

September 2007

September Birthdays



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Sunday
Schedule

9:45am
Hymn Sing

10:00am
Worship

11:15am
Fellowship

Starting Sept 23
Education for
All begins at
11:30 am

Deadline for
Next Issue:
Sept. 23rd

- 1 Tiffany Bittman
- 5 Phil Armstrong
- 8 Travis Babikoff
- 14 Janice Armstrong
- 16 Mayanne Clatt
- 19 Eunike Guttridge
- 19 Robert Poore
- 19 Samantha Sturman
- 24 Erin Roden
- 24 Morgan Driskell
- 26 Philip Rigby

Wedding
Anniversaries



- 8 Kathleen & Vernon Souders
- 16 Jennie Lou & Bob Poore
- 24 Wilma & Joe Guttridge

Special Days in September-PC(USA)

- 3 Labor Day
- 9 Round-Up!
- 16 Blessing the Animals
- 21 International Peace Day
- 23 Native American Day
First day of Autumn
- 30 Abundant Life--a visit from
our partner in Tajikistan



PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

As I decided what was important in life (toss this box, save this memory; fling these files, treasure this education), I found that eliminating clutter wasn't just satisfying, it helped put my own life in order as well.

Choose just one surface to clean off, and use the rule of "touch it once." Once you pick it up, either put it away, throw it out, or finish it, but don't put it down until you do. Finish it now.

My end-of-summer reading subject matter has run to clutter and the elimination thereof. De-cluttering has always struck me as a spring-oriented subject, so at first it was amusing. But then I noticed my house and office and desk, and it began to feel like a conspiracy.

My good friend and colleague, Jeff Sievert, claims that cleaning off his desk is an act of good mental health. Chaotic desk, chaotic life, it seems. So I began to notice who was bringing up the subject of clutter. People I trust. People whose practices I admire. And not necessarily neat-freaks. They had good, holy reasons for talking about clutter—and the elimination thereof.

Taking Stock

In my case, busy-ness causes messiness. And crabbiness lowers my clean-up standards. And too-much-to-do leaves me overwhelmed, which causes discouragement, which means things get dropped when I come in the door, rather than put away. And so it goes until the hurrier I go, the behinder I get.

One time when my life fell apart—marriage, work, church—my boss assigned me the job of cleaning the outdated files out of the company's warehouse. When we downsized, I was the only one left who knew what needed to be saved and what needed to be tossed, so it made sense that I do it.

That was how I came to spend a week throwing boxes in a dumpster. It was a good week. I said farewell to a part of the business that was folding as I made one small part of my world more orderly while the world around me crashed. As I decided what was important in life (toss this box, save this memory; fling these files, treasure this education), I found that eliminating clutter wasn't just satisfying, it helped put my own life in order as well.

At Home

Like me, your summer merry-go-round of activities may have reached the point when too much is too much. Trips. Visitors. Packing and unpacking. Laundry. Gardens. Weeds. Junk mail. Magazines. Where are the bills and didn't I used to have a white t-shirt and whose brush is this?

Take stock.

Is the clutter getting to you? Choose just one surface to clean off, and use the rule of "touch it once." Once you pick it up, either put it away, throw it out, or finish it, but don't put it down until you do. Finish it now. A little bit of order in one area of your world. It is

Session continues to look at what in our common life is “clutter” and what is essential to our mission. Tell an elder what is important to you at Springwater. It will help session take stock.

Elders govern the church, and are charged to “strengthen and nurture the faith and life of the congregation.” Together with the pastor, elders encourage people in worship and service, equip them for work in the church and their mission in the world.

astonishing how satisfied you will feel that you have accomplished something.

At Church, Too

Periodically we take stock of things at church, too. Church “clutter” isn’t necessarily old documents (but ask the Buildings and Grounds chair if you can help eliminate some of that!). In preparation for the pastor’s sabbatical in 2008, and continuing its follow up of the 2007 Ministry and Mission Retreat, session continues to look at what in our common life is “clutter” and what is essential to our mission. Tell an elder what is important to you at Springwater. It will help session take stock.

