

April 2008

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Birthdays

1	Mary Johnson
2	Kendra Guttridge
4	Lynnc Deshler
5	Gilbert Shibley
5	Robin Fisher
6	Ellen Ingamells
7	Judy Coyne
17	Rick Parfrey
18	Eileen Parfrey
21	Alexanna Fisher

April

Worship Time

Sunday

Hymn Sing
9:45am

Worship
10:00am

Fellowship
11:15am

Education for all
12 noon

April

Peter & Carol Sturman
April 26th



HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



April 19 - 9:00am - PURGE PARTY - includes lunch. We will clean out the basement and get it ready for re-newal.

Coming in May - volunteer day at the Oregon Food Bank.

May 15 - Pastor's Sabattical begins and Beverly Crow begins as sabattical interim

June 23rd to 27th - VBS, a Rainforest Adventure

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

Each Sunday is theologically a "little Easter," reflecting the magnitude of the miracle of the resurrection

What's in a Name?

What's with calling the time between Easter and Pentecost "Eastertide"? The season is actually called many names, it's just that Springwater has stuck with the term "Eastertide," as if to reflect the notion that the resurrection needs more than one Sunday of celebration.

Actually, each Sunday is theologically a "little Easter," reflecting the magnitude of the miracle of the resurrection. But there are other names for this season, most of them reflecting the fact that Christianity grew out of Judaism.

One name, the "Week of Weeks" anticipates Pentecost, originally a Jewish holiday referred to as "the festival of weeks." In Hebrew thinking, seven was a number that connoted fullness. God, after all, created the world in seven days. In Christian thinking, Christ is the fullness of God.

Another term for this season is the Great Fifty Days. Fifty was considered a sacred number in Judaism (see Leviticus 25 and the Year of Jubilee).

The lectionary for this season, geared to help us affirm our essential Christian faith, has a communal dimension. Lent's faith affirmation is more personal, but Eastertide moves toward the theme, "How To Be the Church." This year's preaching will be from Acts. The storyline in this book moves from disciples to apostles. It's a subtle change: what does it mean to go from "followers" to "the ones who are sent"?

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To the Point

That issue becomes more pertinent. On the verge of the pastor leaving for three months, "How to be the church," becomes critical. At the end of the season, on Pentecost Sunday, we commission our joint sabbatical, Bringing Creativity to Faith. I will be sent out to renewal activities, the congregation will invoke God's blessing on their own renewal activities, and sabbatical interim, the Reverend Beverly Crow, will be welcomed.

Elsewhere in this newsletter, the Sabbatical Support Committee outlines the activities of the three artists in residence. I'm very excited about the proposed activities (and a little jealous that I won't be able to participate), because I have experienced the inspired teaching of all three of these artists, and know you will be truly blessed.

Our sabbatical activities are funded by a generous grant by The Lilly Endowment, which gives a limited number of grants annually for clergy renewal programs, and which we were allowed to expand to cover congregational activities as well. We will make some of the congregational activities available to other churches in the area.

While Springwater is experiencing its own sabbatical activities, I'll be on what we believe will be a parallel journey. "Sabbath" (from which the term "sabbatical" derives) as it is practiced in Judaism means

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rest, renewal, celebration of God's generosity, and family. Unlike an academic sabbatical, I am not supposed to bring back a "product" (an article or book). In fact, if I go about "accomplishing" this sabbatical, I will be violating its spirit. My "product," according to Lilly, is a renewed and energized heart.

The week after Pentecost, Rick and I will go to spend a month in Mendocino, California, studying with Nancy Chinn, a nationally-renowned liturgical artist. For three weeks I will be at Grunewald Guild in Leavenworth, Washington, studying calligraphy, weaving, and sacred space. Then Rick and I will head to the Midwest to spend time with my family, including with my grandson in Chicago.

As we have prepared for sabbatical as a congregation, many members have participated in a small group course in a spiritual path to creativity. We've referred to this as the Artist's Way cluster, based on the title of the book we've been using. You might ask these folks about the energizing and faith-growing results they've experienced from consciously "Bringing Creativity to Faith" this year.

It is my hope that you will embrace both the leadership of Beverly Crow and the renewing gift of sabbatical. Bev brings considerable gifts to Springwater. Besides being a great preacher (ask Eagle Creek Presbyterian!), she offers the opportunity to look with a fresh eye at how we do things. I know you will be blessed.

See you in church.

Purge The Basement Party

April 19th, beginning at 9 A.M. with a potluck lunch.

We want to make the basement area a more warm and friendly place for the children and the adults who work with them. The first step will be a general clearing out of stuff we don't need. As there are other areas of the church that need to be gone through, like the attic, we will make the clearing out a church-wide activity.

