



# THE CIRCUIT RIDER

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

*the Edition*

February 7, 2007  
Volume 11, Issue 03

## THIS SUNDAY

February 11, 2007

WORSHIP  
10:30 AM

SCOUTING  
SUNDAY

### PREACHING

Rev. Dr. Lowell  
Greathouse

### A CONVERSATION WITH OUR CHILDREN

Rev. Dr. Arvin Luchs



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.

# THE FIRST CHURCH PANCAKE

# PapapALooza

# SUNDAY

**FEBRUARY 11, 2007**

**11:45 AM COLLINS HALL**

- PANCAKE BRUNCH
- CARNIVAL GAMES
- SPECIAL ACTIVITIES BY  
Boy Scouts, Fall Frolic,  
Missions
- SINGING VALENTINES
- USED BOOK SALE  
By the Church Library
- PRIMROSE SALE  
By the UMW

All proceeds benefit our  
youth attendance at  
Youth 2007  
a national United Methodist  
Youth event.



## COST

\$5.00 per Person for Brunch & Games

\$3.50 per Person for Brunch OR Games Separately

Tickets Available at the Door



# memo

Rev. Dr. Arvin Luchs and Rev. Dr. Lowell Greathouse

If there is a rhythm to the church year then the tempo is about to change.

The hope and anticipation of Advent burst forth into the wonder and joy of Christmas. The shortest of the calendar, the ten days of Christmastide modulated into the season of light: Epiphany.

This year the beat changes, abruptly, on February 21st with the start of the forty-day-season of Lent.

It ends on Easter dawn with drum rolls and trumpets heralding the triumph and rejoicing over Christ's resurrection

Lent started as a period of instruction for new converts preparing for baptism which was traditionally bestowed on Easter eve. It soon morphed into a time of self-discipline, reflection and penitence when those who were alienated from the church were invited to be reconciled and restored back into the Christian community.

In the early church, Christians gathered together for one of the most intimate and emotional moments of our faith: the imposition of ashes during the dramatic Ash Wednesday liturgy. The ashes (traditionally the charred remains from last year's palms) became a symbol of our broken promises, our dashed hopes, and life-dreams that all too often seem to go up in smoke. Ash Wednesday is a liturgical reminder for each of us that in some way we are all alienated from others around us and from God...and that a spirit of forgiveness is at the very foundation of our faith as Christians.

This year your pastors invite you to consider this Lent a "Season of Forgiveness" and open your hearts to the renewing, restoring power of grace in your hearts, our relationships, this community and the world.

Each Sunday morning, Arvin will be speaking about the different dimensions of forgiveness during worship. Lowell has arranged a dynamic schedule of speakers for the Lenten Suppers on Wednesday evenings. We invite you to set aside time each of the forty days to meditate and reflect, let the scripture speak to your heart, read, study and pray that God's forgiving, redeeming and restoring love be experienced in us all.

It all begins on Wednesday, February 21st with our annual Lenten Supper Series and an Ash Wednesday Service at 7:00 PM in the chapel. (Supper will be served from 5:30 to 6:30 PM in Collins Hall.)

The next Sunday (February 25th) Arvin will reflect upon living and forgiving in a sermon titled, *Be Cool to the Pizza Dude*.

Subsequent Lenten Supper programs are detailed in the accompanying program guide.

May this Lent be a time of renewal for you and for our congregation!

See you in Church!

*Arvin and Lowell*



## Watoto report

The concert of the Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda was an unforgettable experience for our congregation. It was hard not to be swept up by the joy and enthusiasm of these children. An offering was taken for the event and \$3075 was raised for this work in Africa. Thanks to Dee Poujade, the Chair of Global Mission and her committee for their work in making this event happen!

# adults at first

sunday classes

## THE FELLOWSHIP OF SEEKERS

Sunday mornings from 9:15-10:15 AM in Room 134  
How do you introduce Christians to Islam? The Fellowship of Seekers is going to find out.

Amir Hussain, who loves both religions, speaks of both with the candor that only love can confer in his book, *Oil & Water*. While conveying a core of basic information, this cogent, deeply personal book dodges none of the questions that most sharply divide these two religions.

The Seekers begin their study February 4. They meet every Sunday from 9:15 to 10:15 AM. with discussions led by class members. Join in! Books are available in the classroom.

## CHANGING CHRISTIANITY

Sunday mornings 9:00-10:15 AM in Room 202  
The next few weeks will be a time of review, looking ahead, and open discussion.

# fellowship

methodist hikers

## SNOWSHOE HIKING

The February outing for UMC Hikers will be a snowshoe hike on Saturday, February 24, 2007. Snowshoeing is a great way to get exercise and enjoy the beautiful Mt. Hood area. Beginners are always welcome! We will meet in the Tigard UMC parking lot (9845 SW Walnut Place) at 8:15 AM to form carpools. We will do a three-mile hike in the Enid Lake area near Ski Bowl. Besides the snowshoes, poles and boots, participants should wear appropriate warm clothing and bring water, snacks and lunch. The cost will be about \$6-8 for the carpool, Sno-Park Permit and an optional snack stop on the way home. If you would like to participate or have any questions, please e-mail Paula Justice at [jpaula354@aol.com](mailto:jpaula354@aol.com) or call her at 503/524-3737.

# INTERNSHIPS

Church and Society for Social Justice, First United Methodist Church, as part of its outreach mission program is announcing the internship program for summer of 2007. The purpose is to provide direct human services in our community in agencies to whom First Church provides funding. Internships are open to persons from age sixteen years and above. Generally interns work for a period of ten weeks during the summer months. The internships are intended to enrich the individual intern, the agency for whom they work and the broader community whom they will be serving. As all interns chosen will be representing First Church, considerations will be given to applicants with a church affiliation. A stipend is provided. For application information contact Annie Heart at 503/228-3195 ext 215.

