

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Pastor's Column

230 NE Ninth Street
Bend, OR 97701
Phone: 541.382.4401
Fax: 541.317.2838
www.bendfp.org

Worship

Sunday

9:00 a.m.

Contemporary Worship

10:45 a.m.

Traditional Worship

5:30 p.m.

Sunday Evening
Gathering

Wednesday

6:30 p.m.

Contemplative Service

Child care provided at all
worship times

CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE

Monday, May 25

Next Faith Notes

Deadline

April 27 at Noon

Next Publication:

May 6, 2009

This Sunday, April 26, is a DON'T MISS IT Sunday if you have children, grandchildren, nieces, nephews or if you value children (which I hope means ALL of us in case you were wondering). This Sunday is BLUE RIBBON Sunday. April has been Child Abuse Prevention month. A representative from the KIDS Center in Bend will be our special guest. The KIDS Center is dedicated to the prevention, evaluation and treatment of child abuse and neglect. Their motto is: "Because it shouldn't hurt to be a kid." The theme of my message Sunday is: CHILDREN SHOULD BE SEEN and NOT HURT. The Blue Ribbon for Blue Ribbon Sunday symbolizes the bruises and wounds both external and internal that child abuse creates.

Father Richard Rohr once wrote that you can measure the heart and soul of a society (or a church community for that matter) by looking at how the vulnerable are treated, especially children. Do our children feel safe? Do our children feel valued? Do our children feel loved? Do our children feel hopeful about their future?

According to the Children's Defense Fund, EVERY DAY in America four children are killed by abuse or neglect, five children or teens commit suicide, 78 babies die before their first birthdays, 1,254 babies are born to teen mothers, 2, 145 babies are born without health insurance, 2,467 high school students drop out, and 18,221 public school students are suspended.

According to a report in 2004 called "Hardwired to Connect," the crisis of American childhood is that 1 in 4 adolescents is at severe risk of not achieving their potential, 21% of our children suffer mental illness, and many of our children are not experiencing themselves as valued and this gets displayed through difficult behavior and disorders.

The message our culture sends is that what our children and young people need is more money, more gadgets, more computer games, and more entertainment. What our children and young people need is more love. Our mission statement is to share the unconditional compassion of Jesus. One of our three strategic priorities as a church is to connect children and youth with the unconditional love and compassion of Jesus. Our calling is to be the hands and heart of Christ reaching out to the children and youth in our community and in our world making sure they are SEEN and VALUED and not hurt. This isn't just a soft and sentimental good idea. This holy calling is an urgent priority in response to a crisis in our midst.

It is said that every time a child is born it is God's way of telling us THERE IS STILL HOPE. It is our sacred duty and privilege to nurture this hope.

Please make worship this Sunday a priority and affirm the value and worth of children and youth by wearing a blue ribbon. They will be available for you when you come to worship.



Navigating the Rough Seas of Job-Seeking

Are you currently seeking work? It's a tough economic time, like being on rough seas in a small boat without motor or oars. Our church is aware of these challenges and wants to provide a forum to support one another through unexpected employment changes. A small team has been meeting and will provide a series of articles here on topics such as: resources in the community, networking, emotional and spiritual resources, cutting costs, and financial planning.

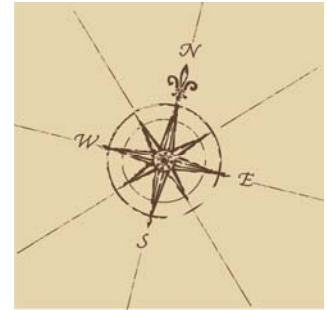
What other topics would you like to see? Please send your comments to us!

Elizabeth Stephan (estephan@bendfp.org)

Tim Conlon (tconlon@bendcable.com)

Mike Van Meter (mvanmeter@newsprose.org)

Lorraine Stuart (ldstuart@bendnet.com)



Youth Ministry

To volunteer or register or for more information, contact Greg Bolt, Director of Youth and Family Ministry (382-4401 or gbolt@bendfp.org).

This month (all Wednesday times are 5:30-8:00)

Wednesday, April 22 – Bible Study (Fold studying Jeremiah 31 “The New Covenant”; Flock studying Genesis 1 “The Beginning”)

Friday, April 24 – The Flock InClimb Get-Together (The Flock will go to InClimb for a couple of hours of fun in the rockclimbing gym – \$15 per person. Contact Greg (541-350-8074 or ggbolt16@gmail.com) for more details or to help out.

