

## Educators Invited to Explore "Generations in the Church"

Cascades Presbytery invites Christian Educators, pastors, and all interested persons to the 2007 Educator's Event, Tuesday and Wednesday, April 24-25, 2007, at Mt. Angel Abby. Keynoter will be Forrest C. Palmer, Jr., a Certified Christian Educator and Executive Associate Presbyter for the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta.

Palmer has led "Generations in the Church" workshops for the denominational Transformation Conference, Association of Presbyterian Church Educators (APCE), presbyteries and local churches. He also created a "Generations" 5-day Vacation Bible School series and had a "Generations" article published in the APCE "Advocate" magazine.

The Event organizing committee consists of Scott Crane, Program Director at Menucha Retreat and Conference Center; Roberta Schlechter, **St. Andrew's, Portland**; Mary Gillespie, **First, Medford**, and Dee Willson, **Southminster, Beaverton**.

Of the 2007 theme, Crane says, "When we look at our church today, we are finding numerous challenges that face our churches,



**Forrest Palmer**  
our ministries, and our denomination. One of those challenges is finding out how to reach

the different generations that comprise our programs and our congregations. We have volunteers who range from the generation of the WWII era to Generations X and Y. Each generation responds differently to volunteerism, ministry outreach, expectations, and guidance."

Costs are \$90 for overnight guests and \$50 for commuters. Both include meals. Registration materials are available at the presbytery website: [www.cascadepresbytery.org](http://www.cascadepresbytery.org).

### OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Presbytery of the Cascades  
Will Have a Stated Meeting

Friday and Saturday, March 9 – 10, 2007

Westminster Presbyterian Church  
2000 Oakwood Drive, Medford, OR 97504

A mailing will be sent prior to the meeting with more details. Information on the docket and on the pre-presbytery workshops will be posted on the website, [www.cascadepresbytery.org](http://www.cascadepresbytery.org).

## Summer Conference Offers Something for Every One

Cascades Summer Conference will provide many opportunities to respond to Whitworth College President Bill Robinson's keynote speeches about "Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the 21st Century." A variety of workshops will offer tools and thoughts to enhance the exploration of Robinson's theme.

"Proclaiming the Gospel" suggests evangelism. Matt Hilgaertner, Associate Pastor at Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, will introduce "the missional church." Considering the diversity so prevalent in the 21st century, Will Deming, Associate Professor of Theology at the University of Portland, will sketch "What Christians Should Know about Other Religions."

Leaders need inspiration. Elizabeth Winslea, a Presbyterian Co-Pastor of Lincoln Street and Sunnyside United Methodist Churches in Portland, will help "beginning and experienced writers find support to write from their deepest selves."

Deacons, Stephen Ministers, and pastors need continuing education. Chaplain Louis

Nieuwenhuizen from Rogue Valley Medical Center will teach "The Healing Journey and the Role of 'Belief' in the 21st Century."

Leaders need help with "nuts and bolts" of ministry. Beverly Crow, Interim Pastor of First Presbyterian Church in Spokane, will present Ruth and Jonah (the 2007-2008 Horizons Bible study). Jenny Holmes, our Presbytery's Eco-Justice Educator, will teach "Biblical Earth Stewardship." Chuck Falconer, a retired Presbyterian minister, will introduce "Technology in Today's Church" for accounting, Bible study, data management, and worship.

Leaders need perspective. Elder LaVae Robertson, an Elder at First, Creswell, and Greg Lund, Pastor of Oak Hills, Milwaukie, will lead "Finding Our Center In Jesus." They will draw on their experiences with the presbytery's discussion group in response to the General Assembly's "Theological Task Force on Peace, Unity, and Purity of the Church."

Whom will your Church send? Choose some leaders, provide some help with the cost, and support them in prayer as they attend the Cascades Summer Conference from June 24 – 29, 2007, at Reed College in Portland.

## SFTS Professor to Teach Certification Course

The Reverend Eung E.C. Park, Robert S. Dollar Professor of New Testament at San Francisco Theological Seminary, will teach the certification course offered each year at the Cascades Summer Conference, June 24 – 29. Titled, "Reading Matthew in a Postmodern Era," the class is open to those in both the Commissioned Lay Pastor and Christian Educator Certification tracks. It is also open to laypersons and clergy with interest in the subject.



**Eung E.C. Park**

his class is an introduction to the Gospel of Matthew, primarily in its original historical context, but it will also critically reflect upon the meaning (s) of the text in an increasingly pluralistic post-modern society.

Park recently published an article, "The Golden Rule in Matthew's Soteriology," and delivered four keynote speeches on "Reading Matthew in a Postmodern Era" at the 2005 PC(USA) Racial Ethnic Pastors Conference held in Asilomar, California..

He was elected a member of the Studium Novi Testamenti Societas at their 60th annual meeting in Wittenberg, Germany this past August.

Park sees himself primarily as a New Testament scholar whose engagement with the text has both historical and theological dimensions. Conscious of the inevitable fact that history is written with anything but neutrality, he is interested in discerning what existential realities, understood theologically or otherwise, influenced the perspectives of the New Testament writers, with which they interpreted, reshaped, and transmitted the faith traditions they inherited from those who preceded them.

He is an ordained minister of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and also has a congenial relationship with Korean Presbyterian churches in the U. S. and in Korea.

### In this issue...

Leadership Fair	p. 2
Viewpoints	p. 3
Positively Presbyterian	p. 4
125 Years at First Vancouver	p. 5
Voices	p. 6
Prayer Calendar	p. 7
Eco Justice	p. 8

### 2007 Deadlines

March 19	Apr/May Issue
May 21	Jun/Jul Issue
July 16	Aug/Sep Issue
September 17	Oct/Nov Issue
November 19	Dec/Jan Issue

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## John L. Anderson Death Noted

The Rev. Dr. John L. Anderson died in his sleep December 7, 2006, in Portland at the age of 97.

John was born in Bridgewater, South Dakota on September 6, 1909 and was raised in that area. He attended Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, and received a B.A. degree from Coe. He then attended the University of Minnesota and received a B.D. degree from McCormick Theological Seminary. He was ordained as a Presbyterian Minister by The Presbytery of Eastern Iowa on May 20, 1934. He then continued his education at New College of The University of Edinburgh in Scotland and earned a doctorate degree from Phillips University in Marburg, Germany.

John's early ministries were as a member of the faculty and chaplain at The College of Idaho (now Albertson College) in Caldwell, Idaho, where he managed a program for the education of WWII veterans. He served the college also as its golf coach – showing his Scottish heritage and his passion for the game. From 1948 until his retirement in 1977, John served as a distinguished, respected and admired professor on the faculty of Lewis & Clark College in Portland, during which time

he served also as Department Head of the Religious Studies Department and as the college golf coach. During his tenure at Lewis & Clark College, he led student groups on tours to Greece and to Iran.

