



THE CIRCUIT RIDER

PORTLAND FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 1838 SW JEFFERSON, PORTLAND, OR 97201

July 14, 2004
Volume 8, Issue 14

the **E**dition

THIS SUNDAY

JULY 18, 2004

8:30 am

Informal Communion
in the Chapel

10:30 am

Sermon

A Covenant of Grace
5. Who is Joe Adams?
Rev. Dr. Arvin Luchs

Children's Time

Rev. Brenda Sene



As a Reconciling
Congregation,
members of
First United Methodist
Church have pledged
to welcome and
support all who want
to worship with us,
regardless of race,
gender, class or sexual
orientation.



BIG BAND WEDNESDAY JULY 21, 2004 6:30 PM

This performance is co-sponsored by the Music Performance
Trust Funds in cooperation with Local 99,
American Federation of Musicians

First Church invites you to
this special summer event.
The fun will begin at **5pm**
with a play area with
inflatables for children and
dance lessons by Viscount
Studio for adults. (Suggested
donation for the dance
lessons is \$5.00) There will
be an indoor picnic BBQ
beginning at **6pm**. Bring
meat to grill and your place
settings. We will provide
salads, condiments, and
beverages.

Call our
reservation line at:
503/228-3195 ext. 240

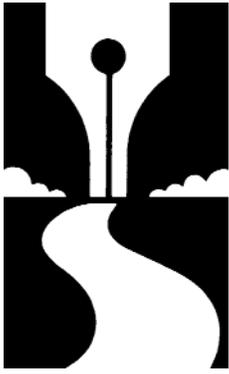
the metro district presents

ALL GOD'S CHILDREN JULY 31 12:00 to 4:00 PM

celebrating

- great music
- informational booths
- family fun

pioneer courthouse square



offerings

Rev. Brenda Sené

Lazy days, vacations, swimming, gardening, baseball, church camps...summer is definitely here. Summer can be a challenge for working parents. Each year we want our children to have the "best summer ever," and so we load up each week with activities. Our children are going to scout camps, church camps, art classes, local day camps, vacations, concerts and plays. It's amazing, even with my profession, that we still have time for God and church!

It is a challenge, but even in the midst of summer and in the midst of flexible schedules, it is still possible to keep the faith. We don't see as many children coming forward for the children's story at church every Sunday in the summer, so it is pretty obvious that many younger families are missing church services. Even without attending worship regularly during the summer, there are ways to keep yourselves and your children connected to God. This may be the ideal time, if you do not already do this, to institute grace before meals. When our children were learning the Lord's Prayer and Glory Be to the Father and the Doxology, we used these for the grace before meals. Learning these three things helped them feel more connected in Sunday worship. There are many children's books in the church library that would make perfect bedtime stories. My children have always liked having me tell bible stories to them in bed, rather than always reading them. Sometimes they have chosen to tell me the stories. It is always interesting to hear how they change the bible stories to emphasize what catches their interest! Bedtime prayers are also a great thing to start.

Music is important for our family, so we often sing the camp songs in the car. Cameron cut his head and needed stitches a few weeks ago, and on the way to the hospital he asked me to sing to him to help him feel better. The songs he wanted were the songs about Jesus. As we drive from event to event in the summer, we too often see accidents. We always say a prayer aloud in the car for the accident victims and the people helping them. Last week, since he has such a passion for vehicles, Jared included a prayer for the cars involved in the accident.

There are United Methodist Churches in nearly every community in our country. Ask us in the church office if you would like to know where there is a church near your vacation destination. If your child is feeling disconnected from church, you could even consider inviting another church family to join you for a barbeque or an outing! Christian fellowship is important for children as well as adults. Join in community by bringing your whole family to the Big Band Summer Sizzler on July 21. On July 31, there is a United Methodist Metropolitan District event, Celebrating All God's Children, in Pioneer Courthouse Square from noon to 4:00 pm. There will be children's activities, music and booths.

