

Springwater Currents

July-August 2004
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PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Long ago, I used to work with graphics artists developing marketing materials for my company. It was exciting work, and I loved the imagination and creativity that could take our ideas about what “sells” construction services, and turn them into something beautiful to look at.

One of the first things I learned about was “white space.” The artists showed me that, when a brochure or advertisement is filled with words and pictures, the message gets lost. **In fact, effectiveness is lost when the page is too busy.** Leave some blank space on the page, and the resulting “white space” will point to the one important thing.

You know where I’m heading with this, don’t you?

White space

Where is the “white space” in your life? Or do you try to cram as much into your life as possible? Lives are like pages: **effectiveness is lost when too much is going on.**

Take a look at the advertisements that really shout out their message to you. You will notice that they are about only “one” thing—usually “buy our product.” You will also notice that when space has been left around that “one” thing, your eye is led to it, your attention is drawn to it, because your brain doesn’t have to filter out distractions.

Carolyn Hampton, the proprietor of Circuit Rider Books, follows presbytery meetings with a mobile bookstore. Carolyn has an uncanny way of knowing exactly what I’m going to need

to read. Last meeting was no exception. The book I picked up is called Addicted to Hurry.

As soon as I get some time, I’m going to read it, so I can let you know about it. But I’m way too busy to sit down and read about hurry in my life.

Does that make sense?

It is a sad commentary when a person is too hurried, too busy, too pressed for time, to read a book that urges that person to slow down and pay attention to God. Hurry may be the cultural norm, but no one said we need to be victims of our own lives. That’s the point of salvation: **we are no longer stuck.** Forgiveness gives us a choice.

As you may have heard, I spent part of my study leave this year on a retreat that was billed as a “hermitage” experience. The retreat was in a beautiful setting, in the company of 12 other women, and it was **silent.** The point of the retreat was to be silent enough to let God get a word in edgewise. Nothing to accomplish. Protected from the noise and clamor of our lives. Just listening, waiting to hear God’s call on my life.

It was a powerful experience. Do you remember when you were little, and you discovered friendship, and all you wanted to do (maybe all day every day) was pay attention to your friend? Play together, eat together, sleep overnight, hold hands on the way to school, spend

Deadline for the September
Newsletter is August 14, 2004

recess together, share your toys and even trade clothes if your parents let you.

That's what it was like to spend three days in silence with God.

Music and white space

My mentor recently wrote in his church newsletter about the purpose of a "rest" in a piece of music. The rest is what adds beauty, he said, giving the notes meaning, grace, and depth, ensuring dimension, providing structure and dynamism. Music without rests is incomprehensible and chaotic, it is distressing to listen to.

Now think about your life. Whether you understand it as a musical rest, or whether you think about it as "white space," that space-without-hurry is essential to living life with meaning. It is critical to living in relationship with God.

In Biblish we call it "Sabbath." The Jewish understanding of Sabbath is that of celebration. The understanding is not, "I've gotta get my work done so I can do Sabbath." The faithful Jewish understanding is, **"Now it is Sabbath; my work is done."**

This is your pastor speaking: make a regular appointment with God and keep it. Don't let anything get in its way. And there will be piles of things that will try to get in the way. Design some "white space" into your life, something that will allow you to see that "one" important thing.

See you in church.



Session Notes:

Session met on April 4th to examine and accept into membership Sheila Laschober, Carol Sturman and Peter Sturman. Session members had the chance to talk with each person, hear their statement of personal faith and ask each one questions. We enthusiastically accepted them into membership. Session also accepted Samantha Sturman to be baptized as a believer

in Christ.

On April 5th, Session met with Bill and Kathleen Leonard and accepted them into membership. These 2 meetings were a wonderful opportunity to make Sheila, Bill, Kathleen, Peter & Carol members of our church family and brothers and sisters in Christ. Please keep them in your prayers.