# umw

united methodist women

## WOMEN OF FIRST CHURCH: UMW

All women are invited to the following meetings. Note that the Unit Gathering is the first Wednesday of each month. President: Pat Brockman, 503.292.6270.

## THANK YOU

Thanks to all who helped with the January 28 commemorative service. We give a special thank you to Colleen Foster, who was our preacher for the day, and to Maribeth Collins, who has supported United Methodist Women through the years.

## TEA AT HIGH NOON & FASHION SHOW

A tea and fashion show will be held February 24, 2007. It will be presented in Collins Hall by UMW and First UMC. Both men and women are invited. After you are served tea, sandwiches, and sweets in style, the youth will then model clothing that is comfortable and attractive. This "Sweat Free" fashion show stresses how we can become socially responsible consumers, supporting clothing alternatives that do not involve sweat shop labor. Come for tea at noon. A ticket costs only \$10 and all proceeds go towards travel scholarships to Youth 2007 Youth in South Carolina. This event highlights the UMW Globalization study. For more information contact Trudy Kayser at 503/292-7528. Tickets will be on sale during Coffee Hour on February 11 & 18, 2007. Make checks payable to United Methodist Women. Bring the whole family... mom, dad, grandma, and grandpa too! Come and support our youth.

## PRIMROSE SALE

On Sunday, February 11 at the Pancake Papalooza, the UMW will be selling primroses. All proceeds will be going to missions. For information contact Peg Cook at 503/452-7298.

## FAITH CIRCLE

The Faith Circle will meet Wednesday, February 21, at 10:00 AM in the Parlor. The program will feature a Bible study on peace led by Dr. Ross Miller. Chair: Eleanor Stubbs, 503/659.9024.

## RUTH CIRCLE

The Ruth Circle will meet Wednesday, February 21, at noon in Room 204. The program, Health Care through Medicare, will be given by Elaine Jones, RN. Bring a sandwich. Dessert and beverage will be provided. Chair: Betty-Lou Hare, 503/292-1773

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR:

Thursday, March 8, 2007 there will be a Legislative Event at Salem First UMC, Salem, OR. For more details contact Pat Brockman at 503/292.6270.

# our prayers

prayers and concerns

## PRAYERS OF CELEBRATION ...

*Brian and Nancy Rea* had a baby girl, Emery Parker Rea, on January 17, 2007; *Matthew Fricke*, was awarded the rank of Eagle Scout.

## PRAYERS OF SYMPATHY ...

*The Family & friends of Hanley Denning*, who died in an auto crash in Guatemala last month. She was a friend of KOLEEN HALL, and the founder of Safe Passage, an organization for rescuing children, who were foraging in the dump in Guatemala City;

*Ted Barber and family*, on the death of Ted's father.

## PRAYERS OF CONCERN ...

*Bruce Henderson*, who fell and broke his hip. He is at Kaiser Sunnyside Hospital;

*Bill Hill*, who is at home dealing with several health problems;

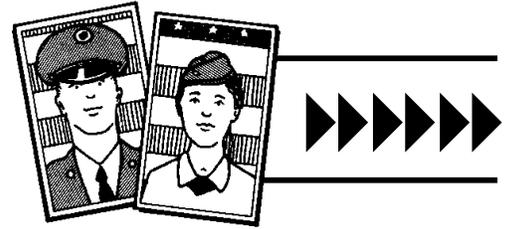
*Janice Hauser*, who is home, recovering from surgery;

*Carol Howard*, who is recovering from surgery at St. Vincent Hospital;

## CONTINUED PRAYERS FOR ...

*Robert & Virginia Anderson, Al Leonard, Dick Clark, Lettie Schulz,*

*Bryan Smith, Maxine Closerman, and Beverly Allan, (mother of Richard Allan)*



## THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY ABROAD

*Daniel Bomberger*,  
in the USAF in Kyrgyzstan

*Jared Bomberger*,  
in the USAF in Turkey  
They are sons of Judy Bomberger  
and grandsons of Betty Hager.

*Michael Panck*,  
in the US Army in Baghdad. He is the  
son of Ken & Ruthann Panck.

*Keith Bullock*,  
in the US Army in Baghdad  
He is the son-in-law of Pamela Moyers.

### 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 **February 21, 2007**.

**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.

getting to the heart of the matter

SPRING 2007

FEBRUARY - JUNE

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.

Living a  
Vibrant  
Faith:

BELIEVING  
THINKING  
THINKING

VISIT OUR  
WEBSITE AT  
www.  
fumcdx.  
org

"We are communities in time and in a place, but we are communities in faith as well-and sometimes time can stop shadowing us. Our lives are touched by those who lived centuries ago, and we hope that our lives will mean something to people who won't be alive until centuries from now. It's a great 'chain of being,' someone once told me, and I think our job is to do the best we can to hold up our small segment of the chain. That's one kind of localism, I guess, and one kind of politics-doing your utmost to keep that chain connected, unbroken." - Dorothy Day

It is a sense of community that links us with each other through time. Through community we discover our connections and deepen our relationships with each other. Please join the First Church community in one of the many opportunities described in this Program Guide, so that we can become the kind of community that cares for one another and that reaches out in compassion to a hurting world.

coming  
TOGETHER

THE COMMONS IN COLLINS HALL

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 to just have coffee with a friend. Following Sunday morning worship, follow the signs and join us in Collins Hall.