United Methodists emphasize service. Our faith is evidenced in our works. There are opportunities for service in our communities. On Saturday, August 21, churches in the whole Metropolitan area are sponsoring a school care day. Our church will be caring for the grounds of West Sylvan Middle School. Our youth are doing mission projects in our community every week during the summer. They will be having car washes to raise money for next year's missions trip, visiting homebound members, cleaning and organizing the church, and preparing for rally day. Even if you don't have a youth, adults are needed to volunteer. The shovel and rake gang meet at the church every Thursday, including the summer, to care for the church grounds. You would be welcome to join them, and even your children could be put to work!

Relax and take care of yourselves this summer. Take care to continue growing in your faith, and to continue nurturing your children and grandchildren's faith. Faith-growth is an all-year activity!

Grace & Peace,
Brenda



twins! the curries

We celebrate with Chuck and Liz Smith-Currie on the birth of twin daughters Thursday in St. Louis, MO. Katherine Chalmers Currie was 5.1 pounds and Frances Bright Currie weighed in at 5.96 pounds. Chuck and Liz as well as the girls are doing well. Chuck was the former Outreach Director at First Church and is now attending Eden Theological Seminary.

missions Wilson-Fey



Rose City Park UMC will host a potluck for Dan & Kathy Wilson-Fey, General Board of Global Ministries Missionaries in Honduras. The Wilson-Feys are from the Oregon-Idaho Conference. The potluck will begin at 6:00 PM and the guest speakers at 6:45 PM. Rose City Park UMC is located at 5830 NE Alameda in Portland. For more information call their church office at 503/281-1229.

adult christian education

SUNDAYS, JULY 18 & 25

- 9:00 am *Changing Christianity*,
Fireside Room
Profiles of Jesus edited by
Roy Hoover
- 9:15 am *The Fellowship of Seekers*,
Room 134
*A Bible Study using the passages
of the preaching lectionary.*

THEOLOGY AT THE MOVIES

Theology at the Movies is back this summer! Each week, a different member of our congregation will present a short clip from the chosen film and lead a lively discussion on how it relates to our faith. Classes begin at 9:15 am in room 202.

July 18

Kent Mallory **X2: X-Men United**

July 25

Chuck Klang **The Truman Show**

August 1

Mary Coppett **Life as a House**

August 8

Beth Moore and Rebecca Kenney

Film to Be Announced

Groups fun & fellowship

On Saturday, July 24, FUMC Hikers will trek to the Opal Creek area (<http://www.opalcreek.org/>). Opal Creek is noted for its pools, waterfalls, and old growth tree groves. To reach Opal Pool, the terminus of the hike, it is 3.5 miles one way with a 200 foot elevation gain. We will carpool from the church at 8:00 am. Bring a sack lunch, water, good hiking shoes, and appropriate clothing. While the creek water is cold, many of the pools are big enough to soak. A parking fee is assessed. (We share transportation and trail fees.) For more information, call Chuck Klang at 503 452-7826.

umw united methodist women

A RETREAT FOR YOUNG WOMEN

Nurturing My Sisters and Myself:

An Event for Young Women

Facilitator: Rev. Bonnie Parr Philipson

Who: Young Women age 18 and up

When: August 13-15, 2004

Where: Collins Retreat Center, Eagle Creek, OR

Cost: \$100

Sponsored by OR-ID United Methodist Women

Questions? Call Trudy Kayser 503-292-7528

Two UMW scholarships are available.



senior adults at first church

CAPITOL TRIP

July 23: Salem Sights - All Around the Capitol

A special opportunity to visit our capitol city, with a tour of the Governor's mansion, Mahonia Hall. We'll also tour the Capitol Building and enjoy a complete luncheon meal at the Hometown Buffet. The cost of the tour is \$27.00 which includes motorcoach, tour, lunch, and driver gratuities. We will depart from the church parking lot at 8:45 AM and return at 4:00 PM.

