

Springwater Currents



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

March 2010	March Anniversaries	March Birthdays
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10:30 AM Worship		
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Deadline for next newsletter: March 15		
	Church Calendar for March	
	March 3: soup supper and Lenten E-vent, 6:00 p.m.	
	March 7: Peter Sturman preaches	
	March 10: soup supper and Lenten E-vent, 6:00 p.m.	
	March 12-13: Presbytery meeting, St Andrews Presbyterian, Portland	
	March 17: soup supper and Lenten E-vent, 6:00 p.m.	
	March 24: soup supper and Lenten E-vent, 6:00 p.m.	
	March 28: Palm/Passion Sunday (communion), dedication of One Great Hour of Sharing Offering	
	April 1: Maundy Thursday service (joint service with Eagle Creek), 7:00	
	Other Special dates	
	o World Day of Prayer, March 5, 2010	
	o Girl Scout Sunday, March 7, 2010	
	o Daylight-Saving Time begins, March 14, 2010	
	o First Day of Spring, March 20, 2010	
	o Spring Vacation March 22-26	
	o Holy Week, March 28-April 3, 2010	



worship, nurture,
service

It is clear that we have
a heart for hunger
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tries?

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

It happens every year. The Book of Order even says it should be a joint one. What is it? It's the annual planning retreat.

This year the deacons and elders gathered in the community room of Whispering Pines apartments in Estacada. It was the first time in ten years that the weather for the retreat wasn't cold and rainy.

Forming the backbone of the retreat was the Mission Statement we developed in 2005. You will find the statement printed in full elsewhere in this issue, but for purposes of planning, we were able to reduce the statement to 3 words: worship, nurture, service.

Keeping those words literally in front of us, we engaged in a process designed to both be communal and unencumbered by worries about whether others think we're right or wrong. You might have seen the little booklets we used. They're probably still on the bulletin board in fellowship hall.

We shared what we're good at, what we can stand to improve, things we maybe oughta stop doing, growing edges, what we'd do if time and money weren't an issue.

Then we got down to business. What are we gonna do about it? Who's gonna do it? What are ways we'd like to be transformed? Always in the back of our minds we wondered, “What is God calling us to do?” and literally before us “worship, nurture, service.” What emerged won't look like big changes. But as visionater-in-chief, I see some trends.

Trends

At the top of the list, in many categories, was the desire to study scripture. This was paired with a desire to pray and learn ways to include faith in our daily lives. Look for more opportunities to formally study scripture. The Deacons reminded us that every Friday morning at 10 they gather to pray.

Another trend was the desire to limit and deepen our involvement in mission. It is clear that we have a heart for hunger ministries. How can we “take the next step” in hunger ministries? Session is investigating classes in advocacy.

Ministry with children and youth was a strong trend. We'd like to see their participation in the worship service continue, as well as offer intergenerational mission opportunities locally. Vacation Bible School was seen as an outreach event.

There are several issues for discernment-taking care of the manse and our outdoor areas, mission outreach, institutional and orga-

nizational concerns-which we intend to keep before us in the coming year.

Excitement

Yes, there are challenges as we try to be the church in a changing world. But. Springwater is blessed with faithful leaders, and we are seeing ways to move ahead as God calls us into deeper relationship.

Eileen

Lectionary readings

March 7 (Peter Sturman, guest preacher): Luke 13:1-9; Psalm 63:1-8

March 14 (The Meaning of Sacrifice): Joshua 5:9-12; 2 Corinthians 5:16-21; Psalm 32

March 21 (Yet Another Sacrifice): John 12:1-8; Isaiah 43:16-21; Psalm 126

March 28 (Palm/Passion Sunday, communion): Isa 50:4-9a; Philippians 2:5-11; Luke 22:14-23:56; Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29; Psalm 31:9-16



Lenten Liturgical Art

Before ordinary people could read or even possess a copy of the Bible, Christians remembered the stories of their faith through church art. It became the custom during Lent to meditate on Jesus' journey to the cross. The artwork supporting this became known as "The Stations of the Cross" and developed into a standardized version, which began with Jesus being condemned to death, following through his crucifixion, death, and burial. In more recent times, his resurrection has been added as one of the stations.

Rather than using the traditional version, Springwater is telling Luke's story of Holy Week-from the palm parade to the resurrection. The stations have been mounted on the sanctuary walls, each with a title, description, and citation from Luke. Symbolic representations invite viewers to meditate on the meaning of the stories, deepening their understanding of and identification with the events.

