



THE CIRCUIT RIDER

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

the **E**dition

November 3, 2004
Volume 8, Issue 22

**THIS
SUNDAY**
NOVEMBER 7, 2004

8:30 am
Informal
Communion
in the Chapel

10:30 am
Communion
Meditation
Rev. Dr. Arvin Luchs

Children's Time
Rev. Brenda Sene

Special Musical Guests
*The Willamette
University
Chamber Choir*



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.

GOOSE HOLLOW

FAMILY
SHELTER

*the
winter
shelter
season
begins*



Goose Hollow Family Shelter will be opening for the 2004-2005 Winter Season. We are excited about the growth and changes that continue to happen with our sheltering ministry. We welcome new Shelter Managers this season: Julie Crosse and Julian Johnson. We want to thank the administrative staff of First Church for assisting us in preparation for opening this season. And a special thanks to Bruce Hendrickson and Elwyn Kenney for helping us create an administrative area for the Shelter Managers and updating the shelter bathroom facilities.

You can play an important part in helping homeless families this winter by volunteering. I encourage you to visit the First Church website at www.fumcpdx.org and learn more about Goose Hollow Family Shelter and consider how you might serve as a volunteer in this important ministry. As always, if you have any questions or concerns about the shelter, you can contact me personally at 503/228-3195 ext. 215 or e-mail me at rwilliams@fumcpdx.org.

Ron Williams, Director of Outreach

**NEW WAY
for a
NEW DAY**



FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
**ANNUAL CHURCH
CONFERENCE**

Sunday, November 7, 2004
2:00 PM

Lake Oswego UMC
1855 South Shore Blvd, Lake Oswego

SEE INSIDE
for a map to Lake Oswego UMC
and more about this important event.



memo

Rev. Dr. Arvin R. Luchs

The Apostle Paul said it was like a race-our life in faith. The course is set between the waters of our baptism and the moment of victory-when God transforms us through death to life eternal.

(cf 1 Corinthians 9:4, 15:51)

Rev. Sene poignantly and skillfully put at counterpoint those two marks in our All Saints worship service last Sunday. Through song, prayer, and the tolling of the bell, we remembered and named those who had faithfully run the race-and now rest in God. It is a somber and profound moment when we remember their lives and affirm our confidence in God's triumph over death.

No sooner had we offered our tribute than we welcomed new runners to the course-some who have come from other communities to run with us-one who confessed his faith and was baptized.

While the apostle identifies the start and the finish of the race-he is really concerned with how we run in between. Our newest members turned to face us and we offered to support each other and to "perfect one another in love." And we once again offered, "our prayers, our presence, our gifts and our service."

How is the race going for you? The next few weeks-through Advent-are a good time to take stock and, as you need, make mid-course corrections.

PRAYERS:

Are you nurturing your spiritual life? Later this month we'll invite every one-and every family to "Prepare Your Hearts for the Lord" and commit to intentional prayer and reading the Bible during Advent (Nov 28 through Christmas Eve.) We will have prayer and study materials to support your decision.

PRESENCE:

Regular worship is vital to replenish our spiritual batteries. Beyond that, Christ's spirit is shared as we are "present" with one another-to listen, to pray and to share. Set aside some time each week for your spouse and your children. Make an effort to visit someone who needs a friend.

GIFTS:

Your offerings make possible works of mercy and compassion not only in Portland-but, literally, around the world. Even more than what your gifts do for the church, your giving can enrich your spirit. Are you giving faithfully-it's a spiritual matter!

SERVICE:

Christ set the path as he demonstrated that love for God is expressed in our compassion for others. Are you offering your energy to support others? One way might be to volunteer at the Goose Hollow Family Shelter. It opens this week. Help is needed.

The Greeks had a race in the early Olympic games that was unique. The winner was not the runner who finished first. It was the runner who finished with his torch still lit. (Stowell, J. Fan The Flame Moody Press, Chicago 1986 p. 32) As you run the race of faith-are you tending to the torch of your spirit?

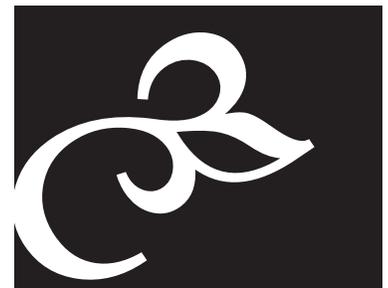
See you in Church.

Arvin



We remember those of our church family who have gone from us in death but not in spirit ...

- The Rev. Harry Baker
- Paul Bender
- Dr. Kenneth Burns
- Celia Butler
- Lillian Crofford
- Francena Gestring
- Paul Hedman
- George Hohnstein
- Frances Maeda
- Jan Marshall
- John Morford
- Ruth Morris
- Roy Rogers
- John Rollin
- Myrtle Smith
- Mildred Nye Thompson
- Henry Townend
- Johanna (Becky) Zeller



CONGRATULATIONS

We want to offer a special word of congratulations to:

Maribeth Collins

who received the *Lifetime Conservation Achievement Award* from The Nature Conservancy in ceremonies on October 27.

