

Springwater CURRENTS

SPRINGWATER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
 Corner of Wallens Rd and Springwater Rd
 24553 Springwater Rd
 Estacada, OR 97023
 www.springwater-pres.org

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

July & August 2011

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July & August Birthdays

Richard Scott	7/5	Peter Sturman	8/11
Jessie Jo Guttridge	7/5	Nancy Tedrow	8/13
Don Guttridge	7/15	Marge Varitz	8/14
Cody Johnson	7/16	Barbara Shibley	8/16
Stephen Shibley	7/17	Miranda Kirby	8/16
Jennifer Souders	7/26	Nona Shearer	8/17
Carol Sturman	7/26	Kathleen Souders	8/18
		Joy Alford-Thompson	8/20
		Bettie Barbee	8/20
		Marilyn Guttridge	8/21
		Bryce Babikoff	8/21
		Natalie Ingamells	8/23
		Neal Jeppeson	8/26



July & August Anniversaries

Robin & Sam Fisher	7/18
Tami & Don Guttridge	7/22
Don & Bettie Barbee	7/27
Bill & Kathleen Leonard	8/4
Renate & Greg Jeppeson	8/6
Judy & Tom Coyne	8/8
Lynne & Tom Deshler	8/10
Barbara & Don MacKinnon	8/19
Connie & Bruce Ryan	8/21
Steve & Mary Stiles	8/26
Bill & Marge Varitz	8/27



The family of Don and Barbara MacKinnon invite you to help us celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary. August 20, 2011 from 1 to 5 PM at the Springwater Grange. There will be lots of fellowship, finger food, cake and photos. Rumor has it that Pastor Eileen has something planned for the event. No gifts please, just cards.

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

On July 10, the PCUSA's new Form of Government went into effect. In the works for several years, adopted at the last General Assembly and ratified this spring by 2/3 of the presbyteries, it is intended to streamline our polity. It is also the first full revision of the Form of Government since the union between the northern and southern churches in 1983.

While the polity changes will not be dramatically visible to us at the congregational level, some changes in terminology will be. Most notably, we have returned to older terminology of "Ruling Elders" and "Teaching Elders." I kind of like that.

Something Old, Something New

The names seem kind of old-fashioned. "Elder." Who speaks of elders these days, unless you are marketing a gerontological service? When I was ordained as an elder in the 1980s, the then-pastor, in explaining the role of session, said that "elder" literally meant "old man." Newly ordained, I still considered myself "young enough," and I clearly wasn't a man. What was he talking about?

He was going back to the organization of the New Testament church, which had two official offices—that of deacons and presbyters (elders). Our new government refers to these two offices as "ordered ministries," and goes on to define them as "gifts to the church to order its life so that the ministry of the whole people of God may flourish. The existence of these ordered ministries in no way diminishes the importance of the commitment of all members to the total ministry of the church."

In other words, "the priesthood of all believers." You might have seen the back of our bulletins, in which we say that the pastor is Eileen Parfrey, and the ministers are "all of us" or "everyone."

Under the new form of government, Ruling Elders govern the church—through discernment of God's Spirit, using their gifts to strengthen and nurture the faith and life of the congregation. It's the office we've referred to as simply "Elder," the officers who collectively serve on the board we call "Session."

Teaching elders are also called Minister of Word and Sacrament. The new Form of Government says that teaching elders "shall in all things be committed to teaching the faith and equipping the saints for the work of ministry." Whether serving at font and table, preaching or teaching, their role is to "interpret the mysteries of grace and lift the

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people’s vision toward the hope of God’s new creation.” As pastors, Teaching Elders support the disciplines in people’s daily lives of faith. It doesn’t sound like much change there, either.

Not Even Borrowed, Nothing Blue

Maybe it takes a change in the form of government to once again “own” the mission of the Church. This is not something we “borrow” from the past. Our mission is alive and well and pertinent to our present, daily lives. That is, to proclaim the gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed, and to work for the reconciliation of the world. As our denomination’s Confession of 1967 affirms, “The church orders its life as an institution with a constitution, government, officers, finances, and administrative rules. These are instruments of mission, not ends in themselves.”

See you in church.



AT OUR LAST SESSION MEETING . . .

. . . as always, our work was conducted in the context of worship. Elder Kathleen Souders led us in a Bible study of her favorite psalm.

