



# THE CIRCUIT RIDER

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

July 27, 2011  
Volume 15, Issue 16

## WORSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

### SUNDAY WORSHIP

July 31  
10:30 AM

August 7  
10:30 AM



Portland First United Methodist Church declares that we will be an advocate for peace in our local communities and world. 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



## SCHOOL OF CHRISTIAN MISSION 2011

*Pictured left to right: Marilyn Outslay, Melba Rizzo, Mary Covert, Trudy Kayser, Pat Brockman, Virginia Bender, Linda Anderson, Ruth Green*

July 14-17, 2011, eight members of the local unit of the United Methodist Women attended the annual School of Christian Mission. The event was held on the campus George Fox University in Newberg, Oregon. This year's theme was, *Faith-Hope-Love in Action*. Participants were able to attend study classes on the following topics: *Haiti: Challenge and Hope, The Journey: Forgiveness, Restorative Justice, and Reconciliation*, and *Joy to the World: Mission in the Age of Global Christianity*. Focus groups were offered on issues of human trafficking, and on the proposed restructure for Women's Division to be voted upon at General Conference.

The Schools of Christian Mission which were started in the mid 1930s by the Women's Home Missionary Society are held every summer in every conference across our country and are attended by over 20,000 men, women, and youth. Because of the generous financial giving of UMW members in the Oregon-Idaho Conference, almost \$73,000 was contributed to Women's Division this year for ministries with women, children and youth around the world.

The Conference Annual Meeting for UMW will be in Hillsboro, OR on October 22, 2011 and the Quadrennial Meeting for Western Jurisdiction will be held at the Portland Waterfront Marriot Hotel on June 1, 2012.

## LOOKING AHEAD

### SPIRITUAL RETREAT FOR ALL WOMEN OF FIRST CHURCH

Join us on Saturday, September 24, 2011 for a refreshing day of renewal and restoration of your spirit. The retreat will be held in the lovely facilities of Willamette View in Milwaukie, our guide will be the Rev. Carole Davies.

Rev. Davies was the spiritual leader for the Metro District Retreat this past spring.

It was a high point for all participants. This fall, our UMW is providing a new opportunity for a spiritual boost at a very modest cost.

Watch for further details. Contact: Colleen Foster



## a message from our pastor

**Rev. Donna  
Pritchard**

The first reports on the massacre in Norway, which left 92 dead at latest count, suggested that there was a link between the horrific attacks and Muslim extremists. In fact, the media and the world seemed to jump very quickly to the conclusion that this terrorism could only be the work of Al Qaeda, or some similar group. Only later was the news released that the suspect taken by police, Anders Behring Breivik, was apparently a fundamentalist Christian with rabid anti-Muslim and anti-immigration and anti-multiculturalism beliefs.

Our first response to these events is grief and dismay that once again violence has erupted in what feels like a random attack. The attacks themselves are enough to leave one feeling sick. The fact that the perpetrator justifies his actions in the name of the Prince of Peace – and calls himself a Christian – that adds outrage to our revulsion.

There is nothing “Christian” about the kind of hatred Breivik spouted in his manifesto or enacted in his killing. There is likewise nothing Christian in the immediate assumption that Norway’s tragedy could be blamed on Muslims.

I am reminded of a story Molly Ivins tells about a couple of boys cleaning out a hen house when they are surprised by a chicken snake. In their effort to escape from the snake, the boys literally make a new door through the hen house wall.

Hearing the commotion, their mother comes outside and asks what is going on. When she hears their story, she responds with some scorn, “Don’t you know chicken snakes are harmless? They can’t hurt you.”

Whereupon one of the boys replies, “Yes, I know that. But they can scare you so bad, you’ll hurt yourself.”

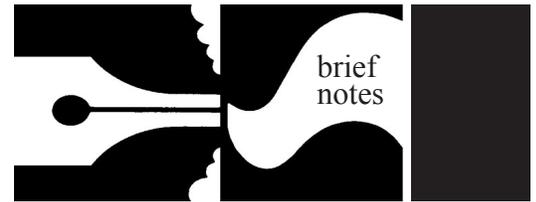
We cannot let our fears of the world’s hatred and the uncertainty of life become the trigger which causes us to hurt ourselves. For surely that is what happens when we jump to conclusions and make enemies out of neighbors. We hurt ourselves when we allow our fears to over-ride our reason, when we run through the henhouse door, or into the political fray without having all the facts, without bothering with the reality of the present moment.