He was received in 1948 as a member of The Presbytery of Portland (now The Presbytery of the Cascades) by transfer from The Presbytery of Boise. He served not only in his many college duties, but also as a much-in-demand "visiting lecturer," teaching classes on religion for many congregations in the Portland area. He served in temporary pastoral relationships at **Lake Grove** (three times), **Kenilworth** (three times), **St. Mark** (three times), and **Orengo** (two times). His "home church" was the St. Mark congregation, and he was active in work and worship there for more than half a century. He served on presbytery committees on Church and Society, Preparation For Ministry, and Westminster Foundation/Campus Ministries. He was a commissioner to three General Assemblies and served as a Moderator of Synod. He was on the Board of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon for several years.

## Great Opportunities at Leadership Fair

Would you like to build stronger relationships? Does your church need small groups that function as gospel communities? Do you want to revitalize your prayer life? Or are you just looking for something good to read? Workshops at the Cascades Leadership Fair on Saturday, February 24, at Lake Grove, Lake Oswego, address all these questions and many more.

Rick Ufford-Chase, recent moderator of the national church and now Executive Director

of Presbyterian Peace Fellowship will keynote the 8:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. event, which also includes worship, lunch and two rounds of workshops.

You can print out registration materials from the website, [www.cascadespresbytery.org](http://www.cascadespresbytery.org). The fee is \$15 per person, with childcare available by advance request at \$10 per child. Deadline to sign up for the event is February 16.

### Presbytery of the Cascades

#### MEDIA RESOURCE CENTER

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

You may reserve videos in person on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 9:30-5:00 (please call first); by phone at 503-445-4999 or 866-200-5660, or by linking through the presbytery website, [www.cascadespresbytery.org](http://www.cascadespresbytery.org).



Let me use this first sentence to wish you all a blessed and magical 2007!

**Lent and Easter items:** Your free lending library has lots of useful items here under the section on Church Seasons on the Resource Center's web page. Type in a keyword such as "Easter," and see what comes up. Do a title search if you know the actual name i.e. The Robe, The Wall, or search for a particular author with the author search. The Media Resource Center is a link on the Presbytery of the Cascades web site – left hand side, center of the column.

#### New in Resource Center

**An Inconvenient Truth** (DVD) Hosted by Al Gore. We've had several requests for this documentary on global warming.

**The Great Warming** (DVD), also on global warming. It should be here by the time you receive this newsletter. This is about Christians as a group doing what they can to help stop the warming process.

**Congregational Resources** (Book – BKCA012)- A very important little book which includes 10 chapters to help guide congregations to discover resources for building vitality. Topics include: spiritual windsurfing, connecting to sources of wisdom and help, faith and money, to be a "Paraboloni" (one who takes a risk) and understanding congregational anxiety. I recommend this one.

**First Corinthians** (3 DVD Set – DVBB1001) by Ken Bailey Finally Ken is no longer a "talking head" but is actually on location in the Holy Land. This is a three DVD set.

The Lord's Prayer . ( DVD - DVEEX011) also by Ken Bailey. A most interesting dissection of the famous prayer from someone who has lived in the Middle East for 35 years.

**As a reminder:** we have two videos on Bullying. The one for kids is subtitled "Standing Up for Yourself and Others," and gives concrete steps they can take to respond to bullying. Ask for: VTGJ5014 (kids) or VTGJ5015 (adults) VT= video tape

See you at the March Presbytery meeting in Medford!

Maureen O'Rourke, Resource Center Director

### 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](http://www.cascadespresbytery.org).

Omnibus welcomes news and views of 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](mailto:omnibus@cascadespresbytery.org)

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

## David Van Dyck Death Reported

The Rev. David Bevier Van Dyck (HR) died in Portland, December 6, 2006, at the age of 84.

David was born on February 15, 1923 in Huai Yuan in the Anhui Province of China as the son of missionary parents and was raised in China. He attended Princeton Theological Seminary and received B.D. and M.Div. degrees from Princeton. He attended Union Seminary in New York City receiving an S. T. M. degree from that institution. He was ordained as a Presbyterian Minister of Word and Sacrament in May, 1950 by The Presbytery of New Brunswick.

David became a member of The Presbytery of the Cascades in 1980, and was granted the status of Honorably Retired in June, 1990.

David's pastoral service included the following: pastor of the Presbyterian Churches in Hot Springs and Lonepine, Montana and campus minister at the University of Montana in Missoula, Montana. From 1955-1966, he served the United Church of Japan and the YMCA in Japan. In Oregon he served as pastor at **McKenzie Valley, Waltherville**; as interim pastor at **St. Mark, Portland; Community, Redmond; Tualatin Plains ("Old Scotch"), Hillsboro**, and **Smith Memorial, Fairview**.

David was an active presbyter, serving on a number of committees. He was a commissioner to General Assemblies in 1955, 1961, 1967, and 1976. He was active in the work of United Ministries in Higher Education and often served as an interpreter of the church's work in China.

## Mission Day Event to Replace Mission Conference

A Mission Day Event will be on May 5, 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at **John Knox, Keizer**, 452 Cummings Lane, N Keizer, OR 97307. Registration is \$15.00 and will cover lunch. Check the website for registration details: [www.cascadespresbytery.org](http://www.cascadespresbytery.org).

One of the keynote speakers will be The Reverend Dr. Sirirat at Pusurinkham, pastor of Prachakittisuk "Happy People" Church, Thailand. Sirirat not only pastors the members of this congregation, she also oversees the activities at the orphanage she helped build at the church. The orphanage cares for HIV/AIDS orphan children. Sirirat also advocates abolishing the human traffic/prostitution that afflicts Thailand and the surrounding countries

The other keynote speaker is Viktor Makari, Louisville Staff to Middle Eastern Ministries, PCUSA. Makari was part of the group of 100 Presbyterians who went to the Holy Land last year.

# Cascades Viewpoints

By Aleida Jernigan

It's about Jesus....

By the time this issue of the Omnibus is printed, Advent, Christmastide, and Epiphany will have ended. Christmas decorations will have been taken off and packed away; presents that did not fit the size or the lifestyle returned; the polite thank you cards sent, even on those instances where they were returned. After all, it is the thought that counts. With a few more pounds showing around our waists, we breathe a sigh of relief; now that the holidays are over we can go back to "normal" – worship services, committee meetings....

It's about Jesus...

On the Fourth Sunday of Advent, I met "Mark," (not his real name) a young barista at an express drive-through Starbucks in Gresham. When I drove up to the cash window he explained that his computer had failed to capture my order, and he had to re-enter it. While we both waited for my order, he engaged me in conversation.

"How is your day going?" he asked.

"Fine, I was just at church," I replied.

"I hate to see Christmas be over," he con-

tinued, with a big smile on his face. "I love the lights, decorations, music, all of it."

Mindful of the cars behind me I quickly responded: "The church here in your community will have several services tonight; if you have no church of your own, you may want to try it." As I drove away I found myself sending a telegram prayer to God: Dear God, grant that this young man finds a way to keep the Christmas spirit alive in him.

It's about Jesus...

After enjoying my latté drink, I headed for the nearby grocery store. There, I was greeted by a cheerful, smiling cashier. He, too, asked how my day was going and whether I was ready for Christmas. In the short conversation we had, we spoke of church. I told him of the church up the road where I had just gone for worship. We celebrated the fact that the store management gave employees the Christmas day off and the importance of being with family and friends at Christmas.

