

First, Phoenix and Cycle Oregon



Members of First, Phoenix and the community hard at work preparing lunches for hundreds of cyclists riding through town.

By Michael Foster, pastor at First, Phoenix

Cycle Oregon rode through Southern Oregon and Northern California during the week of September 12 through 18, 2009. There were approximately 2,400 bicycle riders. The ride began and ended in Medford, passing through Phoenix on the first day of the ride.

First Presbyterian Church, Phoenix (FPC), upon the suggestion of the Phoenix Chamber of Commerce, was approached by OK'S Cascade Company of Snohomish, Washington, the catering company that has worked with Cycle Oregon for 25 years, as a possible site to be used for the preparation of lunches for the Cycle Oregon riders. After careful and prayerful consideration, the church officers accepted the challenge of providing space and volunteers to work with the catering company. The company offered a substantial fee for use of FPC facilities and volunteers, and so this project became a fund-raiser for the church. At the very time that FPC was conducting congregational meetings to discuss the very serious financial concerns it is facing, this project was a wonderful response to their prayers.

Beginning Saturday, September 12, volunteers through First, Phoenix gathered in the fellowship hall to assemble, wrap, and box sandwiches for the 2,400 riders plus accompanying support staff. With the help (and valuable guidance) of the OK'S Cascade's employees, they separated the meat and cheese, chopped lettuce, spread hummus and spooned salad into individual sized containers (counting and boxing more than 2,400 salads); this was the routine each day until they joyfully finished up Thursday afternoon, September 17.

At the completion of work each day, the food and supplies left over were taken to InterFaith Care Community/CERVS of Medford to be shared with those residing in the Veterans Housing project and with those persons needing the additional food. Pallets and car-loads were delivered and appreciatively distributed.

(Continued on page 11)

In this issue...

Viewpoints	p. 3
Positively Presbyterian	p. 4
Transitions	p. 5
Home for Thanksgiving	p. 6
Prayer Calendar	p. 7
Celebration Works	p. 8
Creation Care Fellowship	p. 9
Because of Camp	p. 10
Christmas Concerts	p. 11
Presbytery Highlights	p. 12

2010 Deadlines

January 11	Feb/Mar Issue
March 15	Apr/May Issue
May 17	Jun/Jul Issue
July 12	Aug/Sept Issue
September 13	Oct/Nov Issue
November 15	Dec/Jan Issue

Open Position

STATED CLERK: The Presbytery of the Cascades has begun a search for its next stated clerk. This is a ¾ time position, working as a team member with the three co-executives. Applicant must be an ordained elder or minister in the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.).

The position description is available at www.cascadespresbytery.org. Send letter of application with a resume, including contact information for three references, to Cascades Presbytery South Office, PO Box 1145 Phoenix, OR 97535-1145, or by FAX to 541-535-7585 or by email to jalpine@cascadespresbytery.org. Deadline is January 1, 2010. For more information, contact Dwayne Brown, chair, at 541-673-5559 or dwayne@fpcrose.org.

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John Calvin (aka The Reverend Brad Kent HR), visits Presbytery. Dr. Calvin addressed the presbytery on basic points of Reformed theology and commented on the events of the Reformed church during the 500 years since his birth. Kent has been dramatizing the wisdom and wit of Calvin for the last year at some 14 other events. At each event he has offered a different message. In honor of Calvin's 500th Birthday, this issue will offer quotes throughout its pages. The quotes were taken from *The Westminster Collection of Christian Quotations*.

Presbytery of the Cascades

MEDIA RESOURCE CENTER

The Media Resource Center is located in Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, 5441 SE Belmont, Portland.

Although the Center is usually only staffed on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons, you can visit most anytime. Ask someone in the front office to let you in and use the handy clipboard to check out items. You can also reserve videos by phoning 503-445-4999 or 866-200-5660; or by linking through the presbytery website, www.cascadespresbytery.org.



Seven Step Study by Rev. Jacob Chang Kim of Cascades Presbytery. This unique book has 50 different Bible stories with the translation in both Korean and English side by side. These texts will help children or adults learn both languages and to become more familiar with the Bible. Various activities such as coloring and practice dialogues are included. (162 pages)

Christmas and Advent resources: Go to the Center's home page and type in either of these seasons of the Church in the subject area. (Under combo search) About 45 items will come up in each category.

Renovaré is a nonprofit organization that advocates, encourages, and resources intentional living and spiritual formation. Drawing from the example of Jesus Christ and the historical Church, Renovaré encourages people to develop renewed, sustainable, and enriched spiritual lives. The Resource Center has purchased all four kits published by this organization. This video series gives groups a deeper look into some of their key books, offering study guides and questions, and video interviews with the authors themselves. By visiting the website (www.renovare.us) you can learn more about Streams of Living Water (featuring Richard J. Foster, Dallas Willard, John Ortberg, Jack Hayford, and others from the Renovaré Ministry Team), Celebration of Discipline (featuring Richard Foster), Renovation of the Heart (with Dallas Willard), and God Views (by Curt Cloninger). They are each 12 or 13 sessions long.

New books obtained from the Alban Institute

Know and Be Known: Small Groups That Nourish and Connect, by Brooke B. Colli-sona. The author addresses the importance of "intentionality about relationships" as the dynamic of small groups within a congregation. The book is clearly written with practical approaches and examples of personal experiences. It is based on a deep understanding of how groups work and their potential for experimental learning. A resource for both new and experienced leaders. (121 pgs)

With All Thy Mind, Worship that Honors the Way God Made Us, by Robert P. Glick. One of the books in the "Vital Worship, Healthy Congregations Series", which is designed to "promote worship that is both relevant and profound." This fifth volume looks at the people who gather for worship and how to encourage them to participate in the service in knowing and engaged ways. The author works from a right-brain/left-brain approach to see how recognizing the differences in "how we are wired" can enrich our appreciation and love for each other.

Starting Simple, Conversations About the Way We Live, by Bob Sitze. A practical approach for going against the mainstream of American consumerism (too much, too fast, too many) in order to simplify our lives so that we can "live joyfully and justly without destroying ourselves and the planet." This book can be helpful to congregations in learning what the Scriptures have to say about living a godly life, finding ways to repent of the ways of a current life style, gather the courage to change, and listen more respectfully to the struggles of others. (192 pgs)

The Grace of It All, Reflections on the Art of Ministry by Dean Lueking. Speaking from the perspective of a pastor who has been in the ministry 50 years, of which 44 are with the same congregation, Dean shares his stories and perspectives of what is important in the calling God has given him. He cites the significance of Ephesians 4:11-13 which he feels "joins the ordained ministry inseparably with the daily ministry of God's people in the world." It has given him his "identity and daily purpose as a pastor." (152 pgs)

Exhibition of the Kingdom of Heaven to the World, by Darrell Guder. This is the fourth in a series of books on *The Great Ends of the Church* as found in the Book of Order. It presents a study of the sixth Great End which in itself is the goal (telos) of the first five. Its premise is that the Kingdom is a gift of grace that flows through our hearts and souls to reach out to the world to manifest or reflect Christ's presence in the world. (73 pgs)

To All the Children of Abraham: A Call for Peace in the Middle East, by Church & Society magazine: This periodical contains articles written by several authors on "Visions for Peace in Israel and Palestine," "Humanitarian Law," "Israel/Lebanon/Hezbollah," and "Gaza." The final entry allows for "Analysis and Reflection". (160 pgs)

How Your Church Family Works, Understanding Congregations as Emotional Systems, by Peter Steinke. The author draws on the work of Bowen and Friedman, and on his own many years of counseling experience to show how to recognize and deal with the emotional roots of such issues as church conflict, leadership roles, congregational change, irresponsible behavior, and the effects of family of origin on current relationships. (146 pgs)

Healthy Congregations, a Systems Approach, by Peter Steinke. This companion book to *How Your Church Family Works* is a deeper exploration of congregations as emotional systems. The author addresses factors that put congregations at risk for anxiety and conflict, ten principles of health, how congregations can adopt new ways of dealing with stress and anxiety, and how spiritually and emotionally healthy leaders influence the emotional system. (125 pgs)

I wish you a meaningful and blessed holiday season!

