

Springwater Currents

Springwater Presbyterian Church
24553 Springwater Rd
Estacada, OR 97023
503.630.5480
www.springwater-pres.org

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

September 2009

Table of Contents	
Birthdays & Anniversaries	1
Church Events	1
Pastor's Perspective	2
Lectionary	3
Lectionary Retreat Event	3
Deacon's Corner	4
School Supplies	5
Choir	5
Christian Education	6
Worship Workshop	6
Confirmation Class	6
Bible Translation Groups	7
Roundup	8

Sunday Schedule

9:45 AM Hymn Sing

10:00 AM Worship

11:15 Fellowship

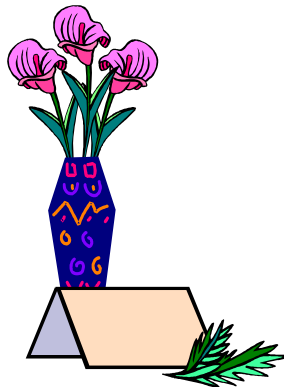
11:30 Sunday School for
all ages, beginning Sep-
tember 20th

Deadline for next
newsletter:

September 23rd

Happy Birthday to:

Phil Armstrong	9/05
Travis Babikoff	9/06
Janice Armstrong	9/14
Mayanne Clatt	9/16
Bob Poore	9/19
Samantha Sturman	9/19
Erin Roden	9/24
Morgan Driskell	9/24
Philip Rigby	9/26



Happy Anniversary!

Joseph & Traci Hauck	9/05
Kathleen & Vernon Souders	9/08
Jennie Lou & Bob Poore	9/16

Church events in September

September 3: Session meeting, 5:30 PM

September 13: Roundup

September 16, 23, and 30: Worship Workshop 7 PM. See article page 6

September 20: Sunday School for all ages begins after worship at 11:30

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

We didn't want to wait too long before having the youth share their mission trip adventures in worship, so while I was on study leave, they led worship. Since I didn't get to participate, think of this Perspective as my version of "What I Learned on My Excellent Mission Trip."

What I Learned . . .

Because we were willing to let God lead us, we built time into each day for reflection, structured around Bible study.

Mission is life-changing. We knew that going to an unfamiliar place and culture and meeting people not necessarily like us would challenge and change us. We knew we were going to work hard in providing Bible School for the children of Hoonah. Because we were willing to let God lead us, we built time into each day for reflection, structured around Bible study. Otherwise, we figured, we'd just be "accomplishing tasks."

Mission is challenging. Our mission partners hold theological positions different from ours, but we committed to daily Bible study together and respected each other. Most of us were not used to spending so much time with so many new people in such close quarters. With God's grace and respectful maturity, the challenges were not only met, but we grew closer because of them.

Mission is risky. Every day our young people took risks in befriending squirrely little kids and trying new foods and singing unfamiliar songs. Sometimes, because they were the leaders, they had to act silly or do things they would never try at school. Risky business.

How you tell the story matters. I was given the privilege of telling Bible stories using the Godly Play story-telling method. When the kids came in the first day, they were faced with a whole new routine. The invitation to listen with eyes and ears (but not hands and mouths) was brand new to them. Before too many days, even the youngest children were able to enter God's story in wonder.

Give God a chance. I had to trust the ferryboat captains to get us to Juneau and then Hoonah. So also, I learned that I didn't have to steer in order for God to get us where we needed to go. We shared leadership between three adult Springwater leaders and our mission partners. Even the teenagers took on leadership.

Teen-agers are not just short adults. It's really true that one's understanding of God changes over the course of a lifetime. Our age group ranged from 12 to 75, which meant not just theological differences, but developmental. Knowing that meaningful Bible study was the essential "bones" on which to hang the trip—to provide a common language with which to interpret our experiences as well as provide personal reflection—I had the privilege of designing a tailor-made study for the week.

Fall in love. Enough said.

With God's grace and respectful maturity, the challenges were not only met, but we grew closer because of them.

Are we more open
to mission in which
we do more than
send checks or
food?

. . . On My Most Excellent Mission Trip

It takes a whole church to send out a mission trip. Not just in terms of financial support. We didn't have a line item in the budget for this trip. Everything raised was above and beyond the budget—car washes, breakfasts, odd jobs and yard work, bean soups, donated frequent flyer miles and recyclables. Springwater gave up a pastor-in-residence for 10 days, of which two were Sundays. This increased the demands on lay leaders. Everyone rose to the occasion, and everyone prayed.

What will change for Springwater? That's the point. Sure, the participants will change—and the changes will continue to unfold for quite some time. But the congregation will change, too. Are we more open to mission in which we do more than send checks or food? Can we participate with partners who aren't exactly like us? Are we more ecumenical and cross-cultural? What do we learn when we go outside our socio-economic class? God only knows, but time will tell.