Steve Seymour

who was invested as Municipal Judge of the City of Mosier on October 27.

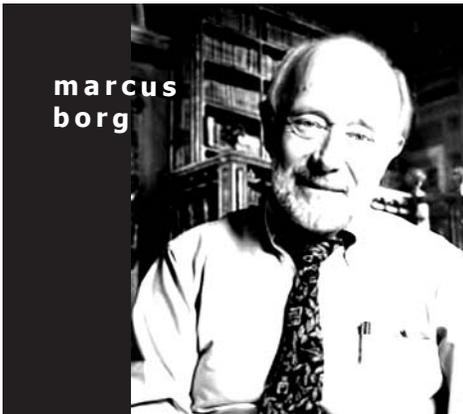
adults sunday classes

THE FELLOWSHIP OF SEEKERS

Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 AM in Room 134. Do you enjoy discussing faith relevant literature as a means of continuing your spiritual development? Come to this class for lively discussion as well as fellowship and sharing our experiences in the Holy Spirit. We have just begun a study of the book: *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith* by Marcus Borg. Books are available during class time. Drop in the class any time. Everyone is welcome.

CHANGING CHRISTIANITY

Sunday mornings 9:00-10:15 AM in the Fireside Room. Discussion centers on living a Christian life in a world of change. We have just begun a study of the book: *The Heart of Christianity: Rediscovering a Life of Faith* by Marcus Borg.



umw

united methodist women

*Co-presidents: Trudy Kayser 503-292-7528 and Virginia Bender 503-657-1181.
All women are welcome to attend the following UMW activities*

WORLD COMMUNITY DAY

World Community Day is Friday, November 5, there will be a celebration at 10:00 AM at First AME Zion Church, 4304 North Vancouver, Portland, OR. This year's theme is: "In Faith, Women Shape the Future for Peace." Registration and coffee will begin at 9:00 AM. For further information contact Betty-Lou at 503/292-1773.

WOMEN'S OPEN AGENDA

Wednesday, November 10 in the Fireside Room, 6:30 PM Social Hour, 7:00 PM Meeting, 8:00 PM Open Agenda. Marilyn Outslay will share her experiences as a U.S. lay delegate to the British Methodist Conference in England. For more information contact Ruth Green at 503/698-8420.

FAITH GUILD

Wednesday, November 17, 10:00 AM in the Parlor. Hostess: June Kinney Devotions: Nan Schuler Program: Hymns of Faith by Kitty Riddle. Information: Hazel Wells, 503-652-6274

RUTH GUILD AND CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Wednesday, November 17, 11:30 AM in Room 204 Ruth Guild and Circle of Friends will meet together. Please note the earlier time. Program: Education Recollections: Past & Personal. Bring a school photo. Dessert & beverage provided. Bring a sandwich. For information contact: Betty-Lou Hare. 503/292-1773.

THE READING GROUP

Thursday, November 18, 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. Library The Reading Group meets the 3rd Thursday of the month Program: *Once to Every Man, a Memoir* by William Sloane Coffin. Leader; Marilyn Weber Information: Sue Fisher, 503-203-1445

NO UMW EXECUTIVE BOARD IN NOVEMBER

groups & committees please take note

JUST FRIENDS

Just Friends is resuming potluck dinners with a gathering Saturday, November 13, at the home of Paul Adams, 931 SW Gaines St, Portland. We will be gathering at 6:00 PM for fellowship, immediately followed by dinner. Bring a salad, side dish or dessert; a meat dish, beverages and table service will be provided. Questions or directions: Call Paul at 503/790-0606 or via email adams@cliffdweller.com.

THE PARKER GROUP

The Parker Group will meet in Room 202 at 12:30 PM, Saturday, November 6, for a potluck dinner and program. Our speaker, T. J. Browning, will advise us on how to be "Smart and Safe Seniors." For more than five years she has worked with groups helping seniors and others avoid being victims of scam games. Guest are welcome. Please contact Evelyn Casey at 503/775-9356 to RSVP.

COLUMBIA SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA CONCERT

Portland's Columbia Symphony Orchestra presents Intense *Lyricism* at 8:00 PM on Friday, November 19, 2004 at the First United Methodist Church. Under the direction of Huw Edwards, the program features Salem native Caitlin Lynch, viola, in a concerto by William Walton. A pre-concert talk begins at 7:15 PM. Tickets are available at the door or 503-234-4077.

global outreach

mission trip to Guatemala

VOLUNTEERS IN MISSION

First UMC members Marge and Leif Terdal will join the Oregon-Idaho Conference Volunteer in Mission (VIM) trip to Guatemala from November 20 to December 3. Marge is making her first trip to Guatemala; Leif has been there before.

