

Springwater CURRENTS

May 2004
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PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

What's not to like about spring?

Especially an Oregon spring! Rick and I left the Midwest in March one year, truly one of the gloomier times of their year. If it wasn't gray, worn-out snow, it was sleet or blizzards. Certainly, nothing blooms in March in the Midwest. We find ourselves overwhelmed each Oregon spring with the sheer longevity of bloom times for different flower species. The riot of color. The continual unfolding of new flowers and colors for months on end.

What's not to like about spring? It's a fresh start, new life bursting out everywhere. Every time I drive by Gerber Feed and see their sign, "Chicks are in—order yours now" it takes everything I've got to keep driving. I can't have chickens at my house! But there is an incredible compulsion that goes with new life. I wonder if that's why the resurrection happened in the spring

Another Easter thought

I've been listening to the book, *The Lord of the Rings* on tape as I drive. It strikes me as being very much about Easter and human discipleship. The critical piece to defeating unimaginably powerful evil is the most unlikely being—a hobbit. Frodo is small, ordinary, stay-at-home, peaceable and comfort-loving. His very insignificance is why he is entrusted with the ring so powerful that it absolutely corrupts those who use it. In setting out on his journey, bearing this ring to its destruction, Frodo is given

some Easter-like words of protection and advice:

All that is gold does not glitter,
Not all those who wander are lost;
The old that is strong does not wither,
Deep roots are not reached by the frost.
From the ashes a fire shall be woken,
A light from the shadows shall spring;
Renewed shall be blade that was broken,
The crownless again shall be king.

Those are words of Easter faith, and they can encourage us. We may be insignificant, but we are also absolutely critical for the living out of God's plan. We are called to be successful. We are simply called to be faithful. The most astonishing thing about Easter is that God has turned over to us the implications of resurrection.

We will be exploring in worship this month what those Easter implications mean for us. See you in church.

Eileen

CYBER RESOURCE FOR SPIRITUAL HEALTH

Weavings is a journal for spiritual life. The adult Sunday School class has used it to practice "sacred reading" together. If you would like to get a free monthly electronic publication from Weavings to help you in your spiritual life, sign up at www.weavings.org and click on Weavings E-Mail Sign Up.

Deadline for the June
Newsletter is May 16, 2004

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WISH LIST

At its meeting last month, Session approved a "Wish List" put together by committees. This Wish List includes items which would enhance the ministry of Springwater Presbyterian, but which we cannot fit into the 2004 budget. That doesn't mean that Session wouldn't appreciate receiving those things! Do any of these items strike you as **something you would like to give to the church?** Speak to a Session member about how an in-kind gift beyond your financial pledge can enhance the ministry of Springwater.

Christian Education

Would like to offer camperships (scholarships to attend Presbytery camps) for our young people. All gifts designated to this fund will go directly to the campership fund. **Any amount.**

Good Samaritan Fund

Requests to the church for financial help have increased significantly this year, so that our available funds to help have been severely depleted. This fund generally helps people pay utility bills, offset medical bills, assists with rent. All gifts designated to this fund will go directly into the Good Samaritan Fund. **Any amount**

Fellowship Committee

Barbeque to be installed in outdoor space. (a very rough estimate, ballpark figure) **\$500**

Worship Committee

1. Choir Directors Workshop **\$500**
2. Upgrade sound system (condenser microphones to amplify Joys/Concerns) **\$400**
3. Direct mike transmitter (could be used in outdoor worship services as well as for pastoral visits; would be compatible with new assisted listening devices) **\$475**
4. Stipend for secondary musician. The committee is currently gathering information & will have a dollar amount soon. Cost **TBA**

Buildings & Grounds Committee

Security system for church building (a very rough estimate, ballpark figure) **\$2,500**

Library Books

1. Forgiveness, the Passionate Journey: Nine Steps of Forgiving, Flora Slosson Wuellner (Upper Room)
2. Chronicles of Narnia, C.S. Lewis (series that begins with The Lion, The Witch, and the Wardrobe)
3. Young adult books by Madeleine L'Engle (Wrinkle In Time series)
4. Memoirs by Madeleine L'Engle (Year of the Grandmother series)
5. Walking Through the Waters: Biblical Reflections for Families of Cancer Patients, Nancy Regensburger (Upper Room)

First Quarter Financial Report

As of March 31, 2004

General Funds received	\$20,620.82
Operating Expenses	\$15,391.05
Mission Disbursements	<u>\$2,303.15</u>
General Funds Balance on Hand	\$2,926.62

With 25% of the year passed we have received 26% of the total amount pledged. Keep up the good work. If you would like a record of your giving for the first quarter they are available from Nona Shearer.

