

CPYA inspires youth group to change lives

By Becki McKinney, Community Presbyterian Church, Redmond, Oregon

(Editor's Note: Paul Belz-Templeman, chair of the Congregational Support Committee writes, "More than 200 high school students from 27 churches attended the Cascades Presbytery Youth Assembly (CPYA) recently. The keynote speaker, Mike Yankoski, wrote of his experience as a homeless person in *Under the Overpass*. His stories and the event have had a ripple effect in the Redmond congregation and community and impacted the lives of a group of homeless men.")

The senior high youth from our Presbytery recently participated in Cascades Presbytery Youth Assembly (CPYA) in Canby. The speaker was Mike Yankoski, author of *Under the Overpass*. He shared his adventures living homeless for five months around our country. Here's what transpired after that weekend.

On our way home from CPYA, we saw a homeless man at the I-5 exit heading back to Redmond. Our bus stopped at the light, and a couple of our youth took some of our food and water bottles to the man. We were in the second turn lane from the side of the road. All traffic stopped. The light turned green and not one car moved. They all witnessed this gesture from the youth. God was there.

The next day, my teenage son and I saw three homeless men in the Wal-Mart parking lot, so we waved joyfully, went in the store to buy garbage bags (my only need) and decided to buy them some food. I went to the other side of the store to buy ibuprofen (not sure why at the time).

We took the groceries to the men sitting in the corner of the parking lot and talked with the guys. I've never done that before. One lost the front of both feet from frostbite in the last few years. One had frostbite and wounds from last winter. Two had tennis shoes that were not in good shape. One backpack was torn up. We asked their needs and found they needed a tent, because theirs was torn all the way across the side and didn't keep them warm. They were staying on Bureau of Land Management land four miles out of town and had no cookstove, only the clothes on their back and a tent. Two had sleeping bags and pillows. The man with the frostbite and wounds said his foot



Community, Redmond High School youth group has grown since it has been involved with a Homeless Mission Project. Says Becki McKinney, Youth Director, "We're keeping our youth involved with many tasks and the adults are organizing the programs and opportunities for this to become a community wide effort to provide for the homeless here in Redmond."

hurt pretty bad. We just happened to have ibuprofen in the grocery bag. God was there!

My husband brought our two-room tent and camping gear with a cookstove, a sleeping bag, camp chairs, and more. We drove the men to their campsite along with some of my youth group kids and other leaders. We set up their tent, got them situated, brought them water, dishes, and food. God was there!

We delivered wood, took Thanksgiving dinner, served and ate with them, met more

guys in that area, and took clothing, new warm winter boots for four men, and gloves and coats. Folks from the church drove them to the local Armory for free showers, and gave them towels to keep. We took them to the social services office to help get them started on disability paperwork and to the Housing and Urban Development office to fill out applications.

In one week's time, our youth have adopted these three men and a few of their

Continued on page ?

Leadership Fair Offers Inspiration and Information for All

By Nancy Gaston

Question: Where can you experience inspiring worship, hear stimulating speakers, attend workshops by nationally-known experts and enjoy a good lunch—all for \$20?

Answer: At the Cascades Leadership Fair, Saturday, February 28, at First Presbyterian, Portland.

Keynote speakers are Donald and LindaJo McKim. He is an executive editor of Westminster John Knox Press, and she served as editor of the *Presbyterian Hymnal: Hymns, Psalms and Spiritual Songs* and the author of the popular *Presbyterian Hymnal Companion*. Together they'll help us in celebrating John



Donald and LindaJo McKim

Calvin's birthday and examine what happens in worship. Each will also lead a workshop—LindaJo on "Worship Trends for the 21st Century" and Donald on "Calvin's Theology for Today."

Another noted national expert, Jerry Van Marter, will lead a workshop on "How Your Newsletter Tells Your Story." Jerry was ordained by Olympia Presbytery where he served churches before joining the Presbyterian News Service (which he now coordinates) 20 years ago. He will offer theories, practices and tips for helping your newsletter communicate essential information in interesting ways and present your congregation as a vibrant community of faith. In a second workshop, Jerry will use Presbyterian mission in Russia as a case study of how to communicate mission stories in ways that inform, inspire and entertain.

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In this issue...

Interfaith Advocacy Opportunities	p. 2
Viewpoints	p. 3
Positively Presbyterian	p. 4
Youth Eco Stewards Sought	p. 5
Official Notice	p. 6
Prayer Calendar	p. 7
Educator's Retreat	p. 8

2009 Deadlines

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

Advocacy Days Offer a Way to Voice Concerns to the State Legislature

Two days have been set aside for the faith communities to meet with state lawmakers. Both days are co-sponsored by entities within our Presbytery.

The **Mission Support Committee of the Presbytery of the Cascades** voted at its most recent meeting to be co-sponsors of the **2009 Interfaith Advocacy Day, February 19, at St. Mark Lutheran Church in Salem, beginning at 9:00 a.m.** This event, organized early in each legislative session by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, is a time for people of faith to learn about issues of special interest to the religious community that will be coming before the legislature this session, and to speak with their elected representatives about these matters.

The event will include worship, advocacy training, keynote addresses from community and political leaders, meetings with lawmakers, and prayer and reflection. After lunch, participants will march to the Capitol where they will be greeted by legislators. Following this reception in the Capitol Galleria, participants will then make visits to lawmakers. To register, download the registration form or contact Kevin Finney, director of EMO Public Policy Advocacy, at (503) 221-1054, ext. 204, or kfinney@emoregon.org. If your congregation or organization is interested in sponsoring the event, download the sponsorship letter and the sponsorship form.

Leadership Fair

(continued from page 1)

Other compelling workshops will include a Review of the Proposed Form of Government to provide more flexible and missional polity for the PC(USA), and "Who, Me? Chair a Committee?" giving guidance on procedures and group process. Both will be led by Diana Barber, Associate Synod Executive for Leadership Development for the Synod of Lakes and Prairies.

Local expertise will be well utilized also. John Huenink, Stated Clerk for our Presbytery, will present his helpful workshops for clerks of session and church treasurers.

Co-presbyter Aleida Jernigan will provide guidance on becoming a multicultural church, while her colleague John Mahon helps us understand our Mormon neighbors.

Mary Jo Emmett, an elder at John Knox, Keizer, will lead a workshop on liturgical arts.

Craig Williams, the presbytery Director of New Church Development, will present a session with the intriguing title, "Catalytic Conversion: Changing How We Lead and Follow." It will challenge the business world model of the pastor as CEO and offer one of leaders as catalysts for ministry.

