



# THE CIRCUIT RIDER

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

*the* **E** *edition*

July 13, 2005  
Volume 9, Issue 14

## THIS SUNDAY

JULY 17, 2005

WORSHIP  
10:30 AM

*Sermon*  
Rev. Dr. Arvin Luchs

*Children's Time,*  
Agnes Zach



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.

Portland's First United Methodist Church

## ALL-CHURCH

# PICNIC

# July 17

## OAKS PARK

Everyone is invited to this great summertime event! Come to the Courtyard Picnic area of Oaks Park from 1:00 to 5:00 PM on Sunday, July 17, 2005. We will have fried or BBQ chicken provided and ask you to bring a side dish to share. Tableware will be provided. Ride Bracelets for park attractions will be available at \$8.75 each, scholarships will be available. Sno-cones will be served as well. Musicians are invited to bring your acoustical instruments for a jam session. We hope to see you there!



# memo

Rev. Dr. Arvin R. Luchs

The heart of a congregation is revealed in the way it expresses God’s compassion and comfort through pastoral care. I am grateful that the Rev. Tom Foster has agreed to staff that dimension of our congregation. The other day I asked him to describe his new ministry:

*I am pleased to be serving as your Minister of Pastoral Care and thank you for your confidence. While all of the ministers are available and will share in pastoral care, I am the person who has primary responsibilities.*

*My duties include hospital and home visits upon the sick, identifying our homebound members, so that they will receive regular pastoral and lay contact. I am available to provide a listening ear and counsel for those in crisis or experiencing sorrow or stress in their lives.*

*During worship services I’ll lead our intercessory pastoral prayers and include a list of prayer concerns in each Circuit Rider. We will, of course, respect privacy by only including those who have indicated a desire for congregational prayer.*

*Other areas of my ministry will be to provide staff support for the Stephen Ministries program as well as relate to the United Methodist Women’s visitation and prayer programs.*

*My position is intended to be halftime and I will be happiest if I can accomplish the task in that time frame!*

*My office is Room 131, and I will be available on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and on some Wednesdays. I invite you to phone (extension 233) or e mail me at [tfoster@fumcpdx.org](mailto:tfoster@fumcpdx.org), regarding pastoral concerns in the congregation extension. If I don’t answer, please leave me a voice message. I would rather receive several calls with the same message, than have someone think, “Oh probably someone else has already told him.” Also, do not hesitate to phone me at home when a matter is urgent. We now live in Molalla and my home phone is 503/829-3231, but we intend to move to Portland in the near future.*

*In addition, I will regularly be in the narthex to greet you after worship. If you have a message for me it will be very helpful if you could hand me a note, or even better, make a note on the back of your Communication Card, that way both Arvin and I will see it.*

Thanks, Tom—and welcome to the staff!

See you in Church!

**Arvin**



## PLEASE NOTE CHANGE

Please note that there will NOT be a *Circuit Rider* on July 27. The next issue of the *Circuit Rider* will be sent August 10 (submission deadline is August 4). You can e-mail submissions to David Jenkins at: [djenkins@fumcpdx.org](mailto:djenkins@fumcpdx.org).

# vbs

a special report ...



## RANCH HOUSE KIDS ROUND-UP

55 kids from FUMC, First Presbyterian, Zion Lutheran and Vermont Hills UMC met here for the Ranch House Round-Up. With a ranch theme, cowboy hats, bandannas and a lot of singing, our VBS celebrated Talking to God, Remembering to God and Sharing in Mission. Using a rotation model, everyone experienced the VBS themes through cooking, crafts, journalism and mission.

During VBS, kids brought food items to donate to FISH and animal food and treats to donate to the Oregon Humane Society. Before our Friday celebration, each child made a soup mix and brownie mix to give to someone in their lives to show that God’s love reaches outward.

