

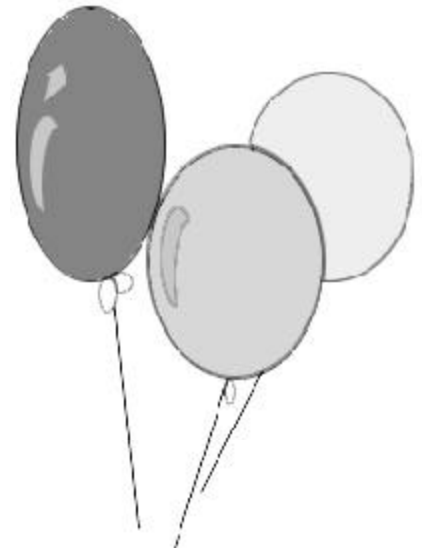
MARCH 2005

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March Birthdays

| | |
|-------------------|----|
| Debbie Ingamells | 1 |
| Victoria Bashaw | 7 |
| Natalie Bashaw | 7 |
| Phillip Bittman | 8 |
| Bob Maat | 11 |
| Leslie Soule | 13 |
| Tom Deschler | 14 |
| Colleen Roden | 17 |
| Gwen Shearer | 17 |
| Barbara MacKinnon | 18 |
| Vernon Souders | 24 |
| Taylor Webb | 26 |
| Matthew Webb | 26 |
| Linda Jackson | 26 |
| Margaret Shearer | 27 |
| Lydia Bashaw | 31 |



Sunday Schedule

Christian Education
for all ages

9:30-10:15am
Worship

All ages are welcome

10:30 - 11:45 am

Nursery & child care
available during worship



Anniversaries this month

| | |
|----------------------------|----|
| Cindy & Chris Babbikoff | 24 |
| Phillip & Janice Armstrong | 18 |

ATTENTION QUILTERS!

Contact Debbie Ingamells if you are interested in being in a church quilting group. No experience is necessary. Some equipment will be needed. You can reach me at 503 631-7355 or by email at ingamdeb@msn.com.



Our greatest danger is letting the urgent things crowd out the important.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

There was a framed quotation by the philosopher, Harry Glotz, hanging in my dad's study when I was growing up. "There is nothing so urgent today that it won't be more urgent tomorrow." My dad was a busy man, and Harry was his alter-ego. If the Japanese business management technique "just in time" had been invented, Dad would have been the first in line to sign up.

What's So Urgent?

I recently read that a global marketing research firm had surveyed people in 11 countries to find agreement to the statement, "There is never enough time in the day to get done what I want to get done." Americans agreed with that, to the tune of 64%. The same article cited a 1967 essay by Charles Hummel entitled, "The Tyranny of the Urgent." That long ago, Hummel said the telephone was the most urgent intrusion, but he'd never heard of pagers, call waiting, voice mail, cell phones, email, fax machines, and wireless internet. We are firmly trapped in what one of my friends used to call, "the micro-wave mentality." Whereas it used to take 5-7 minutes to boil a cup of water, the micro-wave appliance narrowed that down to 2 minutes, so that we are now able to get impatient as quickly as 30 seconds.

What's So Important?

Charles Hummel's point back in 1967 was that "Our greatest danger is letting the urgent things crowd out the important." If we asked, most Americans would say they would rather have more time than more money. Everyone you know is busy. Over-committed. Double-booked. In a time crunch. You aren't the only one.

But did you ever notice that Jesus never looked busy? He never seemed to be in a hurry. Jesus' disciples were often in a hurry. They sometimes told people "not to bother" Jesus because he (in their estimation) had more important things to do. But Jesus himself never seemed to rush. Sure, he might "only" stay someplace two days, or he would say "my hour has not yet come," but he never took a quick look at the sundial in the middle of a healing and to send his disciples out to warm up the donkey.

The Gift of Time

This sounds like rabbinical wisdom, but I read it in a newspaper: God invented time to keep everything from happening at once. God must have known how easy it is to get sucked into double-tasking. I can make this call and put away the groceries while I start supper and down-load this program onto the computer while I help the kids with their homework. I'll finish the report on the laptop while I mow the

Jesus never seemed to be in a hurry. What was his secret?

Giving people permission and an excuse to spend time in prayer, reading the Bible, and sharing their faith is doing them a favor.

lawn using the riding mower.

If God didn't think it was possible to do everything all at once, why do we try it?

It's Lent. We are in the final approach to Easter. What are you doing to get ready? This isn't about "taking on yet one more thing." Nor is it about "fasting from activities."

Jesus never seemed to be in a hurry. What was his secret?

Prayer. His lack of hurry was prayerful waiting. He had already brought his concerns—the demands on his time, scheduling issues, questions of the urgent and the important—to God in prayer. He was content to wait on God's answer, in God's timing.

What are you doing to get ready for Easter?

See you in church.



TEACHING SUNDAY SCHOOL: AN OPPORTUNITY FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH

Perhaps, like many people, you think you aren't qualified to teach. The following excerpts from a denominational article about the ministry of teaching Sunday School may help you see that differently.

