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2004 Deadlines for Omnibus

Issue	Deadline	Mailing Date
April-May	March 15	April 5
June-July	May 10	May 28
August-September	July 12	July 26
October-November	Sept. 7	Sept. 27
Dec.-Jan. 2005	Nov. 22	Dec. 13

OMNIBUS 9SUPS 486-730) is published six times a year in January, March, May, July, September and November by Cascades Presbytery, Presbyterian Church U.S.A., 0245 S.W. Bancroft St., Portland, OR 97201. Periodicals postage paid at Portland, OR and additional mailing offices. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to OMNIBUS, 0245 S.W. Bancroft St., Suite D, Portland, OR 97239

McCormick Seminary President To Keynote Summer Conference

The Rev. Dr. Cynthia Campbell, president of McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago, will serve as keynoter of the Cascades Summer Conference, set for July 11-16 on the campus of Linfield College in McMinnville.

Campbell's theme will be "Christian Confession in a Multi-faith World: Implications for Congregational Leadership." We live in a very different world than even twenty years ago. How do we as Christians today confess our faith in a culture with both many faiths and no faith? Join us to hear what Dr. Campbell has to say to church leaders and members in these new and increasingly complex times.

The author of numerous articles on theology, ministry, ethics and worship, Campbell holds a B.A. in philosophy from Occidental College, an M.Div. from Harvard, and a Ph.D. in systematic theology from Southern Methodist University. In 1991, Hastings College awarded her an honorary Doctor of Divinity.

The conference will also feature week-long courses for adults—laity and clergy—and complete programs for children, youth and post-high-school young persons as well as child care for little ones. A registration brochure



Cynthia Campbell

will be included in the next issue of Omnibus and will be posted on the website when available.

The Presbytery of the Cascades Will have a Stated Meeting on Friday and Saturday March 12-13, 2004 at First Presbyterian Church 770 Chemeketa Street NE, Salem, OR

Presbytery Council will develop a proposed docket for the meeting to be posted on Cascades' website (www.cascadepresbytery.org). A copy will be mailed to presbyters and churches on February 20, together with background papers, maps, and information about lodging and parking options. Information about lodging and parking options will also be posted on the website. It is anticipated that the meeting will convene at 1:30 on Friday afternoon and will adjourn by mid-afternoon on Saturday.

In addition to the regular reports, significant items for presbytery action and consideration at the meeting will include: financial matters for 2003 and 2004, recommendations of the Discovering God's Call Task Force as reviewed and revised by Presbytery Council since the November 2003 meeting, possible consideration of changes in the presbytery's structure and bylaws, action on the proposed amendments to the Constitution referred to the presbyteries by the 215th General Assembly, reports and presentations by presbytery committees, and other business.

Presbytery Council will authorize pre-presbytery workshops to be held on Friday morning, March 12, and a 24-hour pre-presbytery spirituality retreat is being planned. Information about the workshops and retreat will be posted on the website and included in the mailing of background papers.

A Commissioner Orientation Luncheon for new presbyters will be held on Friday, March 12, with reservations due by Friday, March 5 by calling the Portland office of presbytery.

Death of Gary Lawson Noted

A letter from the presbytery stated clerk carried news of the death of the Rev. Gary M. Lawson, Pastor of Calvin Presbyterian Church in Tigard, on December 17, 2003, (just a month after his fifty-sixth birthday) of recently diagnosed pancreatic cancer.

Lawson was born on November 13, 1947, in Illinois, but moved to Long Beach, CA, at age twelve. He graduated from Biola University in 1969, and began theological study at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. After his marriage to Karolyn Wynne Pullen, he continued his education at San Francisco Theological Seminary and was ordained in 1980 by the Presbytery of San Francisco.

Gary began his ministry as Associate Pastor

of First Presbyterian, Newark, CA, a position he held from 1980-1986. He began service as Associate Pastor of Valley Community Presbyterian, Portland, in July of 1986, and served there until becoming pastor of Calvin Presbyterian, Tigard, on January 1, 1993.

Gary is survived by his wife and two children (Eric, born in 1980, and Ashlee, born in 1983) as well as his parents, two brothers and a sister. As John Huenink noted in his letter, Gary is also survived "by congregations of people with whom he has served as friend and as pastor, and by countless lives touched by his life and ministry."

A memorial service was held December 21 at Calvin, Tigard.



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.cascade-presbytery.org.

Omnibus welcomes news and views of the churches of Presbytery and all its readers. Send all communications to Nancy Gaston, Omnibus Editor, 12516 NE Fifth Court, Vancouver, WA 98685. (Tel. 360-574-0984, Fax 360-258-1573, Email nancyg57@attbi.com)

Omnibus retains permission to modify submissions for clarity and space limitations. The media committee of Presbytery is the editorial board.

Five Peacemaking Grants Awarded for 2003

By Kris Voss-Rothmeier

The Peacemaking task force of our presbytery distributes grants each year to organizations that further the cause of peace. That amount depends, in large part, upon the Peacemaking Offering, which is received on World Communion Sunday each year. In 2003, we gave a total of \$2100 to five organizations, each receiving \$420.

The task force chose projects whose work coincides with the three-part focus of the peacemaking agenda in 2003: protection of

civil liberties, promoting peace in the Middle East, and advancing economic justice locally and globally. The recipients of the grant funds were:

1) **Oregon Farm Workers.** OFW seeks to educate congregations on the realities and the needs of farm workers in Oregon. Fr. Steve Witte visits churches where he shows videos and talks about the effects of world trade on hunger and labor.

2) **Oregon Faith Roundtable Against Hunger.** OFRAH was formed just last sum-

mer with a kick-off breakfast that included 250 religious and non-religious organizations. The governor spoke and presented awards to outstanding hunger organizations and workers in Oregon. OFRAH also lobbies on behalf of those working to end hunger.

3) **Oregon PeaceWorks.** OPW seeks to promote nonmilitary solutions to world problems. It also works to phase out nuclear weapons and urges the development of a world trade system in which wealth is shared among nations rather than one dominated by large corporations seeking to maximize profits.

4) **Friends of Sabeel.** Sabeel is an ecumenical grassroots liberation movement among Palestinian Christians which seeks to develop a spirituality based on justice, peace, nonviolence, liberation and reconciliation for the different national and faith communities in the Middle East and globally. Sabeel also works to promote a more accurate international awareness regarding the identity, presence, and witness of Palestinian Christians.

5) **Rural Organizing Project.** The mission of the ROP is to strengthen the skills, resources, and vision of primary leadership in local autonomous human dignity groups in Oregon with a goal of keeping such groups vibrant sources for a just democracy.

Presbytery of the Cascades

VIDEO RESOURCE CENTER

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

You may reserve videos in person on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8:30-4:30; by phone at 503-445-4999 or 866-200-8660, or by linking through the presbytery website, www.cascadespresbytery.org.



Lent will be here before we know it and here are some videos that you may find helpful as you prepare a group study or sermon.

* **Jesus Interprets His Own Cross** - Ken Bailey (Five 30-40 minute sessions)

Ask for: VT BBX 009-14

* **The Death & Resurrection of Jesus** - Marcus Borg (Six 20-minute segments)

Ask for: VT BB2 027 & 28

* **Jesus' Resurrection: Then & Now** - Dr. Tom Wright (Six 20-minute segments)

Ask for: KT BB2 003

* **He Chose The Nails: What God Did to Win Your Heart** - Max Lucado (Twelve sessions) Ask for: KT BB2 004

* **It Is Finished: The Death and Rising of Jesus** - Dennis Dewey - The last five chapters of John's gospel as presented by a Biblical storyteller and meant to "tease the imagination." Ask for: VT DBX 010

For the children: We have six to eight videos designed for kids for the Easter season. Call me and I'll let you know what's in!

* New: **The Bible Quest** and **We Believe** curriculum for all age groups for Winter Quarter is now in and available for previewing.

*New: **Camp Program** video (10 minutes) Shows the Presbyterian camping program highlights and kids having lots of fun at the summer camps.

*New: **Ghost Ranch** video - Shows both Presbyterian retreats in Santa Fe, New Mexico, some of the workshops offered and has gorgeous scenery. Newer version of one we already have on file. Ask for: VT GXX 009

*New: **Sisters of Mercy, Daughters of Grace: Presbyterians and Prostituted**

Women. This study on prostitution was written for the PC(USA). It addresses the root causes including sexual exploitation and addiction. Also included are some models for rehabilitation and ways for Presbyterians to respond. A Bible study is also included, with Old and New Testament passages that offer insights for reflection in a book of about fifty pages. Ask for: BK MD4 003

*New: Our first Power Point Presentation! **Great Ends of the Church: Short-term Study Course for Adults** is a CD divided into six sections and prepared by Bob Davis.

*New: **Shine Like the Stars Connection 2003** - Donated by our new camps coordinator Sylvia Milne who attended this week-long workshop in Louisville, KY, it's a series of six videos with Rodger Nishioka and Susan R Andrews, all about outreach for building leadership amongst the youth of the PC.

