

Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLVII, No. 32

September 12, 2008

THE LATEST IN FOOD WRAP!

Part of this year focus of our Mission Fest will be on local, national, and international relief and the hunger-eradication work of Church World Service. The Mission Board has a challenge for you during the next four weeks. From now to Mission Fest on *Sunday, October 5*, we challenge the congregation to see how much commercially-canned and other non-perishable food items we can bring in for the South Corvallis Food Bank. Place your food items around the perimeter of the sanctuary. Our goal is to "wrap" our sanctuary in food donations as we prepare for Mission Fest.

CORVALLIS FALL FESTIVAL BOOTH VIEWSPOT

Our booth will provide an informal and friendly situation to meet those who may be searching for a church or are just wondering whether God is still speaking. If you would like to be near the food, music, library, and people walking by at Fall Festival, please help staff our church booth on *Saturday September 27* or *Sunday, September 28*. Two-hour slots are available within the 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. range. **Coral Torley** will have a

sign-up sheet on Sundays after the worship service, or you may contact Outreach and Evangelism Committee booth coordinator, **Marsha Gulick**.

SUNDAY MORNING ANNOUNCEMENTS

If you have announcements of church or community meetings, fund-raisers, or events, we would like to provide this information on our printed announcement page included in the Sunday morning worship bulletin. For this to happen, **Ann Hawkins** needs the information by Thursday. If you miss this deadline, you can give the written information to one of the clergy for an oral announcement at the start of worship. Thanks!

THIS SUNDAY

September 14

Adult Forum: "For the Glory of God: Singing on the Front Lines of a Culture War" with Steve Zielke

Scriptures: Matthew 18:21-35

Sermon: "Keeping Score"
Ryan Lambert

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*Elizabeth Oettinger*

Dear Friends,

Last Sunday we made a great beginning to the new program year with an intergenerational Christian Education hour and wonderful music again from our Sanctuary Choir. I've been a parish minister for 28 years now and I still, every year, get excited by the possibilities of a fresh start.

The beginning of the year is also a good time to remind you of some of the most basic covenants of our life together. This is a busy church and Ryan and I are thankful for the church's programs and ministries. However, our first priority is the pastoral care needs of the congregation. It is always disturbing to us when we hear that a church member has been in the hospital or suffered some difficulty and hasn't told us because they worry that we are so busy. If you have a non-emergency needs and want to see one of us, we can usually accommodate you within a matter of days. If there is a pressing problem however, we do our best to respond immediately. It is, for example, our general practice to come to the hospital when church members go in for surgery and wait with the family. Some of our best conversations with church members happen at such times, and we truly want to be there. It used to be that the hospital called us when church members were hospitalized. Because of privacy policies, that no longer can happen, but we truly want to know; we want to be with you; we have a number of congregational resources we can enlist to be helpful--from meals, to help with transportation, to visits by the Parish Nurse. So please call and let us know.

The best times to reach us at the church are mornings, except for Tuesday from 8:30-10:00 a.m. which is staff meeting time. My day off is Monday and Ryan's is Wednesday. We truly enjoy and look forward to the time we get to spend one-on-one with the congregation, so please, if you have a need, or a question, if you're looking for a book to read to stimulate your theological thinking, or have a great idea for the church, call us.

I know, especially in the past six months, some people have been reluctant to approach me because of Jessie's condition. Though I'm writing this note from Seattle where I'm spending a few days helping my daughter, generally she is doing really well, and the last hard phase of her treatment will be ending in a few weeks. I have been so thankful for your thoughts and prayers and your concern for me and my family through this period, it's time for me to give back. Unless something unforeseen happens, I don't see myself spending much time away from Corvallis. I am mostly around. So, again, please call or e-mail or catch me after church. Really!

God bless you all.

Liz

FIRST SUNDAY OF C E CLASSES

Our new Sunday School classes, as well as Adult Forum, begin on *September 14*. We have wonderful teachers and programs set to go; come be a part.

