

God Did Wonders at Presbyterian Women's Triennium Gathering

More than 2,500 Presbyterian women (and a few men) attended Presbyterian Women's Churchwide Gathering in Louisville, July 11-15, exploring the theme "God will do wonders among you." Voting delegates to the business meeting accomplished significant work, incorporating Presbyterian Women and electing a leadership team, which for the first time has a Hispanic Latin American woman serving as moderator.

"Each day began and ended with plenary sessions, which were full of talented performers, interesting speakers, inspiring songs and worship," Connie Brenner, member at **Valley, Portland**, who attended the gathering, noted. She added, "Speakers covered topics from disaster recovery to God's love for each of us. A new Churchwide Coordinating Team was installed, and a number of mission workers were commissioned for work in specific mission areas. In between the plenary sessions were opportunities for participating in nine different forums, fifty workshops, tours to local points of interest (including PCUSA headquarters), and browsing in a bookstore or a shop featuring fairly-traded products (including Equal

Exchange coffee, tea and chocolate)."

In addition to emphasizing mission projects, which have been a principal focus of Presbyterian Women (PW) since the beginning of the predecessor organizations over 100 years ago, each table at mealtimes featured a "Cents-Ability" cup to collect funds for the Presbyterian Hunger Program.

Aleida Jernigan, Co-executive Presbyter, pointed out the fact that The Rev. Debbie Blane, a member of the Presbytery of the Cascades, was commissioned to a new mission post at the gathering. The Rev. Blane has just completed a term of service in China with the Amity Foundation, and will teach at Nile Theological College in Khartoum, Sudan. The college is an ecumenical theological institution serving the Presbyterian Church of Sudan and the Sudan Presbyterian Evangelical Church. Debbie will teach a range of theological subjects geared toward college-level students for pastoral ministry.

The theme of the Gathering was "God will do wonders among us," from the book of Joshua, which will be the Horizons' Bible Study for 2009-10.



The newly elected moderatorial team of Presbyterian Women (left to right) Alice Wyatt, Marta Rodríguez and Chris Wolf will provide leadership for the organization during the 2009-2012 triennium. Photo by Danny Bolin.

Bend New Church Development Receives National Grant

The Trailhead, Bend, Oregon, Synod of the Pacific, Cascades Presbytery has been awarded a \$50,000 grant by the Mission Development Resources Committee of the Presbyterian Church to develop a missional community focused on outreach to 19-35 year-old single adults.

At the July Presbytery meeting, the presbytery concurred with the action of the New Church Development Committee to approve the Church Information Form for The Trailhead New Church Development and empowered the New Church Development Team to form a Pastor Nominating Committee for the purpose of calling an Organizing Pastor.

Co-Executive Presbyter, John Mahon, notes that this NCD will not look like what we are used to seeing as church. It will be modeled in line with the emerging church movement and will be set up very intention-



ally to serve the needs of young adults in today's society.

"We have to do something radically different to connect with this population," states Project Convener, Bob Pearson. As noted in the grant proposal, the goal is to open a facility that will be a combination coffeehouse/café, meeting club house where young adults who have an aversion to organized religion will feel welcomed and encouraged to explore faith issues in an environment that "encourages us to be more open to non-conventional approaches, to change, to inclusiveness that will allow 'living the questions' without judgment and honors all people as they are."

The Mission Development Resources Committee of the Presbyterian Church (USA) has awarded Mission Program Grants totaling \$820,000 to 19 congregations and church-related projects across the United States. The Mission Program Grants fund new church developments, transformation of existing congregations and congregational-based ministries of compassion and jus-

tice. Funds for the grants come from endowments, individuals and congregational gifts. The grants will be disbursed over a period of three to seven years.

The Mission Program Grant office will begin receiving new grant proposals in February 2010. The grant programs, office process and the advisory committee that guide Mission Program Grant work are being redesigned to maximize efficiency and effectiveness for new church development and transformation. To learn more about Mission Program Grants, a ministry of the General Assembly Council's Evangelism and Church Growth ministry area, visit www.pcusa.org/missionprogramgrants.

In this issue...

Media Center	p. 2
Viewpoints	p. 3
Positively Presbyterian	p. 4
Transitions	p. 5
Voices - Sowing Seeds	p. 6
Prayer Calendar	p. 7
Rose City's 100th	p. 8
Milwaukie Watershed Project	p. 9
Cuban Vistors	p. 10
PUN Is No Joke	p. 11
Presbytery Highlights	p. 12

2009 Deadlines

September 14	Oct/Nov Issue
November 16	Dec/Jan Issue

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Peacemaking Offering to Be Dedicated in October

The 2009 Peacemaking Offering has as its theme, "Justice and peace shall kiss each other," from Psalm 85:10. This will be the 29th year that the Peacemaking Offering has been received as a denominational-wide offering. Ordinarily it is received as part of the World Communion Sunday celebration – this year on October 4.

It is recommended that 25% of all funds received be used by the local congregation in whatever manner they believe best promotes peacemaking, 25% be sent to the Presbytery and 50% be forwarded through the Presbytery to the national Peacemaking Program. At the presbytery level, these contributions help fund the Restoring Creation Enabler and the Peacemaking/Hunger Action Enabler offices of our Presbytery. Nationally the funds provide for International Peacemaker visitors, for educational materials



such as this year's *Praying through the Year* peacemaking prayer guide, the Washington and the United Nations offices of our denomination as well as numerous smaller peacemaking projects.

Every congregation was mailed a sample packet of Peacemaking Offering materials. Most items are free, but must be ordered. If a congregation is unable to locate their sample packet, they may contact Don Shaw for another, (503) 302-4656 or peaceandhunger@cascadespresbytery.org. For more information on the offering, and to order materials, see www.pcusa.org/peacemaking-offering.

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.



This issue will focus on the many end-of-life/bereavement resources your resource center has. Be sure to clip it out or save it on-line if you think you'll ever need it!

Reflections on Psalm 23 for people with cancer. (13 eight-minute segments) Ken Curtis, founder of Vision Video, was diagnosed with advanced cancer and then decided to journey to Israel and seek out King David's home. Psalm 23 was a vital part of his spiritual healing. The resulting meditations provide a combination of candid personal experiences and some of the spiritual resources available through this time-honored Psalm.

Reflections on the Lord's Prayer for People with Cancer - also by Ken Curtis. While made for people facing cancer, the reflections are relevant for any health issue. (Similar format to the above listing)

Confronting Death, A Christian Approach to the End of Life - Walter Wangerin, Jr. (DVD 57 minutes/five segments) Drawing from his own recent experience with cancer, this award winning author explores the following issues: 1) Discovering serious illness, 2) Grieving before death, 3) Caring for the one who is not sick, 4) How do we handle the pain? 5) Confronting the dying itself. "We as faithful people have the power and ability to look death straight in the eye and understand it." (Wangerin)

Living Fully, Dying Well by Rueben Job in association with Abingdon Press. (A study for small groups) Our best decisions about life's most important events are seldom made in a time of crisis. This study will help inspire you to talk openly about faith and mortality. Topics include biblical and social perspectives on growing older. Included in the kit are leader's and participants' guides and a DVD in eight segments of 10 minutes each.

Living Till We Die: A Journey of Faith Practices by hospice chaplain Nancy Blakely. This is an 84-page paperback guide for developing and leading a course in your own congregation or for personal use. Session plans for the following six faith practices are covered as well as other useful information: Honoring the Body; Keeping the Sabbath; Forgiveness; Healing; Dying Well; Singing Our Lives.

A Child's View of Grief - a guide for caring adults (38 pages) plus a DVD with the same name (20 minutes). Children in our society are sometimes referred to as the forgotten mourners. Learning how to establish a helping/healing relationship is the focus of this resource. Handled with warmth and understanding, a child's early experiences with death can be vitally important learning opportunities.

Someone You Love is Dying, How Do You Cope? By Charles Corr, Ph.D. Most of us think of "grief" as something we experience only after the death of someone close to us. In reality, grieving can begin long before the final loss occurs. Anticipatory grief is the subject of this 28 page booklet. A 20 minute DVD with the same name is also available.

Suicide and its aftermath resources: There are approximately 10 on this subject, including **Fierce Goodbye** hosted by singer Judy Collins whose son committed suicide. Type in the subject keyword "suicide" on the Resource Center's "search the catalog/combo search page" to see all the listings.

Also, by typing in the subject/keyword "death," many other resources, too numerous to mention in this column, will display. A popular series is "Exploring the Sacred in Death and Dying."

Warm regards, Maureen O'Rourke, Resource Center Director

Omnibus

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

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

Cool Congregations Workshop

Oregon Interfaith Power & Light (OIPL) will host Cool Congregations Workshop on Saturday, September 12, 1 to 4:30 p.m. This interactive workshop will equip congregational teams to conduct a nationally tested program to help members of their congregations reduce their carbon footprint and save money.

Pre-registration is required. Groups of two to five from congregations can pre-register by e-mailing awarren@emoregon.org to report the number of team members and to receive a registration form. Cost: Suggested donation of \$20/person or \$50/team of three or more. Call (503) 221-1054, ext. 210, for more information.

Located at Holy Redeemer Catholic Church, 25 N. Rosa Parks Way, Portland, this workshop is sponsored by Ecumenical Ministries of OIPL in partnership with Holy Redeemer Catholic Church and the Franciscan Spiritual Center.

