

January 2011

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January Birthdays

Lucy Olson	1/06
Bob Ballantyne	1/06
Micah Shibley	1/07
Wilma Guttridge	1/16
Tami Guttridge	1/27
Greg Jeppeson	1/28
Cindy Woodbury	1/29



Happy Anniversary
Valerie & Bob Ballantyne 1/19



Annual Congregational meeting,
January 16th after worship.
Elders and other church leaders will help us celebrate 2010 and look ahead to 2011. Please plan to attend this meeting where members will vote on new elders and certain committee members; and re-view 2011's budget.

Sunday Schedule

- 9:30 AM Sunday School
- 10:15 AM Hymn Sing
- 10:30 Worship
- 11:15 Fellowship
- Deadline for next newsletter:
- January 24

Church Events and important dates

- January 2: adult Sunday School resumes (children will have an activity with Pastor Eileen); volunteer at Eastminster warming shelter (7 to 9)
- January 9: Christian Education for all ages resumes
- January 11: volunteer at Eastminster warming shelter (7 to 9)
- January 16: annual congregational meeting immediately following the worship service
- January 26: Knit Nite, 4:30 to 6:30
- February 2: Worship committee meeting, 6:30
- February 6: volunteer at Eastminster warming shelter (7 to 9)

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

You'll be hearing more about it at the annual meeting on the 16th. There is a lot to celebrate at Springwater about 2010. God has truly blessed us with an exciting year of growth and service.

Not to Steal Anyone's Thunder . . .

I don't want to steal the thunder of the elders who will report to you about activities and events for 2010. Truth is, there is a secret little joy in being The First to Tell—whether it's good news or bad—so I'm exercising a lot of restraint.

I'm dying to crow over the huge volume of work put out by the **Buildings and Grounds** committee. I want to gush with gratitude that we have **four Sunday School classes** each Sunday. My buttons are bursting over our biggest ever, fabulous **Vacation Church School** program written, directed, and produced by our own congregation. Like a proud parent, I want to brag on the work of **compassion, prayer and hospitality** by our deacons, the persistent and open-hearted work of volunteers at the **warming shelter, Food Bank, and Compassion Estacada**. Session's **prayerful discernment and exercise of leadership** is a credit to their growing faith.

. . . Let Them Speak for Themselves

Elders will speak for themselves at the congregational meeting, our annual celebration giving God thanks for the privilege of being the Body of Christ in this time and place. What I want to talk about is dreams.

As we journeyed during Advent and Christmas season with Joseph in Matthew's gospel, I've come to appreciate more deeply the role this Dreamer played in carrying out God's plan for Incarnation. Like his namesake, Jacob's favorite son, Joseph took dreams seriously, believing that God had a message for humans in them.

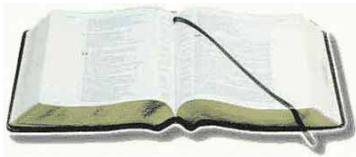
I recently dreamed about being part of a group preparing for a sky dive. Even though there were delays and complications with transportation and packing, I didn't experience frustration. Instead, the learning and preparations gave me a sense of confident anticipation. The jump was delayed, meaning we would have to make our leap in the dark. Ordinarily that would make things even more risky, but the instructor said it just meant that we'd have to be careful where we landed. Not very practical advice for the dark, but it was somehow comforting.

I don't often remember dreams, but this one stayed with me. It seemed a parable about risk taking. Be prepared, trust the instructor, but sooner or later, if you're going to sky dive, you're going to have to

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We jumped in the dark, took reasonable precautions, were careful where we landed, and God has blessed us with growing faith.



jump; just be careful where you land.

It sounds like church. We took some ministry risks in 2010. Our proposed budget for 2010 wasn't completely balanced and due to rental revenue loss we finished in the red. It's not a sustainable thing to do, since we had to tap our contingency funds. But we reached out to our neighbors more than we have ever in my nearly-eleven-year tenure, and I think God honors that. We jumped in the dark, took reasonable precautions, were careful where we landed, and God has blessed us with growing faith.