It's about Jesus...

Driving home I reflected on my Sunday morning. I had enjoyed my time in wor-

ship – lovely Christmas music, an inspiring message and fellowship; the church halls adorned with garlands, poinsettias, and other symbols of the season. During "Prayers of the People," there were the obvious festive thanks and prayers of joys, but there were also the prayers for peace in our homes and the world and prayers for healing and wholeness. All the prayers pointed to our need for Jesus in our lives and in our broken world.

It's about Jesus...

My morning encounters were, for me, a vivid reminder of what the Church's Mission is. During Advent and in preparation for Jesus' coming, the ancient Church felt it important to remind people of who Jesus is and how important He is to their lives. That's the task of the church today, too. The church's proclamation is always centered in Jesus Christ, who He is, and His importance to our lives.

It's about Jesus... without Jesus, all of these celebrations and actions are really worthless.

## Keeping Track of the PNC Process

At Community, Yachats, one can keep track of the Pastor Nominating Committee (PNC) process just by looking at the display in the hallway between the sanctuary and fellow-

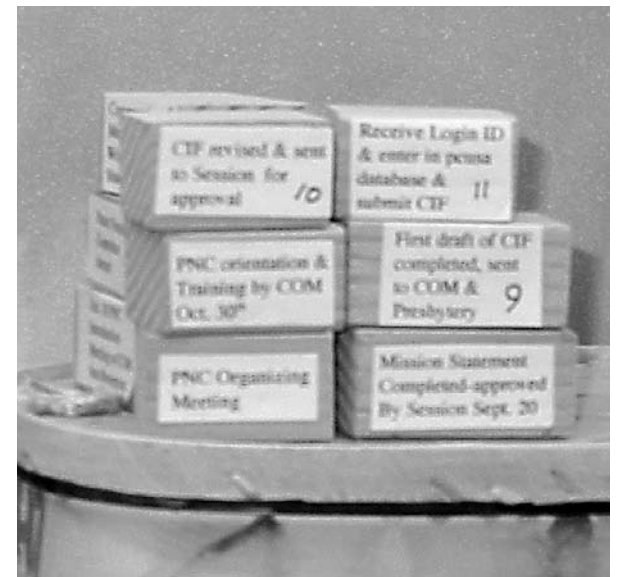
ship hall. There's a three dimensional status report fashioned after something Yachats residents know well – the near-shore work of crab fishing vessels.



Jim Finlayson of the Yachats Pastor Nominating Committee looks at the fog-shrouded boat fishing for a pastor. As steps in the process are completed, boxes are hauled from the ocean floor to the stern of the boat. (Photo by Tam Moore)

As each stage unfolds a box on the ocean floor is hoisted aboard the stern of the vessel. They were expecting Presbytery approval to post the church information form with the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) when these pictures were taken in late December.

Jim Finlayson, chair of the pastor nominating committee, says the nautical display is the brainchild of one of the committee members. A hallway display case makes a ready home for the changing status report.



About halfway through the process, boxes stack up on the Yachats fishing boat. (Photo by Tam Moore)



### Ask the Clerk

**Q: Why are the clerks of presbyteries, synods, and the General Assembly given the title "Stated Clerk," while the clerks of sessions have the title "Clerk of Session"?**

A: The constitution of the Presbyterian Church (USA) specifies (in G-9.0201) that each and every governing body (that is, sessions, presbyteries, synods,

and the general assembly) must have a moderator and a clerk, although they may have additional officers as they may choose. A clerk of a session is an elder elected by a session "for such term as it may determine" (G-9.0302b). The term of service may be indefinite – and I have heard of clerks who have served for more than four decades in the office. A clerk of a session must be an elder but does not need necessarily to be in active service on a session to serve as a clerk of session. Some clerks may serve a term or two in active service and then may continue to serve as the clerk of session (a clerk not in active service may have voice at meetings only by action

of the session and does not have the privilege of vote). A stated clerk, on the other hand, is elected to a specific (that is, "stated") term of service, ordinarily specified in the bylaws or standing rules of the electing body. Some stated clerks serve for terms of three, four, five, six or even more years and are ordinarily, but not always, eligible for reelection to an additional stated term or terms by the particular governing body. A stated clerk must be a presbyter – that is, either a minister or an elder. Cascades' Stated Clerk is elected to a five-year term and is eligible for reelection to an indefinite number of terms

# Positively Presbyterian

*Editor's Note: The Northwest Region is missing from this issue because of circumstances beyond our control. Look for its return in the next issue.*

## Central Region

By Bruce Smith

Music in the form of a cantata, "Let Heaven and Nature Sing Gloria!" was a year-end treat at **First, Woodburn**. Music Director Debra Huddleston led the cantata.

**Peace, Eugene** held a musical that had a Scottish theme. A different musical exercise has Bruce Cameron of **Peace, Eugene** looking for teachers who want to learn to play the guitar for their schools under the program, "Guitars in the Classroom."

**First, Newport** dedicated their newly renovated and expanded sanctuary in January.



They also had a premier recital presentation on their new Mason & Hamlin piano in January. Their organist, Don Jenkins, provided a narration to accompany the music.

At **Westminster, Eugene**, "A Ceremony of Carols" by Benjamin Britten was the musical offering which covered a wide selection of carols arranged or composed by John Rutter and John Jacob Niles. "I Wonder as I Wander" was sung a cappella by Kara Quello.

**First, Creswell** youth provided the congregation with a play titled, "A King is Coming to Town," telling the real story of Christmas.

Feeding others was not far from the minds of some churches. **John Knox, Keizer** was given a \$1,000 grant to supplement the cost of Christmas boxes. **Westminster, Eugene** collected 3,267 ½ pounds of foodstuffs in their "Big Blue" barrel. **First, Mills City** and their neighboring churches are competing with the churches in Gates to see which city can provide the most foodstuffs for the local Food Bank. The winning churches are to be treated to a potluck dinner in January.

For over 12 years, **First, Corvallis** has been providing replacement arms and legs for landmine victims in Cambodia where the UN reports that one person in every 300 is a landmine-caused amputee.

Stewardship campaigns have been the norm this fall and final results are being tallied. **Westminster, Salem**, reports that pledges are running 13.2% over the average pledge of last year. **Community, Redmond** is wrapping up its financial campaign anticipating a 4% increase over last year's pledges.

Wedding plans continue for Ryan Shrauner, **First, Woodburn**, who is to wed his bride in February in Lexington, Kentucky where he plans to live. Rob Elder and Christine Welsh of **First, Salem** were married in December at a small ceremony in the church chapel.

Paula Hewitt of **Calvin, Corvallis** left for Latvia in December for three months prior to a permanent move there in June. Debra An-

derson is a newly hired Director of Children's Ministries at **First, Corvallis**. She comes with a broad experience to this position and is currently pursuing a master's degree in the Old Testament.

Denise Moser, **Western Oregon University, Monmouth**, reminds us that while WOU receives funds from the Methodists, Episcopalians, and Presbyterians churches, that support does not completely fund that ministry. The **Koinonia Center, Eugene** is looking for ceramic mugs to eliminate the use of paper cups. They are also looking for more forks. The supper group has exactly the number of forks to cover the diners. More people require more forks.