Session met on May 23rd and conducted the following business:

- § We met with the 3 confirmands, listened to their statements of faith, asked them questions & voted unanimously to accept Rachel Webb, Houston Webb and Jennifer Souders into full membership.
- § Session voted to give camperships to our 3 confirmands, Jennifer Souders, Rachel Webb and Houston Webb.
- § We joyously accepted the gift of a framed copy of the Prodigal Son. The gift is from Don & Barbara MacKinnon. Please be sure to say thank you to them.
- § Session met on June 14th to hear the fundraising ideas brought to us by the Finance sub-committee of BOV. Session gave the committee permission to go ahead with several items:

1. Make the website a place where people can donate money to help us finish the outside work already in progress and to donate for current and future projects.
2. An e-mail campaign to spread the word about our church and to inspire people to donate to the continuing work and future projects.
3. Create an event to celebrate 100 yrs in our building, and to hold a fair at the same time to highlight changes occurring on the grounds and the opportunities for community use. October 9, 2004 was chosen for the celebration.

§ Session also voted to go through a new mission study to help us look at goals and how

we want to accomplish them. Gwen Shearer will be chair and is currently gathering a committee. The date of completion will be no later than March 30, 2005.

If you have any questions about what Session is doing, or if you have concerns, please feel free to ask any session member. A list of current members is included in the phone directory.

July 19th is the date of the next Session meeting. If you have any action that you need to have Session involved in, please talk to an elder or Eileen before the meeting so that we can make a place on the agenda.

Thank you.

Sincerely, Kathy Scott, Clerk of Session



LECTIONARY

Summertime, and life's normal rhythms take a different beat. Preaching is no exception. This summer, we are not sticking strictly to the discipline of lectionary texts. The following are preaching texts for the coming months, and if you want the lectionary texts for the coming weeks (those scripture passages which the Church has agreed to guide preaching opportunities), please refer to the Mission Yearbook. You may take home one of the copies in the library.

July 18: Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16 (Happy Birthday to Us). We will be worshipping in the canyon, and music will be led by the Ramblers. We will be celebrating the baptism of Kathleen Leonard in Clear Creek and sharing in the fellowship of food afterwards.

July 25: Luke 11:1-13 (Prayer Education). The Community Care Committee is sponsoring its annual "Christmas in July" shower for the Estacada Family Resource Center. Plan on choosing some of your favorite Christmas carols to sing during the pre-service hymn sing time.

August 1: Luke 12:13-21 (Enough is Enough!)

August 8: Luke 12:32-40 and Isaiah 5:1-7. We will be worshipping in our new outdoor worship area. The Ramblers will be leading in music. Invite your friends.

August 15: scripture and song service.

The next three weeks will be dedicated to preaching from the book of Psalms, something often not done in Presbyterian churches. The book of Psalms is Israel's hymnbook, and scholar Walter Brueggemann divides these "hymns" into three types: psalms of orientation, disorientation and new orientation.

On **August 22** we will be preaching from Psalms 131 and 133 (Orientation: All is Well).

On **August 29** we will be preaching from Psalms 35 and 42 (Disorientation: It's a Jungle Out There).

On **September 5** we will be preaching from Psalm 91 (New Orientation: Tested, Tried, Good to Go).

The Heifer Project and You

Today millions of people who were once hungry will be nourished by milk, eggs and fresh vegetables. Families who for generations knew only poverty will be building new homes and starting businesses. Children who once headed out to the fields to do backbreaking work will be heading into schoolrooms to learn to read. People who never thought they'd be in a position to help someone else will be experiencing the joy of charitable giving.

How is this possible?

It is possible because of the work of Heifer Project International, and we have been part of that work. Our church has a history of participating in the Heifer Project, and this year's Vacation Church School continued that work.

The need is there, and it is a continuing need. Think about our neighbors throughout the world, and join this work. There is a Heifer Project gift list posted on the bulletin board in the Fellowship Hall.

Please talk to Lloyd Olson if you have ideas or questions about how you can be a part of this.

