



# THE CIRCUIT RIDER

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

*the* **E** *edition*

## SUNDAY, SEPT. 10 2006



Welcome Home Sunday is always a special time of coming back together ... vacations are over and school has resumed.

Please plan to be in church on Sunday, September 10, for Welcome Home Sunday.

There will be a Continental Breakfast from 8:30 to 10:00 AM in Collins Hall

The morning will conclude with an All-Church Lunch in Collins Hall at noon.

**August 23, 2006**  
Volume 10, Issue 16

### THIS SUNDAY

August 27, 2006

**WORSHIP**  
10:30 AM

**PREACHING**  
Rev. Dr. Arvin Luchs  
**A CONVERSATION  
WITH OUR  
CHILDREN**  
Rev. Dr. Lowell  
Greathouse

### PROGRAM GUIDE



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.



## School Supplies Needed

Bring school supplies to place in the donation bins by September 10, 2006 and we'll deliver them to School House Supply. Many kids come to school unprepared and teachers often use their own money to purchase school supplies. School House Supplies provides supplies which can be "purchased" by volunteering time at School House Supplies.

Below are the types of of supplies needed.

- Packs of loose leaf paper
- Packs of colored markers
- Packs of colored pencils
- Individual pencils
- Packs of Crayons
- Individual pencil erasers
- Individual spiral notebooks
- Individual glue sticks
- Individual scissors
- Individual bottled glue
- Individual rulers
- Individual pink erasers
- Individual pencil sharpeners
- Individual pocket folders

Summer is a great time to get good buys on school supplies! The Children Ministries of First Church, is participating in the Every Child Deserves School Supplies Drive. Collection boxes are available in the narthex.

If you have questions about this effort please contact Agnes Zach at the church office at 503/228-3195 ext. 227 or email her at: azach@fumcpdx.org.

# fall frolic

October 6-8, 2006



## FALL FROLIC

### The Sequel: All God's Critters

Join your church family and friends at Suttle Lake October 6-8, 2006 for Fall Frolic. This fun family camp is open to children, youth, adults and seniors. It includes lodging and five meals. We'll have activities, quiet moments, campfires, worship and more. What a way to celebrate!

Registration is \$69.00 per adult for the weekend and pro-rated for youth and children. Look for registration forms in the narthex, The Commons and in the mail or contact Agnes Zach, Children/Family Ministry at [azach@fumcpdx.org](mailto:azach@fumcpdx.org).

# shovel & rake

the east lawn is changing

## THE EAST LAWN IS CHANGING.

You may have noticed the East Lawn appears somewhat devastated. This is not vandalism, or landscape gardeners run amok! This is a carefully planned project of the Shovel and Rake Gang.

What you now see completed is the removal of overgrown junipers and Scotch Broom that have been around for 50 years. This change is long overdue. Removing the English Ivy is also for the common good, it has long been known as an invasive species. It is durable, too durable. Not only does it seemingly last forever it can, and does, strangle other plants, such as large trees.

As the autumn progresses a well designed, attractive Native Plant Garden will appear. By the time the rains start we will have the garden in place, including suitable irrigation.

# art at first church

creative spirit gallery

## FIRST CHURCH ARTISTS

Sunday, September 3, 2006, will be the first art show of the Creative Spirit Gallery. It is located in Collins Commons and sponsored by the Fine Arts Committee. The showing will feature art work by members and friends of First Church. Many of the artists showing will be present. You are invited and your comments are welcome. The show will close on September 30, 2006. Gallery showings are by appointment only. For an appointment call the church office at 503/228-3195.

On Friday, September 1 between 10:00 and 10:30 AM, The Fine Arts Committee will accept art for the All-Church Exhibit for September. All members and friends are invited to participate. This includes art in all mediums and crafts.



the edge  
thoughts for  
the journey

### Rev. Lowell Greathouse, Minister of Discipleship

Beginning with this edition of the Circuit Rider, I will be contributing a simple quote and question that I hope will serve as a stimulus for your on-going spiritual reflection. I welcome your thoughts and comments. Let me start with one of my favorite quotes:

*"If the world were merely seductive, that would be easy. If it were merely challenging, that would be no problem. But I arise in the morning torn between a desire to improve the world, and a desire to enjoy the world. This makes it hard to plan the day." - E.B. White*

What is it about the world that you most enjoy?

What is one simple thing you could do in the coming days to improve the world in a small way?

# adults at first

sunday classes

## THE FELLOWSHIP OF SEEKERS

Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 AM in Room 134  
Using Ron Miller's book, *The Gospel of Thomas: A Guidebook to Spiritual Practice*, this class is discussing an alternative Christian theology with an emphasis on translating its principles into daily practice. Anyone is welcome at any time during the course of the class.

## CHANGING CHRISTIANITY

Sunday mornings 9:00 -10:15 AM in Room 202.  
We are studying the book: *American Gospel* by Jon Meacham.

# this & that

items of note

## UMC HIKERS' AUGUST HIKE

Our August hike will be on Saturday, August 26th near Oswald West State Park on the Oregon Coast. Meet in the Tigard UMC parking lot (9845 SW Walnut Place) at 8:15 AM to form carpools. Hikers should bring a lunch, snacks and water, wear comfortable hiking boots and dress appropriately. There is a suggested \$6.00 per person donation to the driver for carpooling. Also bring \$2-5 for an optional snack stop. Return to the church between 5-6 PM. Anyone is welcome, register to insure transportation is available. Please e-mail Paula Justice at: [jpaula354@aol.com](mailto:jpaula354@aol.com) or call her at 503/524-3737.