Kathy Scott, webmaster for the presbytery, will present "Church Websites: Avoid the Pitfalls and Reap the Rewards."

Popular teacher and retired pastor Steve Maling will be our guide in "Meeting Jesus in the Psalms."

Author, counselor and retired pastor Jim Peterson will ask—and answer—"Why Don't We Listen Better?" in a listening skills workshop.

Quentin Holmes, chair of the presbytery Older Adult Ministry Team, will help us with "Older Adult Ministry-The Challenge and Opportunity" as we do ministry with, to and for our increasing number of older members.

Midday, enjoy conversation over a delicious lunch provided by Piedmont Presbyterian Church and browse the Circuit Rider Books bookstore. But first, you must register. Go to www.cascadespresbytery.org or check with your church office for a brochure. Registration deadline is February 18.

The **Eco-Justice Team of the Presbytery of the Cascades** is co-sponsoring the second event. **On March 4, 2009, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Hudson Hall, at Willamette University in Salem,** the second Interfaith Climate Stewardship Advocacy Day will be held. The first part of the day consists of advocacy training, briefings on climate and energy legislation, a panel of citizens and legislators, and keynotes by Bishop David Brauer-Rieke, Oregon Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and Governor Ted Kulongoski's office. After lunch, participants will visit with their legislators and return for a debriefing session. The Advocacy Day will bring a moral voice to energy and global warming policy at a critical time. Workshops and keynotes will be held in the morning, and legislative visits will occur in the afternoon. To register call, (503) 221-1054 ext. 201. The cost is \$15.00 and \$10 for students and seniors. Scholarships are available.



Omnibus

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...what does the LORD require of you but to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with your God?
Micah 6:8

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.



Here are some new and compelling resources to help you get through our l-o-o-o-o-o-oong rainy/snowy season. Some are good for group studies, some for your own personal spiritual growth. This **free** lending library is made possible by those churches that contribute to the Presbyterian Partnership Giving fund. If your church doesn't at this time, why not give it some thought for the future?

Confronting Death, A Christian Approach to the End of Life - Walter Wangerin, Jr.

(DVD, 57 mins/5 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. Per Wangerin, "We as faithful people have the power and ability to look death straight in the eye and understand it."

The Purpose Driven Life; What on earth am I here for? by Rick Warren This is a six session DVD study for groups or individuals and includes a 77 page study guide. This study has been used by over four million people during the 40 Days of Purpose campaigns in churches all over the world. Publishers Weekly declared his book with the same name as "the bestselling nonfiction hardback in history!" He is the pastor and founder of Saddleback Church in Orange County, CA, and will be giving the invocation at Obama's swearing-in ceremony.

Countering Pharaoh's Production-Consumption Society Today featuring Walter Brueggemann. This is a small group DVD study that can be conducted over four to five one-hour sessions. "It is a journey from slavery to covenant that we keep making over and over again... because Pharaoh has immense power always to draw us back into slavery." Brueggemann. Filmed while he was at a lecture and is a serious study, not one for those who want something "lightweight." Produced by Living The Questions.

The Evidence for Heaven - A biblical and scientific examination of our final destiny (DVD 90 minutes) Watch the interviews from 21 medical doctors, biblical scholars and scientists that believe immortality is a reality. Hear from those who've had near death experiences about their journey "there" and back. A bonus feature on the DVD is a three-part Bible study on heaven.

Youth for Human Rights (DVD with 30 public service announcements, 90 seconds each), one for each of the "formally stated" rights. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, ratified by the United Nations in 1948, forms the foundation of everyone's most basic human rights, transcending all borders. Yet, despite its timeless relevance, most citizens haven't heard of it! Eleanor Roosevelt was the principal architect of the Declaration. Is it a pipe dream to believe that we can truly make human rights a reality? Youth are the "stars" of many of the segments.

The Prophets by the Arts & Entertainment Network (50 minutes). Links between the human and the divine, they (Elijah, Ezekiel, Daniel, Jeremiah) stand amongst the Old Testament's most commanding and confounding figures. What was the impetus and meaning of their proclaimed divinations? On location footage and interviews with historians and authors make this documentary unusually interesting.

Billy Graham - a personal crusade by the Arts & Entertainment Network (50 minutes).

Illuminates the life of America's most famous evangelist—a man who practices what he preaches. Covers pivotal events in his life, including William Randolph Hearst's decision to publicize his crusades and Graham's close ties with several presidents. This biography traces his development from childhood to the peak of his spiritual empire. Very well done.

Maureen O'Rourke, Director



Cascades Viewpoints

By Aleida Jernigan

CHANGE

"Change seems to be one of the few constants in today's world. Change comes whether we welcome it - or attempt to avoid or stop it." So states Gil Rendle, author of *Leading Change in the Congregation: Spiritual and Organizational Tools for Leaders*.

Change seems to have been the theme for 2008. I think it was one of the most used words in the long months of political campaigning. Environmentalists and climate change experts also seemed to have intensified their message of the catastrophic consequences for the future of our planet unless we change our ways of caring for it.

The recent 20th Century Fox remake of the 1951 sci-fi film, *The Day the Earth Stood Still*, is the story of an alien traveler, Klaatu, who heads to Earth along with his bodyguard robot, Gort, to deliver a warning of planetary destruction if the people of the world fail to bring peace to their civilizations. The last scene in the movie, and for me the clincher of the story, ends with the alien traveler persuaded that the earth's inhabitants will change their ways.

On December 22, 2008, The Alban Institute Weekly featured an article titled, "The Messy Work of Renewal," by Daniel P. Smith, and Mary K. Sellon. The article

points out the difficulties and complexities of a church seeking renewal. The biggest obstacle to overcome in the work of renewal is "Change." "It is asking people - laity and pastor to make fundamental shifts in their perspective, their attitudes, and their behaviors. The church seeking renewal, and I will insert here 'Change,' must look beyond simply improving its programs and its building, though both may ultimately be changed."

The themes of renewal and change are not new to the Church. Whether at the local congregation, middle governing bodies, or General Assembly, we are all in partnership in this work of renewal/change.

Cascades Presbytery Council, at the 2008 fall meeting, acted to designate the year 2009 as a year for congregational vitality and vision within the presbytery with resources for implementing programs to be recommended throughout the presbytery for congregational use.

At the start of this 2009 year I offer to you and your congregations the following resources which I have found insightful and useful in congregations engaged in looking for signs of vitality and the messy but rewarding work of renewal/change:

Leading Change in the Congregation: Spiritual and Organizational Tools for Leaders by Gil Rendle

Pathway to Renewal: Practical Steps for Congregations by Daniel P. Smith & Mary K. Sellon.