YOUTH AND SPIRITUALITY

Report from Presbytery

At the June Presbytery meeting in Grants Pass, we were privileged to hear Mark Yaconelli speak. Mark has been involved in the Youth and Spirituality Project at San Francisco Theological Seminary, and he came to give a pre-presbytery workshop on the topic and speak to the presbytery as a whole. Although he came at the request of the Theology, Spirituality & Worship committee, one of the churches involved in his project is Westminster in Eugene.

Mark had some shocking things to say. One of the most shocking was that maybe we had lost Christianity. People have forgotten why they are in church, he said. To illustrate this, he told about a friend of his who stopped preaching. His friend announced to the congregation that he normally preached for 15-19 minutes, so he would allot that time during worship for the congregation to ask questions. If they didn't ask questions, they'd remain silent for the full 19 minutes.

Presbyterians are terrified of silence, Mark said, so the questions began. People brought their friends to ask questions. Worship was filled. People began to think about—and talk about—what they were doing in worship. His friend spent 6 months writing down the questions the congregation asked. And then he began to preach, based on the questions people had been asking.

What an amazing concept! Telling the truth about our faith (**we've got questions!**). Discovering the purpose of church, discovering that its purpose is not community or fellowship. Discovering that community is the by-product of **mission**.

Yaconelli suggested that many churches go about their business in the “functional atheism” mode. They borrow organizational methods from the secular world and go about their business acting like God is not present. “Let go,” he said, “of things that are no longer life-giving.”

Don't do them anymore.

As for how to worship, “Pay attention to the children's sermon,” he said. That's where the questions, the doubt, the joy are located. Notice that this is where people are paying close attention because they know something is going to come up. “All worship should be like this,” he said.

He went on to say, “**Pay attention to where life is.**” Yaconelli thinks our culture is so obsessed with death that we run from risk. We prefer the predictable, the risk-free routine, safely under control. To be fully alive, to stay where life is, **we don't have to do a thing**. All we do is “perceive, welcome, receive.” God is already at work. But God is a risk-taker. Yaconelli defined “spirituality” as paying attention to and receiving what is already there. What is there is disturbing and surprising, he said, but when we risk it and trust God, **when we create a space, God can show up**.

His parting words to us were, “**HAVE FUN**. If you're not having fun, stop doing it.” That's pretty un-Presbyterian, but it's just crazy enough it might work.



Anniversaries

July

Steve & Dana Shibley	16
Sam & Robin Fisher	18
Don & Bettie Barbee	27
Don & Tami Guttridge	22

August

Bill & Kathleen Leonard	4
Greg & Renate Jeppeson	6
Tom & Judy Coyne	8
Tom & Lynne Deschler	10
Don & Barbara MacKinnon	19
Bruce & Connie Ryan	21
Merle & Mike Harlan	24
Bill & Marge Varitz	27

Meet Elder Judy Coyne

I was born in Portland, OR on April 7, 1940 to Bill & Lenora Shearer. I am the third in a family of seven children. When I was 7 we moved from NE 108th to SW Dolph Ct. so we would be closer to Father's work at Lewis & Clark College. Very shortly after we moved we started attending Multnomah United Presbyterian Church where I attended until I moved away from Portland in 1963.

There were many activities available at the church as I was growing up. I took advantage of them all. As well as church activities, we had family devotions most evenings at home. My parents were very good examples of people trying to live their faith. I learned a lot from them.

I don't think there was ever a time that I thought about any career except teaching. When I graduated from Lewis & Clark in 1963 I got a job teaching second grade in Klamath Falls. During that year I met Tom Coyne and married him on August 8, 1964. He was in the Air Force stationed at a Radar Base in Winnemucca, NV so I moved there and got a job teaching first grade.

When he got out of the service in 1965 we moved to Connecticut where he grew up. I got a job teaching first grade and taught 3 years there until the birth of our first son, Thomas John Coyne III (Thom), July 28, 1968.

When Thom was 6 months old we moved across the country to Portland, OR. Tom got a job with Midrex Corp. Our son Scott was born in May 1970. When he was one, Tom's job took us to Germany for a year. We moved often in the next 10 years as Tom moved up in the company. From Tracy, Quebec to Charlotte, NC to Sudbury, Ontario to Milwaukee, WI to Fort Mill, SC to Clover, SC.