Wednesday, April 29 – Fun Night (Hang-out time for the Flock and the Fold)

This summer (April-September)

- 1st Wednesday - Parenting 2.0 (opportunity for discussions with both youth and adults regarding issues such as the internet, healthy friendships, grieving, spiritual disciplines, etc.)
- 2nd Wednesday - Movie Night (two movies, one for The Flock and one for The Fold, and have discussions about them)
- 3rd Wednesday - Book Club (the Flock and the Fold will meet together to discuss books)
- 4th Wednesday - Bible Study (the Flock and the Fold will have an opportunity to discuss books of the Bible, little-known stories of the Bible, particular passages, etc.)
- 5th Wednesday - (if available) Fun Night (a time for the Flock and the Fold to just hang out, play games, and have some fun unstructured time.)

June 13-20 - The Fold Mission Trip to West Virginia

August 21-23 - The Fold Coast Trip (Twin Rocks Camp at Rockaway Beach)

August - All-Church Campout (contact Brenda Simpson for details)

The Flock will have monthly get-togethers to experience some fun and fellowship in Central Oregon. Get-togethers may include InClimb Rock Gym, Smith Rock hikes, bowling, floating the river, going to the pool, lock-ins, etc. Details to come on the dates and times of these wonderful events. If you would like to help plan or to participate, contact Greg (ggbolt16@gmail.com or 541-350-8074).

Outdoor Ministry Adventures

April 25 – 9:00 a.m. – Hike (beginner level). Meet at Dilusso's on Galveston.

Please RSVP if you would like to attend so that plans can be finalized and we know how many to expect. Call Iain at 520-909-5167 or Shoshana at 520-909-5718 for any questions. People can carpool out to save the environment, gas and just to have more fun.

If anyone has any ideas of types of outings they would like to have, please email us at ijfoxwell@hotmail.com with feedback. We will be doing mountain biking, road cycling, hiking, kayaking and any other activities you suggest. We are so excited to be able to serve God in this way! Thanks so much.

Children's Ministry

To volunteer, register or get more information, contact Janet Pearson, Director of Children and Family Ministry (382-4401 or jpearson@bendcable.com).



Vacation Bible School – Mark Your Calendars.

July 27 – 30, Nine to Noon

Many families are beginning to make plans for the summer. Now is a great time to share with your friends about Vacation Bible School at First Presbyterian. Encourage them to mark their calendars for the last week in July. Children four years of age and older will have a great time learning about the love of God this summer. Adults and youth will enjoy volunteering and catching the enthusiasm of the children. Vacation Bible School is an outstanding time of outreach and fun at First Presbyterian.

Check out the **Presbyterian Summer Camp** opportunities posted on the bulletin board across from the office. Or go to the website at www.campcascades.org for the latest information about summer camp.

Central Oregon Mastersingers

The Central Oregon Mastersingers, under the direction of Clyde Thompson, will present their spring concert, "Choral Tapestry," on Friday, April 24, at 7:30 p.m. at the Church of the Nazarene in Bend and on Sunday, April 26, at 3:00 p.m. at Community Presbyterian Church in Redmond.

From sacred works by Gabrieli and Grieg to the delightful "Liebeslieder Waltzes" - the "Love Songs" - of Brahms; from the Russian liturgical music of Rachmaninoff to African-American spirituals; the Mastersingers' spring concerts will be a multi-textured, multi-colored tapestry of great choral music from the 16th to the 21st centuries. A nine-piece brass choir will join the singers on several numbers.

Tickets for "Choral Tapestry" concerts are \$15 for adults and \$10 for children and students under 18. They are available on-line at www.co-mastersingers.com or by calling 385-7229. Tickets may also be purchased at Visit Bend, 917 NW Harriman Street; 382-8048.

Soup Luncheon & "Remembering Abraham"

"Remembering Abraham" is a presentation by Jaxon Love. The speaker grew up in Central Oregon and graduated Summa cum Laude from the University of Oregon with a BA in International Relations in 2004. He is motivated in his work by a strong personal spirituality as well as a sincere commitment to social conscience. The hour-long Power Point presentation will focus on his Peace Corps experience of life in a rural Muslim village in the Jordan Valley. Jaxon will illuminate the Middle East...its people, its customs, its values. He makes the case for a dialogue between the peoples of Isaac and Ishmael as the path to a lasting peace.

