

July-August 2005

In this issue

Birthdays	1
Anniversaries	1
Session Notes	5
Pastor's Perspective	3
Lectionary	10

July Anniversaries

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

August Anniversaries

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



Hymn Sing

9:45am

Worship

10:00am

Fellowship

After Worship

Sunday School
will resume in
the Fall

July Birthdays

15	Don Guttridge
16	Cody Johnson
17	Dorothy Shearer
17	Stephen Shibley
26	Carol Sturman
26	Jennifer Souders
28	Thom Coyne
30	Charlotte Rice
31	Juliette Lalka

August Birthdays

5	Iola Layne
8	Max Soule
11	Kyle Lalka
11	Peter Sturman
13	Nancy Tedrow
14	Cody Pieschel
14	Marge Varitz
16	Miranda Kirby
16	Barbara Shibley
17	Nona Shearer
18	Kathleen Souders
18	Phillip Bittman (Senior)
20	Bettie Barbee
20	Joy Thompson Alford
21	Bryce Babikoff
21	Marilyn Guttridge
21	Tadd Kruger
23	Christina Clatt
25	William Shearer
26	Neal Jeppeson
28	Julie Spencer



July 17 Celebrate!

Our Church Birthday

Come to the
"Work-Free"
Picnic Potluck
after Worship

Along with your
potluck food,
bring your own
(disposable?) plates,
cups, flatware, nap-
kins and anything
else you find
essential for a
great picnic.

When it's over, bus
your own trash,
leaving nothing
behind

Voila!
The work-free
potluck

The Church will
provide beverages

JULY 17 CHRISTMAS IN JULY

The following items are especially needed because the Food Stamp program does not cover hygiene items or cleaning supplies. Please be generous!

Household cleaning supplies

- Toilet Bowl Cleaner
- Laundry Detergent
- Woolite
- Bleach
- Fabric Softener
- Dish Detergent
- Hand Machine
- Sponges
- Furniture Polish
- Glass Cleaner
- Cal pet Cleaner
- Windex
- Ajax/Comet
- Dryer sheets

Personal Hygiene Items

- Toothpaste, Toothbrush
- Dental Floss
- Razor
- Shaving Creme
- Sanitary Pads
- Diapers
- Diaper Creme
- Band Aids, Neosporin
- Soap
- Shampoo, Conditioner
- Hair Brush
- Mirror
- Mousse or gel
- Deodorant
- Cologne
- Nail Trimmers
- Emery Boards
- Barrettes
- Ponytail stretch bands

Labyrinth Workshop

On August 13th there will be a three hour labyrinth workshop with Pam Maben, a certified labyrinth facilitator. This is for everyone in our congregation who is interested in finding out more about the labyrinth. Attendees will walk the labyrinth twice: once for their own benefit and once for the church as a community.

There is a sign up sheet in the fellowship hall for the workshop (so we will know how many people to expect). Please put this on your calendar and come experience what this labyrinth is all about. All ages are welcome! Child care will be provided.

Gwen Shearer



Springwater is blessed with a beautiful building on a fabulous site. We want to take care of these resources, not just because it is good stewardship, but also because it is evangelism.

The Church needs to begin thinking of itself as a "resource" for Christian life.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

At the last presbytery meeting (in June, at Milwaukie Presbyterian), everyone was buzzing about "the ABCs of church." Not because of a "back to basics" movement, but in hopes of "more than basics."

If "A" is attendance, "B" is building, and "C" is cash, then the obvious answer to "what next?" is "D." That's D, as in "disciple." You ~~rem em ber~~—disciple of Jesus.

Which might prompt you to think this is what your pastor harps on week after week.

You might be right, but I heard it in a new way at the Saturday morning presbytery worship service, and I've got to tell you about it. Retiring executive presbyter, Jack Hodges, was the preacher. Jack's premise is that the Church needs to begin thinking of itself as a "resource" for Christian life. A Christian's whole life.

Not that the ABCs of church are wrong. Attending church (the "A") is a good thing. Actually showing up and being together is the only way community forms. And community is the best way for the church to fill its original job description—to be the Body of Christ in the world. There is more to "church" than just filling the pews, just as "being a Christian" takes more than an hour on Sunday mornings.