Warm regards, Maureen O'Rourke

Omnibus



Omnibus is published six times a year by the Presbytery of the Cascades for distribution to churches and individuals.

Information about the Presbytery is also available on the web site: www.cascadespresbytery.org.

Omnibus welcomes news and views of all the churches of Presbytery

and all its readers. Send all communications to Kathy Waugh, Omnibus editor, 85 South Holly, Medford, OR 97501, tel. 541-772-4874, email omnibus@cascadespresbytery.org.

Omnibus retains permission to modify submissions for clarity and space limitations. The Presbytery Communications Team is the editorial board.

Circuit Rider on the Web

Take a look at Circuit Rider's new web site (www.circuitriderbooks.org). The first phase is now up and running. Additional content, especially for event organizers, will be coming quickly now. Buyer's Pick's will be updated monthly. We are planning for online shopping by January.

A monthly e-newsletter will be added beginning around December 1, 2009, which will go to all customers for whom we have e-mail addresses. It will also be sent to churches and pastors in Cascades Presbytery.

News Briefs



St. Mark, Portland offers the second annual Alternative Gift Guide, created by the church, as a way to encourage people to think about holiday giving (and receiving) from a more universal perspective. Find it on the church website, http://stmarkpres.org/?page_id=868.



Service of the Longest Night, a time of healing for those who have experienced a loss this year, will be on Monday, December 21 at 7:00 pm at **Bethany**, Portland. More information from 503-645 1366.



The Annual Interim Pastors' Retreat has been sponsored by pastors in San Francisco for the past seven years. Plan ahead for this year' retreat, May 26-28. For more information contact George Gilchrist at 510-207-6972 or send e-mail to, Geogilch@aol.com.



"Green and Fair Holiday Celebration" - Join Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's (EMO) Oregon Interfaith Power & Light (OIPL) Thursday, Dec. 10, 5 to 8 p.m. First United Methodist Church, Collins Hall, 1838 SW Jefferson, Portland. The event features local snacks, fair trade coffee, hot chocolate and handicrafts from artisan cooperatives in India. Learn about exciting new OIPL initiatives for 2010 and listen to stories of people in your community of faith making a difference for the Earth. Share with others and get inspired for a season of giving. Fair trade items will be available to purchase for holiday giving through AWAZ Voice for Empowerment, a local effort that supports livelihood development for women and low income individuals in India.



Cascades Viewpoints

By John Huenink

"I'm proud of my presbytery!" – it is with that phrase that for the past several years I have concluded Clerk Report II (considered by some as the highlight of every stated meeting, not because it is so good, but because it is the last item on the docket before the closing service of worship). I mean it; I am proud of my presbytery! Of course, it is not my presbytery, it belongs to us all and to God and to Christ's worldwide family of faith ... but since it has been my ecclesiastical home of membership since 1974, I hope you will indulge me.

Through my years as a minister-member of Cascades, I have had opportunity to view my presbytery from within and from without. I have known all of Cascades' professional staff since 1974 and observed all of its transitions of staffing and staffing models. I have in recent years viewed Cascades from the perspective of the clerk's table at meetings and the clerk's office through the weeks. I have also had perspectives from the podium either in presiding or in presenting reports on behalf of the variety of committees on which I have served through the years. I have also viewed Cascades from the perspectives of other governing bodies, particularly our Synod of the Pacific and more recently from the viewpoints of the national church.

I am proud of my presbytery for what it is (and visitors to our meetings always express both pleasure and some degree of amazement at how we do things as efficiently and without rancor as we ordinarily do). I am proud also of what my presbytery does (and tries to do). Not everything Cascades attempts is successful, but we keep on trying to do what we understand is God's will for us. So should we all in our lives! We are mostly successful, and certainly successful when compared to those who never even try.

Ever since Cascades began, it has been a programmatic presbytery. The range and diversity of its programs is significant and has been envied by many from afar. It has not been easy or inexpensive, but expectations have been set high and been met and we are the beneficiaries of the energies and efforts and vision of those who are our predecessors in Cascades' life and ministries.

I have anxieties for my presbytery also. I know that the economy is causing stress for all of Cascades' congregations. Available funds seem now insufficient for Cascades to



Stated Clerk John Huenink shows Presbyterian Women Honorary Life Membership presented to him by Cascades PW Moderator Marsha Landrith

continue all that has been in the ways that it used to be. Some programs and projects may need to be replaced by new models. It has always been that way, but in the presbytery – just as in local congregations – it is usually more difficult to give up something than it is to begin something new. The sad part of the financial reality is that discontinued programs are difficult to revive and staff reductions are expensive to reverse. Cascades has grown so accustomed to so much of such quality that I fear that any diminution – however necessary – may be perceived as failure, and Cascades is not accustomed to failing!

It would be too facile to suggest that increased financial contributions to the presbytery will solve all problems. They will help, certainly, but what will help even more would be if all who are the Presbyterians within the presbytery came to under-

stand what are Cascades' ministries and missions and chose to contribute of energy and intelligence and imagination and love and financial support for the congregations which constitute the presbytery and to the presbytery itself in its special work to support congregations and professionals and ministries beyond the capacities of individual churches and the relationships we share with each other and our sisters and brothers in Christ in other church traditions wherever they may be.

This will be my last Viewpoints article in OMNIBUS as Cascades' Stated Clerk, for the next time that the rotation of opportunity to do so will come to the stated clerk will be next summer and it will be a new stated clerk who will write in this venue. It is my hope that he or she will always be as proud of Cascades as I am and as I have been and as I expect to continue to be.



Ask the Clerk

Q: Is there a difference between a Remedial Case and a Disciplinary Case?

A: There is, and the difference is substantial, with each type of case having specific rules and timelines for process contained in The Rules of Discipline of the PCUSA Constitution.

A Remedial Case (D-6) is one in which a complaint is filed with the stated clerk of the governing body having jurisdiction alleging an irregularity or delinquency in a particular decision or action made by a governing body. In other words, the complaint alleges that a governing body (session, presbytery, synod, or General Assembly) erred in making a decision or taking an action it ought not

to have made or taken or that a governing body failed to make a decision or take an action which it ought to have made or taken. The complaint of irregularity or delinquency "may be filed by one or more persons or governing bodies subject to and submitting to the jurisdiction of a governing body". Provisions are made for suspending a decision or action by a "stay of enforcement" until a complaint or appeal is finally determined.

A Disciplinary Case (D-10) is one in which an accusation of offense *contrary to Holy Scripture and the Constitution of the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)* is filed with the clerk of session or stated clerk of the governing body having jurisdiction over the individual against whom the accusation is made. An accusation may be filed by one person under jurisdiction of the PCUSA against another, by a member of a governing body "receiving information from any source that an offense may have occurred which should be investigated for the purpose of discipline", or a person under jurisdiction of a governing body in self-accusation. The accusation is to include a clear narrative and allege facts that, if proven true, would likely result in disciplinary action. Allegations

received by a clerk of session or stated clerk are to be referred "without undertaking further inquiry" to the governing body of jurisdiction, which shall refer the matter to an investigating committee (an ecclesiastical body somewhat analogous to a grand jury in secular process). If, after "thorough inquiry," the investigating committee determines that there are probable grounds or cause to believe that an offense was committed by the individual, it shall file charges which it shall then prosecute before the session of a church member's congregation of membership or before the Permanent Judicial Commission of the presbytery of a minister's membership. If the investigating committee determines that probable grounds or cause are insufficient or cannot reasonably be proved, it shall report that no charges will be filed and the matter will be concluded.

