

Taste Heaven Here and Now at the 2009 Summer Conference, Weekend Edition!

Heaven is not as far away as you think. Our theme for the July 16-19, 2009 Summer Conference is, "Lowering Heaven's Ceiling: God Engaging the Here and Now."

Last year's venue received rave reviews, so we are once again holding the conference in beautiful Bend, Oregon, at the First Presbyterian Church. Attendees can expect thought-provoking messages by keynote speaker Rev. Craig Williams, hearty conversations, and time for renewal and rest.

Registration brochures are available by calling the Presbytery Office at 503-227-5486 x 205 or going to the Presbytery of the Cascades Website at www.cascadespresbytery.org.

Craig Williams, Director of New Church Development at the Presbytery of the Cascades, will help us notice and celebrate God's presence in the details of everyday life. He will also challenge us to be part of God's Kingdom's adventures in our own neighborhood. Craig brings a wealth of experience as an organizing pastor in Trabuco, CA and



in service at the General Assembly level. His completed doctoral work at Columbia Seminary is in New Church Development.

Also this year we are fortunate to have Professor Ben Brody as our Music Clinician. Mr. Brody graduated from Whitworth in 1998, and returned in 2003 to teach in the music department. Prior to his current position, Ben spent four years as director of worship and music at First Presbyterian Church of Seattle. At Whitworth, he teaches

courses in church music, conducting, and music history, and coordinates music for campus worship services. Ben is designing the services of worship for the conference as well as teaching a two-day Afternoon Option Class entitled "Exploring the Depths of 21st Century Song."

Elizabeth Simmons wants you to know we have not forgotten your children and youth group kids. Programming is planned for grade school, junior high, and high school age students. They will explore the weekend theme with materials created by teacher teams appropriate for their ages. These programs include time for spiritual growth, Bible study, discussions of current issues and fun.

Check out the Afternoon Options Classes in the brochure and register and pay on-line, or by mailing your payment to: Cascades Presbytery, Attn: Summer Conference, 0245 SW Bancroft St. - Suite D, Portland, OR 97239-4272. We look forward to seeing you there!

NACP and PW Set First-Time Joint Gathering

By Kay Richardson

The National Association of Presbyterian Clergywomen (NACP) and Presbyterian Women (PW) together will host the 2009 Churchwide Gathering (CWG), July 11-15, in Louisville, KY. Titled "God Will Do Wonders Among You," this event will be the first time that both groups meet collectively.

Many clergywomen have been strongly supported in their sense of call, and in their service, by Presbyterian Women; many have regularly attended the Churchwide Gathering over the years. As NACP looked at its own triennial events and the 2006 CWG, it made sense to ask PW to consider inviting NACP to participate in and help plan the 2009 CWG.

In addition to the many workshops available for registrants there will be a number of wonderful options for spiritual seekers during the week. A Spirituality Center will offer a quiet place to experience different forms of prayer, a labyrinth, resources for visual meditation, a prayer wall and contemplative



listening opportunities.

The legacy of Presbyterian Women will be showcased in a Heritage Exhibit, a place meant to inspire celebration of PW history in congregations.

No participant should be left wanting as 66 diverse workshops are scheduled. After each morning's plenary sessions, forums will be open providing a talk-back session between the speakers or General Assembly staff and Gathering participants, or discussion of emerging issues.

Of course, a trip to Louisville would not be complete without tours of the many mission and ministry-related sites including the PCUSA national offices, the campus of Louisville Presbyterian Theological Seminary and the Presbyterian Center.

Early bird registration by May 15, 2009 is \$380. Hotel, travel and other meals are additional. To register on-line, visit www.pcusa.org/pwgathering. Secure a registration booklet by ordering from PDS, 1-800-524-2612, item CWG-09-001. [Registration opens January 15.]

Scholarships are available. The National Association of Presbyterian Clergywomen, with thanks to the Meyerhoffer Trust, is accepting applications of up to \$380 each. To be considered, e-mail Sharon Yunker-Deatz, SDeatz@aol.com by April 1, 2009. The Churchwide Coordinating Team has also set aside funds for a limited number of scholarships. Applications are available from PWP moderators, PW leadership coordinators,

www.pcusa.org/pwgathering or by calling 1-888-728-7228, ext. 5844.

A sampling of NACP and PW workshops includes: "Martha Stewart, Mother Teresa and Me," "Discerning God's Will," "That All May Enter and Serve," "Grace Notes from the Bible for our LGBTQ Family," "Celebrating Your Call," "Collegiality a Reality? Or Just a Word on Resumes?"

Plenary Speakers will show how we can explore the wonder of God through the environment, through music, through Bible Study, through Native American dancers, through drama, through Service, and much more.

A registration booklet with comprehensive workshop and speaker information can be found at: <http://www.pcusa.org/pwgathering/reports/documents/cwgregbk.pdf>.

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2009 Deadlines

May 18	Jun/Jul Issue
July 13	Aug/Sep Issue
September 14	Oct/Nov Issue
November 16	Dec/Jan Issue

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Clergy And Elders Encouraged To Promote OGHS

Church leaders are urged to give the One Great Hour of Sharing a special push this year. Of the 106 churches in our presbytery that have given to the One Great Hour of Sharing during the past three years, only thirteen donated more in 2008 than in either 2007 or 2006.

Total OGHS giving for our presbytery during this period is down nearly \$32,000. With the economy much worse off in 2009 than in the three preceding years, the needs of the world are greater than ever. The Presbyterian Hunger Program, the Presbyterian Disaster Assistance program, and the Self Development of People program all have increased demands upon their shrinking resources. Those at the bottom have no safety net. Give generously to the One Great Hour of Sharing.

Circuit Rider Books Announces Six Months of Partial Service

In the face of overall economic difficulty and its own financial challenges, the Board of Directors of Circuit Rider Christian Books, Inc., announces a curtailed schedule of operations, effective February 1. Patrons will notice some changes, but Circuit Rider remains committed to meeting all requests for book and consultation services.

Between Feb. 1 and Sept. 15, patrons need to contact Volunteer/Executive Director Rev. Carolyn Hampton at Circuit Rider Books' toll free number (1-800-637-3949). This is essential because many temporary operational changes are underway. All day-to-day functions are relocating to Dallas, Oregon.. There will be weekly deliveries to the Portland metro area. Carolyn is eager to work with customers to ensure timely product arrival.

The March 13-14 Cascades Presbytery meeting at Westminster, Salem was Circuit Rider Books' last full-service operation until the fall. Requests for saddlebags or small displays will be considered on a case-by-case basis, and as many as possible will be filled.

According to Circuit Rider Board President Nadine Wiles, "The purpose of these temporary changes is to give Circuit Rider Books' volunteer staff the opportunity to reorder finances and roll out our new website service, capable of on-line ordering and payment."

Also debuting during this period will be Circuit Rider Books' new monthly e-news, "Around the Circuit," featuring new resource releases, upcoming events, special sales, and more. Watch for it in your inbox! To subscribe to the monthly e-mail newsletter, please send an e-mail with the word "subscribe" in the title to circuitrider@circuitriderbooks.org.

Wiles cautions that Circuit Rider Books must secure a minimum of \$5,000 in donations to underwrite the full-service re-start in September. Annotated statements regarding annual budget needs are available on request, and will also be available at all events and in all Saddlebags.

Interested supporters are invited to call Volunteer/Executive Director Carolyn Hampton at 1-800-637-3949. Carolyn and the Board look forward to being back 'riding the circuit' on a regular basis in the fall, 2009.



Kalthoma, a refugee from Darfur, is part of a group resettled through One Great Hour of Sharing funds. Photo courtesy of ACT International



Omnibus

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

Information about the Presbytery is also available on the web site: www.cascadespresbytery.org. Omnibus welcomes news and views of all the churches of Presbytery and all its readers. Send all communications to Kathy Waugh, Omnibus editor, 85 South Holly, Medford, OR 97501, tel. 541-772-4874, email omnibus@cascadespresbytery.org

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

Omnibus: Where to Send

Please send all Omnibus articles and photos to the editor by emailing to omnibus@cascadespresbytery.org. Any attached documents must be sent using Microsoft Word. Those using other software (for example: Word Perfect) can place the material within the body of the email itself instead of attaching. It's very helpful to note "Omnibus" in the subject line.

Although email is preferred, one can also mail articles, complaints, suggestions or ideas directly to Kathy Waugh, Omnibus Editor, 85 South Holly, Medford, 97501. Phone contact: 541-779-1711, ex 1010.

Please Note: For address corrections, additions, or deletions for the mailing list, please email carolee@cascadespresbytery.org, or call her at 503-227-5486 or 1-800-495-4114. Her extension is 201.

The Omnibus is sent automatically to all elders, deacons and pastors in a congregation. We know that extra copies are often sent to a congregation and would encourage those copies to be left in a place where other members of the congregation can take them.

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 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. (please call first); by phone at 503-445-4999 or 866-200-5660, or by linking through the presbytery website, www.cascadespresbytery.org.



We are celebrating the 500th anniversary of John Calvin's birthday. With this event in mind I've purchased two copies of the DVD published by Witherspoon Press on the *Life & Legacy of John Calvin* (1 hour). There is a study guide and PowerPoint presentation included on the DVD itself. When one is done watching this, a lot more is learned about his effect on the church and the whole course of Western civilization!