The VIM team, consisting of 15 volunteers, will be based in Chichicastenango for most of their stay. They expect to be working on building doors and doing some plaster work in the new dining hall of Campamiento Metodista, a campground owned and operated by Iglesia Metodista Evangelica Primitiva Nacional de Guatemala (the Guatemalan Methodist Church). While in Guatemala, the VIM team will also visit the Ruth and Naomi weaving cooperative, the Childrens Home at San Sebastian de Lemoa, Los Romeritos day care center and two Methodist-sponsored medical clinics.

YOU CAN HELP

To aid in the VIM endeavor, the items to the right are the donations being sought. Through Sunday, November 14, a collection box will be placed in the Narthex for donations.

A SEND OFF POTLUCK

A send-off potluck is planned for after church on November 14. Anyone who has questions or who would like additional information about this Guatemala VIM trip can contact the Terdals at 503/244-5714 or email terdalm@pdx.edu.

CLOTHING FOR CHILDREN BIRTH TO AGE 16

- Sweaters
- T-shirts
- Pants
- Shoes

SCHOOL SUPPLIES

- Pencils
- Sharpeners
- Rulers
- Safety Scissors
- Folders
- Small Staplers
- Dry Erase Markers
- Permanent Markers

PERSONAL CARE ITEMS

- Shampoo
- Toothpaste
- Soap
- Toothbrushes
- Towels
- New Socks
- Underwear for Boys and Girls

MEDICAL SUPPLIES

- Children's Chewable Vitamins
- Tylenol for Children
- Cough Medicine for Children
- Tums, Pepto Bismal Tablets
- Advil or Ibuprofen
- Diaper Rash Medication
- Desitin, multiple daily vitamins
- Calcium Tablets

our giving

an update

AS OF OCTOBER 31, 2004

YEAR-TO-DATE-GIVING

\$614,945

YEAR-TO-DATE PLEDGED
(prorated estimate)

\$683,333

SHORTFALL

-\$68,388

The Finance Committee is concerned about the shortfall in income. They have stopped expenditures for some of our local programs and outreach awaiting reports in mid-November. Our financial secretary indicates a number of members have fallen behind their estimates of giving. Is your giving up to date? Do you need to adjust your estimate of giving? If so, contact Debbie Morse in the church office at 503/228-3195 ext. 222. Your help is needed.

seniors' trip

native american center

First UMC Senior Adults will have an opportunity to tour the Portland State University Native American Center on Tuesday, November 16, 2004. We will meet at the church at 9:45 AM and return at around 2:30 PM. The PSU Native American Student and Community Center is a learning center that provides an opportunity to unite all communities; it is a place for remembering, affirming, and empowering all people. The center is a symbol of health, goodwill, and community pride. We will have a presentation on Native American culture. We will enjoy lunch at the Georgian Room at Meir and Frank. Following lunch we will go to OMSI for the new OMNIMAX film, *Forces of Nature*. The film will showcase the awesome spectacle of earthquakes, volcanoes, and severe storms as we follow scientists on their quests to understand how these events are triggered. The cost is \$23, which includes transportation, lunch, tour and OMNIMAX. A \$10 deposit will hold your space.

CONSECRATION SUNDAY UPDATE

As we approach a time when we MUST begin to prepare our church budget we want you to be aware of the results thus far:

TOTAL	
Estimates of Giving received to date	322
TOTAL	
Estimates of Giving outstanding	70
TOTAL	
Estimate of Giving to date	\$724,312



shovel & rake fall report

Our fall season means leaves to rake and dispose of on a weekly basis, lawns to fertilize for winter, and summer annuals to be removed and eventually replaced with winter pansies. We continue to clean gutters and parking lots and to prepare and maintain shrubbery beds over in Collins Circle.

Our weekly attendance averaged about 19 through July, August and September. With so many projects ongoing we would like to add new members. We were pleased to welcome Bob Weber to our group recently and would be glad to welcome others. Join us each Thursday morning from 8:00 AM to noon (don't forget our coffee and cake time at 10:00). You will find a warm welcome.

This month we salute Bill MacDonald, whose specialty is window washing. Bill is a long time volunteer with Shovel & Rake who is regular in attendance and always ready to do whatever is most pressing. Have you ever counted the windows in our very large building? It's easy to see what a time-consuming job this is, both inside and outside. Unless Bill is volunteering for Northwest Ministries driving patients to doctors' appointments on a Thursday, he can be found working with Shovel and Rake. His always helpful, friendly manner makes him a valuable member who is appreciated so much.

memorial scholarships apply now

Do you know someone preparing for a career in Christian service (not for general college education) in higher education or continuing education? Are you a member of First UMC or a staff member planning to attend a training program that will enable you to extend the ministry of the church?

