



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLVIII, No. 26

June 26, 2009

SIGN UP FOR SALMON BARBECUE



The Salmon Barbecue is coming (*Sunday, July 12*)! Besides wonderful food, there will be a water balloon toss, group "dart" competition, Frisbee golf, and the ever-popular slip-n-slide.

Tickets will be for sale (\$7/adults; \$3/11 and under) at the table in the foyer again this Sunday, or call the church office to reserve yours.



PHOTO APPOINTMENTS FILLING UP

Make your photo appointment now with **Linda Hadfield** (752-3168). We have dates through *August 31*.

If your plans change, you have the option of calling **Ball Studio** (753-7017) to reschedule. Ball Studio is located at the intersection of 6th & Adams.

FIRST ANNUAL PRIDE CORVALLIS

This year's PRIDE festival will be held in Central Park. The weekend will

kick off with the Stonewall Social and Dance on *Friday, June 26*. *Saturday, June 27* will start at 11:00 a.m. with a parade down 4th Street in downtown Corvallis and will be followed by a full day of musicians, storytelling, dancing, face painting, children's activities, vendors, a non-profit expo, and much more.

[See page 4 for events schedule.]



June 28

Scriptures: 2 Corinthians 8:7-15
Mark 5:21-43

Sermon: "Vision of Healing"
Caroline Zaworski

July 5

Sermon: Elizabeth Oettinger

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*Ryan Lambert*

Dear Friends,

This week delegates and visitors from across the United Church of Christ will gather in Grand Rapids, Michigan, from June 24-June 30 for the 27th General Synod of the United Church of Christ. If I were to describe General Synod gatherings I would say they have elements of a family reunion, a business meeting, a worship service, and a carnival. Sounds like fun, huh? Amid the 4000 or so people who will converge on Grand Rapids, our church will be represented by 6 people—Ann and John Hawkins, Nancy and Peter Klingeman, Liz Oettinger, and me. Together we will be immersed in all things Synod and while we will all attend the same event we will undoubtedly choose different workshops to attend and have varied experiences of speakers, worship services, and meetings. We look forward to sharing our experiences with you at one of the early fall Adult Forum events.

But you don't have to wait to get information on Synod as there will be several avenues to keep people in the loop while Synod is in full swing. First, there is extensive information available through the UCC website at: <http://www.ucc.org/synod>. I would invite you to pay particular attention to the proposed resolutions as they will be the focal points of business sessions at Synod. As Synod progresses, both text and video from significant speeches will added to the website, and once again there will be live video from Synod streamed online at <http://www.ucc.org/synod/live.html>.

While there will be much coming from “official” channels during Synod, I will be among many who will be providing unofficial thoughts and commentary. I will be writing on my blog at: <http://www.myblurredvision.com> and posting via twitter at <http://twitter.com/rylamb>. Feel free to follow me, comment, or just read at either space.

Summer blessings,

Ryan**REGISTER FOR TEEN ART CAMP**

Teen Arts is a new summer art camp that offers a variety of art-related classes from *July 20-24* (12:30-4:50 p.m.). The program is designed to engage teens who have completed grades 6-12 in courses that promote creative expression.

This non-religious day camp is sponsored by and held at the First United

Methodist Church at 11th and Monroe. Sign up soon for the best choice of classes. Pick up a red brochure from our church office for a list of classes and registration information.

A \$25 deposit is due *July 10* and the final \$25 is paid at the start of classes. Questions? Contact **Betty Busch** at 752-2491 or bettybusch@comcast.net.

LAST CHANCE FOR T-SHIRTS FOR GUATEMALA

This Sunday will be your last chance to order T-shirts and bags to support the mission trip to Guatemala. The cost for the shirts is \$18, and canvas bags are \$16. The canvas bags will also be available to order printed with the same logo as the T-shirts. Help support the trip, not only by purchasing a shirt, but by wearing it in support of the travelers on Commissioning Sunday, *July 12* (the same day as the Salmon Barbecue). If you will not be at church this Sunday but want to purchase one, call **Jan Thornton** (738-8704) before June 30 to place an order.