Wishing you a blessed Lenten and Easter season, in Christ's love,
Maureen, O'Rourke, Director
Video Resource Center

New Sherwood Congregation Begins Worship

After months of prayer and planning, a new congregation began Presbyterian public worship on January 25 at the Sherwood Regal Cinemas on the corner of Highway 99W and Tualatin-Sherwood Road.

Sunset, Lake Grove and Calvin Presbyterian churches and the Presbytery of the Cascades jointly sponsor this new outreach-oriented church. Services are at 10:30 each Sunday morning.

The new church development organizers ask for assistance in these ways:

- Attend one of the Sunday services to help provide "critical mass" and enthusiasm for this undertaking.
- Pray for God's power and blessing for the new congregation and those who might join it.
- Sponsor one of the startup needs by donating quality used equipment or donating money through the Presbytery of the Cascades, earmarked for Sherwood Presbyterian.

Equipment needs range widely and include communion trays and chalices, music stands, cribs and tablecloths. Email info@sherwood-pres.org or visit the website, www.sherwood-pres.org.



Cascades Viewpoints

It was four years ago—when I was serving as Central Region Interim GP and staffing the new church development and redevelopment committees of our presbytery—when I made my first visit to Louisville to participate in a conference on church redevelopment. The theme of the conference was “Change????” The leaders and presenters at the conference presented a unified message which was: this is not your parents’ church; whatever there is now must go; whatever has never been done must be done; whatever is new and creates turmoil must be good; whoever opposes new things is not “with it”; anyone who does not make everything new and different is a part of the problem and not part of the solution.

I was disturbed by what I heard at the conference. I had been branded as part of the “Presbyterians’ Problem” and the style and content of my thirty years of pastoral ministry had been pronounced as *pas*se and irrelevant for the 21st century. While there were few, if any, who considered me “far out” or *avant-garde*, I didn’t care much for being branded as a troglodyte.

We all know that change comes and that resisting it is futile. I suppose the issue is how

change comes. Some want change to come by inspiration or revelation and to be revolutionary in scope. Others believe that change comes incrementally and that bit-by-bit what was appropriate for one time will evolve into what is right and proper for a new time. Some want change to be by the power of a dynamic leader; others believe that it is the collective power of the people that results in lasting and just change. It is along the spectrum of those poles that human history has been written in stories of either nearly imperceptible adjustment or the epic stories of uprisings and revolutions.

A proposal emerging from the two-and-a-half-year “Discovering God’s Call” process that would result in a substantial restructuring of the presbytery was presented the Cascades’ November meeting. It did not pass, but was referred back to the committee—and subsequently to Presbytery Council—for clarification of some issues about some questions to which only inadequate-to-some answers had been offered. A truth about human nature became evident: when approaching change, some want to make the changes and then figure out the details and others want the details

explained before change is made.

At the March presbytery meeting, the matter of the proposed restructure will be before the presbytery again. Presbyters were invited to submit questions and comments from November by the end of 2003. By March, there will have been extensive discussion of the concepts and nuances of the proposal by Presbytery Council and there will be proposed bylaw changes to interpret the details which I drafted in the early weeks of 2004 and which will be redrafted as discussions continue.

I have no doubt that there are some for whom no amount of detail and description will ever be adequate; I have no doubt that there are some who would vote for change even if they had no concept of what that change might be; I have no doubt either that our presbytery will discuss and debate and decide . . . and then make whatever we have chosen an effective vehicle for doing what we know we need to do. That’s how Cascades has approached change throughout the thirty years of its life and ministries.

John C. Huenink, Stated Clerk

Voices

Japanese Christianity Described

By Phil Park

Editor’s Note: This is one of an occasional series by the Rev. Philip Park, H.R.I, who served as a missionary in Japan.

Christianity began in Japan with the movement of Roman Catholics, specifically Jesuits, into the country in 1549. These priests had considerable success, and Catholic Christianity, especially in the southern main island of Kyushu near the present city of Nagasaki, had considerable success. According to Mark Mullins, a former neighbor and now professor at Meiji Gakuin University, the era beginning in the mid 1500s is sometimes referred to as the Christian century in Japan.

Apparently because of the foreign connections of Christianity, many Japanese leaders began to regard this faith as a serious threat to the nation. So Christianity was outlawed in the mid-seventeenth century with the expulsion of foreign missionaries, the prohibition of the practice of Christianity and the persecution of Japanese converts. Today in Nagasaki there is a church dedicated to a group of Japanese and Korean resident martyrs who were crucified. A statue of the martyrs is a popular tourist attraction.

The official “end” of Christianity, however, did not totally end its practice. Some Japanese Christians went underground. Their practice led them to be known as *kakure kirishitan* (hidden Christians). There is some indication that the particular religious style practiced then, which was the celebration of the Mass without a priest, still may be practiced in some sections of Kyushu.

Christianity began to be restored to Japan in 1859, six years after the opening of the Japanese islands by Commodore Perry. Protestant missionaries entered the country, as did a second group of Roman Catholic mis-

sionaries. Generally, 1886 is used to indicate the beginning of Presbyterian work in that country because in that year the former Southern Presbyterian Church began work in Japan.

One of the most interesting elements in the history of Christianity in Japan is the development of indigenous Christian groups. The best known of these is what is referred to as the Nonchurch Church. Organized by Uchimura Kanzō, this movement essentially formed groups of believers under teachers and did not use liturgy. Uchimura spent considerable time in the USA and while here met a Quaker couple whose faith and pacifism had considerable influence on him. The Nonchurch Church was also greatly influenced by missionaries, but Uchimura had little use for Western liturgical tradition.

Although they are little known in the American church, a number of other indigenous Christian groups developed in Japan. Matsumura Kaiseki founded an organization was known as The Way. Matsumura was an intellectual and he wrote extensively about his movement. A third group is the Spirit of Jesus Church, started by Murai Jun. While this church evidences considerable foreign influence, it is still noted as an indigenous movement.

Today, almost every Christian organization that exists in North America is represented in Japan. While it may not have seemed so initially, one of the benefits to Protestant work came as a result of World War II. When the war began, the Japanese government decided to merge all Protestant denominations into one national church. This included traditional denominations as well as so-called “holiness” churches. The holiness group was most adamantly opposed to the war. Some of its leaders were imprisoned during the conflict.

When the war ended, several things happened. The Korean Christian Church that had been part of the united church decided, primarily for language reasons, to become a separate denomination. Lutherans and Baptists did the same thing, presumably for theological reasons.

Even though it did not remain intact, this church union had, in my opinion, a very positive effect on Japanese Christianity. In essence, Japanese Protestant Christianity is ecumenical in nature. Most of the traditional Protestant denominations have no Japanese counterpart. In fact, seven North American denominations (including two from Canada) and two churches in Japan have joined to form the Japan/North America Council on Cooperative Mission. The two churches in Japan are the United Church of Christ in Japan (Kyodan) and the Korean Christian Church in Japan. The Kyodan has a membership of more than 250,000. KCCJ has approximately one hundred congregations, most of them small.

The Korean church uses both Korean and Japanese in its services because most Koreans living in Japan are second or third generation Japanese and are not fluent in Korean. The hymnbook is in both languages. We worshipped regularly with the Kawasaki Korean Church while living in the Tokyo area. I was fortunate enough to know enough Korean to sing hymns in that language, but my wife sang in Japanese. The Korean church, of course, is primarily Korean in membership, but has some ethnic Japanese members. A number of the pastors were born in Japan. Such persons are required to do two years language study in Korea to prepare them to serve bilingual congregations.

Positively Presbyterian

Central Region

Bill Dittler, Reporting

The *Westminster News* shared this jotting from Pastor John Pierce with the congregation of **Westminster, Eugene**.

"Once a young man received a graduation present from his grandfather. It was a Bible. After having opened the wrapping, he cast it aside with a bit of disdain. He was hoping for something better, perhaps a car. The truth is he never once cracked this Bible. It lay on a back shelf for years. One day on a whim he picked it up and thumbed through it absent mindedly, thinking of something else, when there fell to the floor from its pages a check for a large sum of money, enough even to buy a car. However, grandfather had died some time before, the bank account closed, and this bounteous gift had never been received and he knew his grandfather knew he had never opened the book. It sat there unopened and unappreciated..."

"This is not a parable about reading the Bible...This is a story about gratitude for all that we already have been given that we take so much for granted and do not recognize nor take time to appreciate."

The Pillar, published by the **Aurora Presbyterian and Hubbard United Church of Christ**, carried an article "Commemoration of the Yoke." On December 28 there was a service to celebrate the 25-year partnership of the churches. Bill Greene, pastor of the Hubbard Church, and Nancy Farrell, guest preacher at Aurora, conducted the service.

Pastor Marc Andresen of **Calvin, Corvallis**, shared in the *Calvin Courier* some thoughts about attitudes and behaviors that make for an open and welcoming community. The thoughts were a part of his column "Marc My Words."

1. Make a conscious decision to be an open, welcoming group.
2. Pray when meeting new people... to see the inner person of the heart.
3. Risk initiating conversation with people you don't know. In fact, establish the priority of meeting a new person each Sunday BEFORE hanging out with friends.
4. Have a few ideas for starting conversations with someone you have just met.