The program will provide the tools needed to make a difference in the home, congregation, and community while contributing to global poverty solutions, for the poor of the world are suffering the most from climate change.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's (EMO) Oregon Interfaith Power and Light project engages the faith community to strive for accountability in our individual and collective energy decisions in an interdependent world. EMO is a statewide association of Christian denominations—including Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox bodies—congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.

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.



Cascades Viewpoints

By Aleida Jernigan

Hospitality: The vital congregation practices hospitality.

This past June, I attended the Big Tent Event in Atlanta. The Big Tent has been called “a denominational happening” and “a big Presbyterian family reunion.” Big Tent inspired people and made them proud to be Presbyterian. The event was celebratory, diverse, participatory and intergenerational. We worshiped together and shared meals. The partner conferences had plenary sessions, panels, Bible studies, workshops, tours and networking opportunities.

In small discussion groups, workshops and plenary, I heard from members of churches that exude a strong sense of mission and identity, which for many of them gives witness to great renewal following crisis, threatened closure, or general decline.

Their paths to such renewal varied, but I discern a similar pattern. There was not a highly complex scientific approach. Preach the gospel, offer hospitality, pay attention to worship and people’s spiritual lives.

These congregations attribute their growth and vitality to their intentional practice of hospitality and to the gifts and

blessings brought in by new members who themselves felt welcomed.

Practicing hospitality is different from friendliness, Mark, one of the discussion leaders explained. Friendliness says, “Hi, how are you, see you, need to be going, great talking to you.” It is being sociable, warm and pleasant. Hospitality says, “Let’s do something together.” In church it might be an invitation to join in a fellowship activity or ministry.

A question for reflection: How do new people perceive your church? The issue is not whether you are friendly to each other, but whether you are friendly to guests.

Resources:

The Practicing Congregation: Imagining a New Old Church by Diana Butler Bass

From Nomads to Pilgrims: Stories from Practicing Congregations edited by Diana Butler Bass and Joseph Stewart Sicking

Becoming a Blessed Church: Forming a Church of Spiritual Purpose, Presence, and Power, by N. Graham Standish

The Company of Strangers, Parker Palmer

Welcoming the Stranger: A Public Theology of Worship and Evangelism, Patrick Keifert



Aleida Jernigan, Co-executive Presbyter leads a presentation on prayer (with Stated Clerk, John Huenink, not shown) as a part of the presbytery’s year-long “Vitality And Renewal In Cascades” program

Cascades Leadership Fair Date, Keynoter Set for 2010

by Nancy Gaston

Noted speaker, author and consultant Margaret Marcuson will keynote the 2010 Cascades Leadership Fair, slated for Saturday, February 27, at Lake Grove Presbyterian, Portland. Her timely topic will be “Lasting as a Leader.”

Marcuson has been described as a “particularly winning communicator on the subject of leadership.....She combines unusual insight with disarming graciousness.” In describing her presentation, Marcuson says,

“Is church leadership a recipe for burnout? There’s a way to approach ministry that’s sustainable: Leaders can learn to focus on themselves and the resources they bring rather than trying harder to help, fix, or change others. Learn how to sustain yourself through the ups and downs of church life, and respond to challenges with clarity, calm and creativity.”

Also confirmed for the event is a workshop by Rob Conover, Executive Presbyter of Redwoods Presbytery, on Healthy Congrega-

tions. In addition, Margaret Marcuson will present a workshop on “Money and Ministry.”

The Leadership Fair keeps growing in size and popularity. In evaluations, people praise the useful workshops, exchange of ideas, affordable cost, fellowship, and the opportunity to spend a day concentrating on issues that matter. Mark your calendars now, and watch for registration information in the fall.

Eighth Season of Celebration Works Concerts Begins

In its 2009-10 season, First, Portland’s concert series, Celebration Works, presents seven concerts by a diverse group of musicians. Calendar these dates now so that you won’t miss a single performance. New this year – all concerts begin at 2 p.m.

October 25: *The O Instruments*. Jon Stuber, organ, and Ann van Bever, oboe, present works for oboe and organ with special guests Anita Lundgren, soprano, and Janet Bebb,

flute. Also on the concert will be a special tribute to music by Stephen Foster written in 1854, First Portland’s charter year.

November 22: *La Stella Baroque*. Portland’s newest early music ensemble includes Mary Rowell, violin; Max Fuller, viola da gamba; Zoe Tokar, recorder and Hideki Yamaya, theorbo. They are back for the second appearance on the series after an enthusiastic debut last fall.

January 24: *Encounters with Beethoven*. Experience the music, pain, joy and humanity of Beethoven as pianist Kenn Willson presents a multi-media piano recital with slides and personal insights into the composer. This is not your typical piano recital!

February 21: *Ordo Virtutem*. FourScore, a classical manband, presents a semi-staged performance of Hildegard of Bingen’s 12th

(Continued on page 6)



Ask the Clerk

Q: Where are our minutes and records of session kept?

A: Believe it or not, I cannot answer that question, for churches keep their official records in many places – with some of those places being inadvisable.

It is not advisable to keep them in any place which does not provide adequate protection against theft or fire or water damage, with the latter two being the most important (since to my knowledge there is no lucrative secondary market for a thief to sell session records). Some churches keep their records in a safe or locking fire-protection file ... but there have been instances in which a whole church safe was stolen (presumably be-

cause a thief thought that it contained cash and because the safe was not adequately secured so that it could not be taken). Of particular concern is potential water damage – which is likely if records are kept in a basement (either at the church or at the clerk’s home or at the pastor’s home) for none of those locations is likely to provide reasonable protection against water damage.

The records of a particular church constitute the living history of a congregation and of the PCUSA. It is not appropriate for anyone (even a clerk of session or a pastor) to take personal custody of those records. In one case, a clerk left the country without a forwarding address and took the church records with him. In another case, a disgruntled clerk refused to surrender the records to a successor clerk.

I recommend that churches deposit records in The Presbyterian Historical Society vaults in Philadelphia, PA. A visit to the website www.history.pcusa.org will provide information on how to do so (and is a valuable source of other information

about records, history, celebrations, etc. as well). I recommend that records be deposited at least every decade ... yet I am aware of at least a few congregations which have a century or more of records kept at the church (in, I hope, an appropriate place!). Before sending records, it might be advisable to make photocopies for church use and with the originals (many of which are in handwritten form) to be kept in the archival-quality vaults in Philadelphia for proper preservation. Minutes and records should not be sent in the oversized maroon leatheroid covers (which the people at the vaults discard as potential sources of contamination of the vaults). Besides, you can recycle the covers for another decade’s worth of minutes and records.

If you don’t know where your church’s minutes and records are, you ought to ask your session. If they are at risk, please urge them to correct that situation! If they need my assistance, I’ll be glad to provide additional suggestions of what to do ... and what not to do.

Positively Presbyterian

South Region

By Ann Moore

Bethany, Grants Pass added a Saturday 6 p.m. service to meet the needs of those who cannot attend church on Sundays. The fellowship hall becomes Bethany Chapel with an informal set-up of chairs, lots of contemporary Christian music, prayer, scripture, a message, and communion.

Bethany feeds needy teens at the alternative education and court school Inn Sight, usually the third Monday of each month. The accredited school includes homeless students and others who don't fit well at their traditional schools. "While we don't preach to the kids, they know we are a church. We evangelize with our actions as well as our caring presence in their world."

First, Medford has "Mondays in August" instead of their usual Vacation Bible School. They did this because of the demands on the time children and their families have, like visits with absent parents, visits with relatives, scouting and sports camps. Each Monday offers a different program. One week it was movies with lunch, another was visiting the children's discovery center, another was craft time, and the final was a day at the ranch. This included horseback riding, swimming, and a picnic. All programs were for children entering first grade and older.

The June demolition and recycling of **First, Coos Bay's** building was reported by the Associated Press in the Portland Oregonian and other state newspapers. The old growth siding will be used for a shop building by former pastor Chris von Lobedan. Habitat for Humanity took the doors, banisters, commodes and sink set-ups. The Coos County Master Gardeners removed plants that surrounded the church. Church members had a yard sale of other furnishings. An antique dealer bought a set of magic lantern slides of the Holy Land from the early 1900s. Fifty-one chairs were purchased for an exchange by the Egyptian Theater and the Greenacres grange, which will enable the theater to get back some of the original seating. Susan Massey of **First, North Bend** bought choir music. While sorting through that music she found an unopened offering envelope with \$2 from 1967. She returned that to First, Coos Bay with a thank you letter. The city of Coos Bay bought the church property for a new fire station. The congregation now meets in a building they rent from the Episcopal church.

First, Ashland housed and fed a youth team from Lake Oswego for a week at the end of July. The 50 or more participants stayed in Calvin Hall and went out daily to mission projects in the Rogue Valley.

Central Region

By Bruce Smith

In July, **Community, Redmond** conducted its 21st annual "Paint Your Heart Out" with 30 volunteers who were able to make quick work of painting one home this year.

David Hampton, **First, Dallas**, has been chosen to participate in a two-year program called the Academy for Missional Preaching, put on by the PC(USA). "Missional" is the latest term to describe the emphasis on congregations living out the mission Christ gave to us as quoted in Isaiah a 61:1.

In June, **First, Salem**, elected the Reverend Elbert Eugene Burnett to be their new pastor. He was on site July 27.

First, Woodburn loaned their church facilities to the Lake Grove Church to con-

duct a four day VBS in June for the children in the community. Vacation Bible Schools were held by a large number of churches in the Central Region throughout the summer. Rod Davidson, Colette Schlegel, and Wendy Tegan from **First, Albany** coordinated a summer camp for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. The children were given four days of instruction in music and drama for the production of *Aesop Fables the Musical* that was presented to the community in July.

