

omnibus

October-November 2006

Vol. XXXII, No. 6

Presbytery of the Cascades

CPYA 2006 Taking Place November 17

By Ann Zelenka

Where can over 300 high school students come together this fall and have a time of their life? Where can young people hear a national speaker, have a blast at the Sherwood YMCA, pick interesting seminars to attend, worship in new and traditional ways, hang out with old and new friends, and grow in their relationship with Christ? Cascades Presbytery Youth Assembly (CPYA) – that's where!!

CPYA is an annual fall event that will take place on November 17-19, 2006 at Canby Grove Conference Center. It is an incredible weekend where high school students from all over the presbytery have the opportunity to explore areas of their faith through elective seminars, small group sharing, singing, large group meetings, focusing on worship and bringing their hearts before God. Saturday night is a night of crazy fun at the YMCA with large inflatables, swimming, basketball, games, movies, pizza and more.

The speaker this year is nationally known

Bob Stromberg. Here is what people say about Bob: "Bob had me either rolling on the floor in delightful laughter, or reflecting values that guide me in my life and work. He has a unique talent indeed." "Don't miss out....Bob has delighted audiences of all ages with his unique style of speaking, storytelling, and humor. Bob's remarkable gift is his ability to interact with an audience with an arsenal of gifts including physical comedy, audience participation and yes...even hand shadows!"

The goal of this week-end is to encourage the church in their work of ministry, bringing together national resources to encourage kids in their walk with Christ. Registration and publicity materials were sent to all churches. Registration forms can also be found on the presbytery website, www.cascadespresbytery.org. If a student needs financial assistance, there is a place on the registration form to check for a \$30 campership. The weekend costs \$85 before October 30 and \$90 after October 30. This is truly the deal of the day!

Contact the CPYA Registrar, Ann Zelenka, atz@hevanet.com or 503-284-9048 for any questions or concerns.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

The Presbytery of the Cascades
Will Have a Stated Meeting

Friday and Saturday, November 10-11,
2006

First Presbyterian Church
4800 Main Street – Vancouver, WA

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.cascadespresbytery.org.

National Program Selects Cascade Inquirer Leavitt For Prestigious Fellowship Award

Elizabeth Smith Leavitt, member of Valley Community, Portland and under care of presbytery as an Inquirer, has been named a 2006 Congregational Fellow by The Fund for Theological Education (FTE). She is in her first year at Harvard Divinity School. Leavitt is one of 40 talented students from across the country who have been awarded a fellowship as part of the Fund's efforts to support gifted young people who demonstrate exceptional leadership skills for ministry.

FTE Congregational Fellowships are awarded annually to help improve the supply, quality and diversity of young candidates for ministry. The 2006 FTE Congregational Fellows represent 14 denominations, 25 graduate theological educational institutions and diverse racial/ethnic backgrounds.

Fellows must hold a 3.0 cumulative grade point average, demonstrate gifts for leadership and be entering a Master of Divinity program at an accredited school. Leavitt will receive a

\$5000 award to match support from Valley Community, Portland, toward the cost of her first year of seminary. Congregational Fellowships also cover expenses to attend the FTE Conference on Excellence in Ministry, "The Promise of Ministry," held this summer at Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary in Austin, Texas.

There is a need to attract quality candidates to ministry. Recent studies show a significant decline across most Christian denominations in numbers of clergy under age 35. Other reports indicate declining interest among seminary students in answering the call to ministry—today, only about half of seminary students plan to be ordained and serve a local congregation.

"We know that congregations nationwide have increasing needs for exceptional leaders, and many denominations face a potential shortage of young ordained clergy," said Melissa Wiginton, vice president for FTE Ministry Programs and Planning. "We are proud to name Elizabeth as a 2006 FTE Congregational Fellow and to endorse her choice to prepare for pastoral leadership. She



Liz Leavitt

has demonstrated excellent abilities for ministry, a commitment to service and a record of high academic achievement. We're pleased to join her congregation in providing the support needed to pursue her calling."

Elizabeth and her family are long-time members of Valley Community, and she was in the youth program. After college, she was on the Valley staff as High School Youth Director and Director of Children's Ministries until last spring.

FTE is a leading ecumenical advocate for excellence and diversity in Christian ministry and theological scholarship. It supports the next generation of leaders among pastors and scholars, providing fellowships and a network of support to gifted young people from all denominations and racial/ethnic backgrounds. FTE has awarded \$1.3 million in fellowships in 2006.

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2006-07 Season of Celebration Works Continues

Celebration Works, supported by First, Portland, offers a cultural treasure of art and music in its fifth season of offerings. All concerts are open to the public and take place in First, Portland's sanctuary, 1200 SW Alder, downtown Portland. Ticket prices for all concerts are: \$10 for adults, \$5 for students and seniors (over 65).

Sunday, October 29 at 3 pm: Ivory Crush, the piano duo of Maria Choban and Kenneth Willson, presents "Does Debussy Dance?" featuring original choreography by Agnieszka

Laska and the Agnieszka Laska Dancers. The concert will also include piano works by Portland composer, Tomas Svoboda.

Sunday, November 19 at 3 pm: Portland Christian High School Concert Choir, conducted by Daniel Burnett, presents "Night and Light." The 2A Champion at the 2006 Oregon State Choir Competition, this outstanding choir will perform Morten Lauridsen's "Lux Aeterna" with guest organist, Jon Stuber.

Robert Sanders Death Reported

July 28, 2006

The Rev. Robert L. Sanders, HR, died in his sleep in Roseburg, OR on July 22, 2006 at the age of 76.


Bob was born on October 8, 1929 in Spokane, WA and was raised in that area. He received a B.A. degree from Washington State University in 1953 and taught business education at the high school in Colfax, Washington for a year before entering the United States Air Force. He served in the Air Force from 1954-1967, with the last ten years of his service as a Special Agent in The Office of Special Investigations. He separated from his military service with the rank of Captain.

Bob entered San Francisco Theological Seminary in 1967 and graduated with an M.Div. degree in 1971, and was ordained a Presbyterian Minister of Word and Sacrament by The Presbytery of The Redwoods on August 22, 1971. He served pastorates in

Redwoods, Sacramento and Nevada presbyteries.

The Presbytery of Nevada granted Bob the status of Honorably Retired on April 30, 1995. He and his wife Lorrie moved to Oregon after his retirement and Bob became a member of The Presbytery of the Cascades in November of that year.

Bob was a Commissioner to The Synod of the Pacific from The Presbytery of The Redwoods (1976-82), Moderator of The Presbytery of the Redwoods (1981-82), and a Commissioner to General Assembly from The Presbytery of Sacramento (1988). His presbytery service included service on The Committee on Ministry, The Committee on Preparation for Ministry, and the Zephyr Point Management Commission at Lake Tahoe. In The Presbytery of the Cascades, he served on The Committee On Congregations from 1996-2002. In retirement, he was a hospice



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 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.

volunteer at Mercy Medical Center and a Meals-On-Wheels volunteer.

