

February 2009

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Sunday  
Schedule

9:45am  
Hymn Sing

10:00am  
Worship

11:15am  
Fellowship

Deadline for Next Issue:  
February 16

A Place of worship, nurture and service  
for the people of God of all ages.



*Birthdays*

Kathleen Leonard	7
Alder Shibley	8
Don MacKinnon	12
Susan Horton	15
Scott Clatt	21
Gary Guttridge	21
David Rigby	25
Bill Varitz	28

**Coming Events**  
February

Valentine's Day	14
Presidents' Day	16
Transfiguration of the Lord	22 - Feast of Fools
Ash Wednesday	25

New Classes start in March  
How to be a Presbyterian

**March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 & April 5**

See article on page 4

## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

In community after community, people had already figured out ways to support and help one another. It was as if people had just been waiting for an occasion to help

Transformation is always holy change.

General Washington wrote that only hope and virtue remained for his small band. These are old fashioned words, but I believe they are words we are dying to hear and use and employ and become.

You may remember representatives from the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance in worship one Sunday in January. David and Carol Legg had come to see what help was needed as communities in our presbytery recovered from the flooding and mudslides this winter. David gave us a Moment for Mission, and then as he and Carol itinerated around the presbytery, I received email updates from them about what they learned.

### Responding With Joy

I was surprised to find myself responding with joy. In community after community, people had already figured out ways to support and help one another. It was as if people had just been waiting for an occasion to help, as if they were grateful for the chance to show practical care and concern for another.

I was struck similarly as I watched the inauguration of our 44th President. The spectacle of nearly 2 million people (TWO MILLION!) gathered in one place to celebrate the orderly transition of power was awesome. Many came because of the occasion's historic importance, but many more came to hear a word of hope.

I found myself listening to President Obama's speech and *taking notes*. That alone was amazing! Perhaps I was amazed that a secular leader would say the kind of things I thought only we pastors said these days. "The world has changed and we must change with it." How many times have you heard me say that?! Later I jotted "not transition but transformation." Isn't that a church word **transformation?**

### Telling the Truth

The pastor's heart in me was amazed to hear this political leader telling the truth about mistakes and failings on our part, not in order to blame, but to make room to change—to transform. Transformation is always holy change.

It has been a long time since I've reminded you of this, so it bears repeating. The reason we include a **corporate confession** at the beginning of our worship service is so we can **get out of the way the things that interfere with our ability to hear God's Word to us**

It's a corporate confession—always "we" and never "I"—because even if we haven't literally done or been what we confess, we confess on behalf of the world. We are getting ready to have God's Word change us, transform us, and thereby change the world.

### Hope and virtue

President Obama quoted George Washington, writing before crossing the Delaware River with his troops. General Washington wrote that only hope and virtue remained for his small band.

People want to show hope, and they want to do it in concrete ways. The church calls that the gospel of Jesus Christ.



**These are old fashioned words, but I believe they are words we are dying to hear and use and employ and become. Virtue is one of those things that the ancients treasured, but post-moderns (such as ourselves) have allowed it to fall into the category of quaintness. Virtue? Can we even list three? For a list of Biblical virtues, consult 1 Corinthians 13, Galatians 5:22-23, Colossians 3:12-17, Ephesians 6:13-17.**

**Hope is a virtue. I believe people are dying for hope. We heard that in the inaugural address, we saw it throughout the campaign. David and Carol Legg saw it lived out in the flooded communities. People want to show hope, and they want to do it in concrete ways. The church calls that the gospel of Jesus Christ. See you in church.**

*Eileen*

## **An Ode to Our Pews**

Given for free in 1904  
Cut from a tree at some time before  
Across all these years you've heard all our stories  
Our joys and our sadness, our stumbles and glories  
As we send you out now to a life new and strange  
We ask for your blessings as we go through our change.