The *Creswell Presbyterian Herald* carried the article, "Special Gift":

"The next time you see our Janelle Jordan you will do a double take because all of that gorgeous, thick, golden hair will be gone. Actually, she looks delightful with short hair, but it is a shock at first. Before you think this reporter is going to print up every time you get your hair cut, be assured that this haircut is exceptionally special. Janelle is donating those luxurious tresses to the company that makes wigs for cancer patients! She says, 'I loved my long hair and got many compliments for it, but I knew from the git-go, that if it could make someone feel better as they went through chemotherapy, then that's what I wanted to do.' For those of us who have been on the cancer prayer list, through the ordeals of cancer and chemotherapy, the humiliation of losing our hair and trying to cover heads with kerchiefs or ugly wigs, we thank you with tears of gratitude, Janelle."

Northeast Region

Ken Rolph, Reporting

A regional weekly section of The Oregonian newspaper recently featured Pastor Cynthia

O'Brien, **Smith Memorial, Fairview**, and Michael O'Brien, interim pastor of **Colonial Heights, Portland**. For the past four years the pair has invited pastors from various denominations to their Gresham home for a Twelfth Night party where they share a meal and exchange books. Cynthia says, "We have found it to be something we really look forward to. The conversation at the table is so rich and funny you can let your hair down and just be yourself."

Cynthia also mentions in the article that she considers her Christmas Eve sermon the most challenging to write because of her desire to take an enduring message and make it applicable to a congregation living in an ever-changing world.

November is seldom what one would call a warm month in our part of the world, but that did not deter Pastor Bill Russell, Covenant, Gresham, from conducting the baptism of Adam Ehlers in the Sandy River at Oxbow Park.

Moreland, Portland, recently honored thirty people who have been members there for fifty years or more. Three members—Marilyn Behrens and Wally and Joyce Bischoff—have been Moreland members for sixty years.

Springwater, Estacada, is conducting classes to acquaint members with the Bible. It is designed to help people feel comfortable when asked to read a passage or story or to look up something in the Bible. Nona Shearer leads the study using the book, *The Bible from Scratch—The New Testament for Beginners* by Donald Griggs.

As they do each Christmas, the members of **First, Oregon City**, filled a manger with gifts for needy newborn infants as part of their sponsorship of the Canby and Molalla Pregnancy Care Centers.

Members of **St. Johns, Camas, WA**, have an opportunity and a challenge. Because of damage to the sanctuary piano it must be replaced. Half the \$27,000 purchase price has been secured by a generous matching fund challenge.

David Hampton, interim pastor of **Laurelhurst, Portland**, inserted this warning in a December newsletter: WARNING! TRAFFIC CONTROL CHANGE AHEAD! We will be rearranging the seats in the sanctuary so come prepared to find a new place to sit. I know change is hard for God's Frozen Chosen but I'll make sure the heat is on. Remember: "Blessed are the flexible for they will not get bent out of shape."

The session of **Cascades, Vancouver**, voted to create an Outreach Committee. Session members will call on congregation members to discuss current programs and activities. Information from the visit will be used to create a new Church Vision Statement and help the session plan activities.

The Mt. Tabor Community Children's Choir gave a Holiday Concert in the sanctuary of **Mt. Tabor, Portland**. Music Director Heidi Kohne was the accompanist and Melissa Roth, director of the children's choirs at **First, Portland**, led the group in a program of music about peace.

South Region

Marsiea Warren, Reporting

Christmas has come and gone with its joy and melancholy. The new year has begun. Spring is in the air. Secret buds begin to bulge on gray trees and we can see actual sun every

few days. South region churches are building new energy as the season changes.

Pastor Rick Olson, **First, Gold Beach**, speaks to all his friends in Christ about evangelism:

"The word makes us so nervous that sometimes we try to come up with something else, like "outreach" or "church growth" that doesn't sound so scary. But that word—"to evangelize"—is Greek, and in the New Testament, it means exactly what we are called to do—that is, to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ. And that, really, is what we are all about as a church...if a church is not doing that, its mission is dead."

Rick reminds us, however, that there are many ways of preaching the gospel. "For Jesus, his social mission was as important as his verbal preaching of the word...his LIFE...the way he lived, was proclamation at its core."

"We are to proclaim the gospel in thought, word, and deed. Remembering that WE may be the only Bible a person ever reads can help us live with new clarity and spirit as Christians."

Bethany, Grants Pass was born as a church on December 11, 1887, and remains a comforting, stabilizing presence in our world in incessant change. Many blessings for another 116 years, Bethany!

Bethany's parish nurse, Sheila Maurer, offered a class in January on the importance of Advance Health Care Directives. People may take the time to plan for financial matters with a will and estate planning, but neglect to plan their future healthcare. Forms are available from local hospitals and various other sources. It is a simple matter to take care of that can offer great peace of mind.

First, Roseburg, suggested a great book for our New Year's reading lists: *The Complete Idiot's Guide to the Reformation and Protestantism*. This is an informative book that presents all of the politics, theological changes, and personalities involved during this tumultuous period in Church history.

Northwest Region

Nancy Gaston, Reporting

Recent church newsletters featured, understandably, schedules for Christmas Eve worship and reports of giving opportunities. Amongst the good wishes for the holidays was this special greeting from three-year-old Luke Samra as quoted by Peter Blank in the **First, Newburg**, publication: "We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New You." It's hard to improve on those sentiments.

From **Hillsboro** comes this acrostic advice for the new year:

Judiciously use your time.
Endeavor to live within your means.
See what you have and don't focus on what you don't have.
Understand who is the Christ of Christmas
Seize opportunities to worship.

In that same spirit, **Orengo, Hillsboro**, recommends gifts you can give all year long: praise, consideration, concession (admit you're wrong on occasion), gratitude, attention, inspiration and personal presence.

One of the delights of reading newsletters is smiling over the names given groups, programs and even church vehicles. The van used by **Calvin, Tigard**, to transport members is named—what else?—the *Cal-van*. A Mariners fellowship group at **Southminster**,

Continued on page 11

Presbyterians from Palestine to Show Film at Lake Grove

The Reverend Marthame and Elizabeth Sanders, former Volunteers in Mission for the PC(USA) in Palestine, will show and discuss their film, **Salt of the Earth**, on Sunday, February 22, at 7:30 p.m. at Lake Grove Presbyterian, Lake Oswego. The film documents the lives of nine Palestinian Christians living on the West Bank in Israel.

The Sanders lived in the largely Christian Palestinian village of Zababdeh from August 2000 through December 2003. Originally from Georgia and Texas, respectively, Marthame and Elizabeth volunteered as ambassadors to give ecumenical support to the Church in the land of its birth.

The film grew out of a desire among their Palestinian neighbors to share their stories,

and a desire among Christians in the West to hear them. The Sanders describe the project as "a labor of love, a response to the graciousness, warmth, hospitality, and welcome we received from our Palestinian neighbors and colleagues."

Besides showing the documentary, the Sanders will respond to questions about their ministry and experiences over the past three years.

A second presentation will be made the following morning, Monday, February 23. Please call Sheri Brown at the church for details (503-636-5656). For more information about the Sanders and their ministry, please check www.saltfilms.net.



Elizabeth and Marthame Sanders

Opening Doors Task Force Awards 2003 Grants

Opening Doors, a program for encouraging churches to be sensitive to and proactive in removal of barriers—physical, mental and emotional—has awarded grants to the following two churches for 2003.

Cherry Park Presbyterian Church, Troutdale, created an accessible unisex restroom from existing space, conveniently located near an accessible entrance. Tom Young, pastor, reports that the project is complete and in use. The final cost of \$13,211 was right on target with the contractor's original bid.

The Reverend Young says, "The members of Cherry Park have made the commitment to take seriously the scripture quoted on the Opening Doors Poster, 'For my house shall be a house of prayer for all people' (Isaiah 56:7). Some folk, we discovered, were not coming to weddings or funerals at the church because of inaccessibility concerns like a restroom. An hour for worship on Sunday was manageable

but a longer time was more than they could handle without having access to a restroom."

Tom adds, "Upon hearing about the concern, we decided to take action and convert a hallway closet into a restroom. At the same time, we heard about the availability of Opening Doors grants and applied. We were delighted to receive financial support from the committee of \$3,500. A bonus for us was the enthusiasm the completion of the restroom created among members, with some volunteering to paint and complete touchup work inside the building. Everyone is in agreement that it is a wonderful addition to the church facility and we are grateful for the help of the Opening Doors Committee."

The church hopes to have a dedication soon. Pastor Tom is concerned they don't name it "the pastor's room!"

Springwater Presbyterian Church, Estacada, plans to purchase and install an FM loop assistive listening system for the sanctuary.

The estimated cost is \$900, and a grant of \$450 from the Opening Doors Committee will help with that cost. This small (sixty-member) congregation has completed several projects to enhance accessibility.

The Opening Doors program continues to encourage and assist congregations in upgrading facilities and programs to make churches more accessible to people with disabling conditions. (Isn't that most of us in one form or another?). Applications for grants for the current funding cycle (2004) must be received by June 30 to be considered.