In both Remedial and Disciplinary cases, it is to be remembered that the purpose of ecclesiastical discipline is to be implemented within the context of pastoral care and oversight. Its intent is not that of punishment, but of corrective action, repentance, and restoration. (Read the principles of church discipline in D-1.0101).

Positively Presbyterian

South Region

By Ann Moore

First, Phoenix members prepared six days worth of lunches for 2,200 riders plus support team for Cycle Oregon in mid-September. The annual Cycle tour bicycled the mountains and valleys of southern Oregon and northern California. The catering company's truck arrived at the church each morning with ingredients. The assemblers went to work, then the caterer delivered finished sack lunches to a pre-planned lunch stop. One worker said she never ever wanted to see coleslaw again! See story on page one.

First, Roseburg has an automated library for adults and children. Librarians enter data about each book on their new Resourcemeat program from Jay Will Software Development. The automated system produces lists by topics. Library patrons sign out books as usual. This new process makes research faster and easier, and its more efficient for librarians to keep track of the books..

First, Central Point's community garden behind the church produced winners at the Jackson County Harvest Festival. Gardeners received first prizes for okra, butternut squash, bell peppers, and zinnias. Many pounds of



produce went to ACCESS Food Share, a regional food bank. Over 300 pounds of tomatoes came from one garden plot. Other produce recipients were Medford Gospel Mission, St. Vincent de Paul, Table Rock Fellowship Food Pantry, and church members. Ten families and groups were the cultivators and harvesters.

Central Point's community garden tomatoes on their way to ACCESS food share, a regional food pantry in southern Oregon.

Bethany, Grants Pass will soon have a new playground! The old wooden structure is splintered, a home to wasps and is almost unusable. As soon as that one is removed and the site prepared, a new one donated by Playcraft of Merlin will be installed. The company gives away two structures each year, and Bethany was chosen for 2009. It will be compatible with the Americans with Disabilities Act standards. Playcraft has done school and park playgrounds in Grants Pass. The company is located in a rural community just north of town.

Bethany's Christ Care groups make quilts for Prayers and Squares, an international association that produce quilts for persons in need of special prayers and comfort. There are over 900 chapters of Prayers and Squares in eight countries. There are six chapters in Oregon in different denominations. Sewers prepare the tied quilts with long strings. People in the church are invited to tie the strings into knots and pray for the recipient. Finishers sew on a label identifying the quilt, cut the strings and include a letter that tells about the ministry, then prepare it for shipping. Bethany quilts have gone all over the United States.

First Medford, hosted the third annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service this year. Six congregations gathered together to give thanks with the help of a combined choir. Highlighted this year were the welcoming voices of children singing a "ramped up" version of "Kum Ba Yah." The evening ended with a pie fellowship.

Holiday music rings at **First United, Myrtle Point!** "An evening in December" is a Christmas cantata choir of 48 voices. Singers are from Myrtle Point and Coquille. The Myrtle Point Ministerial Association planned the event, music came from First United, and director is Sandy Collins, pastor. They will perform concerts in both communities. The group also sang for Thanksgiving community services. The church holds Santa's Workshop for three weeks in December to celebrate the joy of giving. Children make Christmas gifts for family and friends plus wrapping paper and cards. A musical evening with complimentary meal is First United's gift to the community of Myrtle Point. Two hours of music includes instrumental ensembles and solos, barbershop chorus, vocal solos and trios.

Central Region

By Bruce Smith

In September, **First, Salem** hosted a tailgate party in the parking lot of the church during Kickoff Sunday. All were invited to wear their football team jerseys as they visited booths for various church programs and to enjoy tasty treats.

Community, Waldport installed Ken Biornstad as designated pastor on September 20 at a worship service followed by an appetizer buffet. He jumped right in and added his name to the church listing in the Pacific Skinny. **First, Salem** installed Del Burnett, Senior Pastor, on September 27 in an afternoon ceremony.

The youth at **Westminster, Salem** now have their own blog site which they can use to find their own pertinent information and news, programs, and photos from special events. This site will provide a monthly calendar and a newsletter and much more.

Rob and Karen Anderson, **Communi-**

nity, Redmond are going to conduct a group tour in June, 2010 to attend "The Passion" in Germany. The group will also visit several other beautiful European countries with a 13-day tour.

Bill and Ann Moore, PC (USA) missionaries to Japan, visited the **Prineville** church in October. Bill began his ministry in Hiroshima in a new church development effort with responsibilities for evangelism. He was also preaching and teaching in five churches in the Hiroshima Prefecture. Since 1995, they have been in Kobe where Bill is the organizing pastor of new church development in the northern suburbs of Kobe-Osaka.

Christ Church, Monmouth requested Richard Davis to prepare a banner to celebrate the 30th anniversary of the merging of the Methodist and Presbyterian churches. Richard began with a DNA style of intertwining trees symbolizing one Methodist and one Presbyterian. Two figures were clasping the trees. One was John Wesley in an 18th-century dress and John Calvin in a 16th century costume. The final banner illustrates the coming together of the church with the trees representing the two denominations and the figures representing the two disciplines.

The youth and their pastor of the **Aurora** church joined forces with the kids of **Laurelhurst, Portland** in Orondo, Washington to assist a small congregation of 20 folks. They painted the sanctuary and a shed, replaced another shed, weeded the garden, and washed windows.

While reading through the various newsletters of our churches in the Central Region, I find it fascinating to look at the monthly calendars. Some churches schedule so many activities that the print is very small and a magnifying glass is helpful. **First, McMinnville** has a weekly community dinner on Saturdays. **John Knox, Salem** lists a scheduling of Inglesia de Jesucristo at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays. **First, Newport** informs their membership that most every weekday of the month there is a 9 a.m. silent prayer period followed by a half hour of guided prayer. The pastor of **Mill City** forgoes the calendar but gives you a listing of his sermons planned for the next three months. There are the usual meetings, Bible studies, scheduled breakfasts (usually by men's groups), and an occasional visiting dignitary. All in all, a fascinating read.

Northwest Region

By Jeanne Rich

It is often stated that "Presbyterians are people of faith, fellowship and food." Recent newsletters in the Northwest Region reported on an array of traditional, as well as innovative, approaches to how this statement comes to life.

Faith and fellowship go hand in

(Continued on page 5)

Positively Presbyterian

(Continued from page 4)

hand. For example, **Calvin, Tigard's** Pastor Bob Garwig is challenging himself during this season of Thanksgiving "to see just how long I can continuously praise God." He writes, "In this time of harvest it is easy to notice the inconvenient things in life." He remarks on how we need "to focus for a moment on what we have, not on what we want," so we can "live obedient and faithful lives in Christ, even in the bad times." Being *faithful*, the Calvin congregation has been encouraged to evangelize in a simple way. In August and September, members displayed signs in their yards inviting passersby to worship and *fellowship* events held at the church. These "signs of the times" will return to yards beginning Thanksgiving Day and continuing through Christmas.

