

# Springwater Currents

April 2004  
Volume 19 Issue 14  
springwaterpres.org

## PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

### Happy Surprises

There are a couple of interesting things about preaching from the same text for four weeks in a row. For one thing, it is a tribute to Springwater's trust in their pastor that no one said to me, "Again?!" Thank you for that gift.

When I mentioned to the lectionary group that I was doing this, one of my colleagues asked if it was possible to say anything new about the parable of the prodigal son week after week. I can tell you that has not been a problem for me. Not because I'm such an innovative preacher, but because of the gift of Phyllis Tribble at the 2003 Summer Conference.

Dr. Tribble, an internationally-known Biblical scholar, did the interesting thing of putting together scripture texts that aren't normally put together. As you may have caught on, there is a three-year cycle in our Sunday lectionary, so if you hang around long enough, you will begin to hear the same texts with each other year after year. Pretty soon you can pretty well predict where things are going. When you put unpredictable texts together, you gain some amazing insights into God's word to the church.

So it has been with me for Lent this year. Putting the story of the prodigal family with Old Testament readings I'm not used to hearing with it, has been the basis for some amazing new insights.



## And Now For the Bad News

Four weeks has not been long enough to share with you the things I've been learning from this very challenging parable. But no, the bad news is not that I am extending the preaching series. God has new places to take us in the Word, and I'm anxious to get going. Besides, Easter intervenes and **Easter is always good news!**

As a consolation to myself, because I've got to maintain the discipline of sermons under twenty minutes, I took to saving all those wonderful nuggets of insight into the parable. I've got quite the file of things that didn't make it to sermons for one reason or another. But no, the bad news is not that I'm going to subject you to them all, but one thing I wanted to share.

### A Fresh Perspective

When I picked up the poster of the Rembrandt painting, "The Return of the Prodigal Son," after it was laminated, I was astonished to learn that the twenty-something woman doing the work admired the picture but didn't know the story. I had the privilege of telling it to her for the first time! It made the story brand new to watch her reaction.

What would it be like, I thought, to come to scripture with fresh eyes? What if I'd never heard these stories before instead of for  
(See next page)

**Newsletter Deadline  
for May  
April 16 @ 5:00 pm**

Service for Wholeness

my entire life? Would I understand things differently? Would it challenge what I think I believe?

That is one of the gifts given the church when new members join: a fresh perspective, a new understanding, a different point of view. Sometimes that is challenging, it makes us re-think why we believe what we believe. Sometimes that is reassuring. God has been God all along.

Springwater is blessed this spring to be receiving a group of new members. We'll be baptizing a young believer and a new baby. There are young people ending the process of determining if they want to confirm their baptismal vows and become full members of the church. All of these events are incredible gifts. Whenever a new person comes into our family, none of us are ever the same. That is a grace, a gift of love from our Creator, the One who says, "Look! I'm doing a new thing!"

Presbyterians are often accused of having as their church motto, "We've never done it that way before." As these new folks officially join our family, let us see all the ways God is saying to Springwater, "Look! I'm doing a new thing!"

See you in church.

Hunger Reminder

Spring is coming, although sometimes it seems pretty slow. One thing that is with us all year long is the hunger of our friends and neighbors. As of March 14, we had donated 1116 pounds of food and supplies to the Estacada Family Resource Center. This has been an important help, but we have done better in the past.

We need to increase our donations just to stay even with the increase in hunger, much less lower the number of hungry folk. Remember the hungry as you do your shopping, and let's feed the people.



Session has authorized a Service for Wholeness and Healing, to be conducted on Monday, May 3 at 7:30 pm. Our church's constitution (Book of Order) says, "Healing was an integral part of the ministry of Jesus which the church has been called to continue as one dimension of its concern for the wholeness of people. Through services for wholeness, the church enacts in worship its ministry as a healing community" (W-3.5401).

"Wholeness" is different than "being well" or "in good health." Wholeness is concerned with the physical well-being of the body, but wholeness also includes our mind and spirit, as well as relationships with God and humans.

We conducted a Service for Wholeness and Healing last year, and it was well received. Again, as last year, we will lead up to the service with prayer support, particularly that of elders, but the prayer support of the whole congregation is needed. The service itself will involve scripture, prayers spoken and silent, anointing and laying on of hands.

