

Springwater CURRENTS



Springwater Presbyterian Church
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A Place of worship, nurture and service for God's people of all ages

May 2011

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May Birthdays

Leon Hilgartner	5/3
Tabitha Souders	5/20
Jim Tedrow	5/22
John Leonard	5/23
Kenneth Fisher	5/24
Nicole Armstrong	5/27
Bruce Ryan	5/29
Kord Kirby	5/31



"If you have a mom, there is nowhere you are likely to go where a prayer has not already been."

—Robert Brault

Sunday Schedule

9:30 AM Sunday School

10:15 AM Hymn Sing

10:30 Worship

11:15 Fellowship

Deadline for next
newsletter:

May 23



MAY CALENDAR, CHURCH EVENTS

- May 8: Mother's Day, communion, presentation of Bibles to Fourth Graders
- May 11: Stated Session meeting, 6:00 p.m.
- May 15: Presbytery-sponsored pulpit exchange; welcome the Rev. Bill Eaton, Clatskanie
- May 30: Memorial Day

If something that fundamental has changed, it's no wonder that even the church is changing.

Pastor Brian Heron will take a 4,000 mile bike trip, returning to the places he has lived in the Pacific Northwest.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

It goes without saying that things aren't the way they used to be. If, for instance, it seems to you that kids master electronic technology more quickly and effectively than you can, it's only because their brains are literally "hard wired" differently than yours or mine. If something that fundamental has changed, it's no wonder that even the church is changing.

Change? What Change?

When I agreed to serve on the presbytery's Vitality and Growth Task Force, I was excited because I thought I'd be learning from people who have some answers about "how to be the church" in the future. Not so. We're all in the same boat. **It's not that we don't know what's going on in the church.** Declining memberships, aging congregations, shrinking budgets, and fewer available volunteers are observable data. **What we don't know is what to do about it.**

Membership for many congregations in our presbytery has shrunk to fractions of their previous sizes. For remaining members in many of those congregations, it's not a matter of *if* they close, it's *how* they close.

Losing Our Religion

Our partner in the warming shelter ministry, Eastminster Presbyterian, is one of those congregations. They are being very intentional about a discernment process as they face their future. The warming shelter is one result of their discernment. This summer, they will continue that process, engaging in a project they call, "Losing Our Religion."

Pastor Brian Heron will take a 4,000 mile bike trip, returning to the places he has lived in the Pacific Northwest. Along the way he will ask people he meets three questions:

- What does the Church need to let go of in this time?
- What does the Church have to offer in this time?
- What does the Church need to be open to in this time?

Brian will spend 8 to 10 weeks, taking every opportunity for conversations, with both church and not-church people. He'll do some camping, but will also stay in people's homes, hooking up through couchsurfing.com and warmshowers.com. The idea is to work in

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advance to facilitate dinner conversations and to be open to the spontaneous ones.

Meanwhile, back at Eastminster, the congregation will have guest speakers from a wide variety of disciplines speaking on the questions Brian is asking folks along his bicycle route. Daily blogs from the pilgrim will let the home front know his where- and what-about. Eastminster has invited area churches to follow their adventure and to help sponsor Brian's expenses.

The project will be publicized through Presbyterian News Service as well as the Portland Tribune. Its outcome is yet to be fully known. Certainly the daily blog. Certainly webcasts and scripted talks from the guest preachers at Eastminster. It is possible it could even develop into a book, *Losing Our Religion to Save Our Soul*.

It's a huge adventure—exciting, ambitious, a little scary. Springwater's Session has agreed to invite individuals to donate to Eastminster and Pastor Brian's project. Look for updates in Moments for Mission over the summer.

This is one congregation's and one pastor's attempt to address the question of where God is calling the Church in these changing times. See you in church.

Eileen

LECTIONARY READINGS

During this season of Eastertide, we will unpack the implications of Christ's resurrection by an in-depth reading of the story of meeting the Risen Christ on the road to Emmaus. By pairing it with readings from the Acts of the Apostles, we will explore themes of grief, curiosity, hospitality, journey, hope, presence.