Plymouth, St. Helens recognizes the difficulty of some to attend its church services, so the services are being brought into the homes of those who are internet connected. Their website (plychurch.org) will provide the opportunity to "hear past presentations of the scripture readings, the hymns and the sermon." This aid to the faithful may even reach into the wilderness of cyberspace. At **Valley Community, Portland** Pastor Rene Minshew recently wrote about a practice he has carried out for several years. From his readings he began to send a daily quote to his sons and nephews. Over time "others have learned about my practice and have asked to be included on my list." That list has grown to nearly 100 and these special blessings of faith reach more as they are passed along the internet express.

With the completion of "a spacious new fellowship hall" at **Multnomah, Portland**, Pastor John Dilworth, upon hearing of some expectations that more people will be attracted to the church now, responded by saying, "No, buildings do not welcome people and grow churches. People welcome people and pass on the faith to others." Pastor Sylvia Dilworth introduced a four-week campaign for November based on the book, *Just Walk Across the Room*. She writes, "...when you think about it, many of our own faith journeys began because someone just walked across a room, reached out a hand of friendship to us, spoke a kind word, asked a good question. And the rest was history. A simple walk across the room began it all....And you may be only a conversation away from pointing some one to faith."

And now to the food for which Presbyterians are well known. **First, Portland** celebrated 155 years of ministry on October 25 with a cake baking contest. Crafting cakes "in honor of our church" resulted in prizes, but readers of the church's newsletter may wonder upon what the awarding was based since it was announced that "Cakes may be dropped off in Geneva Hall be-

fore worship." The Rev. Bob Paul, newly arrived pastor, was on hand for this event.

Cooper Mountain Fellowship, Aloha is providing hot breakfasts every Sunday at 9 a.m. That should be good incentive to get to worship. A Potluck of Pasta Favorites was held at **Old Scotch, Tualatin Plains** to welcome Crystal Farr, the new youth director. It was proclaimed that "there are no calories in potlucks held on Sundays." **Orengo, Hillsboro** invited all ages to "Trunk or Treat" in October. From decorated vehicles in the church parking lot, treats were handed out at this annual "safe" event. Children and adults dressed up for this community-wide event that attracted "children from surrounding neighborhoods, and the Girl Scout Juniors."

Bethany, Portland revives a tradition of holding a Christmas Cookie Bake. Donations of ingredients and contributions for postage will provide baked goods for soldiers and seniors, along with a Christmas card personally signed by Bethany members. Bethany has another holiday project called "Sock It to Me." With an ambitious goal of "mak(ing) certain every homeless person, child through adult, leave the Salvation Army Christmas dinner with at least one pair of BRAND NEW SOCKS," a tree in their Fellowship Hall will have unusual ornaments this year—new socks. The streets of Portland do not provide a place to dry

socks, so Bethany members will be on the lookout for sock sales as they begin decorating their Christmas tree. And to continue the theme of footwear, **Southminster, Beaverton** is collecting hiking boots for rangers in Mexico who patrol for poachers of exotic animals, "the third most smuggled goods into the U.S. (after drugs and guns)." A Mexican organization called Conrehabit is working to reeducate villagers "on the importance of the animals in their community and to provide alternatives. One alternative has been to support the development of eco-tours in their regions. Another alternative involves hiring the villagers as rangers, who watch for poachers. The rangers walk 20 plus miles a day. Their pay is very minimal. Most of them wear only sandals." Kari and Ken Stuhmer are heading up this project and will deliver the boots in February.

(As reporter for the Northwest Region over the past five years, I have been privileged to follow the life and events of your churches. It is time for me to take on new challenges, so I give my farewell; however the articles written by youth leaders, the variety of mission projects, pastoral letters, fellowship ideas, and personal stories have made their impact on me—all are a wonderful expression of how people of God carry out their ministry. If I should "borrow" an idea or two from you for use somewhere in the future, please know that it will certainly be to Glorify God!)

TRANSITIONS

Welcome New Pastors

- Candidate Gregory G. Bolt to be ordained by the Presbytery of West Virginia, to serve as associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Bend, beginning January 1, 2010
- The Rev. Robert S. Paul, transferring from the Presbytery of Stockton to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Portland, beginning October 1, 2009

Installations/Ordinations/Commissionings

- Elder Katherine L. Stewart, commissioned on November 22, 2009, serving as Commissioned Lay Pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Gold Beach, beginning November 1, 2009
- Candidate Paton M. Wall, ordained on November 22, 2009 (pending successful completion of his trials for ordination), transferring to Grace Presbytery to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Mineral Wells, Texas

Pastoral Changes

- The Rev. Laurel S. Neal, serving as interim pastor of East Woods Presbyterian Church, beginning October 7, 2009
- The Rev. Bruce R. Silver, serving as stated supply pastor of Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church, Klamath Falls, beginning October 15, 2009

Retirements

- The Rev. Alan W. Jackson, to be granted Honorably Retired status on December 31, 2009

In Memoriam

- The Rev. John A. Day, died August 4, 2009 in Vancouver, Washington.

Home for Thanksgiving: A Tale of Three Churches

By Nancy A. Gaston

A woman and her two children moved into a brand-new home right before Thanksgiving, thanks to the faith and perseverance of three Presbyterian congregations, the employees of Wells Fargo Bank, and the family itself.

The story began early in 2009 when some members of First, Vancouver, shared their dream of building a Habitat for Humanity house. They approached area Presbyterian churches, and two others—Cascades, Vancouver, and St. Johns, Camas—joined them in a partnership.

and “friends” that involved the combined choirs of the three churches.

The goal was to have the home ready by Christmas, but the work proceeded so well that Thanksgiving became the new goal—and turned into reality.

Practically everyone got involved—working at the site, providing coffee and lunches to the laborers, reporting to the congregations, doing administration and recordkeeping, writing and photography—for a total of at least 3,000 volunteer hours. But no one can measure the satisfaction, fellowship and sense of truly being the church in the world



The middle – painting

that all the participants experienced.

In fact, the project was so fruitful and fulfilling that the three churches have agreed to continue on a three-year cycle. Next year, they'll work on a community garden, followed by a year of home remodeling and repair—and then another home build. “We encourage other communities to try this,” says Mike Gaston, project manager of the effort for First, Vancouver. “Talk to neighboring churches, and embark on a partnership that really makes a difference in people’s lives, including the lives of your congregation members.”



The beginning – groundbreaking

The will, the skills, and the labor were there, but the funds were still a challenge. The partnership needed to provide \$60,000 before construction could begin. That’s when Wells Fargo Bank entered the picture, pledging \$20,000 and the volunteer labor of employees. And ground was broken for the project of Evergreen Habitat for Humanity and the three-church partnership.

Meanwhile, First, Vancouver, used curriculum from Habitat, “Under Construction,” for their Vacation Bible School. Kids learned about the project and even wrote messages and blessings to be put inside the walls of the home. The future owner of the home and her children visited the churches, and the kids attended Vacation Bible School at one. And the moms worked regularly beside the volunteer crews from churches, contributing the required “sweat equity.”

Besides making individual gifts, congregation members staged fundraisers—including a concert by local musician Jim Fischer



Almost finished.



And the landscaping... donated trees and plants prepare the house for Thanksgiving occupancy.



And finally, building the porch.



Prayer Calendar

The Professional Support Committee is pleased to present this Prayer Calendar for Cascades Presbytery. Every congregation, minister member, candidate and committee is listed on a day appropriate to them. You are invited to use this list in your daily devotions. Please contact the South office if there are any additions or corrections.