Church of the Siuslaw, Florence, will receive \$3,200 from the city for an easement through their parking lot for a storm drain-pipe. The project will start in September and take two to three weeks to complete. Access to the church will be limited, but accessible. This church also has a "Pet Loss Support Group" which meets monthly to provide time and space for those who have lost their pets to remember and share them with others.

Youth mission trips have been on the calendar for many churches. The **Mill City** youth traveled to San Francisco to serve the homeless and struggling in the Bay Area Rescue Mission. The high school youth of **Community, Redmond** traveled to Mexico to build three homes for families there.

Creswell's youth went to the Wapato Indian Reservation last year, but this year they are going to stay in Creswell and work on a variety of projects within the community. A group of young adults and some oldsters from **Christ's Church, Monmouth** journeyed to Camp Magruder for a week as a work party. The camp administration was so pleased with their job that they refunded the group's camp fees. A small number of youth from **Westminster, Salem** spent a week at an orphanage in Hogar in southern Mexico working with nearly 70 kids. **Westminster, Salem** had a group of 15 youth with adults spending a week in California on an Indian Reservation painting, roofing and other miscellaneous chores. The Yakima Indian Reservation in Washington was the goal of the youth from **First, Salem** who had sold shares in their project to members of the congregation.

Lou Chandler of **Nestucca Valley, Pacific City** notes that the next big major project for the new church is a public address system. They have \$2,500 in the sound system fund, but will need \$6,800 for the desired system. He comments that since the government hasn't made an overture to send a stimulus check or bail out money, he will have to wait until more funds become available.

Westminster, Salem comments that they are missing two folding tables from their solarium. This can't be too surprising as tables do have "legs."

Northeast Region

By Jan Noller

Elizabeth House, a residential maternity home for young women between the ages of 14 and 22, received needed items from **Mt. Tabor, Portland**. **East Woods, Vancouver** has sent clothes, school supplies and food to three programs in India.

"On the Road to Peace" is the theme of Vacation Church School at **Rose City Park, Portland**. Through activities, the students will explore what it means to create a world that fosters peace, love and inclusion. **Mt. Scott Park, Portland** is having an evening Vacation Bible School from 6:00 to 8:30 each night.

Kenilworth, Portland has implemented a grant from the city of Portland for storm water management. Now all their water

from the roof flows into the ground, rather than the sewage system.

At **First, Oregon City**, the annual river baptism will be held at Barton Park for first time baptisms as well as re-dedications.

Goodie bags for the homeless are available for members at **Cascades, Vancouver** to hand out on the roadside

Springwater, Estacada members are challenged with seven ideas to make a difference in reducing world hunger. **Colonial Heights, Portland** takes its rotation with the Daybreak shelter providing meals, overnight hosting and driving the program's minibus.

Scout Troop at **Piedmont, Portland** is hosting a party to celebrate the troop's 90th anniversary. The troop does many and varied activities in the church and the community. On average, one to three scouts achieve the level of Eagle Scout each year.

Laurelhurst, Portland and **Covenant, Portland** are inviting members to join other PUN (Presbyterian Urban Network) churches in October on a mission trip to Guatemala City. The main objective is to promote cross-cultural exchange and experiences leading to a commitment of relationship. Twenty-three youth and adults were sent by **Gateway, The Dalles** on a mission trip.

"Kids for the Kingdom" at **St. John's, Camas** has grown from three kids to nineteen in nine years.

Habitat for Humanity in Bellingham, Washington will benefit from the work of the youth from **Columbia, Vancouver**. **Milwaukie** is enlisting volunteers to be part of a team working the second and fourth Saturdays at the Habitat for Humanity Presbyterian Faith Build at Lents Landing.

Exercises to overcome computer fatigue syndrome were shared with the members of **Eastminster, Portland**.

For women 21 to 59, **Savage Memorial, Portland** sponsored a relaxing "Girls night out." The movie, "Slum Dog Millionaire" raised awareness of the homeless and street children in India.

Smith Memorial, Portland is starting to celebrate its 120th anniversary. Historically they chartered with 23 members in 1890. The church honored Hannah Smith with its name.

Northwest Region

by Jeanne Rich

"Helping Hands" is a common theme this summer. At **Tualatin Plains (Old Scotch Church), Hillsboro** sisters Emily (12) and Wendy (8) Upton work together to help people with different needs, then they donate the money they earn to help people in the Dominican Republic. Emily visited there "to see poverty first hand" last year. She and Wendy have cousins living in a village in which children "don't have shoes or money to buy their school uniform and books for the required public schools," so the girls earned enough last year "to purchase three pairs of shoes, and toothbrushes to send back with their cousins to Las Terras to help children in need." They continue to look for jobs to keep this project going. **Plymouth, St. Helens** also has a program of helping hands. Volunteers in their new work program call themselves the "Fix-byterians" and dedicate "their talents, skills and time to assist others with tasks they cannot do on their own." They plan to extend their hands to helping the community.

Valley Community, Portland put their feet to the job for "Barefoot Sunday" held in June. Everyone was encouraged to donate

(Continued on page 5)

First, Central Point's Community Garden Grows!



Michelle Higgins of Table Rock Fellowship hoes weeds as her produce grows in another section of the First, Central Point community garden. Most of what she is working on will end up at the Table Rock Food Pantry.



First, Central Point's Jennifer Southwick works in her section of the garden before church one Sunday. Other gardeners say they will have enough tomatoes to feed all of Central Point! They deliver eggplant, melon, and squash as well as tomatoes to ACCESS food share. Much of their produce is for home consumption. Water comes from the church's well.

Positively Presbyterian

(Continued from page 4)

the shoes they wore to church service and during communion they left the shoes at the front of the church, going home barefoot. These new or gently worn shoes were collected by the youth for Soles4Souls. They learned "that 300 million children around the world do not own a single pair of shoes... America threw away that same number of shoes into landfills in 2008." **Reedville, Aloha** is hosting the USDA Summer Lunch Program for children in their parking lot and **Southminster, Beaverton** children will be tending a garden on Sunday mornings during the summer to provide fresh vegetables for the food bank.

Reading, whether in groups or as individuals, is again a favorite summer pastime. The topics range from entertaining to deeper reading; however, all seem to provoke or rekindle thoughts about who we are and what we are about as we live out our faith. **Bethany, Portland** book club is reading John Steinbeck's *East of Eden*, a saga of the Salinas Valley, and *Hotel on the Corner of Bitter and Sweet* by Seattle author Jamie Ford which is about "Chinese- and Japanese-Americans coming of age in America's World War II internment camps." Neither of these will be considered light summer reading. Members at **Hillsboro PC** have been encouraged by Pastor Michael McCall to look into *The Chronicles of Narnia*, *The Shack*, and to watch *Veggie Tales* to "Let Jesus the Storyteller break through to you in new ways and with new insights." **First, Newberg** adult Sunday School class is also reading *The Shack* for a "Trinity-Centered discussion" facilitated by Annette Simonsen and Lory Albright. **Pioneer on Clatsop Plains, Warrenton** member Terry Arnall recently reviewed *They Had to Go Out* by Gary Hudson. This story of the Triumph-Mermaid tragedy that occurred in January, 1961 involved a Coast Guard boat and a local fishing boat in which several lives were lost. Some church members recall it well. Ninety-seven year old Bernice Enke fixed sandwiches for the station crew that night as they awaited news, and she helped "pick out the rock" to be a memorial near the Hammond mooring basin at the mouth of the Columbia River. Terry writes, "We often think about local fishermen during prayers at church. Some of the songbooks are memorials to congregation members

lost at sea." **Multnomah, Portland's** First Friday Book Club includes a theme potluck meal in their meetings. July's choice was *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle* by Barbara Kingsolver with a meal theme of "local foods" and their August book choice is *Cross Country* by James Patterson, including a meal of African food.

Traveling informs church members to real needs worldwide. **St. Mark, Portland's** Pastor Barbara Campbell and David Stewart-Smith joined with three members from Albany United Presbyterian Church to work with BIRDS (Bharati Integrated Rural Development Society) in Central India for three weeks. Projects while living on the BIRDS farm included training women in soap-making for a small business, building another dry compost toilet on the site, and visiting many "local villages to listen to the story of the lives of the Dalit people and their concerns..." They hope to provide information to other churches in Cascades Presbytery on how they can support and partner with projects like this boarding home and training compound. Donna Russell, **Valley Community, Portland** was seen in a photo modeling Bolivian clothing. She was among eight who journeyed from Cascade and San Francisco Presbyteries to La Paz where they were hosted by Brad and Ali Kent who are serving as volunteers until replacements are made for Bob and Julie Dunsmore,

who have retired. **Emmanuel, West Linn** youth travel to Northeastern California in August where they "will help the Roundhouse Council who support people of Native American descent but have no formal tribal affiliations."

Special events are celebrated. **First, Portland** reports that Julia West House was awarded the Excellence in Innovation Award by the Oregon Food Bank for offering healthy eating. This was "based on the combination of microwave vegetarian cooking class and coupon program in conjunction with the Sunday Farmer's Table offered at the First Presbyterian Church." **Bethany, Portland** celebrated the church's 136th anniversary in June. **Valley Community, Portland** published a letter from Liz Leavitt that shares the news of her graduation from Harvard Divinity School. Liz, a former Senior High Youth Director at Valley, was ordained to ministry by the Presbytery of Boston and has accepted a call as co-pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Waltham, MA. Valley also reported that another former youth director, Brenna Dykman, "who followed closely on the heels of Liz's leadership," will begin studies at Princeton Seminary. Valley has "a long history of encouraging young people to consider ordained ministry to Word and Sacrament," writes Pastor Rene Minshew.