ELECTIVES FOR ELDERS - SACRED SPACES / SACRED PLACES

Summer Electives for Elders Tours- "Sacred Spaces/Sacred Places":

July 20 - Neveh Shalom Synagogue

July 27 - Trinity Episcopal Cathedral

Each tour will begin at 10:30 am at the designated location. Carpooling from First UMC will be an option for each tour. Further details will be provided upon registration. For more information contact Cheryl Luce at 503/228-3194 ext. 227 or e-mail her at cluce@fumcpdx.org

SUMMER PICNIC

On Sunday, August 22, there will be a picnic at Ravi, Ursi & Keely Vedanayagam's house in the Columbia Gorge. Carpooling from church as soon as worship is over. Reservations are required. The cost will be \$3, plus a suggested \$5 contribution to your carpool driver for gas. To reserve a space call Cheryl Luce at 503/228-3194 ext. 227 or e-mail her at cluce@fumcpdx.org

CHRISTMAS IN SAN ANTONIO

In response to a suggestion on our recent survey, we are offering an escorted five-day excursion to San Antonio, Texas beginning December 7, 2004. Make your reservations soon in order to guarantee availability. For more information contact Cheryl Luce at 503/228-3195 ext 227 or email her at: cluce3133@aol.com.

RIVER CRUISE FROM AMSTERDAM TO BUDAPEST

Make plans now for the 2005 River Cruise from Amsterdam to Budapest. This tour will be relaxing, enriching and fun. Each day will bring new sights and experiences. Contact Cheryl Luce at 503/228-3195 ext 227 for costs and dates. Space is guaranteed with registrations submitted soon.

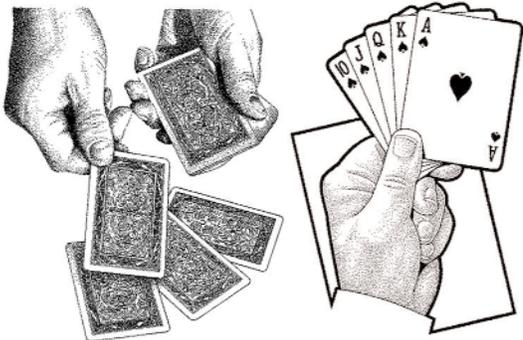
fellowship

umw bridge group

One does not need to be a member of UMW or, indeed, even a woman, to enjoy playing bridge with the UMW Women's Bridge Group. The group started more than 30 years ago as an interest group under the auspices of United Methodist Women of First United Methodist Church. Originally it was a ladies only activity. The group was later expanded to include men who, for the first few years, had to play in a separate room! However, the group has been co-ed for many years.

Women and men get together for the fun and fellowship of party or contract bridge (not duplicate!) in Room 202 every Tuesday (holidays excepted), beginning at 11:00 a.m. Play generally continues until 3:00 pm, with a break for a brown-bag lunch (coffee and tea provided).

The group plays for fun, expertise is not a requirement! Anyone who would like to join the group on a regular basis or would like to check it out and see what its all about is invited to show up any Tuesday morning. For further information, contact Al Leonard at 503-646-5727 or Joyce Hulse at 503-299-4810.



guitarzilla

a fundraiser for sister of the road

Do you play guitar? Are you looking for a chance to jam with other musicians as well as set a world record? The Second Annual GuitarZilla may be just for you! On Sunday, July 25, from 11:00 to 3:00 PM, in Pioneer Courthouse Square nearly a 1,000 guitar players will gather to play "This Land Is Your Land" in the key of D. This record-setting event is a fund raising event for Sisters of the Road Cafe. The registration fee is \$10.00 Sisters of the Road is a non-profit organization committed to helping the homeless and low-income families of Portland. For more information contact: Ciera at Ciera@sistersoftheroad.com or call her at, 503/222-5694.

who are we ?