New books from the Alban Institute:

Called For Life- finding Meaning in Retirement (118 pages). Paul Clayton is an ordained minister in the United Church of Christ. He uses examples from his own experience and from others, laity and clergy, to explore retirement and the three components of our calling: our identity, our gifts, and our occupation. The challenges of transition, options for meaningful activity and the final call to death are also explored. Readers will be encouraged to see this phase of life as an opportunity.

Creating the Future Together - methods to inspire your whole faith community (150 pages) by Loren Mead & Billie Alban. Mead and Alban have crafted a "playbook" for those who lead organizations in times of transition. "Key leaders will understand the art of preparing their community for the transformative process of planning. If your faith community is ready for a miracle, the cases in this book will inspire you to lay the groundwork and let it happen."

From Nomads to Pilgrims - stories from practicing congregations (179 pages) by Diana Butler Bass and Joseph Stewart-Sicking, editors. A collection of stories from pastors and congregations that have been on a pilgrimage to vitality, retrieving and reworking Christian practice, tradition, and narrative. You are invited to sit around a "campfire" and listen in as these ministers share their tales. Contributors to the book represent five denominations and span the country from Florida to Washington.

In Dying We Are Born - the challenge and the hope for congregations (138 pages). A skillful storyteller, Peter Bush is a Teaching Elder at Westwood Presbyterian Church in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Deeply ingrained in Western culture, and in the minds of most church leaders, is the belief that there is a solution to every problem. The author offers a powerful challenge to this approach, arguing that for new life, energy, and passion to arise in congregations, they must die to one way of being the church in order that a new way may rise

Ministry Greenhouse (162 pgs) By George M. Hillman, Jr., a professor at Dallas Theological Seminary. A great internship experience places a student in an environment where God can work through him/her to develop calling, character, and competencies. This book seeks to show students, their supervisors, and the congregations they serve how they can create just such an environment. The author explores the meaning of "call," identifies the ingredients of a successful internship, discusses strategies for establishing meaningful goals, and offers guidance for reflecting on learning.

Wishing you a most blessed Easter season,

Maureen O'Rourke, Director

Cascades Viewpoints

By Stated Clerk John Huenink

Every year or so my responsibility for providing a "Viewpoints" article for OMNIBUS comes immediately after one of Cascades' stated meetings. That is the case with this article.

I have written on another occasion of the interesting perspective I have from my vantage-point at the "Stated Clerk's Table" at the front of the venue for a stated meeting. My view is not quite as inclusive as that of the moderator, but I do get to see most of the faces of presbyters during the course of the meeting. At Cascades' just-concluded stated meeting, I noted fewer presbyters than usual who seemed to find the meeting "restful." Nearly all were fully engaged in the

discussions and debates and presentations for the two days of the meeting, but I missed seeing all the faces that could have been there.

The attendance at the meeting was greater than usual (256 presbyters -150 ministers and 106 elders) registered attendance at the meeting, but 85 elders who could have been present if commissioned did not register and were presumed absent. Of Cascades' 121 congregations, 43 were not represented by even a single elder commissioner, and many of those unrepresented congregations were entitled to more than one commissioner.

I keep being told that we live in an age of apathy. I had hoped that apathy would not be inflicted upon The Presbytery of the

Cascades!

During my pre-presbytery orientation for new commissioners, one person indicated that he had been an elder for 27 years and was quite happy that he had finally gotten to be a commissioner to a meeting of the presbytery. What would Cascades be like if elders competed with each other for the privilege of being a commissioner to presbytery and sessions had to choose from among a number of eager and qualified candidates for commissioning?

Wouldn't vitality and renewal in Cascades be stimulated greatly by church officers and church members taking seriously their responsibilities? I suggest we try it!

Cascades Lay Institute Offers CE Course

Cascades Lay Institute classes are designed for all persons interested in learning more about what it means to be Presbyterian and those who wish to develop leadership skills including those persons wanting to become Commissioned Lay Pastors or Certified Christian Educators.

Some 19 individuals are enrolled in the Commissioned Lay Pastor program and are at different stages of readiness. Of the 19, two are commissioned and serving congregations. All must take courses covering polity, church administration, biblical interpretation, reformed theology, preaching, leading worship, and pastoral care.

The next event will focus on what it takes to provide a Christian education program for the local church. It will be held on Friday-Saturday, May 15-16 at

Columbia Presbyterian Church, 805 SE Columbia Ridge Drive, Vancouver, Washington.

Scheduled times are approximate: Friday 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., and Saturday 8 a.m. to 12 noon

The course will be led by Bruce Armstrong and Sharon Franklin, Instructors. The Reverend Bruce Armstrong is associate pastor at **Columbia, Vancouver**, and Sharon Franklin is their educator.

There is no charge for this event. Registration deadline is May 1. Questions? Please call Hugh Anderson or Janet Alpine, South Presbytery Office, 800-701-7313.



Cascades Supports Seminaries

Seminary Support Team members Shirley Hercher (Northwest) and Mike Foster (South) with a new display for the Theological Education Fund, showing portraits of the Presbyterian Church (USA) seminaries, including two related by covenant. Other Support Team members at the meeting were Ann Richards (Northeast), John Brinegar (Central) and Rosemary McLean (South). Team members are available to assist churches in their regions find ways to continue to support our seminaries. Financial help from local congregations is the only assistance the seminaries receive from the denomination, so our contributions are important to them. They are grateful for the churches in the presbytery who sent a total of \$44,473 to the Theological Education Fund in 2008.



Ask the Clerk

Q: Is it true that churches have to pay taxes? Aren't they tax-exempt?

A: Churches are ordinarily exempt from payment of federal income taxes if they have a 501(c)(3) exemption from the Internal Revenue Service. The PCUSA has a Group Revenue Ruling which grants 501(c)(3) exemption to the General Assembly, Synods, Presbyteries, and the particular (local) congregations of the denomination and to some subordinate entities of those, so long as they meet the qualifications and requirements of the tax laws for the exemption. If a church has income which is considered by the IRS as

"unrelated business income," that income is to be reported and taxes are to be paid on that income.

It is not accurate or appropriate, however, to think that a church as a non-profit organization is exempt from all taxes.

Churches are ordinarily subject to employer's taxes and fees for its non-clergy employees and may have obligations for its ministerial employees as well. Although the Internal Revenue Service treats most ministers as employees, the Social Security Administration considers them as self-employed professionals. The church as an employer may, but is not obliged to, pay social security "taxes" for ministers. If it does, any amount in excess of 50% on the total obligation is considered as additional (taxable) compensation on which taxes and pension dues are to be paid.

Churches which own real property have generally had that property classified as free from real property taxes imposed by the county in which the property is located so long as it is used for religious/educational

and allied administrative purposes. In some counties, there are efforts being made to verify that churches are indeed in compliance with the statutes permitting property tax exemption for religious organizations which are specified in Oregon Revised Statutes 307.140 and explained in www.oregon.gov/DOR/PTD/exemptions and also in www.churchlawtoday.com/private/library/cltr/c0298701.

Churches may have an obligation to pay fees which are considered by some as "taxes" (such as accident and unemployment compensation insurance). In all cases, churches are responsible for complying with all requirements for taxation by all appropriate taxing authorities. Ignorance of requirements is no excuse for non-compliance.

[The Stated Clerk is neither a tax professional nor an attorney. The information presented above is intended to be for general interpretation and guidance. The counsel of a tax professional or attorney should be secured for the specifics of your particular situation.]

Positively Presbyterian

Northwest Region

by Jeanne Rich

(My apology to the churches of the Northwest Region for accidentally submitting old news for the February issue of Omnibus: here is a catch-up report.)

All the Advent candles were lit, the nativity sets put away and Christmas trees recycled, yet church newsletters continue to circulate messages that cannot be boxed up. Here are a few thoughtful ideas that transcend the traditional liturgical seasons, requiring year-long focus as we cope in difficult times.

The front page of **Bethany, Portland's** January issue displayed a cartoon that pictured two parachutists holding hands while flying freely. With the plane going off in the distant sky, one says to the other "Hey, open The Gift, dude...!" This is the opener to Pastor Brett Becker's New Year message about our new life in Christ (The Gift, the parachute). He considers it appropriate that the New Year follows our celebration of Christmas, referring to the passage in 2 Corinthians, "The old is gone; the new is come." He reminds his readers to open the Christmas gift and then writes, "For the real 'spirit of Christmas' is the Holy Spirit. He makes *all* things new and endures throughout the 365 days of every year."

Pastor Peter Blank, **First, Newberg** challenged his congregation to join in the interfaith movement of "substituting compassion for consumption" and "to return to the simplicity of the first Advent." This has been called an *Advent Conspiracy* among churches. Pastor Tom Campbell-Schmitt, **St. Andrew's, Portland** reflected on "the recent bad weather and downturn in our economy (that has) led people to rediscover simplicity and a sense of community." The snow helped, too. Folks came together at St. Andrew's for a Hard Times Festival at which "a simple, but delicious meal of corn bread and beans, followed by an entertaining movie" were featured. At **Reedville, Aloha** the Western Farm Workers Association (WFWA) held a Winter Survival Distribution on Martin Luther King Day. With the cold winter, high energy costs and increased unemployment, church members helped in the distribution of blankets, coats, boots, hats, gloves, as well as assistance with heating bills.

