



the First United Methodist Church of Portland  
**CIRCUIT RIDER**

May 27, 2015 ■ Volume 21, Issue 11 ■ [www.fumcpdx.org](http://www.fumcpdx.org)



## We All March Together

Join us for the Pride Parade March on June 14

### Reconciling Forum

**Sunday, May 31 after worship in 202**

Rev. Jeremy Smith will lead us through "How Did We Get Here? A Brief History of the LGBT Debate in the United Methodist Church." This is an effort to prepare us for General Conference in May 2016.

Enjoy a delicious lunch and learn about the continuing story of our church's struggle to grow into a more inclusive, fair and just community. Will we be prepared to help write the next chapter as it takes shape at the gathering of United Methodists from all over the world at the General Conference right here in Portland next year? Let's get ready! Open to the public.



## WORSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

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. Worship at 10:30 AM, Sundays.



## a message from our Pastor... Rev. Donna Pritchard

I have just returned from two fabulous weeks of vacation, traveling through southern Spain and Morocco with my oldest daughter Sarah. We visited many different churches, museums, parks, beaches, and of course tapas bars. Time and again I was amazed at the beauty around us... in the architecture (so many inlaid wooden doors, so many tiled facades, so many beautiful mosaic floors), and in the flora and fauna around us and in the sculptures and paintings so lovingly preserved over the centuries.

Like the painting depicted above, which we found in the Cathedral in Avila, Spain, which I thought might provide some good motivation for my own dog's behavior (you'll notice both the saint and the dog are wearing halos!) Traveling is so good for the soul, as it enlarges your perspective and challenges your own limitations.

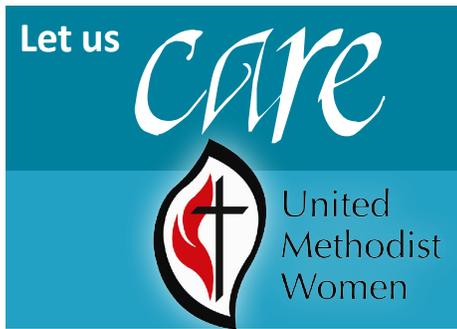
This trip was like that for me. I had never been in this part of the world before, so everyday brought new surprises and new delights – from the sights to the sounds to the aromas to the tastes. And because we had opted not to rent a car (and thereby by-pass the stress of driving), we got to walk a lot more than usual. We pushed ourselves, sometimes in very hot weather, and we did just fine. There could have been no better way for me to celebrate this 60th year of life than with an adventure so full of life and empowering for the years to come!

I think the trip was also good for Sarah, as she rose to the occasion with her Spanish language skills (which it turns out are excellent) and took over the adult role of asking directions, checking into hotels, paying bills, etc. And while we've always enjoyed each other's company, this was a chance for our relationship to also evolve into something new. What a blessing.

So now we are home again. And we are back into "normal life". But I hope we are not the same. I hope to carry with me the lessons I learned in our travels – lessons about seeking adventure and risking the unfamiliar, lessons about moving beyond physical limitations and making the most of every single day. So I will print out a picture of this painting and use it to motivate not only my little dog Maggie, but also myself. I will use it to remember the vast perspective of a global community and the possibilities of adventure at home as well as abroad. Because as it turns out, 60 is really pretty young after all!



*Grace and Peace,  
Rev. Donna*



*United Methodist Women join with women in United Methodist congregations around the world in organizing for mission. We strive to develop a supportive fellowship as we participate with women, children and youth in nearly 300 international programs, in 103 national programs as well as several local programs.*

The UMW Unit will meet Wednesday, June 3 at 10:00 AM in the Fireside Room for installation of officers for 2015-16. The UMW year in review will be captured in song by Colleen Foster. Members will then lunch at the Oregon Culinary Institute.