To receive more information about this program or make application for financial assistance, please contact the Presbytery of the Cascades Central Region

Office at 541-465-9173 or 800-926-3223, and a member of the Opening Doors Task Force will contact you.

Leaders Named for May Mission Conferences

Leaders and presenters have been identified for the presbytery mission conferences slated for early May at the Shilo Inn, Newport, OR. The Lay Mission Conference is slated for Saturday and Sunday, May 1-2, with the Pastors' Conference Sunday-Tuesday, May 2-4.

The Rev. Roula Alkouri, Associate Pastor of First Presbyterian, Bend, will lead worship for both events. Presenters will include Rick and Toby Gillespie-Mobley, Co-pastors of New Life Community Church, East Cleveland, Ohio; Jon Chapman from the Eastern Africa Division staff of the Presbyterian Church (USA) and Dan Force, Director of the Presbyterian Benevolence Foundation.

For registration information, contact the central region office of the presbytery, 1475 Ferry Street, Eugene, OR 97401, telephone 541-465-9173 or 800-926-3223 or email kjwhitehead@cascadespresbytery.org, or visit the website, www.cascadespresbytery.org.

Aleida Jernigan Arrives

On January 1, Aleida Jernigan began as our new Co-Executive Presbyter- Northeast. Well, almost!

Snow, rain and ice all combined to keep Aleida - and every member of the Portland staff - from the office. It was a beginning with some frustrations. On January 12, her household goods, due the week before, finally came into town. So bit by bit, she is getting her possessions into place and her office ready. She is looking forward to getting to know her congregations and connecting with pastors, elders

and other officers.

Part of her commitment in the hiring process was to attend two important events late in January: The Churchwide Transformation Conference in Charlotte, North Carolina, and the Association of Presbyterian Church Educator's Conference in Norfolk, Virginia. Aleida serves on the Board of Directors for APCE.

Cascades Presbytery welcomes Aleida and we look forward to her ministry and work among us.

Transformation Event Set for February 28

Congregations interested in spiritual revitalization are invited to a Church Transformation Conference with Frank Beattie at First Presbyterian Church, Salem, Saturday, February 28, from 9:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

The workshop will focus on a "nuts and bolts" approach to renewal, and will give an opportunity for congregations to covenant with the presbytery on transformation.

Beattie is a former presbytery executive who

has worked effectively with other presbyteries on this subject. Cost is only \$35 per church for any number of attendees.

Registration is due by February 15. Respond to the presbytery central region office, 1475 Ferry Street, Suite 121E, Eugene, OR 97401, telephone 541-926-3223 or email kjwhitehead@cascadespresbytery.org.

Lenten Retreat February 5-7—"Living as God's Beloved"
featuring Dr. Michael Hryniuk of San Francisco Theological Seminary.

Place: First Presbyterian Church, Vancouver, WA.
Fee \$20 per person, \$30 per couple to cover direct costs.
Call 360-694-3363 for a brochure.

Community Presbyterian, Redmond Sponsors El Salvador Work Trip

Twelve members of Community Presbyterian, Redmond, Oregon, went on a twelve-day adult mission work trip to El Salvador over the 2003 Thanksgiving Holiday. The group leader was Dick Unrein; missionaries Bob & Julie Dunsmore helped coordinate the visit and spent most of a week with the work group.

They stayed and worked at a 300-year-old mansion called the Hacienda in Colima, some 40 miles north of the capital city of San Salvador. The Hacienda has a mixed history of prosperity and human tragedy. It was once a large prosperous ranch, but in 1980, 21 persons were killed there by the military during a land reform sit-in, which started a brutal twelve-year civil war. The work party heard the personal account of this tragedy from the former groundskeeper, Cheppy.

The Hacienda is of classic colonial style with large circular support columns, huge wooden roof beams, and a red clay tile roof. Years of neglect have taken its toll, but the co-op in Colima is attempting to return it to a state of repair that will attract tourists and their dollars.

Bob and Julie Dunsmore, Presbyterian missionaries who have been in El Salvador for six years, have been giving technical assistance, striving to awaken the co-op to its own abilities and talents to develop the Hacienda as a tourist and convention center. The Redmond group hoped to set an example of what could be done in a few days of hard work.

The work group accomplished four main projects, using over \$1,500 worth of materials they had purchased in advance.

"The Garden of Eden" crew consisted of Bob Vancil, Irv Nygren and Linda Sorum. They placed large flagstones around a fountain in the main inner courtyard, painted the fountain, and removed sod and overgrown grass to expose beautiful cobblestone edging. Outside the large veranda overlooking the great reservoir, the group placed more large flagstones around another beautiful bubbling fountain.

"The Faith-Filled Roof Removing" crew (Mark 2:4-5) consisted of Jim Irwin, Sandy Sutherland and Linda Unrein. Because the old roof let debris and insects fall on the food preparation area, they made major repairs. They removed all the old red tiles from above the kitchen and replaced weakened roof rafters, covered by the fine black soot that had accumulated over many years. The floor was covered numerous times with several inches of soot. They then removed the old cooking stoves and ovens and started to build newer, more efficient ones. To seal the roof, they installed new cement fiber tile sheets and re-installed the old red tiles to retain the original colonial look of the Hacienda. Finally, they added screening at the edges of the roof and the walls to seal out insects and debris.

"The Light of The World" electrical crew consisted of Joe Griffin, Bruce Stewart and Pat Wallin. They had to start from scratch to re-wire the entire Hacienda. The old wiring system was a dangerous patchwork of frayed wiring and multiple inadequate circuit boxes. Hot wires were lying across beams in many places. They installed a new main service panel and routed all the main circuits through it. They also repaired light switches and outlets and provided new lighting in the outer courtyard.

"The Trinity Sign Company" crew of Dick Unrein, Gloria Irwin and June Griffin were faced with the challenge of building a



large entrance sign from boards and beams that were ripped from trees with chainsaws. As there was no design, they had to create their own, including a tile roof over the sign.

Salvadorian co-op members assisted the crews, who also built shelves in the swimming pool bathhouse, built a screened window for the temporary kitchen, and placed a cover over a deep open brick cistern near the swimming pool where children played.

The group reported that their meals were

outstanding examples of fine Salvadorian cooking. Because of the extreme heat and humidity, they began their workday at 7:00 a.m. and worked until their 1:00 lunchtime, then rested and shared time getting to know the co-op staff and workers. Their sleeping quarters were quite primitive and need work to make them acceptable for tourists.

While in Colima, the Redmond group visited two churches, the local forest preserve, and some nearby ancient Mayan ruins.

Prayer Calender



The Theology, Spirituality and Worship 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 2004

- 1 John R. Maynard, ordained this day in 1981, serving in Australia as pastor of St. Johns United Churches, Presbytery of Gippsland, Cowes, Victoria • Richard A. Brown, installed as pastor at First, Merrill, this day in 1998
- 2 Rick R. Ribeiro, installed as pastor of Warm Springs Presbyterian this day in 1986
- 3 C. Alan Wilkerson, installed as pastor of Kenton, Portland, this day in 1991
- 4 Gina L. Campbell, candidate for the ministry, First, Portland • Dave Akey, church educator, John Knox, Keizer
- 5 John B. Pierce, installed as pastor of Westminster, Eugene, this day in 1989 • Beverly J. Crow, ordained this day in 1989, serving as interim pastor of the International Church of Stavanger, Norway
- 6 Kenneth S. Mulder, installed as associate pastor of Sunset, Portland, this day in 1988
- 7 Douglas D. Rich, installed as pastor Pioneer Presbyterian on Clatsop Plains, Warrenton, this day in 1999
- 8 John A. Waide, installed as pastor of Yachats Community Church, this day in 1992
- 9 P. Robert McCann, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1985
- 10 Vernon Presbyterian Church, Portland, chartered this day in 1907 • Hugh Anderson, installed as Co-Executive Presbyter, South Region, this day in 1995
- 11 Rex C. Parker, parish associate at Community Church, Yachats, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1994
- 12 Donald R. Shaw, Peacemaking Advocate/Hunger Action Enabler • Cascades Presbytery meets today day and tomorrow; Sharon Hasenjaeger, Moderator
- 13 Joann Burt, church educator, First, Salem
- 14 St. Andrews, Portland - chartered this month in 1953
- 15 Ivan Dean, inquirer for the ministry, First, Merrill
- 16 John L. Smart, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2002
- 17 John W. Hubbard, installed as pastor of First, Bandon, this day in 1991 • John W. Wallace, installed as pastor of Grace, Portland, this day in 1996 • Sarah C. Coakley, ordained this day in 2002, serving as stated supply of Piedmont, Portland
- 18 First Presbyterian, Newberg - chartered this day in 1890 • Milwaukie Presbyterian - chartered this day in 1951 • Bruce W. Cameron, installed as pastor of Peace, Eugene, this day in 2001
- 19 Robert C. Groves, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1990, serving as interim pastor of Clatskanie Presbyterian.
- 20 Jae Soon Lee, candidate for the ministry, Korean Presbyterian, Vancouver, WA
- 21 Greg Bridge, youth worker, Community Presbyterian, Redmond
- 22 John O. Reynolds, granted Honorably Retired status this month in 1990
- 23 Oak Hills Presbyterian, Milwaukie - char-

Visit our website
www.cascadepresbytery.org
 for Presbytery Calendar!
 Current Events!
 Daily Devotional!