Volunteers are the only way events like this succeed. Special thanks to Mary Sagara and Liz Schipper for leading the round-up singing each morning; Ronda and Leanna Little for organizing the cooking station all week; Elizabeth and Bethany Lassetter for taking on the arts and crafts station, Michelle Green and Esther Jones for coordinating all preschool activities, Andrea Miller for managing the nursery, Carter Lassetter for volunteering as a group shepherd, Elisa Klein, Rev. Brenda Sene and Paul Adams for stepping in on Friday morning to coordinate a BBQ for all of the VBS kids and their parents.

Each year we work hard to make our VBS as welcome, fun and educational as we can. Once again, families were pleased with the quality of the program and the teaching. Thank you, First Church, for donating pop cans that were used for VBS scholarships, for registering your kids and inviting other families to participate.

# adults at first

sunday classes

## CONGRESSMAN DAVID WU TO SPEAK SUNDAY JULY 17

Congressman David Wu will speak and answer questions Sunday July 17 at 9:15 AM in the Fireside Room. This forum is sponsored by the Church, Society and Social Justice Committee. Rev Lowell Greathouse will be the moderator. All are welcome. The two adult classes, Fellowship of Seekers and Changing Christianity, will attend. They will resume classes on Sunday, July 24.

## THE FELLOWSHIP OF SEEKERS

Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 AM in Room 134.

Looking for Bible study? Starting July 3, this class begins delving into the Gospel of Luke using Tom Wright's book, *Luke for Everyone*, as a guide. Everyone is invited to join in the discussion any week. Books are available for purchase for \$11.00.

## 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. Currently they are discussing the book: *God's Politics* by Jim Wallis. Books available for purchase for \$15.00. Scholarships available. Everyone is welcome!

# umw

united methodist women

Co-presidents: Trudy Kayser 503/292-7528 and Virginia Bender 503/657-1181.

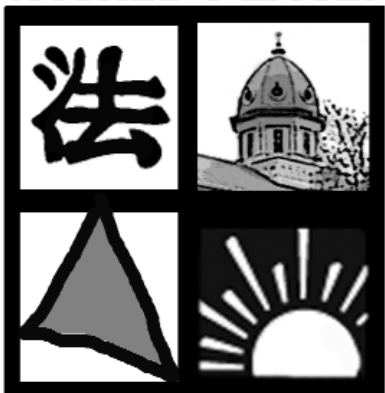
## UMW READING PROGRAM

Please give to Hazel Balcomb the titles/authors of the books you have read in the Four Mission Emphases Groups: Education for Mission, Spiritual Growth, Social Action, and Nurturing for Community. The deadline for responding is August 1st. Reporting forms can be found in the library. For information call Hazel at 503-244-0971.

## UMW EXECUTIVE BOARD

The UMW Executive Board will meet Wednesday, July 27, 10:00 AM in the Parlor.

## SACRED PLACES



Two tours remain in this series:

JULY 20 St. Patricks Catholic Church

JULY 27 Sunset Presbyterian

## electives for elders

Each tour will begin at 10:00 am at First UMC. Carpools will be arranged at that time. Tours are from 10:30 to 11:30 AM each Wednesday. Lunch will be arranged at a nearby restaurant and at your own expense. The cost is \$5.00 per tour. The fee is donated to each church we tour. For more information contact: Agnes Zach at 503/228-3195 ext 227 or e-mail her at: [azach@fumcpdx.org](mailto:azach@fumcpdx.org).

## can you help summer sunday school



Summer Sunday School is in full swing! We still need teachers for July 24 - September 4, 2005. Look at your calendars and see if you would be available to teach our children for one of those Sundays. For more information contact Agnes Zach at 503/228-3195 or email her at [azach@fumcpdx.org](mailto:azach@fumcpdx.org).

# seniors

senior adults at first

## Tuesday, July 19, 2005 - Japanese Garden, Quilt Show, and The International Rose Garden

A guided tour of the five special gardens that make the Japanese Garden. Also featured are local artists of fine art quilts titled "High Fiber Diet". The quilts feature antique kimonos and other materials to create an Asian theme of Fine Art Quilts. Afterwards, we will venture to the Rose Garden for a deluxe box lunch picnic and strolling through the International Rose Test Garden. Cost: \$22.00, includes transportation, driver gratuity, lunch, and garden tour.