The art arose out of the discernment method taught us by liturgical artist Kathleen Brown. Rick Parfrey executed the stations, working with Pastor Eileen for theological interpretation. Thanks to Rick for this gift of time and talent. Each one is a work of art.



Faith Nurture

Springwater Presbyterian Church has a thriving Christian education program. Here are some of the classes we offer. We also have classes for preschoolers through 5th graders.

Walk Through Worship

Every year, our congregation presents each 4th grader with a Bible. This is a real Bible, not a story book. Session has tied this presentation with a class, geared to 4th graders, called A Walk Through Worship. The class teaches children the particularities and rationale for our style of worship service. This year, the Bibles will be presented in June, after confirmation on Pentecost, May 23.

Confirmation

Young persons considering affirming their baptismal promises (a.k.a. "being confirmed") have been taking classes with Pastor Eileen on Sunday mornings. Using a curriculum developed by the Presbyterian Church, they have explored questions about faith and life. Each confirmand has been paired with a mentor, an older person committed to sharing his/her faith experiences with this young person.

On Pentecost, after spending time in discernment about the question of affirming the promises made on their behalf at their baptism, after a meeting with the session, these young people will "be confirmed." Please be praying for them, especially as they meet overnight on April 30th to May 1st. They are Marilyn Guttridge, Samantha Sturman, Tabitha Souders, Travis Babikoff. Bryce Babikoff and Jennifer Souders also participate in the class. The mentors are Eileen Parfrey, Kathy Scott, Peter Sturman, and Renate Jeppeson.

Adult Classes

Sunday School for adults is a real joy for me. Contemplative prayer combined with scripture reading and discussion in a group is a rich, powerful and love filled experience. Thank you to all who have participated. If you haven't but are curious about what we do, please join us at 9.30 on Sundays.

Peter Sturman Youth Group

The Springwater Youth Group is taking an activity hiatus until after the Grange Play performances in March. As four Youth Groupers and the Youth Group Leader are in the play, we hope you come see us in one of the performances which start on March 12th.





Lenten E-Vent

It's more than just a supper, because we have an activity afterwards. The activity isn't quite a worship service, except insofar as everything we Christians do is worship.

It happens on Wednesday evenings during Lent that we gather to share a simple meal of soup. Afterwards, Pastor Eileen will lead us in learning to pray Sense-Ably-to pray using all of our senses. In the spirit of the commandment to love God with our whole being, we will learn how we are already using all of our senses to be in communion with God.

If you would like to help provide soup or bread for these meals, please sign up in fellowship hall.

Ramp Thanks

Dick Scott has spent the last six months or so facilitating the work on our new front steps and ramp. The project, in use for some time with only cosmetic work remaining, was funded by a grant from the Opening Doors Task Force of the presbytery, a gift from Ann Sherman, and an anonymous donor. Our thanks to these folks for their generosity.

Thanks to Rick Parfrey for designing the work and ensuring that it met the ADA requirements (a condition of the grant from ODTF) and **enormous thanks** to Dick Scott for his tireless and meticulous oversight of the project. This has involved time, patience, tact, and wisdom. It's obvious Dick possesses these characteristics in abundance. Thank you, Dick.

June Breakfast Car Wash



Springwater Grange authorized the church to hold a breakfast fund raiser at the Grange Hall, June 5, with the funds to be used to support our Youth Program and Vacation Bible School. As many of you remember we had a good time last year doing a fund raiser for the youth mission trip to Hoonah, Alaska. The car wash works really well as does the breakfast.

So now we need to organize ourselves so everything works smoothly. We need volunteers to organize the workers, advertisement and car wash so everything works smoothly. The MacKinnons will do the food buying like they do for the grange. Do you see a place where you could help? Save June 5 and be part of the team! Remember last year we set the record 143 breakfasts, let's break it this year!