This service is offered for members and friends of the congregation, as well as other people in the community.

FAMILY CAMP!

Every year I look forward to going to family Camp. There are sand dunes, beaches and much, much more. You can ride dune buggies, big or small. We have things that we do every year like the moveable feast (you go to different campsites and eat different foods) and then have tasty ice cream sundaes. You can go biking or swimming too (the water is warm)! Come and join us for a week. I promise that you will have fun!

Alder Shibley, 11  
Family Camp veteran for 6 years  
Honeyman State Park  
Florence, Oregon  
July 24 - 30, 2004

## Luke Blagg needs a bone marrow transplant

Luke is a grandson of Kathy and Bob Akins and the son of Jeff & Sharon Akins Blagg. Luke was diagnosed in 1999 at the end of his junior year at Milwaukie Hi School. He had a lump on his right chest, and it was cancer. He has undergone chemotherapy and radiation: he has also had a Stem Cell Transplant and has relapsed 4 times. Through all of this he has been a very positive young man.

The last relapse happened in Sept. of 2003. He now also has Evans Syndrome, an auto-immune disease. He has transfusions weekly, and has to have his blood cleaned (pheresis) 3 times a week. He is very weak. His Dr. has suggested a bone marrow transplant as the only hope of a cure.

A transplant can work if we can find a donor. Three possible matches have been found in the United States, but the family has to make a deposit of \$12,000 before they can start testing. Any other charges will be billed as they occur. The search process is not covered by insurance.

The Springwater Grange and the Springwater Church have agreed to pool our efforts and put on four breakfasts to help raise money for the Luke Blagg Bone Marrow Fund. This will happen on the first 2 Saturdays in April and also in May. All the profits, after expenses, will go to Luke Blagg Bone Marrow Fund.

The Grange and the Church have always been there to aid in time of great need. Luke's need is critical. It is the only possible way save this young man's life. So many of his expenses are not covered by insurance.

Plan to **enjoy a good breakfast April 3 & 10 and May 1 & 8**. The cost is only \$4.00 for all you can eat. We will be serving **from 7 AM to 12 AM**. Please contact Wilma Guttridge 503-630-4574 or Don MacKinnon 503-631-7834 for more information.



## Community Care Committee

One of the links of our church Session is the Community Care Committee. We have six faithful members and active "do-ers": Bettie Barbee, Mayanne Clatt, Wilma Guttridge, Jim Hannum, Margaret Shearer and Lucy Olson.

Our purpose basically is to be aware of needs in our church and community friends and members; then do something about that concern or need.

With that incentive, along with the Lord's prodding and love, we do seem to be busy, and hopefully, effective. Without the congregation's support these happenings would not be fulfilled. Some of the upfront projects include:

Christmas in July. Encouraging and assembling donations of non-food items for Estacada Family Resouce Center. Basically the soaps, paper products and hygiene items can not be purchased with food stamps, but are needed and appreciated by the Center's clients.

In August we solicit school supplies for needy kids in the Estacada School District who's parents just don't have the means to purchase the many suggested and needed supplies to begin another year of schooling. The items are taken to the ESL office and duly distributed throughout the District. And I might add, the supplies are definitely thankfully and joyfully appreciated.

For the past four years we have hosted a Chili Feed with the Grange in November at the Springwater Store for the Christmas tree workers in our area. We would like to find a way to reach more of these workers, but we haven't come up with a workable solution. Any suggestions? Let one of us hear from you!

We would like to find a reasonable plan to make contact with this group of community men who are not ministered unto.

None of us choose to see Christmas come and go without sharing with less fortunate families in our immediate community. So, by mid-November the names, ages and sizes of at least three of these families are listed for SPC'ers to

take one or more items, purchase, wrap, and bring them to the church to be delivered to that special family. And – oh, you should see the eyes and smiles of the children, and adults as they react when the boxes and bags are delivered!

Incidentally, last year you supplied enough items and cash to buy items for five families! We were overwhelmed and overjoyed.

**Thank you!**

### Feed The Children

God Bless The Children

Summer Food Program Starts June 8th at Clackamas River Grade school Volunteers will be needed. If interested please contact Valerie Webb 503-630-3837.