January 2010

- 1 Nestucca Valley Presbyterian Church, Pacific City - chartered this day in 2001
- 2 Andrew L. Caesar, ordained this day in 1994, in private practice as a counselor
- 3 Dean F. Klarr, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2001
- 4 Donald H. Frank, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1997
- 5 Weston D. Gray, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1995
- 6 Community Presbyterian Church, Yachats - chartered this month in 1950
- 7 Board of Trustees of the Presbytery of the Cascades, Jim Mattis, President
- 8 C. Montee Kennedy, installed as pastor of Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, Florence, this day in 2006 • Philip D. King, ordained this day in 1999, serving as Chaplain, United States Navy
- 9 Thomas E. Young, installed as pastor at Cherry Park Presbyterian Church, Troutdale, this day in 2000
- 10 Janet Alpine, administrative assistant, Presbytery of the Cascades, south region office
- 11 Elmer R. (Bud) Frimoth, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1992
- 12 Susan D. Grewe & Christopher N. Grewe, installed as co-pastors at Savage Memorial Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 1992
- 13 Graig L. Flach installed this day in 2002 as associate pastor of Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego • Ashton A. (Skip) Roberts, ordained this day in 2007, serving as chaplain for the Department of Veterans Affairs
- 14 Cooper Mountain Presbyterian Fellowship, Aloha - chartered this day in 1996
- 15 James T. Stewart, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1995
- 16 Stephen G. Maling, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2000
- 17 William C. Howell, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1991
- 18 Colonial Heights Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1961
- 19 Duane L. Sich, ordained this day in 1972, serving as executive director of Friends of the Carpenter • Kris M. Voss-Rothmeier, ordained this day in 1997
- 20 James C. Cayton, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1985
- 21 Eagle Creek Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 1906
- 22 J. Bradford Kent, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2007
- 23 Kenneth M. "Woodley" White, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2007 • Presbytery Council meets today, Chris Grewe, Chair
- 24 Jae Soon Lee, candidate for the ministry, Korean Presbyterian Church, Vancouver
- 25 Katherine A. (Katie) Pate, installed as pastor of Milwaukie Presbyterian Church, this day in 2009
- 26 John J. Rodgers, ordained this day in 1976
- 27 United Presbyterian Church, Albany - chartered 1853
- 28 J. Wilbur Patterson, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1990
- 29 Jack P. Hansen granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1997
- 30 Sang J. Kim, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1990
- 31 Chapel by the Sea Presbyterian Church, Lincoln City - chartered this day in 1937 • Robert Kang, ordained this day in 1994
- day in 1905
- 8 First Presbyterian Church, Bandon - chartered this day in 1891
- 9 John W. Dilworth, installed as co-pastor of Multnomah Presbyterian Church, this day in 1986
- 10 Westminster Presbyterian Church, Salem - chartered this day in 1957
- 11 John R. Moody, installed as pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Salem, this day in 1996
- 12 Committee on Ministry-South - John W. Hubbard, Chair
- 13 John Salmon, Vice Moderator - Northwest Region
- 14 Piedmont United Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1905
- 15 William K. Van Nostran, installed as pastor of Northminster Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2004
- 16 Brian G. Campbell, candidate for the ministry, First Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 17 Tualatin Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 1985
- 18 Professional Support Committee - Marsha Landrith, Chair
- 19 Calvary Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1882
- 20 F. Arlin Nave, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1994
- 21 Phyllis P. Hart, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1995
- 22 John S. Carpenter, installed as pastor at Oakville Presbyterian Church, Shedd, this day in 1998 • Roger W. Weeks, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2006
- 23 Soo Shin Kim, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2005
- 24 Gail Moody, Certified Christian Educator, Westminster Presbyterian, Salem
- 25 First Presbyterian Church, Creswell - chartered in 1909 • Martha Page Greene, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2009
- 26 Southminster Presbyterian Church, Beaverton - chartered this day in 1959 • Charlie T. Brown, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2001, serving as parish associate at Tualatin Presbyterian Church
- 27 First Presbyterian Church, Klamath Falls - chartered this day in 1884
- 28 James C. Beck, installed as pastor of Beaverton Korean Presbyterian Church, Portland this day in 1999 • Henry W. Andersen, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1990

February 2010

- 1 E. Gordon Crider, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1992 • John R. Fry, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1992
- 2 Aurora Presbyterian Church - chartered this month in 1904 • Robert C. Patten, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1996
- 3 Lawrence E. Jung, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville, this day in 1985 • Janice Hearn, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2000
- 4 Marjorie Robinson, administrative assistant, Presbytery of the Cascades, northeast/northwest region office
- 5 Leo C. Tautfest, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1996
- 6 Charles E. Poling, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1990
- 7 Scott W. Peterson, ordained this day in 1988, serving as stated supply pastor at Cooper Mountain Presbyterian Fellowship, Aloha • First Presbyterian Church, Trout Lake - chartered this



Presbytery of the Cascades Current Status of Open Churches

Vacant
Lakeside, Community

Seeking Interim or Stated Supply
Cottage Grove, First

Preparing to Actively Seek
Klamath Falls, First (Associate Pastor)

Actively Seeking a Pastor (CIF submitted to Louisville)
Portland, Valley Community (Associate Pastor, Youth)

Calvin Quotes:



About "Foolishness"

A man that extols himself is a fool and an idiot.

On the "Presence of God"

A sense of Deity is inscribed on every heart.

Special Music at First, Portland

First, Portland continues to offer interesting and exceptional music both in the worship service and in concert settings during December and January. On Sunday, December 6, Portland's most outstanding women's chorus, Belle Voci, will present selections from Benjamin Britten's *Ceremony of Carols* as part of the 11 a.m. worship service. The text for this multi-movement masterpiece is in Middle English and comes from the "English Gallery of Shorter Poems." The music is for three-part women's choir, soloists and harp and will be directed by Margaret Green, Belle Voci's musical director. An audience favorite since it was first introduced in 1942, the *Ceremony of Carols* has become an Advent classic and a perfect way to celebrate the season.

At 2 p.m. on Sunday, January 24, Celebration Works presents "Encounters with Beethoven" with Kenn Willson, piano. The program is a multi-media piano recital with slides and personal insights into Beethoven. The beloved *Moonlight Sonata (Opus 27, #2)* is one of the pieces to be performed, along with an arrangement of the last movement of the *Ninth Symphony*. Come immerse your-



Kenn Willson

self in the music and soul of Beethoven in this un-typical piano concert. Tickets to the concert are sold at the door and are reasonably priced at \$10 for general admission and \$8 for students and seniors.

First, Portland is located at 1200 SW

Alder in downtown Portland. Parking for worship services and concerts is available free in the church's underground garage at SW 12th and Morrison. For more information, please visit the website at www.firstpre-portland.org.

Nordic Choir to Perform in Salem and Medford



Dr. Craig Arnold directs 75-member Nordic Choir

Luther College Nordic Choir, one of the top college choirs in the nation, will be traveling to the west coast and presenting concerts at Willamette University and **First, Medford**.

On Tuesday, January 19, 2010, at 7:30 p.m. at Hudson Hall, Willamette University, Salem, Oregon, the choir will perform sacred choral works, including selections from Fritschel, Gjeilo, Schumann, Paulus, Christiansen, Vaughan Williams, and Courtney. \$15 adults, \$10 students. On Wednesday, January 20, 2010, 7:30 p.m., at **First, Medford**, the choir will perform the same concert for the southern region of the Presbytery and its communities.

The concerts in Oregon, performed by the 75 member choir, are part of the Nordic Choir's tour of the west coast. The choir tours annually and has performed in major concert halls in the United States and Central and Eastern Europe.

Dr. Craig Arnold is Director of Choral Activities, Conductor of the Nordic Choir, and Professor of Music at Luther College in Decorah, IA following the 57 year tenure of Weston Noble.

Prior to his return to Luther, he was Music Director of Manhattan Concert Productions and Conductor of the New York City Chorale and Chamber Orchestra. He previously served as Director of Choral Activities at Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo and at Luther's sister institution, Capital University in Columbus, OH.