*Peter Sturman*

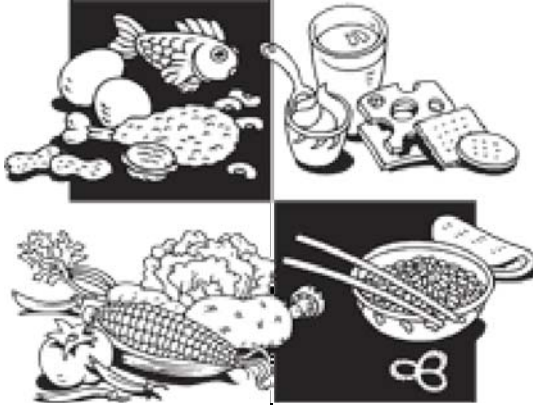
## **2009 Financial Update**

The new 2009 vouchers are in the church office. Please use them for all church bills for which you want to be reimbursed, and use only the budget categories that are on the form. Remember to give the form (signed by a Session member) with your receipts to Jean McCloskey, our accounts payable treasurer. Check with Gwen Shearer, accounts receivable treasurer, if you want to know how much to date has been paid out of a budget category or if you want to know how much is in a specific fund or if you have donations to the church.

Good news! We have received additional 2009 pledges that put the approved budget in the black by about \$700.

*Gwen Shearer*

## Food And Hope



The January/February issue of *Presbyterians Today* offers concrete suggestions regarding the causes of the global food crisis and ways to address them. Author Michael Jennings writes, "The world produces enough food to ensure everyone on the planet an adequate diet. But political and trade policies, as well as our own beliefs and consumption patterns, leave millions of people hungry."

Another article offers 52 ways to move toward "a just and joy-filled food system."

Starting with personal reflection, it addresses healthy habits, as well as things to do with the congregation, community, household, and advocacy. To see ways we can offer food and hope, download this resource at [www.pcusa.org/food/resources.htm](http://www.pcusa.org/food/resources.htm).

## How To Be A Presybterian

Whether you are a "born-to" Presbyterian or just wondering about whether this kind of church is a good fit for you, whether you've just started worshiping with us or have gone to Presbyterian churches since the first Roosevelt (Teddy, not Franklin) administration, this is the class for you. Sundays after worship during Lent we will try to learn, "How to be a Presbyterian."

Your purpose in attending the class might be to join this congregation. Your purpose might be to ask (and get some answers to) those questions about God and the church that have always bugged you. You might even want to share why you have already aligned yourself with this congregation.

Join us after worship on March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 and April 5 in exploring "How to be a Presbyterian."



## Lectionary



**February 1 (CALLED AND STONEWALLED)** Deuteronomy 18:15-20; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28; Psalm 111

**February 8 (WORSHIP AT EAGLE CREEK)** Isaiah 40:21-31; 1 Corinthians 9:16-23; Mark 1:29-39; Psalm 147:1-11

**February 15 (WORSHIP AT EAGLE CREEK)** 2 Kings 5:1-14; 1 Corinthians 9:24-27; Mark 1:40-45; Psalm 30

**February 22 (TRANSFIGURATION SUNDAY)** 2 Kings 2:1-12; 2 Corinthians 4:3-6; Mark 9:2-9; Psalm 50:1-6



Mission article removed. Please check with the editor if you want a printed copy.

## Becoming A Green Congregation Household Hazardous Waste, What It Is and What To Do With It

Wondering what to do with those old paint cans, motor oil and solvents – and how to best dispose of them?

Many household products you use in your yard and home can hurt people, fish and wildlife if used or disposed of incorrectly. You may be surprised at the products in your home that have the words “warning” and “caution” or even “poison” on the label. Check your household cleaners for these labels. You should never dispose of your household toxic trash down the sink, on the ground, down a storm drain or in your garbage can.

Metro, the local governmental agency in the Portland metro area, has a hazardous waste collection facility in Oregon City where you can bring your household hazardous waste. Their address is 2001 Washington St., Oregon City, across the street from Home Depot, and hours of operation are 9 AM to 4 PM Monday through Saturday. Call 503-234-3000 for more information.