Join us for this presentation while enjoying a soup luncheon at noon on Sunday, April 26. Lunch and learn in Heritage Hall! Free.

Thank You

Thanks to our wonderful church family for all your loving care during my recovery. The prayer shawl, prayers, visitors, cards, phone calls, meals, shopping and "babysitting" all contributed to keeping me uplifted and well cared for. God Bless you all.

With much love,

Judy Beam

Gathered Together

All are invited to gather together for prayer, silent and spoken, for our church, community, and God's world. We meet the 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings, 11:15-12:00 noon in the Prayer Room.

Keep up with Ali & Brad Kent in Bolivia at

<http://www.relufa.org/partners/jhnewsletter/bolivia.htm>.

May Birthdays

1 Robin Baney Audrey Hunt	8 Millie Moore 11 Mike Holtzclaw Kyle Weaver	16 Hilda White 17 Debbie Delateur Michael Dugan Matea Fish Gwen Jones	24 Harrison Schock Kristina Souto-Maior
2 Katerina Baney Joshua Groth Cambrian Leaver Tammy Melton	12 Donna Breen Philip Randall	18 Jean Curl Nona Lowe Julie Merrick	25 Joyce Brock 25 Taylor Gladden 26 Lois Jones
3 Jessie Burch Harold Knutson	13 Michael Achterman Betty Apperson Rachael Burch	19 Meg Johnston Jeff Macy Dave Osgood	27 Karen Aylward Marilyn Feis Connor Hall
4 Keely Buchanan Cale Meyer Logan Robertson	Linda Corson Bruce Rogers Oliver Steele	20 Lori Brizee Dick Gassner Jeremy Moon	28 Jack Skidmore 30 Ryan Hardie Todd Taylor
5 Chad Arnoldy Boni Piatt	14 Brandon Stednitz 15 Arlene Kooman Wil Nagel	21 Vivian Raycraft	31 Greg Breen Iain Foxwell Lyle Jarvis
6 Amrita Jones Darcy Williver-Davis	16 Mary Carver Anita Potter Lauren Walley	23 Sarah Holtzclaw	
7 Joseph Watson			
8 Bruce Aylward			

May Anniversaries

- 2 Eric and Marlene Alexander
- 10 Greg and Gwen Jones
- 18 Don & Ann Kelly
- 19 David and Lorraine Stuart
- 20 Don and Gloria Krug
- 23 Bill and Paula Buchanan
Stephen & Irene Dudley
- 24 Fred andCarolynn Sias
- 25 Eric and Carrie Ramoz
- 28 Bruce and KarenAylward
Dick & Mary Anna Swinnerton
- 31 Kit & Sandi Carmiencke
Ray & Joyce Ownby

Enneagram Conversations: Deepening Our Spiritual Experience

Part 1—A six-month study group for persons acquainted with the Enneagram who wish to take their work to a deeper, more spiritual level. Each session includes teachings and exercises for conversation and personal reflection.

Part 2—Also a six-month study group which includes teaching and exercises for conversation and personal reflection. You do not need to take part one or two in any particular order.

These groups will meet May 3, June 7, July 12, August 12, August 2, September 13 and October 4, 4:30-6:30 p.m. at the Sacred Art of Living Center. Fee is \$200. Scholarships are available.

For more information or to register, call 383-4179 or visit www.sacredartofliving.org.

Friends of Jesus

Friend of Jesus could use help. Thank you for your kind words of encouragement after the Bulletin did an article on Friends of Jesus. The kids were also delighted. The truth is, we could use one or two more people to help with our Saturday program. If God is whispering in your ear, please call Thiel Larson 388-4895 or Marilyn Burwell 388-7593 and we'll discuss it with you. It takes 2 hours on Saturday, and not every Saturday. The fringe benefits are enormous!

Remember in Prayer

Lora Looman's children and grandchildren in the death of their father and grandfather, Virgil Britain.

Prayers for Dora Tornbom's daughter, Nancy Haley whose husband Glenn Haley died April 17. Cards may be sent to Nancy at 404 SE 202nd, Portland, OR 97233.