Service for Wholeness

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, communion, 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.

May Wedding Anniversaries

Tim & Eunike Guttridge	2
Randy & Mary Johnson	15
Debbie & Scott Tedrow	17
Phil & Tiffany Bittman	28



DID YOU KNOW . . . ?

. . . that **Valerie Webb's** kids loved the Springwater tradition of Easter egg hunts so much that they organized one this year? Way to go, kids—passing on the traditions!

. . . that **Kathleen Souders** takes the last Sunday of the month to teach our children music? Thank you for sharing your gift of music, giving us a future generation of musicians.

. . . that we haven't blown any circuit breakers during fellowship hour since **Bob Maat** re-worked the circuits and put in a new four-plex outlet in fellowship hall? We really appreciate not being suddenly thrown in the dark—thanks!

. . . that **Lynne Deshler** plans to celebrate Good Shepherd Sunday (May 2) by showing our young people what a shepherd does? Hospitality and helping kids appreciate Psalm 23—the gift of a great combination.

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



GIVE & TAKE

Sesame Street toy box. Looks like a school bus. Measures 16" wide, 20" high and 33" long. Has pictures of Big Bird on it as well as others. Made by Fisher Price..

Contact Bettie Barbee if you are interested.

Jest for the Health of it

A health and safety message from Bob Maat

Have you ever noticed how relaxed you feel after a good laugh? Laughter is a powerful medicine. It heals the body, mind and spirit. When you laugh, it raises the levels of endorphins in your body which act as a natural pain killer. It also brings people together and improves relationships. A good belly laugh raises the immune system and helps prevent disease. The best part of all..... it's absolutely free!

Laughter has also been known to reduce the levels of certain stress hormones and provide a safety valve that shuts off the flow of stress hormones. These stress hormones increase blood platelets (which can cause obstruction in arteries) and raise blood pressure. A good hard laugh lowers blood pressure, increases oxygen in the blood, and works your diaphragm, abdominal, respiratory and facial muscles.

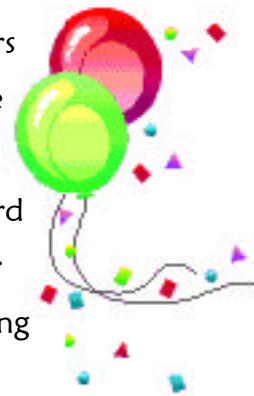
We often become caregivers in our daily lives – whether it's with our own family or helping customers. We may feel fear, anger, helpless and depressed when we try to help others. If we try to find humor in a situation and laugh appropriately and freely, it can be an effective way to take care of ourselves.

Here are some tips to help put more laughter in your life:

- Notice what makes you laugh and do it more (or read it or watch it)!
- Surround yourself with funny people...be with them every chance you get.
- Develop your own sense of humor. Find something to laugh about every day.

May Birthdays

Tom Webb	2
Braden Anderson	3
Jim Tomlin	9
Sheila Laschober	19
Tabitha Souders	20
Kara Guttridge	20
Jim Tedrow	22
Johnny Leonard	23
Kenneth Fisher	24
Nikki Armstrong	27
Bruce Ryan	29

**A WALK THROUGH WORSHIP**

It is one of the privileges and great joys that the Springwater congregation gives fourth grade students their very own Bible. This marks a momentous step in the life of a young person, and the Christian Education Committee has taken great care in selecting a Bible which they feel is appropriate.