Orengo, Hillsboro's Pastor Mark Rainey remarked about what "people have said was Portland's worst snow storm in 40 years." He elected to preach about storms for a month: "how we can face the different storms we encounter in our lives" and he remembers the encouragement that is given in Psalm 46, "The Lord Almighty is with us; the God of Jacob is our fortress." Continuing this theme, Bret Rehrig who is Mission Elder at **HPC, Hillsboro** writes, "As we enter 2009, with the economy down, the war and so much suffering in the world, I have been constantly reminded of Philippians 4:5-7 about not needing to be anxious about anything for God is in control of all things."

Now for some good ideas found recently in the Northwest Region: At **Valley, Portland** the middle school youth group is filling a "Peace Pig." In their L.I.F.E. (Live in Faith Everyday) program, which has grown to over 30 strong, contributions of spare change are being put into a pig in recognition of "how grateful we are for all God has given us. It is our hope to help in some small way to achieve world peace." And stirred to help one another in economic hard times, **St. Mark, Portland** has encouraged "coupon clipping." The idea of recycling unused coupons and bringing them to Sunday fellowship hour for others to pick up has been introduced as a way to help each other cut some costs.

Southminster, Beaverton saves: pennies to purchase gifts, cards and flowers for those hospitalized; eye-glasses and frames for the Lion's Club to redistribute; newspapers to enhance youth funds; small change collected at the front door for a program "which buys rehydration packets to help starving people overseas to take nourishment."

Lake Grove, Lake Oswego began a recycling program in January. With specially marked bins in several locations on the church campus, they are expressing "Care for our Community and Our World" by collecting clean plastic and metal, paper and glass. They have established some "golden rules" that assure your recyclables get recycled: #1 Don't put garbage in your recycling, #2 Don't put glass in with other materials (it's a safety hazard to workers), #3 Don't put plastic bags in recycling (they clog up the sorting equipment), #4 If you are not sure it can be recycled, keep it out!

Special recognition: **First, Newberg** welcomed new Youth Director Jeremy Lisenby who has returned to Cascades Presbytery from Florida with his wife Beth and seven-year old son Ukiah. Previously while in Cascades, he worked with youth at Mt. Tabor and with the Cascades Family Camp.

Southminster recently had some "50's fun" as it began celebrating its 50th anniversary. The 1950's were remembered at a January event as members wore era clothing, ate potluck dishes of jello salads and spam, and listened to music like "Let's Go to the Hop" and "Rock-In Robin." A special worship service will be held on February 8 with guests and Presbytery representatives in addition to special music presented by the church choirs.

Calvin, Tigard announced the arrival of Pastor Brian Craker as their new Associate Pastor-Stated Supply. Brian is a graduate from Multnomah Bible College (now Multnomah University). Last year he completed a Masters of Divinity degree from George Fox University. He and his wife Alison served the Lake Grove Presbyterian Church for eight years in youth ministry, after which he did a pastoral internship at Sherwood Presbyterian Fellowship, a new church development.

Bethany, Portland's Kim Gaston, Youth Director for the past two years, is enrolled in a Masters of Arts program at Western Seminary where she is "specializing in Youth and Family Ministries, and plans to follow with a Masters of Divinity degree at a Presbyterian seminary." Kim says, "I know that I am doing God's work, because I walk away from an event feeling energized rather than drained." (*An excellent test for us all!*)

South Region

By Ann Moore

Olivet, Glendale has become a Stephen ministry chartered church. Rich and Terri Fahey, certified leaders, joined the church, and seven people are in the first class.

First, Coos Bay has a new location and a new pastor. The first day of worship in the new space was March 22. Pastor Bill Davis was installed March 1. The new but temporary site is the Episcopal Church's Shepherd house. It's located at 4th and Highland. Rent is \$600 per month plus utilities. The city purchased the old Presbyterian church and land for a fire station. The building was more than 50 years old and in need of large, expensive repairs which the membership could not afford. Coos Bay offered \$967,000 for the property with the church having salvage rights. They also offered \$50,000 for moving expenses, said they would provide storage for up to four years and waive building permits for a new building. A giant

garage sale will happen in the old church sanctuary in mid-April. Proceeds will help pay for new items needed for the new sanctuary, like chairs, tables and a sound system.

Youth from **First, North Bend** traveled to **Moreland, Portland** to join youth there for a 30-hour famine. The program is sponsored by World Vision. Participants forego food for a 30-hour period to better understand worldwide hunger. Both groups of young people collected pledges which went to World Vision to help in hunger relief.

First, Central Point will celebrate the hope and joy of Easter with a community dinner the Sunday after Easter at St. Vincent de Paul. They will be prepared to feed about 250 hungry people with ham, candied yams, green beans, rolls, dessert and entertainment. Meals will be served to each person instead of having them walk through a cafeteria line. Church members do the shopping, cooking, setting up, serving, and clean-up. The meal is promoted with flyers through St. Vincent de Paul, which serves midday meals every weekday, ACCESS food share, food pantries and thrift shops. The meal was made possible by a gift from a church member "for something different." Members decided that something should be expanding on their community Thanksgiving celebration, also at St. Vincent de Paul, where they fed over 300 people last year.

First, Central Point is part of Albertson's Community Partners Program. Members link their Albertsons Preferred Savings Card to the church which then receives up to 4% of each purchase.

Youth from **First, North Bend** traveled to Moreland, Portland to join youth there for a 30-hour famine. The program is sponsored by World Vision. Participants forego food for a 30-hour period to better understand world-wide hunger. Both groups of young people collected pledges which went to World Vision to help in hunger relief.

Tri-City, Myrtle Creek has a lettuce pray project, which is an effort to encourage the planting and sharing of vegetables used in the Wednesday Hand to Plow soup mission. Members bring empty plastic tubs, fill them with soil, add a few seeds. The Commonwealth Nursery in Canyonville will give participants 50 cents off a packet of seeds to help with the project.

Mt. Laki, southeast of Klamath Falls in the Henley area, celebrated its 100th birthday in March. In 1909 it was rural country with unpaved roads and a limited number of automobiles. It took a long time to get into Klamath Falls. Its name, pronounced lake-i, is a version of the name Klamath Basin Indians used for Stukel Mountain, the peak that overlooks the church and Henley.

First, Klamath Falls was chartered in 1884 and **Peace** in 1947.

Central Region

By Bruce Smith

First, Woodburn, David Morelli had to cancel the Christmas Eve service due to the weather. This is not the first time that nature interrupted his church services in December. **Westminster, Salem** rescheduled their afternoon Christmas pageant to be held during the 11 o'clock worship service. During stormy weather in January, Bruce Cameron of **Peace, Eugene** retired to his kitchen to try some new cookie recipes. He is considering having a regular gathering called the "Peace Cookie Collective and Collaborative Culinary Action Committee" to start producing cookies for future Sundays. He is concerned that we are so busy that we opt for store-bought cookies and

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frozen entrées made somewhere else. We are forgetting how to teach the younger generation to cook. Anyway, that's his excuse.

The members of **Westminster, Salem** were asked to contribute to a Lenten devotional booklet to include favorite scripture passages, prayers, songs, stories or other inspirational thoughts. These booklets were to be available to the congregation beginning Ash Wednesday and used for personal study and reflection during this season of Lent.

As an activity outside the normal church bounds, the men of **First, Salem** held a pool tournament in January. No mention of who was the reigning "pool shark."

Plans are underway in **Prineville** to build a gazebo near the church's community garden in memory of Sarah Thomas, a longtime member. It can provide a safe haven where children can play while their parents work in the garden. Also it can be a quiet place for one to read, study, play games, or possibly have weddings or other special events.

The family of Mark Lambert donated a harpsichord to **First, Newport** in his memory. This harpsichord was built in 1989 by Mark and has been played at many events over the years.

Nestucca Valley, Pacific City is putting the finishing touches on their new sanctuary. One project is to build a new pulpit and there has been some conversation about devising a trap door under it just in case the preacher's sermon goes into overtime.

First, Corvallis conducted a film series on "Health Care Reform - 2009" during the months of January and February highlighting the problem and the need for change as to how people receive health care.

First, Bend has put out a request of the membership to donate airline miles that can be used for mission trips. This would expand the church's Mission Team outreach and broaden the memberships' understanding of distant projects.

Christ's Church, Monmouth has employed Joy Trigg as their new Choir and Joybell Director. She brings to the position a broad experience from this country and around the world having worked in the Middle East and Japan.

Have you heard of the task force *OPEN DOORS* project of the Presbytery? This is a project designed to assist churches to remodel their facilities to meet the criteria of the Disabilities Act. **First, Woodburn** applied for a grant and was awarded \$9,400 to assist them in replacing their 44-year-old doors at the entrance of the church that was going to cost them \$19,825 to bring them in compliance with the law.

Northeast Region

By Jan Noller

Mt. Tabor, Portland is offering the AARP 55 Alive Driving class in April.

Milwaukie is organizing a "letter lobby" writing to elected officials to increase funding for programs that address the root causes of hunger. The youth at **First, Oregon City** participated in a 30 hour Famine Event. While fasting they completed service projects to combat world hunger. The youth at **Emmanuel, West Linn; Cascades, Vancouver; Mt. Scott Park, Portland and Mt. Tabor, Portland** are preparing to do a 30 Hour Famine as well.

