



# THE CIRCUIT RIDER

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

August 11, 2004  
Volume 8, Issue 16

*the* **E** *dition*

## THIS SUNDAY AUGUST 15, 2004

8:30 am  
Informal Communion  
in the Chapel

10:30 am  
Sermon  
*A Covenant of Grace:  
No. 9 - To Think In  
Our Believing and  
Believing in  
Our Thinking*  
Rev. Dr. Arvin Luchs

Children's Time  
Rev. Brenda Sene

*sign-ups for  
photo appointments  
to begin  
this Sunday!*



Plan now to be included in the new congregational photo directory.

Appointments for photos will be made **now** for sittings with Olan Mills at our church on Monday through Saturday during the weeks of September 13 and September 27. Look for sign-up tables on Sunday before and after the worship service in the narthex and at coffee hour.

Photos may include you, your household and even your extended family.

All it takes is about an hour of your time. You will receive one 8 x 10 portrait at no cost and a copy of the directory when it is published. Additional photos may be purchased at the time of your appointment if you wish.

Our goal is to have a photo of everyone who is associated with First Church in the directory because it is a great way to enhance our sense of community. It helps us recognize and communicate better with one another.

Edie Jensen, our Directory Coordinator, can be reached at 503/624.0229 if you have questions.



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.



## AUGUST 21, 2004

Community  
**CARE  
DAY**

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.

First UMC volunteers will meet at 9:00 AM at West Sylvan Middle School, 8111 SW Slope Dr, Portland. A free lunch will be delivered at noon. If you register by August 4, 2004, you will receive a free T-shirt.

### ITEMS TO BRING (if you can)

- Gloves
- Pruning Shears
- Rakes, Shovels & Trowels
- Clippers & Edgers
- Weed Trimmers
- Blowers
- Wheelbarrows
- Hat & Sunscreen



# memo

Rev. Dr. Arvin R. Luchs

One of my favorite Garrison Keillor tales involves a gaggle of Lutheran pastors who descend on Wobegon as part of a rural ministries seminar. At the last minute, to entertain them, Pastor Ingqvist finagled a barbeque and cruise aboard Wally's

new pontoon boat. Alas, twenty-five plump Lutheran pastors on a twenty-six foot boat is just a few more than the craft can handle. The boat lurches and tips, the grill spews hot coals across the deck, and the entire party ends up neck deep in the waters of Lake Wobegon. Twenty-five soggy preachers, feet in the muddy bottom of the lake, able to breathe only by tilting their heads back, frozen with uncertainty about which way is the safety of the beach and which leads to deeper water.

Mayor Bunson's twelve-year-old nephew, Brian, standing on the shore senses their plight and calls to them. The clerics—unable to see anything but sky—follow his voice and discover he has waded out to lead them to land.\*

It's a great parable of the church. Sometimes we can be so caught up looking into the sky that we aren't sure where to go on earth. We need the voice of our youth to show the way. That is certainly true at First Church this summer.

While we have been cruising, barbecuing, and relaxing—they've been doing service projects. Each week, the teens have gathered at the church and, under Youth Director, Myra Jean Marshall's guidance, given time and energy to help others. They've tended to the summer cleaning and maintenance in the Goose Hollow Family Shelter. They've donned gloves and worked alongside the Shovel and Rake Gang to landscape the church grounds. Teams of youth have made home visits to some of our members. When the city closed parking around the church for a day of street maintenance, the kids invited our neighbors to park in our lots—and offered a car wash to boot! Another week, the group spruced up church classrooms in preparation for September's Rally Day.

Now they're calling for the rest of us to join them. On September 21st congregations and civic groups around the city are participating in "Community Care Day"—an effort to prepare budget-strapped public schools for fall classes. We've been assigned the grounds at West Sylvan Middle School. The youth are wading in to the task from 9:00 am to noon that day. They'd like your help! You can find more details on the front page of this *Circuit Rider* or by calling Myra Jean Marshall at the church.

They know the way! Will you let them lead you?

See you in church!

## Arvin

\* Keillor, Garrison, "Pontoon Boat" from *Leaving Home: A Collection of Lake Wobegon Stories*, Penguin Books, New York, 1989, pps. 111-117



# FALL FROLIC

## SEPT. 24-26

# Traditions

The Fall Frolic All-Church Retreat is a time of fellowship, renewal, worship and music in the beautiful setting of Suttle Lake, near Sisters, Oregon. All ages are invited to this fun weekend. It is an opportunity to build new friendships and renew old ones. The United Methodist Youth will have a concurrent retreat with their own cabins and activities and share some leadership with the whole group.