THE COMMONS EAST

Before worship you are invited to Commons East. From 8:45 to 10:15 AM each Sunday morning in Room 210, we serve coffee, juice and snacks. Drop in for some conversation and fellowship before worship.



*especially for*  
**NEW  
COMERS**

**AN ORIENTATION  
TO FIRST CHURCH  
MARCH 4 AND  
APRIL 22**

If you would like to officially join First United Methodist Church, 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 joining. You are also welcome to come if you simply want to learn more about First Church. These introductory sessions will be offered: March 4 and April 22, 2007. For more information or to register to be a part of one of the sessions, contact the church office at 503/228-3195.

**A WORD ABOUT  
PARKING**

In addition to the parking next to the church, there is also parking available to the 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.

# FELLOWSHIP

**FOOD AND FRIENDS**

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

**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.

**BORN IN THE 60S, 70S, AND 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 7:00PM and walk for dinner and fellowship. Please call if you need childcare. Contact: Allison Anderson 503/670-7649 or ama1031@hotmail.com

**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**

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

**BRIDGE GROUP**

These seniors meet on Tuesdays from 11:00 AM to 3:00 PM for bridge in room 202. Contacts: Bill and Thelma McDonald, 503/223-5293.

**BREAKING BREAD GROUPS**

First Church has a number of dinner groups that meet in people's homes and go out for dinner. They are called Breaking Bread groups. If you would like to be a part of one of these groups, please fill out the enclosed flyer and return it to the church office. Questions, contact Lowell Greathouse at 503/228-3195 or lgreathouse@fumcpdx.org

## First Church STAFF

**Senior Pastor**

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**Director of Youth Ministries**

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**Artistic Director of Music  
and Organist**

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

**Executive Director of Music**

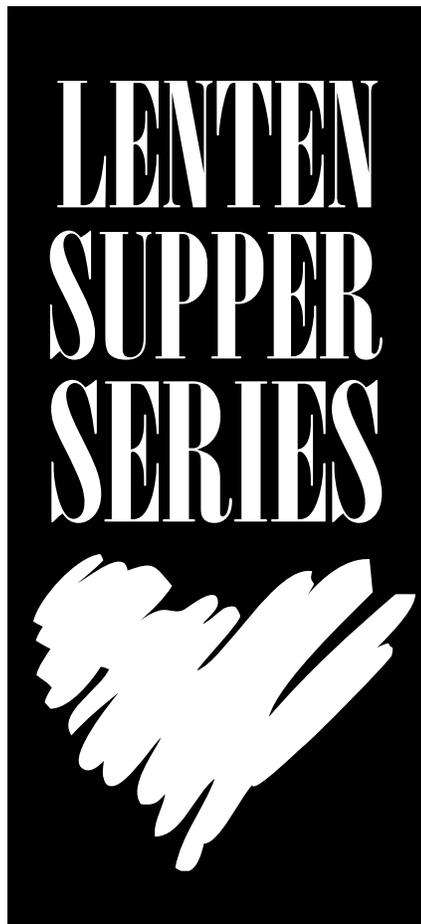
Kelly Qualls  
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**Church Administrator**

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503/228-3195 ext. 222  
cbostick@fumcpdx.org

**Administrative Assistant**

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



*a season of*  
**FORGIVENESS** 

**February 21 ■ Ash Wednesday Service**  
 (Supper in Collins Hall/ Service in the Chapel)

**February 28 ■ The Practice of Forgiveness:  
 Letting Go of Grudges and Resentment**

Presenter: Judy Brodkey

*Judy has a Master of Social Services degree and is a facilitator, trainer, life coach and organizational development consultant. She has led numerous workshops and groups on forgiveness, conflict resolution, change & transition, grief and loss, and other topics. She has also served as an adjunct faculty member in the PSU Graduate Program in Conflict Resolution.*

**March 7 ■ High and Low Community  
 Dreams about Sin, Forgiveness and Justice**

Presenters: Tom O'Connor, Ph.D and Tim Cayton

*As Administrator of Religious Services for the Oregon Department of Corrections, Tom O'Connor leads a team of almost 30 professional religious staff and 1500 faith-based volunteers. Tim Cayton is the Assistant Administrator of Religious Services at the Oregon Department of Corrections.*

**March 14 ■ Forgiveness After War & Genocide:  
 The Legacy of Cambodia's Killing Fields.**

Presenters: Clare E. Humphrey and Kilong Ung

*Clare is a First UMC member with a career spanning five decades of designing and implementing national development assistance programs throughout Asia; former in-country Asia Foundation Representative in Cambodia. Special guest, Mr. Kilong Ung, is a survivor of the Khmer Rouge holocaust, during which he lost his parents and other family members. He is now a U.S. citizen and Portland area resident. Mr. Ung is currently President of the Cambodian-American Community of Oregon.*

**March 21 ■ Forgiveness and Jubilee: "Forgive Us Our Debts ..."**

Presenter: Chris Laing and Farley Maxwell

*Chris Laing is an Episcopal priest and has been Episcopal and ELCA Lutheran campus pastor at PSU for nine years. Farley Maxwell is a UCC pastor and has been a regional Peace Corps director and for four years was director of the Global Mission to Nepal in Katmandu.*

**March 28 ■ Forgiveness as a Requisite to Liberation**

Presenter: Tom H. Hastings

*Tom is core faculty in the MA/MS program at PSU and (while not a Catholic) is a founding member of Whitefeather Catholic Worker Peace Community in North Portland.*

Supper is from  
 5:30 to 6:30 PM in Collins Hall

Program is from  
 6:30 to 7:30 PM in Collins Hall

Lent is a season of repentance, as well as a time to prepare for the celebration of Easter. It is a time of self-reflection and renewal. We hope you will join us for First Church's Annual Lenten Suppers and Programs. This year's theme is: *A Season of Forgiveness*. Come each week for a special meal, beginning at 5:30 PM. Then enjoy a variety of programs, as each week we explore different aspects of the meaning of forgiveness in our lives and in our world. Child care will provided.