While we are emptying out the basement, we will have some discussion over color scheme and take measurements so that we can determine the cost of materials needed to do the job. As we all know, many hands do make light work so come and join us.

If you cannot make it, but know of something the church needs to keep, please mark it before April 19th.

Contact Peter Sturman, Renate Ryan-Jeppeson, or Debbie Ingamells for more information.



HOW RICH ARE YOU?

It's all relative, isn't it? If you make \$15,000 a year in the USA, you might not feel so rich. But you'd be in the top 12.23% of global wealth. Even if you make half that, \$7,500, you're still in the top 13.85% richest people in the world.



This information is from www.globalrichlist.com, which reminds people of faith that we always have choices:

- for \$8 we could buy 15 organic apples OR 25 fruit trees for farmers in Honduras to grow and sell fruit at their local market
- for \$30 we could buy a DVD box set OR a first aid kit for an entire village in Haiti
- for \$73 we could buy a new mobile phone OR a new mobile health clinic to care for AIDS orphans in Uganda
- for \$2,400 we could buy a fabulous HD television OR schooling for an entire generation of school children in an Angolan village

You may still make a contribution to the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering, helping to pay for disaster assistance, clean water, and famine relief around the world, and economic development assistance in Third World countries. Heifer Project International is also dedicated to alleviating these needs.

GRIEF TIPS FOR THOSE HURTING

(by Rev. Mary Bredlau, reprinted from Transitions, courtesy of Estacada Funeral Chapel)

Experience your feelings as fully and as often as you need, rather than stuffing them inside.

Express your loss with a listening “sponge” who will just listen without giving advice.

Realize this death may bring back other wounds which are unresolved.

Nourish yourself with people and creative outlets that are “energy givers” not “energy suckers.”

Accept that your healing process, your grieving, your timing, as uniquely yours.

Ponder the big “why” questions as you try to understand the unknown, and discover some things are forever unknowable.

Use this painful time to search for what has meaning in life for you.

Try your very best to ask yourself, “Now that this has happened, what shall I do?”

Be kind and gentle with yourself, seek out support groups, clergy, or counselors, whenever you feel “stuck.”

Sabbatical Update

Sabbatical Dates
May 15 through
August 24

The Sabbatical Support committee has been busy planning events to take place during Pastor Eileen's sabbatical. The plan for the three months that she will be gone is for the congregation to have a sabbatical too.

We will be examining new ways of living our lives in our own unique and individual ways. Eileen's time will also be spent in finding new ways of being creative.

May 11th is the first date to mark on the calendar. Beverly Crow will commission Eileen to her sabbatical and the congregation will give her a proper send-off, Presbyterian style with a potluck after worship.

We have arranged for 3 different "Artists in Residence" to join us throughout the spring and summer:

- Kathleen Brown will lead us in "An Introduction to Liturgical Arts". People from other churches may join us for this workshop. Kathleen will also be working with the worship committee on Advent planning. You will be welcome to join the worship committee if you want to know more about this.
- Melanie Weidner will offer spiritual direction through art, including some hands-on collage making. She will work with us on several occasions.
- Father Jim Galluzzo will be helping us make "Sacred Space" in the church, in our homes, inside ourselves and in the world.

We are excited to offer these wonderful teachers and we hope you will join us. Exact dates and times will be printed in the next newsletter, and we will continue to report updated information in the Sunday bulletin announcements.

Ask Kathy, Carol, Renate or Eileen for an enthusiastic update.

BIBLE STUDY PLANNED

Want to learn more about your Bible? Come to our study on the New Testament. Starting April 2, we'll study the gospel of John.

There will be two classes, one in the afternoon for men that don't drive at night or who cannot come at night. But we will have a night course so working people can also come (both men and women).

Time for the afternoon class is Wednesdays from 2 to 3. Time for the night class is Wednesdays from 7 to 8.

Contact Bob Wilson (971/297-3118) with questions.



Session Report from Peter Sturman

Christian Education
Committee will meet at the
Church on Thursday April
17th. We will be reviewing
material for our Rainforest
Adventure Vacation Bible
School.



Springwater Faith Nurture March 2008

The Wednesday evening meal and activity gatherings during Lent were a great success. Sincere thanks to all who provided food, led activities and attended these gatherings. Don and Barbara MacKinnon, in particular, deserve thanks for their hospitality in cooking, serving, and clean up for all the dinners. The Beatitude Activities were planned and executed by Debbie Ingamells, Kathleen Souders, Erin Roden, Cindy Woodbury, and Pastor Eileen. Kathy Scott produced the video "commercials" for Beatitude Living that we used as sponsors for Palm Sunday's "newscast."