Highlights will include the Fall Frolic Band (all instrumentalists invited!), hiking opportunities, crafts, worship by the lake, games, story telling at the campfire and much more. And someone else does the cooking!

### COST

Adults		\$68.00
Youth	(ages 13-17)	\$56.00
Children	(ages 6-12)	\$49.00
Children	(ages 2-5)	\$34.00
Children	(under age 2)	Free

The fee is the direct cost for the camp and covers: two nights lodging, five meals, insurance, and program expenses. Some scholarship support will be available.

For more information contact Cheryl Luce at 503/228-3195 ext 227 or email her at [cluce3133@aol.com](mailto:cluce3133@aol.com).

You can pick up a registration form in the church office or download one from the church website: [www.fumcpdx.org](http://www.fumcpdx.org)

# adult

christian education

**SUNDAYS, AUGUST 15 & 22**

9:00 am *Changing Christianity,*  
Fireside Room

## Special Presentation on SUNDAY, AUGUST 22

### CLEMENT OF ALEXANDRIA

On Sunday, August 22 at 9:00 AM in the Fireside Room, Mike Taylor will present "Clement of Alexandria." Titus Flavius Clements was born about 150 AD. He became a Christian and, in modern terms, the director of religious education for the church in Alexandria, Egypt. His *Exhortation to the Greeks* is an appeal to abandon old customs and embrace Christianity. Along the way he offers insights into the origins and development of pagan beliefs, provides fascinating details about ancient "mystery" cults, reveals a surprisingly modern and enlightened view of Greek philosophy and non-Christian wisdom in general, and delivers spirit-filled sermons that might have rocked a 19th-century Methodist revival tent.

9:15 am *The Fellowship of Seekers,*  
Room 134  
*A Bible Study using the passages  
of the preaching lectionary.*

# a dedication

holocaust memorial

## OREGON HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DEDICATION

You are invited to the Oregon Holocaust Memorial Dedication on Sunday, August 29 at 2:00 PM in Washington Park. Shuttles to the site of the memorial will be available from First UMC beginning at noon. The memorial is located at SW Wright Ave and Rose Garden Blvd.



# umw

united methodist women

## UMW EXECUTIVE BOARD

The UMW Executive Board will meet Wednesday, August 25 at 10:00 AM in the Parlor.

## CELEBRATING 135 YEARS OF MISSION

The United Methodist Women are CELEBRATING 135 years of ministries with women, children and youth. The Methodist Episcopal women's first mission response 135 years ago was to provide education and health care for women and children in India, and thus was born the Women's Foreign Missionary Society. They faced adversity in the early years. They were locked out of a Boston church when they tried to organize. The executives of the Methodist Episcopal Church Missionary Society proposed the women raise the money and the men administer it. Although most of the women in the various mission societies didn't handle the purse strings, they saved their pennies, setting membership fees like two cents a week or \$1 a year so membership would be within the means of every woman. Women whose expected role was to perform household tasks found they could also organize at a time when women didn't do that kind of thing.

The history of UMW is both AMAZING and AMUSING. Our local unit will have the privilege of launching our year of celebration with a program about the history and future of UMW that will be presented by Kitty Riddle on **September 8th** (the Wednesday after Labor Day) at 11:00 AM in the Fireside Rm. All women of the church are invited to attend this program. The program will be preceded by a business meeting at 10:00 a.m. and followed by a luncheon for all in attendance.

# fellowship

first church hikers

**FUMC HIKERS** next hike will be on Saturday, August 28th. We will meet in the church parking lot at 8:00 AM. The Elk Cove hike on the north slope of Mt. Hood in the Cloud Cap area is 3.8 miles round-trip with an 800 foot elevation gain, along a portion of the Timberline Trail. There should be lots of wildflowers and possibly huckleberries. Anyone who enjoys hiking is welcome to join us. Hikers should bring a lunch, snacks and plenty of water and wear comfortable hiking boots. The cost will be about \$7-10 for the carpool, Northwest Forest Pass and an optional snack stop on the way home. We should be back at the church between 4-5PM. Please e-mail Paula Justice at [jpaula354@aol.com](mailto:jpaula354@aol.com) or call her at (503) 524-3737 if you would like to participate or if you have any questions.



**RESERVE THE DATE**

OCTOBER 10, 2004

*Consecration and  
Our Celebration  
Luncheon*

Mark your calendar  
and plan to attend.