Dr. Raymond E. Balcomb

I see by the sports page that the University of Portland has a new Athletic Director. That reminded me that the U of P began as a Methodist (rather than Roman Catholic) school, and this Church, as the leading Methodist congregation in town (and State) had a part in it. Its first President was a former pastor of this congregation, Dr. C.C. Stratton, and one of its first Trustees was J.K. Gill (the stationer whose firm went out of business only a few years ago), a member of Grace M.E., who worshiped at our former building at SW 12 and Taylor. In 1891 about 600 acres of land was bought for \$300,000. The school used only a small part of this acreage; most of it was subdivided into University Park. From the sale of this real estate the school was financed. This was not a wild-eyed, pie-in-the-sky dream. Many universities, including Stanford and Southern Methodist were financed in whole or in part this way. 19th century Oregon Methodists had already partially funded two prep schools (the Portland and Umqua academies) this way. The plan was to merge Willamette University and the University of Puget Sound (Tacoma) into this new school. Within two years it had 541 students and its first building (still in use) had been built. But the financial "panic" (as recessions used to be called) of 1893, which was a depression of almost unprecedented severity, hit it very hard. And a legal obstacle to Willamette's moving turned up (if it moved it would have to forfeit its charter and probably lose ownership of its site in Salem). The Methodists in Oregon could not support two such schools, so the merger went the other way: Portland U. was merged into Willamette. Its property and building were eventually bought by the Roman Catholics, who first named their school Columbia University, and (perhaps to avoid confusion with the school in New York City) later, the University of Portland.

Archives and History Committee

community care

a work day a west sylvan middle school

In an effort to show that area churches care about the community, First UMC is participating in "Community Care Day." We will be doing a grounds clean up day at West Sylvan Middle School, on Saturday, August 21, 2004 from 9:00 AM to noon.

Watch for more details in church publications or contact MyraJean Marshall at mmarshall@fumcpdx.org on how you can participate in this effort to show the community we care!



shovel & rake

the Peg Brockman Memorial Garden

The Peg Brockman Memorial Garden was "christened" July 1st when the Board of Trustees hosted an appreciation noon barbecue in the Garden for the Shovel and Rake Gang. Our church staff was invited to join us, making the event even more meaningful. The Gang really appreciates this vote of thanks for our work. Cal Brockman, who financed the Garden in memory of Peg and who, as an S&R member, worked on the Garden, expressed our appreciation to Kaylene Kirchem for her professional design work both in lay-out and landscaping, as well as to the Gang for it's creation of her work over the past year. (A last addition to the Garden is an archway and a trellis, a project on which Larry Sawyer is working, that will put final touches to the project overlooking the north bank and Max Station.)

Several of our Youth joined us July 8 for much-needed clean-up work in the ivy beds north and east of the Sanctuary. Thank you, First UMC Youth!

You would be surprised at each week's accumulation of litter on lawns and parking lots that must be cleared away each Thursday. You do not see the litter on Sunday because Robert Cannon, whom we salute this week, has assumed this responsibility for several years. Arriving around 6:30 am, even though our hours do not officially begin until 8:00 am, he makes the rounds, tongs and five-gallon bucket in hand, to accomplish this task before he begins mowing the lawns. At 9:00 am he interrupts his mowing to make coffee for our 10 o'clock break, then returns to mowing. After the break he helps with the clean-up work before finishing the mowing, plus taking on miscellaneous chores that are sure to turn up. In addition, Robert lends his expertise to maintaining our machinery in good working order. A long-time member of Shovel and Rake, Robert's constant dedication to these behind-the-scenes tasks is vital to the well-kept grounds you have come to expect when you come to church.

response to homelessness

seek justice, do kindness and walk humbly with God

FUMC has a long-standing commitment to the issue of homelessness. Ten years ago, with the guidance and assistance from the City of Portland and Multnomah County, First UMC began providing emergency shelter services to families without homes during the winter. The Goose Hollow Family Shelter has become a source of pride and an integral aspect of people acting out their faith. One of the mission goals of the Outreach Program is that: "The Goose Hollow Family Shelter will be operated year round with a permanent staff and case management." Right now the shelter and all homeless programs in the area face a turning point and a challenge. Government and Civil Sector are looking to new and dramatic changes in how homeless populations will be served. Each year in America 3.5 million people experience homelessness. However, the face of homelessness is changing. Portland's homelessness problem has been increasing steadily for many years. Government programs and resources are becoming increasingly scarce. Please join us as we explore the details of the crisis of homelessness and hear about possible solutions in our Forum @ First on July 18th, 2004 at noon in the Fireside Room. Our featured guest speaker will be Bob Durston, Chief of Staff for City Commissioner Erik Sten. There will also be presentations from Dignity Village and the Southeast Uplift Homelessness Working Group.

