



the First United Methodist Church of Portland
CIRCUIT RIDER

June 24, 2015 ■ Volume 21, Issue 13 ■ www.fumcpdx.org

Congratulations to our

VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR



Emily Wright
Lewis Hughes Award



Sharon Graver
Guy Wheaton Award



Bob Wilson
Wesley Spirit Award

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER TRAINING

Sunday, June 28th at Noon in Room 202. Starting in Fall 2015, we are expanding our Sunday School program by creating a Sunday School class for each grade level! All volunteers teaching in the fall should plan to attend the June 28th training session immediately following worship. If you would like to learn more about our Sunday School program and the role of a Sunday School Teacher, please email Megan Jones: mjones@fumcpdx.org.

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 at 9:00 AM and 10:30 AM, Sundays.



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

Volunteers are the lifeblood of this church. While we appreciate each and every one of you, this year once again the church staff has chosen to honor three of you as “Volunteers of the Year” – three persons who exemplify high standards of service and leadership and love.

Our first award is the **Wesley Spirit Award**, which honors someone who combines a deep faith with an attitude of service. This is an individual who



leads others into a deepened spirituality by putting feet to their own faith. The winner of the Wesley Spirit Award for 2015 is **Bob Wilson**. Bob holds a deep and abiding love for God and God’s creation. He takes that love and uses it to fuel his passion for creation care – calling us all to pay attention to the realities of climate change and pollution and disappearing

animal life and threatened wilderness. And then he calls us to join him in doing something about it! Through his work with Planet Church and his leadership of the First Church Birders and his tireless efforts on behalf of the church library Bob Wilson puts feet on faith and encourages others to do the same.

The **Guy Wheaton Award** is given annually for extraordinary service to the church, and is awarded this year to **Sharon Graver**. Sharon is an obvious choice for this award, thanks to her consistent, helpful presence for staff and church members alike. She truly embodies loving service and



volunteer commitment. For years, she has served on the church’s Board of Trustees, where she has become invaluable for her knowledge, her wisdom, and her can-do attitude. Whenever staff has a question about insurance, liability, or just need help in the office, she is the one to call. Her consistency, dependability, and positive approach extends into the rest of her life. This is not someone who shies away from challenges (even long distance biking in a foreign land!), nor is it someone who makes hasty decisions or careless plans. Through her service on the Trustees, and now as an important part of our Sanctuary-Plus renovation project, Sharon Graver makes her love for First Church a reality.



And then, finally, we come to the **Lewis Hughes Award**, which is given for extraordinary service in Portland and the world beyond. This year we recognize **Emily Wright** with the Lewis Hughes Award. Emily has spent her life developing a passion for service to the world. Growing up in the Seattle area and then in Portland, she paid attention to neighbors

around her. Through Sunday School and bell choir and youth group and book group she learned to ask questions, and to value a community of learners. She left us to attend college, where her passion for public service only increased. And in this “gap year” between her Bachelor’s degree and her law school education, Emily joined with Planet Church, Church & Society, and the United Methodist Women to organize, coordinate and direct our community action form. Emily Wright has helped us all to find specific ways to advocate for change and to serve the world beyond the church.

I hope you will join me in congratulating these “1st Church Volunteers of the Year”. Their witness, their work and their love are an inspiration to us all.

Grace and Peace,
Rev. Donna

Retirement Wishes...

As you know, our Administrative Assistant, Dave Jenkins, retired in early June due to health concerns. Dave was an integral part of our FUMC staff for 15 years.

We had hoped Dave would be able to be with us for a reception in his honor, but he is not able to join us for that.

On Sunday, June 28th we will have available in the Fireside Room special papers on which you can write your own message of thanks and note of encouragement to Dave. These will become part of a whole “bowlful of wishes” which Dave can read at his leisure. You are also invited to contribute to a monetary retirement gift for Dave on that day.



the First United Methodist Church of Portland

SUMMER PROGRAM GUIDE

JULY - AUGUST 2015



Address 1838 SW Jefferson St, Portland, Oregon 97201 | **Phone** 503/228-3195 | **Fax** 503/273-8711
E-Mail office@fumcpdx.org | **Website** fumcpdx.org | **Sunday Worship** 10:30 AM

FIRST CHURCH STAFF

Senior Pastor

Rev. Donna Pritchard
503/228-3195 ext. 226
dpritchard@fumcpdx.org

Minister of Discipleship

Rev. Jeremy Smith
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Minister of Pastoral Care

Rev. Dick Storment
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Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries

Megan Jones
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mjones@fumcpdx.org

Artistic Director of Music & Organist

Jonas Nordwall
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Kelly Qualls
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Coordinator of Volunteers, Hospitality & Outreach

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Dwight Dragoo
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Manager of Communications & Marketing

Kendall Martin
kmartin@fumcpdx.org

SUNDAYS AT FIRST CHURCH

NEW THIS SUMMER: 9:00 AM EARLY SUNDAY SERVICE

Early Sunday Service continues to do well after its launch on June 7th, averaging 33 people in our Chapel for this lighter service with contemporary music. Come give it a try this Summer--you'll be out by brunch! Children are welcome!