**TABITHA CIRCLE**

The Tabitha Circle will meet Monday, June 8th from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM in Room 202. The group will prepare for its October "Kit Camp" at Camp Magruder. The group is sponsoring the three-day camp for sewers from many United Methodist churches to get together and sew school bags and layette items for United Methodist Committee On Relief (UMCOR). The items will be shipped to areas around the world in response to disasters or humanitarian needs. The Tabitha Circle expects the camp to produce several boxes of supplies for UMCOR while also nurturing friendships between UMW groups. All sewers, knitters, and crocheters are invited to come to the meeting -- as are non-sewers, who are always welcome to help cut fabric. Co-Chairs: Kay Ward 503.915.7974 and Erin Riley 503.709.5469

**THE RUTH CIRCLE - CHANGE OF DATE**

The Ruth Circle will meet Wednesday, June 24 at noon in Room 202. Please come with your program ideas for the 2015-16 year. Bring a sandwich for lunch. Dessert and beverage will be provided. Chair: Jeanette Chardon 503.866.3192.

**MISSION - August 6-9, 2015 - Alton L. Collins Retreat Center, Eagle Creek, Oregon**

The areas of study are Spiritual Growth: Leading Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God will be Rochelle Killett and Linda Scheirman. We live in a time where people search for happiness, multiple techniques are shared, some Christians think happiness is unimportant compared to joy while early Methodist traditions used the language of happiness often. Geographic: Rev. Rhoda Pittman Markus will be leading Latin America: People and Faith. Latin America is a concept created in the economic and political realm, the definition changes depending on the intended goal, loving our neighbor is how we love God, we are invited to enter this land knowing it is sacred.

**General Issue: The Church and People with Disabilities.**

Returning to lead The Church and People with Disabilities are Dr. Roger Boe and the Rev. Janine DeLaunay. Topics of Awareness, Accessibility, and Advocacy range from Biblical perspectives, overviews of living with and adapting to varying disabilities, completion of an accessibility audit, and multi-sensory worship and education. Early registration is until June 22. After June 22, the price

**Lone Fir Cemetery Tour  
Thursday, June 4 | 9:00 am**

Learn about the early history of Portland by touring the Lone Fir Cemetery, the city's outdoor history museum. Set in a grove of trees, it spans 30 acres, has more than 25,000 burials that make a fascinating story. Our tour will feature early Methodists that help shape the history of Portland. We will gather at First Church at 9:00 AM and car pool to the Cemetery in East Portland. A group lunch will follow in a restaurant nearby. Register in the Church Office: fee is \$10.00/person.

Lunch is at your own expense. Deadline is Sunday, May 31.

increases by \$15. The last day to register is July 13. All registration is online at <http://www.umoi.org/umw>.

For more information, you may call Trudy Kayser at 503.292.7528 or Colleen Foster at 503.808.7389.

**PATHFINDERS**

The next Pathfinders gathering will meet Saturday, June 6 at 11:30 AM in room 202. All are welcome to gather for coffee and conversation and then share a lunch from the potluck table at noon. Please call Kiko Kimura at 503.880.8505 if you plan to attend and the dish you will provide. After the business meeting, Kiko and Sho will show several short DVD movies as well as some pictures to introduce some aspects of Japan, including traditional culture, beautiful sceneries, and advanced transportation systems.



*Prayers of Sympathy for:*  
Chuck King whose father Johnny King who recently died.

Samantha Cerling-Marks and her family in the death of her grandmother.

*Prayers of Concern for:*

David Jenkins who recently had surgery.

Marilyn Schuberg who is now in hospice care at Terwilliger.

For Grace Sathyaraj who is having a difficult time following the death of her son, Ranjit Sathyaraj, who passed away recently in Karnataka India. Grace is the mother and grandmother of Vije and Vidya Sathyaraj.

Darcy Miles, sister of Catherine Kerrigan, who has been struggling with cancer.

Gwyneth Rochlin, who is recovering from surgery.

Kayla Carruth as she recovers from back surgery.



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](mailto:office@fumcpdx.org)  
to request it by e-mail.

Address Service Requested

## Summer Small Groups

Sign up for a Summer experience with other folks through our Group Ministry. Sign-up through the month of May for our variety of fellowship, service, common interest, and study groups.

Our special focus this summer is on Supper or Lunch groups: we have seven of them that meet in variety of regions in the greater Portland area.

Sign up for the one closest to you and you'll get the meeting times!  
[www.fumcpdx.org/groups](http://www.fumcpdx.org/groups)