## Northeast Region

By Jan Noller

At Christmas time, **Rose City Park, Portland** uses their peacemaking monies to get material to make simple hats and scarves for "Keep Warm," a Portland project to keep the homeless and low-income a little warmer on rainy winter nights. **Springwater, Estacada** sent their portion of the peacemaking offering to Dushanbe, Tajikistan with socks, hats, mittens and money for coal to heat school classrooms.

An Angel Tree at **Smith Memorial, Fairview**, provides gifts for "con's kids," children with parents in prison. They hoped to provide 105 gifts.

In worship at both **Westminster, Portland**, and **Milwaukie**, thanks to stethoscopes and P.A. systems, the children and adults listened to a baby's heartbeat as part of expecting anew the baby Jesus.

**Milwaukie** and **Piedmont, Portland**, work with Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon to match people who are seeking housing with people who have a room to rent. Background checks are run on all participants. **Piedmont** has opened a Play Park for children, five years and younger on Fridays between 3 and 5 p.m. Adults stay onsite to supervise their tots.

Free Bibles - **Gateway, The Dalles**, wants everyone to have a Bible so they are giving them to those who need a Bible or someone they know who needs one.

A Service of Renewal was held by **East Woods, Vancouver**, during Advent to honor the hurt, to remind us of loss and absence; to look for hope in the midst of pain. On January 28, East Woods will have a ground breaking for their new building.

**First, Vancouver** was founded in 1882. So that makes the church 125 years in 2007. To honor this anniversary the church has developed commemorative tree ornaments, gift baskets, stories of former pastors and long time members and guest speakers.

**Columbia, Vancouver's** news letter, "The Pilot Light," now comes in color with Kyocera color ink. This is cheaper than using colored paper. **Mt. Scott Park, Portland**, also is publishing in color.

For an Advent outreach project, **Cherry Park, Troutdale**, hung door knob type gift bags containing Christmas treats and a schedule of December activities on doors in the neighborhood.

**Community, Moro** had a special Christmas tree under which the members put canned foods and cash tied to its branches. The Sherman County Food Bank is the beneficiary.

A **St. Johns, Camas** team has returned

from Luling, Louisiana with pictures showing the home they gutted of a retired school teacher. They also cleared the backyard to ready the house for renovating. They did spend one night in the French Quarter for fun. **BIRDS**, a hostel for AIDS orphans in India is a partner in mission with **St. Johns**. The Pastor and others recently returned from visiting the hostel and are looking for donors for specific needs. In the new year, **St. Johns** is renovating their chancel.

**Cascades, Vancouver**, is focusing on healthy families in January with a free workshop on building healthy marriages and a series on "Parenting/Grandparenting with Love and Logic."

**Savage Memorial, Portland**, set up an Alternative Market in their Fellowship Hall. Members were invited to shop at Beyond Borders, CASA, CWS Blanket Program, Heifer Intl., Mercy Corps and Shepherd's Door. Each Gift purchased helped someone else in addition to the recipient.

**Laurelhurst, Portland**, is using the five minute rule. It says that's all it takes to make a positive or negative impression on guests in their worship service. Members are asked to take the first five minutes to look for guests to greet. After that they are free to visit with anyone.

**Westminster, Portland** has started a "Family of Friends" mentoring program for six to nine year olds. Its goal is to help children in high-risk conditions experience healthy relationships with caring adults.

**Presbyterian Urban Network (PUN)** with eight small congregations including **Kenilworth, Portland** has received a grant from **Lake Grove, Lake Oswego** to fund a parish nurse for the eight churches.

**Eastminster, Portland** funded supplies for Shirley Marcy to go with a team to LaJagua, Honduras. The Hondurans specifically requested medical help for diagnosis of cervical cancer.

## South Region

By Ann Moore

**First, Ashland** did an intergenerational Valentine project for the troops in Iraq. They made arrangements with a unit there that has a humanitarian branch. They asked each soldier to share the message of love with Iraqi children in their care. The church artists and poets made twice as many cards as soldiers so this could be accomplished.

**Bethany, Grants Pass** celebrated its 119<sup>th</sup> birthday in December. It was chartered in 1887 by the Rev. Robert McLean and was the sixth Presbyterian church organized in southern Oregon. Since the charter, the church has called 19 pastors.

**First, Brookings** has a new bell at the front of the church. It rings 10 times at five minutes before the start of each Sunday service. The bell is estimated to be more than 100 years old. It was originally on a train operating between Sacramento and Truckee, California. When the train wrecked, several businessmen in Sacramento rescued the bell and installed it at a summer cabin. When the final owner, Tom Blanchard, moved to Brookings, the bell came with him. It stayed in his garage for 20 years, then it found a permanent home at **First** church. Lenten Soup Suppers will be ecumenical in Brookings, shared among **First**, and then the Catholic, Lutheran and Episcopal churches.

# First, Vancouver Celebrates 125 Years

**First, Vancouver** will culminate a year of celebratory activities as it commemorates its 125th anniversary with special events looking at its past and focusing on its future in January and February, 2007. Participants will “Celebrate Family,” in January and “Celebrate New Beginnings,” in February.

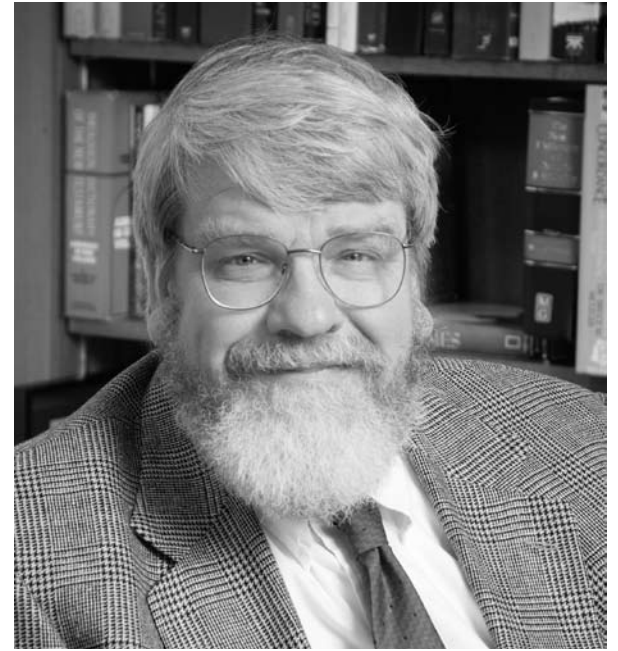
Some 125 years ago on February 18, 1882, a group of 15 men and women met and organized the church. From that starting point the church has maintained a Christian witness in this community.

Their buildings have included the one built in 1885, which burned completely, one built in 1912 that is the current Art Center at 12th and Daniels in Vancouver, where the original stained glass windows have been maintained. The present building on Main Street, built 50 years ago, suffered a devastating fire on October 23, 1980.

To celebrate this historic anniversary, a full year of activities has been completed during 2006. Each month had a special theme that was the focus for printed material and events. These included Celebrations of Love, Faith, Music, Women, Men, Nature, Education, Community, Art, Giving, and Christmas.