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

I also found the article by Diana Butler Bass on "Vital Signs in Congregations," published in *Sojourners Magazine*, December 2005, to be very insightful. The following statement was quite thought-provoking. "Congregations find passion and purpose by blending ancient traditions and contemporary action."

These books published by The Alban Institute, can be borrowed from the Presbytery Media Resource Center. Media Resource center contact number, 503-445-4999. Email: mediarc@cascadespresbytery.org.

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance Still Needed in Cascades

Several areas are in danger of flooding in northwest Oregon and southwest Washington. The same is true in the Waldport and Estacada areas. The Presbyterian churches are okay, but their communities need assistance. There will be a need to remove debris, clean up homes, and rebuild later on. If you have a group that is interested in coming over spring break, please contact me now so I can help find projects or places to stay if you come for more than a day.

There is also a big need for dry firewood in both the Jewell area and Vernonia. Many of the people have used their winter's supply when the power was off for so many days. For the Jewell area, firewood may be delivered to the Nehalem Valley Community Church, 80803 Hwy 103. After you go under the bridge off Hwy 26, proceed north about three miles to the church. Vernonia has a collection spot in town. Astoria has a lot of downed trees yet from last year's storm, but it needs to be cut into logs, split and taken to a collection lot. Since the storms in the last month, there are more downed trees. So there is a need for people to help cut the logs. We have a tool trailer with chain saws and equipment in Astoria so let me know if you can assist.

Contact Phyllis Wright, Presbyterian Disaster Assistance coordinator, if you and your congregation can help: 971-404-9405; pwright12@juno.com

OPENING DOORS Task Force Awards 2008 Grants to Six Churches

Since 2002 the OPENING DOORS Task Force on Disabilities (ODTF) has awarded \$100,000 in financial grants to over one-third of the churches throughout the Cascades Presbytery to help enable them to open their doors to worship and participation for thousands of people with disabling conditions. This past November six additional churches received funding for the following projects:

- Bethany Presbyterian - Grants Pass (accessible restroom improvements)
- Brookings Presbyterian (chancel ramp)
- Community Presbyterian - Parkdale (architectural services for creating a barrier removal master plan)
- Colonial Heights Presbyterian - Portland (accessible unisex restroom)
- First Presbyterian - Merrill (accessible restroom, accessible parking space markings and signage, exterior ramp handrail, main entrance door threshold modifications)
- First Presbyterian - Woodburn (automatic door opening devices for six entrance openings)

Most of the grants the Task Force has funded over the years are "bricks and mortar" projects which is quite understandable given the enormous number of physical barriers that exist in our church buildings. However, in addition to those projects, ODTF would also like to encourage other types of efforts, such as creating accessible work environments for church staff (required by the ADA for churches having six or more employees). Other examples might be funding for Friendship Ministry programs, expenses associated with training for Christian Educators or youth ministry staff that focus on children or young adults with special needs, or interpreter services for worship services or other congregational events for people with hearing impairments.

If you are interested in finding out more about this popular program please call Rick Parfrey at (503) 638-0109 or email him at parfrey@msn.com. The deadline for this year's applications is July 31, 2009 and forms can be downloaded from the Presbytery's website www.cascadespresbytery.org/OpeningDoors.html.



Ask the Clerk

Q: What is the effective date of changes made to the official rolls of a church?

A: This is a question I get often at about the time that sessions are reviewing and adjusting rolls. In nearly all cases, it is the date that the session specifies. For example, I have known of sessions which have taken action in January of one year to transfer members from the active roll to an inactive roll as of December 31st of the prior year so that rolls will be "trimmed" ("rightsized") before the annual member-

ship total (on which a future per capita apportionment will be based) is reported in the session's annual statistical report to the PCUSA. It is most proper, of course, to avoid "retroactive" transfers, but the matter is ultimately within the authority of the session. Note, however, no changes to membership may be made after the annual statistical report is filed!

In the case of reception of members, it is the date that a session acts to receive members by either transfer or by reaffirmation ... but it is the date of baptism in the case of members received by Profession if the person received has not been previously baptized, since baptism is a prerequisite for church membership. In a situation in which the session takes action to receive a member "pending baptism" and the Sacrament of Baptism takes place in a subse-

quent year, it is the date of Baptism which becomes the date on which the individual becomes a member of the church.

A related matter is Proposed Amendment 08-A "sent down" (more properly termed "referred to presbyteries for affirmative or negative votes") by the 218th General Assembly on which Cascades will vote at its March Stated Meeting. The proposed amendment would amend G-5.0200 by the insertion of new text requiring a public profession of faith by new members (whether received by profession of faith, certificate of transfer, or reaffirmation of faith) during their presentation to the congregation during worship following their reception by the session. The text of the proposed amendment is available online at www.pcusa.org/generalassembly/amend/proposed-amendments-2008.pdf.

Positively Presbyterian

Central Region

By Bruce Smith

First, Corvallis launched their website (www.1stpres.org) in November covering a number of pages describing their church and a multifaceted program.

The annual Harvest Dinner put on by **Creswell** fed 389 hungry souls. That came close to the 405 diners they served last year. They survived a breakdown of a 40-year-old steam table purchased used for \$10. A new steam table is to be donated for their next dinner.

Carolyn Keener of **Central, Eugene** received an Everyday Hero Award from the Kiwanis Club and an Angel Award from Vincent de Paul for her work coordinating the shelter program at **Central**. Paul Morgan, **John Knox, Kaiser**, Manager of Kaiser Community Food Bank was honored in November by the Oregon Faith Roundtable Against Hunger for the leadership he has given the food bank over the past five years.

Peace, Eugene has on the docket to celebrate John Calvin's 500th birthday in July. The invitation might read: "No need to RSVP; you are either predestined to attend or not! Hope to see you there!"

Ann Bowersox reports the **Fellowship House of Western Oregon University** has a strong program that is planned to reach students who may be away from home for the first time and are hoping to find a place where they can belong. One favorite activity is having students meet Ann at the local coffee shop and cafeteria for conversation to just share what they have on their minds.

Eleven members of **First, Newport** went on an Eco-Justice Field trip in the McMinnville area. They visited the recycling plant in Clackamas, an environmentally friendly winery and a KB Recycling Plant that is able to market nearly 97% of the co-mingled materials they receive.

Nestucca Valley, Pacific City dedicated their new sanctuary October 28. This has been a long and arduous trip to build a new church because it proceeded slowly as money became available.