- tered this month in 1964
- 24 Committee on Ministry in Higher Education of Presbytery, Lou Balmer, chairperson
- 25 Richard A. Christensen, ordained this day in 1973, serving as stated supply at Mt. Laki Community Church, Klamath Falls
- 26 Community Presbyterian Church, Waldport - chartered this month in 1901
- 27 Benjamin F. Dake, ordained this day in 1977, serving as pastor of First, Cottage Grove
- 28 First Presbyterian, Lebanon - chartered this day in 1881
- 29 First Presbyterian, Medford - chartered this day in 1885
- 30 James K. Egly, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1991 • John G. Chatalas, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2002
- 31 Arthur F. Dahlberg, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1990 • F. Edward Patterson, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1988

April 2004

- 1 James M. Brown, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1996 • Deborah M. Blair, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2002, serving as interim pastor of First, Woodburn • John R. Finney, ordained this day in 1971, serving as a psychologist at the Veteran's Hospital, Roseburg
- 2 First Presbyterian, Gold Beach, chartered 1912 • Mary McNair, Certified Christian Educator
- 3 Calvary Presbyterian, Portland, chartered 1882
- 4 Sharon Franklin, children's ministry, Columbia Presbyterian, Vancouver
- 5 Julie C. Gertenrich, inquirer for the ministry, First, Salem
- 6 Jenny James, director of Youth Ministries, First, Jacksonville
- 7 Robert P. Sanders, installed as pastor of Lake Grove, Lake Oswego, this day in 1991
- 8 Elizabeth Winslea, installed as campus pastor at Portland State University-Koinonia House, this day in 1999
- 9 Kay Hawley, church educator, First, Corvallis • Eileen K. Parfrey, installed as pastor of Springwater, Estacada, this day in 2000
- 10 C. Todd Martin, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 2001 • Bette Carroll, youth worker, Smith Memorial, Fairview.
- 11 Larry V.R. Bunnell, installed as pastor of Peace Memorial, Klamath Falls, this day in 1993
- 12 Chris Luck, youth worker, Emmanuel, West Linn
- 13 Brett A. Becker, installed as pastor of Bethany, Portland, this date in 1997 • Ashton 'Skip' Roberts, Jr., candidate for the ministry, First, Newport
- 14 Jeffrey S. Sievert, installed as pastor of Reedville, Aloha, this day in 1996
- 15 Mission Committee of the Presbytery, Judy Alford, chair • Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, Florence - chartered this day in 1984 • W. Ward Murray, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1993
- 16 John L. Reimers, granted Honorably Retired status in 1978 • James C. Petersen, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1999
- 17 Jennifer Graham, Christian Education Administrator, St. John's, Camas, WA
- 18 Barbara Peebles, Vice Moderator, South Region • Heath Kumnick, youth worker, First, McMinnville
- 19 John Holloway, inquirer for the ministry, Moreland, Portland
- 20 Cascades Summer Conference Planning Team (CE) - Linda Gaines, chair
- 21 William K. Van Nostran, ordained December 14, 2003, serving as pastor of Northminster, Portland • Jacob Chang Kim, installed as pastor of Hope Korean, Portland, this day in 2002
- 22 C. Michael Rinkin, ordained this day in 1979
- 23 Northminster, Portland - chartered this day in 1911
- 24 First Presbyterian, Vancouver, WA, chartered 1882 • Janet Christian, children's educator, First Presbyterian, Jacksonville
- 25 Nominating Committee of Presbytery, Nancy Walker, chairperson
- 26 Alan B. Guffey, ordained this day in 1992 • Karen Zeller, children's educator, First Presbyterian, Cottage Grove
- 27 Wayne G. Plummer, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1988
- 28 St. Mark, Portland - chartered this day in 1946 • Marcella (Peg) Pfab, installed as pastor of Southminster, Beaverton, this day in 2002
- 29 Scott T. Crane, candidate for the ministry, Westminste, Salem • Karrie Brain-Marsh, ordained this day in 1990
- 30 James W. McKaughan, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1987 • James L. McDonald, granted Honorably Retired status this day in 1997 • C. Dennis Alger, ordained this day in 1989, serving as stated supply at Eagle Creek Presbyterian.

Presbytery of the Cascades Current Status of Open Churches

SEEKING INTERIMS or STATED SUPPLY

Aurora
 Lakeview, Community
 Pacific City, Nestucca Valley

PREPARING TO ACTIVELY SEEK

Aurora
 Klamath Falls, First
 McMinnville, First
 Myrtle Creek, Tri-City United
 Portland, Mt. Tabor (Associate)
 Redmond, Community (Associate)
 Tualatin
 Woodburn, First

ACTIVELY SEEKING A PASTOR (CIF submitted to Louisville)

Grants Pass, Bethany (Associate)
 Oakland, Community (Designated 3/4 time)
 McMinnville, First
 Myrtle Creek, Tri-City United
 Portland, Chinese
 Portland, PC of Laurelhurst
 Portland, Valley (Head of Staff)

Ann Weems Coming to Florence For Lenten Renewal Weekend

Popular Presbyterian writer Ann Weems is scheduled to lead a Lenten Renewal Weekend in Florence, OR, on Friday-Sunday, February 27-29. All are invited to the sessions at the Florence Events Center, and there is no admission charge. Complimentary bed and breakfast is also available on reservation.

Theme for the weekend is "The Lenten

Courtyard: We Must Answer Whether We Know Him or Not." Sessions are at 7:00 p.m. Friday; 9:30 and 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m. Saturday and 10:30 a.m. Sunday for an ecumenical worship service.

Weems' books include *Reaching for Rainbows*, *Family Faith Stories*, *Kneeling in Jerusalem*, *Kneeling in Bethlehem*, *Searching*

for *Shalom* and *Psalms of Lament*. They will be available for purchase during the weekend.

To make overnight reservations or for more information, call or email the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw, 541-997-7136 or pcos@oregonfast.net.

Students Set and Reach Big Heifer Project Goal

Many church groups donate funds to Heifer Project, but few take on as big a challenge as the six-member youth group of the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw in Florence.

In October 2002 the young people looked for ways to help hungry people around the world. The selected Heifer Project International, and set a yearlong goal of \$5000. Their "Fill the Ark" drive was designed to buy enough livestock to help thirty families become self-reliant.

On October 26, 2003, they celebrated the successful completion of their project by treating the congregation to a pizza and salad lunch. They also noted they had reached the goal two weeks ahead of schedule.

The youth say they never doubted they'd make the \$5000. Special offerings, bake sales, greeting card sales, contests, a read-a-thon and many other projects received enthusiastic support from the congregation.

The six students—Katie Bartlett, Nicole Fetaui, Kylie McKenzie, Blair Pearson, Sam Pearson and Amanda Pilcher—range in age from ten to thirteen. Their teachers are Rachel Pearson and Barbara Melton.

Heifer Project International was founded in 1944 and has helped over four million people



in 115 countries, including the United States. By giving families a source of food rather than short-term relief, the effort helps whole com-

munities as the animals multiply and are shared. For more information, call 800-422-0474

PDA earmarks \$150,000 for earthquake relief aid to Iran

by **Evan Silverstein**

Presbyterian Disaster Assistance (PDA) immediately committed an initial \$150,000 in emergency relief aid to help survivors of last week's devastating earthquake in Iran. Of the money, \$50,000 will come from the One Great Hour of Sharing and \$100,000 in designated funds from PDA's general relief account, according to Susan Ryan, PDA's coordinator.

The Middle East Council of Churches (MECC) will receive \$10,000 of the PDA money immediately. The grant will be supplemented \$80,000 in rapid response funds the council has already received from Action by Churches Together (ACT). Money from ACT, a Geneva-based international alliance of churches and relief agencies, is being used to help purchase emergency shelter supplies and water tanks for survivors in the city of Bam.

At least 28,000 people were killed and thousands more left homeless or injured when the 6.6-magnitude earthquake ripped through the ancient city and surrounding areas on Dec. 26. About 80 percent of the city's mud-brick and straw buildings were believed destroyed, including two hospitals.

"PDA will be engaged in this effort for months to come," Ryan said. PDA officials anticipate applying the remaining \$140,000 to rebuilding Bam's community structure through psychosocial services, improving water and sanitation systems, and meeting the needs of women and children.

Committed funds will be sent as soon as formal plans and budgets are received from the field, Ryan said.

She said plans are already underway to send

a psychosocial assessment team to the region in the coming weeks in cooperation with the Church of Sweden Aid and with Norwegian Church Aid. All response agencies will work under the coordination and in cooperation with the Iranian Red Crescent Society and the United Nations.