TRANSITIONS

Welcome New Pastors

- **The Rev. Dr. Delbert (Del) E. Burnett**, transferring from the Presbytery of Sacramento to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Salem, beginning July 27, 2009
- **Candidate Timothy S.K. Vance**, transferring from the Presbytery of Seattle, to serve as associate pastor of Gateway Presbyterian Church, The Dalles, beginning July 27, 2009 [pending ordination]

Pastoral Changes

- **The Rev. Ronald H. Burns**, completed service as stated supply pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Gold Beach, June 30, 2009
- **The Rev. David C. Lee**, began service as interim pastor, Bethany Presbyterian Church, Portland, June 22, 2009
- **Elder Katherine Stewart**, completed service as Commissioned Lay Pastor at Bethany Presbyterian Church, Grants Pass, June 30, 2009

Retirements

- **The Rev. Kenneth M. "Woodley" White**, granted Honorably Retired status, June 18, 2009

'Sowing the Gospel'

By Craig Williams,

At a recent New Church Development (NCD) Team meeting Len Tang, pastor of Sherwood Presbyterian Church, asked a question: "What is the fruit of an apple tree?" The answer, of course, is another apple tree. The purpose of the tree isn't to produce merely apples but more trees. It is a great analogy of the work of the church – to produce more churches.

This is not merely a strategy to extend an organization. It is the very life of the organism.

As I have traveled and listened to pastors and church leaders throughout our presbytery, one of the common hesitations to starting new congregations is, "Why don't we strengthen the ones we've got?!" This statement is said in lots of ways like, "Why don't we spend the money on the churches we've got?" Or, "The area you're talking about is where we're hoping to reach people." Or, "There are enough churches already!" Or... fill in your own line.

My response is: "The best way to strengthen your church is to start a new one. It is what you were made for."

In March I traveled with a small group to Brazil as part of my most recent study leave. We were traveling with Jose Pezini, a Brazilian pastor who works for the Presbyterian Foundation. Our goal was to visit congregations throughout Brazil that were considered to be churches that planted churches.

One of the most outstanding experiences was in Manaus, Brazil in the Amazonia region of the country. Manaus is a city of over a million people located on the Rio Negro in the heart of the Amazon. Central Presbyterian Church has a membership of about 2,500 people. Over the last ten years or so, they have planted over 90 churches. (In Brazil, to be called a church is much like it is here in the states – there needs to

be a critical mass of people, they need to be financially self-sustaining and have called a full-time pastor. They also have identified enough leaders to form a session.) Currently, Central Presbyterian Church is in the process of planting 60 more churches worldwide (five are in Africa). More than 60% of their budget goes directly to planting new churches. All members of the staff relate to the new congregations in support and mentoring relationships. Often the leadership of the new churches emerges from the existing churches.

What's my point? I know the context is different. But what can we take from this kind of example? Central Presbyterian Church believes that the purpose of discipleship is to create more disciples who will form new churches to reach more people who will become disciples. Reproduction. It is the very life of the organism. On last count, Central Presbyterian Church estimated that their 90 new churches totaled more than 4,000 members – eclipsing the sponsoring church's membership.

What does this mean for the churches of the Cascades Presbytery? You may think you're not big enough or wealthy enough to start a new church. But that is not true. Our thinking about what a church is needs to change. A church is the gathered people of God. It is not a building, or an organizational structure. It is not a certain size or shape. It is most definitely people who gather for worship and discipleship and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ in both word and deed. This takes very little money to begin. The seed of a new church can be as small as a person who has a passion for a people group that has yet to experience the Gospel of Christ. Alan Hirsch uses the term, "Sowing the Gospel" instead of church planting. This might be a better term.

How do you do this? One way is to offer to participate in the work of discernment as we seek to consider the opportunities the NCD Team has identified in the areas of Forest Grove, Wilsonville, Happy Valley, and West Salem. Another would be to partner with the new Trailhead NCD in Bend. Another way would be to look within your own community and say where a new gathering of Christians would be a good thing.

Another way to do this work would be to find a few churches you'd like to work with and identify those places where God is leading you to sow the Gospel. Remember – **you are the presbytery!** Go to www.presbygrow.net and download the booklet entitled "Starting New Churches." This will guide you in a process that can lead to a new congregation.

The NCD Team exists to assist you in this work. Let us know when you're ready to start!

The most immediate way to strengthen your existing congregation is to get out and work the soil. Start "Sowing the Gospel."

News Briefs

Lectionary Retreat with Richard Rohrbaugh, September 21-22: Keynote speaker, the Rev. Dr. Richard L. Rohrbaugh, leads the 2009 Lectionary Retreat, "The Social/Cultural World of Jesus and the Gospels" on Monday and Tuesday, September 21-22 at Mt. Angel. Dr. Rohrbaugh has been among the pioneers in using anthropological studies of Mediterranean culture to set the New Testament in its ancient social and cultural context. He will contrast the social/cultural world of Luke's Gospel with the frequent Americanization of biblical texts in the commentaries and other scholarly resources used in sermon preparation. This retreat is open to anyone interested in studying Luke in depth. Pastors, elders, and adult education leaders are especially encouraged to attend. Register by September 4. Flyer and registration at <http://cascadespresbytery.org/2009-LectionaryRetreat.pdf>.

Celebration Works Concerts

(Continued from page 3)

century musical drama with singers and instruments. Joining FourScore are guests Roxy Consort, Rachel Taylor Brown, Cloud 9 and others.

April 18: *Schubert's Winterreise*. Tenor Kenneth Beare and pianist Maria Choban. Love's lost journey toward frostbite with slides and updated translation.

May 23: *Organ Music for the Long Green Season of Pentecost*. Paul Klemme, organ, offers music especially written for the Sundays and Feasts of the Liturgical Year from Pentecost to Christ the King.

June 13: *A Musical Bouquet*. The Double Reed Divas include Victoria Racz, Dagny Rask Regan and Ann van Bever playing oboe, oboe d'amore, English horn and bassoon in a colorful kaleidoscope of musically diverse repertoire.

First Presbyterian Church of Portland is located at 1200 SW Alder in downtown Portland. All concerts are on Sundays at 2 p.m. Free parking is available in the church's underground parking garage; entrance at SW 12th and SW Morrison. Tickets are sold at the door. Adults: \$10. Students/Seniors: \$8. For more information, visit the church's web site: www.firstpresportland.org.



Doll Taylor and Jim Allen in Glendale's 4th of July Parade.

Presbyterian Serves as Grand Marshall

Doll Taylor, active member of Olivet, Glendale, was selected as the Grand Marshall of the Glendale's 4th of July parade this year. Jim Allen who is also a longstanding member of the church drove his 1955 red and white Chevrolet as her chariot.

Doll Taylor joined Olivet in 1933. She has been very active in the church filling many different spots. She has sung in the choir and still does, is a Sunday School leader and has been for many years, served as a deacon and elder, was very active in the after school program for four years and always helps with Vacation Bible School. When the congregation compiled a cookbook, she provided many delicious recipes and some pictures which were included in

the cookbook. She excels at helping with kids and has a wealth of knowledge and songs to teach them and lots of fun games.

She worked as secretary at a local school for 32 years. She was an Emergency Medical Technician since 1972 and worked on the ambulance for 27 years. She has served on a variety of boards locally, including the ambulance and senior center boards.

"It was very gratifying to hear children and adults shouting, 'Hi Doll,' all along the parade route," states Mary Bishop, fellow member of Olivet. She adds, "Doll was resplendent in the parade with her red and white striped umbrella with the blue field of stars adorning it. We are so proud of both of Doll and Jim, who drove the car."



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.

