



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLIX, No. 18

April 30, 2010

Annual Congregational Meeting

This Sunday, May 2

Dessert at 6:30; Meeting at 7:00

Election of officers and lay leaders
Report from Visioning Committee
West side church property update



THE GRASS IS GROWIN' AND IT NEEDS MOWIN'

Volunteer mow-
persons are needed.

Please contact **Pete Nelson** by e-mail
peter.nelson@oregonstate.edu if you
would like to join the mow-team. Train-
ing for volunteers will happily be pro-
vided.

PASTORAL RELATIONS SERVES CLERGY AND CONGREGATION

The **Pastoral Relations Committee**
(PRC) is available to answer questions
and respond to comments or concerns of
the congregation related to our clergy.
Please feel free to contact us and share
your comments or concerns. The com-
mittee members are **Greg Christensen**,

Al Goldner, Gary Massoni and Nita Phillips. **Ryan and Liz** are also members of the PRC and would welcome your comments and concerns.

COMMUNION SUNDAY REMINDER

Food donations for the South Corval-
lis Food Bank will be collected in bas-
kets in the foyer this Communion Sun-
day. The food baskets will be brought
forward during the service.

THIS SUNDAY

May 2 - Communion

Adult Forum: Our Facilities Coordi-
nator, **Joan Caldwell**, will speak on
"UCC's Extravagant Welcome: Our
Ministry of Building Hospitality." You
will be surprised at the many ways our
facilities are used by our wider commu-
nity.

Scriptures: John 13:31-35
Revelation 21:1-6

Sermon: "All Things New"
Ryan Lambert

Dear Friends,

Last week, the state of Arizona enacted new immigration enforcement policies. These new laws have been widely condemned by religious and denominational leaders as fundamentally unjust, dangerous to citizens and non-citizens alike, and a rejection of centuries-old biblical precepts of justice and neighborliness. Immigration is a vastly complex issue that challenges our beliefs concerning, among other things, citizenship, employment rights, and how civil rights are accorded based on citizenship status. In the wake of Arizona's new policies many have asked me how the United Church of Christ is responding to this issue. To that end I share the following statement, authored by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries, as a guide to considering these issues. The UCC's Immigration Coordination Committee proposes the following principles to guide comprehensive immigration reform. As Christians we are called to love our neighbors and provide hospitality to strangers. "When an alien resides with you in your land, you shall not oppress the alien. The alien who resides with you shall be to you as the citizen among you; you shall love the alien as yourself, for you were aliens in the land of Egypt." (Leviticus 19:33-34) Therefore, we call for comprehensive immigration reform legislation to establish a safe and humane immigration system, consistent with our values, that:

- creates a process for undocumented immigrants to earn legal status and eventual citizenship;
- upholds family unity as a priority of immigration policies;
- protects immigrant and native-born workers in their workplaces;
- aligns border and internal enforcement policies with humanitarian values and due process protections;
- provides every detainee with access to their attorney, family, and faith leader, and ensures humane treatment in accord with state, federal, and international law; and
- allows undocumented young adults who grew up in this country to work, pay in-state tuition for higher education, join the military, and be eligible for legal status and eventual citizenship (the DREAM Act).

We also call for international policy reforms to alleviate the hardships that make emigration necessary.

- Cancel onerous and excessive debt held by poor countries.
- Renegotiate trade and investment treaties, starting with the North American Free Trade Agreement.

In addition, the General Synod has repeatedly called for changes in our policies and treatment of immigrants including:

- more humane border policies and the end of unjust treatment and harassment of immigrants both at the border and throughout the country;
- the development of international programs and policies to alleviate poverty and the oft-accompanying sense of desperation which propels people to emigrate; and
- policies that allow immigrant workers and their families to live and work in a safe, legal, orderly and humane manner.

The United Church of Christ is partnering with the Interfaith Immigration Coalition to work on this issue. More information may be found at <http://www.interfaithimmigration.org/>

With Christ's peace,

Ryan



**UNITED
CAMPUS
MINISTRY
AT OSU**

Westminster

House is having their spring clean-up event from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. on *Thursday, May 6*. They can use all the help they can get. There are inside and outside projects that need to be done, so come and pitch in on your favorite type of active work. Please RSVP at 541-753-2242 so they know how to plan for the afternoon.



The **Middle** and **High School** youth groups will be meeting after church on Sunday to hike up Bald Hill. We will plan to leave the church by 12:15. Please wear clothes suitable for the weather and hik-

ing/walking and bring a sack lunch to eat at the top of the hill! Questions? Contact **Ryan** at the church or via e-mail.

**CAMP HAVALOTAFUN
RE-SCHEDULED
FOR MAY 21**

Camp Havalotafun, our summer camp primer for children, has been re-scheduled for *May 21-22*. Camp will start at 5:30 p.m. on the 21st and conclude at noon on Saturday the 22nd.



Our camp experience will include dinner and breakfast, games, a group hike, campfire and singing, and more! Children between 5 years and 5th grade are invited to come to camp and younger children are welcome with parents for a "family camp" experience. If you would like to help with food, music, or crafts for Camp Havalotafun, please contact **Ryan** at the church or via e-mail.