So what can we do in the face of Norway’s pain? We can pray for the victims, certainly. And we can look again at our own response, at the fears these events triggered in our hearts, and at the opportunities we are given every day to push beyond our fear. We can stand with those who truly embody God’s Peace, whether they be Christian brothers and sisters, or Muslim, Buddhist, Jewish, or something else altogether. Because it is only by standing together that we will finally put an end to the madness, the violence and the wastefulness of hate.

Grace and Peace,

*Donna*

# THIS & THAT



## MINISTRY CONFERENCE REMINDER

The First Church Ministry Conference will meet August 7, 2011 at noon in Room 202. If you have questions or concerns, contact Dan Woodward.

## CALLING ALL GREETERS!

If you are currently serving as a greeter or would like to volunteer as a greeter we invited you to a meeting at noon on July 31, 2011 in the church narthex. This meeting will last not more than 30 minutes. At First Church we're always looking for new and better ways to bring our "hospitality factor" to greater heights. As first impressions go, our greeters have always been first rate, and soon things will get even better. This meeting is designed to review changes that will be made soon ... a change in the flow of traffic in the narthex to allow more room for greeting friends ... provide a quieter location for the Welcome Table ... job descriptions telling what the greeters are already doing so well, and making it easier for new volunteers to get involved ... a new identification for greeters, no more pins!

## SEWING WORKSHOP

On Wednesday, August 10, 2011 from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM in Room 202 we will be making lined totes to give as Christmas gifts to some of our family shelter friends. Teens who sew a little are welcome, as well as any other sewers. We'll work in assembly line style so if you don't sew you can pin and press. Fabric and other materials will be provided. We also have three sewing machines which we can share. Bring hand sewing supplies and scissors and a sandwich for lunch. This is a project of the Tabitha Sewing Circle. Hope you can participate.

## LOOKING AHEAD AT TRAVEL

Join us for a fascinating trip to the Vancouver School for the Blind and their Low Vision Clinic. We will meet at First Church on September 20, 2011 at 9:00 AM and carpool to Vancouver, WA. We will first tour the School for the Blind and then in-house Low Vision Clinic. Lunch is planned for Beaches, a restaurant overlooking the Columbia River. We will conclude with a tour of the Piano School in the afternoon. We expect to return to the church by 4:00 PM. Registration is \$10.00 and lunch is at your own expense. Tour is limited to 20 people with a sign up deadline of September 5, 2011. These tours fill quickly so get your reservation in now! Call 503/228-3195 or email: [cbostick@fumcpdx.org](mailto:cbostick@fumcpdx.org).

a word  
about

NAME  
TAGS



## NAME TAGS ARE FOR EVERYONE!

Name tags are for everyone. If you are new to First Church or have been around since they put in the cornerstone we encourage you to order a name tag. We especially encourage parents to order name tags for their children. Nothing feels more special than to have the pastor call you by name. Name tag order forms are available in the church office. Pin name tags are \$2.25 each and magnetic attachment name tags are \$3.50 each. Stop by the church office or the Commons in Collins Hall after worship and pick up your form today!

## REV. PEGGY LUCKMAN

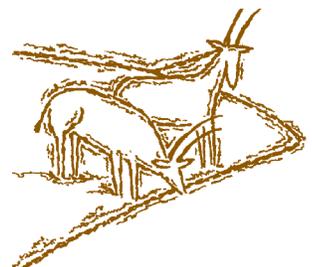
*Delight in praise ...*  
from Psalm 33

I have just returned from a singing retreat on Orcas Island. For five days a group of about 65 people sing the simplest of rounds and chants together, listening to the beautiful harmonies that are created from simple song. We sleep in basic cabins, containing only a small wood stove, a desk, a closet, dresser and two beds. We join up with everyone else for vegetarian meals in the main dining hall. We walk the labyrinth. In the evenings, we sing around the campfire in a tall grove of trees, or meet up in the lounge for talent shows. It's a very simple life, filled with friendships, laughter and song.