September 2009

- 1 Rebecca L. Hazen, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2005 • John D. Dennis, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2006 • Donald R. Shaw, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2008
- 2 Charles F. Falconer, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1999
- 3 Rolland C. "Ron" Carter ordained this day in 1955, serving as director of pastoral care at Central Presbyterian Church, Eugene
- 4 Peter B. Hutton, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1991
- 5 Richard L. Clippinger, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1999
- 6 Elizabeth Winslea, ordained this day in 1998, serving as co-pastor of Sunnyside Centenary United Methodist Church & Lincoln Street United Methodist Church • Presbyterian Church of Laurelhurst, Portland - chartered this day in 1892
- 7 James C. Moiso, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2008 • Jenny Holmes, Restoring Creation Enabler for Cascades Presbytery
- 8 Committee on Preparation for Ministry - Graig Flach, Chair
- 9 Thomas "Fitz" Neal, installed as pastor at Columbia Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, this day in 2007 • D. Hugh Peniston, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1983
- 10 Craig S. Roberts, ordained this day in 1995
- 11 Theodore W. Buck, ordained this day in 1983, serving as parish associate at St. John's Presbyterian Church, Camas
- 12 Roger J. Newell, ordained this month in 1984, serving as professor at George Fox University • Paul Belz-Templeman, installed as pastor of Aurora Presbyterian Church, Aurora, this day in 2004 • Dorothy Franklin, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1999, serving as interim pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Trout Lake and Evergreen Presbyterian Church, Cook, Washington
- 13 Richard P. Zimmerman, installed as pastor of Tualatin Plains Presbyterian Church, Hillsboro, this day in 1998
- 14 Constance S. Wilkerson, ordained this day in 1994, serving as stated supply pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Central Point • Elizabeth T. Boatwright, installed as associate pastor of Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, this day in 2003
- 15 Peter Santucci, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Lebanon, this day in 2002
- 16 David P. Prichard, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Astoria this day in 2001 • Sun Moon Jhee, installed as pastor at Korean Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, this day in 2007 • David M. Crow, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2003 • Clement N. Street, ordained this day in 2001
- 17 Brian L. Heron, ordained this day in 1989, serving as chaplain at Laurelhurst House Assisted Living & as stated supply pastor of Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 18 Dawn Champoux, administrative assistant, Presbytery of the Cascades, central region office • Presbytery Council meets today and tomorrow - Chris Grewe, Chair
- 19 Pioneer Presbyterian Church, Warrenton - chartered this day in 1846 • David C. Dornack, installed as pastor of Rose City Park Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 1999 • M. René Minshe, installed as pastor of Valley Community Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2004
- 20 Jennifer A. Butler, ordained this day in 1992
- 21 Christine K. Dungan, ordained this day in 2002, serving as parish associate at St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 22 James P. Freda, ordained this day in 1970 • David K. Morelli, ordained this day in 1976, serving as stated supply pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Woodburn • First Presbyterian Church, Newport - chartered this day in 1878
- 23 Howard V. Hannon, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1987 • Karen S. Pollan, installed as associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Salem, this day in 2001
- 24 Catherine R. & Paul M. Quackenbush, installed as pastors of Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, West Linn, this day in 1995 • Diane M. Bagues, ordained this day in 1989, serving with the Legacy Visiting Nurse Association - Hospice Association • First Presbyterian Church, Corvallis - chartered this day in 1853
- 25 Philip U. Martin, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1990, serving as parish associate at Tualatin Presbyterian Church, Tualatin • Michael S. Foster, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Phoenix, this day in 2005 • Sylvia C. Dilworth, installed as co-pastor of Multnomah Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2005
- 26 Holly Hayes Lucas, ordained this day in 1993 • John W. Ailstock, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, McMinnville, this day in 2004
- 27 Committee on Ministry Northwest region - Kenneth Evers-Hood, Chair
- 28 Westminster Presbyterian Church, Eugene - chartered this day in 1952 • Donald M. Ludwig, ordained this date in 1997
- 29 Bruce J. Marten, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Oregon City, this day in 1996 • Debbie R. Blane, ordained this day in 2002, serving as a teacher at the Nile Theological College in Khartoum, Sudan
- 30 Robin Garvin, ordained this day in 1990, serving as stated supply associate pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Portland • William F. Dittler, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1994 • William E. Barlow, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2000 • Patricia E. Vanderpol, ordained this day in 1984 • Chinese Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1973 • Richard Evans, ordained this day in 1998 (Presbyterian Church of Wales), serving as associate stated supply pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Jacksonville
- 15 Moderator
- 15 William P. Borgman, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1993
- 16 Peter J. Blank, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Newberg, this day in 1994 • M. Ann Bowersox, ordained this day in 1983, serving as campus pastor at Western Oregon University • Joseph C. (Chris) Montovino, installed as pastor of Cascades Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, this day in 2005
- 17 Robert D. Stone, installed as pastor of Community Presbyterian Church, Moro, this day in 1999
- 18 United Presbyterian Church, Brownsville - chartered this day in 1857 • Kenilworth Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1908 • Korean Presbyterian Church, Corvallis - chartered this day in 1999
- 19 Patricia M. & Thomas C. Campbell-Schmitt, installed as co-pastors of St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Portland, on this day in 2003
- 20 Cynthia J. O'Brien, installed as pastor of Smith Memorial Presbyterian Church, Fairview, this day in 1996
- 21 Randy L. Lodjic, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2005
- 22 Delbert E. McAmis, installed as designated pastor of Community Presbyterian Church, Tulelake this day in 2006 • First Presbyterian Church, Mill City - chartered this day in 1894 • Reedville Presbyterian Church, Aloha - chartered this day in 1908
- 23 First Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1854 • Joyce L. DeGraaff, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Medford, this day in 1994
- 24 James A. Lacy, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2007
- 25 Stephen Dietrich, ordained this day in 1992, serving as the coordinator of Spiritual Care and Bereavement for Signature Hospice of Eugene • Valley Community Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1942
- 26 Roberta D. "Bobi" Souder, ordained this day in 1997, serving as Family Consultant / Counselor for the Health Projects Centers Del Mar Caregiver Resource Center, California • Christopher L. Ward, installed as associate pastor of Westminster Presbyterian Church, Medford, this day in 2003 • Westminster Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1892
- 27 Columbia Presbyterian Church, Vancouver - chartered this day in 1954
- 28 Ronald H. Burns, ordained this day in 1978 • Karen C. Fortlander, ordained this day in 1990
- 29 First Presbyterian Church, Oregon City - chartered this day in 1888 • Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, West Linn - chartered this day in 1961
- 30 David E. Buzza, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1980
- 31 Eastminster Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1954

October 2009

- 1 Robert A. Garwig, installed as pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church, Tigard, this day in 2006
- 2 Timothy L. Winslea, ordained this day in 1994, serving as co-pastor of Sunnyside Centenary United Methodist Church & Lincoln Street United Methodist Church
- 3 Lorraine R. Stuart, ordained this day in 1982 • Kenneth Evers-Hood, installed as pastor of Tualatin Presbyterian Church, this day in 2004
- 4 Plymouth Presbyterian Church, St. Helens - chartered this day in 1959
- 5 Lloyd "Buck" Tohill, commissioned this day in 2003, serving as Commissioned Lay Pastor, Olivet Presbyterian Church, Glendale
- 6 W. Daniel Klingler, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1999
- 7 Willis O. Case, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1982
- 8 Lorne P. Bostwick, installed as pastor of Central Presbyterian Church, Eugene, this day in 2006 • Bruce C. Armstrong, installed as associate pastor of Columbia Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, this day in 2000 • Jeffrey W. Bredeson, ordained this day in 1989 • Jonathan Andres, ordained this day in 1989
- 9 Synod of the Pacific meets this day through October 11
- 10 John R. Ewing, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1984
- 11 Elizabeth Larkin, camp coordinator, Presbytery of the Cascades
- 12 Alvin E. Fischer granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1996
- 13 David R. Allison, ordained this day in 1985, serving as Risk Manager, Sacred Heart Medical Center, Eugene • Rodman L. Fridlund, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1992
- 14 Permanent Judicial Commission of the Presbytery of the Cascades - Kappy Eaton,



Presbytery of the Cascades Current Status of Open Churches

Vacant

Klamath Falls, Peace Memorial
Lakeside, Community

Actively Seeking a Pastor (CIF submitted to Louisville)

Portland, First (Head of Staff)

Rose City Park Celebrates its 100th Anniversary

by Gail Black, Rose City Park Member

On the cool summer morning of July 12, 2009, Rose City Park Presbyterian Church celebrated its 100th Anniversary with a joyful worship service. The communion elements were carried by four of our 50+ year members. The Chancel Choir presented an anthem, *The Mountain of the Lord*, based on the book of *Micah* and composed for the occasion by organist Sarah S. Shay. A luncheon and program followed.

Assisting in the worship were former clergy and program staff. Betty Greer, Christian Education Coordinator (1970-75) assisted with liturgy. The Revs. Phil GebbenGreen, Associate Pastor (2001-03), John Harland, Outreach and Calling Pastor (1991-94), Rex Parker, Assistant and Associate Pastor (1962-67), Robert C. Patten, Associate Pastor and Pastor (1970-96), James Stewart, Assistant and Associate Pastor (1959-62), along with Barbara Shibley, Church Educator and Program Administrator (1981-2000) assisted in serving communion.

One hundred years ago, on July 9, 1909, 29 neighbors established Rose City Park Presbyterian Church on the corner of Northeast 45th Avenue and Hancock Street in Portland. In the last ten decades, the church has been served by seven pastors. In the last 86 years, four pastors have led the congregation with tenures of 32, 22, 22, and 10 years.

In the Rev. David Dornack's sermon on Anniversary Sunday, he recounted the church's long-held commitment to global mission, education, and inclusion: "Our predecessors made sure that the mentally-challenged were included in worship and Sunday School, built houses that would become homes, fought for women's issues, battled racism, and showed concern for the elderly, the hungry, and farm workers. The people of Rose City Park are committed to being a more inclusive congregation making the image of the Great Banquet a reality, where all people regardless of human-imposed barriers are welcome to sit at the table."



Rose City Park's Original Building as seen during the 1950s.



Rose City Park Congregation Celebrates 100 years

Cascades Honored for Mission Giving in Five Categories

Editor's note: This article was adapted from an article on the Presbyterian News Service.

The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) is honoring presbyteries big and small across the country for their generous support of Presbyterian mission in 2008. "Presbyterians feel passionate about mission on a local, national and global scale," said Linda Valentine,

executive director of the PC(USA) General Assembly Mission Council (GAMC). "The money donated by presbyteries each year means we can continue to engage in mission and ministry across the country and around the world."