Plans by PDA also include sending former PC(USA) national staff member

Mehdi Abhari to participate in ACT's relief effort in Iran. For six months the Iranian-born Abhari, who is skilled in care-giving and financial accounting, will act as a cultural broker and translator for various specialists guiding the relief effort.

PDA, which coordinates the Presbyterian Church (USA)'s disaster-response operations abroad and in the United States, has also issued an appeal for contributions to help with ongoing humanitarian assistance to the earthquake-stricken region.

Ryan said a letter of support from the Rev. Clifton Kirkpatrick, PC(USA) General Assembly stated clerk, is being sent to the Iranian section of the Pakistan Embassy in Washington, DC.

When hope all but faded for finding more survivors, efforts shift to focus on assisting those who survived the horrific quake that leveled Bam. Tens of thousands of people are homeless. Many of them are sleeping in tents donated by governments and international aid agencies. Already, 1,400 international relief workers from 26 countries had converged in Bam, according to published reports.

"The next critical steps will be to quickly provide survivors with a sense of control over their lives by organizing them to provide serv-

ices within the tent city including restarting schools for children," said Ryan.

Church World Service (CWS), which pledged \$30,000 as part of ACT's rapid response funding, is considering an emergency material airlift of shelter and hygiene materials. Norwegian Church Aid, an ACT member, said it would ship 400 large tents to the area along with stoves that it had stored in Jordan.

Dozens of relief planes have landed in Bam and in Kerman, the provincial capital 120 miles to the northwest, including at least eight U.S. Air Force C-130 cargo planes. The American help came despite long-severed diplomatic relations. The flights were the first U.S. military flights into Iran since an elite force unsuccessfully attempted to rescue U.S. hostages there in April 1980.

Bam, with its 2,000-year-old historic citadel, was a major Iranian tourist attraction. With much of that heritage now reduced to rubble and dust, Iran's top political and spiritual leaders have pledged to rebuild the desert city, which had a population of 80,000 people.

Financial contributions for Iranian earthquake relief may be made through individual congregations or sent to the Presbyterian Center, Central Receiving Service, Section 300, Louisville, KY 40289. Refer to designated account number #9-2000081, Middle East. To make a gift with a credit card, call PresbyTel at 1-800-872-3283 or visit the secure website,

www.pcusa.org/pda/response/middleeast/iraearthquake1203.htm.

Christian Education Workshop to Address Caring for God's World for All Ages

"In the Beginning...Year-round Christian Stewardship for all Ages," a comprehensive workshop for Christian educators, pastors, youth leaders, and volunteers will be held Thursday, April 1, from 9:30 a.m.-3:00 p.m. at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 777 Coburg Road in Eugene.

Participants will learn how to make education for creation stewardship an ongoing part of congregational life. The Eco-Justice Unit of the Church and Society Committee and the Christian Education Committee of our presbytery are sponsoring the workshop. Cost is \$15 per person, or \$10 each for two or more attending from the same church. Lunch and materials are included. Scholarships are available. Registrations are due in the Presbytery Central Region office, 1475 Ferry Street, Suite 121E, Eugene, OR 97401-4212, by March 29.

The session will provide biblical and theological foundations, ideas, resources, and tools for educating children, youth and adults. Case studies from Cascades Presbytery churches

will be explored. Participants will come away with fresh programming ideas, familiarity with the best resources available for creation stewardship and useful handouts.

The workshop leader, Sandy Safford, served as a Christian Educator for over eight years on staff of the Presbyterian Church (USA). She is currently Coordinator of Youth and Educational Ministries at St. Andrew Presbyterian Church in Boulder, Colorado.

Prior to her call into Ministry, Sandy worked in the field of Environmental Education for over ten years for the National Park Service, the U.S. Forest Service and a city park system directing a Nature Center. Sandy's love for God's creation led her to a degree in Environmental Education from Colorado State University. Her ministry of creation stewardship includes Earth Day worship services, youth programs, VBS, recycling and water conservation programs in the church, creation stewardship workshops and church camp experiences. Sandy is married to Matt, a Natural Resource Planner for the



National Park Service, and has two children, Nathan (14) and Ashley (11).

Educational Resources for Eco-Justice Offered

Simplifying our lives benefits not only God's world, but also our spiritual lives and relationships with others. Lent is a natural time to explore simplicity. Alternatives for Simple Living offers *Connecting with God, Others, Myself: A 40-day Guide for Lent and Easter*. It can be found at www.simpleliving.org/Archives/Lent/LentCal2004.html. A related resource, "Ten Tips for a Simpler, More Meaningful Easter," can be found at www.simple.org/Archives/Lent/LentCal2004.html

Dr. Dan Klingler, chair of the Eco-Justice Team, has created a detailed bibliography of a variety of books dealing with the implications of economic globalization. If you did not receive a copy at the November 2003 presbytery meeting, please request one by e-mailing him at mardank@quik.com.

Vacation Bible School Helps Available

The Eco-Justice Team offers mentors to provide support to those interested in integrating resource conservation and care for creation themes into their Vacation Bible School or other summer kids programs. For more information or to get connected contact Jenny Holmes at 503-281-8175 or jehrestore@aol.com or Karen Keady at 541-344-8096.

Also, a workshop, *The Earth is the Lord's*:

Greening Your Summer Kids Program, will be provided at Cascade Presbytery's February 21 Leadership Fair. It will focus on a working model for integrating caring for creation themes and activities. Each participant will receive a tool kit. You are welcome to bring

the curriculum you plan to use for your summer program. Presenters are Karen Keady, VBS Coordinator, Westminster Presbyterian Church, Eugene, and Deanie Anderson, biology teacher at South Salem High School and member of Westminster Presbyterian.

2004 Touchpoints Theme Announced

"Worship" has been selected as the theme for the 2004 edition of *Touchpoints*, a small annual publication of the Theology, Spirituality and Worship Committee of our presbytery.

Submissions from both clergy and laity that explore Protestant perspectives on the nature, meaning and purpose of worship are welcomed. What is worship? When did you feel especially worshipful?

Send your unpublished essays, sermons (no more than 2500 words) *midrash* or poetry (up to 50 lines) to *Touchpoints*, c/o Shirley Tormey, editor, 8313 SW Fourth Avenue, Portland, OR 97219. Please identify your submissions with your name, church, address and phone number. Deadline is October 1.

Meanwhile, you can obtain the 2003 and earlier issues at \$2.50 each from the south office of the presbytery (541-535-7313) or Circuit Rider Books (503-234-9625).



Themes of the earlier issues are "In the Desert," "Set Apart for God," and "Mary, Mother of Jesus."

What's NOPSS? Read All About It

NOPSS is Cascades Presbytery's "Newly Ordained Pastor Support System." This three-year program will graduate its first cohort at the March meeting of Presbytery.

This purely voluntary program for those moving from seminary into various forms of professional ministry includes some who took part in everything and others who participated in what fit their schedules and their ability to travel long distances over winter roads. There were three parts: an annual winter retreat on the coast; a special course at the Cascades Summer Conference; and monthly to quarterly regional group meetings with mentors.

For the last several years many presbyteries and synods have felt a growing urgency to provide a bridge from classroom to ministry. For example, shortly after his ordination Phil GebbenGreen phoned Steve Maling, then chair of the Northeast Region's Committee on

Ministry, to ask what our presbytery had to match his Lutheran pastor-spouse's program. Steve said, "Nothing yet. But I've been thinking about our need to do something similar to what Inland Northwest Presbytery did when I was there. Sit tight."

The rest is history, so to speak. The Committee on Ministry Coordinating Council commissioned Steve to find out what some other Presbyterians and the Lutherans were doing. Central Region Co-Executive Presbyter John Mahon joined in the effort. Conversations were held with other presbyteries in the Synod of the Pacific. John Mahon and Co-Executive Presbyter Jack Hodges landed a General Assembly grant through the synod that has covered part of the cost. The result has been a program that Mahon reports has been well received by others in the PC(USA), who have called it innovative.

But the real story is about the participants

and the volunteers. Without the new campus pastors and parish ministers there would be no NOPSS. Without the Chapel by the Sea in Lincoln City, the Nestucca Valley church in Pacific City, and the Presbyterian Church of the Siuslaw in Florence there would have been no winter retreats. Without the Cascades Summer Conference there would have been no special courses. Without the generous donations of time and talent from elders, pastoral counselors, seminary professors and experienced pastors too numerous to mention there would have been no expertise to offer.

And without the regional mentors Doug Counsell, Scott Dalgarno, Cynthia O'Brien and Don Shaw and planning team members Susan Grewe, Dave Hutchinson, Karen Renner, John Mahon and Steve Maling there would be no story to tell.

Steve Maling

WOU Launches Conversation Café

On January 8, Western Oregon University's Campus ministry, **Fellowship House**, hosted its first Conversation Café at **Rick's Place**, a local coffeehouse and social hub. This open group welcomes all to join in respectful, timely discussion of topics that matter. It meets from 7-8:30 p.m. every Thursday when the university is in session. Rick's Place is located at 123 E. Main Street, Monmouth. For more information, please contact Denise Yenawine Mosher, Presbyterian campus minister, 503-838-6301.