In Christ, *Valerie*

### LECTIONARY READINGS

The seven weeks between Easter and Pentecost are traditionally called, “Eastertide.” The lectionary has typically focused on “how to be the Church,” and the texts have very predictable themes year after year.

Springwater has often taken seriously the “how to be the Church” approach during this season. How appropriate to approach Sunday worship during this time, when we are baptizing and confirming and receiving new members!

How does Springwater “be the Church” with each other now, given these great new things that are happening?

**April 4** (Palm/Passion Sunday) Telling the Story (Luke 19:28-40, Luke 22:1-23:56; Philippians 2:5-11)

**April 11** (Easter Sunday), A New Thing: LIFE! (Luke 24:1-12, Isaiah 65:17-25)

**April 18** (Thomas Sunday), A New Thing: A Church (John 20:19-31, 1 Corinthians 15:19-26)

### New Library Books: Check It Out!

We have some great books in our church library. Perhaps you have been noticing every week the inviting display on the book shelves (put together by Valerie Webb) in fellowship hall. Perhaps you’ve been taking some of the books home and enjoying them. We hope you are bringing them back in a timely way for other people to enjoy! We’ve got what you would expect in the line of “church book” stuff—theology and Biblical studies. But we’ve also got novels, fiction, children’s books and devotional resources. Check it out!

Two new children’s books have been added. You Wouldn’t Love Me If You Knew, a picture book about forgiveness. Very timely for this time of year. Another picture book is If Nathan Were Here, an award-winning book for children dealing with mourning the loss of a peer.

Another book we’ve acquired is, What It Means to Be Human: Living With Others Before God. This book is part of the Foundations of Christian Faith series. Circuit Rider Books says is the up-to-date replacement of the Layman’s Theological Library (“Barclay’s” as it’s sometimes called). This would be a great book to discuss with other people. Check it out! Maybe you’ll want to talk with some other folks about it.

**April 25** (Meal Sunday), A New Thing: Something to Eat (John 21:1-19, Acts 9:1-20)

**May 2** (Good Shepherd Sunday), A New Thing: Shepherd (Acts 9:36-43, John 10:22-30)

**May 9** (I Am Sunday), A New Thing: Glory (John 13:31-35, Revelation 21:1-6)

**May 16** A New Thing: Room at Home (Acts 16:9-15, John 14:23-29)

**May 23** (Ascension Sunday) A New Thing: Plans for the Future (John 17:20-26; Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21)

**May 30** (Pentecost) A New Thing: Spirit (Acts 2:1-21, Romans 8:14-17, Genesis 11:1-9)

## Jesus and Bartimaeus



I wonder how it feels to be blind? I wonder how it feels to see for the very first time?

This is the season of Lent...the time we get ready to celebrate the mystery of Easter.

The young children have been experiencing the stories of Jesus this early spring using the Godly Play curriculum from 9:30 - 10:15 a.m. Last week I took Jessie Jo, Brenley and Micah outside to attempt to experience what it must feel like to be blind like Bartimaeus.

Wow! What an experience for them and me to listen carefully to the outside world, to have to trust in others so that you do not fall, to attempt to heighten your other senses such as that feeling under your feet when it changes from concrete to grass. Those girls are very happy to be able to see, they have a new sense of compassion for those who cannot see and hopefully an insight into the miracles of Jesus.

"What do you want?" Jesus asked Bartimaeus. "I want to see." "Then receive your sight!" Immediately Bartimaeus could see. He and all the people were so happy they couldn't help but give thanks to God. And Bartimaeus followed Jesus, on the way.

May you also be given the miracle of sight this Lent—clarity, newness, seeing things deeper than ever before.

Blessings from Sunday School, *Dana*  
P.S. Come and join us!

## A NOTE about 5th - 8th grade Church School Class

All this school year we are doing a "survey" of the New Testament. A survey is a once-over, to get our bearings, to see what is there.

The title of the set of lessons in this survey is: "WITH ALL BOLDNESS AND FREEDOM" which describes the way the people in those first little churches (homes) acted in those first 100

years after Jesus' time on earth with us. The reason we study this is so we can be better at discipleship, at following Jesus.