See you in church.

Eileen

LECTIONARY READINGS

January 2 (ACCESS): Jeremiah 31:7-14; John 1:1-18; Psalm 147

January 9 (BAPTISM OF THE LORD): Isaiah 42:1-9; Psalm 29; Acts 10:34-43; Matthew 3:13-17

January 16 (CALLED AND EMBODIED) (Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, January 18-25): Isaiah 49:1-7; 1 Corinthians 1:1-9; Psalm 40:1-11

January 23 (CALLED AND CREDENTIALLED): 1 Corinthians 1:10-18; Matthew 4:12-23; Psalm 37:1. 4-9

January 30 (CALLED AND BLESSED): Micah 6:1-8; Matthew 5:1-12; Psalm 15

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School will continue with the Immersion Bible Study of the gospel of Matthew. It is not necessary, but if you would like to have a copy of the book we are using, please contact Pastor Eileen to get you one (\$9). This study uses the Contemporary English Bible translation, for which we were readership consultants for the book of Deuteronomy. Again, it is not necessary to use this, but if you would like your own copy, please contact Pastor Eileen to get you one (\$5).

Plan to attend the
Cascades
Leadership Fair
Saturday,
February 26, 2011,
at First
Presbyterian,
Vancouver. Visit
www.cascadespresbytery.org for
more information.

Leadership Fair Offers Best Bargain Around

QUESTION: Where can you--

- Hear a nationally known keynote speaker on the new thing God is doing with church?
- Attend two timely, high-quality workshops to help you in your role at church and in your personal life?
- Enjoy a wonderful lunch and make connections with fellow Presbyterians—all for \$20?

ANSWER: The Cascades Leadership Fair, slated for Saturday, February 26, from 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at First Presbyterian, Vancouver. To register, visit the website www.cascadespresbytery.org or contact Dawn Champoux, 1-800-926-3223 or dawnc@cascadespresbytery.org after January 1.

The event is for church staff, musicians, volunteer leaders and congregation members. Workshops (each person can attend two) include a study of Biblical models of leadership, social networking, partnering for mission, choir development, appreciative inquiry, using PowerPoint in worship and the Middle East. There are special sessions for Elders, Deacons and clerks of session.

Sign up after January 1 for a real bargain. Registration deadline is February 18.

Choir On Break This Month

We will re-convene in February and begin preparing music for Lent and Eastertide. It is a great time to get together and sing. We had so much fun during Advent. Please come and join us in February on Tuesdays at 7:00pm.

Thank you,

Kathleen Souders,
Choir Director



I d e a s

Do you have any ideas about how our church can better meet our mission, how we can improve our service to the congregation, the community, better our worship service and our Christian education? Please talk it over with a Session member or a Deacon. An idea unfulfilled is an opportunity lost.

I'm An Idea

I am as a breath.
We new ideas are kind of feathery.

A mind clasps me
and brings me in.

I'm caressed and nursed
I blossom and prosper.

A horizon dawns
glowing, still growing.

I gather sinews and I thrive
wielding light and promise.

then,

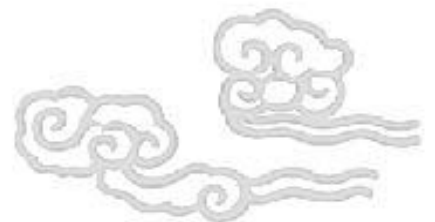
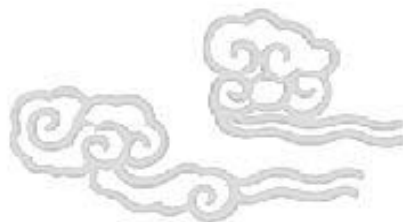
Clouds appear, dark places.

We've never done this, maybe tomorrow.

I shamble down the road
We old ideas are kind of leathery.

Oh well.

By Lloyd Olson

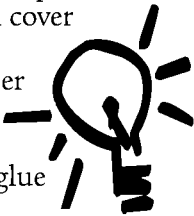


LIGHT SWITCH COVER

Everyone who believes in God and lives for him is a child of light. Make this cover for your bedroom light switch to remind you to be a light for God.

