

APRIL 2006

In this issue

Birthdays	1
Anniversaries	1
Mission Notes	5
Pastor's Perspective	2
Lectionary	8



One Great Hour
of Sharing
Bring your
Special Offering
Easter Sunday



Sunday Worship

10:15 am - Hymn Sing
10:30 am - Worship
11:45 am - Fellowship



Birthdays

Mary Johnson	1
Kendra Guttridge	2
Lynne Deshler	4
Gilbert Shibley	5
Judy Coyne	7
Rick Parfrey	17
Eileen Parfrey	18

Anniversaries

Rodney & Karin Ryan	25
Peter & Carol Sturman	26



Schedule of Events

- April 1-2: Youth and family overnight camping trip
- April 2: DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME BEGINS
- April 9: Palm/Passion Sunday with communion
- April 13: Maundy Thursday (potluck dinner at 6:00, worship 7 – 8 pm with Eagle Creek Church at Springwater)
- April 14: Good Friday (contemplative Taizé service 7:00-8:00 pm)
- April 16: Resurrection Sunday (Easter breakfast at the Grange, 9-10 am, worship (10:30-11:45, One Great Hour of Sharing offering dedicated)
- April 30: Holy Food feedback lunch (12-1:30 at the Grange)

Our God is always
inviting us to
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ten at a deeper level.

God will NOT be
predictable

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

When I was ordained, Rodger Nishioka gave me the charge, saying, "Eileen, you and I are pretzel people. But most folks just want breadsticks." He handed me a box of skinny, straight, Italian treats, and the box is still on my desk six years later, an ever-present reminder that the lure of the complicated may not be in the best interest of a church's ministry.

Who Are We and What Are We Doing Here?

Springwater has been coming to grips with its own pretzel tendencies. Over a year ago, session constituted a Mission Study Committee (MSC) to help us consider the question, "**Who are we and what are we doing here?**" Under the able guidance of Gwen Shearer, the group did a lot of listening.

They listened as a group and invited us as a congregation, to listen for God's leading, through prayer, contemplation, and Bible study. The MSC heard the congregation's dreams and frustrations, hopes and desires. They used questionnaires, phone interviews, small group meetings, labyrinth walks. They even asked us to gather and sit in the sanctuary in silence together.

What they have come up with is a set of six defining statements. And I think the Holy Spirit has been present in both the process and the result. We'll focus on the statements during worship throughout the spring and summer, but right now I'd like to look at some of the implications of the statements.

Change Hurts

I only remember one thing the famous philosopher Thomas Carlyle wrote: "Change is ever-painful, yet ever-needful." But as people of faith, we believe that when God has a hand in change it's called "transformation." Richard Rohr writes of transformation that it "more often happens *not when something new begins but when something old falls apart*. The pain of something old falling apart—chaos—invites the soul to listen at a deeper level."

In the context of our Lenten journey with Job, this means that if things are going well we have a tendency to not see a need to change. But our God is always inviting us to wholeness and redemption, and sometimes that means change.

Session-level changes at Springwater may appear threatening at first. It is often said that the Seven Last Words of the Church are, "We never did it that way before!" Springwater is not on the verge of dying, but another thing we've learned in our Lenten journey with Job is that God will NOT be predictable. The God who says, "Behold, I am doing

It's an exciting time
to be at Springwater!

Join us as we
discover the
delight of
ministry together



a new thing" (Isaiah 43:19) is the God who declares in utter freedom to Job, "I will not be bound, even by your theology" (Job 38-39).

Be Patient

So, session is attempting to implement it's plans for our ministry together what the MSC heard: worship, faith nurture for all ages, fellowship, spiritual refreshment and hospitality offered to others, continuity of tradition. But not as separate departments. What they heard loud and clear was a desire for integrated ministries. People want worship and fellowship in everything we do—our Sunday mornings together, committee and session meetings, Christian Education, youth outings, work days

It's an exciting time to be at Springwater. Join us as we discover the delight of ministry together. See you in church.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Eileen".

Retreat in the Taizé Tradition

A retreat in the Taizé tradition will be held July 30 to August 5 at the Alton L Collins Retreat Center. Withdraw from the world for a week with an ecumenical community of spiritual leaders who have dedicated themselves to Brother Roger's vision of peace through prayerful music.