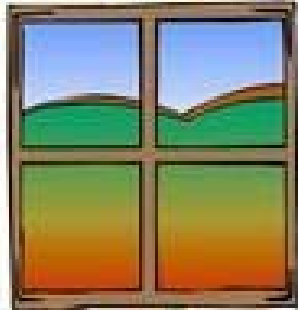
May 1 (On the Road: CURIOSITY): Luke 24:13-35; Acts 2:14a, 22-32; Psalm 16

May 8 (Mother's Day) (communion) (On the Road: HOSPITALITY): Luke 24:13-35; Acts 2:42-47; Psalm 16

May 15 (pulpit exchange; the Rev. Bill Eaton, Clatskanie preaching): Acts 2:42-47; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John 10:1-10; Psalm 23

May 22 (On the Road: GRIEF AND HOPE): Luke 24:13-35; Acts 2:36-47; Ps 31:1-5, 16-16

May 29 (On the Road: PRESENCE): Luke 24:13-35; Acts 7:55-60; Ps 66:8-20



East Sanctuary Window Discernment Team – Update #3

A month or so ago 25 members of the congregation participated in a very fruitful workshop to explore various ways in which our individual personas translated metaphorically into windows through artistic expression. It was interesting to see the wide variety of ways that were chosen to express themselves and not surprisingly, some of the most imaginative and intriguing pieces were made by our gifted children.

Our team is in the process of distilling the wonderful stories told at that workshop and what they begin to reveal about who we are as a congregation. We hope to have a narrative concept of what the East Window might embrace and will be sharing that with you in our next *Currents* update as well as a meeting after church within the next month or so. Once we have feedback from all of you we will be making a recommendation to Session. If approved, the next step will be to commission the services of an artist to help us see how our narrative translates into a real design. If you are interested in participating in this process please call Rick Parfrey at 503-638-0109 or E-mail him at parfrey@msn.com.

Above all, the overriding purpose of sanctuary windows is to **bring glory to God** and **move hearts to worship**. The answer to how Springwater's windows will accomplish that lies in the exciting journey ahead. Stay tuned and become involved!

East Window Discernment Team

Mary Kirby / Cindy Woodbury / Margo Maris / Mary Shearer / Deb Odell / Rick Parfrey



LIBRARY NEWS

Have you noticed that the church library has helpful labels on the shelves? Finding a book to interest you has suddenly gotten easier. There is also a handy book to use when checking out books.

Speaking of "checking out," could you please check your home library for any of Pastor Eileen's books you may have? There are several she is trying to locate, in particular, *Spaces for Spirit* by Nancy Chinn and a set of three photo/devotion books by Martin Marty and his son.

Meet Your Neighbors,

Meet Patti Turner

W

hen the manse was available to rent last spring, Session decided a better stewardship of our volunteer resources would be to engage a rental agent. It was Dick Scott who found Patti Turner to work on our behalf. One day, Patti said, Dick invited her to church "in a way that didn't feel like proselytizing." It seemed inviting to her, and when she came, she felt like she'd come home. She sees us as "generous people, not as into money as much as helping others," and she decided to stay.

Maybe "it takes one to know one" because, since that time, Patti has represented our congregation on the Estacada Round Table, the group of volunteers exploring ways to address the homeless situation in our area. She has also served on the Community Center board for some time. The way she tells it, it was a natural result of her being part of the Skip-A-Week quilt group that meets in the Community Center.

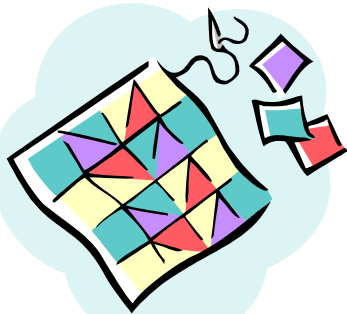
Quilting is one of Patti's current businesses. Even as a kid, she says, she sewed, but it wasn't until her son, Robert, wanted "a blanket out of little squares," that she started quilting. Soon, other people asked her to quilt their work, and she bought a machine, since then converting to a computerized machine.

