



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon

Vol. XLIX, No. 26

June 25, 2010

VISIONING MOVES FORWARD

The **Church Council**, at our June meeting, moved into the next phase of our church's visioning process by appointing a Visioning Implementation Committee. This committee will consist of eight members and their task will be to get back to the congregation to verify that the original committee heard you correctly and to hear your ideas for implementation, then to oversee the work of implementing the congregation's priorities. As well as working through established boards and committees, ad hoc groups will be created as needed, to implement specific priorities.

[continued on page 4]



IS NEARLY HERE!

The start of our 2010 Vacation Bible is just over 2 weeks away! VBS begins on *July 11* and offers a chance for children from 3 years old through 5th grade to encounter the parable of the sower in 5 different ways as we learn about how God plants seeds in our lives, nurtures us as we grow, cares for us in the midst of rocky soil, and surrounds us with all kinds of people and

growing things. Registrations forms are being mailed this week and are available at the church. Let your friends and neighbors know about our exciting Green VBS experience! Questions? Contact **Ryan** at the church or via e-mail.



June 25

- Scriptures:** Luke 9:51-62
Galatians 5:1, 13-25
- Music:** "Minstrel Song,"
Alexander Glazunov
Nancy Sowdon, cello
- Sermon:** "Ouch!"
Elizabeth Oettinger

July 4 - Communion

- Music:** Julie Rorrer, viola;
Chris Rorrer, cello
- Sermon:** Charles Helsabeck

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK*Ryan Lambert*

Dear Friends,

As most of you know, Molly Chambers has been serving as our Christian Education Associate over the past 2+ years. I am using this space to officially announce that she is leaving the position now that her job with CASA of Linn County has become full-time. However, until we have a new person for this position Molly has graciously agreed to continue and help guide us through the summer. (Please see page 4 for application details!)

This position was initially created some two years ago to allow me to shift some of my duties as Liz assisted her daughter Jessie through her treatment for leukemia. Upon Liz's return it was decided to seek additional funding for the Christian Education Associate position because it was seen as a key way to provide further stability and growth in our Christian Education program. Since that time we have moved funding for the position fully into our annual budget, and as we seek a new person to serve as Christian Education Associate we do so in many ways because of the talent, passion, and energy that Molly brought to her work. Molly has served our congregation and our children as a tireless advocate, a talented organizer, and as an always-loving presence in our Christian Education wing. Although I am thrilled for Molly that she is finding such a home in her work at CASA, I am also deeply aware that her gifts will be missed by the Christian Education Board, the staff, and the congregation as a whole. I am thankful for all that Molly has brought to this work and for her willingness to offer her gifts at a time when the church needed her. Furthermore, I am thankful for all the groundwork that Molly has done to make this position an important part of our ministry to children and parents.

Finally, one of the great gifts of Molly's departure from this position is the reality that it doesn't mean we have to say goodbye to her! Upon the transition to a new person in the CE Associate position, Sunday mornings will again simply be a time of worship for Molly. In anticipation of just that, I simply say, "Welcome back to Sunday worship -- and thank you!"

Blessings,

Ryan



If you didn't get a chance to participate in the preparation and serving of Stone Soup on June 15, you have another opportunity! Our church has a second day this month, *Tuesday, June 29*, beginning at 3:00 p.m. Sign up this Sunday in the foyer to join the crew for that day. Newcomers are welcome.



Youth will be serving as “shepherds” and classroom help during our Vacation Bible School

which is running from *July 11-15*.

The middle and high school youth groups will also gather on *Friday, July 9*, at 6:30 p.m. at the **Lambert** home for a barbecue and movie night! Questions? Contact **Ryan** at the church or via e-mail (ryan@ucc-covallis.org).

VBS WORK PARTY THIS SUNDAY

Help us get a jump on decorating for VBS by joining in on a VBS work party this Sunday after worship. We will work on building the classroom sets that will help us tell the story of the sower and provide a vibrant and recycled setting for our VBS experience. Questions? Contact **Ryan** at the church or via e-mail.



SALMON
BARBECUE
HAS FUN
FOR KIDS

Amanda LaBonte has planned some great activities for kids at this year's Salmon Barbecue. There will be a wading pool, balloon toss games, croquet, badminton, other outdoor games, and, of course, the famous slip ‘n’ slide! **Please bring sunscreen and clothes you can**

get wet in. There will be alternative indoor activities if the weather is gloomy.

Barbecue tickets [\$7/adults and \$3/11 and under] are on sale for the *July 11* event Sunday mornings or in the church office on weekday mornings. Look for the "big fish" sign on Sunday morning and get your ticket to enjoy grilled salmon, a wealth of potluck dishes, and entertainment in the beauty of Hanson Grove. If you want to attend but will not be eating salmon, you don't need to buy a ticket, but we need to know you'll be there so enough tables and chairs can be set up.

And especially, please sign up to help with the many jobs that allow this all-church event to happen. Check out the list at the ticket desk in the foyer this Sunday and choose how you would like to participate.



TAKE ME OUT TO THE BALLPARK!

The Christian Education Board is sponsoring two nights with the **Corvallis Knights** as fellowship events this summer! Mark your calendar for *Monday, July 5*, at 6:35 (\$3 General Admission tickets, and \$1 hot dogs) and *Saturday, August 7*, at 7:05 (Fireworks following the game).