Fully immerse yourself in the Taizé experience with Taizé worship three times a day, small daily discussion groups facilitated by spiritual leaders, workshops to deepen your experience and broaden your vision. Find yourself nurtured by a natural rhythm of silence, solitude and community.

For more information, visit www.living-prayer.com.
Pastor Eileen will be one of the spiritual leaders.

Grief Group

Mt Hood Hospice is sponsoring a Grief Group on Mondays (April 3, 10, 17, 24, and May 1) from 2:00 to 3:30 pm at Trinity Lutheran Church, 507 W. Powell Blvd., Gresham. This five-week group is offered free of charge, and is intended to help people move through the grieving process. "Whether it has been months" the invitation reads "or years since your loss, the experienced facilitators from Mt Hood Hospice will help you develop coping skills." Call Mt Hood Hospice at 503/668-5545 to register.

Your 2006
Session Members

Judy Coyne

Cindy Babikoff

Renaté Jeppeson

Lucy Olson

Susan Horton

Peter Sturman

Don MacKinnon

Willie The Angry Mule

Psalm 32:9 "Do not be like a horse or a mule, without understanding, whose temper must be curbed with bit and bridle, else it will not stay near you."

The congregation I serve has a cooperative confirmation ministry with two neighboring ELCA churches, and we meet in the middle of a country church whose parking lot borders the enclosure of a notorious donkey named Willie. Willie is nowhere near tame, and rumor has it he does not like red cars. I have become used to Willie's indignant, brayed greeting as I arrive at the church, because as luck would have it, both cars driven in our household are shades of red. I have stood and watched Willie as his sides shook with fury at my vehicle's mere presence. Willie does not understand why he dislikes red cars. I have a few thoughts, but frankly, I do not know either. What I do know is how easy it is to neglect my relationship with God when I am angry about things I am not even in touch with. I find it hard to stay near to God when I am caught up in my own head. The good news is that God stays near me despite my temper-tantrums and inattentiveness.



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Cascades Summer Conference

The Rev. Steve Doughty, pastor and author, will keynote the Cascades Summer Conference at **Reed College in Portland**, July 9-14, with the theme, "Living in Integrity in an age of Crisis."

Doughty joins a long line of distinguished keynotes who have addressed the annual event over the past 50 years. Besides a daily presentation, he will participate in a "talkback" session with those who want to engage in dialogue.

Well-know musicians and songwriters Jim and Jean Strathdee will provide music leadership for all ages.

Summer Conference offers classes, worship, music, recreation, and fun for families of all configurations and individuals of all ages and interests. From high-quality childcare for the littlest attendees through programs for those of elementary, junior high, and high school ages, there is truly something for everyone.

You can pick up a registration brochure at the church or visit the Presbytery website, www.cascadespresbytery.org for program information. You may print out a registration form from the website.



Second Harvest



Pray for the churches in Central Asia as they invite visitors for Easter



Mission Notes

Estacada Family Resource Center.

As campaigns such as Second Harvest now underway, we are reminded that hunger needs continue to increase. Please check Lloyds List weekly for current needs.

One Great Hour of Sharing.

Don MacKinnon initiated our interpretive series on the three agencies supported by OGHS with a presentation on the Self-Development of People program. We'll be hearing about the Presbyterian Hunger Program and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance, and Barbara Shibley will offer a special childrens time on April 2nd. We will dedicate the offering on Easter and that includes fish banks.

Eco-Justice.

Plans for the Eastertide mission interpretation of restoring the Creation are underway. A volunteer is preparing a presentation on Global Warming. If topics such as climate change, socially responsible investment (SRI), and energy conservation are close to your heart, please consider being a Moment for Mission interpreter. Please talk to Gilbert or Susan.

Mission Correspondent.

Jonna Reeder, the community development specialist in Central Asia, is drawing upon her musical training to prepare for Holy Week. Pray for the churches in Central Asia as they invite visitors for Easter, and for Jonna as she builds new teams to serve those in need of improved education, medical care, and utilities. Please check out her latest newsletter, posted on the Fellowship Hall bulletin board.

