



the First United Methodist Church of Portland

CIRCUIT RIDER

March 19, 2014 ■ Volume 19, Issue 06 ■ www.fumcpdx.org

All-Church Spring Retreat April 25-27, 2013

Join us for a weekend of music, fun, friendship building, and relaxation at Suttle Lake Camp in beautiful central Oregon. The theme will be "On the Road Again", picking up on the story of what happens after Easter along the road to Emmaus.

Through songs, games, arts, discussions and reflection, we will consider how we might meet Jesus "on the road," and how we might be called to take Jesus with us into our community and our world. There will be something for everyone – singles, couples, families, youth, children – people of all ages!

So lace up your boots, grab your bags, and join us "On the Road Again!"



RETREAT RATES

Adults
\$90.00

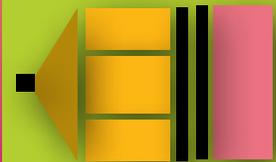
Youth (12-17)
\$70.00

Child (3-11)
\$40.00

Baby (two & under)
Free

Registration and
payment is due:

April 20, 2014.



**WORSHIP
AT FIRST
CHURCH**
SUNDAYS
AT 10:30 AM
IN THE SANCTUARY

First United Methodist Church of Portland 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.



**Giving is a
Crock ... Pot!**
Check out our
spring drive for
Community
Warehouse.

see page 5 ...



**a message
from
our pastor**

**Rev. Donna
Pritchard**

Recently, Portland hosted the 36th annual Shamrock Run. Some of our members and friends were among the 35,000 runners and walkers who turned downtown into a sea of green in the spirit of St. Patrick's Day and exuberant fun. By all accounts, the Shamrock was a great success, as it raised funds for Doernbecher Children's Hospital.

Yet, I think it was a great success for another reason. While it may have been raising money, the Run also was raising community – among the runners and walkers, among the volunteers, among those providing first aid assistance and those offering refreshments and those who just came to watch. It even raised a sense of community – of being in this life together – among those who experienced a little bit of inconvenience as they encountered barricaded streets or had to wait in unusually slow Sunday morning traffic on the way to worship.

One of our members commented on the sense of community she experienced when she forgot about the Shamrock Run and found herself stuck around Pioneer Square for 20 minutes. She said, "It was wonderful! There was a band playing and so many people milling about and everyone looked happy ... and I realized I was just where I wanted to be."

Now *that* is the power of community. When we are experiencing life together, when we know we are joined in a common cause – even one as simple as getting through traffic in the midst of celebration – it has the power to change an annoyance into a blessing. And we realize we are just where we want to be!

So the Shamrock Run is now over for another year. And the community created at this year's event will slowly dissipate into memory. But the community which we create in our day-to-day, week-by-week worship, service, learning and loving... that will last far beyond any singular event. That community has the power to transform the ordinary moment into a moment of blessing time and again. Because not only are we in this community together ... we are in it with God's grace, God's Spirit, and God's love.

As Lent continues to unfold, I encourage you to connect with this community. Sunday mornings at 10:30, and again on Wednesdays at 6:30 we consider come of the classic themes of the season. Small groups, Sunday School classes, choirs, volunteer teams – there are many ways to participate. If you need help finding a connection, please give me a call! Because I am convinced that if you put yourself here, you'll discover again this is just where you want to be.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Donna



Exploring the Issues of Palestine

Christianity in a Changing World is an adult class studying Einstein's God: Conversations About Science and the Human Spirit by Krista Tippett. Come join us for discussion even if you don't have the book! 9:00 AM/Room 202

The Gathering is a class for young adults and parents of children and youth. For Lent, they are studying compassion and how "being compassionate" is part of charity, justice, families and relationships. 9:30 AM/Room 204, across from the Cherubs Choir.

How to Follow Jesus is an eleven-week class led by Rev. Dr. Tom Rannells. This study will focus on the Sermon on the Mount. 9:00 AM/Room 110.

Pathfinders

Pathfinders Fellowship will meet Saturday, April 12 at 11:30 AM in Room 202. Please note that this is a change in the date. All are welcome to gather for coffee and conversation and then share a lunch from the potluck table at noon.

After the business meeting, *Christmas in Norway*, will be shown featuring the St. Olaf Choir of Northfield, Minnesota, and Nidarosdomens Jentekor Girls Choir of Trondheim, Norway. The performance is given in the enormous 1070 A.D. gothic cathedral of Trondheim. Also featured is a Norwegian children's choir. All of this was filmed at night, with the lighting of the columns in royal blue, silvery blue, and in copper.