The translation being presented is the New Standard Revised Version, the same as what is in our pews. But the Bibles we will present to the fourth graders will have pictures, a dictionary, maps, and other helps that we hope will draw them into exploring their new book.

To prepare for this, the pastor will teach a class during the month of May called, A Walk Through Worship. Parents are, of course, invited. The class is intended to help the young people become more informed about how we worship so that they can become better participants in worship.

NONE OF US WILL NEVER BE THE SAME

This month, the Springwater congregation will welcome into membership five new people. **Bill and Kathleen Leonard, Peter and Carol Sturman, and Sheila Laschober**, having already been received into membership by session at their April meeting, will make their public promises on May 2.

On May 9 we will baptize two young people: **Adelia May Jeppeson** (daughter of Greg and Renate Jeppeson) and **Samantha Claire Sturman** (daughter of Peter and Carol Sturman). Samantha is being baptized as a believer, and so will become a member of the church when she is baptized. Later in the summer, we will be baptizing **Kathleen Leonard**, who has asked to be baptized by immersion.

When someone new joins the church, making public their faith in Jesus Christ, they are changed. As we welcome these people into our family of faith, we too are changed. It is part of Christ's design for the Church that we support and nurture each other's faith. In this way, we have impacts on each other that we may never see or understand or know. But we will never be the same again, either.

Thanks be to God.

Meet new member Sheila Laschober

Sheila was born and raised mostly in Phoenix, Arizona. She married while still in High School and has been blessed over the years with 3 wonderful sons (James, Michael and Phillip).

In 1977 Sheila and her husband decided it was time to move and they chose Oregon as their new home because they had been told it was a really nice state to live in. They moved into a Christian commune in Silverton and lived there for three years. Sheila mentions that it was during this time that she learned the importance of practicing the Word of God.

Then they moved to Eugene and Sheila gave birth to her second son, Michael. These were the days that she refers to as her "Susie Homemaker"

days as she spent time canning food almost daily during harvest time and sewing clothes for her family. She received her GED during this time, as well.

In 1982, Sheila's Mom invited her to move to Alaska and assist with a mobile home sales business that she owned. The business was successful and eventually Sheila obtained her real estate license and started selling real estate as well. A third son, Phillip, was born at home with the assistance of a midwife in 1986. When the economy in Alaska went downhill, they moved back to Arizona and shortly after that they were divorced.

While living in Arizona Sheila became a legal assistant for a personal injury law firm and her best friend, David, encouraged her to continue her education. She started taking two classes in the evening each term at the community college and in 1993 she and David were married. Feeling the need to move again, Sheila moved back to Oregon with her new husband. They settled in Roseburg because three of her sisters lived there.

Sheila worked for a private attorney for several years until she was hired for a legal assistant position that became available in the Douglas County Counsel office. She continued her education and finally obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Business Management last summer.

Now living in the Springwater area, Sheila says she feels as though God led her to this location and she loves the community. Her hobbies include anything computer related, reading, studying healing techniques, genealogy, and hiking.

She considers herself to be a world peace activist and gets involved with women's rights and environmental issues. Editor's note: Next month, the newsletter will feature another new member.



**Youth Group 2004
For Children 5th grade and older !!**

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 Taize, 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. You can register online at

<http://www.cascadespresbytery.org/familycamp.html>

Sat. the 28th of AUGUST: Youth Group will be going to Vancouver Lake for a barbecue 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 mark your calendars NOW !!! Youth at heart,
Jim 630-5493 and Steve 630-7723

Christian Education News

Mark your calendars !

Vacation Church School will be the week of June 21st-25th. We will be visiting the countries of Philippines, Guatemala, Malawi, Pakistan and Peru via the Springwater Presbyterian chartered jet! It is, of course, on loan to us for just this one week of Vacation Church School so you won't want to miss the fun. Passports are being processed now so let us know if we can include you in the travel plans. There is plenty of room to invite your friends, family and neighbors for a week that is sure to be life-altering! You may direct any questions to our travel agent, Cindy Babikoff, or any of the members of the Christian Education Committee. See you there!

Also...