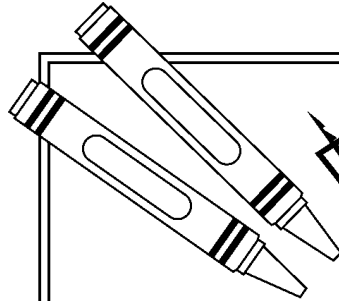
What you need:

- An adult to help
- Light switch cover
- Screwdriver
- Colored paper
- Markers
- Scissors
- Decoupage glue
- Paintbrush
- Craft knife



What you do:

1. Remove the screws from the cover.
2. On the paper, draw small images related to light and write out "Live as children of light" (Ephesians 5:8, NIV).
3. Cut out the drawings and verse. Make sure they'll fit on the cover.
4. Paint the cover with a coat of decoupage glue, and then immediately place the drawings and verse on the cover.
5. Paint over them with another coat of glue. Let it dry.
6. Turn the cover over and use a craft knife to cut out the opening for the light switch.
7. Using a screwdriver, place your new light switch cover on your wall.



PUZZLE

From darkness to light

In the Bible, God speaks often about light and darkness. He gives us much instruction about which path we should choose.

- | | |
|-----------|---------------|
| 1. Good | Righteousness |
| 2. Death | Children |
| 3. Go | Life |
| 4. Evil | Come |
| 5. Adults | Bad |

Match the opposites and then write the word in the right-hand column in the correct blanks to finish each verse.

"When your eyes are good, your whole body also is full of light. But when they are _____, your body also is full of darkness." Luke 11:34, NIV
(1)

"I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of _____." John 8:12, NIV
(2)

"I have _____ into the world as a light, so that no one who believes in me should stay in darkness." John 12:46, NIV
(3)

"For what do _____ and wickedness have in common? Or what fellowship can light have with darkness?" 2 Corinthians 6:14, NIV
(4)

"For you were once darkness, but now you are light in the Lord. Live as _____ of light." Ephesians 5:8, NIV
(5)

Answers: 1. bad, 2. life, 3. come, 4. righteousness, 5. children



Financial Report

In 2010 our General Fund income was exceeded by our expenses by about \$775. This was out of a budget of about \$91,000. This was mainly due to our not renting out the manse as soon as we had planned in our budget and some people who pledged that were not able to fulfill their pledges. Overall, I think we did pretty good. The Session voted to take the \$775 out of the Contingency Fund to balance to books. If you would like to hear more financial details and what our financial outlook is for 2011, please come to the congregational meeting on January 16th after the worship service.

Gwendolyn Shearer

Online Shopping Program up and running

In December, Springwater Presbyterian Church made \$200 through amazon.com's online shopping partnership. If you made holiday purchases through our website or shared the information with your friends and family, thank you. This is an ongoing partnership, please continue to shop from springwater-pres.org, simply click on the amazon.com link in the upper left corner of the screen. If you haven't done this yet, read below to find out how.



Online shopping means convenience and savings for you and a donation to Springwater Presbyterian all at the same time!

Take advantage of discounts, coupons, and rebates from your favorite merchants by logging on to

www.springwater-pres.org

and click on the **amazon.com** logo to gain access to over 800 stores at prices similar to or better than what you'll find at Walmart! Every time you make a purchase on the Amazon website Springwater receives a donation equal to **4%-15%** of the price of your item!

For questions please call:
Kathy Scott (503) 630-4739 or
Rick Parfrey (503) 638-0109

What Do Hungry People Look Like?

Many of us are familiar with Jesus' words in Matthew 25:35, "For I hungered, and you gave me meat: I was thirsty and you gave me drink: I was a stranger and you took me in.;" and, Matthew 25:40. " And the King shall answer and say unto them, Verily I say unto you, Inasmuch as you have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me."

Where are the hungry? They are among us. What do they look like? They look like us. Remember the Red Box.



Springwater
Currents

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