Warm Springs.

A new opportunity for a faith partnership with the church at Warm Springs has come up. If you would like to share in a consultation about how we can renew our friendship with this congregation, please talk to Kathleen Souders or Susan.

Susan Horton

**Church
Transformation
Conference
June 4
Corvallis, OR**



April 15
Marcus Borg
presents a
day-by-day account
of Jesus' final week
through his death
and resurrection

TOUCHPOINTS

Published by
Cascades Presbytery
is seeking submissions
for 2006 on the topic
"Living With Death"

Church Transformation

The Presbytery of the Cascades will be sponsoring a day-long Church Transformation Conference June 4 in Corvallis. Noted author George Thompson will be the speaker. Contact Pastor Eileen or a session member if you would like to attend.

Camping Opportunities

Presbytery of the Cascades has many fabulous summer camping opportunities, ranging from short Dad/Mom and Me experiences to Music/Arts/Drama to family camping. If you are interested in finding out more, talk with Gilbert Shibley or visit www.cascadespresbytery.org/2006CampProgram.html

The Death of Jesus

The Center for Spiritual Development at Trinity Cathedral in Portland is sponsoring a talk by internationally known historical Jesus scholar and theologian, Marcus Borg, on April 15. Using the gospel of Mark as a guide, Borg will present a day-by-day account of Jesus' final week, from his entrance into Jerusalem on Palm Sunday through the events that led to his arrest and execution. Borg will also reflect on the significance of Holy Saturday and the world-shattering event of resurrection. For both clergy and laity.

Contact www.center-for-spiritual-development.org.

Writers Submit

Touchpoints, the annual literary publication for the Presbytery of the Cascades, provides a place for Presbyterians to share their reflections and creative responses to the Word of God. Submissions are being accepted for the 2006 issue, ***Living With Death***.

Editor Shirley Tormey, says she is looking for material which relates Biblical or personal experiences. What does it mean when we say we carry the death of Christ with us? How do we understand the immortality of the soul? Why do our loved ones have to die? What's it all about?

Send essays, sermons, stories (prose limit is 2500 words) and poems (limit 50 lines) to: Shirley Tormey, 8313 SW Fourth Avenue, Portland OR 97219. Please identify submissions with your name, home address, phone number. Send a self-addressed, stamped envelope if you wish your manuscript returned. Do not send previously published works. **Deadline: October 1, 2006.**

New Mission Statement is adopted!



Mission Statement Adopted!

Session has adopted the following mission statement for our church. What does this mean for our church? It means Session is organizing in a different way and it means we will not always be doing things the way we have before. If you have opinions on how Session should interpret and implement our new mission, please get involved on one of the Session committees and have your voice heard!

Springwater Presbyterian Church is a fellowship of believers in God: Creator, Savior, and Holy Spirit. Our mission is:

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 serve others through hunger ministries

To reach out and offer a sacred place for health, growth, comfort and renewal

To grow in relationship with God and each other

To nurture each of us as disciples of Jesus Christ in our daily lives

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**Jim Roden
Honored for
volunteering**

Jim Roden wears his SPC Volunteer hat as he is honored for his many kinds of volunteer work over many years.

Thank You Jim for sharing your many talents in so many different ways!



LECTIONARY READINGS

Lectionary readings for the time after Easter can often be read as “How to be the Church.” The time leading up to Easter will finish off our study of the book of Job as preparation to observe the passion of Christ. During Eastertide we will see what scripture has to tell us about the mission statements developed by the Mission Study Committee.

April 2 (Surrender to Love, Beyond Justice): Job 41:1-6; Psalm 17

April 9 (Palm/Passion Sunday; Telling the Story): Mark 11:1-11, 15-19; 14:3-15:47; Philippians 2:1-11; Psalm 118:1-19-29

April 16 (Resurrection Sunday): Isaiah 25:6-9; Mark 16:1-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

April 23 (the Rev Jim Belt preaching): Acts 4:32-35; 1 John 1:1-2:2; John 20:19-31; Psalm 133

April 30 (communion) (Church Borders: In Whose Name?): Acts 3:12-19; 1 John 3:1-7; Psalm 4



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Forward & Address Correction