

November 2005

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NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Phyllis Eaton	1
Sam Fisher	30
Emma Kirby	16
Cindy Babikoff	12
Renate Ryan-Jepesson	12
Tyler Pieschel	13
Adelia Jepesson	21
Karin Ryan	24
Tim Guttridge	27
Randy Johnson	28
Jim Hannum	30
Sam Fisher	30



Anniversaries



Lloyd & Lucy Olson 3
 Gilbert & Barbara Shibley 27



Robert (Bob) Wilson joined our church family on Oct. 16th. Bob comes to our church from Brownsville United Presbyterian Church in Brownsville, OR

NOVEMBER Special Days

Sunday Schedule

Christian
Education

9:30 am - 10:15 am

Worship Service

10:30 pm - 11:45 am

Fellowship Time

11:45 am



All Saints' Day 1



Veterans Day 11



Christ the King Sunday 20



Thanksgiving Day 24



First Sunday of Advent 27

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

What is God asking us to do in this time and place? The answers we hear to that question are our mission—not as in witness and service projects, but “mission” as in who we are and what we do.

Plain or Peanut? Too Many Choices

The stewardship campaign this fall has a theme. **M & M s**. This might make you think “small, round, candy-coated chocolates.” But we’re hoping you will soon think “M & M” means “mission” and “money.” Or even “ministry.”

You might have already noticed when you shop that the candy manufacturer’s marketing department has been adding new choices to the plain or peanut options we’ve all come to know and love. Each season comes out with its own colors, not to mention new nuts in different forms and flavors. It’s almost too much.

There was a woman in the office where I used to work who would regularly come back from lunch to empty a bag of M & M s into the candy dish near her desk. Invariably, she was immediately surrounded by a crowd. M & M s make a distinctive sound when they hit glass, and I can only say it’s “**inviting.**”

Mission

Springwater’s mission study this fall, led by Gwen Shearer, has taken us through some discernment exercises to help us ask the question, **What is God asking us to do in *this* time and place?** The answers we hear to that question are our **mission**—not as in witness and service projects, but “mission” as in **who we are and what we do.**

The simple answer is always “Children of God, doing God’s will.” But we humans also need a more detailed answer. God, after all, knows us in all our particularity. So it is that we are beginning to come up with a more detailed answer.

Ministry

In the meantime, we keep on being church. We continue to worship together. We continue to learn and be intentional in our faith practices of service and witness to the coming of God’s kingdom. That’s the simple statement of our “**ministry.**”

Not everything we do in the name of ministry happens on a Sunday. Nor does it all happen on the Springwater church site. To help us gain a deeper sense of that, the Moments for Mission Barbara Shibley is putting together for October and November are intended to help us see where Springwater people are involved in health and healing ministries, in teaching ministries, in stewardship of land and water, and in working for the greater good of the community. All in the name of appreciating Springwater’s ministry.

Why?

So that you will have a better idea as to **where** and **how you can be involved** And that means not only “money” (the stewardship of

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We've got to show others they are loved unconditionally by God.



The most special thing about the event was the fellowship between the congregations. I hope that this event just marks the beginning of our two congregations "being together."

your financial resources), it also means stewardship of your time and spiritual life.

In a recent sermon, I told you that educational psychologists tell us that the least effective way to learn is to simply hear about the subject (come to church on Sunday, sit quietly and listen). A more effective way to learn is by hearing *and* seeing (add in a Sunday School class or two, maybe join the choir). But people who hear, see, and *do* learn the most effectively.

In other words, to live into our baptismal vows to "try to be like Jesus," **we can't just hear about him on Sunday.** We've got to **experience** for ourselves the gift of God's unconditional love. We've got to **show others** they are loved unconditionally by God.

That's what church is "for." To be fed and nurtured as the children of God, to make room for others in the family, to let others know God's plan for peace and justice. The best place I know of to do this is in worship. See you in church.

Eileen

Dear Most Awesome Springwater Folks,

I want to extend a BIG thank you for the warm welcome to Springwater! What a wonderful day with wonderful sisters & brothers in faith. A special thank you to Gwen and Margaret Shearer for helping with the details of logistics (especially the last minute power point projector!). Thank you to Susan for leading us in prayer at the Taizé service, and to Jim for lending his marvelous music talent in the service as well.

For those who missed the event, the ending Taizé service was a very special time and we were all blessed by the Holy Spirit upon us. Thanks to all who helped make it happen.

But the most special thing about the event was the fellowship between the congregations. I hope that this event just marks the beginning of our two congregations "being together." I was personally blessed by having you there.

And to all of the congregation who have worked on the amphitheater and labyrinth, thank you for your labors! You have created a most special and unique sacred space. I am sure it will bless many to come.

Your humble sister in Christ,
Stasia Van Buskirk

Portland City-Wide Taizé Prayer Service

An ecumenical community from the greater Portland area will gather around the cross on Monday, December 5, at 7 p.m. at St. Mary's Cathedral, 1716 NW Davis St in Portland.