Spreading nationwide and into Canada, **Conversation Cafes** are drop-in community conversations in public spaces designed to "help shift us from small talk to big talk and make sense of our world." Conversations are organized and hosted by at least one person who welcomes participants and introduces the Conversation Café process and agreements ("ground rules").

This process and the agreements create the minimal structure that allows even strangers to get into deep, compassionate listening and discussion. Conversation Cafes attract diverse people wanting to participate in community, engage in deep sharing, encounter topics in a non-confrontational way, and make sense of the world around us.

Bill Van Nostran Ordained

William Van Nostran was ordained to the Ministry of Word and Sacrament at a service December 14, 2003, at First Presbyterian, Vancouver, his home church. Bill has been called and installed as pastor of Northminster Presbyterian, Portland.

The Rev. Karen Sapio, pastor of Trinity Presbyterian, preached a sermon titled "On the Road Again," likening the journey to ordination and ministry to riding the "old blue bus" both she and Bill rode while engaged in youth ministry at First, Vancouver.

The ordination committee was comprised of Susann Smith, presbytery Vice Moderator; Michael Brown, pastor of First, Vancouver; Karen Sapio; and elders Mark Macauley, Nancy Walker and Janet Wylie.



At the reception following his ordination, Bill Van Nostran and his wife, Yvonne, model two of the liturgical stoles he received as gifts.

Some examples of potential topics of the WOU Conversation Café include:

- What is it to have a full, rich life?
- When have you experienced the sacred?
- What is your faith in the future?
- Where do you want to make a difference in your life?

"As soon as I arrived at Western I just knew I wanted to launch and be part of a Conversation Café," states Denise Yenawine Mosher, Fellowship House's new campus minister. "One of WOU's incredible gifts is its small, intimate nature—and another is Rick's Place, where faculty, staff, and students gather and grab coffee and chat. Some of the gifts of our campus ministries in Oregon are programs and ministry like this. So far the students and faculty I've met are really seeking deeper, meaningful conversation of life's big issues—and to be heard," added Mosher, who sees active, deep listening as downright countercultural these days, especially with young people who often do not feel that they are being heard.

"So often when others are speaking to us individually or at meetings it seems that we are not really listening, but those gears in our heads are moving to what we are going to say

next," Mosher continued, and commented how Conversation Cafes are very much linked to her values as a Christian pastor—encountering others in the public square and listening and sharing like Jesus did. "That's what I want to be about at WOU as a campus minister."

The Conversation Café phrase "from small talk to big talk" has struck a real chord in American culture. The beginnings of the movement were born literally the day after 9/11 when a few interested folks in Seattle had planned to meet to see if they should continue their experiment. It was obvious to them that our national tragedy was calling for deeper listening and deeper conversation in our search for meaning.

"Just think what impact we'd have on the world in the Name of Christ if we truly listened, truly encountered other human beings in the family, in our relationships, churches..hey, even Presbytery!" the WOU campus minister said, grinning.

To learn more about Western Oregon University's Conversation Café, or to learn more about hosting your own, contact Pastor Denise at (503) 838-6301

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon Receives Foundation Grant

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) received a \$20,000 grant from the Kelly Family Fund, Ruth Eva Renfroe Fund and Taylor and Alice Alexander Fund of The Oregon Community Foundation to expand EMO's Oregon Recovery Homes (ORH) program, providing housing and support for low-income persons recovering from substance abuse.

ORH opened twelve new homes in the Portland metro area, Salem, Eugene and Springfield this year and served 850 residents in over 120 recovery homes throughout Oregon. ORH is a shining example of a suc-

cessful post-treatment program that serves clients recovering from alcohol and drug addictions. Funding from OHCS, Oregon Community Foundation and Washington County provide the ability for expansion to support additional needs in 2004.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon is a statewide association of seventeen Christian denominations including Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox bodies working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and inter-religious dialogue, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.

"That all May Have Life in Fullness" Common Theme for Year

By Clifton Kilpatrick

Editor's Note: The Rev. Dr. Clifton Kirkpatrick is Stated Clerk of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church(USA).

Once every seven or eight years representatives of Presbyterian and Reformed churches from around the world come together for the General Council of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches. It is our closest equivalent to a worldwide Presbyterian "Vatican Council." This year is one of those years.

Representatives from 217 member churches in over 100 countries, having a combined membership of over 75 million Christians, will gather in July for the Twenty-Fourth General Council. The setting will be Accra, Ghana, home to two of the largest Presbyterian denominations in the world. The theme will be Jesus' wonderful promise in John 10:10 that he has come so "that all may have life in fullness."

Over the holidays I found my spirit enriched as I worked my way through Crossing Ten Seas, the Bible study for the upcoming General Council. The title is attributed to John Calvin, who once exclaimed that he would cross ten seas to promote the unity of the church. It is a moving account of both God's promises in Scripture and the reality of the

fullness of life in Christ being experienced by so many Presbyterian Christians in diverse parts of the world. They include those finding new life in Christ in secular Europe; those finding hope in Christ's healing mercy in the struggle against HIV/AIDs in Africa; those finding assurance in the peace of Christ in a war-torn Middle East; and women in many countries who are finding the joy of being ordained ministers where new doors are opening for the full participation of women in ministry.

The theme and Bible study of the General Council are also the theme and Bible study for the 217th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church(USA) which will take place in Richmond, Virginia in June. It will hopefully serve to remind us that we are part of a much larger family of Presbyterian and Reformed Christians with whom we share the common promise of fullness of life in Christ.

I invite you to use this Bible study in your congregations this year, perhaps as a Lenten study. It is an excellent way to share in the common witness of Reformed Christians to Jesus Christ around the world. It is also a very good way to prepare the hearts and minds of our church to be open to receive the fullness

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CPYA – “Revelation Reality: Chalk It Up!”

How do you get 330 high school students and leaders to sit in silence for fifteen minutes? You put Ben Glenn in front of them and let him do one of his amazing, high-speed chalk drawings and turn his multi-media presentation loose on it.

If it's hard for you to picture, then you're just going to have to ask someone who was at this year's CPYA event at Canby Grove Conference Center in November, “Chalk It Up!” We had a weekend to remember. We are still trying to figure out which youth group went out at 3:00 a.m. and used sidewalk chalk to write encouragement on every walkway in the place. It was great to wake up to.

We had an awesome weekend together with our speaker, Ben Glenn, who brought a great sense of humor, an incredible artistic talent, and a passion for kids to know Christ as their Savior and Lord. As with all CPYAs, the weekend was filled with action, late nights, great worship and singing, all too many “inflatable” events at the YMCA and food beyond description.

Basically, if you weren't there, you missed out big time. This year we had students and



Chalk artist at work.

leaders from 38 churches from throughout the Presbytery. There is always room for more. Next year's event is scheduled for November

19-21, 2004—as always, the weekend before Thanksgiving. Look out for brochures come next September.

“The Six Thinking Hats” Named Theme For Educators’ Retreat April 27-28

“The Six Thinking Hats: Creative Thinking Skills for Church Use” will be addressed by keynoter John A. Lee at the Cascades Presbytery Educators’ Retreat in the Mt. Angel Abbey Conference Center Tuesday and Wednesday, April 27-28.

The Six Thinking Hats skills were developed by Edward deBono, M.D., Ph.D., a world-renowned consultant to governments and corporations. Dr. deBono has written more than 60 books (translated into 26 languages) on the thinking process.

The hats describe a simple and new way to organize our thinking processes. They are tools simple to learn and use, powerful in their application, proven by their results and designed for generating new ideas, saving time in meetings, reducing adversarial confrontations, and for quickly and thoroughly exploring a topic for decision and action. The hats provide skills on how to think rather than on what to think.

These sessions will involve practical, hands-on time. The participants will learn how to use the Six Thinking Hats for meetings, individual thinking, and in the study of sacred literature.

John A. Lee is a United Methodist clergyman. His professional experience includes recreational ministries, campus ministry, local churches, and the private practice of pastoral psychotherapy. With the exception of a single two-year appointment to a denominational congregation, Lee's entire ministry has been ecumenical in scope. He also does organizational development work in businesses, not-for-profit organizations, and churches. Lee received his D.Min. from San Francisco Theological Seminary in 1974. His dissertation/project explored the process of developing a model of how the imagination discovers images of life, with application to Christian ministry. He was certified by Dr. deBono as a Six Thinking Hats trainer in 1993. Dr. Lee was instrumental in founding The Guild for Sacred Studies, Denver, Colorado. The Guild's focus is ‘the liberation of the imagination to access the teachings of Jesus for education in spirit and a re-imagining of the world.’

For more information or to register for the event, visit the website, www.cascadespresbytery.org or call Melissa Olmstead in Portland at 503-287-1289, ext. 17.

Perspectives Offers Analysis, Reflection

Perspectives, a monthly online publication of our denomination, offers an exploration of issues facing the church as well as some reflective analysis of our life together as a denomination through the lens of scripture, our Reformed theology, and a constitutional and confessional framework.

To see current or archived issues, visit www.pcusa.org/oga/perspectives/index.htm.