Study and Fellowship

CPR Circle will meet Tuesday, April 28, at 6:00 p.m. at the home of Ann Kelly (95 SE Cessna-382-6871) for a baked potato dinner followed by an evening of fellowship and prayer. Our program will be Steve Welbourn, a chaplain with the Oregon State Prison System, who will tell us about his job and especially how there might be an opportunity for mentors for recently released women. This is an open circle; all women of the church are invited. Please bring a potato topping to share. Co-hostesses are Polly Gervais and Beverly Dennison.

CIRCLE 3 will meet on Monday, May 11, at 1:15 p.m. in the Adult Center. Join us for our enlightening study of the books of Ruth and Jonah. Call Ginny Boone (389-3128) if you would like additional information.

CIRCLE 2 will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 12, in the Adult Center continuing with the ninth lesson of the Jubilee study book. Leading will be Nona Lowe. All women in the church are invited. For more information, call Betty Armer (388-2347).

MEN'S BOOK STUDY GROUP meets in the Library every Monday from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. We're beginning a new study of the book What Jesus Meant by Garry Wills. Come join us.

MEN'S DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY Tuesday mornings, 9:45-11:00 a.m. at the home of Chuck Piersee in the Touchmark Community. It's an open discussion based on ideas and texts from the Bible. As the name suggests, we try to discover what the Bible is saying to us. This year we are studying the Gospel of John. All are welcome. Call 312-1628 for directions.

THURSDAY CENTERING PRAYER GROUP meets on Thursdays, 12:00-1:00 p.m., in the Prayer Room. For more information, please call Linda (318-0407).

LISTENING HEARTS is a contemplative prayer group practicing centering prayer together and reflecting on the spiritual journey. We meet Tuesday evenings, 7:00 - 8:15 p.m., in the Prayer Room. (We don't meet the 2nd Tuesday of each month.) For more information, please call Lorraine (318-0384).

EARLY BIRD BIBLE STUDY - Wednesday mornings 8:00-9:00 a.m. in the Adult Center. "Who Do You Say That I Am?" This was the question that Jesus asked his disciples. We too may ask that question, or it may be asked of us. What answer would we give? The study is focusing on this question as we look at the answer through the different lenses of the gospels of Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. How do these gospels tell the same story, but each from their own unique perspective?

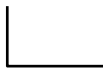
THE TILTERS is a group of women who meet to read and discuss books related to faith. We are reading *When Faith Meets Reason: Religion Scholars Reflect on Their Faith Journeys*. Editor Charles W. Hedrick collects 13 essays solicited from scholars in religion that answer the broad question of how faith is understood when it conflicts with reason, science or scholarship. Their answers are remarkably varied, painfully honest, and profoundly respectful of Christian tradition and newer truths alike. Join us on Thursday mornings, 8:00-9:15 a.m. in the library. Call Cheryl Shay at 526-0964 with questions.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS meets from 9:30 to 11:00 a.m. in the Youth Center on the first and third Tuesday of the month. We invite you to join us as we study the book of Esther and grow as friends in Christ. For more information, contact Leslie at 330-6932.

THE TRAVELER'S BIBLE STUDY Women, as you plan your spring activities, consider The Traveler's Bible Study, which meets the 2nd and 4th Thursday at 1:30 p.m. in the Youth Center. For more information, call Carol Piersee (312-1628).

FIRST FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP will meet May 1. Old gospel songs – with a jazz twist! Please join us as the Remember When Jazz Band (Lynne Farrell, Dennis Senff, Steve Knapp, Brian Cash, Dave Hallowell) puts its distinctive mark on such old favorites as *Amazing Grace*, *Jesus Loves Me*, *The Old Rugged Cross* and several more old favorites. And yup - you'll also get a chance to sing a few, too. It will be a fun, lively time! We meet in Heritage Hall at 11:30 a.m. for soup and salad. We welcome guests, new members, visitors and friends. Don't forget: Sign up on the easel in The Commons or call Ray and Joyce Ownby (388-1334) or Jean and Harold Hull (385-6557).

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Community Bulletin Board

Faith Notes will include a community bulletin board section for the listing of events not related to church activities. The bulletin board will contain a disclaimer that these activities do not necessarily represent the theology of the church and that they are not necessarily endorsed by the church. The listings will be brief and will be informational only; they will not contain position statements of the party submitting them.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY— Wednesdays, 9:30 to 11:00 a.m., in the Adult Ed. Room.

FLASHBACKS – A service to document your family history. Free consultation. Susie Burns
541-788-5936, davidandsusie@bendbroadband.com.