GIRL SCOUT GARAGE / BAKE SALE

Troop 20142 is earning funds for their trip to Denver this summer. They will host a garage and bake sale in Gatton Hall on *Saturday, May 8*, from 9:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Come and visit and enjoy a treat or find a bargain.

If you have items that you can donate for the sale, please call **Sally** at 541-753-1140. See you on the 8th!

NURSERY REHAB SCHEDULED FOR THIS SUNDAY

Our nursery has been teeming with babies and young infants of late (!!), and as such we need to spend a bit of time re-setting the nursery so that it is ready for the youngest members of our church family. Among the work that needs to be done is stabilizing our cribs, cleaning toys, and checking for too-small toys. Join **Molly Chambers** THIS SUNDAY after worship to help!

FIELD TRIP FOR WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

On *Wednesday, May 5*, Women's Fellowship will have its monthly lunch and program at the Old Mill Center for Children and Families. Dr. **Bev Larson** will speak.

Sign up this Sunday in the church foyer (or call the church office to let us know you're coming), and then plan to gather at 11:45 on Wednesday to carpool to Old Mill. The cost of the meal, which begins at noon, is \$5.



HOPE FOR COLOMBIA

As you walked down the corridor to Gatton Hall or came to adult education last Sunday, you had a chance to see the faces of some of the 4.9 million displaced people of Colombia and to read a couple of sentences about each of their situations. Sometimes when we see and hear of such huge needs and such great injustice, it is easy to feel overwhelmed. Sometimes we do not know what we can do. We often do not know where to begin. But right now we have an opportunity to lend our voices to help our sisters and brothers in Colombia.

First, a little background: Internal conflict has been going on in Colombia for about 60 years. However, since summer of 2000, U.S. policy toward Colombia has been devastating for many of its citizens, especially small farmers, indigenous groups and Afro-Colombians. Most of the over \$6 billion the U.S. has spent in the last 10 years has gone for military aid and for aerial spraying of coca, the plant from which cocaine is made. The military aid has bought helicopters and weapons of all kinds. It has been used to train soldiers of the Colombian military who, in documented case after documented case, have killed innocent civilians and presented these deaths as guerrillas killed in combat, or simply passed the deaths off as the work of

other groups. Aerial spraying has not resulted in less coca growing. It has not reduced the use of cocaine here in the U.S. It has not cut off the supply. What the aerial spraying has done is kill food crops and fish the people need. It has also resulted in a variety of health problems for people and their animals.

U.S. policy could help the people of Colombia if our aid went to funding services for the internally displaced – schools, homes, resettlement, help returning home, etc. We could help if our aid supported the human rights defenders of Colombia who work in great danger. We could help develop alternatives for small farmers if our aid provided infrastructure. There are so many ways our aid could help instead of buying weapons, training Colombians how to kill more efficiently, and spraying poisons on small farmers' homes, families, animals and food.

The Obama Administration has proposed replacing millions of dollars of military aid to Colombia with this desperately needed humanitarian assistance. We can help this happen by making sure our elected representatives understand that we, as Christians, care about what happens to the people of Colombia, that we want our aid to support life and hope, not death and displacement. This coming Sunday you can pick up a sheet giving you information about letting our representatives know we do care. Please lend your voice to help our Colombian neighbors.

PLEASE RETURN CONTAINERS

At Easter we hunt eggs; after Easter we hunt for the green plastic flower containers! If you took a flower arrangement home on Easter, please check to see if the container is still hanging around your house. (Each of them was marked, "Please return to First Congregational UCC," so they should be easily identified.) We need them for next year's arrangements, so please help them find their way back to the church office.

FRIENDS UNIVERSITY CHOIR TO SING HERE

Wednesday night, May 12, at 7:30 p.m. the First Congregational United Church of Christ will host the **Friends University Concert Choir** of Wichita, Kansas.

The Concert Choir is one of six choral groups at Friends University and is a group of 60 voices made up of singers from freshmen to seniors. Its repertoire includes a wide variety of styles including traditional sacred and secular choral literature to spirituals, folk and musical theatre. The Concert Choir is known for the high standard in performance it offers its members and is a part of the University Choral Union, performs in the Candlelight Concerts and presents a Spring Concert in addition to run-out and various off-campus concerts and the annual Coffee House each spring that highlights the individual talents of choir members.

The Concert Choir tours every other year to cities such as Minneapolis, Memphis, Chicago, Denver, Washington D.C. and Williamsburg, Virginia. As Plato stated, "Music gives a soul to the universe, wings to the mind, flight to the imagination, and life to everything." May our musical offering speak to your soul, set your mind and imagination soaring and refresh your spirit. Admission is free.



SPRING GARDEN FESTIVAL

In the Arts Center Plaza, this *Sunday, May 2*, from 11:00 to 4:00 you can find annuals, perennials, herbs, orchids, miniature roses, flower baskets, gardening art and ceramic ware for sale, sponsored by the Madison Avenue Task Force -- also, music from noon to 4:00, a free guided tour of trees on the OSU campus (meet at 1:00 at the gazebo), and master gardener's display, and demos, and kids' activities.