Many churches include in their newsletter letters from overseas Christian workers. **Community, Waldport** provides a letter from the Chase family in Cambodia. **Prineville** includes a letter from Bruce and Laura Whearty and their activities in Ethiopia. Both letters speak of the tremendous needs in something so simple as school supplies. Denvy and Gayle Saxowsky keep **Christchurch, Monmouth** members up-to-date on their activities in China.

The Christmas season is one where the church prepares for special programs, special events, and special decorations to celebrate the season. **First, Woodburn** is one of the many churches that prepared the sanctuary with "Hanging of the Greens" along with **Community, Redmond**. **First, Lebanon** also decorates their sanctuary. Poinsettias often decorate the chancel with the names of those who are being remembered.

Feeding the hungry is also high on our list of activities. **Community, Redmond** prepared 160 meals at the "Jericho Table" for needy people in the area during the fall months. **Community, Waldport** prepared food baskets to be given out just before Christmas. **Central, Eugene** prepared food boxes for 45 families that would otherwise have a very meager Christmas.

Westminster, Salem offers an opportunity to send life giving gifts to needy Third World countries through Alternative Gift International. These are just some of the activities our churches have accomplished

during the Christmas season.

Northeast Region

By Jan Noller

Mt. Tabor, Portland had a "Longest Night of the Year" event on the winter solstice, December 21. It was a quiet time with candlelight, music and prayer designed to welcome the light in the midst of darkness. People at **First, Vancouver** started the new year of 2009 in an intentional way by a labyrinth walk on New Year's Day.

Columbia, Vancouver started a series called "LifeKeys - Discovering Who You Are" in January. The course is designed to find deeper meaning in life. Women at **Moreland, Portland** began a six-week study in January of "A Clear View of the Birth of Jesus" using a DVD series by Dr. Ken Bailey.

Milwaukie assembled and delivered Christmas boxes filled with nutritious food, Christmas dinner and gifts. They hoped to fill at least 20 boxes. **Colonial Heights, Portland** hosted events for day shelter people, giving them opportunity gifts - passes to the zoo, children's museum and movies. Gifts for needy new born babies at the Canby and Molalla Pregnancy Care Centers are placed in a manger outside the office at **First, Oregon City**. **Cherry Park, Troutdale** has a Snow Cap Christmas tree where members bring clothing for children. **Rose City Park, Portland** is collecting toiletries for Outside In, a shelter for homeless youth.

A new men's group is forming at **Gateway, The Dalles**. They are open to suggestions about their activities and projects.

Members at **Smith Memorial, Fairview** were given the story of St. Nicholas in their newsletter. **Westminster, Portland** decided at 2 p.m., December 24 to hold the Christmas Eve services in spite of the snow clogged streets and ended up having 350 attendees.

The artist, Christopher Bibby, has painted in oil a bird's eye view of the **Kenilworth, Portland** Church. It will hang in the Fireplace room.

St Johns, Camas contributed many needed pieces of equipment to the Good Shepherd Hospital in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Batteries and compact fluorescent light bulbs are collected and recycled by **Springwater, Estacada's** Green Team.

In the **Laurelhurst, Portland** and **Eastminster, Portland** newsletters, the parish nurses share some interesting statements about care giving and age. For example: "Not everyone who needs caring support is aged or in later life. And not every older adult is frail or in need of care giving."

The Stamp Lady at **Mt. Scott Park, Portland** collects stamps, sends them to the Eastern Star in Seattle where they are inspected and sold, benefiting the American Cancer Society.

East Woods, Vancouver held a service of renewal, a day to look for hope in the midst of pain at Christmas.

A new data base system has been given to **Cascades, Vancouver**. They collected needed information while assuring members that the system is secure.

Northwest Region

by Jeanne Rich

Special events are signs of a new season in Northwest churches. **Calvin, Tigard's** Wednesday Adult Enrichment classes in September focused on storytelling, more specifically "teaching the telling of testimony: What God Has Done in Our Lives." The month began with the church's annual

Block Party with barbecue, carnival games, clown, live band and an opportunity to get acquainted with neighbors to tell them about Calvin Church. Each Wednesday thereafter the class concentrated on "The Power of Testimony." Pastor Bob Garwig led one session that was called "How to Testify (out of court!)." **Southminster, Beaverton** featured a "Welcome Sunday" with an outdoor service, bluegrass and old-time gospel music and potluck picnic following the service. Lawn chairs and blankets replaced pews, and a Bouncy House appealed to children. (What a way to let the public know we Presbyterians do have fun!) **Tualatin Plains, Hillsboro** provided a Reformed Theology weekend with Dr. Neal Plantinga, Jr., President of Calvin Theological Seminary and Professor of Systemic Theology. Three lectures, on the topic "Clothed with the Virtues of Christ," were presented October 10-11, 2008. Dr. Plantinga has written several books including *Not the Way It's Supposed to Be: A Breviary of Sin*.

Rev. Dr. Steve Maling is not really retired. He was found at **First, Portland** kicking off the fall adult education season with a Sunday morning class called "Meeting Jesus in the Psalms." Jesus learned to pray from the Psalms, so the class met Jesus "in reflections on Psalms that have been woven into the tapestries of the four gospels." After this series, he taught a class on Christmas for grown-ups at **Valley Community, Portland** beginning October 26 and continued through November 23. With the topic "Relatives, Romans, and Royalty: Luke's Adult Christmas," the class found that "the first two chapters of Luke show that Christmas is for grown-ups at least as much as it is for children." Steve Maling is a former Valley associate pastor.

Many churches reported good attendance with Vacation Bible School programs, but **Bethany, Portland** is taking their successful attendance of 88 children at "Power Lab" a step further. There was a Fall Festival event on Saturday, November 1, called "Slime Time." (Keeping in touch with those kids will make a difference.)

"Were you touched by a worship service? Did you enjoy an event at St. Andrew's?" These questions are being asked at **St. Andrew's, Portland** as they seek writers and photographers who will submit works to *Crossroads*, their monthly newsletter. Since they advertise that no experience is necessary, this could be an excellent door for a "wannabe writer" as articles will be accepted about church events and attendees all year long. (Good idea for making those newsletters more than a calendar of activities.)

Glenda Williams at **Clatskanie** reported that members and friends constructed a float for the Fourth of July parade in Clatskanie. Their theme was "God's Hand Touches Everyone" and there was mention of food distributed to parade viewers. The float won first place and will host the trophy until next year.