Bob and Lorrie (Dolores Prichard) were married in June, 1951 and had four children (Steven, Sharon, Ronald, and Bradley). Lorrie preceded Bob in death on November 14, 2005.

Circuit Rider Books Announces

Fall 2006 Office Hours

Due to a very heavy travel and Saddlebag (book box) schedule this Fall, Circuit Rider Books' office at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church in SE Portland will be open for order pick-up, browsing, and "real person" telephone contact on **Tuesdays and Wednesdays from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. through Thanksgiving.**

If these hours are not convenient for you, just tell us and your order can be left in the Mt. Tabor office foyer for pickup during their regular office hours (normally 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday).

We will be picking up messages regularly throughout the week, ordering books frequently, and filling orders as quickly as possible.

We apologize for any inconvenience this causes.

We'll see you in person at various Presbytery events and meetings this Fall!

Circuit Rider Christian Books, Inc. is an all-volunteer run mobile Christian book ministry serving the mainline protestant Christian community, located at 5441 SE Belmont Street, Portland. Contacts include 503-234-9625, 1-800-637-3949, FAX 503-230-9294 and www.circuitriderbooks.org

Peacemaking Offering to help with HIV/AIDS

Sixty-nine congregations in the presbytery of the Cascades donated \$64,046.80 to the 2005 Peacemaking Offering. Congratulations! This year, General Assembly is offering some guidance for the use of the offering.

Through an overture from the Presbytery of Ohio Valley, General Assembly acted to "encourage congregations to use their 25 percent of the Peacemaking Offering and presbyteries and synods to fight HIV/AIDS in the U.S.A. and globally, where those diseases are decimating whole populations."

Those who advocated for the motion were clear that "encourage does not mean 'encourage exclusively.'" Churches, presbyteries and synods are free, as always, to use their portions of the offering as they see fit. Nevertheless, the devastation of HIV/AIDS crisis cannot be ignored. A special account to receive donations has been set up. It is called AIDS Crisis Overseas (#862706) and supports a range of church and community-based projects.

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 866-200-8660, or by linking through the presbytery website, www.cascadespresbytery.org.



I was awarded a \$500 scholarship from PC USA and attended the second half of a certification program in early September. It was held on the campus of Union Theological Seminary in Richmond. While browsing the Cokesbury bookstore there, I found some new DVDs that I thought would be appropriate in the resource center.

They are:

Be Still: If ever there was an age that needed the practice of solitude and silence, it's now. This film demonstrates how contemplative or "listening" prayer can be a vital way to find peace in the midst of a frenzied, fast-paced, modern world. It features interviews with authors, pastors and educators including Max Lucado, Beth Moore and Richard Foster. (93 min.)

The Question Of God: Sigmund Freud and C.S. Lewis with Dr. Armand Nicholi. This is based on a popular Harvard course taught by Dr. Nicholi, who also wrote the book with the same title. "It may be that Freud and Lewis represent conflicting parts of ourselves," he notes. Through dramatic storytelling and compelling visual recreations, as well as interviews with biographers and historians, Freud and Lewis are brought together in a great debate. (225 min.)

The Bible According To Hollywood: When Hollywood looks to the Bible for inspiration, the result has been some of the most spectacular epics in the history of cinema. This lively presentation covers all of the greatest films such as: The Ten Commandments, Ben Hur, Quo Vadis, The Robe, and The Greatest Story Ever Told. Rare behind-the-scenes footage and excerpts from long unseen archival films are added to this DVD. (120 min.)

Luther: This is the newer, in color version starring Joseph Fiennes. (120 min.) We also have the older black & white version in a video tape.

An American Prophet-William Sloane Coffin: DVD For half a century, the Rev. Coffin has stood as a force for progressive religion in America and the world. He became famous in the '60s while leading a very public opposition to the Vietnam War as Chaplain at Yale University. He marched alongside Martin Luther King Jr., and was jailed as a Freedom Rider. This film contains the wisdom of a man facing the end of his life and has powerful messages on terrorism, faith, politics, and hope. (52 min.)

Advent and Christmas resources: Type in these keywords on the Resource Center's home page under "Search the Media Center Catalog" and it will bring up 38 items for Advent and 43 for Christmas.

Take advantage of your *free* lending library! Items can be checked out for three weeks - longer if needed for a study.

Blessings,
Maureen O'Rourke

Cascades Viewpoints

By John Mahon

I've been thinking about where our presbytery is going. We will evaluate "Discovering God's Call" next year. This evaluation has been delayed due to the cutbacks in presbytery staffing. When we began "Discovering God's Call," I read a pertinent book entitled *Robust Church Development: A Vision for Mobilizing Regional Bodies in support of Missional Congregations* by Mike Regele from Percept, the church demographics firm. Recently, I reread the book. I think it gives us something to think about.

Regele posits six principles that he thinks should be the foundation of any regional body like our presbytery. The first and most basic principle is that our "God is a missionary God whose mission is the inauguration and extension of God's reign." (See Romans 5:6-8.) In short, our God is a god of grace. This point came home to me while I was serving in Utah. In contrast to the dominant culture, we had good news to share. One didn't have to earn their place here nor in eternity. God loves us so much that the Lord sent his Son to be one of us. This message was so radical

that Christians from Southern Baptists to Roman Catholics recognized what we had to offer. Sometimes in the midst of a presbytery meeting here I wish I could take you all to Utah and show you how much we have in common and what a mission we have.

Another of the six basic principles for regional bodies is "the art of translating the Gospel story into meaningful terms, images, and symbols for the culture they are trying to reach." Our culture is the "none zone." (see *Religion and Public Life in the Pacific Northwest: the None Zone*, ed. by Killen and Silk) It is an open religious environment that is many times indifferent to any religion. This is very different from Utah where the dominant religion controls society and fosters conformity. In that culture, the good news of grace easily blows like fresh air. However, in the apathetic Northwest, grace falls flat or is ignored. What we need to do is work at developing meaningful translations of the good news for a society that could care less. This will not be easy, but it will provide a model for the rest of our country that is rapidly imitating Northwest culture.

Regele goes on to delineate what he calls ten best practices. These are discoveries he found when Percept surveyed several denominations. The most important practice that he found was a commitment to church development in a regional body. When such commitment was present, there also tended to be other practices like a strategic plan which got things happening. Just under one third of the regional bodies were what he called focused with a growing commitment to church development and strategic plan. About half were what he called unfocused with no plan or growing commitment. The remaining regional bodies, about one-fourth, were distracted. They were simply sidetracked. Where do you see Cascades presbytery in this schema? Where do you think we should be?

Grace, reaching our culture, and commitment to church development are three factors that are essential for us to think about, talk with each other about, and develop strategies for as we come to evaluate "Discovering God's Call."