*the meal*

*At 5:30 pm each Wednesday night during the Lenten Series, come to Collins Hall for a Soup Supper Buffet. Michael Copeland will prepare a delicious meal for us to share. The fellowship around tables is always "warming" too! There is a suggested \$5.00 donation for the meal.*

# ADULT LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

## FAITH & PUBLIC LIFE SERIES



### **The Politics of Jesus: March 4, 11, 18, and 25**

Join us for this study of Obery Hendricks' book *The Politics of Jesus*. Who was Jesus? And how was this first-century political revolutionary, whose teachings are meant to lead the way to freedom, turned into a meek and mild servant of the status quo? How is it possible to profess a belief in Jesus yet ignore the suffering of the poor and the needy? Just how truly faithful to the vision of Jesus are the many politicians who claim to be Christian? These are the kinds of questions Obery Hendricks, a biblical scholar, activist, and minister, asks in this provocative new book.

When: The class will meet on Sunday mornings in the Fireside Room from 9:15 to 10:15AM.

### **Our Endangered Values by Jimmy Carter: April 15, 22 and 29**

Join us for this three-part series, using Jimmy Carter's recent book *Our Endangered Values*. As Carter writes, "Americans cherish the greatness of our homeland, but many do not realize how extensive and profound are the transformations that are now taking place in our nation's basic moral values and political philosophy." Be a part of this lively discussion as we look at the current changes taking place in America

When: The class will meet on Sunday mornings in the Fireside Room from 9:15 to 10:15AM.

### **John Winthrop, Abraham Lincoln, Martin Luther King, Jr.:**

### **Examining Three Historic Documents that Shaped America: May 6, 13 and 20**

Winthrop's *City on the Hill Address*, Lincoln's *Second Inaugural Address* and Martin Luther King's *Letter from a Birmingham Jail* have all shaped who we are as a people. Join us as we discuss these three important American documents.

When: The class will meet on Sunday mornings in the Fireside Room from 9:15 to 10:15AM.

### **Restorative Justice Course: June 3, 10, 17 and 24**

This four-week Class will be led by Annie Heart, Director of Community Outreach at First UMC. Come explore the relationship between Community and Restorative Justice. Restorative justice addresses the hurts and the needs of the victim, the offender, and community in such a way that all-victim, offender, and community-might be healed. Justice is about right relationships, as revealed in Scripture and in the person of Jesus Christ. When relationships have been broken by violence or the hurts of crimes, the task of restorative justice is to make right that which is broken without creating more victims. This process uses nonviolence to restore relationships between people, families, communities and nations with dialogue, conferencing circles, forgiveness, accountability and relationship building. God's justice is relational. When relationships are not right, God's justice calls for a change of mind and heart.

When: The class will meet on Sunday mornings in the Fireside Room from 9:15 to 10:15 AM.

Interested in good books? The First Church Library is one of the great hidden secrets of First Church. The Church Library is open every Sunday beginning at 9:15 AM until about a half hour after church. The library contains over 6,000 books, audio tapes and video. The collection features both fiction and non-fiction for adults and children. The library is located in the 100 wing of the church. You can also stop by the Commons in Collins Hall after church to see their display!

the church  
**LIBRARY**

# AT FIRST CHURCH

## ONGOING ADULT CLASSES

### 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. Beginning February 25 and continuing through the Sundays of Lent, the class will be studying *The Last Week* by Marcus Borg and John Crossan.

When: The class meets on Sunday mornings from 9:00 to 10:15 AM in Room 202.

### THE FELLOWSHIP OF SEEKERS

This on-going adult class seeks spiritual growth through study and discussion of writings by current and historic religious thinkers. *Oil & Water: Two Faiths, One God* is the new focus of study by the class. The author, Amir Hussain, is a Canadian Muslim who knows and loves both religions. Join in the lively discussions led by class members each week. Books are available in the classroom.

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

### READERS' THEATER

A Sunday Morning Readers' Theater Class will be offered February 4, 11, 18, and 25, 2007. We will read Lorraine Hansberry's *Raisin in the Sun*, a true classic of 20th century American theater. As part of First UMC's honoring of Black History Month, our reading (with discussion) of the play will cover three consecutive Sundays. At a fourth session overview, we will also read selected poems of Pulitzer Prize Winner Maya Angelou.

When: Sunday mornings in the Fireside Room from 9:15 to 10:15 AM.

As a part of the First Church Adult ministries, we want to offer more readers' theater classes. Class participants will read and discuss the finest plays and literature that carry an abiding social message. Last summer, we read the compelling *Inherit the Wind*. This effort will give potential thespians experience in presenting and evaluating great drama in a congenial atmosphere without having to memorize lines and stage blocking assignments. The church will gain gifted members who can eventually perform inspirational pieces or liturgical readings at First Church. Fulfill your long-held desire to emote and expand your knowledge in a non-threatening atmosphere. If you are interested, contact Lowell Greathouse at 503/228-3195 or [lgreathouse@fumcpdx.org](mailto:lgreathouse@fumcpdx.org) or Clare Humphrey at 503/230-8336.