TAKARAZUKA CHURCH NEWS

We had our annual conference on March 21st (Sun) afternoon; 40 members were present. There were two parts on the subjects of "What do you want Church for and what do you look for at Church?" and "What does our community want the Church for and what does our community look for at Church?" We had discussion in 6 groups. And after the group discussion, each group leader re-

ported what was discussed. Below are the summaries.

Part 1

Invisible area:

Church members look for good sermons that remain deeply nurtured in their minds. Church members want to examine themselves through the sermons. Church members look for redemption, healing of their souls, peace in their minds, and evangelism to themselves. Church members look for the warmth of being friends of the unfortunate. Church members look for the smell of the Church.

Visible area:

Church members look for a support system for the young and the old. Church members look for opportunities for discussion with every member on every subject. Church members want to talk over the problems in the church.

Part 2

Invisible area:

Church members look for a church where they can talk over with anyone and any time (including night time). Church members look for a church which door is easy to knock at. Church members look for a lively church.

Visible area:

Church members look for an open church for community use and an open parking area. Church members want to tell the community what the UCC of Japan is and who they are. Church members want to announce to the community about church events.

After thoughts:

There are many events after Sunday worship; it is not easy to make a place and time for everyone to talk. Although there are some occasions during the week for discussion, attending these gathering is not everyone's option. In the future we want to make a time period of 4 to 5 hours so that we can talk deliberately. Otherwise we will have dissatisfaction even after we had church conference, without future progress.

Reported by Etsuko Omori



Nick and Anna Som's new baby girl, **Amara Jo**, arrived at 5:14 Tuesday morning, April 27. She weighed 7 lbs. 8 oz. and is 19½ inches tall. She joins big sister **Mary Ann. Donna Reishus** is her proud grandma.

Our Thoughts and Prayers

... are with **Bev Whitmore** and her family. Bev's father, **Quentin Whitmore**, passed away on April 22 in Massachusetts. His memorial service will be May 8 in Wayne, Nebraska, and he will be buried next to his wife of 65 years, **Marjorie**;

... and with **Shauna Wilson**, whose mother died in Idaho on April 17;

... and with **Gavin Milligan**, on crutches for 6-8 weeks (and missing rugby) following a spiral fracture of the fibula. Mom **Eileen** will be toting the tuba for awhile so he can continue to

play beautiful music like last Sunday's postlude.

From *Positive News Winter 2010*

WHAT DOES LOVE MEAN?

A group of professional people posed this question to a group of four to eight-year-olds. The answers they got were broader and deeper than anyone could have imagined.

"When someone loves you, the way they say your name is different. You just know that your name is safe in their mouth." -- Billy (4)

"Love is when a girl puts on perfume and a boy puts on shaving cologne and they go out and smell each other." -- Karl (5)

"When my grandmother got arthritis, she couldn't bend over and paint her toenails anymore. So my grandfather does it for her all the time, even when his hands got arthritis too. That's love." -- Rebecca (8)

"Love is what's in the room with you at Christmas if you stop opening presents and listen." -- Bobby (7)

"Love is when my mummy makes coffee for my daddy and she takes a sip before giving it to him, to make sure the taste is OK." -- Danny (7)

"If you want to learn to love better, you should start with a friend who you hate." -- Nikka (6)

"Love is when your puppy licks your face even after you left him alone all day." -- Mary Ann (4)

"When you love somebody, your eyelashes go up and down and little stars come out of you." -- Karen (7)

"You really shouldn't say 'I love you' unless you mean it. But if you mean it, you should say it a lot. People forget." -- Jessica (8)



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Annual Meeting



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

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

Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, May 4.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Saturday, May 1

11:00-1:00 Dunawi Creek
 weeding

3:30 p.m. Badminton

Sunday, May 2

9:00 a.m. Sanctuary Choir

9:30 a.m. Christian Education

10:30 a.m. Worship

(following) Children's Choir,
 Music Room

(following) Nursery re-hab,

(following) Youth hike on Bald
 Hill (sack lunch)

6:30 p.m. Dessert

7:00 p.m. Annual Meeting

Tuesday, May 4

8:45 a.m. Staff

Noon Lectionary class

5:30 p.m. Holy Sox practice,
 behind Cheldelin MS

6:30 p.m. Worship Committee

6:30 p.m. Outreach & Evangelism

7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

7:30 p.m. Diaconate

7:30 p.m. Personnel Committee

Wednesday, May 5

11:45 a.m. Women's Fellowship
 meet to carpool to
 Old Mill [page 4]

7:15 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Thursday, May 6

3:00-6:00 West-M clean-up [p. 3]

7:00 p.m. Girl Scout Troop 142

Friday, May 7

7:00 a.m. First Friday Forum

7:30 p.m. Badminton

LOOKING AHEAD:

May 9: Music Recognition Sunday with
 anthem and hymns with the theme of wa-
 ter

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

Mary Bolton and Karen Herold 5/8
 (36th)

Greg and Rose Christianson 5/17 (30th)

Jane Capizzi and Bob Burgess 5/26