Not that a church building (the "B") is wrong. Springwater is blessed with a beautiful building on a fabulous site. We want to take care of these resources, not just because it is good stewardship, but also because it is evangelism. In our hurly-burly, hectic, competitive world, Springwater's physical witness as a spiritual place is an important one. I have been told many stories by people who joined Springwater after years of driving by what they thought was an abandoned church. When the building was repainted, the steeple put on straight, and the sanctuary re-roofed, it reflected some of the life within.

Not that we should not be concerned about cash ("C"). A church that cannot pay its bills is in trouble. Churches need to have a financial dimension to its mission, both inwardly and outwardly. But if finance is all a church does for mission, a huge dimension is going to be missing from the life of the body as well as individuals.

What kind of resource?

When Jack Hodges preached about the church as resource for Christian life, his goal was for a place where individual lives are changed, and he wasn't just preaching to the choir. His "congregation" that Saturday morning was pastors and elders—people who had made sacred promises to be intentional about growth in their own faith as well as to provide opportunities for others to grow.

How does Springwater provide faith resources? An obvious answer is Christian Education. What isn't so obvious is that our current elders actually believe education is appropriate for Christians their whole lives long. Sunday School is one place where this takes

Service to others is more than just writing checks. More than sending (much-needed) food to hungry people.



July 17

Church Birthday
Baptise Joss Kirby
Christmas in July

August 13

Labyrinth Workshop

August 14

Kris Voss-Rothmeier
preaches

August 21

Pat Berger preaches

August 28

- * Worship in the Canyon
- * Communion
- * Celebrate Bill & Marge Varitz' 50th Anniversary

place, but you might have other hopes and dreams for "how" and "when" to meet your desire for faith nurture. Let an elder know.

Worship is another faith resource. Not only does our Sunday morning worship shape us as a group of people, but many people tell me they receive spiritual food for the week on Sunday morning. I'm pretty sure they don't just tell me that because I'm the pastor. Writer Annie Dillard says that, if people knew the power that was unleashed in worship every Sunday they would insist that seat belts and crash helmets be provided.

Opportunities for service to others is another faith resource. Sometimes we call this "mission outreach," which in the minds of many translates into "financial support." Service to others is more than just writing checks. More than sending (much-needed) food to hungry people. This is an important aspect to service, and the more we can expand our ability to do this, the better. But effective witness in mission means that it is a two-way street. In other words, relationship. In seminary we called this, "mission in reverse," because it reflected that we were learning from each other. When this model of mission is used, opportunities for service become real resources for Christian life.

Plenty of opportunity

There will always be plenty of opportunities at Springwater. That is one of the things we are really good at. Sometimes we're too good at that.

Now is a time in our lives together to examine that plentitude of opportunity. Our congregation is engaged in both a Mission Study (in which we wonder about our identity and mission in this place) and a Mission Outreach Discernment process (in which we wonder about how we reflect the gospel in the world). For both of these processes, the point is the conversation. This is a corporate "looking inward" to discern how to be outwardly. Both processes are working together. Both processes need your participation to be meaningful. When you are asked for comment and input from either of these groups, please be generous.

See you in church.

It's Blueberry Time!

Margaret Shearer is picking blueberries and will sell them to you for a dollar a pound. Call her to place an order and to get on the priority list. 503.630.7449



Who's Responsible For That?

Pastor
Moderator of Session
Eileen Parfrey

Clerk of Session
Communications
Kathryn Scott

Treasurer/Stewardship
Nona Shearer

Buildings & Grounds
Renate Jeppeson

Christian Education
Cindy Babikoff

Community Care
currently vacant

Mission Discernment
Susan Horton
(not currently on Session)

Mission Study
Gwen Shearer
(not currently on Session)

Personnel
Nona Shearer

Worship
Judy Coyne

Wedding/Funeral
Coordinator
Bettie Barbee

Can You Hear The Voices?

Our outdoor worship area is ready for use. It's beautiful, it can hold a lot of people and it is a wonderfully inviting space. People are already using it as a quiet place to rest, talk and pray. We'll be using it for worship this summer and many of us will find it difficult to hear the spoken word in the out-of-doors without a good sound system.



The Worship committee has researched the kind of equipment we need and the cost of setting it up. For the kind of system that will suit our needs, the estimate is around \$2000.

We would like the congregation and the community to have the opportunity to donate money to purchase the equipment. You could donate as a memorial for someone, to honor someone, to celebrate a joy or just because you think it is a good idea. The sooner we can install the sound system, the sooner we can provide a rich outdoor experience for everyone.