# church library

books in review

# music ministry

getting ready for the year



## BOOKS FOR YOUTH

*Jason's Gold*, by Will Hobbs

For readers who love a survival story with bone-chilling authenticity. This is a saga of courage, friendship, and endurance set under the Northern lights amid the actual events of the Klondike Gold Rush.

*Holes*, by Louis Sachar

A rugged, engrossing adventure that is wildly inventive. It is a jig-saw puzzle of a novel. You've seen the movie, now read the book!

## NEW ADULT NON-FICTION

*The Historical Jesus: The Life of a Mediterranean*

*Jewish Peasant*, by John Dominic Crossan

A comprehensive look at determining who Jesus was, what he did and what he said.

*Life of the Beloved: Spiritual Living In a Secular*

*World*, by Henri Nouwen

This is a ringing affirmation that everyone is loved by God and can enjoy the "life of the beloved." It reveals the wonders of the spiritual journey and renews the fire of faith.

*The Culture of Disbelief: How American Law and*

*Politics Trivializes Religion and Devotion*,

by Stephen L. Carter.

Even though August still brings summer time and vacations, we realize that it is time to make plans for fall music at First UMC.

## CHOIR RETREAT

The Chancel Choir will begin with their Annual Retreat on Friday evening, September 10th at the church, continuing on Saturday morning at Jesuit High School in the choir room. If you are interested in joining a dedicated, friendly group who enjoy singing a variety of good music the Chancel Choir is for you! If you have questions please contact First UMC's music office by calling the church and asking for Kelly, Jonas or Bruce. We are happy to return your calls and will politely twist your arm to join. This upcoming season promises to be enjoyable with a few musical challenges and a lot of fun.

## CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

September 12, the children's choirs will be participating in the Rally Day Open House beginning at 9:15 AM. This will be a chance for parents and children to meet and talk with the conductors of the Cherub Choir which is for pre school through grade 2; Sound Seekers which is for grades 3 – 6; and Veritas which is for grades 7 and up. Regular rehearsals will begin on September 19 for all three choirs.

## BELL CHOIRS

The Sanctuary Bells begin their season on Thursday, September 9 at 6:00 PM. Our youth bell choirs, The Genesis Ringers and JuBELLation, begin rehearsals on Wednesday, September 15 at 6:30 PM and 7:30 PM, respectively. For more information, contact Nancy Hascall or Karin McDonough.

## INSTRUMENTAL GROUP

Rehearsals for our newest instrumental group, the First Church Chamber Ensemble, will be announced later.

We are looking to a dynamic year! There really is music in some form for everyone at First UMC.

# SYMPOSIUM

## SYMPOSIUM ON THE CLASH OF VALUES IN AMERICAN CULTURE

The seventeenth annual Willamette-at-Collins workshop for clergy and laity is scheduled for August 15-17, 2004 at the Alton L. Collins Retreat Center in Eagle Creek, OR. This year's theme is the conflict over beliefs and values that divides Americans and fuels the sharp controversies surrounding a variety of ethical and social issues. Featured presenter at the workshop is Dr. Michael LaChat (Ph.D., Harvard, 1980), Professor of Christian Ethics at the Methodist Theological School in Ohio. Dr. LaChat will explore the debate about animal rights, focusing on whether fish feel pain. He will also discuss the Salmon Culture movement and the controversy over returning salmon waterways to their pristine state. Dr. Suzanne J. Crawford (Ph.D., UC Santa Barbara, 2002) will discuss the conflict between Native American and Christian notions of the self and how these impact views of the body and health. Dr. Crawford is a graduate of Willamette University and is now an Assistant Professor of Religion and Culture at Pacific Lutheran University in Tacoma. Dr. Lane C. McGaughey (Ph.D., Vanderbilt, 1970), Professor of Religion at Willamette University, will discuss the impact of the clash of values on American churches and explore the values of Jesus as expressed in the Sermon on the Mount. The Willamette-at-Collins workshop is co-sponsored by the Geo. H. Atkinson Chair of Religion and Ethics at Willamette University in Salem and the Alton L. Collins Retreat Center. For more information and registration details, call 503-637-6411.

## theater parties

three special theater going opportunities

Join your First Church friends and neighbors in some of the fine theater experiences available in Portland. Group rates provide an opportunity for savings on ticket prices, and we try to reserve the best seats available. Good fellowship makes a great theater event even more memorable! Tickets are assigned on a first-come basis, as long as available. Reservations are made through Cheryl Luce. Please submit the full price of the tickets with requests, and checks should be written to First United Methodist.