### GLOBAL WARMING DISCUSSION

A Global Warming Discussion orientation will be held Sunday, February 18, 2007 at 9:15 AM in Room 160. First UMC's Planet Church Committee is offering a discussion course titled: *Global Warming: Changing cO2urse*, developed by the Northwest Earth Institute. At that session, participants may purchase the materials for \$15 (participants may share materials if they like), which are readings for each of the following four weekly sessions. During the sessions, participants will learn more about the history and science of global warming, explore personal values and habits as they relate to climate change and consider actions to curb global warming. Just in the past year, global warming has moved to the forefront of many major political, economic and moral discussions and this discussion course will be a great chance for you to learn more and participate in the dialogue about how to address this issue..

When: An introductory session on Sunday, February 18 from 9:15-10:15 AM in room 160.

## SHORT TERM ADULT CLASSES



# LOCAL ADVENTURES

Thursday, February 15

## Treasures of Ancient Egypt Exhibit

Enjoy the exhibit at the Portland Art Museum and then have lunch at Southpark Seafood Grill.

Saturday, March 3

## Faith & Family Night with the Blazers

Take in a Blazer game at the Rose Garden.

Thursday, April 19

## Mt. Angel Benedictine Abby

Take an excursion to the Benedictine Abby in Mt. Angel.

Saturday, July 14

## Washington County Ag Tour

Saturday, July 28

## Portland Walking Tour

Take an Epicurean Excursion in the Pearl District.

Thursday, August 9

## Portland's Fountains

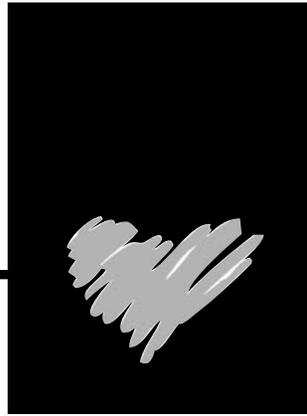
Explore Portland's fountains and have lunch with Charlie White.

Thursday August 30 -Saturday, Sept. 1

## Shakespeare in Ashland

Enjoy the Shakespearean Festival in Ashland, Oregon.

Scholarships are available on a limited basis. For more information or to register, pick up a Local Travel flyer in the Commons or church office. Questions: contact Lowell Greathouse at 503/228-3195 or [lgreathouse@fumcpdx.org](mailto:lgreathouse@fumcpdx.org)



## 55-ALIVE

When:

Wednesday and Thursday, March 21 and 22, 2007

OR

Wednesday and Thursday, June 13 and 14, 2007

55-Alive is a unique program for older drivers. This popular course is offered three times a year at First UMC. Each day the class runs from 9:00AM to 1:00 PM in the Fireside Room. A teacher, trained through AARP, teaches this refresher course for drivers 50 years of age and over. Pre-registration is required. The cost is \$10.00. Make checks payable to: AARP. Register soon, class size is limited to 30 students and there have been waiting lists in the past. To register call the church office at 503/228-3195 or [sblalock@fumcpdx.org](mailto:sblalock@fumcpdx.org)

# ELECTIVES *for* ENRICHMENT

Electives for Enrichment are Monday classes held in the Fireside Room from 10:00 AM to Noon.

## UNDERSTANDING ISLAM AND MUSLIMS

Understanding Islam and Muslims will be offered January 29 through March 5, 2007. In this five-week class, speakers from the Muslim Educational Trust will share information about Islam and Muslims to help us better understand issues facing Muslims in America and to ease some of the tensions between Christians and Muslims. In each class, we will have the opportunity to discuss the issues raised in that day's lecture. Topics will include:

- An Introduction to Islam
- Muhammad-A Prophet for Our Time
- Islam and Muslims in the Media,
- Gender Equity in Islam
- Current Christian-Muslim Relations in America.

For more information, contact Lowell Greathouse at 503/228-3195 or [lgreathouse@fumcpdx.org](mailto:lgreathouse@fumcpdx.org) To register contact Shirley Blalock at the church or [sblalock@fumcpdx.org](mailto:sblalock@fumcpdx.org)

## FAITH AND REASON

*Faith and Reason* will be offered Mondays, April 23 through May 21, 2007. This five-session program will be taught by Rev. Dr. Arvin Luchs, First Church Senior Pastor. Look for more information and registration details in the Commons in Collins Hall.





# YOUTH CHILDREN

## SUNDAY SCHEDULE FOR YOUTH

### Middle School Youth Sunday School

is for those youth in Sixth - Eighth Grades. This class meets at 9:30 AM each Sunday in Room 130.

### High School Youth Sunday School

is for those youth in 9th-12th Grades. This class meets at 9:30 AM each Sunday morning in the Youth Room.

### Sunday Evening Youth Programming

Middle school (grades 6 to 8) meet from 5:30 to 6:30 PM, and high school from 7:00 to 8:00 PM. Dinner is provided by volunteers for both groups from 6:30 to 7:00 PM.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- March 9-11, 2007  
LLAF District Youth Retreat at Camp Magruder
- March 18, 2007  
Confirmation Sunday
- March 18, 2007  
First UMC Youth Music Recital at  
3:00 PM in the Sanctuary
- April 29, 2007  
Youth Sunday
- July 10 through July 16, 2007  
Youth 2007 in North Carolina. We will join with United Methodist Youth from all over the country for worship, education and fun. We will be announcing various fund raising events throughout the spring.

## CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School for children begins following the "Conversation with Our Children" time in worship, approximately 10:45 AM. Your children can be picked up from class after worship

## CHILDREN'S CHOIRS

For information about the choirs available for children and their rehearsal time, see page 10 of this program guide.

## CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Every fourth Sunday of the month for kids in Kindergarten through 5th Grade, we have a special Children's Church service in the chapel.

## CHILDCARE

We offer loving child care Sunday mornings from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. If you are interested in attending one of the special weekday classes, please call the church office to see if childcare is available. A \$5.00 donation per family is requested for non-Sunday events.



# SUMMER CAMP

A special informational gathering for parents, youth, and children related to United Methodist Camps will be held in March, after worship. Information will include: registration materials, scholarship process, opportunities for people interested in serving as counselors, attending camps as a family and more. A representative and display from the Camp Office will be on hand. Details to follow. For more immediate information go the Conference Camping and Retreat ministries at: [www.gocamping.org](http://www.gocamping.org).

# FORUMS AT FIRST

First Church Forums are held following the worship service and coffee hour from noon to 1:30 PM in the Fireside Room. Child care and light refreshments are provided.

February 25

## **Jubilee, the Sabbath Year**

Jubilee is a call to cancel the debt of the world's poorest countries in Africa and Latin America. This forum will be an update on how debt relief is working in Africa from two members of the Jubilee USA delegation to Kenya and Zambia, Pat Rumer and Nancy Yuill. Pat is currently the co-chair of the Jubilee USA Network, and Nancy is the co-chair of Jubilee Oregon, the local branch of Jubilee USA.

March 4

## **International Travel Opportunities**

This forum will include a slide presentation on the Costa Rica tour, with some information on the Danube Cruise at noon in the Fireside Room. For information contact Cheryl Luce at 503/380-8604 or [cheryl.luce@gmail.com](mailto:cheryl.luce@gmail.com).

March 11

## **Simply In Season: Local Food and Community Sustainability**

What are the ways in which choosing local, sustainably produced and fairly traded foods enact love for our neighbors and care for God's creation? Cathleen Hockman-Wert, co-author of the Mennonite Central Committee's *Simply in Season* cookbook, is our guide as we explore the connection between faith and food. Liv Gifford, coordinator of EMO's Interfaith Food and Farms Partnership, will highlight IFFP's efforts to increase access to fresh, locally grown food for all, especially people with low incomes. IFFP is supported in part by a grant from United Methodist Women. A light lunch, using recipes from *Simply in Season*, will be served. Copies of the cookbook will be available for purchase.

April 15

## **Health Care Update**

This forum will include an update on health care issues since the February 4, 2007 forum.

# SERVICE AND MINISTRY

## **HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WORK TEAM**

Join Pastors Arvin Luchs and Lowell Greathouse on Saturday, February 10, 2007 from 12:30 to 4:30 PM as a part of a Metro District Habitat Work Team. The site for the project is in the Hillsboro area, and members from Lake Oswego UMC will also be a part of the work team that day. If you are interested, please contact the church office at 503/228-3195.

## **COMMUNITY VOLUNTEER WEEK**

First Church "Community Volunteer Week" will be April 28 through May 5, 2007. This Spring, we'd like to begin a new First Church tradition "Community Volunteer Week." Join us on one of these special volunteer opportunities:

Saturday, April 28	Volunteering for the Environment
Tuesday, May 1	Volunteering for Others
Thursday, May 3	Volunteering for Others
Saturday, May 5	Volunteering for the Homeless

Planet Church will sponsor an environmentally-focused volunteer day on Saturday, April 28th...with two weekday volunteer efforts...and then we'll conclude with a team working with our very on Goose Hollow Family Shelter as we clean-up and close down the shelter for the season on Saturday, May 5, 2007. A meal and discussion time will follow this final volunteer session. More details will be forthcoming.

## **BE AN ADVOCATE FOR THE COMMUNITY**

February 26, 2007

Interfaith Energy and Climate Stewardship Advocacy Day  
Sponsored by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's Oregon Interfaith Power and Light and Oregon Interfaith Global Warming Campaign in partnership with congregations and organizations. Check the EMO website at: [www.emoregon.org](http://www.emoregon.org) for details.

March 8, 2007

Living Faithfully in the Public Space:  
2007 Oregon Legislative Event.

Sponsored by United Methodist Women.

Both events will take place in Salem, at the State Capitol.

For details and sign-up, check the Church and Society table in the Commons in Collins Hall.



Remember  
First Sunday is FISH Sunday  
Help us feed the hungry.

# OUTREACH AT FIRST



Outreach Ministry at First 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, social justice and peace. Outreach Ministries at First UMC include:

### **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). Our Bread for the World "Offering of Letters" will be held April 22 and 29, 2007. For details check the Commons in Collins.

### **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 30th. The Shelter needs a minimum of five volunteers each night. You are invited to explore ways to fully participate in the life and community of the Goose Hollow Family Shelter by visiting our webpage at: [www.fumcpdx.org/goosehollowfamilyshelter](http://www.fumcpdx.org/goosehollowfamilyshelter)

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).

# SPECIAL SUNDAYS AT FIRST

February 11  
**Scout Sunday and  
Pancake  
Papapalooza**

February 25  
**First Sunday of Lent**

March 18  
**One Great Hour of  
Sharing and  
Confirmation  
Sunday**

April 8  
**Easter Sunday**  
(services at  
9 and 11 AM)

April 22  
**Native American  
Ministries Sunday**

April 29  
**Youth Sunday**

May 13  
**Mother's  
Day/Festival of the  
Christian Home**

May 27  
**Pentecost Sunday**

June 3  
**Peace with  
Justice/Volunteer  
Sunday**

September 9  
**Welcome Home  
Sunday/50th  
Anniversary  
Celebration**

# MUSIC *at* FIRST



## About Music at First Church

The music program at Portland's First United Methodist Church provides musical excellence in all areas of church music.

Our music extends the ministry of this church to the greater Portland community.