In the spirit of the Taizé community, the organizers say, "our aim is to bring together the various churches and campus communities . . . to unite hearts and voices in one common prayer." They hope to gather twice a year, in Advent and spring.

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)

Personnel
Nona Shearer

Worship
Judy Coyne

Katrina and Rita

Local folks, and donors throughout the nation, have been generous in providing help to the areas stricken by The Hurricanes.

This is an important way to serve. However, this generosity has meant that many people are not contributing to local missions. Donations to the Estacada Family Resource Center have dropped this month, but the needs of the hungry in our neighborhood have not.

Please remember the hungry. Bring your donations to church, and they will be taken to the Resource Center. Right now, there are specific needs for tuna, tomato sauce, canned fruits and vegetables, cake and pudding mixes, jello, and personal supplies. Please remember that your neighbors may not be able to feed their children.

Lloyd Olson

Session Report

At our last Session meeting, we took the following actions:

At the request of the Mission Committee, it was agreed that 25% of the Peacemaking offering will go to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance group going to the gulf coast from First Presbyterian Church, Salem.

The Christian Education Committee will be considering what things might help increase regular attendance at Sunday School. Many classes have been planned and taught, but often, attendance is low. Anyone with an interest or insight into the concerns may contact Cindy Babikoff or any of the Sunday School teachers.

Bob Wilson asked to join our congregation and Session voted to welcome him into membership as our brother in Christ. He was welcomed by the congregation on October 16th during worship.

The Stewardship campaign will occur in November. Pledges will be dedicated on November 20th during worship. Watch for more details at church. In the past, pledging your own time and talents has been part of the Stewardship campaign. This year it will occur at a later time in February.

At the request of the BOV Committee, The Session OK'd wording for signage around the outdoor areas. We will be calling the general area of the gardens, labyrinth and outdoor worship space the "Sacred Gardens". Session and the BOV feel that this wording will help people to understand how the area will be used.

Pastor Eileen will convene the Nominating committee soon. Their job is to find dedicated members who are willing to serve on Session. It's a transforming experience that will change your life. If you are interested in being an elder, take the leap and say yes. You will be glad you did. It is a privilege and a wonderful chance to serve Christ and your church.

This report is respectfully submitted by the Clerk of Session,
Kathy Scott



Mission Notes

Contact Jim Roden or Steve Shibley for program information

The Family Resource Center needs home care items (toilet tissue, paper towels, laundry detergent), hygiene products (bar soap, razors, deodorant, feminine hygiene products)...all not covered by food stamps, as well as non-perishable foods (ramen noodles, canned peaches and pears, 6-ounce tuna fish, and tomato sauce) to help them serve your

Peacemaking. Our Peacemaking emphasis in September acknowledged God's gift of peace and our call to join others to go into the world to build a culture of peace and nonviolence for all. We are grateful for the outstanding contributions of our Moment for Mission presenters: Jim Kramer, Gary Guttridge, Samantha Sturman, and Gilbert Shibley. Cindy Woodbury, of the Liturgical Arts Committee, created the Sanctuary design for World Communion Sunday, using the ethnic fabrics, costumes, and objects shared by the congregation. The Peacemaking Offering received \$800. The 25% portion to be used locally for peacemaking goes to the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) team from First Presbyterian Church, Salem. Your generosity will support the efforts of our fellow Presbyterians in Gautier, Mississippi.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. The Salem PDA team has been assigned to Gautier, a small city near Gulfport, where 1700 houses were leveled. The restoration work is being undertaken by an interdenominational task force, including 15 PDA teams. The volunteers will live in a tent city, fixing their own meals, and setting up a first aid station, while working at clean-up, demolition, restoration, and re-building. They are seeking donations of folding ladders, camp lanterns, and 5-gallon gas containers, as well as wet-dry vacuum units and tools to leave in Gautier.

With our gift, the team is still \$3000 short of their \$8500, which they hope to raise by their Nov. 1st departure date. They will be in Mississippi about 3 weeks. A second team leaves in February, and there are still vacancies for this team.

The PDA website, <http://www.pcusa.org/pda/tools/hurricanekatrina.htm>, is posting entries from Rev. Chris Butler, the pastor at Gautier Presbyterian Church. He tells of camping in the church with **the first of the PDA teams to arrive ... and later standing with members of the congregation as they survey the concrete slab where their home of 60 years once stood. The website also has pictures, taken by PDA volunteers, of the devastation in two other coastal communities.**

Hope in a Box. Meanwhile, our efforts are taking on a life of their own. We originally talked of 2 boxes, then it was 5 or 6, but we are now close to filling 10 boxes. Our friends at Colton Lutheran are interested in putting together boxes also. The boxes, filled with hygiene items and toys, are distributed from a receiving center in Arkansas to children in shelters. This is an on-going PDA ministry, which pre-dated Katrina and Rita by many years, and boxes may be donated at any time.

As of this week, PDA aid was going into Pakistan.