## FAITH AND AMERICAN VALUES SUMMIT 2006

Faith and American Values Summit 2006, featuring Rev. Jim Wallis will be Thursday, September 14 and Saturday, September 16, Portland, OR. Rev. Jim Wallis will give the keynote address for this event at the First Baptist Church (909 SW 11th Ave, Portland), sponsored by the Oregon Center for Christian Values. Rev. Wallis' address will be followed by a full-day conference on Saturday, September 16 from 8:30 am-4:00 pm at the same location. Register at: [www.occv.org](http://www.occv.org), or call Brian at 503/307-4119. Rev. Wallis address is FREE. Registration for the full Summit is \$35 and includes lunch.

## MUDDY BOOT ORGANIC FESTIVAL

You're invited to attend the Muddy Boot Organic Festival, Sept. 8-10, 2006, celebrating sustainable and organic living in our local community. It will begin Friday, Sept. 8, at 7:30 PM at St. Philip Neri Church. Tickets are available for \$45 each. Purchase tickets online at [tickets@muddyboot.org](http://tickets@muddyboot.org) or call 503/764-7525. The festival will continue on Sept. 9 and 10, featuring live music provided by popular performers.

## MEMORIES OF A LONG LIFE

John Soltman, who with his wife Marlys, is a member of this church, has written a memoir, *The View from Inside: Memories from a Long Life*. He wishes to loan it to anyone who may be interested, without any cost or obligation. Contact him by telephone at 360/438-5186 or by e-mail at [jsoltman@comcast.net](mailto:jsoltman@comcast.net). You can also mail him at 15535 Boulevard Park Lane SE, Lacey, WA 98503.

# umw

united methodist women

## WOMEN OF FIRST CHURCH

It's time to mark your calendars. The following UMW meetings begin in September. The Unit Gathering meets the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 in the Fireside Room. Chairs: Pat Brockman at 503/292-6270 and Colleen Foster at 503/641-3479.

## THE UMW EXECUTIVE BOARD

UMW Executive Board will meet Wednesday, August 30 at 10:00 AM in room 136.

## THE UMW UNIT GATHERING

The UMW Unit Gathering will be Wednesday, September 6, 2006 in the Fireside Room. The meeting will begin at 10:00 AM followed by the program at 11:00 AM. The program: *Rise, Shine, Glorify God*, was the theme of the UMW National Assembly in Anaheim last May. Assembly attendees, with Mary Covert at the helm, will bring some of the Assembly's color and vibrancy to our first fall unit gathering. All are invited. Your heart will be warmed and your soul inspired as you catch the vision that UMW is all about mission. At noon in room 202: there will be a special luncheon will be served by Ruth Green, Betty Lou Hare, and Trudy Kayser. This will be a time to share your hopes and dreams with our guests, the First Church Staff. Information: Trudy Kayser 503/292-7528 or Colleen Foster 503/641-3479.

**FAITH GUILD** meets the Third Wednesday at 10:00 AM in the Parlor. Chair: Eleanor Stubbs at 503/659-9024

**RUTH GUILD** meets the Third Wednesday at 12:00 PM in Room 204. Chair: Betty-Lou Hare at 503/292-1773

**READING GROUP** meets the Third Thursday from 10:00 - 11:30 in the Library. Chair: Sue Fisher at 503/203-1445

**CIRCLE OF FRIENDS** meets the last Wednesday at 12:00 PM in Room 204. Chair: Trudy Kayser at 503/292-7528

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR.

Mark you calendar for the Metro District Annual Meeting on Saturday, September 23, 2006.



# around the parish

prayers and concerns

# thanks

expressing gratitude

## PRAYERS OF CONCERN FOR ...

*The family of Mary Domreis, Mary died August 12, 2006, Marilyn Rinquist, struggling with serious heart problems; Louise Jorgensen, confined to her home by dizziness; Dwight Gilley, who is hospitalized with pneumonia.*

## WE CELEBRATE ...

*The baptism of Dante Del Valle-Chase, the son of Michelle Chase and Eduardo Fausto Del Valle. Dante was baptized Sunday, August 20, 2006.*

*The marriage of Peter Connor and Peiling Hsu, they were married August 12, 2006. Peter is the son of Bill and Sonja Connor.*

## CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR ...

*Al Leonard, Jim & Jean Whitcomb, and Dick & Agnes Clark*

## FROM SUE BEARDWOOD

I want to express my heartfelt thanks to all of those who came to my husband's, Newt Beardwood's, memorial service in the chapel and to all who phoned me and sent sympathy cards. Your friendship and support were and continue to be sustaining to me. A special thanks to the pastors, who came to the nursing home many times to pray with us and who helped to facilitate the services, both here and at Willamette Nat'l. Cemetery, and the reception. Others, including UMW women, organizers within the church, and the musicians deserve a special mention also. Thanks for helping me out in so many ways and attending to the details. *Blessed memories, Sue Beardwood*

## FROM BERNIE & PEG COOK

Thank you so very much for your prayers, cards, notes, and phone calls during Bernie's recent hospitalization. We really appreciate being a part of such a caring body of Christians. *Bernie and Peg Cook*

**don't forget**  
**Sunday, September 3**  
**first sunday is FISH sunday**

# FALL PROGRAM GUIDE

begins on the next page

### 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 **September 6, 2006.**

**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.

# living a vibrant

# FAITH

BELIEVING  
THINKING  
ACTING

## A Guide to Fall at First Church

# FALL 2006

SEPTEMBER - NOVEMBER

PORTLAND'S  
FIRST  
CHURCH

**Established 1848**

**Address**

1838 SW Jefferson  
Portland, OR 97201

**Phone**

503/228-3195

**Fax**

503/273-8711

**E-Mail**

office@fumcpdx.org

**Website**

www.fumcpdx.org

**Sunday Worship**

10:30 AM



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.