Postively Presbyterian

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Beaverton, is called the *Barnacles*.

Valley, Portland, is celebrating new landscaping and a handsome solid granite sign with incised gold lettering in front of the church. The sign, plantings and an automated watering system are memorial gifts.

First, Portland, is entering the new year and a new era with an E-Learning Task Force. The group is looking at different ways to offer learning on-line or through the church website. They'll be developing electronic curriculum for scripture learning for youth and adults to use either individually or with an “e-partner” or “e-group.”

Advance invitations to parties are always nice—but how about three years in advance? Reedville, Aloha, has formed a committee to plan their one hundredth anniversary celebration for the year 2007. People are invited to help dream and plan, and to give some dedicated funds to sponsor history projects, archives or other ways to celebrate the milestone.

Do you wish you could see your church featured here? Well, if you've checked for several issues and don't see a mention of your congregation, we're probably not receiving your newsletter. Make sure your presbytery regional office is on your newsletter mailing list. Another way to make sure your church is mentioned is to write this column for the Northwest Region! Contact Nancy Gaston, editor, at 360-574-0984 or nancyg57@comcast.net and make an offer.

SAVE That DATE!

Major events in the life of Cascades Presbytery!
Spread the News! Plan to Attend!



February 21 - Cascades Leadership Fair (Saturday)

Plan to attend at Lake Grove Presbyterian, Lake Oswego ... easy access from I-5. Speakers, workshops, good fellowship!

April 26-27 - Educators Event at Mt. Angel Abbey

Church educators, pastors, elders and others interested in Christian education and church leadership are invited to mark their calendars for this time of learning, good conversation and renewal.

May 1-4 - Mission Conferences on the Oregon Coast. Events for both clergy and laity have recognized mission leaders as speakers and facilitators. Register on the website, www.cascadespresbytery.org.

July 11-16 - Presbytery Summer Conference at Linfield College, McMinnville, OR. Programs for all ages, wonderful music, and keynote talks by Dr. Cynthia Campbell, president of McCormick Theological Seminary await participants in this time-honored event.

Leadership Fair February 21 to Feature Former Moderator

Just in time! You are just in time to sign up for the Cascades Leadership Fair to be held on Saturday, February 21, at Lake Grove Presbyterian Church, Lake Oswego, with registration beginning at 8:30 a.m. The Fair ends at 3:00 p.m. The whole day, complete with workshops, a meal and featured speaker, Dr. Syngman Rhee costs only \$18 per person.

Dr. Syngman Rhee had a distinguished term as the Moderator of our 212th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in 2000. He has served in global mission work and is now Distinguished Professor of Mission and Evangelism at Union Theological Seminary - Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, Virginia. He is also the Director of the Asian American Ministry and Mission Center.

Excellent workshops will be offered in the

morning and afternoon, and a wonderful lunch will be provided. Workshops include:

- A Meeting of Minds: Effective Church Gatherings
- The Personnel Committee in the Local Church
- Hunger Action Toolkit
- Our Cuban Connection
- Presbyterian Basics: Hear It From The Expert
- Preview of Coming Video Attractions
- Unto All Generations: Generational Theory and the Church
- So You're The Treasurer ... What Now?
- Earth Stewardship: Resources for Teaching Creation Care to Children
- The "Basics" of Mission Partnership Support
- Understanding Your Mormon Neighbors

- Congregational Hospitality: Opening Doors
- A Growing Spirituality

The Cascades Leadership Fair has grown dramatically each year as both laity and clergy discover inspiring speakers, share with each other, and learn in the workshops.

You may register on the Cascades Presbytery website, www.cascadespresbytery.org, mail in a form available in your church's office, or at the event. For more information, contact the Portland office of the presbytery (503-227-5486 or 1-800-495-4114).

The Lake Grove Church is located on Upper Drive and Reese Road. Coming off I-5 Exit 290, go west on Lower Boones Ferry Road and turn right onto Bryant Road and then onto Sunset Drive. The church has ample parking.

Falconers Send News from Alaska

Greetings from Chuck and Jan Falconer at Sheldon Jackson College, in Sitka, Alaska. We arrived at Sheldon Jackson on May 20 for fifteen months as Volunteers in Mission. We brought with us a new John Deere tractor fitted with a front bucket, box scraper, mower and bagger, and backhoe. It has proven to be a very versatile and useful addition to the Maintenance Department. Thanks to all the individuals and churches in Cascades Presbytery who contributed the majority of the money for the tractor.

Jan works in the Stratton Library where she is helping the librarian make sure the computer records accurately reflect the library holdings. She has completed knitting six sweaters for Oxfam and is doing a workshop on making your own greeting cards next week.

Chuck was to help in the Maintenance Department but arrived to the news that the director had resigned. The summer Volunteers in Mission ran the Department for a month until a new director was hired. Three months later, he resigned and Chuck has been in charge since. A new director is to be hired soon. Chuck, a retired Presbyterian minister, knows little about maintenance but is learning quickly.

Students doing Work Study have been a lifesaver in the Maintenance Shop, sometimes bringing good experience in plumbing, electricity, truck maintenance, and woodworking, and many times doing something for the first time. Joe, Dan and Casey have used their time to rebuild a carburetor, replace lights and



fixtures, fix toilets and faucets, repair door closures, move furniture and otherwise help Chuck keep things functioning at the college. Meanwhile, the roads on campus have been torn up to replace the water, power and sewer infrastructure of the college.

We meet and interact with many of the students every day in the library and in the dining hall at meal times.

Sheldon Jackson College was founded by the Presbyterian Church and maintains a relationship with our denomination. It provides a strong emphasis in Alaska Native Studies and in subjects of use to those preparing for life and work in Alaska, as well as elsewhere.

If you haven't visited Sitka and the college, come see us in beautiful Southeast Alaska. It probably won't be snowing, as it is right now, but it is charming and a great place to visit

anytime of the year! Better yet, consider becoming a volunteer at Sheldon Jackson College for two weeks during the summer or for three months or a year. You'll be glad you did!

Chuck and Jan Falconer

News Briefs

The following items have been gleaned from recent Omnibus mail:

- **Volunteer Management 101**, a four-session introductory series on best practices for involving volunteers, has proven helpful to pastors and church staff members. For information about the course that starts in February in Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington and Clark (WA) counties, visit the website, www.handsonportland.org or call 503-413-7787.
- **An historic church burned** in Colorado in November. The 1880 building constructed by a congregation founded by Sheldon Jackson was always kept unlocked as a haven for travelers on a lonely stretch of U.S. 287 between Fort Collins and Laramie, WY. Arson is suspected.
- **Westminster Presbyterian, Portland**, is featured in the January issue of *Presbyterians Today*. An article by Bud Frimoth describes a special epiphany tradition of the congregation involving messages on paper stars.
- **The Transforming Word Spoken, Sung and Enacted** is the theme of the Summer Institute for Liturgy and Worship sponsored by Seattle University's School of Theology and Ministry July 4-9 in Seattle. Director is Glauca Vasconcelos Wilkey, known to many in this presbytery. For more information, call 206-296-5335 or email gw@seattleu.edu.

"That all may have life"

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of life in Christ as we move to our General Assembly in June. The Bible study will be available February 1st through the Presbyterian Distribution Service at 800-524-2612. Ask for OGA 04-080 for the English version; OGA 04-081 for the Spanish version. The cost is \$2 per copy. The study is also available online at <http://warc.ch/24gc/cts/index.html>.

Most of all, as each of you begins a new year in your ministry, I pray that the fullness of life in Jesus Christ will be God's gift to you in deep and wonderful ways!

Presbytery of the Cascades Camp Schedule, 2004

Date	Camp/grade level	Camp Site
June 4 - 6	Mom and Me/K - 2 Grade	Camp Magruder
June 20 - 25	Sr. High Adventure/9 - 12	Suttle Lake Camp
June 27 July 2	Middle School/6 - 8 Grade	Suttle Lake Camp
June 27 July 2	Music, Art, & Drama/6 - 8	Camp Magruder
June 27 July 2	Youth/3 - 4 Grade	Camp Magruder
July 4 - 9	Counselor - In - Training/9 - 12	Suttle Lake Camp
July 4 - 9	Fishing Camp/3 - 6 Grade	Suttle Lake Camp
July 4 - 9	Youth/5 - 6 Grade	Suttle Lake Camp
July 4 - 9	Youth/3 - 4 Grade	Suttle Lake Camp
July 18 - 23	Middle School/6-8 Grade	Camp Magruder
July 23 - 25	Mom and Me/K - 2 Grade	Camp Magruder
July 24 - 30	Family Camp/All Ages	Honeyman State Park
July 25 - 30	Sr. High/9 - 12 Grade	Camp Magruder
July 25 - 30	Youth/5 - 6 Grade	Camp Magruder
July 30 - Aug. 1	Dad and Me/K - 2 Grade	Suttle Lake Camp
August 1 - 4	Youth Mini Camp/3 - 5 Grade	Myrtlewood
August 1 - 6	Middle School/6 - 8 Grade	Myrtlewood