- ☞ As a follow-up to the Healthy Congregations retreat, held jointly with Oak Hills Presbyterian, we gave thanks for the signs of health we see in this congregation.
- ☞ We examined and joyfully welcomed into membership Allen Siefken, Kathleen “Kay Moellenhoff, John Moellenhoff, and Steve Stiles. We examined Mary Stiles for baptism on July 24.
- ☞ Elder Wilma Guttridge reported that the Buildings and Grounds committee continues to address maintenance issues raised by our wonderful property manager at the manse.
- ☞ Elder Al Conway reported that our insurance carrier is investigating the wind damage to the shingles on our roof.
- ☞ Accepted recommendations from the Personnel Committee that we engage Dave and Bev Crow to lead us in a process to re-visit our mission statement.
- ☞ Treasurer Gwen Shearer reported that the Amazon.com fund and other donations have raised \$513 for the sound and recording system.

The Stats:

- 18 to 24 students each day (29 total children)
- 12 to 14 youth leaders (15 total youth)
- 12 adult leaders
- \$421.95 raised for Heifer Project*

**this also includes gifts from the congregation for the VBS offering to HPI*



VACATION CHURCH SCHOOL REPORT

When Deb Ingamells gave her Moment for Mission during worship in May, she told Springwater that "Vacation Church School is one of the best things we do." She wasn't kidding.

Those are amazing numbers (see sidebar), but numbers only tell part of the story. Everyone who participated in this year's **ReNew: The Green VBS** had a fabulous time and agreed it was "the best week of their lives!" We served many children from the neighborhood as well as most of our own children.

VBS is wonderful because children learn about God's love for them in so many ways—stories, music, crafts, games, friendships, eating together. They also learn ways to care for creation. This year, as we have for many years, we collected an offering for Heifer Project. In addition, the children planted a garden by the front door of the church to provide produce for the Estacada Area Food Bank.

VBS is also wonderful for the leadership skills learning opportunities it offers our youth. As these young people mentor and model for the youngest children, they are learning patience, ways to extend friendship, and responsibility—as well as Bible stories.

Thanks to Deb Ingamells for making critical curriculum choices and teaching, to Carol Sturman for Shepherding the Shepherds and acting as registrar, to Ora Mae Sprague (Eagle Creek) for mentoring the shepherds, to Kathy Scott for master-minding lunches and snacks, to Wilma Guttridge and Leala Harris (Eagle Creek) for cooking and cleaning up, to Deb Odell for shopping, to Peter Sturman for advocating and coming one morning to teach, to Judy Coyne and Jennifer Souders and Marilyn Guttridge for teaching, to Pastor Eileen for leading worship, to Gilbert Shibley for coming one morning to teach.

Church Calendar

July 17: We celebrate the church birthday with a potluck after worship

July 27: Knit Nite

July 30: private wedding at the church



MEET THE NEW MEMBERS

We're introducing two new members in this issue. Next issue, you will meet three more.

Kathleen "Kay" Moellenhoff is a transplanted Midwesterner. Her roots "back east" are deepest in Washington, Missouri, where she was born and to which she returned with her husband, Bob when he opened a solo medical practice. When Bob retired in 1987, the couple decided to move to a place with mountains. Bob had always loved Mt Hood and, although Kay had never even seen Oregon, they bought a place in Sandy with a view of the mountain.



Since moving out to Oregon, Kay has been an active volunteer, reflecting a lifetime commitment to "people oriented" volunteer work. In Missouri, she was active in child abuse prevention programs before it was on the national radar, served on the county's family service advisory council, taught parenting classes for STEP programs, and STEP processes for Head Start teachers. In Portland, she was active in the Salvation Army Greenhouse, working with homeless people. She has led church youth groups, Bible studies, and served as a Stephen Minister. During her tenure at Westminster in Portland, Kay was the elder on Congregational Care.

Kay and Bob adopted four children as infants. Daughter Julie teaches third grade in Washington, Missouri and has 3 sons. Melissa is in the admissions department at the Christian Brothers High School in St Louis and has 3 sons. Steve lives with Kay and provided care for Bob during his illness with Alzheimer's disease. John (you will meet him in the next *Currents*) lives in Sandy and is the non-custodial parent of a son. The grandsons range in age from 15 to 25. Bob died last December.

Last spring, Kay and the family traveled to Missouri to christen a tow boat named after her father, who had been active in the Army Corps of Engineers work on the stabilization and navigation of the Missouri River.