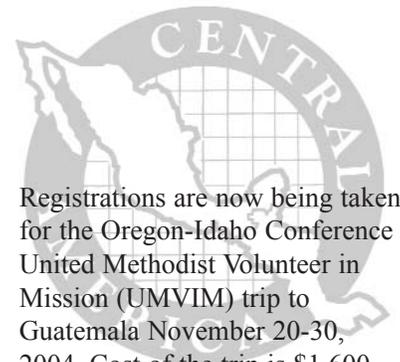
forum
@
first

home
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ness
in
Portland

Sunday,
July 18
at noon
in the
fireside
room

mission

guatemala



Registrations are now being taken for the Oregon-Idaho Conference United Methodist Volunteer in Mission (UMVIM) trip to Guatemala November 20-30, 2004. Cost of the trip is \$1,600, which includes air transportation from Portland to Guatemala City, and all meals, lodging and ground transportation throughout Guatemala.

The team will be led by veteran Guatemala guru, Larry Monk. The UMVIM team expect to be helping to build a dining room and kitchen. at The Campamiento Metodista, a campground in the Guatemalan highlands just north of Chichicastenango. No special skills are necessary to participate in this project.

While in Guatemala, the VIM team will also visit the Ruth and Naomi Weaving Cooperative, the Children's Home at San Sebastian de Lemoa, Los Romeritos day care center in Guatemala City and two Methodist-sponsored medical clinics.

In addition to the ten-day UMVIM trip, add-on possibilities include intensive Spanish at one of Latin Americas best Spanish schools for one or two weeks and/or three days at the classical Mayan ruins in Tikal.

Complete information on this opportunity are available on the Global Missions bulletin board in the narthex, or contact Larry Monk at lmonk33@msn.com (or call 503-657-5026). The registration deadline is Sept. 1, and the trip is half-full as of this writing

around the parish

prayer concerns and expressions of thanks

We offer prayers for

Jim Whitcomb, who is at Crestview;
Roy Rogers, who is home from the hospital;
Vicki Sloss, who is recovering from surgery;
Betty Hagar's sister who has had a series of strokes;
The family of Dr. Kenneth Burns who died July 12, 2004
The delegates to the Jurisdictional Conference in Los Altos, CA.

Continued prayers for:

Tom Iverson, Maxine Brown, Jan Marshall, and Agnes Clark.

Prayers of Thanksgiving for:

Jennifer (Meyer) and Josh Martin,
who were married on July 10 in Eugene;
Nicholas Ryan Hausman, born on June 11 to Craig & Jennie Hausman;
Keith Storie (son of Joyce Cramer) & *Barbara How*, who were married
in our sanctuary on July 9;
John & Ferrol McClure who will celebrate their
50th wedding anniversary on July 18.

Thanks

My heartfelt thanks to all who came to the reception in the Library on June 20th with such warm words of appreciation, cards and good wishes. I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with all the wonderful people who made our library so outstanding and proud to have had a part in its development. I was touched to the very core of my being by your generous comments and I'm grateful to each of you for your presence.

Marilyn Schuberg

Publication Deadlines

Articles for *The Circuit Rider* are due no later than 4:45pm on the Thursday before publication the following Wednesday. The next *Circuit Rider* will be published on July 28, 2004.

Bulletin insert information is due no later than 4:45pm on **Wednesday**.

Sunday service participant information for the Sunday bulletin is due no later than noon on **Wednesday**.

E-mail: office@fumcpdx.org or place in the *Circuit Rider* box in the office.