See you in church. *Eileen*

What’s An Elder? And How Old Would That Be?

Is this a polite term for “geezer”? The dictionary says an elder is “a person of greater age” or a senior. But the Presbyterian Church USA ups the ante on “elder,” making elders one of three ordained offices in the church.

Springwater’s printed Order for Worship reminds us of what our constitution says—that we’re all “ministers” of the church. But we do have those three offices—Elder, Deacon, Minister of Word and Sacrament—and each office has particular responsibilities.

Deacons carry out the ministries of charity and compassion to those who are sick, shut-in, in need, or alone. Springwater does not currently elect Deacons, but could decide to do so in the future.

Elders govern the church, and are charged to “strengthen and nurture the faith and life of the congregation.” Together with the pastor, elders encourage people in worship and service, equip them for work in the church and their mission in the world.

And they do everything else, as well. An elder has a big portfolio, and that’s why we treat election as an elder a little more seriously than, say, student council elections. We elect our elders at our annual meeting in January, but we begin the nominating process in the fall. Please begin praying for the leadership of our congregation—the persons who currently serve as elders and those who will be elected in January. Ask God to lay on the hearts of those called to leadership a spirit of hope in this exciting time in Springwater’s history, and a spirit of trust in the God who calls and continues to call us to be the church in the world.

Once ordained, a person is an elder for life. But our constitution only allows a certain number of persons to serve on session at any given time. Elders currently serving on session are Renate Jeppeson, Kevin Kirby, Don MacKinnon, Peter Sturman, Bob Wilson, and Eileen Parfrey (Moderator).



Dates To Remember

Round Up

(September 9)

Blessing the Animals

(September 16)



Abundant Life
a visit from our
partner in
Tajikistan

Jonna Reeder

September 30

Take a look at our pews!

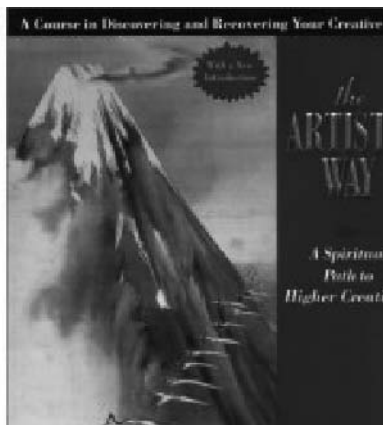
Over the years, we have worked to keep up with the times and upgrade our property. Since I first attended in 1978, we have painted the outside multiple times, straightened the steeple, carpeted the sanctuary. We landscaped outside and built an outdoor worship area and a labyrinth. We have a new organ. We have a computer and we have a copy machine that spits out copies faster than all the Catholic Church's monks put together could ever match. We are starting to look pretty good, don't you think?

There are exceptions. Our pews were hand me downs from a Methodist Church in Portland when our church was built, over a hundred years ago. For me, at least, they have been uncomfortable since I first sat on their horsehair cushions in 1978. The pews were old then and they haven't gotten any younger or any more comfortable. They show wear and the short ones were cut down to make them fit, an unattractive jury rigged affair. Take a good look and you'll find many defects—cracks, wear, chipped paint, book holders barely held in place by extra nails, etc. Look at the bottom of the pew ends and you'll see what were once square corners are now rounded from many years of shoes hitting them. What kind of impression do you suppose our pews make on a visitor? What do they say about our church? These are not valuable antiques. They are just old and worn out. They have served their time.

Session has agreed It's time to replace the pews.

Session has approved formation of an ad hoc committee to develop and seek out replacement seating. We expect this may take many months or maybe even 2 or 3 years. We will be considering a variety of possibilities, ranging from individual chairs to pews to a combination of the two. Other ideas will also be considered. Do you have any other ideas? If you have any ideas, preferences or concerns, please contact one of our committee members: Gilbert Shibley, Debbie Ingamells or Dick Scott.