The remaining celebrations include Celebrate Family in January and Celebrate New Beginnings in February. On January 27, “A Journey in Time” has been planned where children will enjoy and interact with some of the items used by pioneers. At noon, pizza and pop will be served, and families can enjoy playing a variety of table games. In the early afternoon, the New Horizons Jazz Band will play danceable music.

“Celebrate New Beginnings” will be held on February 17 and 18. See the accompanying article for details of this event.



**David Johnson**

## David Johnson to Deliver “Marching Orders” at Vancouver Seminar

By Nancy Gaston

“Marching Orders: The Church Enters a New Century” is the theme of a pair of lectures to be given by David W. Johnson on Saturday, February 17, at **First, Vancouver**. The church is offering the seminar as part of the celebration of its 125th anniversary.

Johnson is Director of Supervised Practice of Ministry and the Certificate of Spiritual Formation Program at Austin Theological Seminary. He holds B.A. and M.Div. degrees from Yale and a PhD from Princeton Theological Seminary. He says his favorite quote (extracanonical) is from Augustine: “Love and do what you will.” His greatest adventure was his first and last flying lesson.

He notes that in this era of declining church attendance, “spiritual but not religious” is an increasingly common self-designation. Johnson finds this puzzling and somewhat troubling, observing that “spiritual but not religious” is something like “breathing without oxygen.” His lectures will be based on the assumption that religious tradition and spirituality are inextricably linked and that the church is charged with both preservation and transformation.

The seminar begins with 9 a.m., registration. A 9:30 lecture, “Treasure in Clay Pots: The Church’s Task of Preservation,” and an 11:15 talk, “Witness to the Light: The Church’s Task of Transformation,” will be fol-

lowed by responses from a panel consisting of three pastors: Aleida Jernigan, Co-Executive of our presbytery; Scott Phillips, pastor of Eastwoods, Vancouver; and Michael Brown, pastor of First, Vancouver. Lunch is included.

Fee for the event, to defray costs and cover lunch, is \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door. Send checks to First Presbyterian Church, 4300 Main Street, Vancouver, WA 98663. Call 360-694-3363 for further information.

A free 125th Celebration Concert in the sanctuary will immediately follow the seminar at 2:30 p.m., and all are invited. Johnson will preach the next day, February 18, at an 11 a.m. service with a gala anniversary celebration following worship.

## Springwater Dedicates New Organ

Springwater Presbyterian Church, Estacada, dedicated its new organ in a concert on Sunday, January 14, 2007. Guest artist, J. Allan MacKinnon, played the “new” Technics organ, a gift of Walter and Alice Freeman. “It’s a real organ donation,” Pastor Eileen Parfrey laughs. “The kind that doesn’t involve a trip to the hospital.”

Freeman, a retired machine shop operator, was a musical hobbyist looking for a Presbyterian church to receive the organ. “Trading up” over 50 years, he acquired an instrument with more capabilities than that of most hobbyists. “A church of our size,” says Parfrey, “would not even dream of an organ with this one’s capabilities, sounds, and programming options. We were matched up through connections between Presbyterian churches in the area. But it turns out that the connection between Springwater and Mr. Freeman goes even deeper.” Mr. Freeman’s daughter is married to the son of one of the oldest members of the congregation, Dr. Bill Shearer.

Allan MacKinnon of Juneau, Alaska is also connected to the congregation. Parfrey confides, “Mr. MacKinnon is very generous.” Again, it is family connections that brings a musician of his caliber to this part of the world. MacKinnon’s brother is Clerk of Session, Donald MacKinnon.

MacKinnon’s organ credentials are impressive, Parfrey notes. “He gives regular Friday noon organ and carillon performances in the Alaska State Office Building,” which houses one of the most impressive old theater organs in the West.

A graduate of both Sheldon Jackson College in Sitka and the Westminster Choir College of Rider University in Princeton, New



**J. Allan MacKinnon**

Jersey, he has been music director of the Northern Light United Church in Juneau since 1976. MacKinnon is also active in community music, including organizing the Juneau Oratorio Choir and producing countless Juneau-area concerts by international performers such as Dionne Warwick, Vienna Boys Choir, Warsaw Philharmonic Chamber Orchestra, Dave Brubeck Quartet, and Dizzie Gillespie.

“We think an organ still has a place in a 21<sup>st</sup> century church,” Parfrey says. “We have an electric piano and blue grass group that play for worship, but almost everyone wants organ music as they walk down the aisle. An

organ with the options and range of sounds available on this one makes it more of a community asset than just something for weddings. We asked Mr. MacKinnon to show us what this new baby can do.”

And that he did! MacKinnon’s offers covered a wide range of musical selections, from J. S. Bach to pop to modern. MacKinnon encouraged the overflow crowd to sing along on hymns. At a reception following the concert, MacKinnon demonstrated the range of the programmable functions of the organ. Mr. Freeman looked on with pride, as his “baby” found a new and loving home.

## Upcoming Concerts on the *Celebration Works* Series at First Portland

First Presbyterian's recital series, *Celebration Works*, will present three concerts in February and March. **Belle Voci Women's Vocal Ensemble** hosts the Third Annual Treble Choir Workshop and Concert on Saturday, February 3, at 7:30 p.m. Designed as a way to show younger singers how they can enjoy music throughout their lives, the Treble Choir Workshop has been a project of Belle Voci for three years. The workshop culminates with a concert in which each of the groups participating in the workshop sing separate performances as well as a work for all the choirs together. This concert is always inspiring as the audience is given a glimpse of the many gifts music can bring to singers of all ages.

On Sunday, March 4, at 3:00 p.m., the **FPC Chamber Choir** directed by Jon Stuber will present "A Laugh and A Song." The concert will focus on light and humorous music for mixed chorus performed by a select ensemble of 16 singers. This concert will be given in Chapel Hall, which has seating for only about 80. Seating is on a first come, first served basis.

The church's 69-rank Jaeckel pipe organ



**First, Portland Chamber Choir**

is the star in an organ recital by **Jonas Nordwall**, organist at First United Methodist in Portland, on Sunday, March 25, at 3:00 p.m. An organ recital is the ideal setting to hear what this outstanding pipe organ can do.

All of the concerts are at First Presbyterian Church, 1200 SW Alder, downtown Portland.

Parking is now available in the underground garage adjacent to the church at SW 12<sup>th</sup> and Morrison. Bring your parking ticket to the concert to have it validated. Tickets for all concerts are sold at the door. Prices: \$10 for adults and \$5 for students and seniors. For more information, visit [www.fpcpdx.org](http://www.fpcpdx.org).

