



THE CIRCUIT RIDER

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

July 21, 2010
Volume 14, Issue 15

WORSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

SUNDAY WORSHIP

July 25, 2010

10:30 AM

August 1, 2010

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 ACTING

all-church barbeque

We're
Havin' a
BAR-B-Q!



ALL-CHURCH FAMILY BARBEQUE

Yesiree, it's an all-out Western style Barbeque, for you and your friends ... for everyone! Families, singles, couples, young & old can kick up their heels at this delightful mid-summer event. So, mark calendar for Wednesday, July 28, 2010 at 5:30 PM in Collins Hall and the Collins Hall Courtyard. There will be ...

Barbeques set up in the Collins courtyard, being overseen by Shovel & Rake. There will be fun, food, and fellowship as we share summer experiences around the tables.

The evening's program will be highlighted by the dancing and singing team of Mark and Helena Greathouse. They will entertain us with selections from all-time western favorite, including Oklahoma! You'll have a chance to dance to Mark's lively accordion music as well ...

All young cowpokes, age 18 and under, will receive a ticket that says "free." For wranglers and old hands (over 18) a \$10 donation per person is suggested. So, \$20 for two-parent families, and \$10 for one-parent families will guarantee a fun-filled evening for all. There will be games and campfire singing for the "giddyap & go" group; Y'all come! But we do need a nose-count, to be sure we provide enough vittles for all. Your hosts are the United Methodist Women, and Children & Youth Ministries.

Food will be served from 5:30 - 7:00 PM, with entertainment for both youngsters and the young-at-heart interspersed throughout the evening. Just for fun, dig out those cowboy boots, straw hats, red neckerchiefs-- get in the spirit of a great church family event!

You Outta Be In Pictures ... Sign Up Now

See page 3 for info on our new Photo Directory



42nd Annual Conference of the Oregon Idaho United Methodist Church

The 42nd Annual Conference of the Oregon Idaho United Methodist Church was all about change. First we met in the Salem Conference Center rather than Willamette University so we had excellent audiovisual systems, great conference space and an attached hotel. From the beginning as participants in the event; we were embracing a potpourri of change for Oregon-Idaho congregations. From the opening statements of the Bishop, we discussed change toward the goal of growing healthy vital congregations. Name changes of District Superintendents to Assistant to Bishops (A to B) -Snake River instead of Eastern District- are just two examples.

Conference reorganization was undertaken by a suspension of the Conference rules to aid in the effort. We were all encouraged to keep our eye on the goal vital healthy congregations and a face of Methodism to the world.

The first change will mean more support by the Assistant to Bishop to local congregations to achieve their goals and objectives. We will see less district wide events and more emphasis on local leadership development and mentoring across congregations. The leadership the Annual Conference (AC) has organized its changes as five major shifts in strategy. The five “P’s” used to describe these changes:

PERSPECTIVE

There is a move away from routine connectional programs and agendas to the overall purpose of nurturing healthy and vital congregations that are making disciples of Jesus Christ.

PROGRAM

Program is shifting away from rationing diminishing resources to concentrating its resources in strategic initiatives to achieve increasing number of healthy vital congregations.

PERSONNEL

Personnel is shifting from District Superintendents as chief administrators of the districts to change agents to implement the overriding goal growing healthy vital congregations throughout the Conference. This means a culture shift in the way that the work of the district is accomplished and will be ever-changing.

POLITY-GOVERNANCE

Polity-Governance of any entity is a central point of operations and the Conference is shifting from a “Connectional Table” of various representatives, ex-officio and at-large who met about four times a year to a Ministry Leadership team of Conference Personnel that meets frequently to develop and achieve the mission of the Conference “Boldly Making Disciples of Jesus Christ”.

“PHUNDING”

And lastly, a play on words, “phunding/funding” which is a move away from the three sections of budget to a unified budget presentation that will make conference funding more flexible and apportioned to local churches in a single apportionment.

The Leadership Institute was an admirable training event that Parish Conference members, Lay Leaders and all Lay members to Annual Conference attended. It offered new and different thoughts and ideas and you will be seeing the results of that training throughout this year as we discuss and adapt to the changes of our conference in working to grow healthy, vital congregations that are BOLDLY MAKING DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST.

From: Your Lay Members to Annual Conference - Cheryl Bittle, Bill Birge, and Lori Clarke



Our Church Directory Won't Be Complete

Without You



SMILE! YOU OUGHT TO BE IN PICTURES!

Now that we have your attention, we are preparing for a NEW church pictorial directory. Do you ever see people in church and wonder what their names are? Have you even heard an announcement regarding someone in the congregation and wished you could put a face with a name? Are you new to our church and wish you had something to help you put names with faces? Well help is on the way!

- We are producing a pictorial directory for our church
- There is no cost to you or the church to have photographs taken, and you will receive a complimentary 8 X 10 portrait and directory
- You will be able to view your images electronically immediately after you are photographed
- At that time, you will have the opportunity to purchase additional portraits to share with family and friends
- Although only your photo will appear in the directory, extended family and friends can be included in additional portraits

Sign-up Procedure

Our photo schedule begins Thursday, August 26 through Saturday, August 28 and continues Tuesday, September 21 through Saturday, September 25, 2010.

Beginning Sunday, July 25, you may sign-up in the narthex each Sunday before the worship service as well as in the narthex and Collins Hall after the service. So bring your calendar!

Better yet, you may sign up on-line on the First Church website: www.fumcpdx.org

Online sign ups begin Wednesday, July 21 and are available every day 24/7 (except Sunday) after that.

