



Congregational News

From FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Corvallis, Oregon


Vol. XLX, No. 28

August 5, 2011

Special Congregational Meeting **Sunday, August 21,** **following worship**

To vote on replacing the sanctuary roof and including the cost in the fall capital campaign. (There will be more information on this in a letter next week.)

PAINTERS NEEDED

If you can handle a paint brush/roller, the **Trustees** would like your help to re- paint the lower Gatton Hall walls on *August 13 and 14*. Please e-mail **Sally Robertson** at terry45_sally@msn.com with the day and hours that you can help. Supplies will be provided. **Barb Clauson** has offered to take the lead on this project.

- *August 13* – repairing walls and priming
- *August 14* – painting starts after church

NEW CHURCH DIRECTORIES!

Updated name/address directories will be available for pickup this Sunday in the church foyer. Please take just one per family.



August 7—Communion

Scriptures: Luke 2:41-52
Sermon: “The View from Mary’s House”
(see “Thought,” on page 2)
Elizabeth Oettinger

August 14

Scriptures: Matthew 15:21-28
Sermon: “That Woman!”
Elizabeth Oettinger

Dear Friends,

I am writing to you in the midst of Vacation Bible School, and I have to tell you that what the army of volunteers have created here for and with the children is a thing of wonder. In fact, it is so wonderful that we want you to be a part of it this coming Sunday! The theme of VBS has been “Hometown Nazareth,” and we have created spaces for the children—Mary’s House and the Marketplace in the grove—that have been so successful in allowing the children to use their imaginations to imagine something of life in Jesus’ time. Sunday night we had sheep and chickens for the children to see and touch and learn about. Last night, they learned the process of turning wheat and barley into flour. The grain was winnowed, threshed, ground, and made into pancakes. We dyed T-shirts, and they learned how plants were used to make dyes. So many craft projects that they can use their “shekels” to participate in, and even a nasty tax collector who comes by and demands exorbitant taxes on their activities. And then there’s my house—Mary’s house—where they come and learn stories about my son Jesus’ life. Last night, I was taking one of the children home, and he said to me, “This is like Sunday school, only so much better, because you are in the stories. I think I’ll like the Bible better from now on.”

Bingo! What more could we ask for! So many staff and volunteer hours have gone into making this week a success, and I cannot imagine a better use of our time. It is truly a celebration. And we want to share it with all of you. So Sunday, you will be hearing and singing some of their songs. In my sermon, I will be using pictures and short videos of the week. Fellowship time will be in Hanson Grove. If you want a cup of coffee or some other goodies, you have to shake hands with the minister on the way out and get your shekels to buy them (and hope that the tax collector doesn’t come and take your money away from you)!

I have told you before that you never cease to amaze me with your generosity and your commitment to the children and youth of this congregation. These past few days, both of these qualities have been so apparent. As your minister, it’s difficult to find words to express how this time out of time in Nazareth touches my heart and my faith. I am so thankful for the time I get to spend with our children. There is such an earthy holiness in watching and being a part of this multigenerational group of youth, young adults, parents, grandparents, and other loving adults working together, having fun together, making this time fun and special not just for the children, but for everyone involved. It makes Mary’s heart sing every bit as much as angel visitations and gifts from sages from faraway lands. Really.

You don’t want to miss Sunday!!!

God bless you all.

Liz



AUGUST COMMUNION OFFERING

This month's Communion Offering supports **Camp Adams**, a Central Pacific Conference facility 35 miles SE of Portland. Rustic, and gorgeous, the 210 acres provide opportunities for youth, adults, and families to gather, learn, worship and connect in the world of nature. Continued maintenance and staffing are needed to keep up this amazing resource for our conference. Youth at our church are supported with a half-scholarship if they want to attend a camp session. Please give generously, and go and visit.

HIROSHIMA/NAGASAKI COMMEMORATION EVENT

Please join us at Starker Arts Park for the annual Hiroshima/Nagasaki Commemoration Event, on *Sunday, August 7*.



- 7:30-8:00 p.m. – Lantern decorating and crane folding
- 8:00-8:30 p.m. – Commemorative program
- 8:30-9:00 p.m.—Traditional floating

- lantern ceremony on Starker Arts Pond

The public is invited and families are welcome. Materials for lanterns and candles and origami paper will be provided, but please bring lawn chairs or blankets. This community event is sponsored by our Just Peace Committee.

NEW MEMORIAL BOOKS ARE IN LIBRARY

As is their tradition, **Women's Fellowship** has contributed three new books to the church library in memory of recently deceased women members of our congregation. They are:

- *From Aleph to Ze'ev* by Ze'ev Orzech, in memory of **Clara McCormick**
- *A Biography of John Muir* by Donald Worster, in memory of **Coral Torley**
- *The Daughter's Walk (a novel)* by Jane Kirkpatrick, in memory of **Sharon Calhoun**

These volumes will soon be on display in the library and ready to check out.

READ & FEED ON THE 14TH

Read & Feed will meet this *Sunday, August 14*, at 7:00 p.m., at the home of **Ed and Karen Miller**. The book to be discussed is *Out Stealing Horses* by Per Petterson.



August has a third and a fifth Tuesday, so our church has two Stone Soup meals to prepare and serve this month at First Christian Church – *August 16 and 30*. Please sign up this Sunday to participate in this important ministry – just one time or regularly. Newcomers are always welcome.

MEN'S RIVER FLOAT PLANNED

The **Men's Group** is planning a river float on the Willamette for *Saturday, August 20*. If you are interested or for more info please let **Ted McCann** know at elprofemac@comcast.net or 541-738-8811.

LOTS OF FAMILIAR FACES IN OSU SUMMER CHOIR

The OSU Summer Choir will present a concert at the First United Methodist Church on *Monday, August 15*, at 7:30 p.m.