The last gathering was preparation and planning for our special Palm Sunday Service which presented the days leading up to the Crucifixion as TV news reports. It was a blessing and a profoundly moving experience for me to participate in this Worship Service and I hope the Congregation found it similarly moving.

Coming up in April the Christian Education Committee will meet at the Church on Thursday April 17th. We will be reviewing material for our Rainforest Adventure Vacation Bible School. We welcome any congregation members who would like to participate in some way (there are many) with Springwater VBS (June 23rd 27th)

Saturday April 19 will mark the beginning of our effort to provide more friendly spaces for Sunday School at Springwater. Starting at 9:00am we will be going through the basement and the storage areas in the church and removing all the stuff we do not use. Once the basement rooms are cleaned-up, we will be measuring up for carpet, curtains, paint and deciding on colors so we know what we need and can price it out. Participation and input from the congregation at large would be greatly appreciated. If you have concerns for the safety of a particular cherished item currently in the basement or attics please tell a Session or CE committee member or tag the item

Sunday School for Children and Youth

Anyone interested in being a Sunday School Teacher should contact Peter Sturman, Renate Jeppeson or Debbie Ingamells. It would be helpful if you could tell us the age range of children you want to work with.

PLEASE NOTE to be a Sunday School teacher at Springwater you just have to want to give it a try because it sounds like it could be fun.

BEING A Sunday School Teacher YOU ARE NOT:

- Responsible for the Springwater CE program
- Expected to be available every week
- Responsible for creating a curriculum

As a church we say we want to provide Sunday School for Pre-school through 12th grade. In order for this to happen there are two major requirements. We need Teachers and we need Parents who encourage and enable their children to participate in Sunday School. As a church we are taking steps to upgrade the basement rooms for Sunday School and other activities but without Teachers and Parental Involvement, Sunday School cannot happen.

Youth Activities

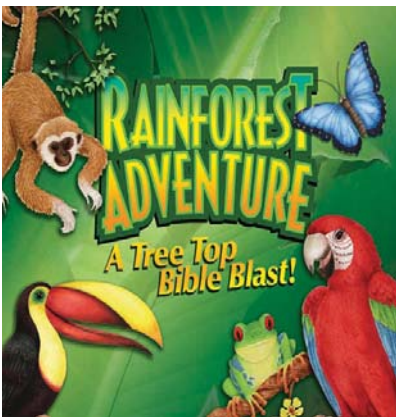
In March we were able to spend some time doing yard work at Guttridge's house as part of the Youth Help package she successfully bid on at a silent auction last year. We still owe her some more time. We were also able to raise some money towards the Mission Trip by moving and stacking firewood for Jean.

In April there will be a meeting for Youth and Parents of youth who want to go on the Mission trip to Alaska next year. I will be contacting you all to set up a day/time.

Vacation Bible School, a Rainforest Adventure

Volunteers are needed for our Rainforest Adventure the week of June 23rd to 27th. We will need help with snacks, crafts, games and rainforest props: for example rainforest stuffed animals, or items made or grown in the rainforest. Please let us know what you can do to help.

Our next meeting will be April 17th at 5 PM, please join us if you would like to help, or speak to Renate Ryan-Jeppeson, Peter Sturman, or Debbie Ingamells.



Personal Notes:

Susan Horton has moved. Her new address is:

Susan W. Horton
3508 NE 109th Ave., #P-1
Vancouver, WA 98682
360.859.3055
swhphd1226@comcast.net

Jim Hannum

We are sad to announce that Jim Hannum passed away on Tuesday, March 25th early in the morning. His daughter Stacia Hannum has been caring for Jim and she continues to live in his home. You can express your sympathy to her using the address & phone number listed in our church directory for Jim.

LECTIONARY READINGS

April 6 (From Disciples to Apostles: Tell the Story): Acts 2:14a, 36-41; 1 Peter 1:17-23; Luke 24:13-35; Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19 (communion)

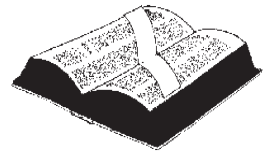
April 13 (From Disciples to Apostles: Form Community): Acts 7:55-60; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 10:1-10; Psalm 23

April 20 (the Rev. Ann Richards preaching): Acts 7:55-60; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14; Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16

April 27 (From Disciples to Apostles: Worship, Testimony): Acts 17:22-31; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21; Psalm 66:8-20

May 4 (From Disciples to Apostles: Up, Up, and Away): Acts 1:6-14; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11a; John 17:1-11; Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35

May 11 (From Disciples to Apostles: Power to the People): Acts 2:1-21; Numbers 11:24-30; 1 Corinthians 12:3b-13; Psalm 104:24-34 (communion, wear red)



Springwater Presbyterian Church

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Forward & Address Correction