Luther, a selective four-year college located in the scenic bluff country of northeast Iowa, has an enrollment of 2,600 students. The college has a long tradition of outstanding instrumental and vocal music programs.

Scholarships Available Local Church History Seminar

April 22-25, 2010, Stony Point Center
Stony Point, NY

Workshops On:

Presbyterian History · Oral History · Writing a Congregation History
Managing Congregation Records · Preserving Congregation Records
Disaster Preparedness · Celebrating a Congregation Anniversary

Seminar Scholarships 2010

The Presbyterian Historical Society is pleased to offer a scholarship for seminar participants who qualify:

The scholarship is for PC(U.S.A.) congregations:

- At least 50 years old • With fewer than 250 members • With a demonstrated financial need

The PHS scholarship covers the seminar fee and housing at the Stony Point Center. Deadline for application is February 18, 2010. Recipients notified by March 4, 2010.

For more information and an application packet, contact the Presbyterian Historical Society at:

Presbyterian Historical Society
425 Lombard Street Philadelphia, PA 19147
215-627-1852

Contact refdesk@history.pcusa.org

or visit website: www.history.pcusa.org/cong/lchs/index/html.

Calvin Quotes:



On "Modesty"

Let us learn to lay upon ourselves the restraint of modesty.

Gathering Inspires Learning from Our Stories and God's Land

By Judith Ann Richards

A good time was had by all at Cascade's fifth Annual Creation Care Fellowship, "Holy Ground: Landscapes of the Sacred" held at **First, Trout Lake**, on September 19. Author, teacher and speaker, Jane Kirkpatrick, brought an energizing presentation to participants by first asking the question, "What do the problems of increasing carbon in our environment have to do with writing, authoring books and God's mandate to 'care for the earth?'"

Through this presentation and an afternoon writing workshop, Jane spoke of her fictional characters, the problems in life they encountered and the love they expressed for the places to which they were relocating and how they grew to love the land. Jane noted that her characters faced the same resistance to change as we do. Things like fear and lack of confidence. In consideration of this, Jane encouraged us all to "be present, to see and appreciate our surroundings; see what is happening in your living place." It is then that we learn what changes we need to make.

Over 70 participants came from at least three of our four regions of Cascades Presby-

tery, from Olympia Presbytery, and one came from another state. And-- they were glad they came. The Trout Lake cooks, the Rev. Dorothy Franklin and Janet Anderson, chair of **First, Trout Lake's** Eco-Justice Committee, were experts in hospitality and provided a welcoming atmosphere as well as a delicious lunch.

Additional workshops offered hands-on involvement in creation care including visits to local gardens and solar powered homes, year-round gardening, and community gardening. The gathering received its blessing at **First, Trout Lake** the evening before at a Taize worship service. Participants were invited to place their lit candles in a container as they offered prayers for the Earth. As each candle was lit and put into position, the light spread, reminding us once again that we can have increased effect as we are together in prayer.

We all gained from noting what this small church already knew--the value of bringing "church" into the community and including unaffiliated people with common concerns. This is the way of the Presbyterian Church in the Trout Lake Valley.

The Eco-Justice Team, co-chaired by Barry



Cooks from the Trout Lake Valley serving apple crisp with smiles.

McPherson and Deanie Anderson, is starting to plan for the 2010 Creation Care event. Anderson welcomes input on location, speakers and topics. For more information or to share your thoughts, call Jenny Holmes at 503-281-8175 or send an e-mail to jehrestore@aol.com.

Earth Care Summit to Inspire and Equip Congregations

On February 1, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns will gather congregations interested in being better stewards of creation at its first Earth Care Summit. The event will be held from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. at Jean Vollum Natural Capital Center, Billy Frank Jr. Conference Center, 721 NW 9th Ave., Portland.

It will include a locally grown dinner, keynote speaker and presentations from congregations about their greening efforts. An optional tour by Ecotrust staff showing the green features of the Jean Vollum Natural Capital Center will be provided at 5:30 p.m. and a silent auction featuring green products and services will run from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Resource people from the community

will be on hand to discuss a variety of greening topics applicable to congregations including community gardens, wildlife habitat, sustainable purchasing for congregations, starting a green team, watershed stewardship, zero waste gatherings, energy efficiency and more.

Come network with others and be inspired! Regular registration is \$25. Discounts are available for students and seniors, groups of three or more and registrations before December 31. For more information, contact Alison Warren at (503) 221-1054, ext. 210, or email awarren@emoregon.org. Download a registration form on the events calendar at www.emoregon.org.

Make Earth Day Plans Now

By Jenny Holmes

Earth Day Sunday 2010 Resource Theme is "Sacred Spaces and an Abundant Life." In April 2010, the 40th Anniversary of Earth Day will be celebrated. Christians have come a long way in rediscovering God's call to stewardship since the first Earth Day, but most of us have room to grow in living out this call.

Is this opportunity for reflection and action on the radar screen of your worship planning team and your mission, creation care or social justice committee or team? This year you can plan early for well-integrated worship and education and action programs that will have a long-term impact, thanks to the National Council of Churches' Eco-Justice Program.

Its new publication, *Sacred Spaces and an Abundant Life: Worship Spaces as Stewardship*, empowers your congregation to take creation friendly steps that your congregation can celebrate when it observes Earth Day Sunday on April 18 (or at another time). It outlines how to form and nurture a creation care team and provides practical ideas on saving energy, reducing toxic materials and products, and conserving land and water.

Worship resources and study guides to help your congregation reflect on God's call to care for creation are included along with a commissioning service for your Creation Care Team. To download a copy, go to <http://nccecojustice.org/resources/#earthdayresources> or request a hard copy by e-mailing your address to Elizabeth@nccecojustice.org.

The spaces in which we worship are to be reflective of the faith we claim. If we claim faith in the healing power of the Lord, we ought to use the space in which we worship God accordingly. From *Sacred Spaces and an Abundant Life: Worship Spaces as Stewardship*.



The Revs. Vicky and Duane Brown present a "dialogue sermon" at the November presbytery meeting's service of worship, held at Westminster, Medford.

Because of Camp... Nurturing Children, Enriching Lives

Because of Camp....

By Noah Simpson (Lake Grove Presbyterian Church)

I have been able to take part in Suttle Lake Junior High Camp three times over the last eight years, and each time it has been a great experience. My first encounter with Suttle was in eighth grade, and over the course of the week I was able to learn more about my faith, deepen existing friendships, and form new friendships with people from other churches, not to mention having a ton of fun. I still remember the topic of our devotions that week as well as the thrill of winning the week-long bocce ball tournament with one of my best friends.

I had such a good time that I was thrilled to be asked to return to Suttle Lake as a counselor the last two summers, and had the privilege of getting to see the other side of camp. Being a counselor is not easy, especially when working with junior high students, but the payoffs are huge. It is an incredible blessing to get to be a part of what God is doing in the lives of the campers and to form relationships that sometimes last far beyond camp.

Because of Camp....

By Posie Taylor, board member-at-large of the American Camp Association (Reprinted from CAMP Magazine by permission of the American Camp Association; © 2005 by the American Camping Association, Inc)

Children away from home, with new friends and the new challenges of camp can learn much about themselves, their own strengths, and abilities. Perhaps the canoe doesn't head where it should at first, or a cabin-mate is unwilling to be friendly. Away from the familiarity of home and school, campers can test their own perseverance, and, with caring and thoughtful help, build new life skills for themselves. Meeting these challenges brings true self-esteem, the kind that is earned, not empty words. Talking about self-esteem or trying to bolster it in kids does not work without real challenge in safe and supportive communities.