It is time to register for Presbyterian summer camps! There are many wonderful, fun-filled camping opportunities to choose from including the ever popular Family Camp. (July 24-30) This year Family Camp will be hosted by our own Barbara and Gilbert Shibley so you just know a good time will be had by all! There are camperships available through our church. Interested parties may obtain information on the camperships as well as camp schedules and registration forms from Cindy Babikoff. You can also visit the Presbytery website at <http://www.cascadespresbytery.org>
Camp on Dudes!

One Great Hour of Sharing

And you certainly did share. The total for the One Great Hour of Sharing special offering as of April 18 was \$1,130.85. This is the most we have ever given to this offering. The money goes to Presbyterian Disaster Relief, Self Development of People and Presbyterian Hunger programs.

We promote this offering during Lent, but you can make a contribution at anytime. Just indicate it is for OGHS.

Donations of Food for our neighbors

 During the month of March, Estacada Family Resource Center served 720 people, up 198 from February. 204 children were involved.

Springwater church gave 811 lbs. Of food items and 149 lbs. of non-food items.

520 households were helped. Your continued generosity will make a difference in the lives of those neighbors who are so desperately in need.



Bettie Barbee



Earth Day

On April 18th, the Youth Group did an Earth Day project that involved digging up invasive weeds. The target weed is called Japanese Knotweed and it spreads aggressively along stream banks. We went to Still Creek near ZigZag. It was a beautiful day and the rain held off long enough for us to pull many hundreds of plants. We had a great time and capped off our day with a quick trip to Government Camp to throw some snowballs around.



LECTIONARY READINGS FOR MAY

A New Thing

The prophet Isaiah tells the exiled Israelites some good news in chapter 65: God is about to do “a new thing.” When God says a “new thing” is coming, it’s such an extravagant “new thing” that the whole cosmos is shook up. That “new thing” continues resurrection of Christ. Easter is so phenomenal that it takes us seven weeks just to pronounce it! We’ll be rolling those words around in our hearts and minds until Pentecost. And that’s not until May 30!

The May preaching series continues the “new thing” of Easter. What kinds of new things? There are all kinds of implications—for you, for us, for the church. And it all starts with God—not tired of the old—but ever doing something new. God ever creative, ever redeeming, ever loving—us.

May 2: A New Thing: Shepherd (Acts 9:36-43, Revelation 7:9-17, John 10:22-30, Psalm 23)

May 9: A New Thing: Glory (John 13:31-35, Revelation 21:1-6, Psalm 148)

May 16: A New Thing: Rom at Home (Acts 16:9-15, John 14:23-29, Psalm 67)

May 23: A New Thing: Plans for the Future (John 17:20-26, Revelation 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21, Psalm 97)

May 30: A New Thing: Spirit! Pentecost Acts 2:1-21, Romans 8:14-17, Genesis 11:1-9, Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

Oops!

Yes, Colleen Roden is an important spoke in the wheel of community Care Committee. Regretfully, her name was inadvertently left off the last month’s list.

Lucy Olson Chair

Help Fight Luke's Cancer

**May 1st & 8th from 7 am to 12noon
\$4 for adults and \$2 for 10 & under**

There are two more breakfasts to go in the Springwater Church and Springwater Grange's combined efforts to fight cancer. They will be held on May 1st and May 8th from 7 am to 12 noon. The first two breakfasts raised over \$1200 after expenses to help this young man who has been fighting cancer since his junior year in High School.

Luke and his family have been advised that his system can no longer handle chemo therapy, making a bone marrow transplant his best hope. Much of the cost of initial testing and research is not covered by insurance, so the Church & the Grange have been offering these breakfasts to the community as a way to help this 21 year old man.

To add to your breakfast pleasure, **Wiley Howell** will be playing May 1st and the **Springwater Ramblers** will play on May 8th. They should start playing sometime around 8:30 or 9:00 am.

So, mark your calendars and come to the Pancake Breakfast, \$4 for adults and \$2 for 10 and under. Come enjoy our good food, great music and a fun time. Remember, as you eat, you are helping a needy young man.

God Bless you.