Don't delay! Early sign-ups get the first choice of times

Volunteers Needed

To make our directory a success we need volunteers to serve as hosts or hostesses during the actual photography sessions. Contact Gwyneth Rochlin at 503.624.1819 or by email at gwynethr@comcast.net. There are sign-up sheets for volunteers in the narthex and Collins Hall.

Questions? Call Edie Jensen, our Directory Coordinator, at 503.624.0229.

AUGUST ONLY SPECIAL ... Include your pet in additional photos taken during your photo session!

adult sunday school class

CHANGING CHRISTIANITY

This class meets each Sunday from 9:00 to 10:15 AM in Room 110. The Changing Christianity Class offers the opportunity for wide-ranging conversations about religion and Christianity past, present, and future. Current conversations center on *The Future of Faith* by Harvey Cox.

ART OF FAITH

The film, *Art of Faith: Architecture and Art of the Most Significant Religious Buildings of the World*, will be shown at 9:15 AM, Sunday July 25 through August 8, 2010. This film visits twenty-seven worship sites all over the world featuring Abrahamic faiths, Judaism, Christianity, and Islam. Chuck Klang will host this class in the Fireside Room.

the farmers' table encourages you to reduce ■ reuse ■ recycle

Why are reusable bags available at the Farmers Table? We're encouraging everyone to try to use as few plastic bags as possible because right now, off the Oregon Coast, there is a floating island of trash, mostly plastic bags and styrofoam that have been torn by the wind and waves into little pieces.

To the creatures of the sea, they look like morsels of food floating in the water. But those little bits of plastic are killing more than 1 million seabirds, 100,000 sea turtles & marine mammals, and countless fish every year. So much of our trash and discarded plastic bags have found their way to the ocean that they're covering an area that is now at least twice the size of Texas.

We know it's hard to always remember to bring along a reusable bag, so we'll have them for you at the Farmers Table for 75 cents each. Or if you'd like to use a plastic bag, most grocery stores will be happy to recycle them for you.

Our Farmers' Table is sponsored by the First UMC Planet Church committee with the help of the Interfaith Food and Farms Partnership of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. Thanks to our farmers, Hmong refugees Yua Lo and Chow Herr and their family, and to all of the First UMC community!

altar flowers

FROM THE FLOWER COMMITTEE

Openings for altar flowers are available on August 8 and November 7, 2010. Please contact the church office to select your date. Arrangements are \$45.00 and you are welcome to take the flowers home after the service.

Also, the flower vestry is missing flower vases. If you have taken altar flowers home to enjoy, please check to see if a vase is still at home. The Flower Committee would appreciate the return of any flower vases so they can be used again. Flower vases may be returned to the church office during the week or to the flower vestry on Sunday morning. Thank you!

peggy's pen



FROM THE PASTOR OF DISCIPLESHIP

Thank you to all of you for the warm welcome Ed and I have received as we have come to First Church! You have helped us remember that "we are all one in Christ Jesus". We have appreciated your many expressions of welcome. The all-church party after church with ice cream sundaes and the barbershop group singing several of my family's favorite songs was a delight.

As I continue to unpack and begin the work that has been entrusted into my care, I am enjoying meeting members and friends of the church. I look forward to getting to know all of you as we are in ministry together. As we have opportunities to be together, tell me something about yourself and your involvement in the life of First UMC. If you are not yet involved and would like to be, check in the Program Guide that will be out soon for the Fall list of opportunities.

I would like to express a special appreciation to Megan for gathering the information for this year's Fall Guide. The timing of the transition of pastors made it difficult for me to do this, and I am grateful for all she has done so that you will have it for Fall. Thank you, Megan!

In ministry with you, Rev. Peggy

bike ride

Are you planning to participate in the August 15 Sunday Parkways Ride in SE Portland? If so, swing by the corner of SE 35th and Yamhill around 12:30 PM to say hi to other First UMC folks who are participating. The Sunnyside Methodist Church is right there on the corner, as is a lovely green space to stop for lunch. Look for Elaine Jones or Bob Wilson to greet you and say hello to other First UMC riders!



Publication Deadlines

Articles for The Circuit Rider are due no later than 10:00 AM on the Thursday before publication the following Wednesday. The next Circuit Rider will be published on August 4, 2010.

Bulletin insert information

is due no later than 4:45 pm on **Wednesday**.

Sunday service participant

information for the Sunday bulletin is due no later than noon on **Wednesday**.

E-mail:

office@fumcpdx.org

The Circuit Rider Online or by E-Mail

See the latest and past issues of **The Circuit Rider** in color at www.fumcpdx.org/newsletter

The Circuit Rider can be e-mailed to you. E-mail the church office at office@fumcpdx.org to request it by e-mail.

our prayers **prayers and concerns**

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING FOR ...

Betty Hager and Marilyn Schuberg, who are now both recuperating at home ...

PRAYERS OF SYMPATHY FOR ...

The family and friends of the Rev. Elwyn Williams,

Elwyn died Wednesday, July 14, 2010.

The family and friends of Bishop Bill Dew, Bishop Dew died Wednesday, July 14, 2010.

He served as our Bishop from 1988 to 1996. He was retired and living in California.

PRAYERS OF CONCERN FOR ...

Gladys Shaw, who recently fell and broke her arm ...

WE CONTINUE OUR PRAYERS FOR ...

Bruce Gaffield, Neita McGhee, Jay Stewart, and Sally Yates ...

PRAYERS FOR THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY ABROAD ...

AJ Jennings