Please call Judy Moon at 503/543-2220 if you plan to attend and the dish you will provide.

MFSA and Palestine

The Methodist Federation of Social Action will have its Spring Event on Saturday, March 22, from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM at Portland First UMC. This year's topic is: *Finding Justice in the Holy Land and at Home*. The keynote speaker is Mark Braverman, an expert presenter of justice issues facing the Palestinian people. Registration includes catered lunch and may be done on line at oimfsa.org or by downloading and mailing event form to: Rhoda Pittman Markus, 2298 N. Gray St., Cornelius, OR 97113-7386. The registration cost is \$35 at the door, students: \$10.



Friends of Sabeel

Friends of Sabeel: North America will host a regional conference on Palestine/Israel titled: Seeds of Justice and Hope for Palestinians, April 4 and 5, 2014 at First Church. Local, national and international speakers and authors will address the subject of the Israel/Palestine conflict, non-violent resistance and the current peace negotiations.

Speakers at the conference include: Rev. Brian McLaren, a leading Christian pastor in the emerging church movement and author of *Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha and Mohammed Cross the Road?*; Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek, founder and director of Sabeel-Jerusalem and author of *A Palestinian Christian Cry for Reconciliation*; and Max Blumenthal, New York Times best-selling author (*Goliath: Life and Loathing in Greater Israel*).

For detailed information on schedule and cost, visit their website at: tinyurl.com/FOSNA-PDX.



Summer Internships Available

Greathouse Summer Interns, 2014

Applications are now being accepted for the 2014 Greathouse Summer Intern Program. The application form is available on the web (www.fumcpdx.org) and outlines all the qualifications for applying and general information about the program. We will award two summer internships for high school seniors or college age youth to do community service as their summer internship experience. Applications are due April 15, 2014. If interested, see Mark at the Outreach Table any Sunday after worship OR email: mohlson@fumcpdx.org.

United Methodist Women of Portland First

The Ruth Circle

The Ruth Circle will meet Wednesday, March 19 at noon in Room 202. A tour of St. Petersburg, Russia and Vienna, Austria will be conducted through pictures taken by Jim McManus and Vi Ricci on their recent riverboat cruise of the area. Marvel at the elegant Hermitage Museum, palaces and views of the tombs of the Russian czars and family in St. Peter and Paul Church. Bring a sandwich for lunch. Dessert and beverage will be provided. Chair: Jeanette Chardon

Tabitha Circle

The Tabitha Circle will meet Monday, April 7 from 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM in Room 202 for a "Sewing Day." Knitters and crocheters are also welcome to come and work on infant sweaters and prayer shawls to be donated to church programs. Yarn will be supplied. Some "more experienced" sewers will be available from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM to give some extra guidance. Bring a sack lunch and stay the day or come for just a couple of hours, as "many hands make light work"! Chair: Erin Riley

Circle of Friends

The Circle of Friends will meet on Wednesday, March 26 at noon in Room 204. When you are shopping for shoes, handbags and clothing, do you notice in which country it is made? Where does that new sauce pan come from? Members have researched products made in the USA and will share their findings. Bring a sandwich for lunch. Dessert and beverage will be provided. Chair: Ruth Green

Naomi Circle

The Naomi Circle of Terwilliger Plaza will meet Thursday, March 27 at 2:00 PM in the Club Room. The program will bring new insights into how others live, in places as far away as the other side of our planet. Come and glimpse both areas of wonder and of need, which are found in so many parts of the world. Join us as we increase our awareness of how in reaching out, we can connect with others. Chair: Colleen Foster

Planning Team

The Planning Team will meet Wednesday, March 26. 9:30 AM/Room 110.

Columbia and Cascadia Districts 2014 Spiritual Retreat

Join together either Friday May 2 or Saturday May 3 as Rev. Jeannie Knepper guides us to a better understanding of Fluid Grace and Boundless Love through John Wesley's teachings. The retreat is at the Alton Collins Retreat Center in Eagle Creek. Registration deadline is April 5, 2014. For further information, please contact Columbia District Treasurer Barbara Garrett at 503/236-8606 or E-mail: garrett2679@gmail.



Our Record of Giving

First Church United Methodist Women continue their long history (140 years) of mission work in the world. Although we are now structurally separate from Global Ministries, United Methodist Women continues the same work that we previously engaged in with Global Ministries. Our funding comes from the local United Methodist Women, and our mission partners are worldwide. The needs of women, children and youth call on members to offer our hearts and our hands more generously than ever.