Voices

Synago Small Groups: Loving God And Neighbor

By Denise Mosher, Campus Minister at Western Oregon University

Synago, which means "gather together" in Greek, is a student group that has met every Thursday night at a student's apartment right off Monmouth Avenue since the Fall term began. The group is co-led by two students, Hannah Vowell and James Cook and assisted by "adult helper," me!

Synago nurtures members spiritually and helps participants grow closer to God and neighbor through bible study, prayer, and sharing our lives together.

Synago is a wonderful group and has become the core building block for our campus ministry at Western Oregon University (WOU). It really is the height of my week as we go deeper spiritually, relationally and also in helping build strong student leadership and ministry. I laugh at times that the days of we 'old folks' planning programs and hoping students show up is long gone. Synago has helped us make this shift.

So what do students like so much about Synago? Why would busy students give up several hours a week to participate and lead such a group? Holly Grimes, a senior and Natural Science major states: "I love Synago because it is a place where I can share my deepest thoughts about my faith without feeling judged. And the best part is, everybody else is sharing their thoughts and feelings, too, so that we can grow together in faith and support each other on our faith journeys."

From this group we are building a model of campus ministry where:

Student leadership is empowered. Denise is the "adult mentor" while two students act as the leaders. Students ministering to students in spirituality, sharing, caring, hospitality and inviting others is the core of Fellowship House's vision.

Students "buy in" and have ownership of ministry. Less a consumer of programs that we non-students "do" for them, empowering students in an intentionally Christian spiritual



A Synago group gathers to plan future activities.

formation group means leadership is more Missional.

This reflects the biblical notion of the Church as a body of people fulfilling our collective call to live out the Reign of God together. Think grass roots and relational by design. For example, out of our Synago group has emerged a service component: we will be helping build a Habitat for Humanity Home next term. The students have taken the leadership and have arranged all the meetings and forms. In this, they are living out their baptismal vows together.

Students are invited to nurture their inner and outer lives. As we grow as a small group we are doing so inwardly, deepening our spiritual lives, growing together, but also looking "out" of the walls of our group. Two examples come to mind: After seeing a poster on a bulletin board, students contacted the Catholic Campus Ministry (CCM) to chat with them. Some of our students joined their Tuesday night fellowship, attended their very powerful Maundy Thursday Seder Service at their house. We have worked together in Christian unity on the Habitat House and their presence at Synago has been a gift to us. Real unity and love among Protestant and Catholic young adults has happened through relationships, without one single committee meeting...and by looking outside our comfort zones.

Students' spiritual practices are matured. Campus ministry, by nature, is more of a missionary outreach than a parish. Not only our methodology needs to be more styled like a missionary—being present to and with the campus and reaching out to them, not expecting them to come to us. But our longevity is not like a parish, either. Students move on after four to five years, and we expect and are designed for them to do so. New leadership is brought in from both staff and students and along with this change comes dynamic energy—and a challenge.

Our Lord promises us "where two or three are gathered together in my name, there am I in the midst of them"—and He is—thanks be to God!

In campus ministry, we are challenged to assist students to grow in heart, mind and soul for God in a way so that, when we let them go, what we've done with them has long-term impact. As many youth workers I know have said, "If they love just me or just this group then we've failed in our role. When they leave here, they have to also have the tools to grow in faith and practice."

And that's what we are about here at Fellowship House: inviting friends into our community of God and neighbor and equipping them to a life where they continue to practice this love wherever their "post-WOU" life takes them.

Positively Presbyterian

Northeast Region

By Jan Noller

The churches in the Northeast Region have some clever initials for their programs. Here is a sampling: GAP, MNE, SHAPE, PUN and WEBB. Check the end of the column to see if you knew them.

Community, Moro held a "Service of Remembrance" honoring those who lost their lives on 9/11. EMS, Fire, Police and Armed Services were encouraged to attend in uniform. A parade of emergency service vehicles led participants to the park for a candle light vigil.

Youth from the **Laurelhurst, Portland** joined youth from Atonement Lutheran, and Catholic Community for a mission project in Gautier, Mississippi to muck out houses, hang sheet rock, tape and paint. From the Mississippians, they heard over and over again "It's good to know we are not forgotten".

Columbia, Vancouver opens their church sale, October 5. Their basement is transformed into a book store, a garden shop, a kitchen shop, the children's shop, a men's shop, a boutique and a coffee shop. Local and world missions benefit. On the Saturday before starting Sunday School, **St. John's, Camas** holds a community carnival with outdoor fun: inflatable slides, bouncers and a petting zoo. Inside is filled with crafts, games and food. A Farmer's Market was held at **Cascades, Vancouver** with members bringing produce, bulbs, perennials and crafts.

Springwater, Estacada has had a "Blessing of the Animals" on a recent Sunday. **Westminster, Portland** kicked off the fall program with a pancake breakfast and an "Opportunity Fair" where booths and displays showed opportunities to join groups working in the church and the community. **Colonial Heights, Portland** is sponsoring a three part series on "end of life" issues. Tables for Eight (8 adults, singles and couples) set their own times and dates for a meal together at **Rose City Park, Portland**. Their Creation Care Committee is collecting old batteries, taking them to a facility where they will be neutralized and recycled properly. **Milwaukie, Oak Hills** is dedicating their 25% of the Peacemaking Offering this fall to suffering Lebanese civilians. Josephine Chism, a church member, has family in Lebanon. A Neighborhood Block Party was held at **Smith Memorial, Fairview**. The church invited the neighborhood on Sunday after church for BBQ lunch, free school supplies, games, crafts, inflatable play equipment time and free kids haircuts.

October 27-29 **Westminster Presbyterian Church** will host Jack Rogers, professor emeritus of Theology at San Francisco Theological Seminary. He will discuss his latest book: *Jesus, the Bible and Homosexuality: Explode the Myths, Heal the Church*. Marilyn Bither, Parish Nurse at **East Woods, Vancouver** shared several suggestions for people to take special care during periods of extreme heat. **Valley Community, Portland** had a record 151 participants at their Vacation Bible School. They were "Treasure Seekers". Coordinated with VBS was an afternoon Arts Exploration Camp. **Emmanuel, West Linn** continues to participate in "Project Start Right" contributing needed school supplies through the Interfaith Volunteers and the Department of Human Resources of Clackamas County.

(Answers to the initials at the beginning: GAP is God Answers Prayer; MNE is Monday Night Escape bible study; SHAPE is Spiritual gifts, Heart, Aptitude, Personality and Experience; PUN is Presbyterian Urban Network; WEBB is Wednesday Evening Bible Browsers.)

Northwest Region

By Jeanne Rich

It is said a picture is worth a thousand words. Let's try just a few words to "picture" what is going on in the Northwest Region.