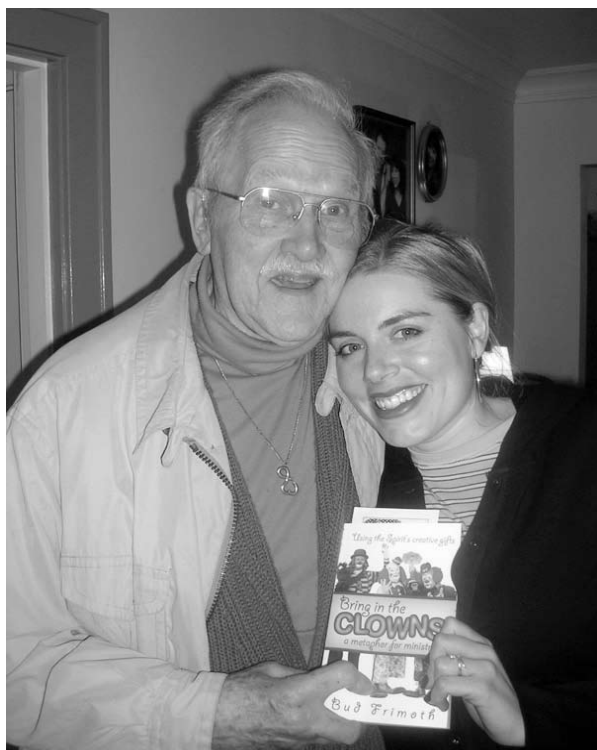
## **Voices** "It's about Risk!" The Story of Bud Frimoth's Unconventional Ministry

By Nancy Gaston

I knew about the clown ministry of Bud and Lenore Frimoth. They lived in Southeast Portland and took part in a worship service or two when I served Moreland Presbyterian Church in the '90s. And I'd heard tell of a radio ministry of Bud's, but knew little about it until Presbytery Communications Team fellow member Chris Frimoth, Bud's son, reminisced about his experiences as a teenager doing live radio broadcasts with his dad. Here, I thought, was a good story. I needed to meet with Bud and learn more.

"It fell into my lap," said Bud Frimoth about his start in radio ministry. Rodney Page of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon was doing a radio interview show and was ready to pass it on to someone else, and so Bud, who had long been interested in broadcasting, took over.

Very quickly, the show, with the encouragement of station management, took on a different shape. Open Door on Portland radio station KGW in 1970 began to feature writings by young people—read by youth—interspersed with "top 40" pop music. Over its 21-year life span, the show grew until it was heard on over 100 radio stations including major markets such as Seattle and San Francisco plus the 400



**Bud with his niece, Lisa Burns, and his new book. (Photo by Chris Frimoth)**

outlets of the Armed Forces Radio. Most were rock stations, "with a few Christian ones," Bud recalls. The non-"churchy" format and the rock music made most Christian stations leery. Each show ended with a brief message that it was "brought to you by the Presbyterian Church" but there were certainly no on-air altar calls.

Young listeners sent in their original writings until Bud had file cabinets full of them. And he collected over 3,000 LP records of pop tunes plus another 1,000 45s. A very powerful short-wave station, HCJB, in Quito, Ecuador, sent the program to listeners around the world, including some behind the Iron Curtain.

"We'd get letters from India, Japan, Britain, Australia, Russia and nations in Africa," says Bud. "Many listeners sent things to be read on the air." Military personnel in the South Pacific expressed their appreciation for the broadcasts.

This was truly a volunteer effort at first, with the young engineers and the on-air readers being youth from Bud's church youth groups (Kenilworth and then Sunset Presbyterian) as well as his own three kids. "The young people were amazingly dedicated," says Bud. "Of course, it was an ego trip at first, to be on the air, but the mission became very important to them." As the program grew, it became a full-time ministry for Bud, precluding serving a congregation. Open Door was incorporated as a nonprofit in the mid-1970s.

Topics of shows included issues such as sexual abuse and teen pregnancy that were seldom discussed in public at the time. The quality of the programs began to attract attention—and awards. Open Door received the Peabody, the highest award in broadcasting. Accepting it along with such honorees as Captain Kangaroo and the then-new Today Show was "overwhelming," Bud remembers.

Over the years the show garnered 40 awards in all, including seven Gabriels, six AR-BYs, eight Silver Angels, the Ohio State University Award, the Golden Mike award as the best program in the U.S. for youth, the Armed Forces Radio award and other recognition for best religious programming.

An event in the mid-1970s beckoned the Frimoths into new area of ministry. At a conference of a worldwide association of Christian communicators, Bud met Floyd Shaffer, who introduced him to Christian clowning. Bud was

immediately sold on the ministry—but not at first as a clown, himself. He talked his wife, Lenore, into becoming part of a group of clowns leading worship services, with Bud as the "straight man." Before long Bud, too, became a clown.

The clown ministry continued after the radio show ended in early 1992. Once they found a home for about 1600 tapes of broadcasts and many boxes of letters and scripts with the Oregon Historical Society, Bud and Lenore approached Providence Hospital in Portland with the idea of hospital clowning. When the officials realized this wasn't an attempt to proselytize ("It's a non-verbal ministry," Bud explained) they welcomed the clowns, and so did the patients. Bud and Lenore had taught classes in clowning for over 25 years, and their 10-year hospital ministry continued after their retirement, now being led by John Larsen, a "graduate" of the clowning classes.

Bud and Lenore's clown personae performed all over the world. One of their sons, Todd, "couldn't seem to stay home" and they accepted his invitations to perform in places where he taught, including Saudi Arabia, Hong Kong, and Austria with side trips into China and Denmark. "Bring your clowns" was a request they couldn't refuse. And the non-verbal nature of clowning allowed it to be effective everywhere.

Reminiscing about the long run for the radio program, Bud says, "The church was really not able to sustain the ministry financially. My family and some dear friends, along with Westminster, Portland, and some funding from presbytery carried us through as we indeed worked on the Spirit's wings and lots of prayer."

Asked what advice he'd give others, laity and clergy, Bud is quick to answer: "Risk! Don't be afraid to risk and to use your God-given gifts. I am grateful beyond words that I did so." He adds, "Proclamation from the pulpit isn't the only kind of effective outreach. Follow your gifts of the Spirit."

Bud shares that message in a recently published book he authored, *Bring in the Clowns: A Metaphor for Ministry*. It's available at Circuit Rider Books. Visit [www.circuitriderbooks.org](http://www.circuitriderbooks.org) or call 503-234-9625 or 800-637-3949. There is also a link to Circuit Rider on the presbytery website, [www.cascadespresbytery.org](http://www.cascadespresbytery.org).