Our first few sessions were on the kind of world those people lived in and how they told stories about Jesus and later wrote them down. We also looked at the three kinds of writings in the New Testament — Gospels, History, Letters to new churches.

Then we had a unit on "Jesus, the Early Years" covering Jesus' birth, childhood, baptism and temptation.

In February we looked at the first part of the unit called "The Ministry of Jesus". We read how so many people were excited to see and hear him, except the people in his hometown synagogue at Nazareth.

And how his disciples (those who met him and decided to keep learning more) were not just those first fishermen he called from their jobs but also many folks from all sorts of jobs and kinds of life. Many were from the "other side of the tracks" or outcasts of the community. Many were looked down upon as sinners by the religious officials of their towns. He started teaching, healing and preaching to tell the good news that God's rule was coming forth all around them.

In March we had the opportunity to meet a special visitor who had been in Iran this winter helping Church folks serve the needs of people hit by that big earthquake. This fit right in with our study of discipleship. We also continued to study the ministry of Jesus, reading in Matthew how he taught disciples by both word and deed.

In April we will study Holy Week's special events right along with everyone else in our Church, and celebrate Easter, too.

Gilbert Shibley  
Class Teacher



**YOUTH GROUP 2004**

Jim and Steve have been busy planning lots of fun activities for the coming year. So, youth and parents, please **KEEP YOUR CALENDARS UP TO DATE !!** Here's what summer looks like:

**Sun. the 18th of APRIL:** Youth Group will take part in some Earth Day related mission project.

**Sun. the 16th of MAY:** Youth Group will have a work party on our church property assisting in Building Our Vision projects currently under way.

**SCHOOL'S OUT!! Sat. the 12th of JUNE:** Youth Group will adventure into Portland on the Max as early as possible to claim some pavement for the Rose Festival's Grande Floral Parade.

**Fri. the 9th - Sun. the 11th of JULY:** Youth Group will meet at Church Friday for Tiize, two nights of camping fun in the canyon at the Tipi site, and up for Worship on Sunday.

**Sat. the 24th - Fri. the 30th of JULY:** Youth Group is encouraged to commit their Family to a week long super-fun **FAMILY CAMP** experience. Jim and Steve will be sending home summer camp brochures when we get some.

**Sat. the 28th of AUGUST:** Youth Group will be going to Vancouver Lake for a barbeque and a Full Moon sailing experience. We will be home late !!

**CAN YOU BELIEVE THE FUN WE'RE HAVING THIS YEAR??** And that's not all, so **UPDATE** your calendars **NOW !!!**

Youth at heart,

Jim 503.630.5493  
Steve 503.630.7723

**CONFIRMATION CLASS**

All Classes are Sundays Noon -- 1:30 pm.  
APRIL 11th & APRIL 25th

**It's Spring Time!  
Don't miss this opportunity**

to experience the Fun Fellowship Food

At Springwater Presbyterian's

**Spring Work Day**

Saturday, May 15, 2004

**Mark your calendars**

**APRIL BIRTHDAYS**

<b>Kendra Guttridge</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Gilbert Shibley</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>Judy Coyne</b>	<b>7</b>
<b>Rick Parfrey</b>	<b>17</b>
<b>Eileen Parfrey</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Debbie Tedrow</b>	<b>21</b>
<b>Patrick Anderson</b>	<b>21</b>

**April Anniversaries**

**Rodney & Karin Ryan 25th**  
**Peter & Carol Sturman 26th**



## B&G Talk

### A message from Buildings and Grounds Committee

Springwater Presbyterian B&G Committee members are the folks that provide for the care and preservation of the buildings and grounds. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of our members and other volunteers, we were able to accomplish a lot in 2003. We already have a busy schedule planned for this year and our list continues to grow. We encourage anyone interested to join the committee and we welcome all comments and suggestions. Our meetings are on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month.

#### Do you know **who cleans the Church?**

Probably not.....that's right, it's a thankless job, but it needs to be done, and it's truly a labor of love.....for you. They are: Wilma Guttridge, Julie Spencer, Valerie Webb and family, Lucy & Lloyd Olson, Colleen Roden, Susie & Nikki Kruger, Karen & Rod Ryan, Lona Maat, Renate Jeppeson, Cindy Babikoff and family.