Ice cold water being poured over Pastors Sylvia and John Dilworth and organist Ray McKean in **Multnomah, Portland's**, fundraiser for a water well in Zambia. Pastor Sylvia was heard to say, "It was well worth it." The church raised \$11,500!

Pastors on bicycles in Zambia. **Lake Grove, Lake Oswego's**, "gift of bicycles last year enabled one pastor to plant a new congregation, some 18 miles away. Other pastors testified that their bicycles not only made their visitation easier, they expanded the bounds of their ministries."

Forty-two middle schoolers asleep (maybe?) each night for a week at **St. Andrew's, Portland**. Youth from **St. Andrews, First, Portland and East Woods, Vancouver** churches took part in a City Camp this summer which was described as "somewhere between a Christian summer camp and a youth mission trip." Each day work groups helped minister to the needy in downtown Portland. Recreation and fellowship was a part of the program as well as a time to debrief about the day's events.

A caravan from Aloha, Reedville traveling to Camp Adair, Oregon, as the first event in the church's centennial celebration. On September 30, members saw the place "where their present sanctuary started out as an Army chapel." Camp Adair served as a training facility during World War II. "With as many as 60,000 men in residence at one time at the facility, the base needed to be a self-sufficient city complete with stores, repair shops, housing and places of worship. There were over a dozen chapels built on the base." The chapel was purchased as war surplus and in 1946 the congregation dismantled it "like a giant puzzle and put it back together again on its present site."

An empty sanctuary on a Sunday morning. That's what will happen at **Multnomah, Portland**, on October 29. Session approved the church to participate in a pilot program named "Faith in Action" through World Vision. They cancelled worship service for that Sunday morning! Modeling after the Menlo Park (California) Presbyterian Church doing "a radical thing," the Multnomah members plan to be joined by visitors and neighbors to serve the community for several hours on various projects. They want their "projects to cross generational lines so that children (through) seniors can participate together." In the evening, they will gather for a "celebration service to worship together and report on our day's service."

Peacemakers turning swords into plowshares. In September, **Hillsboro** church members, Jill Cessna and Lita Lenz, joined a team of 30 members going to Soroti, Uganda, through Open Arms International (based in Portland and in Lancashire, Great Britain). Jill writes, "Involvement with children in

Africa has been a long-term goal and God has given this opportunity to Lita and myself...The vision of Open Arms International is to 'combine medical care and Christian ministry into a powerful combination that can deliver the healing touch of God'....We will train and equip village leaders to care for their own." Their work was conducted at refugee settlements and included involvement with an evangelistic festival. They were led by David and Rachel Gallagher. (David worked with Louis Palau and Rachel spent time with Mother Teresa in India.) Another **Hillsboro** peacemaker, Phyllis Wright, returned to Mississippi again, to be the village manager at Gautier for Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. She is also hoping to get a Gautier work team together for October 15-21.

Mustard seeds being planted. Apparently after being inspired by a recent sermon from Pastor Peg Pfab at **Southminster, Beaverton**, a number of individual and families have pooled money to invest in Oikocredit. This is an ecumenical agency of which one sponsor is the PCUSA. Its mission is to provide credit to very poor and disadvantaged people, making small loans so people can begin and maintain small business ventures. *Mustard Seeds* is the name of this group that is "an outgrowth of the church community's desire to use their money in a meaningful way, in the interests of the poor."

Central Region

By Bruce Smith

Let me start this review of church wide activities in the Central Region by sending a hearty thank you to Bill Dittler, who penned this portion of the *Omnibus* for many years. Thankyou, Bill, for a job well done.

Our congregations continue to be involved worldwide with financial and emotional support around the globe. **First, Mill City** sent \$300 to the Eirene School in Guadalajara. **First, Bend** continues to support its Sister Church in Placetas, Cuba. **United, Albany** is planning a benefit fundraiser in October for a mission trip to India. **Community, Yachats** is providing money for the Guatemala Children's Mission. **McKenzie Valley, Waterville** sent 139 Bibles to be used in churches in Kenya that have one Bible for the whole congregation. The **Prineville** church is collecting stamps that are sent to Australia where they are auctioned and the proceeds are used for medical mission in the South Pacific. **Community, Redmond** raised \$6,600 from their annual Ice Cream Social and Auction for Heifer International. Also Bob and Julie Dunsmore have been on home leave and have now returned to Bolivia.

The Men's Ministry of **Calvin, Corvallis** sends out teams of four men each month on a Saturday to respond to practical needs of widows and single moms in the church family. "Our simple goal is to express the love of Christ by making a small sacrifice of our time and physical abilities." Members of **Siuslaw, Florence** participate in a beach walk picking up litter. Proceeds from the walk (not from the garbage but from donations by participants) go to assist Habitat for Humanity projects.

John Knox, Keizer dedicated a new rooftop cross. **United, Albany** is coming to the end of the \$340,000 restoration project which overhauled the kitchen equipment and

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Positively Presbyterian

(Continued from page 4)

the heating and ventilation system. Members of **Nestucca Valley, Pacific City** have been working hard on the construction of their sanctuary. They expect to have it "shelled in" and ready for winter. The Building Committee believes that an additional \$53,000 is needed to make the building ready for public use. Construction continues as long as funds are available. **First, Dallas** awarded four scholarships to students attending four-year colleges on the West Coast. **Prineville** had a hailstorm that raised havoc with the flora and fauna as well as damaging sidings on the building and around the kitchen windows. But the good news from **Prineville** is that Pastor Cheryl is pursuing a Doctor of Ministry degree from the Austin Presbyterian Theological Seminary. She plans to spend the next four years using her study and vacation leave for this purpose. Way to go Cheryl.

First, Salem has a new Director of Music Ministries. He is Jim Regin who is a native Californian with a B.A. degree from U.C. Berkley and M.A. in Choral Conducting from San Jose State University. **Community, Redmond** also has a new Director of Music Ministries, Karen Sipes, with a B.A. in Music from the West Virginia Institute of Technology

South Region

By Ann Moore



Players from both teams get a post-game high five from Tony Scafani, the retired manager of **Westminster, Medford's** church league softball team after the season's last game in August. Westminster players then took Scafani, a retired school superintendent and coach, out for dinner.

First, Central Point will use pumpkins and gourds from its community garden growing on the church grounds for the October 28 Pumpkin Patch Fun. The event includes games, storytelling, prizes and dinner. "Please plan on coming whether it has been one year or 25 since you carved your last pumpkin" says their bulletin.

First, Klamath Falls beautification through landscaping was started to allow better access for the handicapped as well as to "soften up" the concrete. Bert Singer writes "Attending First Presbyterian Church in the heart of the city includes approaching one of its most delicately charming gardens. The gracefully curved ascent to the welcoming entrance represents memorials to dearly loved ones." The memorial garden is for cremains. The beautification included an arrangement with the city to extend the geothermal system under the paving so the congregation has skid proof pavement during the winter.