In the meadow are bunnies, and this year deer with two fawns came from the woods each night to eat the apples that had fallen off the trees. Eagles soar. Wind blowing in off Puget Sound chilled us as we sat on benches overlooking the water.

By the end of the week, my heart was overflowing with praise for the beauty of music, the wonders of nature, the joy of friendships renewed, and my love for God. It took me only a short time when back in Portland to realize how easily I can get lost in busy days and lose touch with that place deep within that sees, really sees all that is before me which draws praise out of my soul. My wish for myself and for you is that we will all make time wherever we find ourselves to see the beauty that is around us, cherish the friendships we have, and delight in praise to God for life's simple blessings.

Peggy



# adult sunday school classes

# PRAYERS & CONCERNS

## CHANGING CHRISTIANITY

Meets each Sunday morning at 9:00 AM in Room 202. They are currently discussing *Religious Revolutionaries* by Robert C. Fuller.

## READERS' THEATER



### READERS' THEATER

Our popular Readers' Theater is available each Sunday morning from 9:15 to 10:15 AM in the Fireside Room. You will participate in reading aloud a part in the play, or you may sit back and enjoy listening to others read. There will also be time to discuss the play. Clare Humphrey will lead each class session.

### July 31: JB

*J.B.* by Archibald MacLeish. This play is based on the Biblical story of Job. J.B., a wealthy banker, loses everything but struggles to maintain his faith. MacLeish examines how people can retain hope and keep on living, despite all the suffering in the world.

### FIRST CHURCH ORIENTATION

Would you like to learn more about First Church? There will be an orientation on Sunday, August 14, 2011 from noon to 2:00 PM in Room 110. Following the orientation, you will have an opportunity to discuss membership in the church if interested. A light lunch will be provided. Contact Rev. Peggy Luckman if you are interested in attending. 503/228-3195 x 224, or [pluckman@fumcpdx.org](mailto:pluckman@fumcpdx.org).



## THE NEWSLETTER

### THE CIRCUIT RIDER

Please note that the summer schedule for the Circuit Rider changes. The next Circuit Rider will be mailed Wednesday, August 10, 2011. There will be no church newsletter mailed until Wednesday, August 31, 2011, and will include the Fall Program Guide.

Also, we need volunteers to step up and be a part of the Circuit Rider work crew. Can you fold a piece of paper? Then you can do this! It is a fun social time as well. If you would like to volunteer, please contact the church office at: 503/228-3195.

### PRAYERS OF CONCERN FOR ...

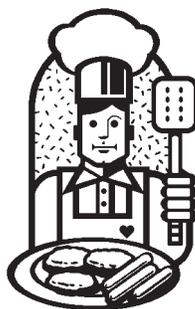
*Bob Schuberg*, who is in rehab following a hip replacement ...  
*Michael Whipple*, who is recovering from a hip replacement ...  
*Lila Palmiter*, who is recovering from a broken wrist ...  
*Ted Hoch*, who is recovering from hip surgery ...  
*Dr. Kurt Zeller*, who is recovering from surgery in Georgia ....

### OUR PRAYERS CONTINUE FOR ...

*Matthew Alger, Betty Hager, Karen Smith, and Virginia Townend, Kyong Vaandering, Lesley & Paul Tepper ...*

### PRAYERS FOR OUR MILITARY PERSONNEL SERVING ABROAD ...

*Jared Bomberger*, who is serving in Iraq ...



A SUMMER  
FAMILY  
POTLUCK & BBQ  
SUNDAY,  
AUGUST 14, 2011

### FAMILY POTLUCK IN THE COLLINS COURTYARD & FIRESIDE ROOM

There will be a Family Potluck on Sunday, August 14, 2011 in the Collins Courtyard and Fireside Room. Bring a dish to pass, something to throw on the grill, and the kids! Gather after church for some outdoor fun, food, and fellowship.