BENEFIT CONCERT SCHEDULED FOR JULY 22

On *July 22*, at 7:00 p.m. **Les and Gwen Gustafson-Zook** (**Ginny Lucker's** sister and brother-in-law) will be performing a benefit concert in support of our church's Guatemala Pilgrimage trip. This concert will be an entertaining evening for people of all ages and a wonderful way to support those representing First Congregational UCC on the Guatemala pilgrimage.

Les Gustafson-Zook is known nationally for his expressive and energetic autoharp playing. Considered by many to be one of the world's leading autoharp players, he's performed and given autoharp workshops at festivals across the country. Les is joined on many occasions by his wife, Gwen, for performances in

coffeehouses, festivals, and churches. Gwen plays guitar and sings both lead and harmony as they form an entertaining and energetic folk duo. They emphasize family entertainment, with a combination of stories and songs that keep all ages entertained.

Their music reflects values gained in years of work with the Mennonite Central Committee in locations including Atlanta, Denver, Portland, and Kingston, Jamaica, doing relief and service work with the Mennonite Church. Gwen is a licensed Mennonite pastor and is currently sharing a position with Les as Regional Associates for the Mennonite Central Committee in the Great Lakes office in Goshen, Indiana.

Plan to support our Guatemala delegation and enjoy a wonderful evening of music on *July 22* in our sanctuary!

JULY MISSION OFFERING

The Mission Board selects an environmentally- or ecologically-sustainable organization each year. The offering for the month of July will be **Chintimini Wildlife Center**.

This Corvallis-based organization offers wildlife education classes and rehabilitates injured and orphaned native wildlife. Each year approximately 700 animals receive treatment. As the amount of open space grows smaller each year, we must learn to coexist with the rest of God's creatures. This group maintains an excellent web site with many practical ideas.

**HONOR GOD:
SAY NO TO TORTURE**

On *June 11*, 33 religious leaders, including the Rev. Dr. **John H. Thomas**, General Minister and President of the United Church of Christ, met with senior Obama administration officials to deliver a letter advocating for the establishment of an independent, non-partisan Commission of Inquiry to investigate the development and implementation of a program of torture by the United States in the years after 9/11. An excerpt from the letter is as follows:

"The reality is that our nation is now shackled to a shameful history of torture. As people of faith we know that only the truth can set us free. We must therefore, as a nation, be mature and honest enough to examine fully and disclose completely the wrong doing that has been committed. The transparency and openness of a Commission of Inquiry will help to hold us all accountable for the policies and acts of torture carried out in our name. Accountability is essential in a nation of laws."

The **Just Peace Committee** feels strongly that we should be in solidarity with the **National Religious Campaign Against Torture** (NRCAT). To keep awareness of this important issue before us, a banner will be displayed proclaiming "Honor God: Say No To Torture".

If you would like to know more about NRCAT and the strong support of the

UCC for this campaign go to the following web site. <http://www.nrcat.org>

CORVALLIS PRIDE *from page 1*

Schedule of Events for

Saturday, June 27

11:00 a.m. - Noon: PRIDE Parade participants will meet at the parking lot on the corner of Monroe and 11th/ Campus way, and will proceed in a loop down campus way to Jefferson, taking a left on 7th to disband into Central Park where the festivities will continue.

Noon - 8:00 p.m. PRIDE in the Park

- Musical performances featuring Johanna, Soromundi Lesbian Chorus of Eugene, Confluence LGBTQ choir, Malachi, Tirade, Mollycoddle, and more.
- Entertainers
- Children's events
- Vendors
- Non-profit expo

7:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.: Rainbow Rave - a 21-and-under dance hosted by Out 'N' About Youth and the Community of Welcoming Congregations

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m.: PRIDE After party hosted by Platinum Night Club

10:00 p.m. - Midnight: Big Gay Karaoke at the Vibe coffee shop

PRIDE Corvallis is a group of community members dedicated to supporting the LGBTQ community of Corvallis and surrounding areas. PRIDE Corvallis is a non-profit supported by PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) of Corvallis and Albany.