There's a schedule in place for the entire year but if you would like to take advantage of this opportunity, there's an opening in September and October and the entire month of December.

Also, remember to thank these fine folks for taking time out of their busy schedules to do this.

“...the greatest among you shall be your servant” ...

Matthew 23.11

## Hello? Hello? Anybody There?

Have you called church and nobody has answered? Then you know that the church does have a telephone with answering service. Maybe you've left a message on it and gotten a return call.

But the answering service is not an answering “machine.” Unlike the previous system, our “voice mail” is now provided by the telephone company, which means that when you call the church and no one answers the phone, your message is recorded by the telephone company. You may be used to calling at the church and having your message “broadcast” as it's recorded by the desktop machine.



In fact, many of you are used to that old system, because the church regularly gets messages like, “Mom? Mom? If you're there, pick up the phone.” It does no good. Once your phone call is picked up by the messaging system, the phone at the church stops ringing and no one can hear you.

Yes, call the church. Yes, leave messages. But no, there's no longer hope of broadcasting your calls so that if you shout loud enough, the person working in the other room will hear you calling and pick up the phone.

## Ever had your brain tapped?



Ever have one of those ideas that seemed a little wacky, but it just might work? Or maybe you know how to solve a problem, but no one asked you? Well, we have a problem that needs all kinds of ideas, even your crazy ones—how to raise the big bucks we need for remodeling. You may not know it yet, but you might have just the idea we need lurking somewhere in the untapped areas of your brain. We want to tap your brain. Please plan on staying after church service for an extra half hour on April 25 to have your brain tapped. It will be fun and I guarantee it won't hurt.

Dick Scott - 503.630.4739

## Presbytery Summer conference

The Presbytery of the Cascades Summer Conference is July 11-16. Keynote speaker is the Rev. Dr. Cynthia Campbell, president of McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago. Dr Campbell's series is entitled: "A Wideness in God's Mercy: Christian Faith in a Multi-Faith World."

### Daily sessions are:

**Monday:** Where in the World Are We? (the multi-faith context)

**Tuesday:** Created in God's Image: Multiple Faiths & the Human Family

**Wednesday:** The Way, the Truth and the Life: Following Jesus Today

**Thursday:** Everywhere the Lord & Giver of Life: The Presence of the Holy Spirit

**Friday:** Ministry & Witness in a Multi-Faith World: What to Do in Your Neighborhood

This promises to be a dynamic and exciting series of talks. Even if you aren't able to stay overnight at the conference, come to hear Dr Campbell each morning.

The music clinician this year is Lynn Sjolund, conductor and choral clinician. The music program at Summer Conference is always top notch.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Eileen Parfrey or Cindy Babikoff for registration forms. You can register online at: <http://www.cascadespresbytery.org/> and click on the link in the dark red box at the top of the page.

## A Suitcase Full of Books

Our presbytery has a traveling peace library of children's and young adult books. You will be amazed when you see how extensive it is, and what truly wonderful books it contains.

This library is on loan to Springwater for the month of April. If you take books, be sure to check them out on the card inside the back cover of each book. Take the books home, read

## Planning Ahead for Holy Week

On **Palm/Passion Sunday** (April 4), we will again be "telling the story." The children will be invited to the front of the sanctuary for much of the service, to experience the story up close, including the opportunity to have their feet washed (if they desire), as Jesus washed his disciples' feet at the Last Supper. Easily removed shoes and socks are recommended.

The **Maundy Thursday** (April 8) service will include communion. Traditionally, Springwater has been part of an ecumenical service, locations rotating between the various congregations. This year, the hosts will be the Eagle Creek Foursquare Church. In a departure from the strictest observance of our custom, there will be no potluck supper ahead of time.

A foot washing service (women with women, men with men) at 6:30 will precede the worship service of scripture, music, and communion at 7:30. In planning the service this year, the ecumenical pastors saw an opportunity to reinforce the notion of "One Lord and One Body," sharing our old traditions with others to whom they may be new.