Westminster, Medford has four families who are adopting children internationally. Associate Pastor Chris Ward and Julie traveled to Ethiopia to pick up Manayazewal, 8, and Mihret, 2. They join Imani, adopted from Kenya, and Andrew. Imani always wanted a twin sister. Russ and Heather Kohler adopted

Simon, 9 months from Korea. Other children in that family are Carmen, Faith and Hank. Toor, Joy, Nicholas and Luke Winetrout will add Hannah, 22 months, from China. In the spring of 2007 the Martin family will have a baby girl from Viet Nam. Her parents are David and Sandy, her siblings are Timothy, Marelise, and Samuel.

These international adoptions are not rescuing kids, said Pastor Ward. These families feel God is calling them to give an existing child a home. He explained these children are from an environment that would make even the poorest in America look well off. The adoption program is a line item in Westminster's mission commission budget. The church library includes books on the topic. Ecumenical meetings were held which included information on how to tap into grant resources to help with legal fees, agency costs, and transportation.

Members from the presbytery, ecumenical community, and the community at large, joined members of **First, Jacksonville** at the official dedication of their new buildings. Both the sanctuary and the education building were opened for visitors to explore. The dedication included thanks to the support of the presbytery, exchange of keys from the architect and contractor to the building committee chairs,

'Positively Presbyterian' Keeps Us in Touch

Each edition of the *Omnibus* offers the opportunity for the churches of the Cascades Presbytery to share what's happening in their local congregation through the regular column known as "Positively Presbyterian." The column wouldn't be possible without the faithful work of four regional reporters.

We have the sad obligation of saying goodbye to Bill Dittler and Janet Wylie and the joy of saying hello to their replacements. First, however, let's reacquaint ourselves with the two folks who are remaining with us.

Thank you to current writers, Jeanne Rich and Ann Moore

Jeanne Rich began writing the Northwest Region news in November 2004. She is currently a member of Pioneer Presbyterian Church on Clatsop Plains, Warrenton, OR. "My husband, Doug Rich, retired as pastor of this church in July, 2004, and we "float" around as he does pulpit supply. This makes me happy, because I still have much to learn from his preaching!" Jeanne states. Jeanne has gone through 12 new member classes since being baptized at First Presbyterian Church, Berkeley, CA, is an ordained deacon, directs adult and youth choirs and is currently doing puppet programs for children and youth: making puppets, writing scripts, and acting. "Living out here on the North Coast sometimes feels disconnected from the 'life' of the larger church, but reading newsletters keeps me connected. I think we all enjoy reading real life stories that uplift and encourage, so that's what I particularly look for—especially about children."

Ann Moore is a member of **Westminster, Medford**. She was recruited in 2004 by Shirley Hercher to cover the South Region. She looks for stories in monthly newsletters from 27 churches that describe outreach projects that might inspire another church to try something similar. "I also look for the 'gee whiz' factor, and humor. This is an interesting job," Ann states. Ann has served several terms on Committee on Ministry South, and Committee on Ministry for Higher Education. She has an eclectic academic, professional and volunteer background that involves education, journalism, history, plus a great curiosity about how churches and other organizations function. She was born and raised in



Larry Jung, pastor of **First, Jacksonville** welcomes the community and congregation to the dedication of their new church buildings to God's service.

and exuberant worship through music, prayer and proclamation of the Word.

First, Medford, added a new twist to their VBS program. Thinking about the needs of working parents who would have trouble taking their children from childcare to VBS and back to childcare, they offered an "all day" option. Parents could drop off the children at 7:30 AM, where the children could choose to participate in various learning centers until the core program started at 9 AM. In the afternoons, outings to various venues in the Rogue Valley were provided.

Honolulu, attended college at Oregon State University, spent her early adult life in California and Germany, stayed in California while Tam was in Viet Nam, then moved to Medford where they have lived since 1967.

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Goodbye with Grateful Thanks to Bill Dittler and Janet Wylie

Janet has been writing the columns for some four years. She began writing for the NW region and then moved to the Northeast region after two years when her church was moved from the NW to the NE. She is an elder at **First, Vancouver**, and currently serves the presbytery as a member of the Personnel and Administration Committee and as Associate Stated Clerk—Northeast Region. She is a "born and raised" Presbyterian, following in her dad's footsteps, as he was the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery of Tampa Bay. She is married to a (now retired) Air Force officer so moved ten times in 20 years, which means she has belonged to several, often vastly different, Presbyterian churches. She states, "The best part of writing the column was reading *all* the newsletters from churches in the region, gathering ideas to share with my own church, rejoicing with other congregations when they celebrate good news, and praying for them as they go through difficult times."

Bill Dittler (HR) has provided copy for the Positively Presbyterian Column of the *Omnibus* for about ten years. He was ordained Minister of Word and Sacrament by the Presbytery of Santa Barbara in July, 1960. He served in California as pastor for several churches, Executive Presbyter for Riverside Presbytery, and Deputy Synod Executive for the Synod of California and Hawaii before retiring in 1994. He has three children, four grandchildren, and one great grandchild. His wife, Dot, is a talented artist and creates settings for the LOGOS program dinner times. "As for me, I like to think that I am a poet; I edited and had published a book, *Spiritual and Spectacular: Yellowstone National Park*," Bill states and adds, "I found writing for *Omnibus* to be a fascinating opportunity to get an overview of a significant portion of the Church, the Body of Christ."

(Continued on page 8)

2007 Summer Conference To Take Place Earlier

Renewed, energized and ready-to-go, the eight member planning team for the 57th Annual Summer Conference has scheduled the conference earlier than usual. This annual gathering of families of laity and clergy is scheduled for June 24-29, 2007, at Reed College, Portland, OR.

"The major reason we changed this year was to accommodate our keynote speaker," Denice Lucas, member of the conference planning team, states. Keynote speaker is William P. Robinson, President of Whitworth College, who will speak on the topic, "Proclaiming the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the 21st Century."

"Robinson as President of Whitworth College is host to the nationally promoted 'Whitworth Institute of Ministers' that has always been the same week as our conference. We also see the advantage of no longer 'coming between' our pastors having to choose between Cascades or Whitworth, or one other significant gathering in Seattle that were all happening the same full week in July," Lucas adds.

"We're excited to have the expert leadership of Bill Robinson for our conference," Lucas said. Robinson assumed his duties as the 17th president of Whitworth College in Spokane, Washington, in July 1993. He came to Whitworth from Manchester College, in Indiana, where he served as president from 1986-93.