"Top Ten" lists were compiled in four categories: total giving, basic mission sup-

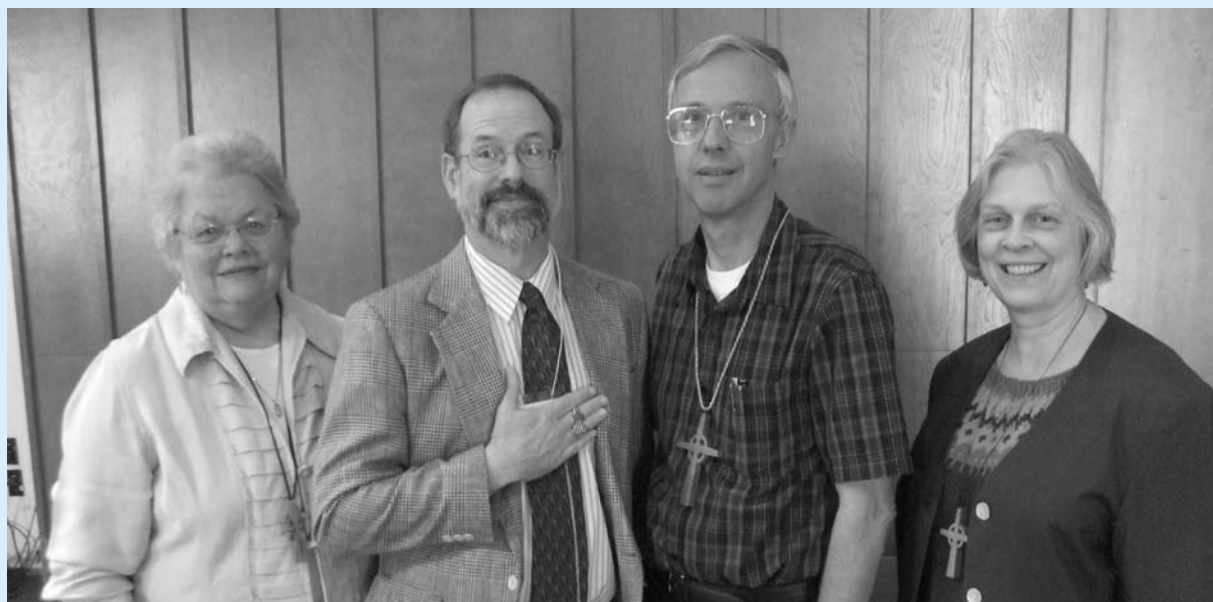
port, special offerings, and other appeals. Within each category, the lists are sorted by total giving and by average giving per member. Several presbyteries were honored in more than one category. For example, the presbyteries of National Capital, Cascades and Donegal are each honored in five giving categories.

Cascades made the top ten lists for total giving by dollar amount and for total giving by dollar amount per member; basic mission support by dollar amount and basic mission support by dollar amount per member; and for special offerings by dollar amount.

Support from presbyteries helped to fund an increase in international mission personnel, new church developments in 31 states, worship and study resources for pastors and church leadership, support for military chaplains, and other work of the church. The funding also supported responses to a range of disasters, including flooding in the Midwest and other parts of the United States, wildfires in South Carolina and California, hurricanes in the Gulf Coast, and international disasters such as the cyclone in Burma and the earthquake in China.

"Through their gifts, presbyteries support the vital mission and ministries of the church," said Karen L. Schmidt, deputy executive director of Communications and Funds Development for the GAMC. "We truly appreciate the stewardship and support these presbyteries have demonstrated."

Presbytery Leadership Team



(l to r) Elder Nancy Walker Morgan (Central Region Vice-Moderator); The Rev. Chris Grewe (immediate past moderator; Chair Of Presbytery Council for 2009-1010); Elder Bob Bulkley (2009-2010 Moderator of Presbytery); The Rev. Beverley Crow (Northeast Region Vice-Moderator).

Metro 'Nature in Neighborhoods' Grant Received

By Pat Carter and Shirley Stageberg

Ed. Note: A Metro "Nature in Neighborhoods" grant to restore wetlands on church grounds was received from Metro (the elected regional government that serves residents in Clackamas, Multnomah and Washington counties and the 25 cities in the Portland region). Nature in Neighborhoods is a broad based regional initiative to restore and protect the region's natural assets. www.oregonmetro.gov

Milwaukie Presbyterian Church was awarded a \$7,800 two-year matching grant from Metro: "...to live out our stewardship, we will restore our wetlands to its natural habitat...(and)...as a congregation commit to its environmental care so that it might be a Sanctuary..."

Milwaukie's property includes 3½ acres of fragile wetlands on Kellogg Lake. In May 2009, Milwaukie learned it was to receive the grant and was the only church to receive one in this grant cycle.

A year ago, as a member of Joining Hands with Bolivia (under the Presbyterian Hunger program), we were embarrassed when our Bolivian partners asked about our water issues and we had to admit to problems on our own church land. Forty years of neglect had left the two natural springs choked with ivy, the massive, native white oaks, cottonwoods and maples strangling under thick ropes of clematis, and the slopes and bottomland impassible with thickets of blackberries.



Milwaukie Presbyterian Church work crew cutting blackberries: from left--Marilyn Roush, Nancy Kinnaman, Helen Ellis, Jon Cottrell, and Jill Winegar.

We started cutting the invasive plants but soon realized that we would need profes-

sional help. No one in the church was a grant writer, but Metro staff members provided the support needed to write the proposal.

Metro is concerned that there be a commitment on the part of a potential grantee to the future maintenance of any land restored as a result of a grant. Thus, our church's "Statement of Principles for our Outdoor Sanctuary" which recognizes our responsibility to care for this land became a critical factor as we began to write our proposal. Also, congregation members pledged over 400 hours of future volunteer work.

A second important factor was partnering with members of our wider community. We needed help with matching hours of "sweat equity," and since we wanted our land to be used and enjoyed by our neighbors, too, they needed to be invested in using the land wisely and caring for it responsibly. We found five committed partners: the local troop of Boy Scouts, Milwaukie High School environmental classes, the nearby Franciscan Spiritual Center, the local parent co-op preschool, and the City of Milwaukie. Each partner promised to support the work with its own particular strengths: trail building, invasive plant removal, educating the community, charting the wetland ecology over time, and arranging spaces for meditation. In all, over 300 youth and adults will be engaged, mostly drawn from the ranks of our partners.

Our proposal was also linked with another neighborhood restoration venture: the City of Milwaukie's plan to breach a 100-year-old dam to allow its creek to again run free. Our land drains into this area, and restoring our wetland would reinforce the City's efforts.

The grant writing experience has helped us focus on process and consensus-building and long-term planning. With the Metro grant, we have funds to pay an environmentalist for professional work and advice. This summer, church work crews are cutting invasive plants two mornings per week. Milwaukie Church members, with the help of the Scouts, constructed a new stairway into the property and our young adults built a section of trail.

Children from this year's Vacation Bible School walked through the wetlands to experience God's "Outdoor Sanctuary."

Resources for Church Watershed Stewardship

Are you inspired to make your church's land more watershed-friendly? There are many resources to help you including funding. Here is a partial list of some of the resources available.

Funding

- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board has a small grants program which enables landowners across the state to contribute to the Oregon Plan for Salmon and Watersheds by committing "small acts of kindness" on their properties for the benefit of water quality, water quantity, and fish and wildlife. http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/GRANTS/smgrant_main.shtml
- Environmental Finance Center provides a searchable database of funding sources for water projects at <http://efc.boisestate.edu/watershed/index.asp>
- For the Greater Portland Area, Metro provides a number of grant programs to improve habitat and watershed health including Nature in Neighborhoods grants and Community Enhancement grants. <http://www.oregonmetro.gov>
- In the City of Portland, the Community Watershed Stewardship Program provides restoration grants and mini-grants for native plants. You can also get a discount on your sewer bill for adopting certain measures to reduce stormwater runoff. For information go to <http://www.portlandonline.com/bes>.

Volunteers

The most successful church land and water conservation projects have extensive community involvement, especially volunteers.

SOLV can train a volunteer coordinator from your church and you can apply to have your site included in community watershed restoration days such as Down by the Riverside (held in mid-May each year). www.solv.org

Boy Scouts and Girls Scouts are often looking for natural resource projects. Also try your local school for volunteers.

Technical Assistance

- Learn about designs for the built environment that reduce runoff at <http://www.low-impactdevelopment.org>.
- The Master Watershed Stewardship program (MWS) is a statewide program that offers educational sessions and materials to help watershed groups and individuals understand how their watersheds work and apply this knowledge to watershed stewardship on their own land or in their community. <http://extension.oregonstate.edu>.
- Oregon Sea Grant, <http://seagrant.oregonstate.edu/outreach/index.html>
- Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board. <http://www.oregon.gov/OWEB/WSHEDS>
- Native Plant Society of Oregon, <http://npsoregon.org/landscaping1.html>
- Soil and Water Conservation Districts www.oregon.gov/SWCD. Your local Soil and Water Conservation District may offer conservation planning assistance that can address water runoff, wildlife habitat, and soil erosion.
- The Stormwater Solutions Handbook is for anyone interested in managing stormwater on their property, making changes to existing development. <http://www.portlandonline.com/bes/index.cfm?c=edbba>

Cascades Presbytery Requests Bolivian Environmental Audit

The Presbytery of the Cascades at its meeting in Vancouver, WA, voted to request that the government of Bolivia complete

a long-delayed environmental audit of the area surrounding the Kori Kollo mine in the Oruro region of Bolivia. Extensive pollution

has occurred there, but the source of the environmental damage is hotly debated. All parties to this dispute agree that an impartial, transparent, governmental sponsored audit will be a major step in establishing responsibility for the pollution and its effects. The exact text of the letter is available on the presbytery website - www.cascadespresbytery.org.