The Stephen Ministry team at **Moreland, Portland** is sponsoring an adult education hour on coping with stress over finances. The pastor at **East Woods, Vancouver** asks what makes a successful church. He says it is not mainly budgets or members but a church's ability to transform lives and communities. In these economic hard times, the pastor at **Springwater, Estacada** shares Jesus' advise "Share first, save second and spend last." **Ken-**

ilworth, Portland is offering 14 garden plots to members and neighbors to grow their own vegetables.

Mighty Mite Mission projects at **St. John's, Camas** gives small groups within the church the opportunity to have their own small but mighty mission projects, i.e. getting a flock of chickens and honeybees from Heifer project.

At **Eastminster, Portland**, Pastor Brian's quotable quote is "It is much easier to help God than it is to play God." Eastminster is offering a class to develop skills in talking with a loved one who needs to temporarily or permanently find other means of transportation than driving.

A chapter of Stand for Children is building at **Smith Memorial, Fairview**. The group advocates for adequate funding for public schools and other projects that give kids a fair chance.

Colonial Heights, Portland is really planning ahead to their 50th anniversary of the church in 2011.

Savage Memorial, Portland is continuing to develop a relationship with the Boys and Girls Club on the Warm Springs Reservation.

Children and youth at **First, Vancouver** served a Valentine lunch to the seniors Feb-

ruary 15 to say thank you to seniors for their support.

Columbia, Vancouver is involved in mission projects in Senegal. One project is micro enterprise financing projects in agriculture.

Members of **Rose City Park, Portland** are urged to get out of their cars April 19 and find alternative transportation to church as part of Earth Day Celebration.

Colonial Heights, Portland is hosting a Portland Urban Network event in March featuring the Rev. Graham Standish speaking on "Restoring Spiritual Vibrancy in our Churches." In April the parish nurses will present a program on "Living Well with Chronic Illness."

Covenant, Gresham continues to have a thriving Head Start program. They are delighted to have their church building used in this way. This church is giving each child a copy of the Children's Mission Yearbook of Prayer and Study.

A group for imperfect men has been formed at **Gateway, The Dalles**. The need came from a young man who was trying to be a better Christian, husband and dad. Some 28 men came to its first meeting.

TRANSITIONS

WELCOME NEW PASTORS

- **The Rev. Henry W. Andersen [HR]**, transferring from the Presbytery of the Twin Cities
- **The Rev. Sung Yun Cho**, transferring from the Presbytery of Pittsburgh, to serve as pastor of Korean Presbyterian Church, Corvallis, beginning March 1, 2009
- **Candidate Brian C. Craker**, to serve as associate stated supply pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church, Tigard, pending ordination April 19.
- **The Rev. William L. Davis**, transferring from the Presbytery of Minnesota Valley to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Coos Bay, beginning February 1, 2009
- **Candidate Ian H. Doescher**, transferring from the Presbytery of Southern New England to serve as stated supply pastor of Calvary Presbyterian Church, Portland, pending ordination April 19
- **The Rev. Robert J. Elder**, transferring from the Presbytery of Nevada, to serve as stated supply pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Cottage Grove, beginning February 1, 2009
- **The Rev. Richard Evans**, minister member of the Presbyterian Church of Wales, serving as associate stated supply pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville, beginning January 1, 2009
- **The Rev. Rodman L. Fridlund [HR]**, transferring from the Presbytery of the Redwoods
- **The Rev. Jeremy Watson**, transferring from the Presbytery of Denver

ORDINATIONS/INSTALLATIONS

- **The Rev. Katherine A. Pate**, installed as pastor of Milwaukie Presbyterian Church, January 25, 2009 at 3 p.m.
- **The Rev. William L. Davis**, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Coos Bay, on March 1, 2009

PASTORAL CHANGES

- **The Rev. Benjamin F. Dake**, serving as stated supply pastor of Nestucca Valley Presbyterian Church, Pacific City, beginning March 1, 2009
- **The Rev. J. Thomas Green**, completed service as interim pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Portland, on February 25, 2009
- **The Rev. David M. Crow [HR]**, completed service as stated supply pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Cottage Grove on December 31, 2008
- **The Rev. Katherine A. Pate**, completed service as associate pastor of Rose City Park Presbyterian Church on December 31, 2008 to serve as pastor of Milwaukie Presbyterian Church, beginning January 1, 2009

RETIREMENTS

- **The Rev. Martha Page Greene**, granted Honorably Retired status, February 24, 2009

TRANSFERS

- The Rev. George M. Furniss, transferring to the Presbytery of South Dakota
- The Rev. Sandra L. Larson, transferring to the Presbytery of South Dakota to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Madison, South Dakota

CHURCH ANNIVERSARIES

- **First Presbyterian Church, Creswell**, 100 years, 1909
- **Aurora Presbyterian Church, Aurora**, 105 years, February 1904
- **First Presbyterian Church, Klamath Falls**, 124 years, February 27, 1884
- **Southminster Presbyterian Church**, Beaverton, 50 years, February 26, 2009
- **Mt. Laki Community Presbyterian Church**, Klamath Falls, 100 years, March 11, 1909
- **St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Portland**, 55 years, March 21, 1954
- **Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw**, Florence, 25 years, April 15, 1984
- **First Presbyterian Church, Salem**, 140 years, May 15, 1869
- **Clatskanie Presbyterian Church, Clatskanie**, 105 years, May 15, 1904

Voices

A Crucible of Faith

by Rev. Kris Voss-Rothmeier

My wife and I first went to the Philippines in 1994 as young adult volunteers through the Worldwide Ministries Division of the Presbyterian Church. I had decided to spend my seminary internship year there with the hope of gaining a greater perspective on the life of the worldwide Church. I had no idea how much of an influence that year would have on my life.

My way was well paved. Presbyterians first sent missionaries to the Philippines in 1899 and established the well-respected Silliman Institute (later Silliman University) in 1901. The Presbyterian presence is still strong in the Philippines, but in 1948 Presbyterians united with several other protestant denominations to become the United Church of Christ in the Philippines (UCCP). Today the UCCP is the largest protestant faith group in the country. The PC(USA) continues to actively support its work financially and through mission partnerships.

Fidel Ramos was in power in 1994 and many Filipinos still held onto the hope of government reform. Eight years earlier, Ramos had been part of the bloodless overthrow of longtime dictator Ferdinand Marcos. Marcos siphoned untold millions into his own personal accounts, declared martial law in order to contain enemies of the government and was responsible for hundreds of extrajudicial killings. Those killings were bitter memories by the time we arrived. Though the economic outlook in the Philippines was quite uncertain, at least the fear of being dragged out of bed and executed in the dead of night was not a constant threat.

We returned to the Philippines in May of 2002 to adopt our first child. Eight months earlier, of course, terrorists had crashed planes into the World Trade Center towers and the Pentagon. We knew that terrorist networks like the Abu Sayyaf were also strong in the Philippines. The Philippine government had undoubtedly increased anti-terrorist measures, but in conversations with UCCP church leaders, we learned that nothing like the policies of the Marcos era had yet been set up to combat these enemies of the state.

We just returned from our third Philippine trip and our second adoption of a Filipino child in November. However, we went back with great concern after reading in Presbyterians Today and other church publications over the past couple of years that the spirit of Marcos has returned to the Philippines in even greater force and magnitude. Since 9/11, politically-motivated killings have numbered over 800 and they continue to rise.

In a conversation with Bishop Eliezer Pascua, the current leader of the UCCP, I learned that the UCCP has lost dozens of church members and pastors. In an April 2007 publication of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, Rev. Pascua said, "Those who were killed had several things in common. They were all activists for the rights of the poor, they were all critical of the policies of the government and they were all opposed to [President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo] - particularly in the 2004 elections."

Several investigations by the UN and by a former chief justice of the Philippines supreme court have attributed the killings to the Philippines military. All extrajudicial murders have been carefully documented by the UCCP. The fear and uncertainty of those dictatorial years have returned with a vengeance. Bishop Pascua has flown to the

U.S. and has spoken to a sub-committee in the U.S. Senate asking that it investigate U.S. foreign aid to the Philippines to make sure it is not being used to foment these killings. Meanwhile, the UCCP continues to do what it has always done: to profess that all persons are created in the image of God, to care for the sick, to feed the hungry, to comfort the poor, to speak for and with the disenfranchised and to visit the imprisoned. This work has the precarious consequence of bringing Philippine church workers in contact with human beings in need. Some of those in need have been identified by the government as "enemies of the state" and, by association, so have the church workers.

We in the U.S. can help the poor and speak out for the voiceless without fear of reprisal, but that is clearly not the case in all parts of the world. When I asked the bishop what action, if any, members of the PC(USA) can take on behalf of people whose faith places them at risk, he said that we must pray regularly for the families of those who have been killed and for those who continue to face persecution. Another important act is to tell your senators that you care about how our U.S. dollars are spent in the Philippines, that we stand beside those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, and that the extrajudicial killings must stop now.

One might think, in light of all of this, that the Philippines is a fear-filled country. However, in the fifteen years I've come to know them, Filipinos are a most joy-filled and faith-filled people. Though natural disasters, political upheaval and terrorism are part of daily life there, living among them has taught me that life's uncertainty need not lead to despair. Instead, trusting in God, one can still know joy in the midst of deep-seated corruption. This is, perhaps, the most important worldwide perspective I have gained.

Basketball Grows Faith at Valley

On any Saturday between January 24 and March 14, a passerby would have noticed a lot of action taking place! During those eight weeks, Valley Community, Portland hosted some 450 people each Saturday for nine games - children, youth and adults - who shared the excitement of basketball competition in Valley's gym.

