



the First United Methodist Church of Portland
CIRCUIT RIDER

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SUNDAYS AT FIRST CHURCH

GUEST PREACHERS



Sept. 20 - Rev. Dr. Susan Henry Crowe, General Secretary of the UM Board of Church and Society.



Sept 27 - Rev. Erin Martin, Columbia District Superintendent.

SUPER SUNDAY!



Super Sundays are fun evening activity times for kids and an opportunity for parents to fellowship together. Children participate in planned activities at the church, hosted by Megan and other volunteers, while parents have dinner together at a restaurant of their choosing. Nursery is provided. The next Super Sunday will be Sunday, September 27 beginning at 5:00 PM.

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. As a Creation Care Congregation, we advocate for lifestyles and social policies which bring healing and renewal to our precious Earth. Worship is at 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM, Sundays.

FROM THE PASTOR

In this back-to-school season of the year, teachers, administrators, parents and students are all thinking about classes and curriculum and the learning that will come. One could easily become overwhelmed listening to the various “experts” with their differing opinions on what lessons should be taught and how they should be shared. Ask three people what is most important in public education and you will probably get at least six different answers!



I recently happened upon a comment made by American pop artist Andy Warhol (think the “Campbell Soup” can painting) on this subject of education. Warhol famously quipped, “There should be a course in first grade on LOVE”. I think Warhol may have been onto something.

Imagine what might happen if we agreed that learning to love – learning how to live our values of compassion and justice and care for others – was essential for every child to master. Imagine how the world might change if we helped each other develop the vulnerability, trust, honesty and self-awareness which we need in order to love ourselves and others. Imagine how your life might be different if you made love a priority, from the first grade on.

That is, in many ways, what we try to do for each other as a church. Through Sunday School classes, and in worship services, in fellowship groups, in service projects, in mission trips, we are basically trying to learn the lessons of love. Thankfully we have a master teacher leading the way for us. Jesus modeled a life of compassion, justice and care for others. Jesus’ teaching about vulnerability, trust, honesty and self-awareness shows us how love must be a priority for all of us.

As the renovation work continues in our sanctuary space, many of you keep telling me how much you like worshipping in Collins Hall. It is not because we are that much closer to the cookies at coffee hour. It is not because of the beautiful newly remodeled restrooms. It is because we are closer together. It is easier to feel connected and to know we belong to each other when we do not have as much space to spread out. And that is a good thing – indeed, it is an essential thing for us all, whether we are entering the first grade or entering the last days of our lives. Life itself is a course on love when it is lived to its fullest. Imagine that!

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Donna



Prayers of Concern:

Cynthia Abby broke her wrist.

Hazel Balcomb is not in rehab following a hospital stay.

Prayers of Sympathy:

Family of Rev. Meredith R Groves, brother of Vern Groves, who dies in California in late August. Dorothy, Meredith’s wife, is also critically.

Continued Prayers For:

Jim McManus, Gladys Shaw, Karla Meyer, Betty Groves, Dixee Partee, Richard Pomeroy, Marilyn Schuberg, Ed Pittaway, and Virginia Townend.

SMALL GROUPS

Sign-up begins September 13! Get a brochure in the Fireside Hallway or online at fumcpdx.org/groups.

Enjoy The Outdoors

Hikers
First Church Birders
Snow & Ice Lovers

Fellowship Groups

Ping Pong and Board Games
Bridge Group
Pathfinders Fellowship
Terwilliger Fellowship
Willamette View Fellowship
All-Comers Book Club
SWELL (Single Women Eat Late Lunch)

Study Groups

Going Deeper

Service Groups

Shovel and Rake Gang
Families in Action
Village Support Network
Goose Hollow Family Shelter
Office Volunteers
Greeters
First Church Companions

Supper Groups

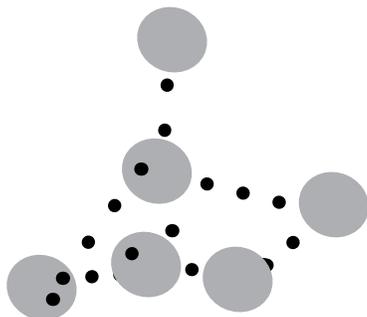
Regional Supper & Lunch Groups

Interest Groups

Reconciling Friends
Chancel Choir
Bells (for Adults & Young Adults)
Financial Peace University
P5 Robotics
First Church Travelers

Common Experience Groups

Parenting for a New Age
Epiphany Women
Graceful Aging Fellowship
United Methodist Women
West Linn Moms Group



UM WOMEN

TABITHA CIRCLE

The Tabitha Circle will meet Monday, September 14 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM in Room 202. They are sewing for school bags and layettes to take to Kit Kamp at Camp Magruder which is October 16 - 18. These items will then be transported to UMCOR. Co-Chairs: Kay Ward 503.915.7974 and Erin Riley 503.709.5469

THE RUTH CIRCLE

The Ruth Circle will meet Wednesday, September 16 at noon in Room 202. Marilyn Weber will review the book "Once to Every Man", a memoir by Dr. William Sloane Coffin. Bring a sandwich for lunch. Dessert and beverage will be provided. Chair: Jeanette Chardon 503.866.3192

NAOMI CIRCLE

"A Rose by Any Other Name. . ." on Thursday, September 24, at 2:00 p.m., in Terwilliger Plaza's Club Room, Gloria Kovach will share her delightful insights about roses, with the Naomi Circle. One of the oldest, loveliest and most significant of blooms today, roses are noted as far back as in Biblical days. Also, a special tribute will be paid to two faithful members, Joyce Hulse and Rosalie Humphrey, women of wisdom, who have both recently completed their earthly journey. Guests are welcome, along with residents of Terwilliger. Chair: Colleen Foster, 503-808-7389

The Annual Chancel Choir Retreat takes place at the church the evening of Sept. 18 and during the morning and early afternoon on Sept. 19. The choir will read through a lot of music that will be sung during the Fall and Advent/Christmas seasons, eat together, get to know each other and have a great time together! We want anyone that would like to sing with us this year to come! Child care is provided.

COMING UP

Olive Oil Sale Sunday, September 20 after worship / Fireside Room

First Church shows its support of Palestinian farmers by purchasing their fair trade, organic olive oil products. First Church participates in the Interfaith Partners program of Canaan Fair Trade, which markets the products of 1700 farm families in 50 villages. Any profit from our olive oil sales is donated to United Methodist mission projects that assist Palestinian community development efforts. Global Missions Committee will be selling olive oil on **September 20** in Collins Hall. Credit cards are now accepted.

**Forum-
Empty Cupboards on a Hot Planet
Sunday, September 27th at Noon in
Room 202 On Sunday, September
27th** following worship, Planet Church will present a forum on the effects of Climate Change on food production. Renée Harber, Horticulture Department Chair at Clackamas Community College and member of our committee, premiered this program at Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's "Earth Care Summit" last January to enthusiastic reviews. A question and answer session will follow the talk, and as usual, Planet Church will provide a healthy lunch for forum attendees.





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FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH PROUDLY PRESENTS

THE BIBLE, GENDER, AND SEX

WHAT DOES SCRIPTURE SAY, OR NOT SAY, ABOUT BEING LGBTQ?

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 20
NOON - 1 P.M. ROOM 202

Speaker:
Dr. Stephen J. Patterson

A scholar, teacher and writer, Dr. Patterson is the George H. Atkinson endowed chair in Religious and Ethical Studies at Willamette University.

Dr. Patterson holds graduate degrees from Harvard and Claremont, and he was a Fulbright Fellow in Germany. He is the author of nine books and more than seventy-five articles, essays and reviews.