Session Is

Clerk:

Cindy Woodbury

Worship:

Don MacKinnon

Christian Education:

Peter Sturman,

Cindy Babikoff

Endowment:

Wilma Guttridge

Personnel:

Kathy Scott

Deacon Board

Deacon Moderator:

Kathy Scott

Buildings and Grounds:

Wilma Guttridge

(convener,

Gilbert Shibley)

Deacon offices:

Hospitality:

Carol Sturman

Care (including Parish

Nurse):

Mary Johnson

Mission interpretation:

Mary Shearer

Getting acquainted with CINDY WOODBURY

The very first time Cindy got to travel outside the country was last summer. She, her mother, brother and his partner and two other couples went to France to attend the wedding of her son, Adam, and her now daughter-in-law, Melissa. After the wedding all of them went to Italy for a week and had a wonderful time.

Cindy is a Mental Health RN at OHSU, has been for 25 years and indicates that is where she thinks God wants her to be. She grew up in the Mennonite Faith but has been attending here about 10 years. About 5 years ago she joined and usually attends every other week because of her work schedule. She said yes when asked by the Nominating Committee to accept the position of Ruling Elder. We voted her in and at the Planning Session she accepted the responsibility of being Clerk of the Session. She voiced concern, not really knowing what the job entails, so any of you who could mentor her and provide encouragement and support, it would be appreciated.

Cindy admits to being reserved and does not have a sense she knows people very well. She hopes to work on that. She sings with the choir when she can and served one year on the Worship Committee. She only lives about 2 1/2 miles from us. You will notice she has a sparkle in her eye and a nice smile. Be sure to greet her and thank her for accepting leadership.

Gardening, knitting, drawing, making cards, hiking and traveling are things she enjoys. She does not get TV any more so she gets films and documentaries from the library and from Netflix to watch.

She asks us to pray for her Mother who is beginning her first round of Chemo. Cindy will be taking time off to be with her when necessary.

Welcome into leadership with us Cindy, we will get to know you better and we will pray for you, your Mother and your loved ones.

Mission Statement
Springwater Presbyterian Church

We are a fellowship of believers in God Creator, Savior, and Holy Spirit.
Our mission is:

- To serve others through hunger ministries
- To gather in loving community to worship and celebrate God's grace
- To grow in relationship with God and each other
- To nurture each of us as disciples of Jesus Christ in our daily lives
- To nurture a thriving community, presenting the gospel of Jesus Christ with creativity, imagination, and love for present and future generations
- To reach out and offer a sacred space for health, growth, comfort and renewal



Deacons Pray For You

The deacons are always busy, and that's the truth. First of all, we pray for the entire congregation regularly. The board of deacons was formed last year and we decided that one of the most important things we could do would be to hold each of you in prayer, asking God to watch over you, and to make his presence known to you, to keep you in good health and to reveal his love to you. In addition; If you have asked for prayer for yourself or someone else, we add that to the prayers we pray together. We also pray for each person on their birthday and anniversary. We pray for the unity and faith of the whole congregation, asking God to lead us all to more loving and lasting relationships within and outside of our families.

What's so interesting about praying? Why do we do it? Well, one consequence of praying for others and for each other is the sense that we are doing God's work here in this community. It is a privilege, and the same privilege can be yours. We are not an exclusive group. Anyone can come and join this small group. Do you want to have a closer bond with others in your church community? Would you like to participate in a highly rewarding spiritual practice?

Join us on Fridays at 10:00am. in the fellowship hall. We hope that you will come any Friday morning and pray with us. We would love to share this experience with you.

See you on Fridays!

Readership Consultation Report

A dozen Springwater folks participated as readership consultants for a new Bible translation, the Common English Bible. Participants noted that, while the experience of reading aloud in community was different than their normal reading experience, they also found the translation compelling reading, easy to follow, and enjoyed the direct language.

Then they got down to brass tacks. Pastor Eileen led the group through the feedback process, drawing out and recording comments for the editors and translators. She also used the translation in the confirmation class, in a worship service, and in her lectionary discussion group. We found typos, we questioned and wondered about some of the vocabulary choices, we laughed over some turns of phrase, we wrestled with issues raised by the content.

We were changed by the Word of God read in community.

After sending in the comments to the editors, we heard back from them that this was the most thorough reading to date. One of Pastor Eileen's feedback comments will appear on the back cover of the pre-publication issue.



ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING



The special OGHS offering will be gathered and dedicated during this Lenten Season. Each Sunday, the Moment for Mission will have information about how the offering is used and bulletin inserts of projects. You will note posters in the Fellowship Hall, and calendars to take home to guide your daily giving. This is an offering given freely by Christians in many denominations.

Our Session has traditionally designated this as one of four special offerings collected during the year.

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