Valley is a partner in running the Portland Upward Basketball league for boys and girls ages kindergarten through 6th grade. About 720 kids played in the league this season. The league grew by 300 players from last season! Five churches hosted weekly evening practices, and three of those also hosted games on Saturdays. Some 35 Valley members volunteered each Saturday to make sure things ran smoothly.

Valley served fabulous gooey cinnamon rolls, fruit smoothies, hot dogs and popcorn in the Upward café, based in Valley's kitchen. At half-time of each game, a Valley member shared a personal story of how faith has made a difference in their life. "These stories are such a gift to all who hear them. I wish there were a way to share these wonderful stories with all the members and friends of Valley Community Presbyterian," Anne Scarce, Upward coordinator for Valley, states.

In addition to the new lighting and refrigerator/freezer which was added last season, Valley installed a new sound system and beautiful glass basketball backboards to their gym for this season. "We are very fortunate that these improvements were made possible by specified donations from Valley members, anonymous Upward supporters and grants from Valley's Foundation Committee. Valley's gym is truly being put to good use," she added.



Clockwise starting with the upper left: A prayer before each game; volunteer scorekeeper and timekeeper, Jim Sandberg and Karen Yakymi; Carol Rodman, Terry Collier and Laura Sanders (middle right) and Carol Powers, Jean Gordon and Lois Black (lower right) help in the Upward Café, and youngsters enjoy a Saturday game.



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.

May 2009

- 1 Dennis Dusek, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2000
- 2 Anne E. Zimmerman, ordained this day in 1993 • Presbytery Council meets today, Sandra Frey, Chair
- 3 Stasia V. Van Buskirk, candidate for the ministry, Oak Hills Presbyterian Church, Milwaukie
- 4 William F. Stevens, installed as pastor of United Presbyterian Church, Reedsport, this day in 2008
- 5 Central Presbyterian Church, Eugene - chartered this day in 1855
- 6 Mary C. McKnight & Thomas D. McKnight installed as co-pastors of Moreland Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2001
- 7 Olivet Presbyterian Church, Glendale - chartered this day in 1901 • Synod of the Pacific meets today through May 9
- 8 Yong Chul Chung, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1983
- 9 Charles O. Willming, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1996
- 10 Gerald M. Allin, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1998
- 11 Richard D. Diller, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2004
- 12 Helen E. Lewis, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2001
- 13 Guigui Roberts, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2002, serving as parish associate at Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, West Linn
- 14 First Presbyterian Church, Lakeview - chartered this day in 1911 • Hillsboro Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 1967
- 15 First Presbyterian Church, Salem - chartered this day in 1869 • Clatskanie Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 1904
- 16 Scott T. Crane, Certified Christian Educator
- 17 Elliott Bernadel-Huey, ordained this day in 1987
- 18 Steven R. Parker, installed as pastor of Bethany Presbyterian Church, Grants Pass, this day in 1986
- 19 Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego - chartered in 1925 • Dwayne & Victoria Brown installed as co-pastors of First Presbyterian Church, Roseburg, this day in 2002
- 20 Marc D. Andresen, installed as pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church, Corvallis, this day in 1990 • Mark E. Newton, installed as pastor of Mt. Scott Park Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2001 • Sandra F. Collins, installed as pastor of First United Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Point, this day in 2007
- 21 Frances Elton, candidate for the ministry, First Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 22 Committee on Ministry - Central Region, Bruce Cameron, Chair
- 23 Chong Hee Han ordained this day in 1986
- 24 First Presbyterian Church, Astoria - chartered this day in 1877
- 25 Sally D. Weber granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2002
- 26 John A. Waide, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2005
- 27 Herbert D. Long, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1994, serving as President of Process Work Institute
- 28 Westminster Foundation, Lynn Royston, Chair
- 29 Mission Support Committee, Sid Birt, Chair
- 30 John Salmon, Vice Moderator, Northwest Region
- 31 Michael R. O'Brien, ordained this day in 1992 • Michaela R. Drummond, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2005

June 2009

- 1 Orenco Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro - chartered this day in 1909 • Bruce M. Sexton, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church of Mill City this day in 1997 • Carley J. Friesen, ordained this day in 1986, serving as stated supply associate pastor at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, Portland • Richard A. Brown, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2004 • Elizabeth Crawford, ordained this day in 1998
- 2 John Knox Presbyterian Church, Keizer - chartered this day in 1963 • Scott E. Phillips, installed as pastor of East Woods Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, this day in 2002
- 3 William J. Jackson, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1985 • Craig C. Stein, installed as pastor of Eagle Creek Presbyterian Church, Eagle Creek, this day in 2007
- 4 Grace Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this month in 1926 • Leslie D. Hall (Methodist), ordained this day in 1983, serving as stated supply pastor McKenzie Valley Presbyterian Church, Waltherville
- 5 Paul H. Kimmel, Jr., granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1985 • Audrey L. Schindler, ordained this day in 1986, serving as interim pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Salem
- 6 Calvin Presbyterian Church, Tigard - chartered this day in 1965 • Michael K. Gillespie, ordained this day in 1982, serving as chaplain at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Roseburg
- 7 Jae Doo Chung, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2003
- 8 Mark V. Rainey, installed as pastor of Orenco Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro, this day in 1986 • J. Thomas Green, ordained this day in 1969 • Adam W. Grosch, installed as associate pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Salem, this day in 2008
- 9 Robert H. Roach, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1989 • William H. Creevey, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1997
- 10 Community Presbyterian Church, Tulelake - chartered this day in 1935 • Gateway Presbyterian Church, The Dalles - chartered this day in 1956 • A. Michael Brown, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, this day in 2001 • Gabrielle F. Chavez, ordained this day in 1979
- 11 H. Rodney Landes, ordained this day in 1972, serving as a private practice psychologist • East Woods Presbyterian Church, Vancouver - chartered this day in 2000
- 12 William C. Dixon, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1999
- 13 Evergreen Community Presbyterian Church, Cook, Washington - chartered this day in 1954 • Gregory D. Ikehara-Martin, installed as pastor of Presbyterian Church of Laurelhurst, Portland, this day in 2004
- 14 Calvin Presbyterian Church, Corvallis - chartered this day in 1958 • First Presbyterian Church, North Bend - chartered this day in 1903
- 15 Bethany Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1873
- 16 John C. Huenink, ordained this day in 1968, serving as Stated Clerk, Presbytery of the Cascades
- 17 Harold E. Kurtz, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1989 • David C. Lee, ordained this day in 1973, serving as interim pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Ashland
- 18 Jean Ellen Herzegh, ordained this day in 1989, serving as chaplain at Legacy Emanuel Hospital, Portland
- 19 Larry V.R. Bunnell, ordained this day in 1988 • S. Ann Richards, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2001, serving as parish

- associate at Covenant Presbyterian Church, Gresham
- 20 Robert R. Woodcock, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1989 • Philip A. Nessel, installed as pastor of Tri City United Presbyterian Church, Myrtle Creek, this day in 2004
 - 21 Jon O. Nestor, ordained this day 1992, serving as counselor at Olympic Pastoral Counseling Center, Newport
 - 22 Lucille Rieben, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1992
 - 23 Robert O. Ellerby, ordained this day in 1974, serving as parish associate at First Presbyterian Church, Oregon City
 - 24 Paulette Mixon-Weller, ordained this day in 2001
 - 25 Mark T. Frey, ordained this day in 1979, serving as Western Area Board of Pensions representative • Michael A. Pyburn, installed as pastor of Pioneer Presbyterian Church, Warrenton, this day in 2006
 - 26 United Presbyterian Church, Reedsport - chartered this day in 1919 • Cascades Presbytery meets today and tomorrow, Christopher Grewe, Moderator. Location to be announced.
 - 27 Philip Meddaugh, ordained this day in 1971
 - 28 Christopher E. Von Lobedan, ordained this day in 1992, serving as chaplain for the Oregon Department of Corrections
 - 29 W. Michael McCall, installed as pastor of Hillsboro Presbyterian Church, this day in 1986 • R. Michael Stuart, ordained this day in 1986 • John W. Wallace, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2008
 - 30 Donald W. Taylor, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Newport, this day in 1991 • J. Philip Park, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2001 • Richard J. Cochran, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1985 • Michael A. Grunwald, ordained this day in 1985 • Harold A. Fisher, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1992 • Donald R. Purkey, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2000 • Jack D. Hodges, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2005, serving as stated supply pastor at Kenilworth Presbyterian Church • Douglas D. Rich, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2004 • David P. McDaniels, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2007



Presbytery of the Cascades Current Status of Open Churches

Vacant

Klamath Falls, Peace Memorial
Lakeside, Community
Portland, Bethany

Seeking Interim or Stated Supply

None

Preparing to Actively Seek

The Dalles (Associate Pastor)

Actively Seeking a Pastor (CIF submitted to Louisville)

Ashland, First
Eugene, Westminster
Portland, First (Head of Staff)
Salem, First
Waldport, Community (Designated Pastor)

Revised 3/11/09

Celebration Works Concerts Continue

First, Portland's ongoing concert series, Celebration Works, presents three concerts in April and May. The concerts are all on Sundays at 3 p.m. at the church, located at 1200 SW Alder in downtown Portland, with free parking in the church's underground garage at SW 12th and Morrison available for audience members. Tickets are sold at the door. Adults: \$10. Students/Seniors: \$8.

