

## February 2008

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## Sunday Worship Hours

Hymn Sing  
9:45am

Worship  
10:00am

Fellowship  
11:15am

Education for  
All Ages  
11:30 - 12:30pm

## February

7	Kathleen Leonard
8	Alder Shibley
12	Don McKinnon
12	Houston Webb
12	Susan Horton
21	Gary Guttridge
21	Scott Clatt
25	David Rigby
28	Bill Varitz



## Special Wednesdays During Lent Soup Supper at 6:00pm, Worship at 6:45pm

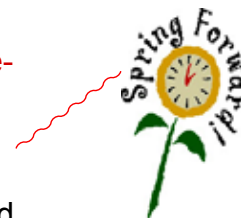
Starting February 6 -- Ash Wednesday -- and continuing through March 19

**Bring the whole family!**

## Dates to Remember In the Life of the Church

February 3 Transfiguration of the Lord  
6 Ash Wednesday  
18 President's Day

March 7 World Day of Prayer  
9 Celebrate the Gifts of Women;  
**Daylight Saving Time be-**  
16 Passion/Palm Sunday  
20 Maunday Thursday  
21 Good Friday  
23 Easter/Resurrection of the Lord



In 2000, we had 9 elders and 9 session committees. In 2007, we had 5 elders and re-organized into three ministry clusters. Lately we've noticed that some things aren't getting done at all, let alone the way we've "always" done them

No matter what is happening in the way we organize ourselves and do the work, God is still active, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ still applies.

## Pastor's Perspective

Every January we are flooded with "state of the" whatever addresses. State of the Union. State of the State. State of the City. Even Springwater did not escape the trend, as I addressed the State of the Church at our annual meeting on January 20.

Quoting church experts Jill Hudson and my church history professor, I said the Church is in Reformation. What is going on in both the culture and in church make "we've always done it this way" a less effective strategy all around.

Indeed, the Springwater congregation in 2008 is different from the congregation to which I was installed in March 2000. Our raw membership number has stayed the same, but significant numbers of members have come and gone, reflecting a trend in churches all around the country. How we "do" church has changed as well. In 2000, we had 9 elders and 9 session committees. In 2007, we had 5 elders and reorganized into three ministry clusters. Lately we've noticed that some things aren't getting done at all, let alone the way we've "always" done them.

### What's up?

Does this mean we're somehow failing as a church? We live in a multi-faith culture. When I was growing up, the streets were deserted Sunday morning at 11:00, because everyone was in church. Now, only 1/3 of the people who claim to believe in God are in church on a regular basis, and "regular" has come to mean "every month or so" instead of "every week." While nearly 80% of Americans claim to believe in God, most do not find it necessary to gather in corporate worship. And more and more Americans do not consider themselves "Christian."

As a congregation, we are changing. The age, abilities and interests of faithful volunteers have changed just since 2000. The Christian nurture needs of our children necessarily change as they mature. Our expectations of church must change, and recognizing this reality, session has been addressing the implications for our congregation.

### What's a Body to do?

Last September, Clerk of Session Don MacKinnon and I attended a presbytery-sponsored Church Transformation conference. The speaker used as his talking points the pastoral evaluation criteria developed by Jill Hudson in her book, When Better Isn't Good Enough. Session and the personnel committee have been studying these criteria and translated them into transformation goals, now under consideration by the 2008 session. Continuing to work with the findings of the April 2007 Ministry and Mission retreat, session is prayerfully discerning "how" to be church here and now.

No matter what is happening in the way we organize ourselves and do the work, God is still active, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ still applies. See you in church.





## Wish List From Annual Meeting

At the annual meeting, we heard about several “big ticket” items. Several people asked that we make these known in case people wanted to donate directly to those needs.

- Painting the manse
- Theological Education Fund
- Funding youth mission trip
- Pews and carpet
- Signage



Do we know what these figures are? Not yet, but we will soon, and we'll let you know.

## Lectionary Readings

**February 3** (Transfiguration Sunday):

Exodus 24:12-18; Matthew 17:1-9; Psalm 2

**February 10** (First Sunday in Lent):

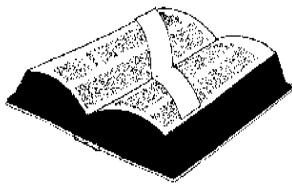
Matthew 5:1-12; Colossians 3:12-14; Psalm 1

**February 17** (Second Sunday in Lent):

Matthew 5:1-12; Isaiah 53:1-3; Psalm 32:1-7, 11

**February 24** (Third Sunday in Lent):

Matthew 5:1-12; Isaiah 61:1-3; Psalm 73:1-3, 23-28



If you noticed a stutter in the lectionary readings, that it looks like the same gospel lesson over and over, you are right. It has been our custom to take one text or story throughout the season of Lent to concentrate on it deeply. This entire liturgical year we are reading from the gospel of Matthew, which contains the Sermon on the Mount. The Beatitudes are an important part of that sermon. Join us throughout February and March on Sundays as we plumb the depths of this important teaching, learning how “blessed” differs from “happy,” and what that means for trying to live like Jesus.

## Usher Training

There will be a quick usher training for all ushers after worship on February 24th. If everyone could be there we could train the new and (not so new) ushers together and all be on the same page, doing the same things needed for worship services. Let me know that you can come. Thanks, Debbie Ingamells

Usher  
Training



Advent begins on Wed, February 5 and continues on to Easter

## Mid Week Services

We are offering a soup supper and time of learning and worship on Wednesdays during Lent. Supper is at 6:00, followed by learning and worship at 6:45. "Why so early?" you may be asking. Good question. This will be appropriate for children. It will also be appropriate for adults. Tired of eating alone? Too tired to cook? Still curious about this teaching of Jesus that is supposed to shape Christian living? Come on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

Ash Wednesday (February 5), after supper will be a service that includes the imposition of ashes. The following Wednesdays will expand on the Sunday texts.

## Library Books



Have you enjoyed reading the books set out in fellowship hall? Are you done with them? Please bring them back so others can enjoy them. Most of the books are Pastor Eileen's personal books and do not belong to the church. Chances are, if you've enjoyed a book, someone else would like to enjoy it, too. And maybe Pastor Eileen could use the book herself!

Please return the books in a timely way.

## Peace

Hunger and poverty are both the result of warfare and the cause of conflict. Heifer International is a champion of peace. They work with communities to help them recover in the aftermath of conflict, while actively pursuing ways to prevent violence from occurring in other communities.

Heifer works to end world hunger and save the earth by providing livestock, trees, training and other resources to help poor families around the globe become self-reliant. Last year they assisted more than 140,000 families with their development model that includes gifts of animals and trees, training and passing on the gift. Members from an additional 200,000 families received special training in sustainable farming techniques.

You can help. There are order forms from the Most Important Gift Catalog in the World posted on the bulletin board in Fellowship Hall.

Join the effort.

Talk to Lloyd Olson



## Poverty

Being poor in the Estacada area means having less money than it takes to feed, house, clothe, and provide health care and other basic needs for yourself or your family. It hurts.

You can't tell those who are hungry by their looks. They look like us. We can help, guided by the words throughout the Bible about feeding the hungry. Bring food to the Red Box in the church each Sunday, and it will go to the Estacada Area Food Bank on Tuesday.

You are needed.



## What is Session doing?

Session will meet for planning on February 2nd with the two new members who were elected at the Annual Meeting in January.

The full Session will consist of Don MacKinnon, Clerk of Session, Peter Sturman, Kevin Kirby, Bob Wilson, Renate Jeppeson, Kathy Scott and Mary Johnson. Eileen Parfrey is the Moderator. Mary Johnson is a new elder and will take the vows of ordination before she is installed.

Session will continue trying hard to carry on the work of the church by continuing to foster the growth of faith in each one of us. Please keep the Session in your thoughts and prayers as they look for new ways to be the church as well as discerning which of our traditional ways of being church are still working to meet the needs of the congregation.



**Session Meeting**

## 2008 Quilt Show

Debbie Ingamells is going to make a quilted wall hanging for the church that is similar to our beautiful window. She plans to include bits of cloth from the congregation. The fabric must be a piece of cotton from a used article of clothing, or new from a store from everyone to make the pieces.

She needs white or off white with stripes, or small print. Then, like the window, she needs blues, yellows and a tiny bit of purple. The pieces will be small, no bigger than 6 inches by 12 inches so small bits will work. Debbie needs to start collecting the pieces now to make the quilt by our quilt show in September. Everyone who contributes will have their name added to the back of the quilt for posterity! Thanks for your help. Talk to Debbie if you have questions.



The pew committee, consisting of Gilbert Shibley, Debbie Ingamells and Dick Scott has done considerable research on the

question of refurbishing our existing pews, obtaining used pews for

replacements and buying new pews. Fixing up our existing pews would cost close to \$4,000 and could go much higher.

The cost of used pews would vary greatly in price depending on how much work would be required to fit our size and style needs and how much sprucing up they might need. Asking prices for used pews can range from free (a very good price) to \$200 and up per pew. Prices seem to be very soft as churches generally have no place to store old pews once new ones are installed. Used pews needing a lot of work could be just as expensive as new pews. Most used pews available are in a Danish modern style and usually in a blond color and if we prefer a darker color it will just take longer to find what we want. New ends are all that is needed to change the style and they can be had for about \$150 each, or \$300 per pew depending on the chosen style. Manufacturers have assured us that shortening pews and changing ends is easy to do and we could do it ourselves. Refinishing and upholstery work on the other hand is very expensive.

Quotes on new pews ran \$10,000-\$14,000.

We considered replacing pews with chairs or having a combination of pews and chairs. We concluded that chairs provide a fixed number of seats, while with our existing pews we have seen as few as 6 or 7 large people filling up a pew and as many as 9 or 10 children in another pew. Thus pews give us more seating in a given space. In addition, we found no chairs of a style that would go with pews we might consider.

We have no money in the budget for replacing the pews. Raising the money will be the critical issue. We are open to ideas on how to raise the money.

Session is scheduled to discuss pews at their planning meeting on February 2. Other questions the pew committee will discuss with session will be whether the pulpit should be moved for better visibility and whether to replace the carpet. These questions came up as we were looking at the seating question.

## 2008 Session

### Moderator:

Eileen Parfrey

### Session:

Don MacKinnon  
Kevin Kirby  
Peter Sturman  
Robert Wilson  
Renate Jeppeson  
Kathy Scott  
Mary Johnson

### Other leaders not serving on Session:

Debbie Ingamells-Worship  
Susan Horton-Deaconate  
Gwen Shearer-Treasurer  
Carol Sturman-Sabbatical

Please keep all our leaders in your prayers!

## Thank You

Thank you to all our friends and church neighbors who were so supportive of our family when Kathy's Mother died. We deeply appreciated the cards, calls and flowers as well as those who attended the memorial service.

Your support has been very healing for us.

*Kathy Scott*

*Dick Scott*



## 2007 Springwater Presbyterian Church Financial Report

This financial report was given at the Annual Meeting on January 20th. This represents the state of our finances as of 12-31-2007

Please say thank you to **Gwen Shearer**, our church treasurer and to **Jean cCloskey** who pays all the bills.

### 2008

As in other years, Session chose to use the Consecration Stewardship program to raise the money for the 2008 budget.

The **Rev. Jim Belt** served as the visiting pastor and guide for the Consecration program. Jim is currently undergoing treatment for cancer.

Please remember him in your prayers

Income for the General Fund exceeded expenses for 2007 by \$1,648.01. 95% of donations pledged for 2007 were received, but because of other income sources, we achieved 98% of our budgeted income.

Our total General Fund income came to \$87,153.03. Total operating expenses came to \$73,755.22, which was 95% of what was budgeted.

Our mission giving from the General Fund was 102% of what was budgeted, amounting to \$11,749.80.

Total General Fund expenses were \$85,505.02. The two Silent Auctions that we did this year resulted in \$2,123 of income under our Supplemental Budget. We used this money to donate 1% of our Operating Expenses to the Theological Education Fund (\$773) and \$1,350 was placed in a Mission Trip Fund.

Special offerings for 2007 amounted to \$517.50 to the Estacada Food Bank (this is over the amount of \$2,700 from General Funds), \$484.88 to Heifer Project International, \$1,044.80 to One Great Hour of Sharing, \$689.79 to the Peace Offering, \$370 to the Christmas Joy Offering, \$155 to the Christmas Families, and \$105 to an Hispanic Family.

At the end of 2007 the Capital Improvement Fund has \$9,279.52, of which \$5,940.52 is designated to finish our outdoor area. We had donations of \$60 in 2007 and spent \$1,813.27 for plants, the Children's Play area, and landscaping out of this fund.

The Unusual Maintenance Fund has \$3,067, which will be combined with the Endowment interest for 2005 of \$1,554.57 and used for a new furnace.

The Jim Kramer memorial has \$650, which when combined with the Endowment interest for 2006, will be used for steps going from the parking lot to the fellowship lawn and some additional gravel paths.

The Good Samaritan Fund has \$90.04.

The Elwin Shibley and Lillian Fisher Memorial Fund has \$1,738.14

The Youth Mission Fund has \$190 and the Youth Play Fund has \$173.79, both resulting from the wreath sales.

The Contingency Fund has \$2,890.08.

The Manse Rental income that exceeded what we budgeted was put into the Contingency Fund.

Pet and security deposits for the manse are a total of \$700, and a manse lease's last month's rent is \$875.

Total dollars flowing through the church this year from all funds was about \$95,000.

As of 12/31/07 we had \$7,209 in our checking account and \$15,597.58 invested in Columbia Funds.

If you have questions or ideas for fundraising, please contact Gwen Shearer.

## Mid Week Services For Lent

We are offering a soup supper and time of learning and worship on Wednesdays during Lent. Supper is at 6:00, followed by learning and worship at 6:45. "Why so early?" you may be asking yourself. Good question. **This will be appropriate for children.** It will also be appropriate for adults. Tired of eating alone? Too tired to cook? Still curious about this teaching of Jesus that is supposed to shape Christian living? Come on Wednesday evenings during Lent.

Ash Wednesday (February 5), after supper will be a service that includes the imposition of ashes. The following Wednesdays will expand on the Sunday texts.

Contact Barbara MacKinnon to help with set up, clean up, providing food. (503/631-7834).

Springwater Presbyterian Church

Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 1017

Estacada, Oregon 97023

Location:

24553 S. Springwater Rd.

Estacada, Oregon 97023

Forward & Address Correction