The Memorial Scholarship Fund has a few hundred dollars still available in this year's budget to support those who are seeking this kind of training. Call or email Marge Terdal, 503-244-5714 or terdalm@pdx.edu for more details and an application form.



COMING
NOV. 21
2004

who are we ? Dr. Raymond E. Balcomb

We have not only the oldest bell in the City of Portland (displayed in the narthex and rung at the start of regular services), but what is probably the oldest church bell from the east side of the river as well. It hangs visibly in the church tower and is considerably larger than the older bell. We came by it this way. In 1864 a new community was springing up on the east side of the Willamette River, calling itself East Portland. A semi-retired but officially appointed Methodist Episcopal preacher held a prayer meeting on October 20 and a Sunday service (in a home) on the 25th. By the 30th a Class (the standard way in the 19th century of starting a new M.E. Church) had been formed. By December a Sunday School was in operation, and not much later a Class from Milwaukie was merged with it. When it outgrew meeting in homes, it used the east side public school building. In 1866 it began construction of a building. That was the year American Methodism was celebrating the centennial of its unofficial beginnings in the Colonies (when an immigrant Methodist Local Preacher took it upon himself to start preaching, although never so authorized by John Wesley in far-away England). So this church (and a lot of others in the U.S.) took the name "Centenary." In 1890 it built itself a handsome and spacious stone building with an imposing tower at the corner where SE Pine and Ninth and Sandy Blvd now meet. And in their tower they hung a new bell. A generation later the split at First Church (over the move to the SW 12th and Taylor location) had spun off the Wilbur M.E. Church which met in a downtown hotel, and a resourceful District Superintendent engineered its merger with the Centenary congregation and for a generation or so the Centenary-Wilbur congregation rivaled our own for size and prestige. But its neighborhood changed from residential to commercial and light industrial and the congregation dwindled. The infamous Columbus Day storm of 1862 so damaged its 72 year old tower that it had to be torn down, and the D.S. arranged for the bell to be given to us. After a few years, a family paid as a memorial the cost of its hanging in our then-new tower. In 1988, as the D.S., I helped Centenary-Wilbur merge into another east side congregation, Sunnyside UMC, thus forming what is now the Sunnyside-Centenary UMC. I guess that is what Paul Harvey would call "the rest of the story," about our second historic bell.

Archives and History Committee

around the parish

prayer concerns and expressions of thanks

We offer prayers for ...

Dorothy Fortune, who is now in hospice care;
Gale Morris and Family, on the death of *Ruth Morris*;
Eleanor Stubbs, who is recovering from broken ribs and pneumonia;
The family of Jan Marshall, who died on November 2, 2004;
Tom Iverson, who continues to struggle with health issues.

We continue prayers for ...

Galen MacDonald (the grandson of *Bill & Thelma MacDonald*), *Jane Rhodes*, *Agnes Clark*, *Leah Sawyer*, and *Estella Earls*.

A WORD OF APPRECIATION ...

“Dear Friends, Thank you so much for your prayers, cards and visits! They have meant a lot to me” - Dorothy Fortune

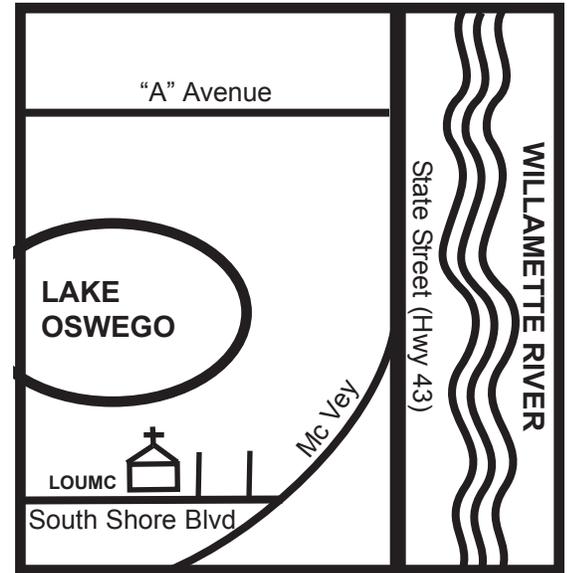
FIRST UMC CHURCH CONFERENCE

The annual Church Conference will be next Sunday, November 7, 2004 at Lake Oswego's building (1855 So. Shore Blvd in Lake Oswego--see the map inset at the right) at 2:00 PM. After a time of worship together, we'll separate into congregational meetings to receive and approve the reports from the individual charges, then return to a common session to vision our ministries together. We expect to conclude by 3:30 PM.

conference

new way for a new day

Below is a map to assist you in attending our annual Church Conference on Sunday, November 7 at 2:00 PM.



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 November 17, 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.