Kay says she was immediately drawn to Springwater's Sunday morning adult Bible study. She has an inquiring mind, is always ready to raise questions, and admits, "I could never be bored." When asked about hobbies, she listed gardening, genealogy, history, reading, exercise, and music.

Allen Siefken is an inventor living on a tree farm in rural Colton. A self-confessed engineering nerd, Allen has invented things as diverse as the control panel for security systems, the circuit board for a pellet-fired smoker/grill, and cheerleader pompoms that light up and blink. "Mostly I invent things on behalf of others," he says. "I put wheels to the ideas of other people." Most of his clients are with firms too small to have their own engineering department. He makes them a prototype, estimates a probably cost, and they look for investors and the means of manufacture.



MEET THE NEW MEMBERS, *continued*

A native of Iowa, Allen is single with two adult sons. Jason is working on his PhD in math at the University of Victoria in British Columbia. Robert just finished his first year at vet school at Oregon State. Allen has two cats and a couple of rabbits. The rabbits have their own condo with a window into his kitchen, "So when I'm making a salad," he says, "they can look in and beg for something of their own." He has a quarter acre garden.

Allen's land was clear-cut in 1955, and the trees on it now are getting pretty large. With thinning, he'd like to let them stand to become old growth. There is also a beaver in the creek on his land. Inventor that he is, Allen has rigged cables and cameras, trying to catch the beaver. So far the beaver has eluded him.

Get Allen talking about "Gifts for Grannies," one of his hobbies. "I'm always looking for ideas to enhance the lives of old folks," he admits. One idea he has is a device that will sense a pot about to boil over or boil dry and alert the cook. Another would be a small recording device that would be like a verbal memo so people with Alzheimer's could remember why they went into the other room.

Allen loves garage sale-ing. This year our VBS program benefitted from Allen's wood-working skills, as he put together planter boxes for all the kids.

Financial Update

With half of the year gone, we have received 49% of amounts pledged for this year. Keep up the good work by please staying current with your pledge! So far this year we are in the black with our operating expenses by \$962. Our biggest expense overrun so far is our church heating bill. We have already spent 109% of what we budgeted, amounting to \$1,631.

Besides the pledges that cover our general funds we have also received special donations for special projects or offerings. Please note that Session is responsible for approving the acceptance of these donations. We received a donation of \$1200 to replace the basement windows. We received a donation to cover the expenses of landscaping maintenance for the year (a little over \$3000). We received a donation of \$500 for a new propane tank (which is not included in the church heating expenses mentioned above). We received a donation for the cost of three units of barkdust (\$735). The online shopping has donated \$340 to our church so far this year. We received \$200 for a new sound system. We received \$370 for Vacation Bible School expenses. We received a gift to cover the cost of an issue of Presbyterian Today for every family in the church (\$58). We have received donations to special offerings of \$797 for One Great Hour of Sharing, (*continued page 7*)

If it sounds like we are a very giving church, it is because we ARE!

LECTIONARY READINGS

Other than celebrating our congregation's birthday, midsummer preaching will ask the question, "What Good Are the Psalms?" The collection of psalms in the middle of the Old Testament is the longest book in the Bible. It's the book people turn to for personal comfort and courage. Every Sunday we read a psalm when we pour the baptismal water at the beginning of the service.

But really—what **good** are they? Lots. After an initial stab at categorizing, we will wonder how to use them in both corporate and personal worship. **For the "sermon" on August 14 when Pastor Eileen is gone, worshipers are invited to share their favorite psalm (and why it holds that place in their mind and heart).**

Children's time this summer will concentrate on stories from one of the first families in the Bible. If you think **your** kids fight a lot, wait until you hear about these kids! If you think car trips in your family were stressful, imagine what this family's life must have been like!

July 17 (Church Birthday) (receive new members, celebrate the Lord's Supper) SURELY THE LORD IS IN THIS PLACE: Genesis 28:10-19a; Genesis 29:15-28

July 24 WHAT GOOD ARE THE PSALMS (psalms of orientation, disorientation, reorientation): Psalms 13, 104, 66; Genesis 32:22-31

July 31 WHAT GOOD ARE THE PSALMS: Psalm 139; Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28

August 7 PASSING ON THE GIFT (the Rev. Ann Richards will share her experiences with Heifer Project)

August 14 WHAT GOOD ARE THE PSALMS (parishioners will be invited to share their favorite psalms in worship)

August 21 WHAT GOOD ARE THE PSALMS (the use of psalms in prayer and liturgy)

August 28 PHARAOH, PHARAOH: Exodus 3:1-15; Exodus 1:8-2:10

September 4 PHARAOH WHO? Exodus 12:1-14; Matthew 18:15-20; Psalm 149



Your works are
wonderful,
I know that
full well.
Psalm 139:14

**Financial Update,
continued**

\$439 to Heifer International, \$100 for Japan relief aid, \$100 for Tornado relief, and \$400 to the Estacada Food Bank (which is addition to the monthly pledge we send out of the general fund of \$225). If it sounds like we are a very giving church, it is because we ARE.

