30 a.m. Worship

7:20 p.m. Holy Sox, W. Sunset

Tuesday, June 24

9:00 a.m. Staff

Noon Lectionary class (last)

7:15 p.m. Church Council

7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Wednesday, June 25

7:00 a.m. Breakfast Group

Thursday, June 26

11:00 a.m. Spirituality Group

5:30 p.m. Church Basketball

6:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice,
Adams School

Friday, June 27

7:30 p.m. Badminton

Our Thoughts and Prayers

... are with **Jean Mater**, at home on hospice care;

... and with **Ching-Yue Chi** and her family following the recent death of her mother, **Li-jan Wong**, in China;

... and with **Gary Enschede**, whose mother died recently near Portland;

... and with **Lon Rycraft**, recovering at home from back surgery.



Congratulations to all the generations celebrating the birth of **Anna Karen Kimerling**, born June 2: Parents **Tom** and **Abbie (Walker) Kimerling**. Maternal Grandparents **Karen** and **Alan Walker**, and Great-Grandmother **Sara Fisk**.

SUMMER NEWSLETTER DATES

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
July 8	July 11
July 22	July 25
August 5	August 8
August 19	August 22