Noah and his cabin during summer camp 2008 (Carter Driggs, Cody Larkin, John Czarnecki, Ragen Anderson, Michael Conan, Ray Foote [behind the shirt that Alex is holding], Alex Seals, Noah Simpson)

JACKSON RETIRES

By Ann Moore

Alan Jackson of Westminster, Medford, completed 30 years in the same pulpit, preaching his last sermon on St. Andrews Day, the Sunday after Thanksgiving. He retired as pastor emeritus effective December 31. He came to Westminster in 1979 from First Presbyterian Church, Waitsburg, Washington where he served five years. Before that he was assistant for four years at White River Presbyterian Church, Auburn, Washington.

"Alan Jackson's legacy," said Carol Jacobs, a long time member, is that "Westminster is not a group of homogeneous members but rather one with members and friends of differing opinions. We are like-minded in many areas but different in background and feelings as well. We are a diverse congregation that exemplifies a cohesive and accepting group. Having a nurturing and welcoming atmosphere where gracious disagreement can comfortably exist is the fabric of this church." Carol added, "this is a by-product of Alan Jackson's leadership and a valuable legacy for



Decked out in Scottish kilt for Westminster, Medford's annual St. Andrews Day service, Alan Jackson preached his last sermon as senior pastor November 29.

the future."

In a November sermon, drawn from Second Timothy, Jackson put diversity before the congregation. "Look around you this morning," he said. "As different as we are in temperament and experience and gifts and age, Jesus has called us to be his body. And were it not for our diversity, this church would be robbed of the kind of sensitivity and compassion and understanding that belong to those of us who have each sinned in our own unique ways and yet have found, together, forgiveness and new life in our common savior."

Jackson is from a family of seven children. Three are ministers.

A committee gathered a scrapbook with stories of adventures, memories and pictures. It was presented during a Dec. 6 luncheon honoring the Medford ministry of Alan and his wife, Carol. Those in presbytery who would like to

add a written thought can mail letters to Operation Gratitude, Westminster Presbyterian Church, 2000 Oakwood, Medford, OR 97504.

Calvin Quotes:



About "Election"

If we are searching for God's fatherly love and grace, we must look to Christ, in whom alone the Father is well pleased. If we are searching for salvation, life, and immortality, we must turn to him again, since he alone is the fountain of life, the anchor of salvation and the heir of the kingdom. The purpose of election is no more than that, when we are adopted as sons [and daughters] by the heavenly Father, we will inherit salvation and eternal life through his favor.

On the "Presence of God"

A sense of Deity is inscribed on every heart.

On "Good Works"

It is faith alone that justifies, but the faith that justifies is not alone.

On "Light"

The Lord does not shine upon us, except when we take his Word as our light.

Omnibus to Go Online

Change is coming!! In mid 2010 we are hoping to begin offering the Omnibus through an online source. The presbytery's Communication's Team made the decision at its last meeting. In order to do this, we are asking readers to send in their email addresses to Carolee Neighorn at the presbytery's Portland office: E-mail Address: carolee@cascadespresbytery.org. It will be especially helpful for churches to include the email addresses for their Elders and Deacons in the annual report they make each year.

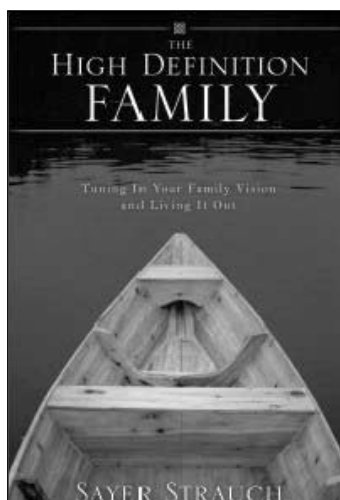
The move will provide significant savings in postage and paper costs. Instead of over 5000 copies being mailed around the presbytery, we envision most of the copies being sent directly to readers through the web. Readers will be able to print it if they wish or just read it online. Churches will still receive a number of copies to disperse to folks who may not know about this resource. Current readers can still request a hard copy to be mailed to their home as well.

Family and Faith Formation Resource Available

The High Definition Family, written by a member of this Presbytery is now readily available to anyone interested in learning more about families and faith formation.

Sayer Strauch, at-large minister of the word and sacrament in the Cascades Presbytery, is author of the book and has a broader ministry called Soul Shapes where spiritual formation and coaching is offered to families and church leaders.

Strauch states, "*The High Definition Family* isn't about being an ideal family, a perfect family, or even a good family, but about your family as you are now, on a journey with God reaching your highest potential."



The book is now available online at amazon.com, barnsandnoble.com and with the publisher, Xulon Press. One can also go to *The High Definition Family* website, www.highdefinitionfamily.com, which also has a summary of the book, and order any copies there.

If churches want to place a bulk order, they can call the publisher, Xulon Press, toll-free at 1-866-381-2665, extension 1173, and ask for the church bulk rate 40% discount off the regular price of \$16.99. Churches can also contact Strauch (360-635-2920) for more information about hosting High Definition Family-related workshops.

Christmas Concerts Highlight the Season

Want to get in the mood for the holiday season? Presbyterian churches throughout the presbytery will provide opportunities to

do just that. Here follows a sampling of what is offered.

13	3:00pm	Community, Yachats presents Sing We Now of Christmas, a Christmas music program, Sunday, December 13 at 3 p.m., featuring chancel choir, handbells, and flute. Reception following and childcare available.
20	3:00pm	Nestucca Valley , Pacific City's concert is Sunday, December 20 at 3 p.m. A variety of music will be presented along with carol singing. Join us at the beach as we celebrate the birth of the Christ child.
20	7:00pm	First, Medford , hosts its Annual Christmas Bell Concert, "Ring in Christmas," which includes bell choirs from First, Central Point and other local congregations. Donations will be gratefully received.
21	7:00 pm	St. Mark, Portland in the sixth annual Sing-Along with Handel's "Messiah." Soloists from the Portland Symphonic Choir are featured. Free.
27	10:30am	The choir of Woodburn First Presbyterian will perform "Night of Wonder, Night of Joy" by Ruth Elaine Schram. Music Director Debra A. Huddleston will lead the choir during the Sunday morning worship service, and the performance will feature soloists and instruments as well as the choir ensemble.

First, Phoenix

(Continued from page 1)

This endeavor between Cycle Oregon and First, Phoenix was no easy walk-in-the-park project, but the volunteers at FPC came through with a sense of dedication to serving not only the riders of Cycle Oregon, but serving as the Body of Christ here in Phoenix.

Benefits to the Phoenix Community

Cycle Oregon is the premier cycling event in Oregon and provides significant support to the communities that host it. Gracious hosting helps ensure that this event – and the tourism dollars that it brings – will return to the Rogue Valley and to Phoenix.

The Cycle Oregon Fund provides community support. From their website (<http://www.cycleoregon.com/cycle-oregon-fund/>) Cycle Oregon showcases unique and beautiful parts of rural Oregon. The event connects riders to the land and the communities that make our state a great place to live and bike, and a perfect destination for travelers from near and far. But Cycle Oregon

doesn't just expose riders to a richly diverse group of smaller Oregon communities. It also provides much-needed financial support to those same communities. From the time the Cycle Oregon Fund was established, all the proceeds from the ride have been placed in the fund. The Cycle Oregon Grant fund supports two main causes: projects in the communities through which we ride, and bicycling advocacy and projects in Oregon. With more than \$1 million currently in the fund, Cycle Oregon disburses approximately \$100,000 in grants each year, including our Signature Grant program, for projects that might not get the spotlight of state-wide attention but mean everything to the people in these small towns. Cycle Oregon also provides approximately \$120,000 each year to the communities that host us in the summer and in September, for the services they provide. These hosts assist greatly in planning our event and provide hundreds of volunteers whose passion and dedication make our tours a success.