All games are held at Goss Stadium on the OSU campus. Join us and find fellow First Congregational folks down the first base line for evenings of baseball and fellowship!

WANTED: C E ASSOCIATE

First Congregational United Church of Christ has an immediate opening for a Christian Education (CE) Associate.

Working closely with the Associate Minister, this 10 hour/week position is responsible for the coordination of children and youth (K-12) Sunday morning CE activities, including:

- Recruiting and training of Sunday school teachers
- Support and assistance for teachers
- Communication with CE board
- Staffing and oversight of the Nursery and Activity Hour
- Planning and implementation of special events, including Vacation Bible School, movie nights, sleep-over nights, etc.
- Follow-up with visiting and new families

Pay begins at \$15/hour. Please send a resume and cover letter to ryan@ucc-corvallis.org; the deadline for submissions is *July 2*.

Northwest Regional Women's Retreat NRWR IX RETREAT PRICE INCREASES JULY 2

Come to the Oasis, *November 5-7*, for Affirmation of Spirit, Inspiration & Soul at beautiful Kah-Nee-Ta. Workshops, music and worship are offered,

but nothing is required. Renew acquaintances, form new relationships, swim in the mineral pools.

Check out the website nrwr.ucc@gmail.com and print a registration form, or call **Linda Hadfield** (541-752-3168).

VISIONING *from page 1*

The Visioning Committee's process identified five areas of congregational priorities. They are:

- 1) Become a younger church
- 2) Become a creation-oriented church [a church that supports the care of God's creation]
- 3) Become a church with more opportunities to work, to study, to serve, and to play
- 4) Become a more inclusive church
- 5) Become a church whose structure supports its mission

If you would like to volunteer to work with the Implementation Committee on the long-range plans, or if you would like to volunteer to help with programming for one of the five congregational priorities, let **Liz, Ryan**, myself, or any Council members know (**George Mueller-Warrant, Joe Chambers, Sally Robertson, Aleita Hass-Holcombe, Kim Thackray, Mike Huntington, Monine Stebbins, or Jo Anne Trow**).

I look forward to working with you to shape what we want our church to become.

Charles Helsabeck, Moderator

JULY BIRTHDAYS

Jody Eleveld 7/1,
Susan Cowles 7/2, Dale
Kirk 7/2, Doris deLespi-
nasse 7/3, Brian Meara
7/5, John Holmes 7/7,
Erin O'Dell 7/7, Gail Harrell 7/8, Mary
Youmans 7/11, Eric Skyllingstad 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
(26^h)
Jim and Mary Hall 7/7 (3rd)
George and Rhonda Mueller-Warrant
7/12 (36th)
Kathy and Phil Mason 7/18 (22nd)
Tim and Susan Cowles 7/25 (40th)

If your birthday and anniversary dates are not on our list, and you would like them to appear, please get the information to **Susan Wickes** via e-mail or the church office mailbox.

Summer Smiles

A minister waited in line to have his car filled with gas just before a long holiday weekend. The attendant worked quickly, but there were many cars ahead

of him. Finally, the attendant motioned him toward a vacant pump.

"Reverend," said the young man, "I'm so sorry about the delay. It seems as if everyone waits until the last minute to get ready for a long trip."

The minister chuckled, "I know what you mean. It's the same in my business."



A minister parked his car in a no-parking zone in a large city because he was short of time and couldn't find a space with a meter. Then he put a note under the windshield wiper that read: "I have circled the block 10 times. If I don't park here, I'll miss my appointment. Forgive us our trespasses."

When he returned, he found a citation from a police officer along with this note: "I've circled this block for 10 years. If I don't give you a ticket I'll lose my job. Lead us not into temptation."



There is the story of a pastor who got up one Sunday and announced to his congregation: "I have good news and bad news. The good news is, we have enough money to pay for our new building program. The bad news is, it's still out there in your pockets."



Q. What kind of motor vehicles are in the Bible?

A. Jehovah drove Adam and Eve out of the Garden in a Fury. David's Triumph was heard throughout the land. Also, probably a Honda, because the apostles were all in one Accord.



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is Tuesday noon, July 6.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Sunday, June 27

- 9:30 a.m. Worship
- (following) VBS work party,
Room 5 [see page 3]
- 5:00-8:00 Inquirers' Class
- 7:20 p.m. Holy Sox, W. Sunset

Tuesday, June 29

- 3:00 p.m. Stone Soup
- 7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Friday, July 2

- 7:00 a.m. First Friday Forum
- 7:30 p.m. Badminton

Sunday, July 4-Independence Day

- 9:30 a.m. Worship

Monday, July 5

- 6:45 p.m. Corvallis Knights
baseball evening
[see page 3]

Tuesday, July 6

- 9:00 a.m. Staff
- 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
- Friday, July 9*
- 6:30 p.m. Youth barbecue,
Lamberts' [page 3]
 - 7:05 p.m. Holy Sox make-up
game, N. Chintimini
 - 7:30 p.m. Badminton

Our Thoughts and Prayers

... continue to be with **Sarah Hoffman**, as she continues cancer treatment.

SUMMER NEWSLETTERS

As usual, newsletters in July and August will only be published every other week. If you have information we need to know about during this period, make a note of submission and publication dates:

<u>Deadline</u>	<u>Issue date</u>
July 6	July 9
July 20	July 23
August 3	August 6
August 17	August 20