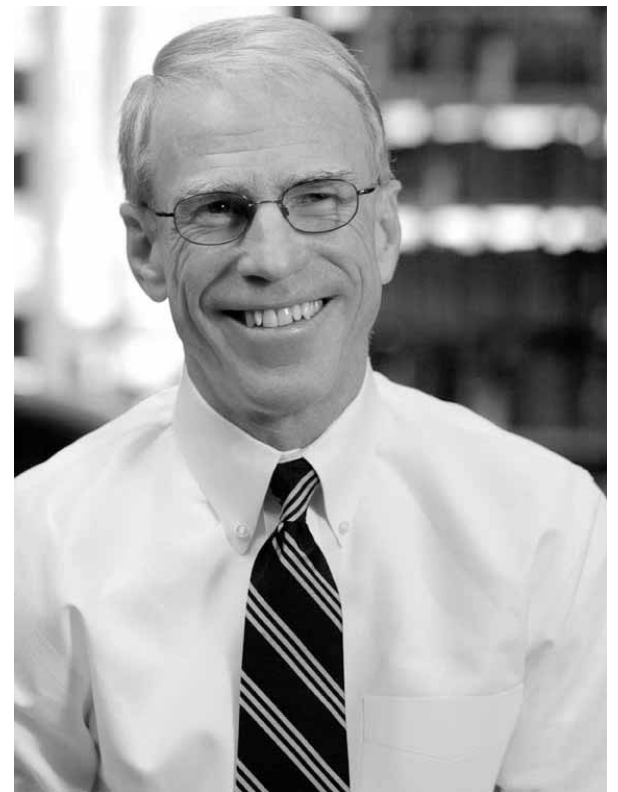
A communications scholar who has distinguished himself as a teacher, speaker and

community leader, Robinson received his bachelor's degree from the University of Northern Iowa, his master's degree from Wheaton College, and his Ph.D. from the University of Pittsburgh. He also studied at Princeton Theological Seminary and the Moody Bible Institute. Most of his scholarly work has focused on organizational, cross-cultural and interpersonal communication. He has also done post-graduate research in religion and philosophy, areas in which he has a lifelong interest. In 2002, Robinson published a book, *Leading People from the Middle: The Universal Mission of Mind and Heart*, with Executive Excellence Publishing.

The summer conference is unique among the presbyteries. First, it is one of the few remaining such events from an era when nearly every presbytery across the nation provided similar events. Second, it is co-sponsored by two other Northwest presbyteries – Eastern Oregon and Olympia presbyteries. Altogether, this represents nearly 200 congregations and two synods.

"If you haven't had the opportunity to attend, now is the time to consider Conference as one of the family options for R&R. We want to get this new date on everyone's calendar now!" Lucas encourages. Registration information is mailed in March, 2007.

At its inception, Summer Conference focused chiefly on providing training and development in the area of Christian Education. Over the years, and with the



Keynote William P. Robinson

change in culture, the conference now provides a diverse selection of classes that address current issues facing the denomination and Christendom, and explore liturgy and spiritual formation. The conference is also the venue for classes for those preparing as Certified Lay Pastor and Certified Christian Educators.

Serving on the planning team this year are: Peter Blank, Kathleen Brown, Jan and Chuck Falconer, Denice Lucas, Steve Maling, all of Cascades Presbytery, along with Iva Lindsey and Roger Fisk, from Eastern Oregon, and Linda Gaines, from Olympia Presbytery. Aleida Jernigan Co-executive Presbyter, serves as advisor to this team.

Workshops Help Congregations Put Energy Stewardship Ideas into Action

Workshops focusing on helping congregations save energy and money will be offered throughout the state of Oregon, Jenny Holmes, Eco-Justice Educator for the Cascades Presbytery, reports. Congregations are encouraged to send representatives to a time and location convenient to them. To register, download brochures from www.emoregon.org or call Jennifer Kam at 503-221-1054 x203.

The keynote speaker at all workshops will be Doug Boleyn, PE, who has over 30 years of experience in renewable energy and energy efficiency. He is the energy past-president of the Solar Energy Association of Oregon, president of Cascade Solar Consulting, LLC, and a member of the Energy Trust of Oregon

Renewable Advisory Committee.

Eugene, October 21 — "Save Your Congregation Energy and Money"

This special consultation for facility managers, trustees, and building committee members, will be held on October 21 from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St., Eugene. The workshop will cover key principles of energy stewardship for congregations, low-cost and no-cost measures to save energy, and funding energy efficiency projects for religious facilities.

Portland, October 25 — "Green Building and Renovations"

Congregation members responsible for building and renovation projects, architects, builders, capital campaign volunteers and people of faith wishing to understand the connection between spirituality and earth stewardship and care of the earth are invited to "Green Building and Renovations: A practical workshop to help congregations save money

and care for the Earth." The workshop will be held on Wednesday, October 25 from 6 to 9 p.m. at Stark Street Meetinghouse, 4312 SE Stark St., Portland.

The Dalles, November 14: "Save Your Congregation Energy and Money" and "Energy Stewardship Workshop"

Facility managers, trustees, and building committee members are invited to attend a consultation held on November 14 from 12 to 2:30 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 305 E 11th St., The Dalles. Geared to the needs of congregations, the consultation will cover key principles of energy stewardship for congregations, low-cost and no-cost measures to save energy costs, and funding energy efficiency projects for religious facilities. On the same day, the "Energy Stewardship Workshop" will be offered for individuals from 6 to 8:30 p.m. Topics will include top ideas to save energy for home and businesses, affordable renewable energy options and the ethics of energy stewardship.

Old Scotch Church Seminars Explore Reformed Faith

Dr. James Edwards will present the 2006 *Exploring Our Reformed Faith* seminar on Friday and Saturday, November 3 and 4, and will preach on Sunday morning, November 5, at Tualatin Plains Presbyterian Church (Old Scotch Church) in Hillsboro, Oregon.

Dr. Edward's seminar topic will be *Is Jesus the Only Savior?* In his lectures, Dr. Edwards is seeking to respond to the skepticism regarding the historic understanding of Jesus as savior as well as the pluralism and relativism that are coming from our culture.

The first seminar session is Friday evening from 7:00 – 9:00. Saturday sessions run from 9:30 AM to 2:30 PM, with continental breakfast and lunch provided to registrants. Because of a gift to the congregation to fund

the seminars, the cost is just \$35 which covers the meals, snacks and printed materials. Group rates are available as well as a special rate for retired ministers and their spouses. Call the church office at 503-648-9573 for details.

Dr. Edwards currently holds the Bruner-Welch Chair in Theology at Whitworth College, Spokane, Washington – the first occupant of this Chair. He attended Princeton Theological Seminary where he earned a Master of Divinity degree in 1970. Following Princeton he studied theology for one year at the University of Zürich in Switzerland, and earned a Ph.D. in New Testament from Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, California.



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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.