See you in church.



LECTIONARY READINGS

September 6 (GOD BLESS THE WORKING POOR): Proverbs 22:1-2, 8-9, 22-23; Psalm 125; James 2:1-10 (11-13) 14-17; Mark 7:24-37

September 13 (Round Up; communion; WISE GUYS DON'T TALK): Proverbs 1:20-33; Psalm 19; James 3:1-12; Mark 8:27-38

September 20 (WISE GUYS AND SUBVERSIVE POLITICS): Proverbs 31:10-31; Psalm 1; James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a; Mark 9:30-37

September 27 (Leon Bolen preaching): Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22; Psalm 124; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

Lectionary retreat

Keynote speaker, the Rev. Dr. Richard L. Rohrbaugh, leads the 2009 Cascades Presbytery Lectionary Retreat, "The Social/Cultural World of Jesus and the Gospels" on Monday and Tuesday, September 21-22 at Mt. Angel. Dr. Rohrbaugh has been among the pioneers in using anthropological studies of Mediterranean culture to set the New Testament in its ancient social and cultural context. He will contrast the social/cultural world of Luke's Gospel with the frequent Americanization of biblical texts in the commentaries and other scholarly resources used in sermon preparation. This retreat is open to anyone interested in studying Luke in depth. Pastors, elders, and adult education leaders are especially encouraged to attend. Register online through the Presbytery website by Sept. 4.

Find the Presbytery of
the Cascades at:

www.cascadespresbytery.org



Our Deacons are
 Mary Johnson
 Mary Shearer
 Carol Sturman
 and
 moderator
 Kathy Scott

Be Not Afraid (of the flu)

We all have concerns/fears of swine flu (H1N1). *What do I need to do to stay well? How sick will I be if I get it?*

H1N1 flu is a sub-group of influenza A. There have been cases weekly in the USA throughout this summer. "Influenza viruses are notorious for their rapid mutation and unpredictable behavior." So far, H1N1 acts typically like influenza A, with similar symptoms: (fever, cough, aches, which could progress to bronchitis/pneumonia).

The CDC (Center for Disease Control) has recommended several practices/precautions against spreading viruses.

- Stay informed.
- Cover your mouth when you cough or sneeze, preferably using a tissue that you should immediately discard in the trash.
- Wash your hands with soap and water or an alcohol-based cleaner after you cough or sneeze.
- Wash your hands before touching your mouth, nose, and eyes, as germs are more easily spread that way.
- Follow public health advice regarding school closures and avoiding crowds.
- Find healthy ways to deal with stress and anxiety.

Get your flu shot this fall and the H1N1 vaccine when it becomes available. This is an act of love to others as well as yourself. If there are less people to harbor the viruses, then there will be less infection. Stay home and take care of yourself if you feel sick. You might prevent someone else from illness. Sharing is not the best policy with these viruses.

Stay Healthy,

Mary Johnson, RN

Snacks for fellowship

The deacons would like to try a different method of fellowship snacks distribution. The thought is one person is responsible each month for snacks. You would not need to buy snacks for the whole month, but organize others to bring snacks and remind them. There have been some concerns of double snacks on some Sundays and forgetfulness on others. We, the deacons would like to see if another method would work better. Please let the deacons know if you are willing to sponsor a month.

Thanks, the Deacons

School Supplies for Fall 2009

We will be collecting school supplies and/or money to purchase class room supplies for families who can't afford to purchase them for their children.



For several years now, Springwater PC has been helping ESL students (English as a second language) by donating paper, pencils, markers, backpacks, glue, scissors, and other supplies. Because many churches, clubs and individuals donate to this effort, it isn't always possible to match the need to the actual items that are donated.

So this year, we will be waiting until school has started before we begin collecting. After the first week of classes, the list of needed items will be available to the congregation. Collection of items will begin September 13th and end on Sunday Sept. 27th. If you plan to donate money, you can do that anytime starting now. If you write a check, please make it out to Springwater Presbyterian Church and write "school supplies" on the memo line so we know what it is for.

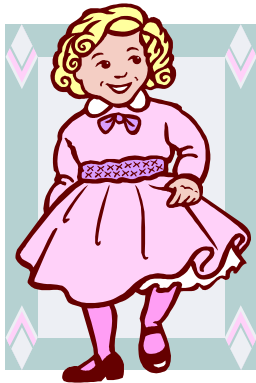
Springwater Choir Resumes



It has been over a year since the choir has met regularly and I would like to resume this activity. We will begin practicing at the church on Thursday evening from 7:00 – 8:00pm beginning October 8, 2009. Everyone is invited to join, young and old, experienced or not. The more the merrier. We will be preparing for the Advent / Christmas season. Come lift your voice in praise and have fun at the same time. Hope to see you there.