Summary of Giving for 2013

National	
Pledge to Mission	7,500
Special Mission Recognition	175
Gift to Mission-Baptism	375
World Thank Offering	148
UMW Conference Challenge	200
Gertrude Boyd Crane Scholarship	200
A Call to Prayer & Self-Denial	130
Total	\$8,728

Community	
Insight Teen Parents	500
Letty Owings Center	730
Lift Urban Portland	470
FUMC Quilt Project	566
OR-ID Creative Vacation Camp	250
Memorial-Brain Institute	50
Total	\$2,566
Grand Total	\$11,294



Tickets
Now
Available

Giving is a CROCK POT



Community Warehouse Drive

During April, our Church & Society team is asking for your help in supporting Portland's Community Warehouse. We need your new or slightly used kitchen items. These will be distributed to people in need, especially those attempting to establish homes after being homeless.

Collection barrels will be placed in the narthex on April 6, 13, and 17.

Crock Pots and slow cookers are in particular demand at the Community Warehouse, as well as the following:

- Pots & Pans
- Can Openers
- Cooking Utensils
- Silverware
- Toasters
- Dish Sets



religion and	film festival	2014
-----------------	------------------	------

Reconciling Ministries is showing award-winning films, on Sundays in March, to address important questions about sexual orientation and the Christian faith. The films will be shown in the Fireside Room and will be followed by discussion. A light lunch will be served.

March 23
Scout's Honor

March 30
Camp Out



PRAYERS & CONCERNS

Prayers of Sympathy for ...

Natasha & James Carter, on the recent passing of Kurt Robinson, Natasha's step-brother ...

Prayers of Concern for ...

Brigitte Charboneau, recovering from a car accident ...

Francis LeFever's father, *Fred*, who is in rehab following a fall ...

Nan Schueler, recovering from a recent hospitalization and her daughter, *Mandy*, recovering from surgery ...

Chrissy Benson's mother, *Stephanie Stevens*, who is in critical condition following respiratory failure ...

Continued Prayers for ...

Thelma MacDonald, Norma Winemiller, Jean Leonard, Darlene Ayres, Chet Thomas ...



UNWIND & REWIND DURING LENT

Movies are the magic of a flicker becoming insight in a darkened room.

On the Wednesday Nights during Lent we have an opportunity to unwind and "Rewind," using film clips to jump-start conversations about faith. A movie snack will be provided.

Wednesday, March 26, at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Room our theme will be **Re:veal** and will feature clips from, **The Life of Brian**.

Wednesday, April 2, at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Room our theme will be **Re:spond** and will feature clips from, **Mona Lisa Smile**.

Wednesday, April 9, at 6:30 PM in the Fireside Room our theme will be **Re:lease** and will feature clips from **Chocolat**.



A Taize Service

A Taize Service will be held on Sunday, March 23 at 5:00 PM in the Chapel. Join us for this contemplative experience of prayer songs and chants in the chapel. We will be led by instrumentalists and singers in simple songs of worship. Scripture is read and reflected upon in silence. The service lasts about 45 minutes and is followed by a time of fellowship.



the FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PORTLAND
CIRCUIT RIDER

THE CIRCUIT RIDER is a publication of First United Methodist Church,
1838 SW Jefferson St, Portland, OR 97201-2496

Nonprofit Org US Postage Paid Portland, OR
Permit No. 1719

NONPROFIT ORG
US POSTAGE
PAID
PORTLAND OR
Permit No. 1719

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

Address Service Requested



Signs of spring abound. Our fellowship continues bloom like the cherry trees that line the streets of Goose Hollow. We invite you to submit your stories about the people, the places and the grace that you have received as you contribute your time to First Church. There are many ways to participate in our community and we want to highlight three new opportunities for you to consider.

First, we have a need for volunteers to help us with communications. Whether it's volunteering to be a photographer or contributing short articles to the Circuit Rider, you can help us share stories with your unique point of view.

Second, we are looking for volunteers to help with our sound and audio production. So if you or someone you know is interested in learning a new skill, we have a place for you to grow.

Finally, we are planning to produce short videos that capture life around our congregation. Think of it as a video love letter to First Church. We'll need an energetic team of volunteers to help schedule and produce these video clips so let your creativity and passion help tell our story to others seeking a spiritual home.

If you or someone you know is interested in volunteering for any of these tasks, e-mail (e: kmartin@fumcpdx.org) or call me at the First Church office. Let's begin to tell the First Church story in first person.

Faithfully serving you,
Kendall Martin - Manager, Marketing and Communications - e: kmartin@fumcpdx.org