November 2006

- 1 Larry E. Trogen, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2001
 - 2 Michael A. Shaw, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2000
 - 3 Jennifer Pratt, candidate for the ministry, Valley Community Presbyterian Church, Portland
 - 4 Sarah Coakley Lewis, interim camp coordinator, Presbytery of the Cascades
 - 5 Committee on Ministry - Northeast Region, Tom Young, Chair
 - 6 Peace Presbyterian Church, Eugene - chartered this day in 1960 • Gregory H. Thorson, installed as pastor of Community Presbyterian Church, Sandy, this day in 1988
 - 7 John E. Merner, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1985
 - 8 Drew R. Hulse, ordained and installed as associate pastor of Columbia Presbyterian Church this day in 1987
 - 9 Cherry Park Presbyterian Church, Troutdale - chartered this day in 1936
 - 10 Cascades Presbytery meets today and tomorrow, Catherine Quackenbush, moderator
 - 11 Karen K. Renner, installed as associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church, McMinnville, this day in 2001 • John A. Day, ordained this day in 1979 • Carol L. Swanson, ordained this day in 2005, serving as interim pastor of Brookings Presbyterian Church • Linda S. Gebetsberger, installed as associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Corvallis, this day in 2005
 - 12 Sharon H. & Glenn C. Edwards, installed as co-pastors of United Presbyterian Church, Albany, this day in 1995 • Darrell C. Hall Jr., installed as pastor of Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 1995 • David K. Morelli, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Dallas, this day in 1995
 - 13 Prineville Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 1977
 - 14 James "Jim" T. Hazlett, ordained this day in 1976, serving as pastor of Gateway Presbyterian Church, The Dalles • David G. Robinson installed as pastor of Community Presbyterian Church, Cannon Beach, this day in 1993 • Ryan D. Shrauner, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Woodburn this day in 2004
 - 15 Faulder Colby, ordained this month in 1973, serving as staff psychologist at the Monroe Correctional Facility, Monroe, WA
 - 16 M. Blair Cash, ordained this day in 1989, serving on staff at George Fox University, Newberg • Tualatin Plains Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro - chartered this month in 1873
 - 17 First Presbyterian Church, Dallas - chartered this day in 1889 • Parkdale Community Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 1909
 - 18 Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1892
 - 19 Matthew W. Hilgaertner, installed as associate pastor of Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego, this day in 2000
 - 20 Lakeside Community Presbyterian Church - chartered in 1947
 - 21 Roberts A. Anderson, installed as pastor at Community Presbyterian Church, Redmond this day in 1999 • Gregory J. Lund, installed as pastor at Oak Hills Presbyterian Church, Milwaukie, this day in 1999 • J. Dudley Weaver, installed as pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 1999
 - 22 First Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville - chartered this day in 1857 • Kristin Hamilton Sutherland, ordained this day in 1998
 - 23 David H. Hutchinson, installed as associate pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2003 • Laurie M. Vischer, installed as associate pastor at Westminster Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2003 • Barbara J. Campbell, installed as pastor at St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2003 • Sayer C. Strauch, ordained this day in 1998
 - 24 Meagan Frey, inquirer for the ministry, Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego
 - 25 Community Presbyterian Church, Redmond - chartered this day in 1906 • Wendy A. McAninch-Ruenzi, ordained this day in 1984, serving as parish associate at First Presbyterian Church, Ashland • Melinda A. Smith, ordained this day in 1990
 - 26 Multnomah Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1920 • Calvary Korean Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1989 • Elizabeth M. Kitamura, ordained this day in 1994, serving as Chaplain at Providence Elderplace, Portland
 - 27 Peace Memorial Presbyterian Church, Klamath Falls - chartered 1947
 - 28 J. Robert Walter, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1979
 - 29 Christ's Church: Methodist and Presbyterian United, Monmouth - chartered this day in 1978
 - 30 Beaverton Korean Presbyterian Church, Beaverton - chartered this day in 1986 • Yoon Kak Cho, ordained this day in 1986
- ## December 2006
- 1 Westminster Presbyterian Church, Medford - chartered this day in 1958 • Edward T. Alora, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1990 • James F. Patten, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1991 • Peter Funch, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2005
 - 2 Susan M. Carleton, ordained this day in 1984, serving as Department of Human Services, Social Service Specialist and parish associate of First Presbyterian Church, Roseburg • Alan W. Jackson, installed as pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Medford, this day in 1979
 - 3 Donald R. Caughey, ordained this day in 1973
 - 4 Robert G. Griffen, ordained this day in 1977 • David W. Dendy, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Klamath Falls, this day in 2004
 - 5 John E. Cantelon, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1989 • James R. Belt, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1994
 - 6 Tri-City United Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Creek - chartered this day in 1954 • Susan M. Goodin, ordained this day in 1992, serving as interim pastor of Community Presbyterian Church, Yachats • Kathy Scott, webmaster, Presbytery of the Cascades • Brookings Presbyterian Church, Brookings - chartered this month in 1953
 - 7 Jill M. Taylor, inquirer for the ministry, Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Portland
 - 8 Duncan C. Cameron, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1997
 - 9 St. Johns Presbyterian Church, Camas - chartered this day in 1883 • Savage Memorial Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this month in 1946
 - 10 Jack C. Randall, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1994
 - 11 Bethany Presbyterian Church, Grants Pass - chartered this day in 1887 • Mt. Scott Park Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1946
 - 12 Robyn M. Eddy, ordained this day in 1999, serving as Director of Youth & Family Ministries at Central Lutheran Church, Eugene
 - 13 Douglas G. McClure, ordained this day in 1981, in private practice as a counselor
 - 14 Sunset Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1952 • Community Presbyterian Church, Sandy - chartered this day in 1952
 - 15 Maureen O'Rourke, Media Resource Center Director • Richard L. Rohrbaugh, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2001
 - 16 Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church, Fairview - chartered this day in 1890 • Lori D. Hedlund, ordained this day in 1990
 - 17 Rebecca Sanders, candidate for the ministry, Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego
 - 18 Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of the Cascades, Barbara Peebles, moderator • Covenant Presbyterian Church, Gresham - chartered this month in 1959
 - 19 Kimberly Otis, administrative assistant, Presbytery of the Cascades, Portland office
 - 20 Wesley R. Lachman, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1991
 - 21 William L. Syrios, ordained this day in 1980
 - 22 Payton M. Wall, candidate for the ministry, First Presbyterian Church, Portland
 - 23 Moreland Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1885 • First Presbyterian Church, Woodburn - chartered this day in 1898
 - 24 First United Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Point - chartered this day in 1890
 - 25 Christmas - Give thanks for God's inexpressible gift
 - 26 John M. Salmon, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1999, serving as parish associate at St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Portland
 - 27 Stuart D. Campbell, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1983
 - 28 Gerald G. Emerson, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1973
 - 29 H. Milton Gardiner, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1988
 - 30 Thomas R. Teply, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1987
 - 31 John R. Braund, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1999 • Robert J. Gillespie, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1992 • Mary Wright Gillespie, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1998 • Dean Rowley, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1994 • W. Douglas Counsell, granted Honorably Retired Status this day in 2005