Dick Scott



Erin Is Coming Home!

As we were going to press, we received word that Erin Roden expects to see the Pacific Ocean in the vicinity of Newport, Oregon, on September 22. She's inviting her closest friends and relations—that's us—to join her for that glorious event. If you haven't heard, Erin is our young adult member who started at the Atlantic Ocean early this spring, and has since walked and biked her way across America.



PASTOR'S SABBATICAL

The title is *The Artist's Way*, but don't let that fool you. You do not need to be an artist to participate. Because the subtitle is about creativity and spiritual practices.

Springwater is offering Pastor Eileen a three-month sabbatical in 2008. To help her—and us—prepare for this sabbatical, the Christian Education committee is inviting all interested adults and youth to participate in 12 after-worship sessions, discussing and processing the book by Julia Cameron, *The Artist's Way*. The sessions begin in November and are scattered through the winter and spring, ending in May.

Did we mention you don't need to be an artist? We mean it. This is about your life with God, life with each other, and using all the tools of creativity available to us. Please contact Carol Sturman (503/631-8258) to let her know you'd like to make this commitment. The church will provide the book, you provide yourself and the commitment.

ESTACADA FOOD BANK HELP NEEDED

Dave Piper, chair of the Estacada Food Bank, made a presentation to session at its July meeting. For the second year in a row, Springwater has supported the Food Bank's application to the presbytery for funding to assist in its hunger ministry in the greater Estacada area.

Dave thanked us for our faithful support throughout the year, noting that our generosity (in gifts of dollars as well as donations-in-kind) makes it possible to put food in the bags of their nearly 600 clients. This year, while endorsing the request for food funding, session asked Dave "what else" we could do to support the Food Bank.

They can always use people to help stock the shelves during their normal business hours (Tuesdays and Fridays), but this year they are particularly anxious to find a new Christmas Adopt-a-Family coordinator. They also lost their Gleaners and have not been able to take advantage of donations of food from grocery stores and restaurants.

If you think you'd like to commit to this type of hunger ministry, ask Don and Bettie Barbee (503/630-5139) about the rewards of volunteering. Or just call the Food Bank to sign up as a volunteer (503/630-2888).

HEIFER PROJECT

heifer project gives animal's to people who are in need.

People who have ducks, checen's, geese get eggs to sell or eat. And people collect their fether's to make pillows. People who have Llama's get wool to make blankets to sell or use. But ~~they~~ Llamas are used for pack animals.

People who have cows get milk to sell or drink. and when their cow's babys are Big enough to eat grass, they give it to another person who need's it.

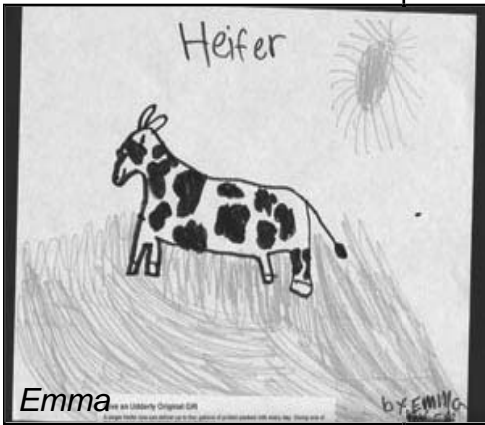
by Emma Kirby

Heifer Project Offering

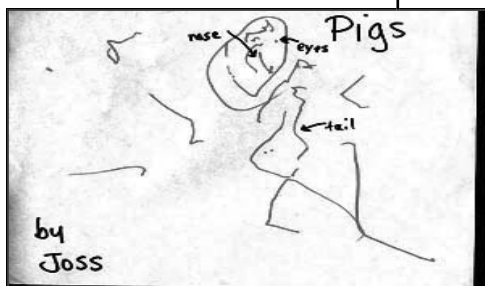
Vacation Church School bought trees this year!