SUMMER SERMONS AT FIRST CHURCH JULY: "YOU ASKED FOR IT!"

Once again you won't want to miss worship any Sunday in July... because "You Asked for It!" Each week we will be singing hymns you've chosen and preaching on themes you requested:

- **July 5th** "A Quiet Presence" How can we practice an awareness of God's presence when we are so busy doing other things?
- **July 12th** "When Pigs Fly" How do people of faith respond to a world of dis-ease when things are out of control?
- **July 19th** "Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People?" How do we reconcile a good God with the problem of evil in the world?
- **July 26th** "Faith in a Place Where Faith is Suspect" How do we live as Christians in a secular society?

AUGUST: P SUMMER OF PSALMS

The first three weeks of August worship will focus on "A Psummer of Psalms", as each week we consider two of the Psalms and their themes of praise, thanksgiving, lament, struggle, and hope.

AUGUST: SCRIPTURES THAT...AREN'T

August 23rd through September 6 we will study common sayings and colloquial wisdom which really do not have their home in the Bible: "Cleanliness is Next to Godliness," "Money is the Root of All Evil," and "God Helps Those Who Help Themselves."

ADULT EDUCATION

Christianity in a Changing World, the works of the famous biologist E.O. Wilson, will guide the conversation as we question meaning and the morality of our times. Room 202, 9:00 a.m.

Room 110 Classes - There will be four short-term Sunday School classes this summer. Check the website or church calendar for when each class is held! Room 110, 9:00 a.m.

- "Talking Immigration for youth and adults" Megan Jones, Kate Pritchard
- "Making friendships that last."
- "Vaccines and the Common Good" Dr. Robyn Liu
- "LGBT and the Bible: What's there, and what isn't." Rev. Jeremy Smith.



BEYOND CHURCH WALLS

CHURCH AND SOCIETY

Greathouse Intern Forum

Sunday, August 23rd after worship in Room 202

Our Church and Society ministry group has chosen the two Greathouse Interns who will receive internship scholarships this summer for community service work. Josh Hauser and Jeff Brittain are the interns this year. The forum is your opportunity to meet and ask questions of each intern about their summer learning experience and their plans for the future. Sponsored by Church and Society.

First Church Goes to the Food Bank!

Saturday, July 25th at 9:00 a.m., Northeast Portland location

Join fellow First Church volunteers at the Northeast Portland location of the Oregon Food Bank. We'll be repacking bulk foods into family size portions for hungry children and adults in the Portland metro area. A sign-up sheet (required to participate) will be available in the Fireside Room during coffee hour starting Sunday, July 5th.

Drive Out Malaria Event at Orchard Hills Golf Club

Saturday, August 1st at 1:00 p.m., Orchard Hills Golf Club in Washougal, WA

Take part in the Drive Out Malaria golf tournament! 1PM tee time. Your \$125 donation/entry fee includes golf, prizes, and an awards banquet. Enjoy a beautiful August day of sunshine and fresh air on the golf course and support Imagine No Malaria August 1st. For more information and to register, go to: driveoutmalaria.org or contact Julia Frisbie through the Church Office.

PLANET CHURCH

First Church Birders Visit Jackson Bottom

Saturday, August 8th, meet at FUMC for ride-sharing at 9:15 a.m.

A trip to Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, 2600 SW Hillsboro Highway in Hillsboro. Walk should last about 2 hours to see some of the 130 bird species who call it home.

GLOBAL MISSIONS

Global Missions goes to Brazil!

Informational Meeting on Thursday, June 25th at 7:00 p.m. at FUMC

Elaine Jones, R.N., is leading a medical mission trip to the Amazon River May 27-June 4, 2016. Physicians, dentists, nurses, dental assistants and others are needed. For details, contact Elaine via the Church Office or attend this informational meeting.