**Jonas Nordwall,**  
Artistic Director of Music  
& Organist  
jnordwall@fumcpdx.org

**Kelly Qualls,**  
Executive Director of Music -  
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)

## MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR ADULTS

### The Chancel Choir

is directed by Gary St. John and sings for Sunday morning worship services. Choir rehearsals are Thursday evenings in the Chapel from 7:30 to 9:30 PM. All are welcome to sing in this volunteer choir.

### The Sanctuary Bell Choir

is directed by Nancy Hascall and 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:  
March 11, April 22, May 20, June 17

This group of ringers will combine with the other bell choirs to present a concert in the Sanctuary on Sunday, June 3, 2007 at 3:00 PM. The group will also go to a festival in the Rogue Valley in May 4 and 5, 2007.

## MUSIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

### The Cherub Choir

is directed by Janice Hauser and is for children from ages 3 through second grade. This choir meets on Sunday mornings in Room 206 from 9:30 - 10:15 AM. They are singing on: February 25, March 18, April 22, May 13, June 10

### The Sound Seekers Choir

is directed by Ronnee Edwards and is for children in grades 3 - 5. This choir rehearses on Sunday mornings in Room 136 from 9:30 - 10:15 AM. They are singing on: March 11, April 16, May 13 (musical), June 10

### The Veritas Choir

is directed by Carol Young and 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: February 25, May 20, April 19 (Youth Sunday), June 17

### The Genesis Ringers

is directed by Karin McDonough and is for beginning bell players. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings in Room 130 at 6:00 PM.

### juBELLation

is also directed by Karin McDonough, is the premiere youth handbell choir. They rehearse on Wednesday evenings in Room 130 at 7:00.

They will play on: March 18, May 27, April 15, June 10

This group of ringers will participate in a combined bells concert in the Sanctuary on Sunday, June 3, 2007 at 3:00 PM. They are also going to the Area VI Bell Festival in Tennessee in June.

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## YOUTH RECITAL ■ MARCH 18, 2007

On Sunday, March 18, 2007 the very talented youth of First UMC will be presented in concert in the Sanctuary at 3:00 PM. The event is sponsored by the Friends of Music and is chaired by Nan Anderson. A free will offering will be taken and will be used to help youth pay their way to Youth 2007 in Greensboro, N.C.

## CHILDREN'S MUSICAL ■ MAY 13

Soundseekers will present a musical in worship on Sunday, May 13, 2007.

## HANDBELL CONCERT ■ JUNE 3

Combined Sanctuary and juBELLation handbell choirs will present a concert at 3:00 PM on Sunday, June 3, 2007.



# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



## creative SPIRIT

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 Exhibitions are located in Collins Hall on the north wall. Exhibits rotate on a monthly basis and can be viewed on Sunday mornings, following worship.

The upcoming exhibits are:

February

**First Church Photographers**

March

**Icons from  
Trinity Episcopal Cathedral**

April

**Watercolors of Jean Blatner**

May

**UMW 5th Annual Quilt Show  
Artists from the P:EAR  
Program**

All women are invited to attend the following programs/events. Men are welcome also. Monthly programs are in the Fireside Room, with sack lunch following at noon in Room 202.

FEBRUARY 24

### **Tea and "No Sweat" Style Show**

A Special Saturday Event on February 24, 2007 will be our "Tea & 'No-Sweat' Style Show." It will be presented for both women and men, by our youth. After they serve tea and delectable morsels, with style, they will model clothing that is comfortable, attractive and does NOT come from "sweat shops" around the world. Come for High Tea at 11:30 AM. The cost is only \$10, with all profits going to help send our youth to Youth 2007 in North Carolina. Watch for details. This event highlights our UMW study of Globalization.

MARCH 7

### **Iconography: The Art of Seeing the Soul**

On Wednesday, March 7 at 10:00 AM our program will be: *Iconography: The Art of Seeing the Soul*, presented by Chris Armstrong-Stevenson, Director of Trinity Cathedral's Iconography Institute. Both reverent and beautiful, this is our introduction to the Creative Spirit Gallery March show of iconography. Come, learn, be inspired!

MARCH 8

### **Live Faithfully in Public Space**

The UMW will have a day at the State Capitol on Thursday, March 8, 2007. This will be a rewarding opportunity to meet with legislators and discuss how to "live faithfully in public space."

APRIL 11

### **Seeking Peace Simply**

Wednesday, April 11 at 10:00 AM our program, *Seeking Peace Simply. . .in Serene Camp Settings* will feature Lisa Jean Hoefner, Conference Camping Director. Hear first hand about camp experiences for adults, and learn more about the camping programs for children and youth, which our UMW mission money supports.

APRIL 20 & 21

### **Metro District Spiritual Life Retreat**

This retreat will be led by the Rev. Jane Shaffer, pastor at Newberg and held at the Alton L. Collins Retreat Center.

MAY 2

### **Harvesting Peace: India & Pakistan**

On Wednesday, May 2 at 10:00 AM our program will be: *Harvesting Peace: India & Pakistan*. This study will be led by our School of Christian Mission attendees.

MAY 4

### **Annual Quilt Luncheon**

The theme this year's Quilt Luncheon is from the fascinating book, *The Whale Rider*. This much anticipated event is our annual mission fund raiser.

JUNE 6

### **Picnic and Installation Celebration: Women, Leading the Way.**

JULY 12-15

### **School of Christian Mission at George Fox College**



# APRIL 1-8 2007

- April 1 **Palm Sunday**
- April 5 **Maundy Thursday** Service 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary
- April 6 **Good Friday** Service 7:00 PM in the Chapel
- April 8 **Easter Sunday** Services at 9:00 and 11:00 AM in the Sanctuary



### PASTORAL CARE

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 homebound members.