Please sign up soon to assure your space. Contact Jolin Gard for sign-up or for more information at 503/329-5707.



## planet church

a warming witness

In early June our Oregon-Idaho UM Conference passed a "Standing Resolution on Global Warming." It acknowledged the scientific consensus that our use of energy is producing emissions that warm the planet and threaten all life. It urged climate stewardship in reducing energy consumption by congregations and individuals as well as giving political support for moving society toward non-polluting energy sources.

Our Planet Church Committee has led this congregation in these concerns over the past several years. So we are grateful for Governor Kulongoski's forthright leadership in proposing joining Washington and California in reducing global warming tail pipe emissions. And we celebrate a "sense of the Senate" resolution attached to the energy bill this past week in which the Senate went on record as favoring a program of mandatory controls on emissions of the gases that contribute to global warming. This resolution will not be subject to change in the House-Senate conference on the energy bill, but will stand as the Senate's invitation to future action.

## sharing our bounty

a garden table



### PLANET CHURCH GARDEN TABLE

Planet Church will be placing a "Garden Table" in the narthex throughout the summer. If you have garden items you would like to share bring them in. Then, if you see something on the table that you would like to take home, feel free.

This would also be a great time to remember to bring non-perishable items for the FISH box.

## in the community

northwest ministries

In early July First UMC, Temple Beth Israel, and members of NW Portland Ministries hosted a BBQ for the residents of NW Towers, our Adopted-High-Rise. Boy Scout Troop #1 under the leadership of Phil Wood helped with the BBQ.

Eric Wong, a First Church member, provided special music for the event. We also want to thank Bill MacDonald for his liaison work with NW Portland Ministries. NW Ministries directs a driving program which provides approximately 1100 rides to medical and personal appointments each month. If you feel that you could volunteer a few hours of driving to the program, please contact Dave Truman, of NW Ministries at 503/221-1224 or contact Bill MacDonald, our representative with NW Ministries at 503/223-4293.

## Who Are We ?

Dr. Raymond E. Balcomb

Some will remember the late Grace Goudy. She became a member here in 1918. Toward the end of her days (about ten years ago) I asked her what were the greatest differences between then and now in the church? She thought for a moment, then said incisively (as was her wont!), "More formal, less strict." Her remark about "more formal" I think referred to our worship ("less strict" to our code of acceptable personal behavior). At any rate it is a good summation of the direction of our worship during most the 20th century. (This paralleled a "Gothic Revival" movement in our architecture which is seen in the shape of our current building's laminated wood arches, reflected in our communion rail, altar, and chancel with a pulpit on one side and a lectern on the other.) In Grace's early time the preacher wore what any well-dressed man (no women preachers then!) would wear: a cutaway coat with gray striped trousers, which gradually gave way to a business suit. By the 1940s Methodist preachers were beginning to wear robes, usually of the "Geneva" type favored by judges and academics. I myself wrote an article which was published in a preacher's magazine in 1951 urging Protestant preachers to wear such a robe and also a stole. About the same time an "Order of St. Luke" grew up which emphasized observing the "traditional" church year (Advent, Epiphany, Lent, Eastertide, etc) and the use of "appropriately" colored stoles, pulpit hangings, etc. Preachers were still free, however, to design their own Orders of Worship, but more formality was the style and duplicated (if not printed) Orders became *de rigueur*. Our own congregation has used a printed Order since at least the 1920s, as evidenced by materials in our archives. The duplicated Order made it possible for there to be "unison" prayers and more congregational participation of one type or another. The 1935 *Hymnal*, which was used in this congregation until the 1970s, included a lectionary (a calendar schedule of Bible readings), although few here (or any place for that matter) ever used it. In 1944 our first *Book of Worship* appeared. I'm out of time again. More next time.

# music ministry

news and notes



On July 2, 2005, Jonas Nordwall was in Los Angeles to play a concert for a national convention commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the American Theatre Organ Society. Having performed at ATOS events since 1966, Jonas usually plays theater organs in renovated theaters or performing arts centers. This year he played at the new Our Lady of the Angels Cathedral.