This action grew out of the Bolivian visit in May of the Cascades Presbytery Joining Hands with Bolivia delegation. It is an expression of the partnership of the Presbytery of the Cascades with UMAVIDA, a network of religious and non-governmental organizations in Bolivia. This partnership was established through the Presbyterian Hunger Program of our denomination, along with eight other similar partnerships around the world, involving other presbyteries.



The delegation that went to Bolivia includes representatives from Cascades and San Francisco presbyteries, (l to r, Linda Shaw, Ralph Delamarter, Rachel Medema, Jay Gregory, Gretchen Williver, Don Shaw, Donna Russell, Judy Setzer, Brad Kent, Ali Kent.

Cuban Visitor Shares Her Story

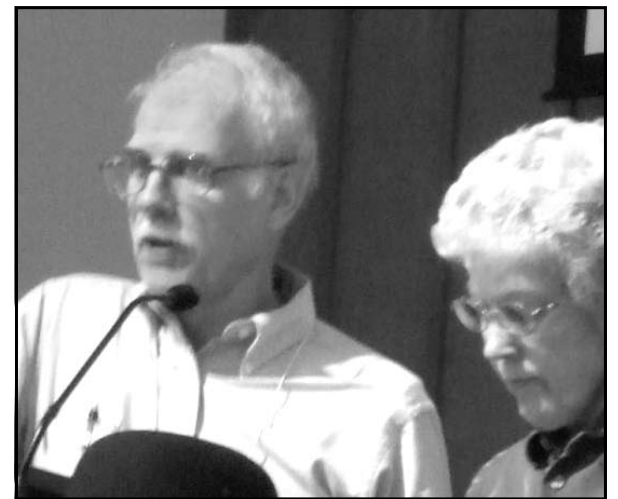
Cascades Presbytery welcomes Xiomara Arena to our presbytery. Xiomara is currently the Synod -Council moderator for the church in Cuba.

Two partner congregations in the Portland area, Southminster and Eagle Creek, facilitated a get-together time to hear Xiomara speak about the Presbyterian Church in Cuba. Both events were well attended with partner-members attending from as far as Yachats and other Portland metro areas.

Xiomara told the group that the church in Cuba faces many challenges - a hurricane season that left many congregations without a building and the economic downturn that's felt globally, more so in a country already facing limited resources. "But we take

comfort and draw strength from the scripture passage found in Psalm 121:1-2 'I lift up my eyes to the hills--from where will my help come? My help comes from the LORD, who made heaven and earth.'"

For over 20 years, Xiomara and her husband Francis have managed the Cuban Presbyterian Church Camp. The camp, located in a remote area of the Santa Clara province, began its ministry primarily to the Presbyterian churches in Cuba in 1959. Over the years the camp combined retreat center facilities and provided services both to churches and community. Many Cascades partner members who have visited Cuba have stayed at the camp.



Judy Setzer of First Presbyterian Church, Bend, and Don Shaw making a report about the most recent delegation to Bolivia, of which both were a part. At the conclusion of their presentation they asked presbytery to write a letter to the government of Bolivia requesting that an environmental audit be conducted in the region of the Kori Kollo mine and the village of Toma Toma.

Brad and Ali Kent Return from Bolivia; Jay Gregory Begins Work in Bolivia

In mid-July, Brad and Ali Kent completed their six months as volunteers-in-mission in Bolivia and are now home in Bend. Although their schedule is very full, they hope to be available as time permits to visit congregations within the presbytery, sharing their experiences as well as describing how a short-term volunteer-in-mission assignment can work. During their time in Bolivia, the Kents helped to provide stability and direction for the Joining Hands with Bolivia project there and carried out those tasks necessary to prepare for the new, permanent companionship facilitator, who is scheduled to begin in January, 2010.

Jay Gregory of San Francisco Presbytery has been appointed by the Presbyterian Hunger Program to continue as interim companionship facilitator between now and the arrival of the permanent missionary in La Paz. Jay was part of the Cascades/San Francisco delegation that traveled to Bolivia in May. He is familiar both to the Bolivians and to the partners in San Francisco and Cascades presbyteries. He brings special skills in environmental science, web design and photography, all of which will be very helpful in preparing for the soon-to-be appointed permanent missionary.

News Briefs

Presbyterian Volunteer Villages: Over the past few years, many people have asked if the age limit for volunteers to stay in the Presbyterian Volunteer Villages could be lowered. We are very pleased to announce that the age has now been lowered to 16. Read about current needs for volunteer mission work teams, especially in Texas, at <http://www.pcusa.org/pda/teams.htm>.

Dates announced for Presbytery fall youth events: Middle School Mania is at Camp Canyonview, October 23-25. CPYA (Cascades Presbytery Youth Assembly) will be at a new location - Macleay Christian Retreat Center, November 20-22.

Creation Care Fellowship Gathering in Trout Lake, Sept. 19: Author Jane Kirkpatrick is featured. The theme is caring for the land through our relationships with God and neighbors. Sponsored by the Presbytery Eco-Justice Team. New brochure and online registration at http://cascadespresbytery.org/CrCare2009-09_online.html. Register by September 11.

Mission Challenge '09 sign-up deadline approaching for Oct. 9-16: There are still a few time slots available during October 9-16 if your congregation would like to hear The Rev. Bill and Ann Moore, Presbyterian Church (USA) missionaries in Japan. If you have not received a recent "confirmation of contact information" email, please phone or email

Don Shaw, 541-548-8637 or 503-302-4656. For more about the Moores and the Mission Challenge, read <http://cascadespresbytery.org/Peace.pdf>.

Cascades Lay Institute flyer now available for Oct. 16-17: The Lay Institute on Friday and Saturday, October 16-17, will be at Eugene, Westminster. Instructor is the Rev. John Huenink, speaking on "What You Need to Know about Presbyterian Polity (at least most of it)." No charge. Contact Janet Alpine at the South Office for more information (1-800-701-7373).

New coffeehouse open at Mt. Tabor church in Portland: TaborSpace, the neighborhood coffeehouse open daily for coffee and treats in Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church, also features occasional evening events. See Flyer at <http://www.cascadespresbytery.org/taborspace.pdf>.

'Reaching the unchurched' workshop led by Tom Bandy, Nov. 6:

Come to the one-day workshop to coach and equip pastors and church leaders on how to reach out to the unchurched in ways that are authentic and effective. Led by international consultant Tom Bandy. Friday, November 6 from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego. Register by October 28. Additional information and registration and online registration: <http://cascadespresbytery.org/Reaching.pdf> and http://cascadespresbytery.org/Reaching_online.html.

PUN Is No Joke

By Bud Frimoth

Editor's Note: This is another version of the story that was released by the Presbyterian News Service - also written by Bud.

Say that you have about 400 Presbyterians in the city, how do you organize them? Especially when they are scattered among eight small churches within a four mile radius. They have over 700 years of Presbyterian witness in Portland. With a bit of imagination and a lot of prayerful planning, you come up with PUN - Presbyterian Urban Network!

The Presbyterian Urban Network (PUN) is a consortium of eight small urban congregations which began with the pastors gathering in the fall of 2005. All the congregations have memberships under 100. The smallest is 34 and the largest in membership is 99. These congregations covenanted together as an alliance for program renewal, pastor peer support, and developing fresh ministry within their particular communities.

Per Jack Hodges, recently retired Cascades Presbytery Executive and Stated Supply at Kenilworth, "At its core, our Presbyterian system is connectional. Through PUN, we hope to become a resource of renewal for our small congregations, a network for transformation, mutual strengthening, program and service development."

So how are they going about accomplishing this? Ian Doescher was ordained this spring as Stated Supply of Calvary Presbyterian Church. Several pastors from PUN assisted, including Brian Heron of Eastminster who served as convener. Using his computer skills, Ian developed a website for PUN which can be seen at www.punpdx.com. Each congregation has its website listed for information about their ministry.

For PUN to minister in the city, the planners needed to have members of each church get to know each other. That's what "connectional" means in our denomination. So summer PUN in the Park picnics were set in a neighborhood park close to one of the churches. That's just in case the weather that Portland is noted for happens, they can scoot to that church and continue to enjoy the company. On several occasions, homeless people were part of the experience together.

PUN Feast and Fun are periodic programs in churches that include a meal, a program with leadership and community develop-



Some of the PUN members review the PUN web site. From left: Rev. Ian Doescher, Rev. Linda Stewart-Kalen, Rev. Bill Van Nostran, Rev. Greg Ikehara-Martin, Rev. Jack Hodges, Rev. Matt Hilgaertner, Parish Nurse Judy Hubbard

ment and a brief time of worship. One program was the commissioning of PUN's parish nurse, Judy Hubbard, who visits each of the congregations on a regular basis.

Innovation is a focus for each congregation. Play parks for preschoolers are in several congregations. A neighborhood health care clinic, study centers and after school programs have been initiated.

Eastminster is pastored by Brian Heron. Several years ago another small congregation melded into Eastminster, and there has been a need to discern the direction the congregation moves. Part of their involvement in PUN is having parish nurse Judy Hubbard on a regular basis each month.

Northminster, as its name implies, is in the north end of Portland near the University of Portland. Pastor Bill Van Nostran utilizes his experience from working outside of the church prior to his ordination to serve in the community. There's a day care program for children. Seniors have a free Chair Yoga class. Very early in PUN's organization, Northminster was involved in Judy Hub-

bard's work as Parish Nurse.

Kenilworth has seen many meaningful changes in both the physical plant and its outreach to the community. This past fall an Early Education Preschool was started under the guidance of professionally trained Gretchen Nelson. Parents also assist in the program. "Vespers at Five" is a gift to the neighborhood when musical groups offer a free concert to those interested in music from a variety of media. A community garden is next to their parking lot.