Our children sent 3-1/2 units of \$60 trees, in the form of nickels, dimes, and quarters to parts of the world in need of reforestation, crop diversification, soil erosion abatement, and watershed protection. It was an exciting time.

Now it's the congregation's turn. Sunday after Sunday we put in birthday and anniversary pennies, but it takes a lot of Sundays at that rate to buy a heifer (\$500) or a sheep (\$120), let alone flock of chicks (\$20) or hive of bees (\$30). We'll dedicate a special offering to Heifer Project on Sunday, September 16, when we have a Second Annual Blessing of the Animals and Harvest Sunday celebration. Maybe you would like to send a Love Basket (shares of a goat or water buffalo for \$85) or Hope Basket (rabbits and chickens for \$50) or a Flock of Hope (chicks, ducklings, goslings for \$60).



Emma



by Joss



Kord

By Kord



Miranda

Miranda





LECTIONARY READINGS

September 2 (Labor Day Weekend): Hebrews 13:1-89, 15-16; Luke 14:1, 7-14; Psalm 81:1, 10-16

September 9 (Fall Round Up): Philemon 1-21; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18

September 16 (Harvest Sunday, Blessing of the Animals, dedication of Heifer Project offering): Luke 15:1-10; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Psalm 14

September 23: 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13; Psalm 79:1-9

September 30 (Peacemaking and visit from our partner in Tajikistan): Jeremiah 32:1-3a, 6-15; 1 Timothy 2:6-19; Luke 19:19-31; Psalm 91:1-6, 14-16

ANNOUNCEMENTS



After many years of loyal service, Don Barbee has stepped down as the producer of our printed announcements. Don has done a wonderful job and has earned a well-deserved rest from this ministry. Nona Shearer has agreed to step in to perform this service. Please email (or telephone) your announcements to Nona at nnshearer@aol.com by Thursday evening prior to the Sunday you want your announcement placed in the bulletin.

PDA Update

During the week of August 20th, PDA has deployed a National Response team to the Presbytery of Maumee Valley, to assist in the recovery from devastating flooding in nine northern Ohio counties. The town of Findlay has been inundated, and a national disaster area has been declared. PDA is in touch with presbyteries in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa which were affected by the same storm system.

PDA is consulting with the National Presbyterian Church of Mexico in preparing a recovery plan, and budget, for response to the devastation caused by the landfall of Hurricane Dean. The four presbyteries affected represent impoverished agricultural areas, and people not only lost their small wooden houses, but their crops as well.

There are pictures available of the flooding in John Knox Presbytery (Where Eileen & Rick came from) online at: <http://www.jknnox.org>



Supplemental Budget

The silent Auction turned out to be a huge success for our supplemental budget, raising \$1255. We had a nice variety of 18 items which invited excited bidding especially on the last day. This is approximately one third of the projected \$3500 supplemental budget.

We will hold a second silent auction, starting Oct. 14 through Oct. 28th culminating th a pot-luck after church. It would be great to have a variety of items again. We are looking for donations again , if you have something to offer, contact Peter Sturman 503-631-8258 or Don MacKinnon 503-631-7834.

Weed, Feed, and Walk!

On Sunday, September 2 from 4 to 6pm all who interested are invited to attend what we hope will become a regular bimonthly gathering at the labyrinth (rain or shine). The purpose is to spend time maintaining the labyrinth, eating a potluck supper together, and then walking the labyrinth together. Invite your neighbors for a time of food, spiritual fellowship, and community fun through a little work. Bring your own weeding forks, trowels, pruning shears, or other appropriate tools plus some food to share.

Springwater Presbyterian Church

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1017

Estacada, Oregon 97023

Location:

24553 S. Springwater Rd.

Estacada, Oregon 97023

Forward & Address Correction