The Session hopes that you will feel inspired to donate to this project. Donations can be made by check or cash (in an envelope) in the Sunday morning offering designated **OUTDOOR SOUND SYSTEM**. You can also donate online at <http://www.springwater-pres.org/>

Mission Notes

Our mission focus this summer will be the Mission Partnership, the local ministries of the Presbytery of Cascades. We will be talking about how funds are disbursed, and how the congregations of the Presbytery collaborate on particular projects, and take a brief break to enjoy some Presbyterian camping.

Note of Thanks. We appreciate the contributions of the Moment for Mission presenters during the past two months, explaining the several Outreach Ministries that Springwater supports. Don't forget your Christmas in July contributions.

Susan Horton

What...
...If?

WHY I NEVER EAT

This was published in the Colton Lutheran Church Steeple Talk. CLC member Phyllis Hunter submitted it.

Everybody has a good excuse for not attending church. If you take those excuses and apply them to other things we do (or don't do), like eating, they might look like this list:

I don't eat anymore because . . .

1. I was forced to eat as a child.
2. People who eat all the time are hypocrites; they aren't really hungry.
3. There are so many different kinds of food, I can't decide what to eat.
4. I used to eat, but I got bored and stopped.
5. I only eat on special occasions, like Christmas and Easter.
6. None of my friends will eat with me.
7. I'll start eating when I get older.
8. I don't really have time to eat.
9. I don't believe that eating does anybody any good. It's just a crutch.

Session Report

Session members are currently reading a book on strategic planning for congregations. The title is Holy Conversations and we are discussing different kinds of planning, depending on what kind of problem or circumstance we are dealing with. The objective is for Session to find new ways and new strategies for being Session and for living out our responsibilities for bringing God's Word to Springwater and the wider community. Stay tuned, God may surprise us.

At the Session meeting on July 10, we decided:

- * to celebrate Communion on August 28 as we observe the 50th Wedding Anniversary of Marge & Bill Varitz.
- * to ask the congregation for donations of money to purchase an outdoor sound system. (see pg 5)
- * to encourage Pastor Eileen to exchange pulpits with Dennis Alger of Eagle Creek Presbyterian for 1 Sunday
- * Buildings & Grounds committee will continue to work on plans for painting the exterior of the church.



Session Meeting

ORGAN UPDATE

In January Ruth Newman reported to the Worship Committee that the organ would need major repairs in the near future. In her opinion it was not worth the \$1000+ cost of the repairs as it is too large for our sanctuary and she gave us two options.



Option one was to buy a new or used organ and option two was to not replace the organ at the end of its life and just use our electronic piano. Ruth was comfortable with either option.

Ruth pointed out to us that she would not be able to play for too much longer and it is almost impossible to find an organist these days. After much discussion the Worship Committee decided to recommend to the Session that we not replace the organ.

At the June Session meeting the Worship Committee presented these options with their recommendation. The Session voted to not replace the organ.

Freedom

We recently celebrated the Fourth of July, a hallmark of our Nation's freedom. However, there are thousands, if not millions, of people in this country who are not free. These people are bound by poverty and hunger. If you aren't free enough to have food to eat, you aren't free.

There are all kinds of graphic statistics to show the magnitude of the problem, but it all boils down to the fact hunger is stalking people in our own area and around the world. We as a congregation may not be able to solve the world's hunger problem, but we can help feed some of the people who need it so badly.

The Estacada Family Resource Center serves many of the hungry, and we can help them. Bring your gifts of food and personal hygiene items to the church this, and every Sunday, and you will be helping to set some of the hungry free. If you can't go shopping for these gifts, the Center can always use money.

We can serve.

Lloyd Olson

It all boils down to the fact hunger is stalking people in our own area and around the world.

Here's a report card on the last Mission Study which we completed in 1998

Read about our many successes and find out what we still need to accomplish

Mission Study

During comments at the June 19th mission study presentation, some people wanted to know what our church has accomplished and not accomplished from our last mission study. There were eight areas covered in the 1998 mission study.

Under Buildings and Grounds we remodeled the manse, developed a Master Site Plan, reopened the west sanctuary door and added steps, and resolved the garbage and custodian issue. The objective of developing a routine maintenance schedule was not fully met, but we are doing a much better job.