Colonial Heights is under the leadership of the Rev. Linda Stewart-Kalen. From her background in social service work, the church has been able to reach out in new ways to their immediate community. One event was FROG (Fred Rogers Outreach Grants) efforts in which each of the churches did something to better connect with their neighbors. One PUN church did a plant exchange, another replaced deteriorating signs with new ones with the PCUSA logo. Some hosted Emergency Preparedness events and Blood Drives. Outreach to immediate needs in the Colonial Heights area was among this congregation's efforts.

The Presbyterian Church of Laurelhurst has the leadership team of Pastor Greg Ikehara-Martin and Elder Beth Keys working in Christian Education. Each summer the youth combine with Aurora Presbyterian youth group for a major mission trip. The church also has been open to groups to do "clothing or toy swap meets" where people in the community share clothing or toys they no longer want or need. The articles left over are given to local charity groups who supply similar articles to those in need.

Piedmont Presbyterian Church is led by the Rev. Sarah Lewis. Outreach to youth and children in the neighborhood through after school programs is a key involvement. A play park for preschoolers is another means of outreach.

Grace Presbyterian has recently changed pastoral leadership with the Rev. Matt Hilgaertner just getting into the leadership role. The church also is the building host for the Hispanic Rose of Sharon Foursquare Church several nights a week.

PUN, you see, is no joke but some 400 Presbyterians working together to share the good news through this form of urban strategy. As Jack Hodges reminds us, "Paul writes to the Corinthian Church, '...the members of the body that seem to be weaker are indispensable.'" (1 Cor 12:22).

Presbyters Attend Workshop



Tam Moore leads Pre-Presbytery Workshop on "Interpreting The Work Of The Presbytery To Your Congregation"

Presbytery Highlights

Editor's Note: These are the highlights of the June 26-27 meeting of the Presbytery of the Cascades, at Columbia Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, Washington, excerpted by the editor from the notes of Stated Clerk John Huenink. A more complete report may be found on the website, www.cascadespresbytery.org.

- A total of 191 presbyters (116 ministers and 75 elders) registered attendance at the meeting. The meeting began with a service of worship at 1:30 p.m.
- The Committees On Ministry of the presbytery reported on their work since the previous stated meeting and the following new members of the Presbytery of the Cascades were introduced and welcomed: The Rev. Mark C. Olson, transferring from the Presbytery of the Pacific; The Rev. Wendy H. Olson, transferring from the Presbytery of the Pacific; The Rev. Clement N. Street, transferring from the Presbytery of Nevada; and The Rev. Isabelle Davis, transferring from the Presbytery of Minnesota Valley. It was reported that The Rev. Dr. Delbert (Del) E. Burnett, was in the process of transfer from the Presbytery of Sacramento to serve as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Salem. On the recommendation of the Committees on Ministry, the presbytery approved the 2009 terms of call for ministers as presented to the individual committees for review.
- The presbytery concurred in the action of the New Church Development Committee to approve the Church Information Form for The Trailhead New Church Development in Bend, Oregon and empowered the New Church Development Team to form a Pastor Nominating Committee for the purpose of calling an Organizing Pastor.
- Mark Frey, Regional representative of The Presbyterian Board of Pensions reported that although the Board experienced the biggest loss in investment values in its history, the pension plan remains 100% funded. Presbyters were advised of the preventive portion of the major medical benefits plan and the new features of the board's website.

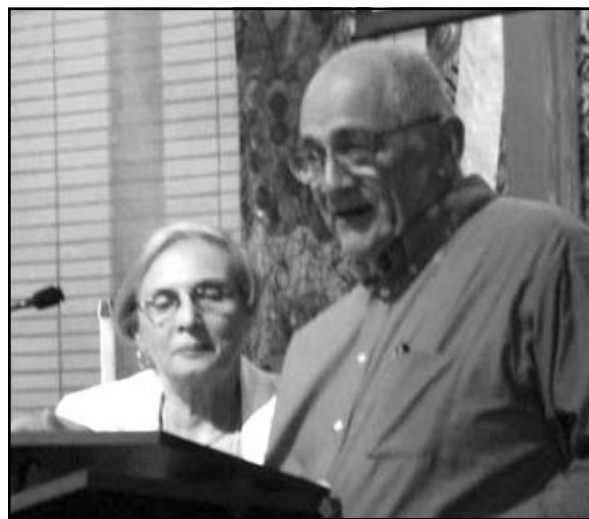


COM-NE Chair Tom Young presents Timothy S.K. Vance, a candidate under the care of The Presbytery of Seattle, for examination for ordination on the basis of his call, pending ordination, to serve as Associate Pastor of Gateway Presbyterian Church in The Dalles.

- In addition to a number of actions on behalf of individual congregations on the recommendation of The Board of Trustees, the presbytery approved a Synod Line of Credit loan application in the amount of \$1,750,000 for the purpose of property pre-development costs for the construction of faith-based student housing near the University of Oregon at Koinonia Center at the University of Oregon and Central Presbyterian Church of Eugene. The presbytery approved, on a motion on behalf of both Central

Presbyterian Church and Koinonia Center, to encumber both properties for the project.

- A presentation on prayer was led by John Huenink and Aleida Jernigan as a part of the presbytery's year-long "Vitality And Renewal In Cascades" program
- Mazan Munthir Alsaqa, MD, presented a report on his personal experiences as a member of the Christian community in Mozul, Iraq.
- A report on the work of The Synod of the Pacific was presented by Synod Commissioner Elder Eva Clarke. Eva reported on the grants awarded at the meeting.
- It was reported that Elders Buzz Johnson and Marsha Landrith had received certification for service as commissioned lay pastors.



Jack Hodges and Aleida Jernigan

- Jack Hodges and Aleida Jernigan reported on their work as members of the General Assembly Mission Council and the mission of the Council.
- Timothy S. K. Vance, a Candidate under the care of The Presbytery of Seattle, was examined for ordination on the basis of his having received a call to serve as full-time Associate Pastor of Gateway Presbyterian Church, The Dalles, Oregon. The examination was sustained and the terms of call for the position were approved. The Presbytery of Seattle is to ordain him on July 26 and transfer him to The Presbytery of the Cascades following ordination. He is to be installed at Gateway on September 13.
- It was reported by Cascades' Seminary Support Network that 46 congregations have pledged support to 10 seminaries. Presbyters were reminded that the 2009 observance of "Seminary Sunday" will be September 20.
- The Mission Support Committee reported on opportunities to hear from Cuban partners and a trip to India sponsored by St. Mark Presbyterian Church of Portland for work on water purification projects. The committee is working with the presbytery's support committees regarding racism in our communities. A report was presented on the recent visit by a delegation to Cascades' UMAVIDA partners in Bolivia. The presbytery acted to direct that the Stated Clerk send letters to representatives of the Bolivian government to encourage long-postponed impartial eco-



Presbyters celebrate Sacrament of the Lord's Supper in Friday-evening service of worship.

- logical audits of mining operations in that country.
- A contested election for the office of 2009-2010 Moderator of Presbytery was determined by ballot vote and Elder Robert Bulkley was elected.
- The Relational Support Committee reported on the presbytery's 2009 Pulpit Exchange and on the work of Oregon Faith Roundtable Against Hunger (OFRAH), which seeks to eliminate the root causes of poverty.
- The Congregational Support Committee proposed and the presbytery adopted a policy regarding the need for signed release documents when photographs of minors are used in promotional materials. The committee's Eco-Justice Team proposed and the presbytery adopted, with some amendments, a resolution endorsing "The Power to Change: US Energy Policy and Global Warming" passed by the 218th General Assembly in June 2008. The Stated Clerk was directed to send letters to the governors of the three states in which Cascades Presbytery has congregations for leadership in policies promoting energy efficiency and addressing global warming, and informing them of *The Power to Change* and the Presbytery of the Cascades' endorsement of it.
- Cascades' New Church Development Committee reported that \$200,000 in grants for the Trailhead NCD in Bend had been received. Information was presented about TaborSpace, a coffee house at Mt. Tabor Presbyterian Church for reconnecting with the neighbors and providing for community outreach. The NCD Committee reported on several new areas they are considering as potential NCD sites.
- On the recommendation of the Professional Support Committee and Presbytery Council, the presbytery approved the following as minimum standards for compensation for 2010: The minimum terms of compensation [Salary/Housing/Manse/etc.] for 2010 for Ministers of the Word & Sacrament, Commissioned Lay Pastors and Certified Christian Educators called to serve congregations full time remain at \$41,100. Professional Expenses will also remain the same at \$3,500, as will Continuing Education funds at \$1,500.
- The next Stated Meeting of the Presbytery of the Cascades is scheduled for November 13-14, 2009 at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Medford, OR.

The report of the Committee on Preparation for Ministry included the enrollment of Amanda C. Golbek, a member of Rose City Park Presbyterian Church of Portland, as an Inquirer. The following persons were elected as Readers for the 2009-2010 Standard Ordination Exams:

Principal Readers:	Alternate Readers:
Elder Ernest Etllich	The Rev. Aleida Jernigan (Spanish)
The Rev. Bill Heming	The Rev. Sung Man Kim (Korean)
Elder Bruce Kim (Korean)	The Rev. Bruce Marten
Elder Roger Smith	The Rev. Paulette Mixon-Weller
Elder Judy Sprunger (Spanish)	Elder Bettirae Willis