Gwendolyn Shearer, Treasurer



East Sanctuary Window – A Vision!

Over the past 10 months your East Window Discernment Team has been working on a vision for transforming our sanctuary windows into more expressive forms of sacred space. Through this process we've gone from thinking about windows as glass, wood frames and caulking to becoming opportunities for artistically telling stories about our congregation's faith journey. In the next several weeks you will be receiving a detailed description of our current thoughts and we're hoping you'll give us your reactions so we can incorporate them into our report and recommendations to Session at their September meeting.

By way of preview, think about the theme "**Windows of Our Growing Faith**" and how, through artistic expression, it might help inspire us in glorifying God and bringing our hearts to worship.

Discernment Team Members: Margo Maris, Mary Shearer, Deb Odell, Cindy Woodbury, Rick Parfrey

Amazon.com fundraising is exceeding expectations!

Through our church's affiliate membership with Amazon we've been able to raise hundreds of dollars for our ministries. The most recent use of these funds is for the upgrading of our recording system which provides us with the ability to share our worship services with unlimited numbers of people who for reasons of health, scheduling or distance cannot attend church on Sundays. There are many more possibilities available as this special fund increases in size.



HOW CAN WE GROW THIS PROGRAM?

One easy way to continue to build this program is by asking our extended families and friends who shop using Amazon to help us out by accessing it through our website (<http://www.springwater-pres.org>). Once at our home page, all they have to do is click on the Amazon logo at the top left-hand corner and they'll immediately find themselves at the Amazon website. Any purchases automatically triggers Amazon and their participating merchants to contribute anywhere from 4% - 14% of the purchase price to our church!

I sent out an email about this program to a number of my friends and was surprised to receive replies thanking me for telling them about this opportunity. With a couple of keystrokes and a click you can do the same!

If you have any questions please can contact Kathy Scott (503) 630-4739 or myself at (503)638-0109.

Rick Parfrey

Parking at Springwater Church

A brief history of the parking areas for the church and the Grange in Springwater: We used to park in front of the church and Manse, and also on a gravel area just south of the church.

About nine years ago, the church completed a long-range vision plan and contacted the County Planning Department. They really put a crimp in our plan. We were only allowed one access point from Springwater Road and no exit onto Springwater Road.

Joe Guttridge did a lot of research and negotiating with the neighboring property owner on the West and with church and Grange members. Finally, we ended up with the present exit in front of the Grange Hall.

The church did some major renovation of our property, with extensive landscaping and dirt-moving to get our present parking lot and front entry with handicap parking.

The Grange voted to allow us an easement and we have a reciprocal agreement to use each others' parking areas for overflow parking. At about the same time the Grange decided to pave some of the gravel area for ease of maintenance. The church had the handicap parking entrance paved at the same time.

I am proud of the give and take of this cooperation and I hope it lasts a long time.

Wilma Guttridge



We Need A Modern Desktop PC Computer For The Church Office

Do you have a spare PC that you need to get out of the house? We might be able to help you out.

The computer that we currently have in the church office uses Windows 98. It only takes 3.5" floppy disks. The hard-drive is full. Windows 98 was brought out in 1998 and hasn't been for sale for more than 10 years. In other words, it is ancient and getting more tired out every day.

If you are planning to buy a new computer and have a relatively modern PC to get rid of, please think about donating it to Springwater PC. We think we need *at least* Windows XP and the ability to use CDs and USB connectors or higher.

Maybe you can help us out.

Contact Kathy Scott (503.630.4739) if you have what we need.



HOT OFF THE PRESSES!

The complete Common English Bible is in print and available through Amazon.com. Access it through the church website to support Springwater's ministry. Available in soft cover and Kindle formats, CEB is priced affordably. Our congregation was involved in this new translation as readership consultants for the book of Deuteronomy. Now read the whole book and see what the buzz is all about.



*Springwater
Currents*

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