*God calls those of us at First United Methodist Church to be a caring and reconciling congregation.*

*As disciples of Jesus Christ, we respond by sharing the good news of the Gospel through worship, music, study and prayer; by nurturing and loving one another, and by reaching out to our community and world.*

*We seek, welcome and accept all persons, and we commit ourselves to one another and to God.*

What does it mean to live a vibrant faith? To be vibrant means to be alive, energized, engaged with others, active in the world. First United Methodist Church is composed of an energetic, diverse group of believers. We hope that being a part of the First Church community touches your spirit and connects you with other kindred souls. There are many ways to live and experience a vibrant faith at First Church. Please consider the variety opportunities listed in this Fall's Program Guide. There is something here for every age. So if an event or class looks interesting to you simply come...or if you have questions, call the church office at 503/228-3195.

## SPECIAL SUNDAYS THIS FALL

- September 10** Welcome Home Sunday
- September 17** Celebrating Jonas Nordwall's 35th Anniversary as organist at First Church
- October 1** World Communion Sunday  
Special Offering  
Communion Service including First Graders
- October 15** Laity Sunday
- November 5** Consecration Sunday
- November 19** Thanksgiving Sunday and Hunger Awareness
- November 26** United Methodist Student Day Special Offering
- December 3** First Sunday of Advent & World AIDS Sunday

**VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE AT  
WWW.  
fumcpdx.  
org**

ESPECIALLY FOR

# NEWCOMERS

*If you are new to Portland's First Church, we hope that you will make this your church home ... a place where you can experience meaningful worship, wonderful music, and opportunities to learn and grow as a person of faith. Please accept our invitation to become involved in our congregational activities, orient yourself to the opportunities available, and connect with others through small, faith-nurturing groups. We hope that you will come to call this congregation your "church home."*

## FIRST CHURCH ORIENTATIONS

If you would like to officially join First United Methodist Church or learn more about our congregation, then this two-hour session and simple meal is for you. Learn about First UMC, what it means to become a member of this congregation, and meet others who are interested in becoming a part of First Church. These one-time orientations will be offered after the worship service on: September 17, October 29, and January 7, 2007. For information or to register to be a part of one of these sessions, contact the church office at 503/228-3195. Child care is available.

## A WORD ABOUT PARKING

In addition to the parking next to the church, there is parking available across 18th St., east of the sanctuary. Visitor parking and parking for senior citizens is specially marked near the front doors. The MAX and Tri-Met buses stop at First Church's entrance onto Jefferson Street.

# COMMONS IN COLLINS

## A PLACE TO MEET

Each Sunday after worship, the Commons in Collins is a great place to see what is happening at First Church. Come sign up for an activity, get information on a current issue, check out a book...or just have coffee with a friend. Follow the signs from the sanctuary and join us in the Commons. We are pleased that the Meskhetian Turk Farmer's Table will continue in the Commons through the growing season. You may purchase their organic produce there following the worship service. This is a pilot project done in cooperation with Mercy Corps Northwest.

## THE COMMONS-EAST: Starting Sept. 17

Each Sunday from 8:45 am to 10:15 AM, Room 210 (The Commons-East) will be open for coffee, juice, snack and conversation. It is open for anyone attending an adult class, youth choir or class, children's choir or coming early for study. We ask for a donation to assist in providing the breakfast rolls, fruit, juices and coffee. Computers are also available in this room for children and adults with several Bible games and a complete research Bible. Wireless access may be available at a later time.

## THE CREATIVE SPIRIT GALLERY

The purpose of the First Church Fine Arts Program is to encourage and share the creativity of our community through the visual arts. The Creative Spirit Gallery is located in Collins Hall on the north wall. Exhibits rotate on a monthly basis:

### September

All-Media  
First Church Artists

### October

Vicki Cole, oil painter

### November

Eileen Kane, charcoal

### December

Chris Nuffer, watercolor

# First Church STAFF

## Senior Pastor

Rev. Dr. Arvin Luchs  
503/228-3195 ext. 226  
aluchs@fumcpdx.org

## Minister of Discipleship

Rev. Dr. Lowell Greathouse  
503/228-3195 ext. 224  
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## Minister of Pastoral Care

Rev. Tom Foster  
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## Director of Outreach

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## Director of Children's Ministries

Agnes Zach  
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azach@fumcpdx.org

## Director of Youth Ministries

Paul Adams  
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padams@fumcpdx.org