This year's PRIDE Celebration is sponsored by PRIDE Corvallis, PFLAG Corvallis/Albany, Rainbow Health Resources, HP Pride, Platinum, The Vibe, and Burst Candy.

Visit www.pridecorvallis.com or contact pridecorvallis@gmail.com for more information or to volunteer at the event.

BIRTHDAY PARTY INVITATION

You are invited to an 85th birthday party for **Gordon Tjernlund**, Crescent Valley Music Director in the 1960s, on *Thursday, July 9*, at First Baptist Church, 125 NW 10th. Greetings are at 6:30 p.m.; the program begins at 7:00. Guests are invited to write a message for a memory book for Gordon.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

There will be a "Wrap yourself in the RAINBOW" potluck at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship on *Sunday, August 23*. More information as the date gets closer.

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Jody Eleveld 7/1, Susan Cowles 7/2, Dale Kirk 7/2, Doris deLespinasse 7/3, Brian Meara 7/5, John Holmes 7/7, Erin O'Dell 7/7, Gail Harrell 7/8, Mary Youmans 7/11, Eric Skillingstad 7/11, Justin Chi 7/13, Mary MacLean 7/16, Abigail Neely 7/16, Nancy Henderlite 7/17, Gloria Buckley 7/18, Pat Phillips



7/20, Will Zaworski 7/21, Karen French 7/26, Cliff Trow 7/27, Megan Chambers 7/29, Alice Sperling 7/31

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

Rick and Amy Nafshun 7/1
Michael and Susan Henthorne 7/6
John Koch and Libby Ankarberg 7/7 (25th)
Jim and Mary Hall 7/7 (2nd)
George and Rhonda Mueller-Warrant 7/12 (35th)
Kathy and Phil Mason 7/18 (21st)
Tim and Susan Cowles 7/25 (39th)



... to **Cynthia Janes** for planting all of the flower pots. We will enjoy the spots of color through the summer.

CROSSROAD SAYS THANKS

We have received a nice thank you letter from Crossroad residential school in Fort Wayne, Indiana, because we sent them a large bundle of labels and "Box Tops for Education" last month. Included was the long list of items they were able to collect: an overhead projector, digital cameras, a telescope, and many reference and library books. This UCC-related school celebrated its 125th anniversary last year. Any new labels or box tops should be placed in the second drawer at the end of the nametag cabinet to begin our collection for next school year.



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, July 7.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Friday, June 26
 7:30 p.m. Badminton

Sunday, June 28
 9:30 a.m. Worship
 (following) Guatemala trip,
 Meeting Hall
 7:00 p.m. Holy Sox,
 N. Chintimini

Tuesday, June 30
NO Staff
 3:00 p.m. Stone Soup
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Thursday, July 2
 6:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice,
 Jefferson Elementary

Friday, July 3
 7:00 a.m. First Friday Forum
Office closed
 7:30 p.m. Badminton

Sunday, July 5
 9:30 a.m. Worship

Tuesday, July 7
 9:00 a.m. Staff

5:30 p.m. Worship Committee
 6:30 p.m. Outreach & Evangelism
 7:30 p.m. Diaconate
 7:30 p.m. Personnel Committee
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Wednesday, July 8
 7:30 a.m. Breakfast Group

Thursday, July 9
 6:00 p.m. Holy Sox practice,
 Jefferson Elementary

Friday, July 10
 7:30 p.m. Badminton

AN INVITATION

Wall Raising of the
 Tunison Avenue Homes
Saturday, June 27
 9:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
 286/288 SW Tunison Ave, Corvallis
 Limited parking available. Please
 park at Lincoln Elementary School, bike
 or use public transport. RSVP and info:
 752-3354