



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLIX, No. 13

March 26, 2010



PALM SUNDAY WITH ECO-PALMS

This *Sunday morning, March 28*, you will be greeted by our children, lining the aisles and waving their eco-palms. The church school lesson will be for one-half hour, and then all the children will gather in Room 5 to get their palms; younger children will be matched with older children to minimize "sword play." Everyone will be invited to take a palm branch and join in this celebration.

Our opening hymn of praise will include additional accompaniment by some of our children playing hand chimes. Also, **Myles Criss** will offer his second Postlude Plus: *Allegro Moderato e serioso* from Sonata 1, based on Mendelssohn's chorale, "What God Will Shall Be Done Always." The sermon will be slightly shortened to allow time for this longer organ piece.

FLOWERS NEEDED FOR EASTER BASKETS AND CROSS

Do you have daffodils and other spring flowers to share for including in our Easter baskets and the decoration of

the flower cross? If so, please bring them to the church on *Saturday, April 3* by 10:00 a.m. The variety of colors that your flowers bring make for a beautiful entrance to the sanctuary on Easter morning.

COME AND WAIT AN HOUR... THE NEW VIGIL

For the first time this year, our Easter Vigil will take place in the chapel rather than the sanctuary. This move allows us to offer those keeping the vigil a variety of inter-
[continued on page 6]



THIS SUNDAY

March 28

Adult Forum: The Lenten series on worship concludes with this session on the sacrament of The Lord's Supper. Join us in the Meeting Hall at 9:30 a.m.

Scriptures: Luke 19:28-40
Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

Sermon: "Even the Stones!"
Ryan Lambert

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*Ryan Lambert*

Dear Friends,

This Sunday, when we celebrate Palm Sunday, we will remember the adoring crowds that long ago welcomed Jesus into Jerusalem. In our Hosannas and in our waving of palm branches we will be reminded of the climactic moment that announced that Jesus had "arrived." But then of course, we will move through those next holy and difficult days on our way to the devastation of betrayal, pain, and death. And yet, Easter will remain in our mind, on our hearts, and faithfully on our calendars. We all know the progression of the week, and yet each year I honestly don't know how the truths and emotions of the week will play out upon my heart. My experience is not unique, but it is telling about why this week is so powerful and so profoundly important to our faith.

Imagine if we join in on the celebration of Palm Sunday and then don't touch down again on our faith journey on Easter morning. Without the horrible realities of the disciples' betrayal and the pain of Jesus on the cross, I wonder if we can really see the glorious beauty of Easter morning? And that is precisely why I want to use this space to call you to immerse yourself in this Holy Week -- all of it! Plan to join us as we worship on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter morning! Know also, that even if you haven't yet signed up for slot during the Easter Vigil, there is still time AND there is nothing to say that each slot is limited to one or two people!

Finally, I would invite you to spend some time thinking about how you would personally like to set the tone for your Holy Week. Perhaps, you would like to set up a worship space in your home that will remind you of where we are as we walk with Jesus this week? Would you like to do something with the way you let light into your home as we move toward the desolation of Thursday and Friday? Is there a musical "play-list" that would help guide you through the week? There are many ways to be intentional about worshipping through all the emotion of this week, but they don't all have to take place inside the church!

Blessing for your journey,

Ryan

**JO ANNE TROW SPEAK FOR
WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

Jo Anne Trow, former Vice Provost for Student Affairs at OSU, will speak about the history of women at Oregon

State, on *March 30*, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., in the Memorial Union, Room 208. This Women's History Month talk is a brown bag event; desserts and drinks will be provided.



The **Middle and High School** youth will be making cascarones at 6:30 p.m.

on Sunday night. **Ted McCann** will help guide us through making these traditional Mexican decorated eggs that will be used for the Easter Egg Hunt. Bring a friend and join us!

The **Senior High Youth** group will also be taking the midnight-1:00 a.m. slot in the Easter Vigil on April 2/3. We will follow our vigil slot with late-night dessert at Shari's. Please let **Ryan** know if you are planning to attend!

YOUTH ADULTS EASTER VIGIL

The young adult group (anyone aged 19-30) will be participating as a group in the Easter Prayer Vigil during the 9:00-10:00 a.m. time slot on Saturday morning, *April 3*. Please meet at the church at 8:55 so that we are ready to take over at 9:00 a.m. When we finish we will head downtown to share a mid-morning breakfast. Questions? Contact **Ryan** at the church or via e-mail.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP TO MEET

The Women's Fellowship will meet on *Wednesday, April 7*. The luncheon is at noon in Gatton Hall; the cost is \$5. The program, UCC's Extravagant Welcome, will start at 1:00. The presenter is **Joan Caldwell**, the Facilities Coordinator at the church. If you need child care

contact **Ryan Lambert** (541-575-8122); if you need transportation contact **Alice Morrow** (541-752-3541.)

Let us know you are coming on the sign-up sheets available before and after Sunday worship or by calling the church office. We hope you can come to both luncheon and the program. If your schedule does not allow this, you are most welcome to attend either the meal or the program.

Central Pacific Conference Women **PROFESSOR TO DISCUSS** **HAITI WATER PROJECT**

"The Zabriko Project -- Bringing Clean Water to Haiti & Beyond" will be the topic presented by Professor **Susan Smith** at the Central Pacific Conference Women's Cluster meeting on *April 7*, in Salem. Dr. Smith, a College of Law professor at Willamette University, will show photos of her work in Haiti (before the earthquake) at Salem First Congregational UCC.