## Artistic Director of Music and Organist

Jonas Nordwall  
503/228-3195 ext. 218  
jnordwall@fumcpdx.org

## Executive Director of Music

Kelly Qualls  
503/228-3195 ext. 235  
kqualls@fumcpdx.org

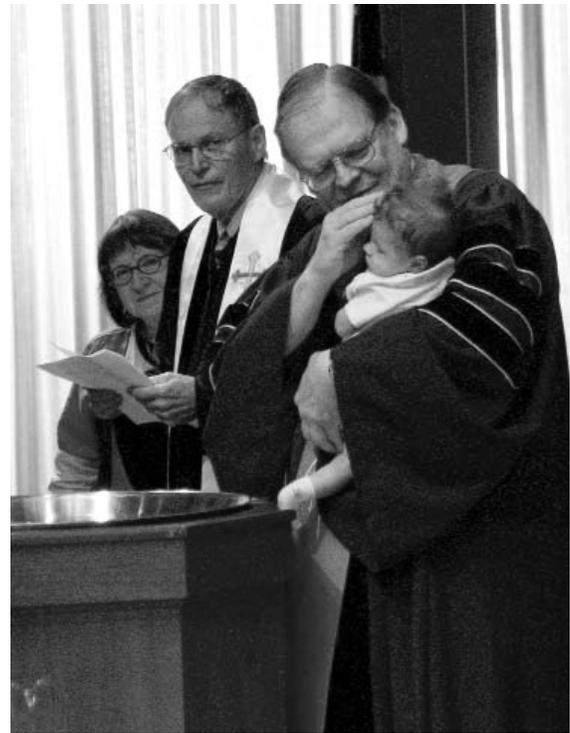
## Church Administrator

503/228-3195 ext. 222

## Administrative Assistant

David Jenkins  
503/228-3195 ext. 221  
djenkins@fumcpdx.org

# FACES at FIRST



FIRST  
CHURCH

# LIBRARY

Interested in reading good books? The Church Library contains over 6,000 books, audiotapes and videos...fiction and non-fiction for adults and children. Subjects include theology, history, biography, psychology, prayers, devotional literature and much more. The library is open Sundays beginning at 9:15 AM, and for about a half hour after church. Check us out! The library is located in the 100 wing of the church...or stop by the Commons after church to see our display.

# CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Children/Family Ministry focuses on learning and fellowship for the whole family. Our specific ministry vision states that:

*Claimed by God and called by Christ Jesus,  
we acknowledge that we have special responsibility for God's little ones,  
the children in our midst and all around us.*

Children are welcome to stay with families during worship. Those between the ages of two through fifth grade may also choose to participate in Children's Choirs before worship and Sunday School during worship time.

## Nursery Care

Nursery care is available from 9:00 AM-1:00 PM each Sunday. The nursery is available for infants through two year olds during Sunday worship. Before and after worship, older children are welcome. Our professional staff have Infant/Child CPR and First Aid training as well as years of experience and training in child-care. The nursery is also available for committee meetings and other special church events, by request. A \$5.00 donation is requested for these special events.

## Children's Choirs

Children's Choirs meet from 9:30-10:15 am each Sunday morning. The Cherub choir is for children ages 3 through 1st Grade. The Soundseekers Choir is open for children in 2nd through 5th grade. Additional details are on page 5.

## Sunday School

Sunday School for children ages 2 through 3rd grade uses the Expressions of Faith Curriculum. Children attend worship with their families and leave for Sunday School after the "Conversation with Our Children" time in Worship. Kids can be picked up from class after worship.

Fourth/Fifth graders will have the opportunity to experience Sunday School and worship, learning how to actively participate in the life of the church. Fourth and Fifth Graders will participate in Children's Worship and parent-led fellowship activities on the third Sunday of each month.

## Children's Church

Children's Church occurs on the fourth Sunday of the month for kids in Kindergarten through 5th grade. This special service for children meets in the Chapel. Following the "Conversation with Our Children" time in worship, children meet in their regular Sunday School classrooms (4th/5th graders go directly to the Chapel). After a review of the week's Bible message, the kids meet in the Chapel for a 20-minute service. Parent's can meet their children at the Chapel.

## Weekday Bible Study

Mid-Week Bible Study begins September 20, 2006 from 10:30-11:30 each Wednesday. Childcare is provided in the church nursery. This beginning Bible Study is open to all. Stay-at-home parents are especially encouraged to take a moment of their week for themselves and the Bible.

## Food and Friends

Food and Friends, an adult dinner group, meets the second Friday of the month at a selected restaurant. Childcare is provided at the church nursery; donations are encouraged. This group began as a parents gathering to offer support and fellowship to one another. It is open to all adults that enjoy good food and good conversation. To be added to the e-mail list, send an e-mail to [azach@fumcpdx.org](mailto:azach@fumcpdx.org).

## SPECIAL EVENTS

The Children/Family Ministry Committee oversees the Sunday School Program and our vision of creating a family friendly church. In addition to weekly Sunday School programs, we plan several special events. For the fall, these special events include:

### OCTOBER 1

World Communion Sunday  
Experience for First Graders

### OCTOBER 6-8

Fall Frolic at Suttle Lake

### OCTOBER 15

4th & 5th Grade Fellowship Activity

### OCTOBER 29

Safe-Space Halloween Carnival,  
hosted by First UMC Youth

**FALL FROLIC**  
October 6-8, 2006

**All God's  
Critters**

This family event is open to children, youth, adults and seniors. It is a week-end camp experience at Suttle Lake near Sisters, Oregon. The event begins Friday night and continues through Sunday noon. This is a chance for you to spend special time with your church family in an outdoor setting. Craft times, group activities, quiet moments, campfires, worship services and more will fill the weekend. Registration deadline is September 15, 2006. Cost is \$69.00 per adult for two nights and five meals. Costs for youth and children are pro-rated. For more information, contact Agnes Zach at [azach@fumcpdx.org](mailto:azach@fumcpdx.org)

# MUSIC MINISTRY

The music program at Portland's First United Methodist Church provides musical excellence in all areas of church music and extends the ministry of this church to the greater Portland community.

## MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

### The Chancel Choir

sings for Sunday morning worship services. Directed by Gary St. John, the Chancel Choir rehearses on Thursday evenings in the Chapel from 7:30 - 9:30 pm. All are welcome to sing in this volunteer choir.

September 8 and 9 - Chancel Choir Retreat

December 10 - Chancel Choir at Willamette View Manor

December 17 - Chancel Choir sings Laud to the Nativity for worship

### The Sanctuary Bell Choir

directed by Nancy Hascall, rehearses on Thursday evenings in Room 130 from 6:00 - 8:00 pm. Experience ringing hand bells is necessary for this to be an enjoyable experience. This group will play for worship on:

September 24, October 15, November 12, and December 10, 2006

There is a Ringing Skills Workshop scheduled for September 23.

## MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

**The Cherub Choir**, directed by Janice Hauser, is for children from ages three through Second Grade. This choir meets on Sunday mornings in Room 201 from 9:30 - 10:15. They are singing on: October 22, November 19, December 10, and December 24, 2006 at the 10:30 AM service

**The Sound Seekers Choir**, directed by Ronnee Edwards, is for children in grades 2 - 5. This choir rehearses on Sunday mornings in Room 136 from 9:30 - 10:15. They are singing on: October 29, November 19, and December 24 at the 10:30 AM service

**The Veritas Choir**, directed by Carol Young, is for Sixth Grade through Senior High School students. They rehearse on Sunday mornings in Room 133 from 9:00 - 9:30 AM. They are singing on: October 29, December 3, and December 24 at the 7:00 and 9:00 PM services

**The Genesis Ringers**, directed by Karin McDonough, is for beginning bell players. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings in Room 130 at 6:30. They will play on December 24 at the 10:30 AM service

**juBELLation**, also directed by Karin McDonough, is the premiere youth handbell choir. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings in Room 130 at 7:30. They will play on: October 22, November 19, and December 24 at the 7:00 and 9:00 PM services

Two Ringing Skills Workshops are scheduled September 23 and November 4, 2006 in Gig Harbor, WA.

## CONTACT

Jonas Nordwall, Artistic Director of Music and Organist - [jnordwall@fumcpdx.org](mailto:jnordwall@fumcpdx.org)  
Kelly Qualls, Executive Director of Music - [kqualls@fumcpdx.org](mailto:kqualls@fumcpdx.org)

For more information about participating in the music program at First Church, contact Kelly Qualls at 503/228-3195. You may also look at the Music Ministry area on our website at [www.fumcpdx.org](http://www.fumcpdx.org)



## YOUTH PROGRAM KICK-OFF

The First Church youth program Kick-off / Second Annual Tie Dye Party will be September 10, 2006.

Middle School meets at 5:30 and High School meets at 7:00 PM Youth meal at 6:30 PM. Bring a white t-shirt for tie dying as we kick off the Sunday evening youth program.

## YOUTH SCHEDULE / SUNDAYS

### - Sixth - Eighth Grades

The Sixth - Eighth grade class meets at 9:30 AM each Sunday / Room 130.

### - 9th-12th Grades

Class meets at 9:30 AM each Sunday morning in the Youth Room.

### - Sunday Evenings

Youth Group meets Sunday evenings, Middle School (grades 6 to 8) from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, and high school from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Dinner is provided for both from 6:30 to 7:00 PM.

## RE-MIX 2006

October 13 - 15, 2006 is "re-miX '06" at First UMC, Salem, OR. re-miX is a conference-wide gathering for United Methodist Youth in grades 6-12 from all over Oregon and Idaho.

## SCARY MOVIE NIGHT

Scary Movie Night is October 28, for Middle School youth. They are invited to bring their friends to an evening of classic monster movies. *Frankenstein*, *The Wolf Man*, *The Invisible Man* and *King Kong* are among the classic 1930's movies. The party is from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

## HALLOWEEN PARTY

First Church youth will present a Safe Space Halloween Party on October 29, 2006 for our children.

Families are invited to bring their children in costumes. The carnival is from 5:00 PM to 7:00 PM.

For youth info contact: Paul Adams, Youth Director, at 503/228-3195 x229



# Sunday Morning CLASSES FOR ADULTS

## CHANGING CHRISTIANITY

This group studies a variety of books throughout the year and uses these materials as the basis for class discussion. The class focuses on how Christianity has changed, is changing, will change, and how we can be a part of that change. Recent books have included: *American Gospel*, *The Sins of Scripture*, and *The Gospel of Thomas*. The first book this fall will be: *Honest to Jesus*.

When: Sundays from 9:00 to 10:15 AM in Room 202

## FELLOWSHIP OF SEEKERS

The Fellowship of Seekers is an on-going adult class that seeks spiritual growth through study and discussion of writings by current and historic religious thinkers. Recent books have included: *A Hidden Wholeness*, *The Gospel of Thomas*, and *How to Be an Open-minded Christian Without Losing Your Faith*. Following a time of fellowship, lively discussions are led by different class members each week.

When: Sundays from 9:15 to 10:15AM in Room 134

## FAITH & PUBLIC LIFE SERIES

This adult class series will explore various public issues through the lens of our faith life. Each session will meet in the Fireside Room from 9:15 to 10:15 AM.