# 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.

## March 2007

- 1 John R. Maynard, ordained this day in 1981, serving in Australia as pastor of St. John's Uniting Church, Presbytery of Westernport, Cowes, Victoria • Oak Hills Presbyterian Church, Milwaukie - chartered this day in 1963 • Louis Nieuwenhuizen, ordained this day in 1998, serving as chaplain at Rogue Valley Medical Center, Medford
- 2 Rick R. Ribeiro, installed as pastor of Warm Springs Presbyterian Church this day in 1986 • Judith Ann Richards, ordained this day in 1985
- 3 C. Alan Wilkerson, installed as pastor of Kenton Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 1991
- 4 Gina L. Campbell, candidate for the ministry, First Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 5 John B. Pierce, installed as pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Eugene, this day in 1989
- 6 Kenneth S. Mulder, installed as associate pastor of Sunset Presbyterian Church, this day in 1988
- 7 Julie White, Certified Christian Educator
- 8 Rex C. Parker, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1994
- 9 Cascades Presbytery meets today and tomorrow, Catherine Quackenbush, Moderator
- 10 P. Robert McCann, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1985
- 11 Mount Laki Community Presbyterian Church, Klamath Falls - chartered this day in 1909
- 12 Hugh D. Anderson, installed as co-executive presbyter of Presbytery of the Cascades this day in 2004 • Aleida Jernigan, installed as co-executive presbyter of Presbytery of the Cascades this day in 2004 • John R. Mahon, installed as co-executive presbyter of Presbytery of the Cascades this day in 2004
- 13 Jae Soon Lee, candidate for the ministry, Korean Presbyterian Church, Vancouver
- 14 Donald R. Shaw, Peacemaking Advocate/Hunger Action Enabler
- 15 Ivan W. Dean, candidate for the ministry, First Presbyterian Church, Merrill
- 16 John L. Smart, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2002
- 17 John W. Wallace, installed as pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 1996 • Sarah C. Lewis, ordained this day in 2002, serving as stated supply of Piedmont Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 18 First Presbyterian Church, Newberg - chartered this day in 1890 • Milwaukie Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 1951 • Bruce W. Cameron, installed as pastor of Peace Presbyterian Church, Eugene, this day 2001
- 19 Robert C. Groves, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1990
- 20 Arthur F. Dahlberg, granted Honor-

- ably Retired status this month in 1990
- 21 St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1954
- 22 John O. Reynolds, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1990
- 23 Mark N. Willems, installed as pastor at Community Presbyterian Church, Parkdale, this day in 2006 • Committee on Personnel & Administration, John Brinegar, Chair
- 24 F. Edward Patterson, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1988
- 25 Richard A. Christensen, ordained this day in 1973, serving as stated supply at Mount Laki Community Presbyterian Church, Klamath Falls
- 26 Steven H. Koski, installed as pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Bend, this day in 2006
- 27 Benjamin F. Dake, ordained this day in 1977, serving as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Cottage Grove
- 28 First Presbyterian Church, Lebanon - chartered this day in 1881
- 29 First Presbyterian Church, Medford - chartered this day in 1885
- 30 John G. Chatalas, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2002
- 31 Donald M. Mihalow, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2005 • William E. Taylor, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2006

## April 2007

- 1 John R. Finney, ordained this day in 1971, serving as a psychologist at the Veteran's Hospital, Roseburg
- 2 Jill Holseth, candidate for the ministry, Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, West Linn
- 3 Relational Support Committee - Beth Keys, Chair
- 4 Michael R. Hertz, ordained this month in 1990
- 5 Deborah M. Blair, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2002
- 6 Community Presbyterian Church, Waldport - chartered this month in 1901
- 7 Robert P. Sanders, installed as pastor of Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego, this day in 1991 • New Life Korean Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 2002
- 8 Sung Man Kim, ordained this day in 1992, serving as pastor of Calvary Korean Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 9 Eileen K. Parfrey, installed as pastor of Springwater Presbyterian Church, Estacada, this day in 2000
- 10 C. Todd Martin, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2001
- 11 Larry V.R. Bunnell, installed as pastor of Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church, Klamath Falls, this day in 1993
- 12 Community Presbyterian Church, Oakland - chartered this day in 1917
- 13 Brett A. Becker, installed as pastor of Bethany Presbyterian Church, Portland, this date in 1997
- 14 Jeffrey S. Sievert, installed as pastor of Reedville Presbyterian Church, Aloha this day in 1996
- 15 Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, Florence - chartered this day in 1984 • W. Ward Murray, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1993
- 16 James C. Petersen, granted Honor-

- ably Retired status this day in 1999
- 17 Vera Morrell, Vice Moderator, South Region
- 18 First Presbyterian Church, Vancouver - chartered this day in 1882
- 19 John H. Holloway, candidate for the ministry, Moreland Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 20 Amy E. Holloway, candidate for the ministry, Sunset Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 21 Jacob Chang Kim, installed as pastor of Hope Korean Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2002 • Hope Korean Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 2002
- 22 John L. Reimers, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1978
- 23 Douglas M. Satre, installed as associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville, this day in 2006 • Northminster Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1911
- 24 Nominating Committee of Presbytery of the Cascades - Emily Schue, Chair
- 25 James W. McKaughan, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1987
- 26 Alan B. Guffey, ordained this day in 1992
- 27 James M. Brown, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1996
- 28 St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1946 • Marcella (Peg) Pfab, installed as pastor of Southminster Presbyterian Church, Beaverton, this day in 2002
- 29 Karrie Brain-Marsh, ordained this day in 1990
- 30 James L. McDonald, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1997

### Presbytery of the Cascades Current Status of Open Churches

#### VACANT

Dallas, First  
Eugene, Westminster (Associate)  
Lakeside, Community  
Medford, Westminster (Associate)  
Pacific City

#### SEEKING INTERIMS OR STATED SUPPLY

Bethany, Beaverton (Associate)  
Milwaukie  
Woodburn

#### PREPARING TO ACTIVELY SEEK

Coos Bay, First  
Portland, Calvary  
Redmond, Community (Associate)  
Reedsport, United  
Salem, Westminster (Associate)

#### ACTIVELY SEEKING A PASTOR

(CIF submitted to Louisville)  
Bandon  
Eagle Creek (1/2 time)  
Merrill, Community  
Myrtle Point, First  
Portland, Chinese  
Portland, Sunset (Associate)  
Vancouver, Columbia  
Yachats, Community



Check the website regularly for  
breaking news:  
[www.cascadespresbytery.org](http://www.cascadespresbytery.org)

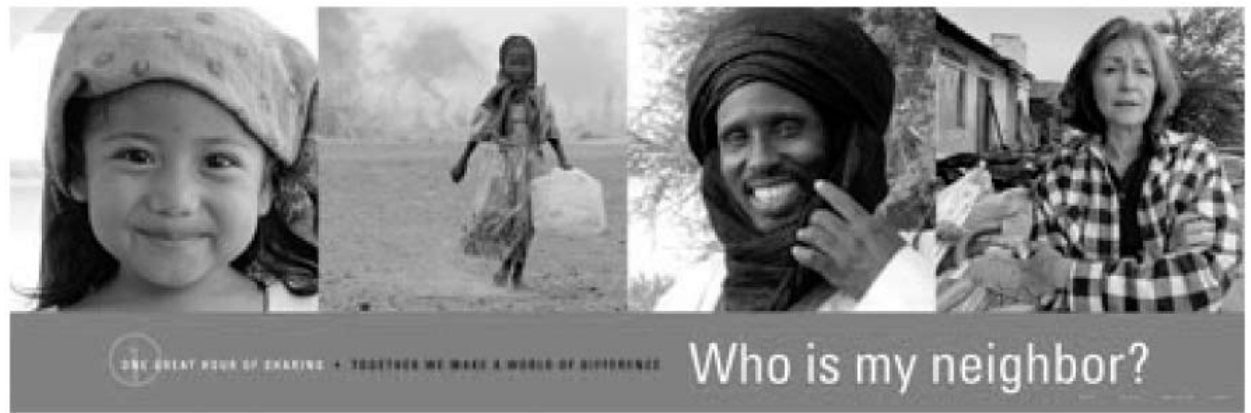
## 2007 One Great Hour of Sharing Theme – Who is my neighbor?