Repertoire includes: Mozart's Mass in C Major: "Coronation Mass"; "Set Me as a Seal," by David Childs; "Ride On, King Jesus," arr. Moses Hogan; "The Queen to Me a Royal Pain Doth Give," by P.D.Q. Bach; "Hark, I Hear the Harp's Eternal," arr. Alice Parker.

Conductors familiar to this congregation include **Jeffrey Larkin, Jené Jacobson**, and **Steven Zielke**. Singers from our congregation include sopranos **Carroll English, Kaia Larson, Brooke McNutt-Kaestner, Heather McNutt-**

Kaestner, and **Karen Miller**; altos **Joan Caldwell, Ann Hawkins, Cynthia Janes, Trina Norman, and Kim Thackray**; tenors **Adam Grieve, Joe Mikkelson, Bryce Tomlin, and David Zielke**; basses **Tim Brassfield, Mark Esary, Jim Hall, and Ed Miller**. Admission for this concert is \$5.

Two of our youth singing in the OSU Summer Choir will be providing music for us during worship the next two Sundays: David Zielke on *Sunday, August 7*, and Kaia Larson on *Sunday, August 14*.

WOMEN:

SAVE THESE DATES!

Our Central Pacific Conference Women's camp is scheduled for the weekend of *October 7-9*, so mark your calendar now and plan to attend. Rev. **Denise Andersen** and her daughter **Caitey** will be the resource leaders focusing on "Native American Spirituality and Art" at Camp Adams. Brochures will be available for registering at the Women's Fellowship bulletin board. Pre-registration fee is \$65 with \$40 due on arrival at camp. Grants are available for financial assistance and the forms are in the church office.

JAMMERS WELCOME HELP

Jammin' is still going strong (>6200 jars), and we would love to have your frozen fruit from last year if you need to make room for the



new crop. Also, please look for canning jar coupons in the Sunday papers! We can use all the help we can get! We also can use volunteers Monday from 5:00-8:00 this summer. Call **Sara Power** (541-231-6772) for more information.

We provide jam to all the Corvallis Food Banks (South Corvallis, St. Vincent's, OSU, and COI), and the Philomath food bank. We always make sure that diabetics have jam with no added sugars (including, no added juice concentrates).

RECEPTION THANKS

The angels have been busy this summer, sharing time, energy, and cookies for the memorial services that happened here.



In June we said goodbye to **Clara McCormick**; July included **Jennifer Ambrosius'** dad, **Coral Torley** and **Sharon Calhoun**. Our thanks to **Monine Stebbins, Nancy William, Alice Morrow, Judy Hannigan, Susie Nelson, Anna Marie Holmes, Doris Sherry, Joanne Trow, Priscilla Zaworski, Nancy Klingeman, Sue Pisias, Jan Engle, Linda Hadfield, Sandy Murphy, Jane Capizzi, Eleanor MacDonald, Mary Youmans, Sue Stultz**, and others who pitched in to make the receptions special.

Kiko Kimura and **Ellie Erkkila**
Women's Fellowship Reception
Co-chairs

FROM SHARON CALHOUN'S SISTER

My sister, Bev Wyne, and I are very grateful for your church and, in particular, Caroline Zaworski and Tammy Skubinna, for planning Sharon's service and reception on July 14, together with any other individuals/groups. We give a heart-felt thank you to both of them for their caring and friendship for Sharon in her most difficult days, together with a warm thank you to all of your parishioners who befriended Sharon and visited with her when she most needed it.

Most sincerely, Pat Ward

FROM CORAL TORLEY'S SON

Dear friends and acquaintances
of Coral Torley,

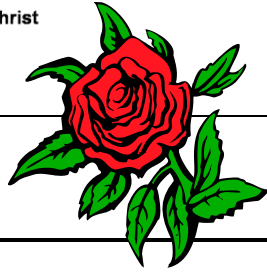
My brother Lawrence and I wish to sincerely thank all of you for your support during our mother's recent illness and passing. Although I have known only a few of you over the years I know that my mother had many, many more friends among the members of the congregation. It was heartwarming to meet so many of these friends at the memorial service for her. I wish I could contact all who attended the service but there were so many friends there that I felt this rather impersonal letter would be the best way to express my great thanks for your friendship to our mother as well as to our father who passed away in 1996.

Thank you so much!

Sincerely, James Torley



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Copy deadline for next issue of newsletter is August 16.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Friday, August 5

7:30 p.m. Badminton

Sunday, August 7

9:30 a.m. Worship

4:20 p.m. Holy Sox, Washington

7:30 p.m. Hiroshima/Nagasaki
 Commemoration,
 Starker Arts Park
 (see page 3)

Monday, August 8

7:30 p.m. C E Board

Tuesday, August 9

9:00 a.m. Staff

7:15 p.m. Mission Board

7:30 p.m. Personnel Committee

7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Wednesday, August 10

7:30 a.m. Women's Breakfast
 Group, Darrell's

Friday, August 12

7:30 p.m. Badminton

Saturday, August 13

10:00 a.m. Memorial for
 Jeannette Thompson,

3:00 p.m.

Peace Garden
 Ginny White celebra-
 tion of life, Hanson
 Grove, with reception
 to follow at Squirrel's

Sunday, August 14

9:30 a.m. Worship

(following) Bell Choir

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

Monday, August 15

7:00 p.m. Trustees Board

Tuesday, August 16

9:00 a.m. Staff

3:00 p.m. Stone Soup

7:00 p.m. Spirit Quest

7:00 p.m. Boy Scout Troop 1

Wednesday, August 17

7:00 p.m. Pastoral Search
 Committee, Library

Thursday, August 18

11:45 a.m. Lunch Group

Friday, August 19

7:30 p.m. Badminton