- September 17 *The History of Social Activism in the United Methodist Church* (Rev. Dr. Ray Balcomb)
- September 24 *Modern Usury and Payday Loans* (Angela Martin, Our Oregon)
- October 1 *The Health Care Crisis: What Can Be Done?*
- October 8 *The Ethics of Stem Cell Research* (Dr. Greg Fowler)
- October 15 *A Guide to Our Social Principles* (Annie Heart, Community Outreach/Shelter Director, First UMC)
- October 22 *The November Ballot Measures: What Are They All About?*  
(Phillip Kennedy-Wong, Public PoliDirector, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon)
- October 29 *Evolution, Intelligent Design, and Public Education* (Dr. Myles Jackson)
- November 5 *Social Justice at First Unitarian Church* (Kate Lore, Outreach Director, First Unitarian Church)
- November 12 *The Emerging Immigration Debate* (Panel: including Sarah Harkness, a missionary with the United Methodist Church, working with the Hispanic/Latino Ministry Training Institute)
- November 19 *The American Experiment-American Roots, American Soul, and American Creed*  
(Rev. Dr. Lowell Greathouse)
- November 26 *The American Experiment: The Social Gospel and Neo-Orthodoxy in the 20th Century*  
(Rev. Dr. Lowell Greathouse)
- December 3 *The American Experiment: Howard Thurman, Rosa Parks, Martin Luther King, Jr.-What the Civil Rights Movement Taught Us about Faith and Public Life* (Rev. Dr. Lowell Greathouse)
- December 10 *The American Experiment: Assessing Our Social and Spiritual Capital as a Nation*  
(Rev. Dr. Lowell Greathouse)
- December 17 *The American Experiment: Emerging Movements - The Religious Right and Spiritual Progressives/Where Do We Go From Here?* (Rev. Dr. Lowell Greathouse)

## GOOD SENSE BUDGET COURSE

Good Sense Budget is a six-week course beginning October 1, 2006. It will be led by a facilitation team of Janice Gratton, and Richard Allan. This course is for those of all ages and at all points of the financial continuum. Learn to use simple tools that will help you manage your money more successfully. Learn Biblical financial principals for budgeting and spending money wisely. Learn what the Bible says versus what culture says about money. Scripture clearly states that our spiritual lives and our financial lives are interwoven.

When: Sundays from 9:00 AM to 10:15AM in Room 160. (October 1 through November 5, 2006)

# ELECTIVES FOR ENRICHMENT

Two exciting classes will be offered as a part of Electives for Enrichment, October 16 - November 13, 2006. Classes are from 10:00 AM to 12:15 PM. The cost is \$15.00 for the five-week course. Pre-register with the church office, 503/228-3195 by October 11, 2006.

## JUMP START YOUR GENEALOGY

This five-week workshop will take you through the steps of creating your genealogy. We will cover how to start, forms needed, and records and where they're found, including Immigration and artifacts, where to find more classes, research libraries and how to hire professional genealogists.

## MUSIC IN OUR LIVES

Our music reveals a lot about us. It also shapes who we are. Led by Jonas Nordwall, Kelly Qualls, and Ross Miller, we will consider the role that music plays in our lives, individually and culturally, and examine how music reflects and shapes our faith. After reviewing Christian musical traditions, the musical treasures of the Wesleyan heritage, and how musical practices have evolved at First UMC since 1847, we will look beyond current "worship wars" toward the shape of Christian music yet to come.

# MORE LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

## MID-WEEK BIBLE STUDY: REDISCOVERING A LIFE OF FAITH FOR TODAY

This class begins September 20 from 10:30 -11:30 AM each Wednesday in the library. Child care is provided. This beginning Bible Study is open to all. Stay-at-home parents are especially encouraged to take a moment of their week for themselves and the Bible. We will be using: *The Heart of Christianity* by Marcus Borg. Bring your Bibles.

## SPIRITUAL ACTIVISM SERIES

Join this four-part series which will explore the Network of Spiritual Progressives and Michael Lerner's book, *The Left Hand of God*. We will be utilizing DVDs from the recent Spiritual Activism Conference in Washington, DC. Sessions will include:

- October 4 Overview: The Left Hand of God and The Network of Spiritual Progressives
- October 11 Understanding Spiritual Politics
- October 25 The Globalization of Selfishness
- November 1 The Spiritual Covenant with America

## INTRODUCTION TO THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS

On Sunday, November 5, 2006 Rev. Dr. Arvin Luchs will lead a one-time session designed to prepare those participating in the Local Travel Adventure to see the Dead Sea Scrolls in Seattle. However, all are welcome. We will examine the story behind this remarkable archeological find and consider what these documents mean to the history of Christianity. We'll meet in the Fireside Room at 5:30 PM.

# FORUMS AT FIRST

First Church will offer a series of challenging forums this fall. Following worship we will gather in the Fireside Room from 12:00 to 1:30 PM. The forums will cover a wide variety of subjects and are designed to stimulate deeper reflection into the issues and needs of our times. A light lunch and refreshments will be served as well.