April 19: Music for the Great 50 Days of Easter. J. Melvin Butler, organist/choir-master at St Mark's Episcopal Cathedral in Seattle, plays festive organ music for Easter, Ascension and Pentecost on the 69-rank Jaeckel tracker pipe organ. Dr. Butler plans music by Langlais, Sweelinck, MacDowell, Messiaen, Duruflé and Bach that is appropriate for the entire 50 day liturgical season of Eastertide, plus one piece for Trinity Sunday. Dr. Butler is also on the faculty of the University of Washington, where he teaches improvisation and church music. He has made numerous recordings and is a popular

recitalist and lecturer.

May 17: Let's Get Lost! Georgina Philippson, vocalist, is joined by Mac Potts, piano, and Brittni Williamson, bass, in a concert that invites you to get lost in America's art form – jazz. This concert will be held in the Chapel, a more intimate setting than the Sanctuary, and promises to be an informal afternoon of jazz favorites performed by a trio of charismatic young musicians.

May 31: Upbeat/Downtown. The Alder Street Sextet is back with a lively program of chamber music featuring wind instruments. The group will offer music for winds and strings, with four guest string players joining them in two nonets by Martinu and Poulenc, and music for winds and piano, with pianist Maria Choban. George Fox University professor and composer-in-residence, Brent Weaver, has written a new sextet for piano and winds especially for the Alder Street Sextet. *Chehalem Sketches* will receive its world premiere at the concert.



J. Melvin Butler



First, Phoenix dedicated a baker's dozen prayer shawls before they went to recipients. Some were delivered personally, others went by mail. Standing left to right are Agnes Knowles, Joan Diestler, Roberta Reyes, Pastor Mike Foster, Yoko Ono, LaVon Amundson, Gloria Roden. Kneeling left to right are Lou Saunders, Shawn Foster and Virginia Vogel.

Whitworth University Presents 34th Annual Institute of Ministry.

The 34th annual Whitworth Institute of Ministry, to take place July 13-17 on its campus in Spokane, Washington offers an enriching week of worship, instruction and fellowship together. Register before May 1 and receive a significant discount. Register online at www.whitworth.edu/wim or by phone at 509.777.4345.

Whitworth is pleased to welcome two prominent church leaders – Ross Wagner and Jim Miller. Ross has taught New Testament at Princeton Theological Seminary for the past eleven years. Before going to PTS Ross was part of a pastoral team of a Missional church in Chicago. Ross will lead the Bible Hour on the topic, "To Live in Christ": *Paul's Letter to the Philippians*.

Jim is the pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Tulsa, Oklahoma. In the past Jim has served in congregations in Linithgow, Scotland and Indianapolis, Indiana. He serves as a trustee at the University of Tulsa and Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. Jim

Miller, will provide leadership during Evening Worship with the topic, "A Convincing Witness?"

Also this year WIM will offer several seminar tracks. The spirituality track will be led by Gerald Sittser, Professor of Theology at Whitworth University. The preaching track will be led by Ronald Pyle, Professor of Communication at Whitworth University. The music ministry track will be led by Dr Harold Best, Professor Emeritus of Music and Dean Emeritus of the Wheaton College Conservatory of Music and Ben Brody, Assistant Professor of Music at Whitworth University.

Each year, WIM provides an extraordinary opportunity for clergy and laity, and their spouses and children, to be encouraged in their lives and ministries. A week of spiritual encouragement, equipping for ministry, and inspiring worship is provided. Institute activities feature a daily Bible hour, morning seminar tracks, afternoon workshops, and evening worship service.

Phoenix Prayer Shawl Ministry Offers Hope

First, Phoenix has a prayer shawl ministry and it involves the whole congregation. The shawl might be a scarf, lap robe or baby blanket and is given in happy times as well as times of illness or other needs.

First, the best yarn to work with is soft home spun. Then the folks knit and crochet praying for the recipient as they stitch. They may or may not know who that person is. The receiver then has tangible evidence he or she is prayed for and loved. "It's like God's arms are around them," states one of the team.

The congregation participates in the dedication, where someone reads the names of the maker and the receiver. Persons who don't knit or crochet deliver the gifts that carry a note telling about the ministry and the church. They are sometimes called hug rugs.

Disaster Assistance Needed in Presbytery

Help form a disaster plan for Cascades Presbytery: Several people are needed from throughout the Presbytery regions – Central, South, Northeast and Northwest – to help develop a disaster plan for the Presbytery. There are a number of questions to be answered: Do we have the capacity to answer phones, receive volunteers, and create a communications system, inventory of resources, and emergency contact list? Please contact me if you are interested, so we can start on it by this summer.

Summer mission trips: If your church would like to stay in the state for a summer mission project, consider going to Astoria or Vernonia. Rebuilding projects will be ready for volunteers by then. Astoria has received funds for building materials, but now we need volunteers. Roofers are especially needed this spring and summer. I can help with places to stay if needed. Camp Magruder could also use people to help clean up trees and debris in the wooded areas.

Please contact Phyllis Wright, Presbytery Disaster Coordinator, for more details – pwright12@juno.com or 971-404-9405 or 503-646-8615.

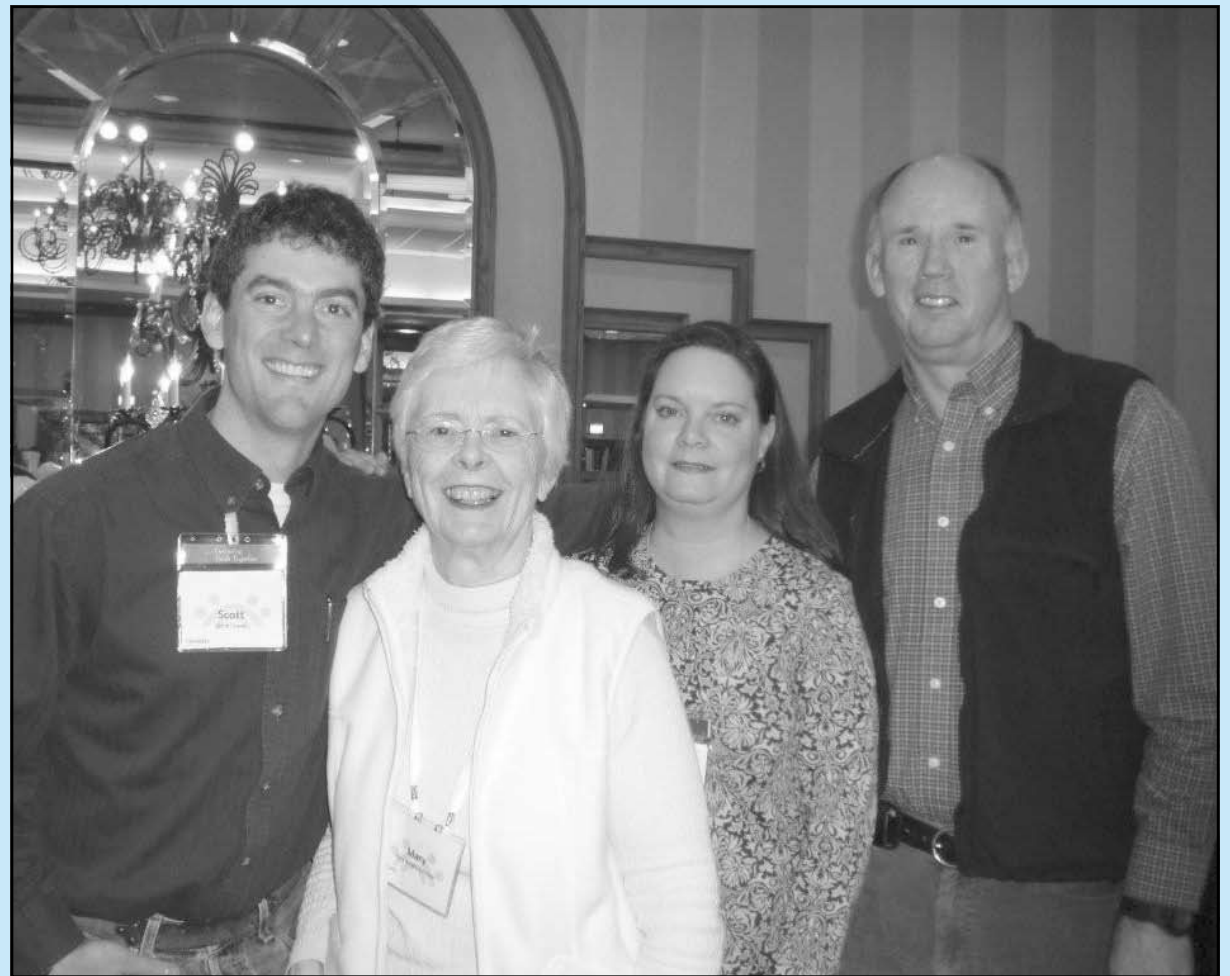
News Briefs

May 4: 40th Annual Collins Lecture featuring Archbishop Desmond Tutu:

"The Transformative Power of Reconciliation in Society," 6:30 p.m. at The Chiles Center, University of Portland, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd., Portland. Download event flyer. Tickets available from TicketMaster.com, 866-448-7849. You may also pick up tickets in person at the Chiles Center box office between 11 a.m. and 5 p.m, Monday through Friday.