"There are many people who may feel called to the ministry of teaching but who worry that they don't have time to prepare lessons. Instead of thinking of preparing lessons as just one more time-consuming chore in a busy schedule, these potential teachers might think of the time spent preparing lessons as a time of spiritual exercise and spiritual growth. . . .

"Teachers can use preparation time as their daily prayer time; they can pray for themselves as teachers and pray for those they will be teaching. . . .

"This is a time to read the Scripture devotionally as well as for information, a time to ask, 'How is God speaking to me in this passage?'"

The article concludes by relaying some of what Parker Palmer says in *The Courage to Teach* (Jossey-Bass, 1998). "Giving people permission and an excuse to spend time in prayer, reading the Bible, and sharing their faith is doing them a favor."

Ask any of our current or past Sunday School teachers, and they are sure to say the same thing: they learned more than the students, they grew in their faith, they love God more as a result of this experience.

What does it mean to be Presbyterian?

| CALENDAR | | | | | | |
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ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

Presbyterians 101 will be offered through Palm/Passion Sunday. This is a class designed for those considering baptism or church membership, as well as anyone wishing to “update” their understanding of what it is that Presbyterians believe. Susan Horton is our very able teacher.

There will be no adult Sunday School on Easter Sunday (because we’re hoping the adults will be participating in and cleaning up from the Easter Breakfast at the Grange). Children will have an activity for them during the Sunday School time on Easter morning.

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER ACTIVITIES

Maundy Thursday (March 24): potluck supper at the Grange at 6:00 pm, service in our sanctuary at 7:00 pm. This is a joint activity with Eagle Creek Presbyterian Church, and will include communion. You will be invited to leave the service in silence.

Good Friday (March 25): the church will be open from 12:00 pm to 3:00 pm for a contemplative, self-guided time of meditation. Materials will be provided, with scripture readings on the hour and half hour.

WE’LL BRING THE POPCORN

It’s a cheap date. There are still two more chances for you to join some of your favorite people in the whole world at the Lenten Sunday night movies at church.

March 6: King of Hearts

March 13: My Other Daughter

Viewing begins around 7:00 pm. We’ll provide popcorn, you bring your beverage of choice and a blanket for snuggling.

HUNGRY PEOPLE

There are billions of hungry people throughout the world. Not all of them are on foreign shores. Many of our neighbors are hungry. Each month the Estacada Family Resource Center distributes about eight tons of food and supplies to their clients, and even this doesn't meet all the needs.

Hungry people are not hungry because of personal flaws. They are hungry because they do not have enough to eat. That’s the difference between them and us. We can help. Let us serve God.



Youth Group
meets:

2nd Friday at 6:00 pm
Includes Taize service

and

4th Sunday
after church

Be There!!

Sunday Schedule

Christian Education
for all ages

9:30-10:15am
Worship
All ages are welcome

10:30 - 11:45 am

Nursery & child care
available during worship

Happy New Year! Springwater Presbyterian Church Financial Report as of January 31, 2005

One month or 8% of the year has come and gone and our General Funds income is keeping pace with our General Funds expenses. Here are the numbers:

| | | |
|------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| General Funds Income | \$6,673.32 | 8% of anticipated |
| General Funds Expenses | <u>\$6,542.22</u> | 8% of budget |
| Net gain | \$131.10 | |

Most of our General Fund income comes from your pledges and so far they are on target. Keep up the good work.

The other good news is that we have sent \$370 from individuals to Presbyterian Disaster Relief for the Asian tsunami effort. You may give to this at any time or just give generously to One Great Hour of Sharing. Part of that money always goes to disaster relief.

Since the published financial report for 2004 was a bit confusing, if you would like to see a complete 2004 financial report please ask.

Nona Shearer.

MISSION NOTES

The Minute for Mission is one response to the Proclamation of the Word. As Christians we are called to active service, and our Mission minute acknowledges the many expressions of that call.

During Lent our focus will be the One Great Hour of Sharing. This is a special offering authorized by the Springwater session that supports three ecumenical ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement, and community development and communities. Each of the special Lenten bulletin insert tells the story of those who receive assistance through the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, Presbyterian Hunger Program, and the Self Development of People.

On January 8", \$ 320,000 from the One Great Hour of Sharing funds of our denomination was dispersed to victims of the Asian earthquake and tsunami. The Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program has set a goal of \$ 2.5 million for crisis response. A minimum of 95% of designated funds will be used to help those who need it, (Five per cent is for administrative costs, processing and distributing funds to those in need.) To designate your OGH\$ gift for earthquake/tsunami relief, write DR000167 - Asia Relief on your check. The 2005 OGH\$ offering will be received on Easter.

Our Eastertide Moment for Mission theme will be Springwater's local mission activities.

Susan Horton

LECTIONARY READINGS



As Easter approaches, we will finish the Lenten preaching series on the story of the Samaritan woman at the well with Jesus, found in John 4:5-42. You are invited to read that story on a weekly basis throughout Lent, as well as to read the Sunday lectionary lessons for each week. We will read the lectionary Old Testament lesson with the theme story each week.