### **OLIVER!**

**Sunday, September 26, 2004 6:30 PM, Keller Auditorium.**

Dickens' greatest characters—Oliver, Fagin, Nancy, Bill Sykes—spring to life once again in this celebrated musical. OLIVER'S magical spell has everyone "asking for more!" The show's unforgettable songs include: *Food, Glorious Food, Consider Yourself, Where is Love?, You've Got to Pick a Pocket or Two, I'd Do Anything*, and many more. Seating: Orchestra D, Row S, Ticket Cost: \$54.45, or 1st Balcony D, Row D & C: \$43.65.

### **LITTLE SHOP OF HORRORS,**

**Sunday, October 24, 2004, 6:30 PM, Keller Auditorium**

Little Shop is the musical comedy masterpiece about a loser, the girl he loves, and the man-eating plant that is about to change their lives forever. Laughter, romance and horticulture combine in a spectacular new production that Time Out New York calls it "a mean, green laugh machine!" Entertainment Weekly reviews it as "enormously entertaining." Don't miss the fun! Check their website at [www.littleshopofhorror.com](http://www.littleshopofhorror.com). Seating: Orchestra D, Row S & U, Cost: \$55.35 First Balcony D, Row D & E, Cost: \$50.85.

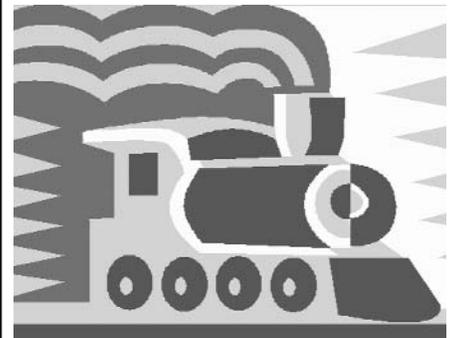
### **THE GRADUATE, Sunday, January 2, 2005, 6:30 PM, Keller Auditorium**

A cult novel, a landmark Hollywood film, a theatrical sensation, and Broadway's smash-hit comedy; this hilarious coming-of-age story about Benjamin Braddock, an innocent college grad who is seduced by Mrs. Robinson, has been called a "sensational triumph, rich, full and funny!" Visit the website at [http://www.thegraduate.info/index3\\_us.html](http://www.thegraduate.info/index3_us.html)  
Seating: Orchestra D, Row S & U: Cost: \$48.15. First Balcony D, Row D & E: Cost: \$43.65

## travel

a train trip

# LEWIS & CLARK EXPLORER TRAIN



On Monday, September 13, 2004 take the Lewis & Clark Explorer Train to Astoria! Join your First Church friends on this excursion filled with history and beauty, during the Bicentennial of the Lewis and Clark exploration. The train service, which last ran between the two cities in 1952, is making the journey again for the commemoration. Meet at Portland Union Station at 7:05 AM for a shuttle bus to Linnton, where we board the train. The shuttle will return you to Union Station at about 9:10 PM. The cost is \$46.00 per person (group rate) and includes: Round trip transportation from Portland Union Station to Linnton, Explorer Train from Linnton to Astoria. Full payment required with reservation, and **DUE BY AUGUST 15**. After 8/15, only as space is available.

### **SPECIAL CHURCH CONFERENCE**

A special Church Conference will be held Sunday, August 15, immediately following worship. We will meet in the chapel. The purpose of this Church Conference is considering the Lay Speaker Certification for Julia Kayser. Everyone is welcome.

# around the parish

prayer concerns and expressions of thanks



We offer prayers for

*Iola Halligan*, recovering from a car accident;  
*Alice Newgard White*, who faces continuing health concerns;  
*The friends and family of Frances Maeda* upon her death;  
*Maxine Brown*, scheduled for surgery on August 17:

Continued prayers for:

*Jerry Lindgren, Jan Marshall, Roy Rogers, Jim Whitcomb, and Agnes Clark.*

Prayers of thanksgiving for:

*Debbie Morse* upon the birth of a new granddaughter,  
*Rebecca Elizabeth Gillian.*

**A SPECIAL  
THANK YOU  
TO THE  
CONGREGATION:**

*"Thank you all for  
your kind thoughts  
and prayers."*

- Betty Hager



*A little boy opened the big family bible. He was fascinated as he fingered through the old pages. Suddenly, something fell out of the Bible. He picked up the object and looked at it. What he saw was an old leaf that had been pressed in between the pages. "Mama, look what I found," the boy called out. "What have you got there, dear?" With astonishment in the young boy's voice, he answered, "I think it's Adam's underwear!"*



## **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 August 25, 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](mailto:office@fumcpdx.org) or place in the *Circuit Rider* box in the office.