Bring these kinds of items to Metro’s collection facility for disposal:



- paints and stains
- pool and spa chemicals
- pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers and poisons
- motor oil, antifreeze and other automotive fluids
- thinners and solvents
- household cleaners and disinfectants
- batteries
- art and hobby chemicals
- aerosol spray products
- sharps (medical syringes)
- propane tanks or bottles from barbecue grills
- compact fluorescent light bulbs (CFLs), fluorescent tubes and ballasts
- mercury containing items such as thermometers and thermostats

**If you have batteries or CFL light bulbs to recycle, the Green Team at Springwater Presbyterian Church is still collecting them. Look for the bucket in the fellowship hall, it will return soon.**

**Next month:** Make your home safer with alternatives to hazardous cleaners and products.

*Renate Jeppeson*



## Feast Of Fools

Can you tell a funny story? Sing a silly song? Recite a humorous poem? Do you play spoons or washboard? Have you ever said, "I can't dance!" and been willing to [ital] prove [unital] it in public? How about skits? Monologues?

The list is only limited by your willingness to share. The date is February 22, right after church. The occasion is the Feast of Fools, Springwater's last fling before Lent.

## What Do You Know About Hoonah, Alaska?

Presbyterians have been in Hoonah, Alaska longer than they have in Springwater. The Presbyterian Home Mission and school was established there in 1881, whereas Springwater Presbyterian wasn't established until eight years later. The 2000 census shows 800 residents in Hoonah, which is on Chichigof Island in the Icy Strait, just a short float plane or ferry boat ride from Juneau, Alaska. According to that census, nearly 2/3 of the residents are Tlingit Indians.

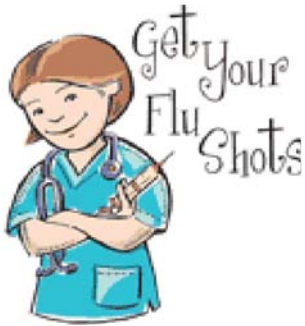
Why the sudden interest in Hoonah? Our youth group is planning a mission trip to Hoonah this summer. We have a good-sized group of young people who happen to be very good at leading Vacation Church School. These fine young people will share their talents in games, music, story-telling, skits, art, and friendship with the children and youth of Hoonah.

The January/February issue of *Presbyterians Today*, contains an interview with Walter Soboleff, the first Alaska Native ordained to the ministry in the PCUSA. Celebrating his 100th birthday, Reverend Soboleff says the greatest need in the church is Christian Education, particularly for children. "The church is not serving its children well," he says. "We need to challenge them to learn the faith." This is the mission work in which our young people will engage this summer. They will share their faith and learn about life and culture in Alaska

Why Hoonah? Don and Barbara MacKinnon used to live there, for one thing. Barbara taught school and Don was superintendent of schools. Hoonah has not had a pastor for awhile, but Presbyterians are still a viable presence on the island. We believe our ministry and presence will bless the community. And that our youth will have a fabulous time.

Watch for more details as the date approaches. We'll be learning more about Alaska and the Tlingits. We expect to commission the youth at the church birthday on July 19 and welcome them back as they lead in worship on August 9.





## WHAT IS THE FLU?

We are now entering the flu season. This means symptoms of fever, chills, aches, and lung congestion with coughing. The length of sickness is over one week to some symptoms up to a month. The flu is not GI symptoms! Go get a flu shot if you are around someone with a decreased immune system: elderly, young children, and people with chronic illness (heart diseases, diabetes, HIV, chemotherapy, chronic lung diseases, etc). When everyone around you is immune, then you are less likely to end up sick.

The vaccine shot is dead viruses, there is not live virus to make you ill. If you are around fragile people, do not take the nasal spray vaccine, this is a live virus vaccine and this makes you a carrier of the flu with lower immune people. It is not too late, get your vaccine today.

The flu virus is passed by droplet/contact. This means in the air when someone coughs the virus sprays, also on contact by touching something contaminated, i.e., phone, door knobs, pens, toilet fixtures, computer keyboards, etc., To prevent getting ill, continues with good hand washing before touching your face, nose, mouth, before eating, open bathroom door with paper towel instead of your hand are a few suggestions. To stop spreading the flu, stay home and away from people when you start to feel run down and beginning symptoms of flu. Sometimes LOVE is staying home and keeping your germs to yourself. Have a healthy winter.

Mary Johnson, RN

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Forward & Address Correction