March 6: 1 Samuel 16:1-13, Psalm 23, Ephesians 5:8-14, John 9:1-41

March 13: Ezekiel 37:1-14, Psalm 130, Romans 8:6-11, John 11:1-45

March 20 (Palm/Passion Sunday): Matthew 21:1-11, 26:14-27:66; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Philippians 2:5-11

March 27 (Resurrection Sunday): Acts 10:34-43; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24; Colossians 3:1-4; Matthew 28:1-10

A WORD ABOUT PALM/PASSION SUNDAY

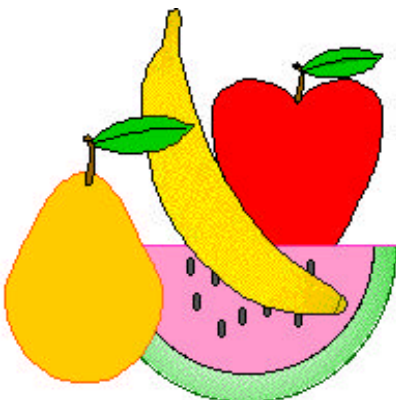


As we have in past years, the Palm/Passion Sunday worship service will be a simple re-telling of the story of Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem and his passion. Our children will lead a "palm" parade at the beginning of the service. Later in the service, they will be invited back to the front of the church to hear and experience the story.

Since part of the story includes the Last Supper, when Jesus washed his disciples' feet and instituted the Lord's Supper, children will be invited to have their feet washed. We encourage children to wear the kind of stockings that can be removed and replaced easily. Each child is individually invited, and a "no" is respected, so they need not feel reluctant to come forward out of concern that they will have to do something they are uncomfortable about. We will also celebrate communion at this time.

Plant-A-Row

When you are planning your vegetable garden this spring, why not plant a little extra and bring the produce to church? We'll make sure that your garden bounty gets to the Estacada Family Resource Center.





Sunday Schedule

Christian Education
for all ages

9:30-10:15am
Worship

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10:30 - 11:45 am

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Session Report

Why Pay Per Capita? What Difference Does It Make for Us? by Nona Shearer

We are part of a connectional church. That means that congregations through Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly help take care of one another.

I am on the Committee on Ministry for the NE region of the Presbytery of the Cascades. This committee supports congregations and their paid staff through times of transition and/or difficulty. When Springwater was searching for a pastor a member of this committee supported our PNC and represented presbytery.

As a member of that committee I am now supporting other churches in their search process. If I need some help with travel expenses to be able to do this job, your per capita provides that money. When we have events to better train people to do COM work, again your per capita supports that.

We have sent in our total Per Capita for 2005: \$1,220.32. If every member reimbursed the church their \$21, we would have another \$1,200 to spend on the ministry and mission of Springwater Presbyterian Church.

Please show your support of the "wider" church of Jesus Christ by making your 2005 per capita payment of \$21 soon.

Did You Notice?

Session names and faces have changed. At the Congregational meeting in January, three elders (Bob Maat, Don Barbee and Valerie Webb) finished their terms of service and left the Session. We thanked them and reluctantly said good-bye. Shortly after that, Lucy Olson resigned to spend more time with Lloyd while he undergoes chemotherapy.

At the same meeting, we elected 1 new elder to serve for 3 years. Renate Jeppeson agreed to be an elder. Renate has never served on Session before, so she will be ordained and installed this month. Ordination isn't a short commitment, it is a promise to be a church leader and to serve God and her congregation with love and purpose. Ordination lasts a life-time, it never goes away, whether the elder is currently serving on Session or not. It is a huge step for each new elder and the commitment isn't taken lightly. Please remember Renate in your prayers as she begins this new path in her life.

Here is something else you may have noticed. We lost 4 active elders and we only gained 1 new one. You do the math. Session is down from 9 elders to 6. One way to deal with this is you may be offered the chance to volunteer more.

Is there an activity that you want to see continue? Is there a job that you can help with? Please find out how you can help to keep things running smoothly. You will be amazed to discover that working with your church family is fun and rewarding. You'll make new friends and feel closer to those who work beside you. It's a chance to grow in your faith. I find it to be almost addictive and always worth it.

Session held a planning retreat on February 12th. Assignments were made so that each elder has responsibility for some phase of church life. Here is who you can call if you want information about getting involved or if you see something that we should know about.

Pastor Eileen Parfrey is our Moderator.

Cindy Babikoff is chair of Christian Education

Judy Coyne is chair of Worship

Kathy Scott is Clerk of Session and coordinates Communications

Nona Shearer is Treasurer and chairs Stewardship and Personnel committees. Whew!

Renate Jeppeson chairs Buildings & Grounds

Tadd Kruger is chair of Fellowship (He feeds us!)

You can find contact information for any of us in the church directory. Or speak with us at church. We really want to hear your thoughts about what the church is doing and how things are going.

Kathy Scott, Clerk of Session

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