Sept. 19: Hear Jane Kirkpatrick in Trout Lake: Save the date for the Creation Care Gathering with author Jane Kirkpatrick in Trout Lake, Washington. The theme is caring for the land through our relationships with God and neighbors. Sponsored by the Presbytery Eco-Justice Team.

Resources for current economic crisis: The Board of Trustees realizes that the current economic environment is having an impact on our churches and members. John Ailstock and John Mahon believe the article, "Crisis and faith" may contain some helpful suggestions. Go to <http://faithandleadership.com/features/articles/crisis-and-faith> to find the article. From Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon - Take action now -- http://www.emoregon.org/2008-09_Financial_crisis.php -- one can participate in an online discussion which focus on faith communities and the economic crisis.



POINT Volunteers Ready to Help

Attending the meeting in San Antonio, Texas for Presbyterians Organized in Nurture and Training are Scott Crane, Mary Wright Gillespie, Katy Ailstock, and Paul Quackenbush. Staff members of Congregational Ministries and Presbyterian Publishing presented new exciting resources available to the congregations many of which are available from online websites. These volunteers are available to share their learnings by phone conversations or consultations. Contact them through the presbytery directory.

Mission Trip Planned for Central India

A team from **United, Albany and St. Mark, Portland** will travel to India from June 30 to July 20, to work with the Bharati Integrated Rural Development Society (BIRDS) in the south-central rural state of Andhra Pradesh, India.

BIRDS is a non-profit center that serves and empowers the Dalits (Untouchable Caste), the poorest of the poor, through Microfinance loans to women's cooperatives, training of village health workers, legal rights advocacy, organic farming and water treatment advocacy, a health care clinic, a training center, and two boarding homes for poor children. BIRDS works in partnership with PCUSA Self-Development of People programs, as well.

This year's projects will include visiting Microfinance cooperatives and local villages, working with children in the boarding home, attending cultural and church events as representatives of US and PCUSA, toilet construction, exploring the use of solar energy and biodiesel, and gathering information on Church of South India, Nandyal Diocese churches and boarding homes, that could be partnered with other churches in our Presbytery who are interested.

Presbyters are invited to join the team in their mission endeavor. "The most important information to share with others in Presbytery is that we will be bringing back pictures and information on village churches and children's home that are in need of

help," The Reverend Barbara Campbell states. "We are hoping that some individual churches in the Presbytery would like to partner with a village and send future work teams or materials or funds to help these churches or homes," she adds. The following projects need help:

Some 80 boarding home children are in need of new school uniforms (\$4 each, to level the "field" of middle class and poor students), new shoes (\$3 would buy a pair canvass shoes, a pair of sandals, and a pair of sox for each child), and education and recreation supplies.

The biodiesel and toilet projects may need \$5,000 in materials. The toilet project helps protect the people from dysentery which kills 400 villagers a year. The biodiesel project will save BIRDS from the expensive cost of fuel to run their school bus, tractors, vehicles and back-up generator.

Dalit children are waiting for sponsors (\$180/year) so that they can come and live at the BIRDS boarding home when the next school year begins in June. Sponsorship covers food for the children. BIRDS provides the boarding home, health care, school tuition, uniforms, transportation and supplies and pays the salary of four boarding home supervisors and additional tutors. Sponsors receive photos and information about the child they are sponsoring.

To make a donation please send a check made payable to "St. Mark" to St. Mark Presbyterian Church, 9750 SW Terwilliger Blvd. Portland, OR 97219. Write "BIRDS" on the note portion of the check and include a letter indicating which program/s you would like to support, whether you would like to sponsor a child for a year, or whether you are contributing to the BIRDS General Fund. Be sure to include your name, address, phone and email with your donation.

For information contact Rev. Barbara J. Campbell: bjcam33@comcast.net or 503-504-3340.



Carol Stewart-Smith, of St. Mark, talking to some women at the BIRDS training center.

We're All Family at Family Camp!

Come to a place where family values are spoken! Come to a place where there's fun for families of every size and age. Come to "Family Camp" August 8-15 for an adventure the whole family can enjoy. Save now by pre-registering before May 15.

Join us at Honeyman campground in Florence for activities and programs to feed the body and warm the spirit. Whether it's worship, campfire, games on the dunes, slug races (it's not so bad, really!), the bike parade, evening games, foot relays, bicycling ... we have fun together. We are rich in fellowship. Join families who have been coming for 20+ years, and others who are attending for the first time. Everyone is welcome!

Check the Family Camp Website for details: www.campcascades.org/familycamp.html.

It's Time to Register for Summer Camp

The purpose of the Presbytery of the Cascades Summer Camp program is to nurture individuals in their relationship to Jesus Christ through the unique experience of Christian camping.

Cascades offers camps in several locations throughout Oregon and are open to all regardless of church affiliation. Campers who may have little or no experience in faith or church are welcome. Campers encounter God through the experience of worship, exploring the wonder of God's creation, Bible-focused lessons, and Christian community. In keeping with the Christian Reformed tradition, Campers are helped to make a connection between their lives and the stories of faith in the Bible in ways that free them to follow Jesus Christ. For each camper we pray that camp becomes part of their journey to better knowing God's Son.

Camps cover a range of ages and programs are designed with the mental, social, physical and spiritual development of the camper in mind. The joy of recreation and play is offered in a safe community which teaches non-violent communication and respect for each individual as somebody made in the image of God. It is recognized that campers learn in many different ways, and therefore a wide range of experiences that campers can participate in are offered.

Register now by going to the www.cascadespresbtery.org which has a link to the camp program.



Stephanie & Jennifer Nicola on the tube at the 2008 Family Camp

Summer 2009 Schedule

2009 Dates	#	Location	Name/Descript
June 12-14	M241	Magruder	K- 2nd Mom and Me
June 21-27	M261	Magruder	6-8 MAD Camp
June 21-26	S262	Suttle Lake	6-8 Middle School
June 28-July 3	S271	Suttle Lake	3-6 Youth
July 6-10	D281	Menucha	K-3 Day Camp
July 12-17	M291	Magruder	3-4 Youth
July 12-17	M292	Magruder	5-6 Youth
July 12-17	M293	Magruder	6-8 Middle School
July 17-19	M294	Magruder	K- 2nd Mom and Me 2
July 19-24	M301	Magruder	9-12 Senior High
July 31-Aug 2	S311	Suttle Lake	K- 2nd Dad and Me
Aug 8-15	H	Honeyman	Family Camp
August 16-22	O	Trout Lake	Sr. High Adventure

National Conference Examines Faith and Environment

Montreat and Presbyterians for Restoring Creation are holding "Faith and Environment: Embracing God's Call to be Green" on July 7-11, 2009 at Montreat Conference Center just east of Asheville, North Carolina. All with an interest in learning more about caring for God's Creation are welcome. Workshops and field trips for adults and youth will be offered. Registration is currently available on-line at www.montreat.org. A limited number of scholarships will be available. There is a variety of housing available plus camping for the budget conscious.

The environmental keynote speaker is Howard Frumkin, director, National Center for Environmental Health, Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry. The center works to maintain and improve the health of the American people by promoting a healthy environment and by preventing premature death and avoidable illness and disability caused by toxic substances and other environmental hazards. Frumkin currently serves

on the Institute of Medicine Roundtable on Environmental Health Sciences, Research, and Medicine and was named Environmental Professional of the Year by the Georgia Environmental Council in 2004. He is board-certified in both internal medicine and occupational medicine, and is a fellow of the American College of Physicians and the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine.

The Biblical keynoter is Ellen Davis, professor of Bible and Practical Theology, Duke Divinity School. Davis is interested in theological interpretation of the Old Testament, with particular concern for Christian preaching. Her current work focuses also on developing an exegetically based response to the ecological crisis. A lay Episcopalian, she has been involved in Jewish-Christian dialogue for more than 30 years. She is a contributor to *The Green Bible*.

The theological keynoter is Sam Hamilton-Poore, Director of the Program in Christian Spirituality and Assistant Profes-

sor in Christian Spirituality, San Francisco Theological Seminary. Prior to this, he and his wife Terry served congregations in North Carolina, Missouri, Kansas, and Iowa. When it comes to ecological issues, Sam has a special passion for prairies, wetlands, and tide pools—and for the (re)integration of prayer, action, and theology. His new book, *Earth Gospel: A Guide to Prayer for God's Creation*, was released by Upper Rooms Books in January, 2009.

Over 20 workshops will be provided including Wilderness Walks, Eco-Therapy, Praying For and With the Creation, A Faithful Response to Global Warming, How to Go Carbon Neutral in Your Congregation and Presbytery, Environmental Education for Religious Audiences, Glorifying and Protecting Through the Arts (Watercolor), Hope in the Global Food Crisis: Solutions Bring Environmental Benefits, My Planet, Myself (Health as related to our Environment), and Roots and Shoots (youth track).

Organ Concert At First, Medford

First, Medford welcomes award winning organist, Michael Unger, for a concert to be held April 19, at 3 p.m., in the Sanctuary. The concert is sponsored by the Southern Oregon Chapter of the American Guild of Organists.

The Toccata in E Major by Johann Sebastian Bach will highlight the concert. Also highlighted will be pieces by George Shearing: "There is a Happy Land," and "I Love Thee, My Lord." Pieces by composers Pachelbel, Fleury, Litaize and Jongen will also be played.