<u>Grade</u>	<u>Teacher(s)</u>
PreK-K	Mary MacLean, Ginnie Esary, George Mueller- Warrant
1 st - 3 rd 4 th /5 th	Jan Thornton Sally Robertson, Kim Hannigan
Middle School	Aleita Hass- Holcombe, Mike McInally
High School -	Caroline Zaworski, Mike Huntington, John Hawkins

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES
COLLECT OFFERINGS FOR
HEIFER INTERNATIONAL**

As was explained last Sunday in our intergenerational Sunday school time, the children will be bringing in their change to their classrooms to buy a sheep through Heifer International. For each dime that goes into the container, we will glue a cotton ball onto our sheep and when it is “fully wooly” we will have collected enough money (\$120) to buy a sheep for a family in need. Each child may glue 5 cotton balls on each week. If they wish to contribute more than fifty cents, they can let other children glue on any additional cotton balls. Each class will have a designated time to

spend with the sheep and our teachers will assist them as needed. Please be assured that all children will have opportunities to participate regardless of whether they remember their dime each week. This is a cooperative project to show what we can do together.

The collection taken just before Children’s Moment during worship will continue to be a part of the weekly offering to the church.

A NEW FACE IN OUR NURSERY

Shannon McCoy will be serving as our Nursery lead attendant on Sunday morning through September. She comes to us as a veteran babysitter and close friend of **Megan Chambers**. She is also a freshman at OSU this year and, as such, will determine if she feels comfortable taking the position on full time once classes start in the next few weeks. Either way, we appreciate her smiling face and gentle presence with our smallest congregants.

**GUATEMALA
PILGRIMAGE -
JULY, 2009**

A work experience that may change your life! We are planning a church sponsored work-to Guatemala in July of



pilgrimage
2009. The

trip will include teens and adults. The work will be with the native Mayans of Guatemala who for centuries have lived in some of the most inhospitable

table mountain areas of Central America. They survived the Spanish conquest of Central America because the Spanish could not access their remote villages. Then in the late 20th century they survived the government-sponsored genocide which the government called keeping the country free from Communism. They survived even though until the last 10 years or so they were not allowed to own their own land. Now they are trying to rebuild their lives and their futures.

On *Sunday, September 14*, at 6:30, we will be showing a PowerPoint presentation of **Caroline's** and my work-pilgrimage to Guatemala from 2007. This presentation will be for the youth group, anyone else who might be interested in learning something about a work trip to Guatemala, and for anyone who would like to be a spiritual partner for our trip.

I hope to see you there.

Charles Helsabeck

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION SUNDAY

This month, the Rev. **Ed Henderlite** celebrates the 50th anniversary of his ordination to the Christian ministry. Ed and **Nancy** joined our congregation in March of 2007. We are happy to be a part of this celebration this Sunday during worship and at a reception to follow in Gaton Hall.

Ed grew up on a farm in southwestern Virginia, attended Berea College in Kentucky and Union Theological Semi-

nary in New York City. He was ordained and installed as associate pastor of the First Congregational Church of Avon Lake, Ohio, one of the first persons ordained in the newly-formed United Church of Christ. During his forty year ministry he served in just three churches; Avon Lake, then First Congregational Church of Albuquerque, New Mexico for ten years, and then First Congregational Church of Salem for 26 years. During those years he was active in numerous community and conference affairs, including serving as Moderator of the Central Pacific Conference. He helped initiate the Salem Pastor Counseling Center and served on its Board of Directors for many years.

Worship, preaching and pastoral care were always the focus of his ministry. He retired in 1997.

Please come after worship this Sunday for cake and/or other finger foods to mark this special milestone.

High Tea and Croquet



This year's welcome-back event will be the first High Tea and Croquet since 2000, so for newcomers and those who've forgotten, here's how it works. Join us on the church front lawn at 4:00 on the afternoon of *Sunday, September 21*. Wear your "dress whites" and most outrageous hat, if you'd like.

In addition to the fellowship and general silliness, there will be games (croquet, of course; bocce ball, badminton) and bicycles built for two (or more!). Tea will be served along with elegant sandwiches, cookies, scones, etc.