Floating on rubber tires for earthquake protection, the 3599-seat cathedral is large enough to contain the National Cathedral. The average attendance at Sunday Masses is over 5000. The building's scheduling is so tight that the 10:30 AM organ concert was sandwiched between a 9:00 AM baptism Mass and a 1:00 PM wedding.

The convention audience had double exposure to First UMC's music staff. Carol Young was in LA visiting her mother and Jonas invited her to sing on the program. Both Jonas and Carol delighted the 800 convention attendees from around the world with music ranging from Bach to Durufle.

We are indeed fortunate to have such accomplished musicians sharing their talents with us here at First Church!

## summer concerts

Alton L. Collins Retreat Center

The Friends of Alton L. Collins Retreat Center present a wonderful summer series of music. Arrive at the Retreat Center at 3:00 PM and walk the beautiful grounds and explore God's handiwork. There will be a meeting at 4:00 PM and the program at 5:00 PM. The concerts are followed by ice cream and good Methodist cookies! Here is a roster of upcoming concerts:

### SUNDAY, JULY 17 - OLD TIME FIDDLERS

This promises to be a rip-roaring program by a group of fiddlers that have been together for many years.

### SUNDAY, AUGUST 14 - MEN'S CHORUS

This group of men will sing music for every musical taste!

For more information or directions to the Retreat Center, call them toll-free at: 888/567-6411.



## summer giving

an important note

Recent word from our treasurer is that financial support through tithes and offerings is lagging behind past years. Your contributions are so important to make sure that the programs you value continue as planned. It is especially important during the summer when we need to gear up and be prepared for Rally Day and fall programming.

The lazy days of summer are wonderful times of renewal and re-energizing. In the midst of picnics and travel and relaxation it is easy to overlook our financial commitment to our church. I hope that won't happen to you!

## note

chrismons

Are you interested in learning to make chrismons? Chrismons are unique decorations that will be hung on the Sanctuary Christmas Tree this Advent. There will be two workshops: Sunday, August 7 and Sunday, August 21. Meet at 11:35 AM in Room 135.

# around the parish

prayer concerns and expressions of thanks

## Our prayers are with ...

*The Glendinning family*, Thelma died on July 8, 2005. Memorial Services will be Friday, July 15 at 1:30 PM at First Church;

*Marilyn Neu's family* who mourn her death on June 29th. Private services have been held;

*Pat and Al Rieke*, Pat's mother and Al's brother both died recently;

*Kristen and Steve Jackson* (our weekend custodians), Kristen's aunt and uncle, Jane and Bill Reed of Sisters, Oregon died in a plane crash;

*Dan Alger*, the brother of Naomi Charboneau, is in the hospital following a stroke;

*Mary-Lou Hare's daughter, Piper*, whose cancer has recurred.

## Continued prayers for ...

*Dick and Agnes Clark, Jane Rhodes, Tom Iverson, Erik Iverson, Al Leonard, and Marilen McGill.*

## We rejoice upon the recent baptism of ...

*Elliot Martin Rea*, son of Brian and Nancy Rea. Elliot was baptized in Hurst, Texas by Rev. Mike McKee.

## We rejoice upon the recent marriage of ...

*Kim Rhodes and Travis Hodges* on Monday, July 11, 2005. Kim is the daughter of Jane Rhodes.

### 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 10, 2005.**

**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.

# thanks

to the congregation

## FROM THE PAVAN/IVERSON FAMILY ...

The Pavan/Iverson family would like to express our profound appreciation for the unbelievable support from our First UMC family. Your generosity, prayers, and meals have meant more than you know and have been incredibly sustaining. Thank you for taking time from your busy lives and families to be there for us. We love you all.

# to the point

something to ponder

A familiar child's taunt is, "Sticks and stones may break my bones but words will never hurt me." We know, from experience, that that is not true. A simple negative word spoken can have more power than a bullet. A simple positive word spoken in a timely fashion can bring health and healing.