The quilting business is a good complement for her property management business, which is an "on call" endeavor, since when no one's calling, she can quilt. Patti started in property management because of properties she and her husband owned, earning her credentials about 30 years ago. Both businesses, she says, are the kind that most people say they would never do. "They hear about the headaches," she says, "but those only come if you skip things and don't follow the rules. You don't hear so much about the good things." The jobs seem tailor-made for Patti, who likes people, is good with paperwork and bookkeeping, and following procedures.

Sewing machines must run in the family. Foster, Patti's husband, was a machinist before he was an engineer for the aeronautics industry. When Foster "didn't like the sound of the machines running," he started taking them apart and fixing them.

Patti and Foster have two children. KC Salisbury, her daughter, is 32 and teaches high school health in Fort Morgan, CO. She and her husband, Wesley, are the parents of Joanne Cecilia (born in May 2009) and Allyson Jo (born February of this year). Their son, Robert (28) had a traumatic brain injury some years ago and now lives in Eugene

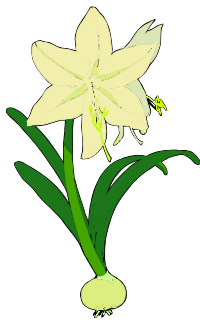
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Session Members are:

- Cindy Woodbury, clerk
- Kathleen Souders, worship
- Peter Sturman, Christian Education
- Wilma Guttridge, Endowment/Memorials & Gifts; co-chair B & G
- Al Conway, Personnel; co-chair B & G



AT OUR LAST SESSION MEETING WE . . .

- agreed to allow the Vacation Church School to plant a vegetable garden at the front entry of the church as part of the “Parable of the Sower” curriculum.
- acted to receive the anonymous gift of a propane tank, so we can shop around for better propane prices when we need heating fuel.
- Reviewed how the 2011 Session goals were impacting committee work.
- made preliminary preparations for the pulpit exchange on May 15.
- endorsed Springwater’s participation in Eastminster pastor Brian Heron’s project, *Losing Our Religion* (more in Pastor’s Perspective).

Elder Peter Sturman led us in devotions, using John 11. We continued in our study of Margaret Marcuson’s book, *Leaders Who Last*.

Amaryllis

Early one spring, I planted a couple of dozen amaryllis bulbs. With great anticipation, I watched for blooms. But weeks turned into months before the first sign of life appeared. By the end of summer, the bed of pink flowers I’d envisioned was nothing more than a scattering of green leaves.

So I pulled them all up to make room for other plants. I wasn’t about to waste another growing season.

Imagine my surprise the following spring, when a single delicate amaryllis blossom appeared. My delight quickly turned to dismay — for I realized I’d given up too soon. Had I the least bit of patience or a little faith, I might have had a glorious garden.

Then I wondered: Are there other things or people I give up on too soon? What might a little patience and faith do for a difficult relationship or troublesome circumstances?

—Kari Myers (adapted from *Homiletics*)

MEET PATTI TURNER
Continued...

at a supported living apartment for people with brain injuries. Patti was a special education teacher until Robert was injured. Foster was raised in LA, but Patti was raised “everywhere.” Her family followed her father’s work all over the US, so she literally has no “hometown.” They are a “platypus” family—Patti graduated from U of O, Foster from OSU. They lived in Portland for 18 years and “downsized” to rural Estacada 7 years ago, when the kids left home.

Want to get great prices on your purchases while helping raise funds for our new recording/sound system? It's easy and convenient, so read on....

The link on our website looks like this:



Several months ago Jim Roden, our multi-talented musician and sound person extraordinaire, advised Session that our trusty old tape recorder had finally died. Inasmuch as tape recorder technology has gone the way of the covered wagon Jim recommended that a digitally-based recording/sound system be purchased. He points out a few of the many benefits it will provide our congregation,

- Recordings of our Sunday services can be easily accessed through our website
- Using an Mp3 player people can listen to the services *anywhere*
- Weddings and other special services can be recorded and easily shared with distant relatives and friends
- Special music can be played during Sunday services and weddings
- People new to the community can check out our website to enjoy the antics of Ralph or Stinky and be intrigued enough to visit us on a Sunday morning.