- October 1 ***Mercy Corps: A focus on the Middle East,*** with Minda Hedges, Community Relations Officer at Mercy Corps.
- October 22 ***Beyond Charity: Speaking Up for the Common Good.*** A forum/workshop on Public Policy Advocacy, with Norene Goplen, Director, Lutheran Advocacy Ministry of Oregon, Phillip Kennedy-Wong, Director, Public Policy, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, Angela Martin, Director, Economic-Fairness Campaigns, Our Oregon. In his Initiative to Eliminate Hunger, Bishop Hoshibata challenged United Methodists to address the injustices that contribute to the persistence of poverty and hunger. This forum/workshop will teach us how to act on our core values to engage our local, state and federal elected officials and influence decisions that promote justice, fairness and the common good. The focus will be on practical, hands-on, non-threatening, "you can do it" advocacy.
- November 12 ***Chautauqua Talk: "Food for Thought"*** sponsored and funded by the Oregon Council for the Humanities, with Diana Coogle. Diana is an essayist, author, teacher, theater director, and radio commentator.



# OUTREACH

## **Church and Society for Social Justice**

provides witness to and relates the social gospel ministry of Jesus to the members of the church, and all persons and institutions of the community and world on issues of human rights, poverty, peace with justice, and the integrity of creation in keeping with the Social Principles of the United Methodist Church.

## **Global Outreach and Missions**

promotes issues of national and international concern within our congregation. Each year it provides educational opportunities on global needs and sponsors Volunteers In Mission trips worldwide.

## **Health Care Task Force**

works on a multiplicity of health care access issues related to the growing concern over our health care system in Oregon, and uninsured Oregonians.

## **Hunger Task Force**

examines the major issues and needs regarding hunger in Oregon and the larger world community to identify ways in which the congregation might best respond. Sponsors First Sunday "Food Sunday" each month to receive donations for FISH barrels, located in the church narthex.

## **Planet Church**

provides leadership and education within First UMC, the local community and the expanded community around issues of energy conservation, recycling, global warming and responsible stewardship of the earth.

## **Goose Hollow Family Shelter**

is a winter emergency shelter, started at First Church in 1994, and is one of the few family shelters in the Portland metro area that allows homeless families to stay together while living in a temporary shelter. Goose Hollow is also part of a larger community alliance to end homelessness by addressing the root causes of homelessness and advocating for affordable housing, living wages, health care, and situations of poverty. The Shelter season is November 1 - April 30. Pre-opening events and activities include:

October 6 - 7	Annual Rummage Sale
October 19 & 22	Volunteer Orientation and Tour
October 21 & 28	Shelter Pre-opening Work Days

You are invited to explore ways to participate in the life of the Goose Hollow Family Shelter by visiting our webpage at [www.fumcpdx.org/goose-hollowfamilyshelter](http://www.fumcpdx.org/goose-hollowfamilyshelter) or contact Annie Heart, Shelter Director.

## **MORE INFORMATION**

If you would like more information about how to participate in outreach programs or events contact Annie Heart, Director of Community Outreach at 503/228-3195 x215 or [aheart@fumcpdx.org](mailto:aheart@fumcpdx.org) or visit our website at [www.fumcpdx.org](http://www.fumcpdx.org)

Outreach Ministry at First United Methodist Church is inspired by the social gospel witness of Jesus, which calls us to love kindness, do justice and walk humbly with our God. We seek to be an intentional, inclusive, engaged community working to eradicate poverty of mind, body, and spirit as we commit ourselves to being a significant voice in the community, working to address the issues of housing, health care, hunger, living wages, education, environment and social justice and peace.



# A RECONCILING congregation

*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.*

First Church has been a Reconciling Congregation since 1993 and has a variety of activities to foster an inclusive atmosphere within the life of our church, through special worship services, participation in the Pride Parade, and regular fellowship opportunities. Join the R+Friends group that goes out for lunch following the worship service on the third Sunday of every month.

In addition, there will be a Fall Kickoff Potluck on Saturday, September 9, 2006 beginning at 5:30 PM in room 202 for all who are interested in the reconciling ministries of First Church.



Portland First UMC will sponsor a featured film, Refugee All Stars, as a part of the NW Film Festival's Human Rights Watch Film Series. The film will play Wednesday, October 25 at 7:00 PM at the Portland Art Museum, Whitsell Auditorium, 219 SW Park Ave., Portland, OR, 97205.

*remember ... first sunday is FISH sunday ... help us feed the hungry*

# TRAVEL ADVENTURES

There are special travel opportunities available for adults throughout the year. Pick up registration materials in The Commons or at the church office. Upcoming events include:

## ANTIQUES AND BOUTIQUES OF HILLSBORO

Tuesday, October 17, 2006 we will travel to visit the antiques shops and boutiques of Hillsboro in their historic downtown area. We will meet at the church at 9:30 AM to take the MAX to Hillsboro. Costs are limited to the MAX fare, what you order for lunch, and your 'allowance' for the various shopping opportunities. Deadline for registering: October 1, 2006.

## DEAD SEA SCROLLS

On Saturday, November 18, 2006 we will travel to Seattle for The Dead Sea Scrolls Exhibit. *Discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls* is an exhibit that will take you on an expedition that is beyond words, beyond time, and beyond your imagination. Experience the most remarkable archeological discovery of the 20th Century, and explore both the spiritual context of these scrolls with the science and scholarship associated with their discovery. We will be traveling to Seattle via RAZ Transportation, leaving First Church at 8AM and returning in the evening. Cost is \$76 per person, which includes admission to the Pacific Science Center Museum and exhibit *Discovering the Dead Sea Scrolls*, admission to the IMAX theater presentation *Mysteries of Egypt*, and round-trip luxury motor coach to Seattle. Deadline for registering: October 6, 2006.