Global Missions Presents! Missionary from Cambodia

Sunday, August 2nd, after worship in Room 202

Clara Biswas, a United Methodist missionary to Cambodia, will speak to us about her work with the street children of Phnom Penh. Global Missions Committee will provide a light lunch.

RECONCILING MINISTRIES

"Gather at the River" Biannual Convocation

August 6th-9th, San Antonio, Florida

Join Reconciling Methodists from across the country who advocate for full inclusion of LGBT persons in the life of the Church. Register online at rmnetwork.org (click on "Gather at the River") and let FUMC know you are going so we can coordinate our regions' teams!

ABOUT FIRST CHURCH

As a **Peace Church**, we declare that we will be an advocate for peace in our local communities and world.

As a **Reconciling Congregation**, we 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.



SUMMER EVENTS FOR ALL AGES

JOIN THE SUMMER CHOIR!

Sundays at 9:15 a.m. in Collins Hall
Beginning June 21st, the Chancel Choir becomes the Summer Choir. Instead of meeting on Thursday evenings for a rehearsal, they meet on Sunday mornings at 9:15 in Collins Hall to rehearse the anthem for worship that morning. All are welcome to come and sing! It is a great chance for those that can't make an evening rehearsal and that want to sing to come and make a joyful noise with us!

Other important music dates:

- **Chancel Choir Retreat Dates:** Friday, Sept. 18th evening and Saturday, Sept. 19th
- **Start-up dates** for Sanctuary Bells, juBELLation, Genesis, Sound Seekers and Cherubs will be in the Fall Program Guide.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN MISSION U

August 6-9, Alton L. Collins Retreat Center in Eagle Creek, Oregon
This yearly event for women includes these topic areas:

- **Spiritual Growth:** Leading Created for Happiness: Understanding Your Life in God will be Rochelle Killett and Linda Scheirman.
- **Geographic:** Rev. Rhoda Pittman Markus will be leading Latin America: People and Faith.
- **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.

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 or Colleen Foster via the Church Office.



First Church Kids Camp
Let Your Light Shine
Shining a new light on Music, Art, Drama & Dance
August 17-21, 2015
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER TRAINING

Starting in Fall 2015, we are expanding our Sunday School program by creating a Sunday School class for each grade level! Teachers typically preach for a month at a time--so sign up early to get your preferred dates. All volunteers teaching in the fall should plan to attend a training session.

Two training opportunities. Please mark these on your calendar!

- Sunday, June 28th at Noon in Room 202
- Sunday, August 23rd at Noon in Room 202

LAY LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Sunday, July 19th after Worship, Room 202
Join with other newly-elected or longtime church leaders as we participate in an orientation on lay leadership, including agendas, time management, and helping the passions in the church are funneled into action and prayer. Register your attendance with Rev. Donna.

FIRST CHURCH ORIENTATION

Sunday, July 26th after Worship, Room 202
For newcomers to our community, this orientation includes a light lunch by our Newcomer's Team, Q&A with the clergy, and a building tour. These are required to be considered for church membership and overall very helpful introduction to the church's missions and ministries. Please RSVP with Rev. Jeremy.

GRACEFUL AGING FELLOWSHIP

This group is for adults 55+. The group meets once per quarter (four times per year), usually on Saturday mornings from 10:30 – Noon. Each gathering is focused on important issues facing adults as we transition through life.

Guest professionals from the worlds of healthcare, legal affairs, financial planning, retirement and senior living communities, real estate, and other important services share their knowledge and take questions from the group.

You are invited to attend each Graceful Aging session! Along the way you will gain new knowledge, make new friends, and enrich your life in the process! Information on upcoming events can be found on the First Church website or by emailing: mohlson@fumcpdx.org.

Stay Connected This Summer!

Friend Us on Facebook

<http://facebook.com/fumcpdx>

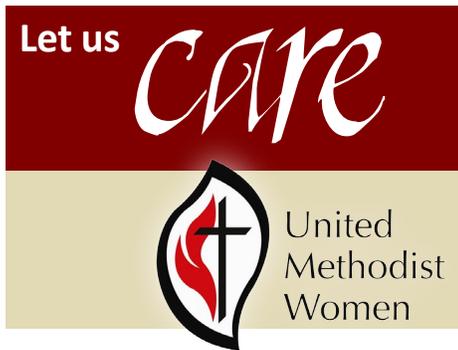
Follow Rev. Donna on Twitter

<http://twitter.com/revdonnafumc>

Download Our Weekly Podcast

iTunes: <https://goo.gl/IVkK9L>

Android: <http://goo.gl/PxuDI6>



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 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.