Thank you, Kathleen

Humor



What We Pray For

A little girl, dressed in her Sunday best, was running as fast as she could to get to Sunday School. As she ran, she prayed.

"Dear Lord, please don't let me be late. Dear Lord, please don't let me be late" at this moment she tripped and fell, getting her clothes dirty.

She got up, brushed herself off and started running again, praying, "Dear Lord, please don't let me be late...but DON'T SHOVE me anymore!"

Christian Education at Springwater and beyond

Worship Workshop

7 PM to 9 PM

Wednesdays

September 16

September 23

September 30

WORSHIP WORKSHOP

Session has authorized a class in worship design, leadership, and preaching, to be held on September 16, 23, and 30 from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. The purpose of the class is to equip lay persons in worship design and leadership, and to begin to train lay preachers.

The first session will look at Reformed worship, including pointers for worship leaders. Other questions to be addressed include why is the sermon where it is, what else is typically part of the service, what kind of music goes where?

The second session will focus on the sermon. What do you start with, scripture or the message? How do you choose a text? How do you find out what it says? How much research do you do?

The third session will be a practical and playful experience of designing a service and writing a *short* sermon.

A future session will train deacons and elders to bring the Lord's Supper to homebound persons. This series of classes is geared to elders, deacons, and worship leaders, but one need not be currently serving in any of these capacities to benefit. All interested parties are invited to come to one or more sessions. Please call the church and leave a message as to your interest, or talk with Don MacKinnon (503/631-7834).

CONFIRMATION CLASS PLANNED

A meeting is being scheduled with potential confirmands and their parents for a confirmation class to run 2009-2010.

Events at Franciscan Center, Milwaukie

Franciscan Spiritual Center
6902 SE Lake Rd Suite
300
Milwaukie, OR 97267
503-794-8542

<http://www.francisspctr.com/index.php>

MEN'S WISDOM CIRCLE: 6-month sacred circle of trust, 1st Thursdays (6:30 to 8:30 p.m.) beginning Sept. 3 through Feb. \$100 for series

LEAVING A SPIRITUAL LEGACY: CREATING A SPIRITUAL WILL: Learn about a spiritual life map, Sept. 8, 15, and Oct. 6 (6:30 - 8:30 PM) \$75 per person

THOMAS MERTON: BRIDGES TO COMTEMPLATIVE LIVING: Learn to live a more meaningful life. Sept. 14, 28, Oct. 12 and 26 (6:30 - 8:30 PM) \$60.00 for series

Update on Bible Translation

Pastor Eileen learned that December 30 she will receive a portion of the book of Deuteronomy for reader's review. Called the Common English Bible (CEB), she has been selected to pull together groups of people to review the translation for readability and make comments. Several of the translators and one of the editors were her teachers at McCormick Theological Seminary.



In the next several months, Pastor Eileen will contact groups and individuals to invite them to participate.

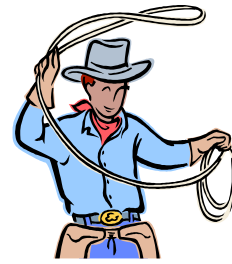
The CEB is a translation. That means scholars work with original language manuscripts, other translations, and the best work of scholars to put into current language a text which is both faithful and accessible. *The Message*, used by many of us, is a paraphrase. The NRSV, our pew Bible version, is a translation. A paraphrase is more interpretive than literal, whereas a translation attempts to be faithful to the language. Here's an example.

Ephesians 2:11-12 in the NRSV reads, "So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, called 'the uncircumcision' by those who are called 'the circumcision'—a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands—remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world."

In *The Message*, the same passage reads, "But don't take any of this for granted. It was only yesterday that you outsiders to God's ways had no idea of any of this, didn't know the first thing about the way God works, hadn't the faintest idea of Christ. You knew nothing of that rich history of God's covenants and promises in Israel, hadn't a clue about what God was doing in the world at large."

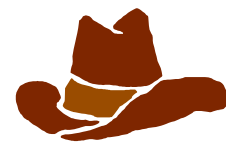
In the next several months, Pastor Eileen will contact groups and individuals to invite them to participate. The translators want the readability groups to use the text in the various ways scripture is used in a congregation's life—in study, worship, personal devotion, silently and aloud. They are also interested in a wide range of ages doing the reading.

We will have until February 28 to submit our comments.



Roundup

Mark your calendars for September 13. Worship begins at 10:00, with singing at 9:45. During worship, we'll celebrate the Lord's Supper and hear from session about what they have planned for the coming year in terms of Christian Education and special events. It's our official "kick off" to the coming program year, and we'll celebrate with a potluck barbeque following worship.



[Return to website](#)

SPRINGWATER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
P O BOX 1017, ESTACADA, OR 97023
LOCATED AT: 24553 S. SPRINGWATER RD.
Corner of Springwater Rd & Wallens Rd.

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED