

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

April 2010

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April Birthdays

| | |
|------------------------|-------------|
| Mary Johnson | 4/01 |
| Lynne Deshler | 4/04 |
| Gilbert Shibley | 4/05 |
| Kayla Hauck | 4/05 |
| Robin Fisher | 4/05 |
| Ellen Ingamells | 4/06 |
| Judy Coyne | 4/07 |
| Rick Parfrey | 4/17 |
| Eileen Parfrey | 4/18 |
| Joss Kirby | 4/26 |

Anniversaries

| | |
|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Mary & Randy Johnson | 4/17 |
| Peter & Carol Sturman | 4/24 |



Sunday Schedule

9:30 AM Sunday School
for all ages

10:30 AM Worship

11:45 Fellowship

Deadline for next
newsletter:

April 26



Church Events and important dates

April 1: Maundy Thursday service with communion 7 p.m.

April 4: Easter Sunday: breakfast 9-10 a.m., worship 10:30.

April 7: Fill the Well, an evening of art and spirituality with Melanie Weidner, 7 p.m., see article page 4

April 13: Fill the Well, an evening of art and spirituality with Melanie Weidner, 7 p.m.

April 22: Earth Day

April 30-May 1: confirmation class overnight retreat at the church



When I first got to Springwater, we parked nose-in to the building and left worship by backing straight out into Springwater

they were to live as if **God was using everything-fallen-apart to give them new life.**

PASTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

I'm told that the older one gets, the faster time flies. It will come as no surprise to you, then, that I am absolutely amazed that I've been your pastor **ten years already!**

Things Have Changed

The ten years have been full, and full of changes. When I first got to Springwater, we parked nose-in to the building and left worship by backing straight out into Springwater Road. During worship, our view was of an overgrown Christmas tree field. We sat on pews that creaked from 100-plus years of use. Sunday School (for children only) was during the last half of worship. Someone else's youth group had to come and lead our Vacation Church School.

But Not Everything

But much has stayed the same. The women's Bible study continues. We still love to sing together. We remain committed to serving Estacada's hungry people. We treasure the gifts of older members, while embracing the energy our children bring us. We honor our history while embracing the insights and adventures newer members offer.

When I first considered the call to Springwater, I was drawn by the congregation's respect for its architectural treasure. It contrasted with its cutting edge presence on the internet—"website" I think it was called. The interest in mission was personified by former missionaries to Iran. Local mission was expressed with hands-on involvement at a food bank.

Now What?

Landmark anniversaries seem to draw out the nostalgic. The prophet Isaiah says, "Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old." This is an odd thing to tell a people who had been warned from the beginning of their covenant relationship with God to "remember."

Isaiah doesn't mean "Don't ever think about the past." He was addressing a nation in exile, one whose way of life had been disrupted. Now they were told to let go of "remember," to forget the things that had once shaped their lives. Told to focus on that "new thing" God was doing with and for them, they were to live as if **God was using everything-fallen-apart to give them new life.**

It reminds me of a story we tell this time of year.

Easter's Promise

Lent focuses on repentance. A blog I ran across cautioned that "Repent is not the same as regret." We may have regrets about our ten years together. We may regret positions taken that we no longer hold. We may regret we didn't try more new things or let go of old things. We may regret not letting God take a more active role in transforming our life together.

God is, indeed,
doing a new
thing. Even
with us.

But that's not the same as "repent."

"Repent" means to allow God to change, grow, transform us. As we pass this landmark anniversary, let us embrace the Easter promise that God is, indeed, doing a new thing. Even with us. I believe it's called "salvation," which Richard Rohr defines as **"God expanding our freedom to love."**

See you in church.

LECTIONARY READINGS

April 4 (Resurrection Sunday) (GLORY, GLORY, HALLELUJAH!): Isaiah 65:17-25; Luke 24:1-12; Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

April 11 (THE KINGDOM AND THE GLORY): Acts 5:27-32; Revelation 1:4-8; Psalm 118:14-29

April 18 (The Rev. David Crow, guest preacher): Acts 9:1-6 (7-20): Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19; Psalm 30

April 25 (THE POINT OF WORSHIP): Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30; Psalm 23

May 2 (AT HOME IN GLORY): Revelation 21:1-6a; John 13:31-35; Psalm 148



Easter Flowers

It is our custom to fill the sanctuary with flowers on Easter Sunday. If you would like to share flowers with the congregation, please bring yellow or yellow and white tulips, daffodils, and jonquils in clear glass vases (or canning jars!).

Search New and Used
amazon.com.

Look for this logo
on Springwater's
website.

Want to get great shopping deals while donating to our church at the same time? It's easy and convenient, so read on!

Have you checked out Springwater's website at www.springwater-pres.org lately? If you have you'll know we now have a direct link to Amazon.com which, when coupled with our other on-line shopping mall iGive.com, provides you with access to 75 specific categories of necessities and niceties offered by over 1000 merchants! iGive.com sellers provide sales and great coupon offers on selected products and services and you'll find Amazon.com merchants offer pricing that is compatible with most discount stores.

By shopping through either of these on-line malls our church receives up to 15% of the total purchase amount and if you choose, iGive.com mall purchases can be designated as tax-deductible during your sign-up process.

If you're not familiar with using on-line malls Kathy Scott (503-630-4739) and Rick Parfrey (503-638-0109) are both eager to help you begin, so give either of them a call today to get started in a new way to support the ministries of our church while enjoying a thrifty and convenient way of shopping.

LAST CHANCE TO MEET ARTIST

As the final piece of continuing our sabbatical experience from the Lilly Foundation grant to Pastor Eileen, we have two more opportunities to be blessed by the spiritual leadership of artist Melanie Weidner. Melanie will lead workshops at the church on April 6 and April 13 at 7 p.m. She has led us in six previous sessions, journeying deeper in our relationship with God through art.

This is a workshop Melanie has led literally all over the country, and she calls it "Fill the Well." Because of the generosity of the Lilly grant, we have been able to offer this \$40 per session experience to you without charge, but this spends down the Lilly grant, and to cover the final costs for Melanie, we will need to charge you \$25 for the two events. Carol Sturman is acting as registrar for this. Please make your check to her.

You do not need to be an artist to participate in this, nor do you need to have attended previously. Come and be blessed.

Battery Recycling still available

The Springwater Green Team would like to remind you that battery recycling and CFL bulb recycling are still available in the fellowship hall. Look for the bucket labeled "battery recycling".





Deacon Report

On March 14th, our congregation celebrated the 10th anniversary of Pastor Eileen's installation as a minister of Word & Sacrament here at Springwater.

It was a poignant celebration as we realized that the congregation has had a 50% turnover since 2000 when Eileen first arrived. Much of that change has simply been because all of us are 10 years older and that is what happens. The rest of the turnover comes from members who have moved away because of retirement or a change in employment or other changes of circumstance.

We have also had new people come to worship and stay to become members. Our membership numbers have stayed pretty much the same for the last 10 years. This is just a reflection of life in general, members come and we welcome them into our congregation and others move on to other things and we say a fond farewell.

I guess the point of this is that change is normal and to be expected. Right now, our congregation consists of people in all stages of life, from young children and families to oldsters at the other end of the continuum.

We have so much to offer to others: Several choices of Christian Education classes, special Lenten services until Easter, Women's Bible Study, A lifestyle group that is working on sensible eating, great sermons and comfortable worship. So, be eager to welcome all newcomers and help them feel comfortable in our midst because they are the people who will stay and become a part of our congregation. Don't know what to say? Here's a little guide:

Shake their hands and introduce yourself

- Ask them questions: What are their names, do they live nearby, what brought them to church?
- Make them a name tag. Make sure you can remember their names and introduce them to others who are nearby.
- Sit next to them and help them with the bulletin and finding music in our many books.
- Be sure that they meet the pastor.
- Ask them to fill out the attendance sheet with address, phone & email.
- Be sure that a deacon gets the information so they can call them in a couple of days to invite them back.
- Invite them into the fellowship room for refreshments, introduce them to others.
- Going out to lunch? Having lunch at home? Ask them to join you.

These are all simple things and you can do them. Make the effort, you just might find a new friend.

Call a deacon if you want to know more:

Mary Shearer: 503.631.8759 | Carol Sturman: 503.631.8258

Mary Johnson: 503.630.3657 | Kathy Scott: 503.630.4739

...be eager to welcome all newcomers and help them feel comfortable in our midst because they are the people who will stay and become a part of our congregation.

Session Is

Clerk:
Cindy Woodbury
Worship:
Don MacKinnon
Christian Education:
Peter Sturman,
Cindy Babikoff
Endowment:
Wilma Guttridge
Personnel:
Kathy Scott
Deacon Moderator:
Kathy Scott
Buildings &
Grounds:
Wilma Guttridge

LAST SESSION MEETING

At our meeting on March 4, session welcomed Cindy Woodbury as the new Clerk of Session. Following worship, Pastor Eileen shared the trends she saw emerging as a result of the joint planning retreat with the Deacons:

- A desire to simplify how we “do” church
- A desire to grow intentionally in faith (Bible study, learning how to pray)
- A desire for better communications between session and the congregation

Actions taken:

- Approved dates for communion and special services in 2010
- Bibles to be presented to 4th graders this year (on June 6) will be NRSV
- Referred a report from Dick Scott to the Buildings and Grounds committee
- Developed a plan to ready the manse for rental
- Elders signed sexual misconduct prevention policy
- Referred consideration of wheelchair access between the Grange field and worship area to B&G
- Authorized deacons to be lead servers for communion at Sunday worship

Humor



More Church Bulletin Blunders

- a warning to editors to get their work checked and double checked!

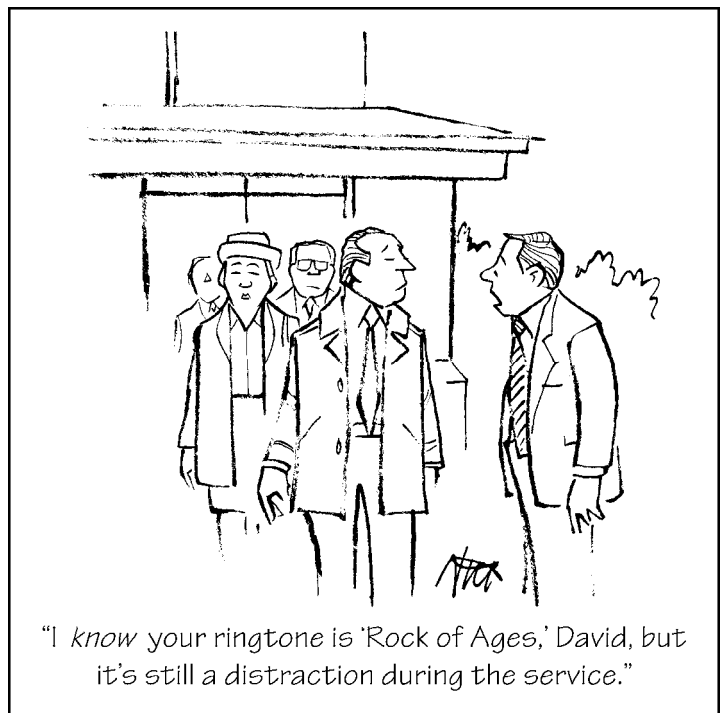
The Outreach committee has enlisted 25 visitors to make calls on people who are not afflicted with any church.

Evening massage - 6:00 p.m.

The audience was asked to remain seated until the end of the recession.

Ushers will eat latecomers.

The third verse of Blessed Assurance will be sung without musical accomplishment.



A colorful CROSS

Create a beautiful decoration for your window this Easter. It will remind you that Jesus rose from the dead to save you from your sins.

What you need:

- 8½" x 11" sheet of paper
- Pencil
- Clear transparency sheet (or clear report cover)
- Permanent marker
- Scissors
- Colored tissue paper
- Paintbrush
- Glue
- Scotch tape

What you do:

1. Draw a large cross that takes up most of the paper.
2. Put the transparency over the paper and trace the cross onto it with a permanent marker.
3. Cut the colored tissue paper into 1" x 1" squares.
4. Using a paintbrush, spread glue onto the tissue paper squares and then place them on the cross. (Add a few drops of water to the white glue to make it more spreadable.)
5. After the glue is dry, cut out the cross. Then tape it in a window and enjoy the beautiful colors.

SYMBOL OF SACRIFICE

At this time of the year, we see many crosses draped in purple, black or white cloth. They remind us of the loving sacrifice Jesus made for us – and that he rose again.

Use the code in the big cross to complete 1 Corinthians 15:3-4, NIV.

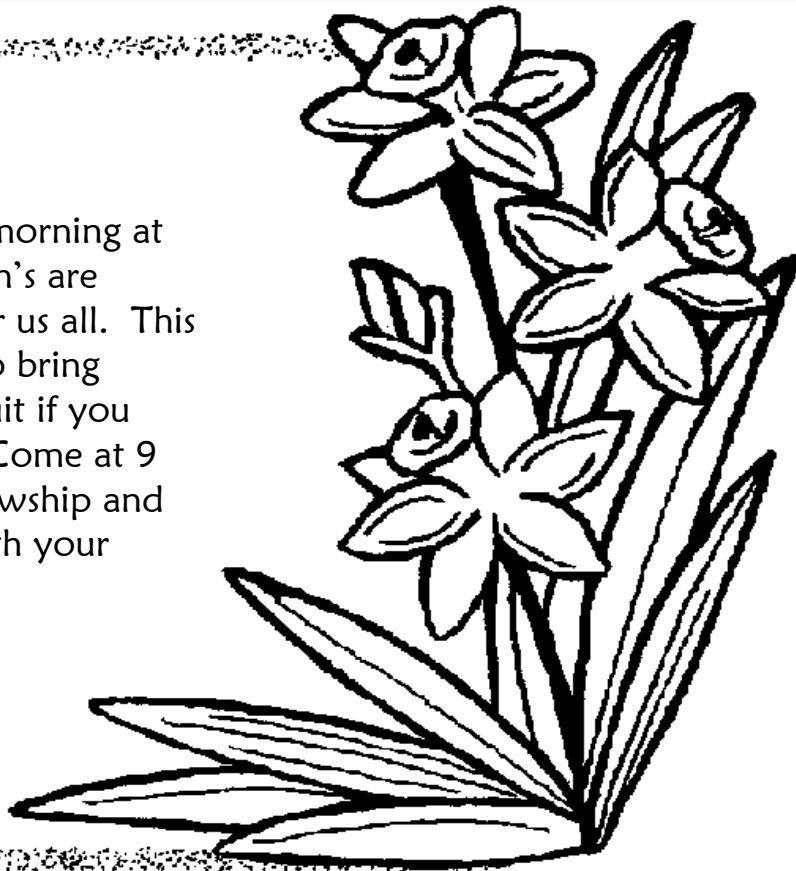
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“ i o u i a u i a i o i a ”

Answer: Christ died for our sins ... he was buried ... he was raised on the third day.

Easter Breakfast

Join us for breakfast Easter morning at the Grange. The MacKinnon's are making Presbyterian eggs for us all. This is not a potluck. Feel free to bring sweet breads, muffins, or fruit if you like, but it's not necessary. Come at 9 a.m. to share food and fellowship and celebrate the risen Christ with your neighbors and friends.



*Springwater
Currents*

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