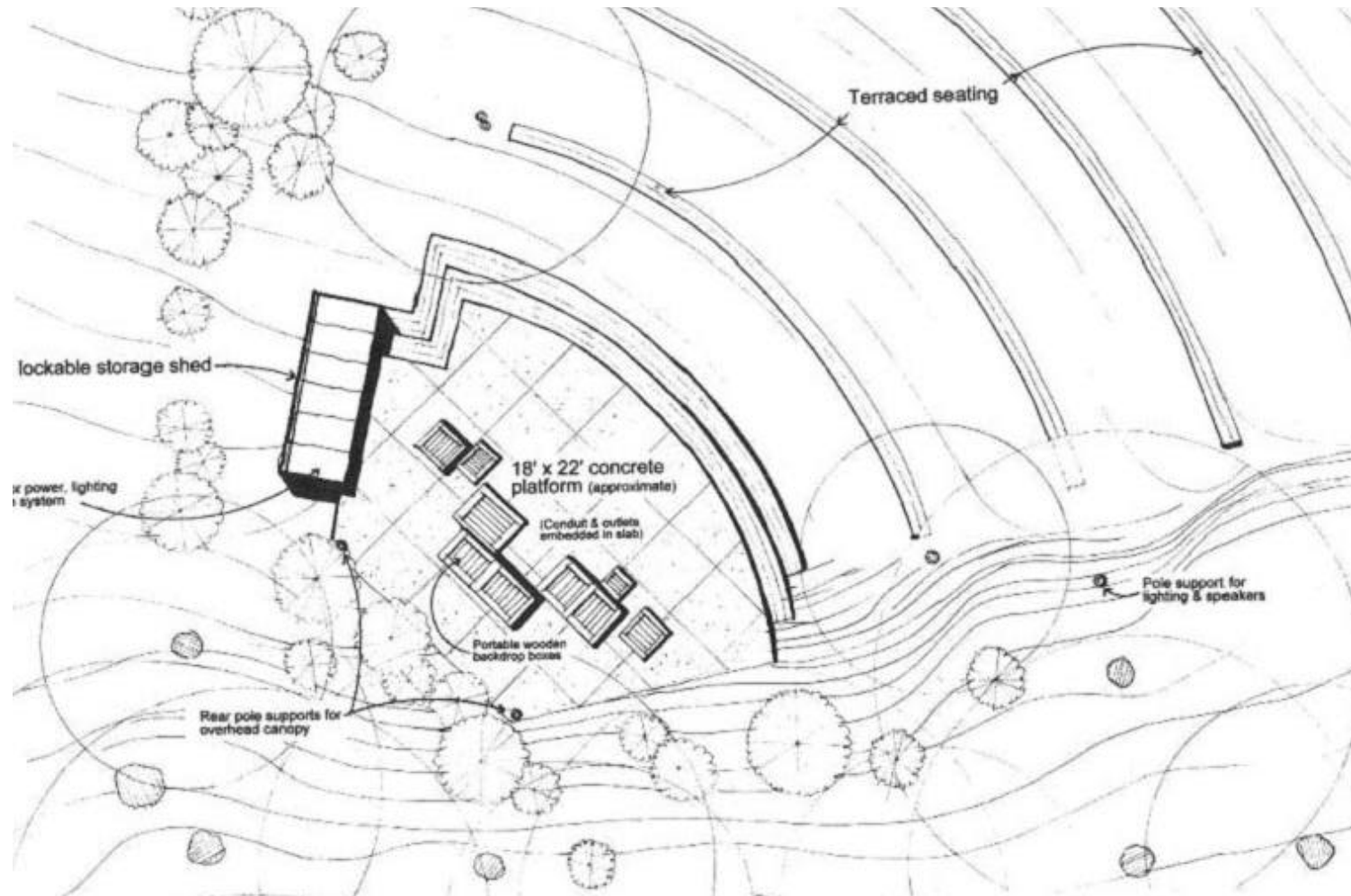
**Good Friday** (April 9) will be observed with a Taize service at Springwater at 7:30 p.m.

**Easter Sunday** (April 11) can start as early as 6:00 a.m. with a community worship service, sponsored by the Evangelical Ministry Association of Greater Estacada.