Estacada Family Resource Center. Bettie Barbee, who sits on the EFRC board, reminds us that the caseload is growing, and donations in kind are decreasing, causing the board to make more cash outlays than was true last year. The board has to make some hard decisions about how many families get supplies, and how often. Your contributions of



*Ending Hunger,
Caring for the Earth*



home care items (toilet tissue, paper towels, laundry detergent), hygiene products (bar soap, razors, deodorant, feminine hygiene products)...all not covered by food stamps, as well as non-perishable foods (ramen noodles, canned peaches and pears, 6-ounce tuna fish, and tomato sauce) help the EFRC staff help more of your neighbors. Check the list Lloyd has posted on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board for a more detailed list of needed items.

Moment for Mission. The “M for M” becomes “M&M” for the month of November as the congregation undertakes its annual stewardship campaign. Watch for new fuzzy action figures, the StewBears.

One of the friends of our church has described Springwater as “the Gospel in action”...to the greater glory of God!

Susan Horton

Holiday Gifts

What would be the better gift for someone you love this holiday season; another present that gathers dust on a shelf? Or a heifer and training in its care, purchased in honor of your special someone, that brings health and hope to people in need?

Your Heifer gift is better yet, it multiplies, as the first calf from each heifer, or the first offspring of any other animal in the Heifer Project, is passed on to another family in need.

There is a Heifer Project gift list posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall. We can serve.

Lloyd Olson

Hearing the Word

Springwater has a few assistive listening devices. The sound comes from our microphones and goes to a small pocketsize unit with a volume control. There are several earpiece options including a neck loop that transmits the sound directly to a hearing aid. They have been used regularly by folks that really appreciate the clarity of sound they provide. It's all about hearing and understanding the words and music without the other noises and distractions.

There is good news and bad news to this story. The bad news is that we many not have enough of these devices to meet the needs of a congregation that is both growing in size and maturing in age. The good news is that we received a grant for \$143 from the Opening Doors committee of the Presbytery to purchase additional assistive listening devices to supplement the ones we already use. The other part of the good news - it's a matching grant and we get the opportunity to find the funds for the rest. So if you feel moved to make a special contribution here's your chance.

If you want to test drive one of our listening devices, contact Jim Roden or an usher.



THE LAST THING WE TALK ABOUT . . .

Christians have a long, revered practice of praying for “a good death,” both on behalf of ourselves and for each other. We have fallen out of this practice as we have grown uncomfortable talking about death. But as long-neglected spiritual practices have begun to be reawakened in faith communities, people have begun talking about death with each other. After all, we are people who profess to believe in the resurrection of the body!

Spiritual writer Henri Nouwen invites Christians to help each other die, so that “our death [will] give new life, new hope, and new faith to our friends. The faith question, he says, is “How can we prepare ourselves for our death in such a way that our dying will be a new way for us to send our and God’s spirit to those whom we love and who have loved us.”

During the Sunday School hour in the coming weeks, we will be addressing the last thing we want to talk about.

OCTOBER 23: I don’t want to talk about it (Our feelings about death) and Do they really know what is important to me? (Letters to our children, our own to-do lists)

OCTOBER 30: What to expect from the mortuary (The role of the funeral home and funeral director, when to call the church)

NOVEMBER 6: My faith makes it OK (Planning a funeral/memorial service, what to have on file at the church, what memories are you leaving?)

NOVEMBER 11: How do I let her go? (How do we talk to terminally ill friends, the help hospice provides)

NOVEMBER 20: Do the right people know what I want? (Living wills, DNRs, organ donation, death with dignity, advance directives)

SAVE THESE DATES

See related story on next page for the Estate Planning Seminar. After participating in the classes above, it’s the perfect next step. Eric Chavis from the Presbyterian Foundation will be speaking and Richard Schneider, a lawyer, will discuss how to make sure that what you want can & will happen after your death.

Mark your calendars for Dec 3rd
attend our
Estate Planning Seminar

When my father passed away, his estate was settled in just 30 days. Virtually every penny went where he planned. What would happen to your estate if you passed away tomorrow? Without proper planning, disposal of the wealth you worked so hard to build could take a very long time and the process could eat much of the money you intended to give to your heirs, your church or other charities.

Attend our Estate Planning Seminar on December 3rd, and learn from experts how to make your assets work for you before you die and pass smoothly to the people and institutions you intend after you graduate from life.

Contact Dick Scott for more information 630-4739.

Springwater Presbyterian Church
P. O. Box 1017
Estacada, Oregon 97023 - 1017

Forward & Address Correction

LECTIONARY READINGS

November 6 (Choose: It's More Than Just Plain or Peanut): Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Matthew 25:1-13; Psalm 78:1-7

November 13 (Melts in Your Mouth, Not in Your Hand): Matthew 25:14-30; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Psalm 123

November 20 Reign of Christ and Stewardship Commitment (M & M s: Straight Priorities): Matthew 25:31-46; Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 100

November 27 (First Sunday of Advent): Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37