Since 1949, Presbyterians have joined with millions of other Christians through One Great Hour of Sharing to share God's love with people experiencing need. This year, with needs in every corner of the earth, the theme is "Who is my neighbor?"

Our gifts support ministries of disaster response, refugee assistance and resettlement. They also support community development that helps people find safe refuge, start new lives, and work together to strengthen their families and communities.

Recognizing that the hope we have in Christ is lived out in our hope for one another, we respond with gifts that help our neighbors locally and around the world find the hope for a brighter future.

The Presbyterian Hunger Program receives



36 percent of undesignated One Great Hour of Sharing gifts, while the Self-Development of People and Presbyterian Disaster Assistance each receive 32 percent. Several new resources are available this year to help promote this offering. Found at [www.pcusa.org/oghs/](http://www.pcusa.org/oghs/)

[newresources.htm](http://newresources.htm), they include children and youth materials, a Lenten study guide, and a group of power point presentations. Questions? Contact Don Shaw, 503-302-4656 or [peaceandhunger@cascadespresbytery.org](mailto:peaceandhunger@cascadespresbytery.org).

## Missionary from Bolivia to Visit Cascades Presbytery

Bob Dunsmore will visit churches around the Presbytery of the Cascades the week before Presbytery meets in March. He will also present his story at the presbytery meeting.

Bob and Julie Dunsmore, long time friends of the Presbytery of the Cascades, are currently serving as Companionship Facilitators in Bolivia, for the Presbyterian Hunger Pro-

gram. Their work is part of the Joining Hands network in which PCUSA Presbyteries join with religious and non-governmental organizations in selected nations in order to combat the causes of hunger and poverty. With the blessing of the Mission Support Committee, our presbytery is considering becoming a partner in Bolivia.

If you would like to learn more of this work or host Bob at your church, please contact Don Shaw 503-302-4656 or [peaceandhunger@cascadespresbytery.org](mailto:peaceandhunger@cascadespresbytery.org). If you have frequent flier miles you are willing to donate in order to help bring Bob here, call Gretchen Williver, 541-382-1842.

## Eco Justice Activities Help Restore Creation

### Eco-Palms: A New Fair-Trade Opportunity

Add a new dimension to celebrate Palm Sunday on April 1. Support sustainable jobs in communities with high levels of poverty and protect the rainforests of Guatemala and Mexico by purchasing Eco-Palms.

Eco-Palms are a great way to live out the peace and justice values of God's Kingdom on earth during the Easter season. More than 300 million palm fronds are harvested each year for U.S. consumption alone. The canopy provided by taller rainforest trees provides shade for palms to grow, and thus an incentive to keep the forests intact. Purchasing fair trade palms improves the local communities that depend on palm forestry.

The Presbyterian Church, USA "Enough

for Everyone" project has adopted the Eco-Palm project that started in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, and has now spread to several other denominations. To order certified fair trade palm fronds and find bulletin inserts and articles for downloading, go to [www.pcusa.org/palms](http://www.pcusa.org/palms).

### Interfaith Advocacy Day Puts Faith into Action

The Interfaith Energy and Climate Stewardship Advocacy Day will be held January 26, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. (registration 8:30 a.m.) at First United Methodist Church, 600 State St., Salem.

David Van't Hof, Governor Kulongoski's sustainability advisor, will provide a presentation on "Clean Energy, Climate Change and Oregon's Future" to kick off the faith commu-

nity's first advocacy day on global warming and energy stewardship. The event will include an interfaith panel on global warming as a moral issue, a panel on what needs to be done to advance renewable energy and energy conservation in Oregon, a workshop and an opportunity to visit with your legislators.

The event is sponsored by Oregon Interfaith Power & Light, a project of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, Oregon Interfaith Global Warming Campaign, congregations and denominations. Early registration is \$15 and must be received by February 22. The cost is \$20 on the day of the event. Lunch will be provided. Call (503) 221-1054 ext. 214 for more information or to register and go to [www.emoregon.org](http://www.emoregon.org) to download a flyer and co-sponsorship form.

## Alice Winters Sends Mission News

*Note: Alice Winters is a missionary in Colombia supported by many in this presbytery. The following is a letter she sent to update the presbytery of her work.*

Greetings from Barranquilla! This is an exciting time, and there are several news items and prayer requests to share.

The first has to do with Milton Mejía and his wife, Adelaida, who left Colombia due to threats against Milton's life. They have been living in Texas, studying English and applying to theological seminaries for graduate study. We just learned that both have been accepted in the Master of Arts program at McCormick Theological Seminary. Now they must move from Texas to Chicago. I grew up in the Chicago area and will never forget the biting cold of winter on the shores of Lake Michigan. Please remember the Mejía family in prayer, especially the children, as they make another big adjustment.

Our university is expanding. This year we were able to add a degree program in psychology. We submitted three new programs for approval by the Ministry of Education to begin in 2007: music, law and international finance. To our surprise, the programs were rejected.

Our president, James Schutmaat, who is also a noted musician, went to Bogotá to find

out what the problem was. An appointment with the Vice-Minister of Education was set up by friends in the U.S. Embassy who remember the letters PC(USA) congregations wrote a few years ago on behalf of the university. The Vice-Minister studied our papers and expressed his own surprise that the programs had been rejected, especially the music program, commenting that no one was better qualified than James to direct it. He called in the staff persons who had reviewed our case, and they showed clear prejudice against us.

The upshot was that these persons were fired, and the Ministry approved our new programs. We trust the new employees will be more helpful as we prepare additional programs to be submitted in 2007. We thank God for opening doors and we thank you for your faithful prayers for the university. Please continue to remember the university, the School of Theology, and our students.

The North Coast Presbytery met this past weekend and the Rev. Gloria Ulloa was elected as the new presbytery executive. Many of you know Gloria from her visits to the States under the PC(USA) Peacemaking program.

I have sent a newsletter that you can access at [www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/letters/wintersa](http://www.pcusa.org/missionconnections/letters/wintersa). God is working through each

one of you as you continue to remember the work here with your letters, your prayers and your gifts. Best wishes for the happiest New Year ever.

## National Pastors Sabbath 2007

Register now for this event which allows a special time of rest, reflection and renewal and received high praise the first time it was offered in 2005. Exclusive registration for pastors actively serving a PC(USA) churches will end February 19. Then it will be opened for others serving in the ministry of PC(USA).

The retreat dates are June 28 through July 2, and will be held again at Snowbird Ski and Summer Resort outside Salt Lake City, Utah. Leadership includes the Reverend Cynthia Rigby who will lead a study and reflection on Isaiah 40 with the theme, "Lift Up Your Eyes on High and See." Other preachers include the Reverend Drs. Justo and Catherine Gonzalez, The Reverend Dr. Craig Barnes, and the Reverend Robert Burkins. Check the website, [gameetingservice@ctr.pcusa.org](mailto:gameetingservice@ctr.pcusa.org) for more information.