Originally from Toronto, Michael Unger currently resides in Rochester, NY, where he is completing doctoral studies in organ performance at the Eastman School of Music. Michael holds masters' degrees in both organ and harpsichord from Eastman, and is also a graduate of the University of Western Ontario.

In 2008, Mr. Unger was the first Canadian to be awarded both first prize and audience prize in the American Guild of Organists' National Young Artists Competition in Organ Performance. Mr. Unger performs solo recitals in the United States, Canada and Europe. He has served as the Director of Music of Rochester's South Presbyterian Church since 2002.

First, Medford's organ was built specifically for its Sanctuary by Schoenstein and Company. It has three manuals, 28 voices, 36 ranks and 2000 pipes. Installed in 1992, it has not only enhanced worship services each Sunday morning with Virginia Peterson as organist, but organists from around the world have provided concerts for the community.

"The concert is a free gift to the community," Peterson notes.



New Clergy Welcomed to Cascades

Discovery Retreat offers an opportunity for new clergy to learn more about the presbytery. Pictured from left to right: John Mahon; Bob Dodson; Lucille Rieben; Aleida Jernigan; Hugh Anderson; Shereda Benfield, Richard Evans; Isabelle Davis, Bill Davis, Kathleen Brinegar; John Harland (Pictured at Benedictine Monastery, Mt. Angel). Not pictured: John Huenink, Stated Photographer.

CVC Offers National Conference

Church Volunteer Central (CVC) National Conference 2009, a one-of-a-kind gathering of the most experienced, effective leaders of church volunteers in the nation has announced dates and keynote speakers.

From September 30 - October 2, 2009, this exceptional assembly of talent will devote themselves to: Experiencing practical, meaningful training on how to be more effective in equipping volunteers for ministry; exploring innovative, efficient strategies for

identifying, equipping, and releasing people into their gift-based ministries; establishing national networks of peer support for anyone involved in volunteer leadership.

Keynote speakers are nationally known authors, speakers and pastors:

John Ortberg is pastor of Menlo Park Presbyterian Church in California. He is also a bestselling and award-winning author of many books, including *If You Want to Walk on Water You've Got to Get out of the Boat*.

Wayne Cordeiro is senior pastor of New Hope Christian Fellowship, a multi-campus church with five thriving locations in Oahu, Hawaii. He is also an accomplished songwriter and the author of several popular books on leadership, including *Doing Church as a Team and Culture Shift*.

Rick Rusaw is senior minister of LifeB-ridge Community Church in Longmont, Colorado, and co-author of *60 Simple Secrets Every Pastor Should Know*.

CVC National Conference 2009 will take place in Loveland, Colorado at the Embassy Suites Hotel, Spa, and Conference Center. For more information, please see: www.churchvolunteercentral.com/conference09.

Free Movies At Valley

A series of free movies are offered for environmental awareness, entertainment and discussion by Valley Community, 8060 SW Brentwood, Portland, on second Saturdays of the month at 7 p.m. in the Youth House, next door to the church. Everyone is invited. "Who Killed the Electric Car?" will be shown April 11 and "How to Save the World" is scheduled for May 9, both at 7 p.m.

SEVENTH ANNUAL EUGENE SCOTTISH FESTIVAL SATURDAY MAY 16 - 10 A.M. TO 5 P.M.

PEACE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
3060 River Road Eugene, Oregon
(541) 688-2218

Admission is \$1.00, and three cans of food to benefit FOOD For Lane County Singers, dancers, pipers, and more performing throughout the day
Headline Entertainers: David Brewer, from the group "Molly's Revenge," on bagpipes, Rebecca Lomnicky on fiddle and Peter Willis on guitar. The trio will perform traditional Celtic tunes, as well as original pieces from David and Rebecca's newly released CD, *Turning Pages*. Visit their websites for photos and press information:
www.davidbrewermusic.com, www.rebeccalomnicky.com

Historical swordsmanship demonstrations
Scottish cooking demonstrations and Scottish textile demonstrations
Scottish vendors and clans selling authentic Scottish merchandise

Free children's activities

Free horse cart rides

Scottish dog parade and Scottish dog photo contest (details on website)

A variety of delicious Scottish foods

The Eugene Scottish Festival is proud to sponsor FOOD For Lane County. Donations of non-perishable food items will help support FFLC's programs.

Visit our website, www.eugenescottishfestival.com, for a full entertainment schedule and more.

Come find a wee bit o' Scotland in Eugene!

Presbytery Highlights

Editor's Note: These are excerpted by the editor from highlights of the meeting prepared by John Huenink, Stated Clerk. See www.cascadespresbytery.org for more details.

With 256 presbyters (150 ministers; 106 elders) in attendance, the Presbytery at its March 13-14 meeting at First, Salem:

- A presentation entitled "Vitality and Renewal in Cascades" was presented by the four members of Cascades' elected staff. A copy of the multi-media presentation is available through Cascades' website (www.cascadespresbytery.org).
- The presbytery acted, on the recommendation of the Congregational Support Committee, to approve the establishment of the Trailhead New Church Development in Bend, Oregon and that the New Church Development Team establish a steering committee for the NCD to: a) seek an organizing pastor, b) develop a mission design statement,



Stated Clerk John Huenink reads scripture text during "Vitality And Renewal In Cascades" presentation on 03/13/09.

and c) provide oversight and guidance until the church is organized.

- The presbytery acted, on the recommendation of the Professional Support Committee, to approve Certified Christian Educator (CCE) Scott T. Crane to join CCEs Hugh Anderson and Gail Moody as Education Certification Advisors for the Presbytery of the Cascades.
- Pledges for the Basic Mission Support of the presbytery were made; offerings of food staples and cash for emergency food ministries in the Salem area were received.



Len Tang leads a "Bible 101" pre-presbytery workshop on 03/13/09

- The presbytery examined Candidate Brian C. Craker, a member of **Lake Grove, Lake Oswego**, for him to accept a call as Stated Supply Associate Pastor of **Calvin, Tigard**. The examination was sustained, and the presbytery established an Administrative Commission to ordain him at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 19 at the Lake Grove Presbyterian Church.
- The presbytery examined Candidate



Hugh Anderson (l) leads Service of Commissioning for (l-r) Nancy Smith, JoAnn Hebing, and Tam Moore as Cascades' Stewardship Task Force.

Ian H. Doescher, a candidate under the care of The Presbytery of Southern New England, for ordination to the ministry of the Word and Sacrament, for him to accept a call as half-time Stated Supply Pastor of Calvary Presbyterian Church in Portland, Oregon. The examination was sustained and he is to be ordained at 2 p.m. on Sunday, April 19 at the **Calvary, Portland** Presbyterian Church by an Administrative Commission to be established by The Committee On Ministry-Northeast.



Commissioners line at the microphone to debate the Proposed Amendments and Ecumenical Statements referred to Cascades by the 218th General Assembly for affirmative or negative vote.

- The presbytery's Seminary Support Network reported on its work and the contributions of congregations for support of the denomination's seminaries. It was reported that 53 churches from the presbytery contributed a total of \$44,473 to the Theological Education Fund in 2008. The committee thanked all congregations which gave to the Theological Education Fund.
- The presbytery acted on the proposed amendments to the constitution of The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) and proposed ecumenical statements approved by the 218th General Assembly (2008) and referred to presbyteries for their affirmative or negative votes. Following discussion and debate on the various proposals, Cascades' presbyters voted by written ballot and the following is the result of the 222 votes cast:
 - Proposed Amendment 08-A: Not Concur
 - Proposed Amendment 08-B: Concur
 - Proposed Amendment 08-C: Concur
 - Proposed Amendment 08-D:



The Rev. Audrey Schindler (Interim Pastor at First Presbyterian Church in Salem) plays a flute solo, accompanied by Joan Carter (Elder Commissioner from First, Salem).

Concur

- Proposed Amendment 08-E: Not Concur
- Proposed Amendment 08-F: Not Concur
- Proposed Amendment 08-G: Concur
- Proposed Amendment 08-H: Concur
- Proposed Amendment 08-I: Concur
- Proposed Amendment 08-J: Concur
- 08-K: Ecumenical Statement with the Roman Catholic Church - Concur
- 08-L: Ecumenical Statement with the Episcopal Church - Concur
- 08-M: Ecumenical Statement with the Korean Presbyterian Church in America - Concur
- 08-N: Ecumenical Statement with the Moravian Church - Concur

By nomination from Presbytery Council and there being no nominations from the floor, the presbytery elected Elder Pam Fogg (a member of **Lake Grove, Lake Oswego**) to serve a three-year term as Presbytery Treasurer, beginning on June 1, 2009.

On the recommendation of Presbytery Council, the presbytery acted to approve the following addition to the presbytery's Standing Rules (to be included as K-11): *In the case of a contested election and vote by ballot, the name of the elected candidate is to be announced, but the report of tellers is to remain confidential unless the presbytery takes specific action to set aside this standing rule and direct that the report of the tellers be announced and included in the minutes of the meeting.*

The stated clerk reported that the presbytery's contributions made for the One Great Hour Of Sharing special offering during the Friday evening service of worship were \$811.01 and that an additional \$20.99 had been received since then for a total of \$832.00

It was reported that the next Stated Meeting of The Presbytery of the Cascades is scheduled June 26-27, 2009 at a location still to be determined.



A massed choir of Presbyterians from congregations in Cascades' Central Region (and a few from beyond) sing at the Friday evening service of worship, under the direction of James Regin, Music Director of First Presbyterian Church in Salem.