We lived only 1 or 2 years in all the places until we moved to Clover. We stayed there 10 years. We became part of Scherer Memorial Presbyterian Church and really enjoyed the community. Our boys were involved in soccer and band. Tom and I went to every event the

boys were in when Tom was not traveling. If he was traveling, I went by myself. I was the only parent that had been to every soccer game, home and away for the 3 years the boys were involved.

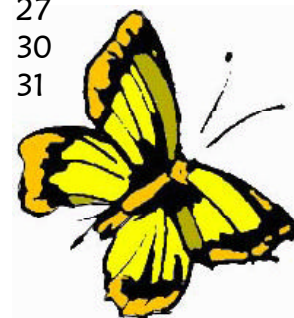
In 1989 we moved back to Oregon and I started working as a substitute teacher. I loved it. Tom was working on developing several patents through his own company. We moved to Springwater in 1991 and I began attending Springwater Presbyterian Church and felt I had come home. I joined that year and was ordained an Elder in 1993.

In the fall of 1995 Tom got a contract to be the Project Manager to build a Shaft Furnace Pellatizing facility in Mangalore, India. I joined him in March 1996. Except for several trips home per year, we stayed there until May 1999. Tom returned for 3 months in 2000, but I did not go with him. We still have contact with friends we made there and value the experience.

We have 2 grandchildren, Bryan born in 1995 and Josie born in 2002. They are the joy of our lives and we wish we could see them much more often than we do.

July Birthdays

Harvey Beecroft	15
Don Guttridge	15
Cody Johnson	16
Stephen Shibley	17
Dorothy Shearer	17
Jennifer Souders	26
Carol Sturman	26
Corey Edmeades	27
Charlotte Rice	30
Juliette Lalka	31



Meet New Member Carol Sturman

Carol just joined the church this spring, along with her husband Peter and daughter Samantha. Carol was born in Jerome, Idaho and moved with her parents, brother and sister to Portland when she was young. She was raised in Portland and graduated from Columbia High School. Carol's mother drowned when Carol was 14 and her life was difficult during her High School years.

Carol worked at Hyster Corporation and then at McCall Oil for 13 years. She earned a degree in Horticulture and recently began working at Teufdl Nursery in sales. Carol met Peter at work in 1993. Soon after, they married and have lived in Springwater for several years. Carol has 2 sons and Peter has 1 son from previous marriages. Their daughter Samantha completes their family and is the only child still living at home.

Carol enjoys working with children and serves on the school board in Oregon City. It is a job that she takes seriously and it makes her feel good to be able to work for students and their education. Carol also has a horse she cares for and enjoys riding when she can. She is currently serving our church on the Finance Committee of the Building Our Vision committee.

When you see Carol, say hello and take a few minutes to get to know her better. You'll be glad you did!

Service is part of God's Plan

Hunger is getting worse, right here, along our roads and streets, near our homes. The number of people seeking help from the Estacada Family Resource Center is going up. If you look at the chart in Fellowship Hall you can see that our donations are going down. The folks at the Center say that we are not alone. Other donations are down this summer. You don't have to be much of a mathematician to see what this

does to the folks that need food.

We have direction in the Book of Matthew. "Then the King will say to those at his right hand," Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me... Truly I tell you, just as you did to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me."

We can be better servants. We have given more in the past and we can grow into it again. Perhaps, if we keep these needs in front of us, we can more fully respond.

There are many paper bags in the Narthex. Pick some of them up, take the bags home, fill them up, and bring them back the next time you come to church. We've got lots of paper bags, we need food. We can serve our God and our neighbors. Each full bag is a statement of service; and as an aside, there will be lollipops for those families returning the bags and lollipops for the Resource Center. **We Can Serve!**

August Birthdays

Iola Layne	5	Bettie Barbee	20
Max Soule	8	Bryce Babikoff	21
Kyle Lalka	11	Tadd Kruger	21
Peter Sturman	11	Bill Shearer	25
Nancy Tedrow	13	Marilyn Guttridge	25
Cody Pieschel	14	Merle Harlan	25
Marge Varitz	14	Neal Jeppeson	26
Barbara Shibley	16	Julie Spencer	28
Nona Shearer	17	Leanne Clark	29
Phillip Bittman Sr	18		
Kathleen Souders	18		
Joy Thompson- Alford	20		



Community Care

The Community Care Committee plans to meet at 4:00, July 27 at the church. We will review plans for Back-to-School supplies for ESL youngsters in the Estacada School District.