### PRAYER CHAIN

In cooperation with the United Methodist Women, we also have a Prayer Chain for members and friends of the church.

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

### PRAYER INFO LINE

The current Prayer Concerns list, in our congregation, can be accessed at any time by calling, 503/228-3195 ext. 500.

All pastoral care needs and requests should be directed to Rev. Tom Foster, our Minister of Pastoral Care. Rev. Foster can be reached at 503/228-3195 ext. 233 or e-mailed at [tfoster@fumcpdx.org](mailto:tfoster@fumcpdx.org), or [tcfooster2@verizon.net](mailto:tcfooster2@verizon.net).

# PASTORAL CARE

# LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

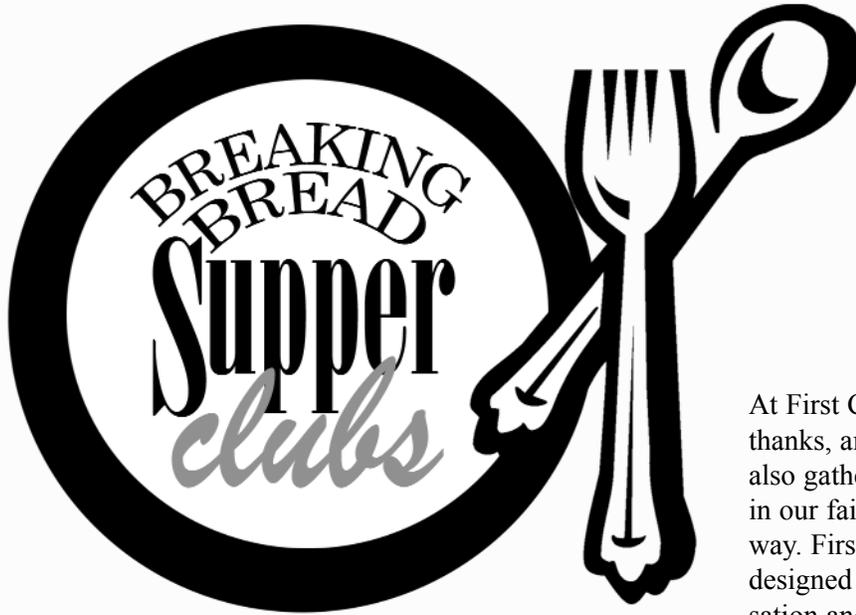
All meetings are held at 7:00 PM in the Fireside Room. The Leadership Council will meet on the following dates:

- March 21, 2007
- May 16, 2007
- September 19, 2007
- November 21, 2007

# UPCOMING EVENTS

### UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENTS AT FIRST CHURCH

- All Church Conference following worship - June 3
- UMC Annual Conference in Salem - June 13-16
- Pride Parade - June 17
- First Church Outreach Summit - June 23, 2007
- All-Church Picnic - Sunday, July 22, 2007 at Oaks Park (Area 11)
- Fall Frolic Family Camp - October 12 to 14th, 2007 at Camp Magruder



*a fun and  
interesting  
way to get  
acquainted  
with a variety  
of people  
from First  
Church*

At First Church, we gather to worship, sing, give thanks, and serve in the larger community, but we also gather to share fellowship - to grow together in our faith as friends and companions along the way. First Church Breaking Bread groups are designed to create opportunities to share conversation and get to know each other better in small fellowship settings. We hope that you will become part of one of these groups. It's a great way to meet others!

The Breaking Bread groups are made up of 6-8 individuals from our church family, who express an interest in being a part of a small, short-term fellowship group. Those who are interested will be matched in groups based on interests, location, and experiences. An initial convener-household will be set up and host the first gathering. From there it is up to the group to select the date, time, and place for future gatherings. It is our hope that everyone involved in a group will serve as a host on one occasion.

If your Breaking Bread group wishes to continue meeting beyond your initial round-robin gatherings that is entirely up to the group. If you are interested in a Breaking Bread group, please fill out this information sheet and return it to the church office by Sunday, February 18, 2007. The Breaking Bread Leadership Team will set up the groups and send out a confirmation letter to you, so that each group can get started. If you have any questions, please contact Rev. Lowell Greathouse at 503/228-3195 ext. 224 or email him at [lgreathouse@fumcpdx.org](mailto:lgreathouse@fumcpdx.org).

**To sign up for the Breaking Bread Supper Clubs,  
fill out the form on the back side of this page.**

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For more information on all First Church activities, visit our website at:  
[www.fumcpdx.org](http://www.fumcpdx.org)

# SIGN UP NOW

*Please fill out the following information,  
so we can create the best group matches for  
everyone involved.*



---

Names(s)

---

Address

---

City, State, Zip

---

E-mail Address

CHECK ALL THAT APPLY:

- I/we want to be a part of a new Breaking Bread group.**
- I/we are currently a part of a Breaking Bread group** that has decided to continue meeting with our current members. Those in my group are:

**I/we would like to be a part of a group that:**

- Meets in each other's homes
- Goes out to dinner together
- Meets around a particular interest. My interest is:  

---
- Includes children
- I/we are willing to serve as the convening host for the first gathering
- I/we have been in a Breaking Bread group before
- This is my/our first time to participate

Best times for me to participate are:

- Weekends
- Weekday evenings

Please turn this information into the church office by Sunday, February 18, 2007.  
We will send out confirmation materials about your group by the end of February.

First United Methodist Church  
1838 SW Jefferson, Portland, Oregon 97201  
503/228-3195