South Region

By Ann Moore

Bethany, Grants Pass and **First, Roseburg** both participated in a one-night homeless count the end of January to determine the number of homeless people in their counties. The homeless include couch surfers, car sleepers, those in tents, encampments or shelters. They could also be included in the count when staying with relatives or friends and in transitional housing. Both churches collected new or slightly used

(Continued on page 5)

Lake Grove Completes Sanctuary Renovation

By Jeanne Keevil

Members and friends of Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego, are celebrating completion of a Sanctuary Enhancement Project which has seen major refurbishment and sanctuary improvement

Among changes made to the 44,000-square-foot sanctuary are the addition of a lift to provide wheelchair access to the chancel, a requirement of the Americans with Disabilities Act; replacement of floor tiles, some of which were found to have some asbestos; better lighting and sound system, new pews and cushions and enhancement of the organ.

The chancel was enlarged and expanded so that children's pageants, expanded choirs and musicians can be accommodated.

Work on the \$1,750,000 project was begun in May, 2008, and completed in time for dedication services November 23. Additional celebrations have been scheduled with presentation of two free organ concerts featuring the enhanced 1,493 pipes of the organ. The first was January 10 and featured Doug Schneider, organist at St. Mary's Cathedral in Portland. He was joined by Jeff Work and Dave Bamonte, principal trumpet and associate principal trumpet with the Oregon Symphony.



Artist rendition of the new sanctuary

The second concert will be held March 7. This concert will feature Richard Zeller and the church's 80-voice Sanctuary Choir with full orchestra presenting Faure's "Requiem."

Head of Staff at Lake Grove Presbyterian Church is the Rev. Bob Sanders. Associates are the Rev. Graig Flach and the Rev. Libby Boatwright.

CPYA inspires

(continued from page 1)

friends. Our congregation has become involved. A woman is filling out a grant for funds to help find housing and other help for the homeless. Not one of these three men wants to be homeless. A physician in our church went to the campsite with me and treated the bad foot. The youth will be serving a warm meal once a week at the church for all these men and any others we can notify. We will be picking them up in the church bus each Sunday to bring them to church where they can worship and have a meal. We've given them a hand saw so they can cut some of their own wood.

We're taking steps to help get them out of homelessness. I know that not everyone we come in contact with is going to be removed from homelessness and maybe not many, but we are striving to serve them and do what we can. Even if we don't remove them from homelessness, we can help to feed them, both with food and God's word (we gave them Bibles and flashlights). Two of the three are Christian men. A woman who works on a team in the community helping with homeless concerns has consulted with us to help with safety features and more.

We're taking a Christmas tree to the men and decorating it. On Christmas morn-

ing, several families are going out there first thing in the morning for a celebration of Christ's birth. The youth have gifts for them.

We've all made a covenant with God that we will not ignore these men, and we will not forget them. This is a lifetime friendship we're building with them. Not all of the folks we come across will become lifetime friends, but these three are different for us and we've become close to them already.

This story is to share that the Holy Spirit is working in each of us in different ways. Our new youth group motto is, "Make your faith a verb, not a noun," and we are putting our faith into action, not just talking about it or just praying, but doing.

Thank you to the Presbytery Youth Team for the awesome CPYA, for finding Mike

Yankoski to share his story at this time in our lives, and for support in prayer for each other. My life has been changed. My heart has changed. My thinking has changed. At this moment, I have given all control to God and I pray that I can continue to let God lead me and know that it is my faith in God that leads my life, not faith in myself that I can do things. God is here!

Positively Presbyterian

(Continued from page 4)

socks, hats, gloves, tarps and sleeping bags to give to those counted. In Grants Pass they also collected snacks and back packs. Several locations were set up for the homeless to pick up any of these items.

First, Merrill received an Open Door Grant to complete their restroom remodel project. The facilities are now more accessible to the handicapped and the congregation at large. The physical plant committee had considered a Flush-a-Thon to raise funds for the project.

First, Medford held two more tutor training classes to show anyone the basic skills needed to successfully tutor English as a Second Language students. The volunteers also work with Rogue Community College students who need help with basic reading. The teacher was Rogue Community College's volunteer tutor coordinator. This particular tutoring program and partnership with RCC is in its fourth year. Thirteen members have so far taken the training. They work most often with Asian and Hispanic students. They will also receive students referred by Jackson County Legal Services. That agency received a grant to help persons learn English who are preparing for citizenship.

First, Phoenix continues its Tuesday night worship, study and fellowship with soup classes. This session they're using the video study guide *Wrestling with Angels*. This evening program started to provide a place for people who have to work on Sunday mornings.

First, Coos Bay provides body awareness classes Thursdays and Saturdays during the day at the church for men and women with current enrollees from ages 15 to 89. Participants sit on chairs or on the floor and most movements and postures can be adapted to their own health issues, according to Dee Hamil, leader.

One Great Hour of Sharing Offering – Make a Difference!

For 60 years the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering has brought Christians together to work for a better world. This Easter Season offering will be divided with 36% going to the Presbyterian Hunger Program, 32% to Self-Development of People and 32% to Presbyterian Disaster Assistance. With the current global economic crisis, your generous support is more urgent than ever.

Some may be concerned that we have needs right at home. Not everyone is aware that Cascades Presbytery has been a regular recipient of grants from the One Great Hour of Sharing Offering. During 2007 (the most recent figures available) the following grants were given to projects impacting Cascades Presbytery:

- | | |
|---|----------|
| Self Development of People: | |
| • Art Studio of the Mind's Eye, Portland OR | \$30,000 |
| • Women's Information Network, Cottage Grove, OR | \$30,000 |
| • Presbyterian Disaster Assistance: Flood Assistance | \$10,000 |
| • Presbyterian Hunger Program UMAVIDA – our Bolivian partner with Joining Hands | \$85,000 |
| • Cascades Presbytery Hunger Action Program | \$4,000 |
| • Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon – Interfaith Food and Farms Partnership | \$6,000 |
| • Partners for a Hunger-Free Oregon | \$7,000 |

TRANSITIONS

Welcome New Pastors

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

Ordinations/Installations

The Rev. Katherine A. Pate to be installed as pastor of Milwaukie Presbyterian Church, January 25, 2009 at 3 p.m.

Pastoral Changes

The Rev. Katherine A. Pate completed service as associate pastor of Rose City Park Presbyterian Church on December 31, 2008 to become pastor of Milwaukie Presbyterian Church on January 1, 2009

Presbyterian Foundation Announces \$1.5 Million Anonymous Gift Endowments Will Benefit United, Albany

(Editor's note: the following article was reported by the Presbyterian News Service and written by Jerry L. Van Marter)

An anonymous donor has given a gift of \$1.5 million to establish two endowment funds with the Presbyterian Foundation to benefit **United, Albany** and the "Young Life" organization in the city.