We hope to pay for this new system using proceeds from our affiliation with [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com). Thanks to the support of Springwater's members, their relatives, and friends, since the beginning of our arrangement with Amazon we've raised \$370.00, which has been used to support the work of our church. To fund the purchase of this new recording/sound system we will need to raise \$400.00. Recently we have been averaging between \$30-\$40 per month so it shouldn't be too difficult to accomplish our goal **as long as you remember to access Amazon through our website at www.springwater-pres.org and remind your relatives and friends to do the same.**

For those of you who may not be familiar with this arrangement, you access Amazon.com by clicking on the link in the upper left-hand corner of Springwater's website. Once there, you will find over 75 categories of items offered by over 1000 merchants at prices equal to or better than Walmart's. For every purchase you make Springwater receives anywhere from 4%-15% of the total amount without adding anything to your cost!

If you're new to Amazon call either Kathy Scott (503-630-4739) or Rick Parfrey (503-638-0109) to find out how easy it is to access their website and purchase gifts or items of necessity. Both are eager to help so give either of them a call today.

Eileen made these wonderful scones for Easter Breakfast. Now, you too can prepare these lovely baked goods.

Recipe is from *Dash*, April 2011, a magazine-type supplement in *The Oregonian*.



EASTER SUNDAY THREE GINGER SCONES

3 c flour¹
 2/3 c plus 1 Tbsp sugar
 1 Tbsp baking powder
 1-1/2 tsp ground ginger
 3/4 tsp salt
 1/2 tsp baking soda
 1-1/2 sticks chilled, unsalted butter, cut into 1/2 inch cubes
 1-1/3 c pecan halves, toasted, chopped (about 5 oz)
 1/2 c plus 3 Tbsp chopped crystallized ginger (4 oz)
 1 c plus 1-1/2 Tbsp buttermilk²
 1-1/2 tsp peeled, grated fresh ginger
 1 tsp vanilla extract

Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.

Whisk flour, 2/3 c sugar, baking powder, ground ginger, salt, baking soda in large bowl. Add butter; blend to coarse meal.³ Stir in pecans and 1/2 c crystallized ginger.

Whisk 1 c buttermilk, fresh ginger, and vanilla. Combine wet and dry mixtures; stir to blend.⁴

Knead dough 8-10 turns. Form into two 6-1/2 inch discs; cut each into 6 scones. Transfer to a parchment-lined baking sheet. Brush with buttermilk. Sprinkle with rest of sugar and crystallized ginger. Bake until golden, about 20 minutes.

NOTES

1. I used a combination of unbleached and whole wheat flours.
2. That's what the recipe says for quantities, but I ended up adding more buttermilk (between 1/4 and 1/2 cup) to the dry ingredients in order to form a soft ball of dough. Do this gradually, but use your intuition about it.
3. I did this in a food processor. It's so much easier.
4. Because I wanted to have these fresh-baked for Easter morning, I put together the dry ingredient mixture the night before and put it in the fridge to keep it cold. I think that helped to form the good, crisp crust. Maybe that's why it took more buttermilk to make the dough than the recipe called for.
5. I also probably erred on the side of abundance when putting in the crystallized ginger.



Good Work, Good Party

We had a party and enough of us came to get the work done. On April 9, your Buildings and Grounds Committee was pleased to welcome a total of 14 pairs of hands to improve some things around our church. Goodies for refreshment were baked by Joy and Wilma.

It was a success because teams finished these four tasks: pansies planted up front; labyrinth weeded and raked; pathways through the trees raked clean; some parking bumpers aligned and re-anchored.

Thank you, those who answered the invitation: Adelia, Neal and Renate J., Margaret and Gwen, Don and Barbara, Gary and Wilma, Dick, Eileen, Jim R., Barbara S., Cindy W.

From the Committee's point of view this was a very big success because about 3/4ths of participants were from beyond the Committee. Check out their projects and thank them yourself!

In other progress lately, new windows are in the basement and new siding on the west end of the manse. Funds from the congregation paid a local contractor to do these projects.