Sign up for help provide high tea comestibles and mark your calendars to come and comport yourselves with (or without) decorum.



GIRL SCOUT NEWS

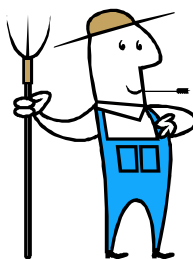
Girls in grades 6-10 are invited to join Girl Scout Troop 20142. The group meets on Thursday evenings from 7:15-8:45 p.m. at the church. This year, girls will have opportunities to plan service projects and adventure programs and they will also choose a focus group. The focus groups this year will be leadership, travel and camping.

In the past year, Girl Scout Troop 142 worked on three service projects, completed the Fitness to Fashion Interest Project, attended a pool party, traveled overnight to Portland on the train, hiked Mary's Peak, sponsored a girl in the T.O.U.C.H. project and worked as program aides at Day Camp. One member, Melissa Meitle, is in the process of completing the Gold Award. There are 15 registered girl members and 5 registered adult leaders.

Girl Scouts of Santiam Council is celebrating 61 years as a Chartered Girl Scout Council with a "good bye" party

on *September 13*, 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. at the Linn County Fairgrounds in Albany. All former and current Girl Scouts are invited. A registration form is available at www.girlscoutsofsantiam.org. On *October 1*, the Council will merge with four other Oregon Girl Scout Councils to form the Girl Scouts of Oregon and SW Washington Council. The Council headquarters will be in Portland and a regional office will remain open in Salem at the current location, 1922 McGilchrist SE.

If you have questions or need more information, please contact **Sally Robertson** at 753-1140 or at Terry45_Sally@msn.com.



THAT'S MY FARMER

One of the goals of the "That's My Farmer" program is to get to know your local food providers -- which of course will then reinforce your desire to buy local. The following is a brief sketch of one of the newer farmers involved in the program. I hope it will be of interest and will encourage you to purchase a coupon book at church this Sunday.

Aleita Hass-Holcombe

Bina Schulte of Bina's Patchwork Garden

Bina started the Patchwork Garden in early 2000. She first came to Corvallis in 1984, on a friend's recommendation, and ended up farming for many years at Sun-

bow Farm. Bina holds a degree in animal husbandry and used to work as a groom in Germany. She misses working with animals but since she rents land now her situation isn't stable enough to keep them. Veggies are better, she says, because you can re-negotiate every year.

At all hours of day and night, Bina Schulte's blue Volkswagen van with a rainbow weaving along the side can be seen driving back and forth across Corvallis to her two Patchwork Garden plots: one north and one south of town. Bina's famous for her garlic braids, has tons of potatoes this year, beans of all colors (including some varieties from her native Germany), onions that make fabulous strings, and lots of zucchinis and summer squashes.

Bina Schulte runs a one-woman operation by choice. She puts in long hours and applies her organizational talents and a good memory to bring her customers what they want. She always welcomes help, but likes that her operation is small enough that she doesn't depend on anyone else. It doesn't have to be bigger to be better, she reminds us. And she's not really alone; she has a network of friends and collaborators who let her pick their fruit trees, make bread in their kitchens, and keep buying her delicious food.

WOMEN'S CLUSTER MEETING SCHEDULED

On *October 15*, the fall Women's Cluster meeting for Willamette Valley churches will be held at Lincoln City

Congregational UCC beginning with registration at 9:30 a.m. The program will feature speakers from the UCC workcamp at Back Bay Mission in Biloxi, Mississippi.

This trip was sponsored by Central Pacific Conference to assist with repairs from Katrina damage to the mission and surrounding area.

The worship service will be presented by women from St. John's UCC in Tillamook are 10:00 a.m. Registration fee is \$7, which includes lunch. This gathering will end by 2:00 p.m.

Please contact **Nancy Klingeman** or the Lincoln City church to make a reservation for the meeting. Carpools will be arranged from Corvallis.