Approximately \$1 million of the gift will establish a general endowment fund to benefit United Presbyterian Church in Albany, a 283-member congregation founded in 1912. "We've been blessed with the grace of giving," said United Church's co-pastor, the Rev. Glenn Edwards.

During the donor's lifetime, the gift will

be used for special projects and programs as determined by the church's session. Net income from the fund will eventually replace the donor's regular stewardship giving to the church. Additionally, it will be used to provide unrestricted financial support to other needs of the Church, but not administrative costs.

The second endowment totals approximately \$500,000 and is restricted to support the administration of Young Life's outreach to Albany youth. Young Life is a non-profit, non-denominational, Christian organization committed to introducing adolescents to Jesus Christ and helping them grow in their faith.

Edwards said the general endowment will be used to fund special projects and programs at United Presbyterian as determined by the church's strategic planning committee. "For example," he said, "the additional funding will allow us to consider speakers, seminars and workshops — things we would not have been able to afford within our normal budget."

Also, he added: "This gift may, in the future, also be used to endow long-term needs of the Church which would include maintaining the historic church building. We are so grateful to the donor, a passionate steward, a joyful steward who finds no greater joy in life than to benefit others."

Southminster Celebrates 50 Years in Ministry

Southminster, Beaverton will celebrate its 50th Anniversary this year. "We invite our sisters and brothers in the presbytery to celebrate this special anniversary with us," Peg Pfab, pastor, encourages, "during a special **celebration worship, Sunday, February 8, 2009 at 10 a.m.**

The Rev. Gerald Wright and his wife, Eva, moved to Oregon from pastorates in Ohio and Pennsylvania to organize the church. Southminster was officially chartered by the Presbytery on February 26, 1959, and charter members joined and elected the first elders at that same time. Gerald Wright was installed as pastor a year later on February 28, 1960. By 1960 church membership had increased to 38 adults!

In 1967, Rev. Wright resigned from the Southminster pastorate, and the Rev. Jim Petersen was installed as pastor in December of 1967. Jim remained pastor until his retirement. Jim and his spouse, Sally were feted (and roasted!) at a bitter-sweet

retirement party on April 11, 1999. After a 2+-year interim, the Rev. Peg Pfab was called to Southminster in November of 2001 and installed in April of 2002.

In the 50 years of its life, Southminster carved out a niche for itself. It grew into a congregation committed to arts and music,

intellectual and spiritual exploration and a commitment to inclusivity and social justice. Over the years, Southminster gave birth to CareerMakers and the Southminster Music School (both of which eventually spun off into separate organizations) as well as the Celebration of Creativity Fine Arts Show, which celebrated its 30th annual show in 2008.

Over the years Southminster has been influential in spearheading local affiliates of organizations such as Habitat for Humanity and Christmas in April (now known as Rebuilding Together), the Fair Trade Coffee sales, a Cuban partnership, and the More Light Network. Southminster people have shown an affinity for rigorous intellectual and spiritual exploration (i.e. Wetchen Weekends, the Jesus Seminar, the NW Institute studies) and for practical, down-to-earth outreach Christmas Basket Project and Meals on Wheels.

Southminster celebrates — worships and laughs, prays, and plays together. The years have seen a wide variety of events for children and adults: Women's Retreat, Sojourners Camp, Solo Wheels Unicycle Group, Christmas model train displays, monthly Men's Breakfast and salmon fishing expeditions. Children and youth are involved in the

life of the church, as well as some of their special activities: Mission trips (Mexico, Louisiana, "Homeless in Beaverton"); building "butterfly houses," Art, Drama, Music Camp and Vacation Bible School.

"Southminster realizes that each congregation has a unique 'persona,' and that we are connected through the life-giving presence of the Spirit of God," Pfab notes. She adds, "We are made sisters and brothers because we are all one family of the Creator God."

Upcoming Celebration Works Concerts

First Portland's concert series, Celebration Works, presents "A Banquet of Voices" featuring the FPC Chamber Choir, conducted by Jon Stuber, in concert on **Sunday, February 22, 2009**, at 3 p.m. in the Chapel. Dr. Stuber says that the program includes interesting and unusual repertoire spanning the centuries that is not performed frequently by other choirs, but should be.

Celebration Works presents Belle Voci Women's Vocal Ensemble in concert with the Misty Mamas on Sunday, March 15, 2009, at 3 p.m. in the Sanctuary. The program is titled "How Can I Keep From Singing?" Conducted by founder and music director, Margaret Green, Belle Voci teams up with the Misty Mamas to present an afternoon featuring the music of America: bluegrass, old time gospel, folk ballads, and the music of Appalachia.

The church is located at 1200 SW Alder, downtown Portland. Tickets are sold at the door and are a bargain at \$10 for adults and \$8 for students and seniors. Parking in the church's underground parking garage is free for audience members.

Menucha Programs for early 2009

By Scott Crane

It's never too soon to look ahead! Menucha Retreat and Conference Center (located just inside the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic Area 25 minutes from Portland, Oregon) is pleased to offer a variety of programs coming up in the first quarter of 2009. Call us today at 503-695-2243 or surf our recently updated web site, www.menucha.org. We look forward to serving you.

February 8-11, 2009 - Wright Lecture Series Dr. Stan Wood, Associate Professor of Congregational Leadership and Evangelism from San Francisco Theological Seminary will give several keynotes over the course of three days, engaging us in several of the key issues facing the church today. Join us overnight, enjoy our home-cooked meals, and participate in stimulating coffee house style discussion groups following each keynote address.

February 13-15, 2009 - Valentine's Day Marriage Enrichment Retreat:

With a mixture of informal presentations, story-telling on the humor and strengths of marriage, and opportunities to talk privately as couples, the time you spend together will be grace-filled, strengthening the bonds of marriage — and fun, too. The Reverend Drs. Margaret Anne Fohl and Bill Arnold are a husband-wife team, both ordained Presbyterian ministers, who have been leading marriage enrichment experi-

ences for over 15 years.

March 16-20, 2009 - Principles and Techniques of Fundraising: The main course of the four Fund Raising School courses, this week-long continuing education event will pack your tool box of fund raising skills. Taking this course and the other three offered this year will also earn you the Certificate in Fund Raising Management (CFRM) from Indiana University.

March 19-23, 2009 - The Spirit and Pen in Nature, Way-Points program:

Join authors Christina Baldwin and Ann Linnea for three full days of creative writing and reflection in the beauty of the Columbia River Gorge. With Christina's passion for story and Ann's deep stewardship of wilderness, participants will experience joy making their connection between soul and the natural world, in the context of their faith perspective.