Per Capita

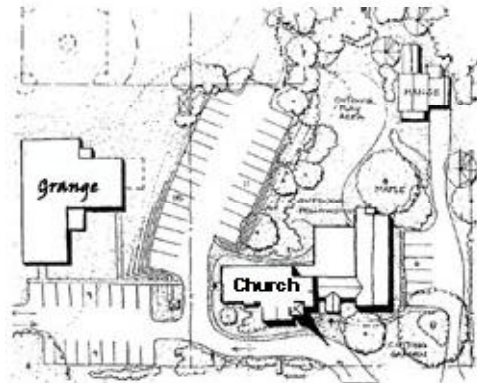
So far 7 members have donated the \$21 towards their portion of the per capita we must pay to the denomination for each member. If you can spare \$21 for your share the session would appreciate it.

Building Our Vision Committee Updates - April 2004 By Stephen Shibley

Our parking lot relocation work is about to begin ! Look for the white markings on the ground outlining the drives, walks, and parking lot location. Lots of changes are about to take place.

Things be aware of: The body of the new parking lot and it's connection to the Grange lot will be completed first before we remove our current parking lot. The Church is planning to plant another shade tree, on church property, as part of new landscape frontage to replace the Grange's maple tree. We will also attempt to save some small and large cross sections of the old maple tree to make finger labyrinths and hopefully an outdoor pulpit. Because of required regrading and desired underground power routing along the Springwater Rd. right-of-way, the "old" Church sign and plantings must be removed. **THE SIGN WILL BE SAVED** and stored and we will attempt to relocate some of the plantings. I am preparing a Project Budget update that will be posted and available next to the Construction Drawings in the church library and it will also be in the June newsletter. If you have any questions please - PLEASE ASK.

Springwater Presbyterian Church
Springwater, Oregon



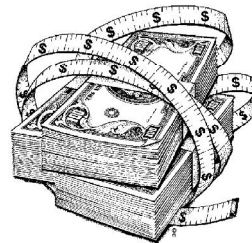
Our Brainstorms brought Tornadoes!

Thank you to all who participated in our little brainstorming session on April 25th. There must have been tornadoes in your brains! You gave us a total of 70 ideas to work on and we had fun. For those who missed it, we asked for all kinds of ideas, including nutty ones, because the nutty ideas may spark really good ideas in someone else's mind. Brainstorming sessions usually give you lots of unworkable ideas and a few good ones. I think we got the ratio reversed. Here is just a small sample of the many ideas we got:

- Be a mission project
- Solicit donations on our website, including having a means to collect donations over the Internet
- Allow schools to use our landscaping or remodeling as a training project
- Put out a coin bucket at various events
- Teach talents, such as dancing
- Have a silent auction
- Have the Springwater Ramblers perform in Pioneer Square & pass the hat
- Take donations at Pioneer Square to stop the Springwater Ramblers from performing
- Ask businesses to fund challenge money—to match gifts by others
- Put on a play
- Request matching funds from Presbytery for disability upgrades
- Sponsor a children's art project to make & sell cards—Christmas & Mother's Day
- Car washes—bald buys with cute legs
- Craft sale
- Garage sale
- Sell old square nails from the manse when it is demolished
- Sell indulgences on eBay
- Sell "Get out of hell free" cards

So, if any of the foregoing gives you an idea, or if your idea is not listed, write it below and pass it on to one of the finance committee members: Sheila Laschober, Nona Shearer, Lloyd Olson, Tadd Kruger, Carol Sturman or Dick Scott.

1. _____
2. _____



Thanks again,

Dick Scott

2005 Mission Yearbook of Prayer (Already!?)

We must know by June 1 if you will want a copy of next year's Mission Yearbook. In the past we have been able to afford 20 copies from our budget, but this year we cannot. We will only order as many 2005 copies as we know you want and for which you are willing to pay the \$5.10 cost.

This order must be made in June so please let Nona Shearer or Valerie Webb know by June 1, if you want to be on the list to receive one. We do not necessarily need the money by then. You will just need to pay \$5.10 per book sometime before the end of the year.