NAOMI CIRCLE

The Naomi Circle of Terwilliger Plaza will meet Thursday, June 25 at 2:00 PM in the Club Room. The excellent guidebook for this year's Spiritual Life Mission Study, "Created for Happiness, Understanding Your Life in God" will provide a wonderful springboard to discover new pathways to joy, for ourselves and others, throughout the summer months, and beyond. All are welcome. (Note: Naomi Circle will not meet in the month of July.) Chair: Colleen Foster, 503-808-7389

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

The Circle of Friends will meet on Wednesday, June 24 at the Albertina Kerr Center for lunch. Co-Chairs: Mary Covert 503.652.6480 and Trudy Kayser 503.292.7528

PLANNING TEAM

The Planning Team will meet Wednesday, June 24 at 9:30 AM in room 110.

STEPHEN MINISTRY BIDS FAREWELL TO MARY JANE HENDRICKSON

Stephen Ministry bids farewell to a long-time Stephen Leader, Mary Jane Hendrickson, and welcomes a new leader, Shelly Edwards, in the worship service, Sunday, June 28. Mary Jane has served 10 years as a Stephen Minister and another 10

years as a Stephen Leader. Over the years she has met one-on-one with several Care Receivers, led training programs for new Stephen Ministers, and led monthly continuing education sessions for our current Stephen Ministers. Shelly Edwards brings to FUMC years of experience as a Stephen Minister, and enthusiasm and knowledge from the week-long Leaders Training program that she attended in April.

**MISSION U - 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 Killlett 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.

Early registration is until June 22. After June 22, the price 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

CHRISTIANITY IN A CHANGING WORLD:

The Meaning of Human Existence, the works of biologist E.O. Wilson, will guide the conversation as we question meaning and the morality of our times. Room 202, 9 am.

ROOM 110, CLASSES WILL RESUME ON JULY 12TH

THE GATHERING IS ON SUMMER RECESS UNTIL SEPTEMBER



We pray for peace among the peoples of our nation and of the whole world, for the family and church family of those whose lives were taken, and for our sister denomination, the African Methodist Episcopal Church, which has worked for God's vision of racial harmony and justice for 200 years.

We are blessed by those of our own folks who participated in the Gay Pride Parade.

Congratulations to Donna Pritchard for being elected Oregon-Idaho's clergy delegate to General conference. Congratulations as well to Jeremy Smith and Josh Hauser who were elected alternates to General Conference and will also represent Oregon-Idaho at the jurisdictional conference in July of 2016. Congregations to Josh Houser who also received the Columbia district Undergraduate Leadership Award and scholarship at annual conference this year.

Prayers of Sympathy

To Carla Dragoo, wife of Dwight Dragoo, and her family. Carla's mother, Barbara Humbert, passed away suddenly Friday in southern Oregon.

Prayers of Concern

Betty Groves had a fall and is recovering from a broken leg. Dixee Partee shattered her knee cap in a fall at the Rose Festival and is home following surgery.

Richard Pomeroy has had some recent health concerns which have confined him to home.

Janice Gratton's sister Judy Childress and been serious ill and continues in the hospital.

Ann Williams, Richard Pomeroy, Janice Gratton's sister Judy Childress, David Jenkins, Marilyn Schuberg, Ed Pittaway, Virginia Townend, and Marti Lucas.



the FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH OF PORTLAND
CIRCUIT RIDER

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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



Upcoming Activities

SUNDAYS AT 9:00 AM IN THE CHAPEL

Are you curious about trying something new? Our early Sunday service continues to provide an engaging and enlightened experience. Come see what all the fuss is about and get an earlier start to your day!

FIRST CHURCH TRAVELERS ARE ON THE MOVE!

Sign up for the First Church Travelers trip to the Oregon Primate Reserve on July 7th today in the front office! Cost is \$15/person.

FIRST CHURCH BIRDERS VISIT JACKSON BOTTOM

Join the First Church Birders August 8th for a trip to Jackson Bottom Wetlands Preserve, 2600 SW Hillsboro Highway in Hillsboro. We'll meet at the Jackson Bottom parking lot at 10am, and those who wish can gather at the church at 9:15 AM for ride sharing. (The walk should last about two hours.)

FIRST CHURCH GOES TO THE FOOD BANK!

Join fellow First Church volunteers at the Northeast Portland location of the Oregon Food Bank on Saturday morning, July 25th. We'll be repacking bulk foods into family size portions for hungry children and adults in the Portland metro area. A sign-up sheet (required to participate) will be available in the Fireside Room during coffee hour starting Sunday, July 5th