Menucha is a community-based outreach ministry of **First, Portland**. In 1950, FPC purchased the estate from the Julius Meier family. The word, "Menucha," comes from Psalm 23 and is often translated as "still" in the line, "He leads me beside still waters." The Hebrew term actually has a richer depth not often realized, conveying meaning such as "renewing," "restoring," or "rejuvenating." We at Menucha translate this as "ever changing stillness." Come join us and experience the Sabbath rest you need.

OFFICIAL NOTICE The Presbytery of the Cascades Will Have a Stated Meeting

March 13-14, 2009
at First Presbyterian Church
770 Chemeketa St. NE — Salem, OR

Information on the docket and on the pre-presbytery workshops will be posted on the website, www.cascadespresbytery.org.

Background papers for the meeting, maps, and information about lodging in the Salem area will also be posted.



Prayer Calendar

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

March 2009

- 1 John R. Maynard, ordained this day in 1981, serving in Australia as pastor of St. John's Uniting Church, Presbytery of Westernport, Cowes, Victoria • Oak Hills Presbyterian Church, Milwaukie - chartered this day in 1963 • Louis Nieuwenhuizen, ordained this day in 1998, serving as chaplain at Rogue Valley Medical Center, Medford
- 2 Rick R. Ribeiro, installed as pastor of Warm Springs Presbyterian Church this day in 1986
- 3 Sherry Johnston, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1996
- 4 Presbyterian Women of the Presbytery of the Cascades - Marsha Landrith, moderator
- 5 P. Robert McCann, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1985
- 6 Roberta Schlechter, Certified Associate Christian Educator
- 7 Julie White, Certified Christian Educator
- 8 Rex C. Parker, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1994
- 9 Congregational Support Committee - Paul Belz-Templeman, Chair
- 10 Hubert D. Newton, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2006
- 11 Mount Laki Community Presbyterian Church, Klamath Falls - chartered this day in 1909 • David C. Hunter, installed as pastor of Brookings Presbyterian Church, this day in 2007
- 12 Hugh D. Anderson, installed as co-executive presbyter of Presbytery of the Cascades this day in 2004 • Aleida Jernigan, installed as co-executive presbyter of Presbytery of the Cascades this day in 2004 • John R. Mahon, installed as co-executive presbyter of Presbytery of the Cascades this day in 2004
- 13 Jae Soon Lee, candidate for the ministry, Korean Presbyterian Church, Vancouver • Cascades Presbytery meets today and tomorrow, Christopher Grewe, Moderator
- 14 Donald R. Shaw, Peacemaking Advocate/Hunger Action Enabler
- 15 Laurel Smith Neal, ordained this day in 1992
- 16 John L. Smart, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2002
- 17 Sarah Coakley Lewis, ordained this day in 2002, serving as stated supply of Piedmont Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 18 First Presbyterian Church, Newberg - chartered this day in 1890 • Milwaukie Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 1951 • Bruce W. Cameron, installed as pastor of Peace Presbyterian Church, Eugene, this day 2001
- 19 Robert C. Groves, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1990
- 20 Arthur F. Dahlberg, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1990
- 21 St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1954
- 22 John O. Reynolds, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1990
- 23 Mark N. Willems, installed as pastor at Community Presbyterian Church, Parkdale, this day in 2006 • Committee on Personnel & Administration, John Brinegar, Chair
- 24 F. Edward Patterson, granted Honorably

- Retired status this month in 1988
- 25 Richard A. Christensen, ordained this day in 1973, serving as stated supply at Mount Laki Community Presbyterian Church, Klamath Falls
- 26 Steven H. Koski, installed as pastor at First Presbyterian Church, Bend, this day in 2006 • Robert E. Dodson, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1997
- 27 Benjamin F. Dake, ordained this day in 1977
- 28 First Presbyterian Church, Lebanon - chartered this day in 1881
- 29 First Presbyterian Church, Medford - chartered this day in 1885
- 30 John G. Chatalas, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2002
- 31 Donald M. Mihaloeuw, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2005 • William E. Taylor, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2006, serving as interim pastor of United Methodist Church, Canby • John R. Lacy, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2008

April 2009

- 1 John R. Finney, ordained this day in 1971, serving as a psychologist at the Veteran's Hospital, Roseburg
- 2 Jill Holseth, candidate for the ministry, Emmanuel Presbyterian Church, West Linn
- 3 Relational Support Committee - Beth Keys, Chair
- 4 Michael R. Hertz, ordained this month in 1990, clinical pastoral education supervisor, Sacred Heart Hospital at River Bend, Springfield
- 5 Deborah M. Blair, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 2002
- 6 Community Presbyterian Church, Waldport - chartered this month in 1901
- 7 Robert P. Sanders, Jr., installed as pastor of Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego, this day in 1991
- 8 Sung Man Kim, ordained this day in 1992, serving as pastor of Calvary Korean Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 9 Eileen K. Parfrey, installed as pastor of Springwater Presbyterian Church, Estacada, this day in 2000
- 10 C. Todd Martin, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2001
- 11 W. Ward Murray, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1993
- 12 Community Presbyterian Church, Oakland - chartered this day in 1917
- 13 Brett A. Becker, installed as pastor of Bethany Presbyterian Church, Portland, this date in 1997
- 14 Jeffrey S. Sievert, installed as pastor of Reedville Presbyterian Church, Aloha this day in 1996
- 15 Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, Florence - chartered this day in 1984 • Barbara A. (Bobbi) Neason, installed as pastor of First Presbyterian Church, Bandon, this day in 2007
- 16 James C. Petersen, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1999
- 17 James Simmons (Methodist), ordained this day in 1994, serving as pastor of Christ's Church, Monmouth • Mike

- Foster, Vice Moderator, South Region
- 18 First Presbyterian Church, Vancouver - chartered this day in 1882
- 19 John H. Holloway, candidate for the ministry, Moreland Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 20 Thomas Nolen, ordained this day in 1980, serving as hospice chaplain at Kaiser Permanente Hospital, Portland
- 21 Jacob Chang Kim, installed as pastor of Hope Korean Presbyterian Church, Portland, this day in 2002 • Hope Korean Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 2002
- 22 John L. Reimers, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1978
- 23 R. Kennan "Ken" Smith, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1999 • Northminster Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1911
- 24 Nominating Committee of Presbytery of the Cascades - Vicky Brown, Chair
- 25 James W. McKaughan, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1987
- 26 Alan B. Guffey, ordained this day in 1992
- 27 Leonard "Len" Tang, installed as pastor of Sherwood Presbyterian Church this day in 2008 • Sherwood Presbyterian Church - chartered this day in 2008 • James M. Brown, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1996 • Matthew W. Hilgaertner, ordained this day in 1997, serving as stated supply pastor of Grace Presbyterian Church, Portland
- 28 St. Mark Presbyterian Church, Portland - chartered this day in 1946 • Marcella (Peg) Pfab, installed as pastor of Southminster Presbyterian Church, Beaverton, this day in 2002
- 29 Karrie Brain-Marsh, ordained this day in 1990
- 30 James L. McDonald, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1997