Also, we need to discuss how to reach more of the local field Christmas tree workers who would enjoy a big bowl of hot chili on a miserable, cold November day. In the past we have served between twenty and thirty men at the Springwater Store. Any reasonable suggestions from you? Let us hear your thoughts.

Then, of course, the Christmas baskets for community families will be on our agenda. This occurs in late November and early December. We were elated last year when contributions from you, our congregation, provided the usual essentials and then more extras for FIVE families. (We have usually delivered many bags and boxes of goodies to only three families.) Bless you!

No doubt you will be hearing more from the CCC'ers soon! You are always welcome to join us. Lucy Olson, chair

Who is in charge of that. . . . ?

Here's a list of the current elders and their particular areas of responsibility:

Don Barbee: • Personnel matters • Scheduling and master calendar for church activities • Sunday morning announcements

Cindy Babikoff: • Christian Education

Judy Coyne: • Worship & worship related activities

Bob Maat: • Buildings and Grounds

Lucy Olson: • Community Care delivers food, sends cards, & responds to people in need.

Tadd Kruger: • Fellowship activities

Nona Shearer: • Treasurer, Stewardship, Financial reports.

Kathy Scott: • Clerk of Session, Administrative functions

Valerie Webb: • Mission activities

Half Year Financial Report

As of June 30, 2004

General Funds received	\$38,268.05
Operating Expenses & Mission	<u>\$38,060.25</u>
General Funds Balance on Hand	\$207.80

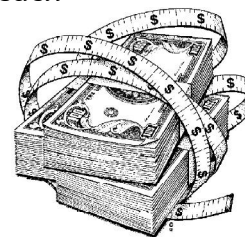
With 50% of the year passed we have received 48% of the total amount pledged and 49% of the total General Fund income we projected. We have spent 48% of our budgeted amount on Operating Expenses and Mission Disbursements. Our income each month is barely keeping us in the black. Please keep your pledges coming in through the summer.

On Sunday, July 11, Nona Shearer will have your half-year giving reports available. They will be mailed if you do not receive them at church. Please check them for accuracy and, if you made a pledge, where you are in paying on that pledge.

We have also received \$6821.00 toward the Parking and Landscaping project we are completing this summer and, so far, we have received \$1987.32 for Special Offerings. This is a generous congregation.

Per Capita

So far 15 members have donated the \$21 towards their portion of the per capita we have paid the denomination for each member. If you can spare \$21 for your share the session would appreciate it. (Note: If this \$315 had not come in our General Funds would be in the RED)



UPCOMING EVENTS

The Worship Committee has planned some exciting events this Summer and Fall that should be of interest to everyone.

July 18 We celebrate our Church's Birthday with Morning Worship in the Shibley's canyon. After worship we will have a potluck. Please sign up on the board in the Fellowship Hall so we know what you are bringing.

August 8 We will have Morning Worship in our new amphitheater for the first time. The Ramblers will provide the music. A potluck will follow in the Grange.

September 12 Time for our annual ROUND UP. We go back to our regular times for Church School (9:30-10:15) and Worship (10:30-11:45). A potluck will follow at the Grange.

October 9 Our church building is 100 years old. We will celebrate it this day at the grange. Plans are developing.

Keep looking for more information about each of these events as it becomes available.

Blueberries are getting ripe.

Call to get on Margaret Shearer's order list (630-7449). She pick's them and charges \$5.00 for six hallecks.



SPRINGWATER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P O BOX 1017, ESTACADA, OR 97023
LOCATED AT: 24553 S. SPRINGWATER RD.