Springwater will start with breakfast at the Grange, followed by Sunday School for the children only, and worship at 10:30.

them to your children, grandchildren, let them read to you. Grown ups will also enjoy these books.

Return all the books you have borrowed by the last Sunday in April (the 25th) so we can send on this treasure trove to the next church. Take advantage of this wonderful opportunity to read some great literature!

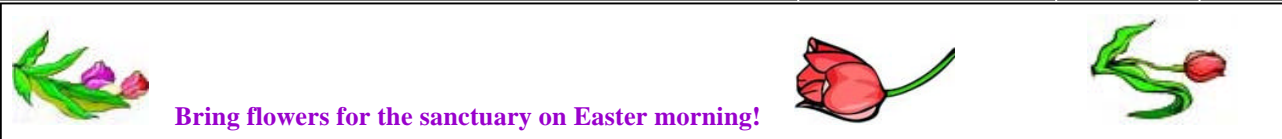



The drawing of the outdoor worship space represents the platform design proposed for the bench seating that was completed last fall. It is being suggested that this platform will be constructed of a concrete slab with two wrap-around steps leading up to it from the seating area. A locked storage shed would be located just off the west edge of the platform and movable wooden boxes of varying sizes and heights would be constructed and used for anything from worship furniture to backdrops to on-stage seating.

The platform is being designed to be large enough to accommodate a variety of uses including outdoor worship, musical performances by large and small groups, or modest theater productions for children or adults. To support these uses it is anticipated that provisions would be made for lighting and sound systems.

New landscaping would be developed around the sides and rear of the platform to provide for an appropriate backdrop to the setting.

If you have questions about this plan or want to provide some input please be sure to talk with any of the members of the Building Our Vision planning team - Rick Parfrey, Steve Shibley, Wilma Guttridge, Lucy Olson or Dick Scott.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Sat
<b>APRIL 2004</b>				Chimes7:00pm Choir-7:30pm		
						
Sunday School 9:30-10:45am Worship 10:30-11:45am <b>COMMUNION</b>	Session Meets 5:30pm	Eileen's office hours 4:30 6:30pm Prayer2:00pm <b>Passover</b>	Women's Bible Study 7:30pm	Chimes7:00pm Choir-7:30pm  <b>Maundy-Thursday</b>	Taize Worship 7:30pm  <b>Good Friday</b>	
Sunday School 9:30-10:45am Worship 10:30-11:45am <b>EASTER</b>		Eileen's office hours 4:30 6:30pm Prayer2:00pm	Women's Bible Study 7:30pm	Chimes7:00pm Choir-7:30pm		
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## Eat a Bountiful Breakfast for Luke

**Sponsored by Springwater Grange & Springwater Presbyterian Church**

**All proceeds will go to help Luke with his bone marrow transplant**

\$4.00 or donation: ALL you can EAT  
\$2.00 for children under 10

**April 3rd and 10th  
May 1st and 8th**

Sponsored by Springwater Grange and Springwater Presbyterian Church  
**All proceeds will go to help Luke with his bone marrow transplant**

**\$4.00** or donation **ALL you can EAT**  
**\$2.00** for **children under 10**

SPRINGWATER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
P O BOX 1017, ESTACADA, OR 97023  
LOCATED AT: 24553 S. SPRINGWATER RD.

## Meet Your Elders

Would you like to know your Elders a little better? Who are they? Each month, the newsletter will be bringing you their stories. This month, you're meeting the Clerk of Session, Kathy Scott.

She doesn't like to admit it, but she was born & raised in California. In 1966, Kathy graduated from College, got married to Dick & moved to Texas where he entered the Air Force & began his military career.

During several years of moving around, Kathy has had a son, Michael, taught school, been a police matron/parking control officer/dog catcher, returned to college to become a Dental Hygienist and owned & managed a video store before starting her website design company, which is what she is doing now.

Kathy loves travel, cooking, reading and when there's time, just hanging out with friends & family. She also admits to being a computer nerd.

Kathy was ordained as an Elder at Springwater in 1986 and is now fulfilling her 3rd round as an active Elder, as well as her 4th year as clerk. She says she is 'finally' learning how to file and organize. It's about time!

Come back next month and meet another member of Session. There are 8 more stories to tell. . .