DAUGHTERS INVITED TO WOMEN'S CAMP

High school age daughters are invited to attend the Central Pacific Conference Women's Camp with their mothers on October 17-19. Some Confirmants from a Portland area church may attend with their leaders. "God Is Still Giving" is the theme with Rev. **Jean Doane** as the resource leader. Registration forms are available in the literature rack outside Gatton Hall. \$55 is the pre-registration fee with \$40 due on arrival at camp. Registration deadline is *October 13* unless spaces are filled before then. The weekend begins with dinner on Friday night and ends after brunch Sunday morning. Carpools will be arranged from Corvallis.

Please contact **Nancy Klingeman** (753-3350) for additional information. Financial aid is available from the Rev. Anne Smith Educational Loan/Grant Fund (forms are in the church office but must be completed by *October 1*).



Please join our families in celebrating the marriage of our son Carl to Julie
Ream this Sunday, September 14th on Orcas Island, Washington. The ceremony will be performed by Reverend Tim Stover of Westminster House, Corvallis. Carl and Julie got to know Tim while they were both attending OSU.
Rose and Greg Christianson

READ & FEED MEETS SUNDAY

Joni Peterson is hosting this month's book discussion this *Sunday, September 14*. The group will meet at 7:00 p.m. to talk about *Women of the Silk* by Gail Tsukiyama.

Next month's book will be *The World of the Kalapuya* by **Judy Juntunen**, et al, to be discussed on *October 12*. To check out past and future selections and meeting dates, see the group website at: <http://home.comcast.net/~wickes3/readfeed/booklist.htm>



Green Ideas!

As the holidays approach, the mail order catalog flood begins. Now an environmentally-minded non-profit group called **Catalog Choice** makes it easy to stop catalogs you specify on a single website. This is done with the cooperation of the the Direct Mail Marketing Association. This helps reduce paper waste and save trees.

Note: Mail order catalogs are printed several months in advance so you may continue to receive them for 2-3 more months before they stop. After signing up on the site, you name each catalog you want to decline individually so it has no effect on those you wish to continue to receive.

<http://www.catalogchoice.org>



... to **Bryan Wright**, for staffing the C E registration desk last Sunday;
 ... and to **Wayne Phillips**, for hanging the white and bulletin boards in the C E wing

GUITAR WANTED: Do you have an old acoustic guitar sitting around that never gets played? **Ilaria Cotti**, the exchange student living with the Thackrays, would love to borrow it (or rent it) during her stay here. If you would like to help out, please call **Kim** at 758-8542. Thanks!



Congregational News (USPS 128-820)
 PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID AT CORVALLIS OR
 Postmaster: Send address changes to:
 Congregational News, 4516 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



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, September 16.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Friday, September 12

7:30 p.m. Badminton

Sunday, September 14

9:00 a.m. Sanctuary Choir

9:30 a.m. Christian Education

10:30 a.m. Worship
 (following) **Reception for Ed
 Henderlite,
 Gatton Hall**

5:00 p.m. Middle School Youth

6:30 p.m. High School Youth

6:30 p.m. Guatemala meeting

7:00 p.m. Read & Feed, Peterson

Monday, September 15

7:00 p.m. C E Board

Tuesday, September 16

9:00 a.m. Staff

Noon Lectionary class

3:00 p.m. Stone Soup

7:30 p.m. Spirit Quest, Chapel

7:30 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Wednesday, September 17

7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, September 18

11:45 a.m. Lunch Group

7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 142

Friday, September 19

7:30 p.m. Badminton



SIGN UP ON SUNDAY

Christine Cantey will be looking for folks to help prepare, serve and clean up for this month's Stone Soup.

If you can be there at First Christian Church on *Tuesday, September 16*, to be part of our crew, find Chris and volunteer!

Our Thoughts and Prayers

... are with **Karen French**, who had back surgery on September 10;

... and with **Bev Whitmore** and her family. Bev's mother, **Marjorie Whitmore**, died on August 30 in Sioux City, Iowa. A memorial service will be held in Pennsylvania on September 20.