Corvallis women are in charge of the worship service. The meeting begins with registration at 9:30 a.m. and will cost \$7 for lunch. Please contact **Nancy Klingeman** if you want to participate in the worship or attend the meeting and she will make reservations for our group. Carpools will be arranged.

This is an important gathering so women can learn how to assist the Haitian people. Professor Smith will also speak at the Women's Annual Meeting in Boise in May.

Holy Week



Palm Sunday, March 28

10:30 a.m. – Palms and Sanctuary Choir -- check out our new eco-palms!

Maundy Thursday, April 1

6:30 p.m. – Service starts with a festival meal in Gatton Hall. Worship continues with a Tenebrae service in the sanctuary and the stripping of the church. Cellist Nancy Sowdon will play. **(Please call the church office or sign up on Palm Sunday to let us know if you will be attending this service.)**

Good Friday, April 2

8:00 p.m. – Service is based on the Stations of the Cross. The Sanctuary Choir will sing.

The Easter Vigil

Between 9:00 on Good Friday until 6:00 Easter morning, take one hour to attend, to meditate, to be present in the chapel in silence. This year there will be prayer stations available for those who wish. *[See page 1.]*

Easter Sunday, April 4

Communion Sunday food donations may be placed in baskets **in the foyer** this Sunday.

8:30 a.m. – Celebration of the Resurrection through the words of an intergenerational speech choir; Communion will be served. A quartet of OSU Chamber Choir members will sing.

9:30 a.m. – Between the two services, Easter Breakfast is served in Gatton Hall (\$2.50/person).

10:15 – Easter Egg Hunt for Pre-kindergarten age through first grade, and second through fifth grade, upstairs in the Christian Education wing.

11:00 a.m. – Communion service, with music by the Sanctuary Choir, brass, and timpani. The children will decorate the Flower Cross during the first hymn.

MERRIAMS HONORED

In honor of their volunteer work and financial support, the **Benton County Historical Museum** has designated the **Larry and Kathie Merriam Research Library** in the new storage facility at the Philomath campus.

FROM OUR CONFERENCE MINISTER

Greetings Friends,

Spring Assembly is scheduled for *May 14 and 15*, at First Congregational UCC, Boise, ID. The Nominations Committee of the CPC would like your assistance to develop a slate of candidates for Officers, Board Members, and Ministry Team Members.

The Nominations Committee will be meeting late this Friday afternoon. Please e-mail me with any suggestions you have for the following positions. Thanks!!

- Board of Directors:
Moderator-elect (clergy person this rotation), Secretary, Treasurer

On the ministry teams, many people are eligible for a second three-year term. They will need to be contacted to confirm their willingness to continue to serve. There are also a number of vacancies to be filled.

- Covenants Ministry Team:
4 to confirm, one vacancy
- Justice & Witness Ministry Team:
5 to confirm, one vacancy
- Local Church Ministry Team:

4 to confirm, 3 vacancies

- Wider Church Ministry Team:
3 to confirm, 2 vacancies
- Administration Ministry Team:
3 to confirm, 5 vacancies
- Nominations Committee:
2 to confirm, 1 vacancy

We also need to nominate for:

- General Synod Class of 2011-2013:
2 delegates and 2 alternates .

Thank you for your attention to this important work.

Yours in Christ,

Walter John Boris



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Chunhwei Chi 4/1,
Samantha McNally 4/3,
Ed Miller 4/5, Robin Miller
4/5, Kellyn MacLean 4/7,
Diane McNally 4/9, Gavin
Milligan 4/10, Elise Meara 4/10; Jay
Sperling 4/11, Mateo McCann 4/11,
Marthanne Norgren 4/12, Brynne Snyder
4/14, Grant Elbinger 4/17, Steve Zielke
4/17, Rhonda Mueller-Warrant 4/19,
Susan Wickes 4/21, Kaia Larson 4/21,
Priscilla Zaworski 4/23, Ann Hawkins
4/24, Nancy William 4/24, Lila Gay
4/24, Joan Pelto 4/25, Charles Helsabeck
4/25, Bryan Wright 4/25, Luther Mac-
Lean 4/27, Gwyneth McMorris 4/27,
Pam Ruzek 4/28, Bond Starker 4/28,
Norm Elwood 4/29

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

Gregg and Jacqueline Smith 4/5



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, March 30.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Friday, March 26

7:30 p.m. Badminton

Sunday, March 28

8:50 a.m. Sanctuary Choir
 9:30 a.m. Christian Education
 10:30 a.m. Worship
 (following) Speech Choir rehearsal,
 Meeting Hall
 6:30 p.m. Middle and High
 School Youth [p. 3]

Tuesday, March 30

8:45 a.m. Staff
 Noon Lectionary class
 7:00 p.m. Speech Choir rehearsal,
 Sanctuary
 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Wednesday, March 31

6:15 p.m. Bell Choir
 7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Maundy Thursday, April 1

6:30 p.m. Dinner/tenebrae service
 Gatton Hall
 7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 142

Good Friday, April 2

7:00 a.m. First Friday Forum
 7:00 a.m. Sanctuary Choir
 rehearsal
 8:00 p.m. Worship
 9:00 p.m. Easter Vigil begins

VIGIL from page 1

active opportunities for guided prayer. The chapel will be ringed with prayer and meditation stations ranging from faces of the Christ to prayers for specific parts of the world. Worshipers are invited to work their way around the stations, to choose those that appeal to them, or to visit none of the stations and spend an hour in the quiet, tending the Hope of Easter light.

Even if you have not signed up for a vigil slot, you are welcome to come and spend as much or as little time as you wish in your own personal preparation for Easter. Come and wait an hour. You'll be glad you did.