## LEAVENWORTH WINTER TOUR

Travel to Leavenworth, Washington, Tuesday through Thursday, January 9-11, 2007 for our Leavenworth Winter Tour 2007. Enjoy the snow, holiday lights, a sleigh ride, bargain shopping and a round-trip Amtrack ride from Portland to Tacoma as a part of this journey to the pleasant Bavarian style village of Leavenworth, Washington. Cost of the tour is \$400 per person based on double hotel room. Single supplement for exclusive use of a hotel room -- \$150 additional. Deposit of \$50 per person due by October 1, 2006. Final Payment due: December 7, 2006. Registration forms available in the church office or in the Commons on Sundays.

# SENIOR ADULTS

## 55-ALIVE DRIVING COURSE

The popular 55-Alive Driving Course for senior adults will be offered Wednesday and Thursday, October 11-12, 2006, from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. Register by calling the church office: 503/228-3195.

## NEW FITNESS

New Fitness is an exercise class for seniors that meets every Tuesday and Thursday from 9:00 to 10:00 AM in Collins Hall. \$3 donation per session. Instructor: Valerie Branch. Everyone is welcome! Just come any Tuesday or Thursday morning

# FELLOWSHIP GROUPS

## BORN IN THE 60s, 70s, 80s

Born in the 60s, 70s, 80s? Have we got the group for you. Meet the rest of us at First Church on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:00 PM and walk for dinner and fellowship. (September 13, October 11, November 8, and December 13) Please call if you need childcare. Contact: Allison Anderson 503/670-7649 or ama1031@hotmail.com

## R+FRIENDS

For those interested in the First Church Reconciling Program. We go out for lunch following the worship service every third Sunday of the month. Meet after worship in the Commons. Contact: Arden Bryce, 503/665-2206

## FOOD AND FRIENDS

An adult dinner group that meets the second Friday of the month at a selected restaurant. Childcare is provided at the church nursery. Contact: Agnes Zach, 503/228-3195

## METHODIST HIKERS

Hikers take monthly hikes on Saturday mornings throughout the year. Contact: Paula Justice, 503/665-2206

## THE PARKER GROUP

A potluck and program the first Saturday of the month at 11:00 AM at the church. Contact: Lorraine Johnson, 503/236-9620.

## THE SHOVEL AND RAKE GANG

meets every Thursday from 8:00 AM to Noon to do projects around the church, with a break for refreshments and fellowship at 10:30 AM. Contact: Terry Connell, 503/292-1911

## BRIDGE GROUP

These seniors meet on Tuesdays from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM for bridge. Contacts: Bill and Thelma McDonald, 503/223-5293.

# METHODIST WOMEN

United Methodist Women is for all women, and open to men as well. Our purpose statement says it well:

*We are a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ, and to develop a creative, supportive fellowship. We seek to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.* Our primary focus is upon ministries for women, children and youth. We are committed to inclusiveness.

You are invited to become a part of this great organization, which welcomes persons of diverse ethnic and socio-economic backgrounds, employed or not, homemakers, single, married, divorced, young, middle-aged or older. You will find inspiration and a warm welcome at our monthly programs held on the first Wednesday of the month at 10:00 AM in the Fireside Room.

## FALL HIGHLIGHTS

- Catch the spirit of the electrifying theme of this year's National Assembly: *Rise! Shine! Glorify God!*
- Explore several dimensions of *Harvesting Peace*, the 2006-2007 School of Christian Mission study
- Learn about projects which serve Brazil's street children
- A new and beautiful Advent program, Praising God with Mind, Body & Soul will feature liturgical dance, with a served luncheon following.
- Mark November 11, 2006 on your calendar now for our Saturday Brunch, for everyone. It will feature piano inspirations by Liz Casswell.

You'll find just the place for you in our many ongoing activities and small groups, as well as at our first Wednesday monthly programs. For more information call: Pat Brockman, 503-292-6270 or Colleen Foster, 503/641-3479.

# PASTORAL



First Church provides pastoral care for those who are: sick at home or in the hospital, in a time of personal or family crisis, experiencing grief following a death, or in need of supportive counseling. We also seek to keep regular contact with our home-bound members.

## PRAYER CHAIN

In cooperation with the United Methodist Women, we have a Prayer Chain for members and friends of the church. If you have a concern that you would like added to the Prayer Chain, call the church office at 503/228-3195.

## STEPHEN MINISTRY

Stephen Ministry is a program at First Church, which provides caring Christian support and friendship through a trained lay ministry team. These individuals provide a listening ear when in crisis, death, prolonged illness, or other situation arises. To receive the services of a Stephen Minister, contact Tom Foster through the church office.

All pastoral care needs and requests should be directed to Rev. Tom Foster, Minister of Pastoral Care, at 503/228-3195 ext. 233 or at [tfoster@fumcpdx.org](mailto:tfoster@fumcpdx.org)

# LOOKING AHEAD



## DECEMBER 2, 9, 16, 23

Parent's Days Out

## DECEMBER 3

Christmas Faire and Chili Feed  
Annual Church Conference

## DECEMBER 17

Christmas Caroling

## DECEMBER 24

A Family Worship Service at 10:30 AM  
Candlelight Services at 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 PM

## JANUARY 9-11

Local Travel Adventure to Leavenworth, Washington

## JANUARY 14, 21, AND 28

Legends of the Apostles  
with Dr. Lane McGaughy, Willamette University