Presbytery of the Cascades Current Status of Open Churches

Vacant

Klamath Falls, Peace Memorial
Lakeside, Community

Seeking Interim or Stated Supply

Pacific City
Portland, Calvary (part-time)

Preparing to Actively Seek

Pacific City
The Dalles (Associate Pastor)

Actively Seeking a Pastor (CIF submitted to Louisville)

Ashland, First
Corvallis, Korean
Eugene, Westminster
Portland, First (Head of Staff)
Salem, First
Waldport, Community
(Designated Pastor)
Revised 1/8/09

Outdoor Ministry Team to Offer Leadership Training for Youth

By Biz Larkin, Camp Coordinator

When you think of leaders in your church, how many of you can point to a youth and say "He/she is one of our greatest assets?"

This year the outdoor ministry team is looking to partner with churches, youth and pastors to create a covenant of learning with our young leaders. The hope is that each youth would leave the CIT/Leadership camp (March 6-8) with a plan on how to implement their desire to be servant leaders. This plan would be personalized for each individual with the intent to share it with their home church.

Changes in the "Counselor in Training" program will broaden the application of the leadership skills learned at camp to include ones that are used in all areas of life. It is hoped that these changes will be invested more securely in everyday church life and focus on the radiance and joy of service that will last a lifetime.

The home church would mentor the individual by helping implement the plan. That might mean they could help lead Sunday school, help with sound equipment for services, help with computer skills, or help with music leadership. The goal is that these youth leave camp with a tangible way to act upon their servant heart while being supported and enjoyed by their home congregations. Then they would receive more hands on training while helping with the day camp being held this summer at Menucha.

How can you help? By sponsoring a



Counselors in Training Leadership group from summer of 2008 are jumping for joy because they have had so much fun.

potential youth leader from your own or a different congregation, by encouraging their growth with recognition in service, by sending prayerful letters of support and encouragement for the deans of CIT/Leadership camp, for the youth, and for the week of day camp this summer, and by praying together for all youth in the presbytery and for the Outdoor Ministry programs.

There is no question our Church faces

challenges for the future. The camping programs of the Presbytery of the Cascades are dedicated in our efforts to ready the next generation of leaders - within the Church and the world to meet those challenges.

For more information, please call the camp office at 503-460-3024 or email biz@campcascades.org. CIT/Leadership Camp Deans are Ali Grosskopf and Scott Crane. Camp Coordinator is Biz Larkin

Educator's Retreat Highlights Postmodernism and Ministry

By Gail Moody

This year's Presbytery Educator's Retreat will be May 5 - 6 at Mount Angel Abbey Retreat House. Our theme this year is "Ministering in a Postmodern Culture." Our leader will be Mike Kipp, Professor of Youth and Family Ministries at Northwest Nazarene University, Nampa, Idaho.

The topic will include an overview of Postmodernism and Ministry with the opportunity for breakout age level ministry discussions on how postmodernism applies to each ministry context. Although defining the term postmodern can be difficult and complex, to put it in simple terms *postmodern* means "after modern." When we talk about ministry in a postmodern world, we mean the age of modernity has passed and we have moved into a new paradigm or a new overall world view.

We will learn more about the unique characteristics of this world view during

Share Your Mission Stories

What is your congregation doing in mission work? Do you have an exciting and inspiring project or program you would like to publicize? The Synod of the Pacific is launching a new website, Pacific Mission Exchange or PMX, to share the news—and to invite people to contribute or volunteer.

Send information including electronic photos to Kay Richardson, krichardson@firstpresvancouver.com. Kay, a member of the presbytery Communications Team, has been named the PMX Administrator for Cascades Presbytery. The chair of the synod task team says, "A wide range of projects is desired with the hope that everyone who comes to the website will find a project they feel called to participate in—to give time or make a donation."

For more information, call or email Nancy Gaston, chair of the Communications Team, at 360-574-0984 or nancyg57@comcast.net.

the retreat. Other topics that our leaders will explore within this theme will be "The Permeable Family in a Postmodern Context," "Emerging Adulthood and Delayed Adolescence" and "Developing Faith in a Postmodern Context."

Mike Kipp had over 15 years of youth ministry experience before going to Northwest Nazarene University. He knows what it takes to influence the postmodern teenager. As a professor of Christian ministries, he trains and equips students who will go out and bring a generation of teens to Christ.

There is no question that our churches need to respond to the cultural changes that are happening around us. Postmodernism is here to stay. As church leaders and educators, we need to embrace it and respond to this new perspective of viewing the world. This retreat will provide opportunities for all of us to begin to grapple with these very issues.

The retreat is designed for people who work with children, youth or adults. There will be several opportunities throughout the two-day retreat experience to meet with



Mike Kipp

other leaders who work with a similar age level ministry.

To request a registration form, please contact rr7537@hevanet.com.

Applications Sought for Young Adult Eco-Stewards

Applications are being sought for the Eco-Stewards program of the Presbyterian Conservation Corps (PCC), a Christian community responding to God's call through applied eco-stewardship. The PCC is looking for Eco-Steward applicants from ages 18-24 years old who demonstrate interest in church, camp, and environmental concerns. The application deadline is May 1, 2009. To download the application, go to www.presbyterianconservationcorps.org/2009.html.

Each program will be comprised of two components at different sites. 1. Eco-Stewards Training (3-4 days) and 2. Eco-Stewards Hand-On Program (3-4 days). The two programs are West: July 5-12 at Highlands

Camp in Allenspark, CO and Greenwood Farm in Hardin, MT and Midwest: August 9-16 at Stronghold Retreat Center in Oregon, IL and Chicago, IL. PCC will transport participants between each site, but participants are responsible for travel to the training, and return from the program site.

The Eco-Stewards program seeks to train and inspire young adults in the ways of eco-stewardship within the wider context of our Christian faith. The overarching goal of this new initiative is to help inspire Presbyterian Church, U.S.A. churches and their members to become better caretakers of planet earth, our God given island home.