We met all the Stewardship objectives. These were developing a policy for endowments, encouraging members to pledge both financially and with their time and talents, and to be more mindful of people's volunteer efforts through thanking them individually and collectively.

We have sort of met the Christian Education objectives. A big issue was enhancing the CE physical space to make it safe, healthy, and more attractive. Some of that was done and some was not. The issues were somewhat sidestepped by two of the CE classes moving to the Grange. Another objective was to expand the budget and support for teacher training, which did happen, but since the teachers chose not to get additional training, the money wasn't used and recently when budget cuts had to be made that was one of the items that was cut.

All the objectives under Worship were met. A new singing group was developed and supported, the sign-in process during worship was improved, we offer a variety of worship experiences, and the worship service is honored as a sacred time and not a performance.

All the objectives under Leadership and Administration have been met, the biggest objective being to find a pastor. Other objectives included developing a church program that will enable us to support a pastor at 75% time, carry out our mission statement, review the progress of our mission study accomplishments, and get everyone involved in the work of the church.

Some of our objectives under Member Care were met and some were not. We have improved communication within the congregation, improved providing transportation to church for those who need it, improved calling on new visitors and non-attending members, and gotten better at organizing childcare for church functions. We have not studied relationship and community building techniques.

The mission study committee believes our congregation should spend time focusing our efforts on God’s call for our congregation rather than trying to do everything for everyone.

The two areas where more objectives were not met that were met are Outreach and Evangelism. Under Outreach we intended to become more visible and have more contact with our neighbors and with the greater Estacada area. We also intended to create a better outside sign. Under Evangelism we were suppose to explore what evangelism means as it applies to our congregation, how we would do evangelism in our community, improve the signage directing people to the church, light the steeple more fully at night, and advertise Taize, Vacation Church School, and other events.

As you can see, we did a pretty good job at fulfilling our objectives, although in hindsight there is always much more that we could have done. In looking at where we are now the mission study committee believes our congregation should spend time focusing our efforts on God’s call for our congregation rather than trying to do everything for everyone. Also, the committee believes we should make a bigger effort to develop the spiritual side of our church rather than the physical side. What do you think? The committee has been handing out and/or mailing forms on which you can make your comments. Please fill them out and either mail them to the church or place them in Gwen Shearer’s box in the office.

Thank you! *Gwen Shearer*

What I learned as an Elder

Our Session members believe that being an ordained elder is a unique and inspiring experience.

“One day you wake up and notice that you see the world with different eyes”

These are comments made around the table at a recent Session meeting.

- † I grew in my faith
- † I got to know people a lot better
- † I gained a deep respect for the process of being the church
- † Session members are supportive and care for each other
- † It’s rewarding to be part of this “business” of running the church
- † I discovered the inter-connectedness of being part of the larger church, being part of the Presbytery, and sharing concerns with other Congregations of the same denomination
- † It’s amazing how well things work when you’re organized and all pulling together
- † I’ve gained insight into how the church works and how to know when something’s not working quite right
- † I’ve discovered a feeling of love for this building and these people
- † It’s a whole different paradigm when you have a sense of responsibility for how well the church works.

LECTIONARY READINGS

- July 17** *Happy Birthday To Us!* (Texts for worship: Psalm 71, Deuteronomy 6:1-3, Matthew 9:28)
(Revised Common Lectionary texts: Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43; Romans 8:12-25; Psalm 139:1-1223-24)
- 24** *For What It's Worth* (Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52; Romans 8:26-39; Psalm 105:1-11, 45b or Ps 128)
- 31** *Praying For What You've Already Been Given* (Genesis 32:22-31; Psalm 17:1-7, 15)
- Aug. 7** *Trading On the Family Secrets* (Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28; Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b)
- 14** *The Reverend Kris Voss-Rothmeier is guest preacher* (Matthew 15:10-28; Romans 11:1-2a, 29-32)
- 21** *Candidate for the Ministry Patricia Berger is guest preacher* (Exodus 1:8-2:10; Romans 2:1-8; Matthew 16:13-20; Psalm 124)
- 28** *Springwater worships in the canyon* (Matthew 16:21-28; Romans 12:9-21; Psalm 105:1-6, 23-26, 45c)
- Sept. 4** *Church Discipline* (Matthew 18:15-20; Romans 13:8-14; Psalm 149)



Springwater Presbyterian Church
24553 S. Springwater Rd.
Estacada, Oregon 97023
Forward & Address Correction