AN  
UPDATE

### FINANCIAL INFORMATION YEAR TO DATE

As of June 30, 2011  
 Actual Income ..... 500,458.27  
 Actual Expense ..... 547,209.55

Please remember that keeping up with your summer giving helps immensely with the church cash flow.



United Methodist Committee On Relief

### UMCOR WEST

A team of workers from Oregon-Idaho will be traveling to Salt Lake City with Dr. Lowell Greathouse near the end of August. Sarah Baker, co-chair of Global Missions at First Church, along with Rev. Peggy and Ed Luckman, will be a part of the team. Sarah will be driving her van. She will have plenty of room for your donations toward sewing supplies and layette kits, which are much needed in areas to which UMCOR sends supplies.

The following items can be left in a box marked UMCOR West:

Fabric--three yard lengths of cotton/ cotton blend (no flannel or wool, no holiday or "Americana" themes)

New spools of thread

Needles, scissors and buttons (5-8 on paper package or strung, none smaller than a dime)

Items for the infant layettes: (receiving blankets, cloth diapers, diaper pins, sweaters)



## Saturday, August 20, 2011

### EVERYONE IS INVITED!

Celebrate at the First Church Summer Festival! Come for arts and crafts, delicious food, kid's games and amazing entertainment! Saturday, August 20, 2011 from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM in both Collins Hall and the lovely church courtyard. It's a fantastic fund raiser for the Church youth!

Do you have arts and crafts, food items, anything you'd like to offer for sale? Booths are just \$20 and can be purchased by contacting Josh Hauser at: [viaheadwig@gmail.com](mailto:viaheadwig@gmail.com).

Questions? Contact Maggie Zach, Chairperson. [mazach@hotmail.com](mailto:mazach@hotmail.com).

## UMW: LOOKING AHEAD

### UMW TO HONOR A SPECIAL GROUP THIS FALL

UMW, an active group with a rich history at First Church, will begin the fall season on September 7, 2011 with a special recognition of those who have contributed so much throughout past decades. Our vitality today is built upon the efforts of so many who were pioneers in the formation of UMW today. Many of those individuals have now reached their ninth decade of life! Some are still quite able; some are limited or confined by health conditions. The hope is to express appreciation for all women at First Church who are now in their 90s, by honoring them at our September meeting. If you, or someone you know, is a part of this very special nonagenarian group, please contact Marion Hollenberg, or Colleen Foster. As names are gathered, we will be in contact to make arrangements for as many as possible to be present.

### 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 10, 2011.

### 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:

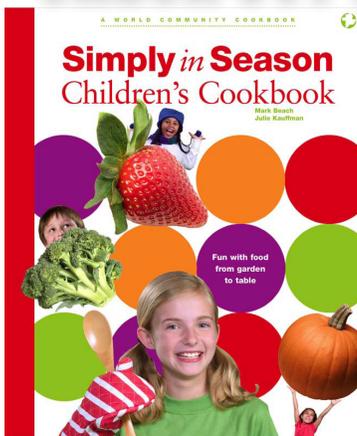
office@fumcpdx.org

### 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](http://www.fumcpdx.org/newsletter)

**The Circuit Rider** can be e-mailed to you. E-mail the church office at [office@fumcpdx.org](mailto:office@fumcpdx.org) to request it by e-mail.

## CHECK OUT THE FIRST CHURCH CHILDREN'S LIBRARY



In our library we have a couple of children's books that can be enjoyed by the entire family during this summer of farmer's markets and "seasonal cooking."

*To Market, To Market* is a lovely new book written and beautifully illustrated by Nikki McClure, a northwest author. As described on the book jacket, "... a bustling farmers market comes to life. As a young boy and his mother shop for apples and cheese, smoked salmon, and green kale, McClure shows how each item is grown or made and introduces the farmers and artisans who work so hard to fill tables and tummies. Culminating in a fabulous feast, this is a joyful celebration of good food and the skill that goes into making it."

Combine this with *Simply in Season - Children's Cookbook*. With simple recipes and ideas about eating fresh, seasonal foods grown locally, this cookbook is part of the World Community Cookbook Series commissioned by Mennonite Central Committee to promote the understanding of how the food choices we make affect our lives and the lives of those who produce our food.