Benefits to First, Phoenix

Providing workers and a workspace for Cycle Oregon gave FPC an opportunity to

share ministry and faith with a broader community.

By bringing together the congregation with other members of the community in volunteer work, hosting Cycle Oregon provided FPC with another opportunity to be in partnership with our community.

Working together on large projects such as this one creates a sense of teamwork, camaraderie and accomplishment that is beneficial to this aging congregation.

Like other organizations, FPC is facing difficult times financially. The contribution that Cycle Oregon made to our church was very helpful.

First, Phoenix is one of many organizations and groups that were involved with this Cycle Oregon tour through Southern Oregon and Northern California. We felt blessed to play a rather large part of this event, and honored that we represented the city of Phoenix. If approached again, First, Phoenix would gladly welcome the opportunity to serve the Rogue Valley in another four years, the next time Cycle Oregon comes to Southern Oregon.

Calvin Quotes:



On "Promises"

We cannot rely on God's promises without obeying his commandments.

On "Spiritual Blindness"

There is no greater darkness than ignorance of God.

On "Unbelief"

Our own unbelief is the only impediment which prevents God from satisfying us largely and bountifully with all good things.

On "Waiting"

There is no place for faith if we expect God to fulfill immediately what he promises.

On "Word of God"

Wherever we see the Word of God purely preached and heard, there a church of God exists, even if it swarms with many faults.

On "Obedience"

All true knowledge of God is born out of obedience.

Highlights of Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of the Cascades

Editor's Note: These are the highlights of the November 13-14 meeting of the Presbytery of the Cascades, held at Westminster, Medford, excerpted by the editor from the notes of Stated Clerk John Huenink. A more complete report may be found on the website, www.cascade-presbytery.org.

- The presbytery welcomed and seated "John Calvin" (Brad Kent) as a corresponding member. Dr. Calvin addressed the presbytery on basic points of Reformed theology and commented on the events of the Reformed church during the 500 years since his birth.
- The stated clerk reported that the 2010 Stated Meetings of The Presbytery of the Cascades will be held on March 12-13 at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Portland OR; on June 25-26 at First Presbyterian Church, Bend OR; and on November 12-13 at First Presbyterian Church, Vancouver WA.
- The stated clerk reported that the 2010 Per Capita rates are the following:

General Assembly	\$ 6.15
(unchanged from 2009)	
Synod of the Pacific	\$ 5.17
(unchanged from 2009)	
Presbytery of the Cascades	11.23
(unchanged from 2009)	
TOTAL	\$22.55
- On recommendation of the Committees On Ministry Coordinating Council, the presbytery acted to grant an exception to the presbytery's policy which prohibits unordained members of a church staff to be considered for a pastoral position in the case of First, Bend so that the church might extend a call to Candidate Greg Bolt to become the Associate Pastor of that congregation.
- Approved the dissolution of the pastoral relationship between the Rev. Alan W. Jackson and Westminster Presbyterian Church, Medford, Oregon effective December 31, 2009 that he might be retired and approved his designation as Pastor Emeritus of that congregation (without remuneration).
- Acknowledged with appreciation the 50 years of ordained service provided by the Revs. Gerald M. Allin, James C. Petersen, Robert E. Dodson, John M. Salmon, and Richard D. Diller.
- Celebrated in worship the retirements of the Revs. Barry Heath and Alan Jackson.
- Received a financial report from Business Manager Cheryl Anderson which indicated that liabilities are 11.2% of current assets, that per capita revenue is below its target by \$20,842; that legal costs have increased



Candidate Greg Bolt is examined for ordination to Ministry of Word And Sacrament. The examination was sustained. He is to be ordained by The Presbytery of West Virginia and transferred as a minister to The Presbytery of the Cascades to become Associate Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Bend

in 2009; that there is a deficit in receipts to the program fund; and that the presbytery is currently using reserve funds to meet current obligations.

- Co-Executive Presbyter Hugh Anderson led the third of three presentations by Cascades' elected staff on "Vitality And Renewal In Cascades" with description and analysis of the life cycle and stages of congregational development.
- As a part of the report on the work of The Synod of the Pacific, Bradford Holmes, the Director of synod's Zephyr Point Conference Center was introduced and spoke of the ministries of Zephyr Point at Lake Tahoe.
- As a part of the Mission Support Committee report, Barbara Campbell and Greg Anable presented a report on their visit to south India and the work of the BIRDS project there.
- On behalf of The Presbyterian Women of the Cascades, PW President Marsha Landrith presented Stated Clerk John Huenink with an Honorary Life Membership in Presbyterian Women for his commitment to Christ and the mission of the church.
- The Presbytery Nominating Committee nominated and the presbytery elected the following people to serve as Cascades' Commissioners to the 219th General Assembly to be held in Minneapolis MN on July 3-10, 2010: Ministers- David Hampton, Aleida Jernigan, Audrey Schindler; Elders- Tracy Cerri (Malin), Verne Duncan (Milwaukie) and Judy Hubbard (Vancouver). Jaclyn Hill



Elder Robert Buckley, 2009-2010 Moderator of Presbytery

serve a congregation in that presbytery.

- Gregory G. Bolt, a candidate under the care of The Presbytery of West Virginia, was examined for ordination on the basis of his call to serve as Associate Pastor of First Pres-



Presbyters in opening service of worship on Friday, 11/13

(Bend) was elected as Cascades' Young Adult Advisory Delegate. Alternates in all categories were also elected.

- The Personnel and Administration Committee moved and the presbytery acted to approve 2010 Terms of Call for its called/elected staff at the same compensation terms as in 2009. The P&A Committee reported that a Stated Clerk Selection Committee is being formed to nominate a successor to John Huenink as Cascades' Stated Clerk to begin duties after John's retirement in mid-2010.
- An item of new business proposing presbytery action to dissolve Hope Presbyterian Church in Rogue River and release its property was referred to the Hope, Rogue River Administrative Commission.
- On the recommendation of the presbytery's Committee on Preparation for Ministry, the presbytery acted to enroll Susan M. Van Stelle (a member of Oak Hills Presbyterian Church, Milwaukie) and David J. Norse (a member of Tualatin Presbyterian Church) as Inquirers for the Ministry of the Word and Sacrament. The presbytery established an Administrative Commission to ordain Candidate Paton M. Wall (Nov. 22, 2009 at First Presbyterian Church, Portland) pending his successful examination by Grace Presbytery on the basis of his receipt of a call to

byterian Church in Bend. The examination was sustained. He is to be ordained by The Presbytery of West Virginia and transferred as a Minister of Word and Sacrament to The Presbytery of the Cascades.

- The Rev. Dr. Rose Niles (Presbytery of Hudson River; General Assembly Mission Council Staff) and The Rev. John Pickrell (Boise Presbytery; Synod Theological Education Coordinator) reported on the work of The Committee on Theological Education and commended Cascades for its long and faithful and generous support of Theological Education.
- On the recommendation of Presbytery Council, the presbytery acted to adopt a 2010 per capita apportionment rate of \$11.23 per active member (unchanged from 2009); to adopt a 2010 Administrative Budget in the amount of \$588,905; and to adopt a 2010 Program Budget in the amount of \$1,554,549.
- Council Chair Christopher Grewe reported that in response to an inquiry received from The Office of the General Assembly, Presbytery Council had acted to express formal interest in Cascades' being considered to host the 222nd General Assembly (2016) in Portland and that the stated clerk had communicated Cascades' action to The Office of the General Assembly.