Check the website regularly for
breaking news:
www.cascadespresbytery.org

Highlights of Meeting of Presbytery Council Held September 15-16, 2006

(These are not the minutes of the meeting; they are only a news report of what happened at the meeting. Details of the actions taken are posted on the website www.cascadespresbytery.org)

A regular meeting of the Presbytery Council of The Presbytery of the Cascades was held at First Presbyterian Church in Portland on Friday and Saturday, September 15-16, 2006. The following are highlights of the meeting:

- **Acted** to make 2007 budget recommendations to the presbytery.
- **Approved** a tentative change in location for the Stated Meeting of Presbytery in March, 2007 from Westminster Presbyterian Church in Medford to First Presbyterian Church in Jacksonville, that the presbytery might use the new facilities of the Jacksonville congregation in the church's centennial year.
- **Directed** the Stated Clerk to seek a renewal of the presbytery's license for travel to Cuba since the present license is scheduled to expire on November 30, 2006.
- **Instructed** the Stated Clerk to accept with appreciation the offer of First Presbyterian Church of Vancouver to provide opportunities for host home housing at the presbytery's November stated meeting to be hosted by that congregation.
- **Considered** the referral from Cascades' July Stated Meeting regarding the possibility of having co-moderators and acted to respond to the referral with the advice that Council does not endorse the proposal for a revision of the presbytery's rules to permit having co-moderators.
- **Held** an open hearing to consider the referrals from the presbytery's July Stated Meeting regarding proposals of changes in the ways that Cascades examines candi-

dates for ordination and ministerial membership in the presbytery. A total of 34 persons were in attendance with 25 persons addressing the members of Presbytery Council in offering suggestions, interpretations of current procedures, and the implications of potential changes.

- **Acted** to recommend the following to the presbytery: "Presbytery Council, having heard testimony from those attending the open hearing and listening to the concerns and opinions of their colleagues on Council, reviewed the current process in use in The Presbytery of the Cascades and deemed that process for certifying candidates as ready for ordination as both appropriate and adequate for continuation without significant change, inasmuch as the presbytery as a whole does have opportunity for full examination on any and all topics necessary at the time of the examination for ordination for persons being called to positions within the presbytery."
- **Acted** to recommend the following to the

presbytery: "Presbytery Council, having heard testimony from those attending the open hearing and listening to the concerns and opinions of their colleagues on Council, reviewed the current process in use in The Presbytery of the Cascades regarding the examination of ordained ministers seeking admission into the membership of The Presbytery of the Cascades, and acknowledged that there may be lack of understanding and training within the presbytery. Council acted to establish a Task Force to review the current practices in use, to interpret them to the presbytery, and to bring recommendations regarding any changes which might be needed for Council to report to the presbytery at the presbytery's Stated Meeting in July of 2007 and that there be no change in practice pending that report." It was MSC to authorize Council Chair Ettlich to appoint the Task Force of not more than 9 persons, with at least one person representing a COM and one person representing CPM.



Council members meeting together to consider presbytery business.

News Briefs

"Winter Wheat – The Betrayal of Elizabeth Cady Stanton and her *Woman's Bible*" will be performed at **Westminster, Portland**, 1624 NE Hancock on Friday, October 13 at 7:30 pm. Betrayal surrounded Elizabeth Cady Stanton's struggle to publish a bible revealing woman's patriarchal degradation. Colleagues, including Susan B. Anthony, objected, isolating her from the woman's movement at age 80 after 50 years of innovative, visionary leadership. It is a story more timely today than a century ago. This solo drama is performed by author/actress Laurie James. Dessert and discussion with the artist will follow the performance. There is no charge.

New staff in Eugene Presbytery office.

Keeping us in touch

Welcome to Jan Noller and Bruce Smith

Jan is a member of **Westminster, Portland**. She is new on the Personnel and Administration Committee of the presbytery, and is a certified church educator who has worked as an Associate Executive in three presbyteries: South Louisiana Presbytery, Presbytery of the Twin Cities Area and the Presbytery of Lake Michigan. In those positions she has emphasized empowering the small church. "I have returned to Oregon, my growing up state, after 47 years of being away. It's more beautiful than I had even remembered!" Jan states and adds, "In reading the church newsletters I find it fascinating how many creative ways pastors and members

Welcome to Dawn Champoux, new Administrative Assistant in the Central Region Office in Eugene. Her email address is dawnc@cascadespresbytery.org. Appreciation is expressed to Kate Whitehead, leaving the Central Office after 11 years to move to Mansfield, OH, where her husband is serving as a pastor. She can be reached at kjwhitehead388@yahoo.com.

Cascades Lay Institute on Pastoral Care, Oct. 13-14: "Pastoral Care: The Heart of Ministry" is Oct. 13-14 at Westminster Church, Eugene, 1:00 PM Friday - 4:00 PM, Sat. Featured speaker will be The Reverend Stephen Dietrich, Associate Pastor, First Corvallis, covering topics of confidentiality, premarital counseling, hospital and home visitation, crisis intervention, developing community resources and knowing one's limi-

(continued from page 5)

have developed programs for their congregations and for the communities of which they are a part."

Bruce is currently an elder at the **Community, Redmond** and chair of the finance committee. He also serves as a member of Committee On Ministry Central in his second term. His wife, Nancy, was a commissioner to the General Assembly meeting this past summer. Bruce tells us, "I have a passion for golf but without any recognizable skills in the execution of a decent swing. However, I am always welcome at the pro shop to investigate new items to enhance my golf game." He adds, "Since having only participated in one issue of Omnibus, I believe it will be an interesting exercise to review all the various newsletters."

tations. To register or for more information, contact the south office at 1-800-701-7373.

Leadership Event for South and Central is set for Saturday, October 28, 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at **First, Roseburg**. Workshops are planned for pastors, elders, deacons and members.

Dr. Jack Rogers, author of the newly released book, *Jesus, the Bible, and Homosexuality: Explode the Myths, Heal the Church*, is at **Westminster, Portland**, Oct. 27. A copy of the study guide is located at www.cascadespresbytery.org/StudyGuide.pdf.

Presbytery of the Cascades Current Status of Open Churches

VACANT

Lakeside, Community
Monmouth, Christ's Church

SEEKING INTERIMS or STATED SUPPLY

Portland, Eastminster
Portland, New Life Korean
Reedsport, United

PREPARING TO ACTIVELY SEEK

Eagle Creek
Merrill, Community (Designated Pastor)
Myrtle Point, First
Portland, Calvary
Portland, Valley Community (Associate)
Redmond, Community (Associate)
Salem, Westminster (Associate)
Yachats, Community

ACTIVELY SEEKING A PASTOR (CIF submitted to Louisville)

Bandon
Brookings
Gresham, Covenant
Portland, Chinese
Portland, Sunset (Associate)
Vancouver, Columbia