

January 6, 2010

## First Presbyterian Church



### Pastor's Column

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First Presbyterian  
Church—Bend OR

#### Worship

##### Sunday

9:00 am

Contemporary Worship

10:45 am

Traditional Worship

The 5:01

@ 5:01 pm

Music-Message-Meal

##### Wednesday

6:00 pm

Contemplative Worship

Child care provided at  
all worship times

#### CHURCH OFFICE CLOSURE

February 15

##### Next Faith Notes

##### Deadline

January 11 at Noon

Next Publication:

January 20, 2010

There is a phrase I love which says, "We are the medicine we each need." Our presence with others in times of transition, uncertainty and pain can be a source of enormous strength and hope.

Richard Rohr says that the best example of the Jesus-kind-of-love, agape love, Christian love is solidarity.

Solidarity means to stay in there with brokenness and let it lead you where it will. Our mission statement says we are called to "share the

unconditional love and compassion of Jesus." I believe one of the most profound ways we live this mission is to walk alongside others in times of pain and brokenness offering the gift of our presence. We are not trying to "fix" them or "convert" them or "distract" them away from their pain. We are helping them to know that God-is-with them.

Here's the catch. We can not be with others in a spirit of love, non-judgment and acceptance when we

are trapped in our own pain and issues. I want to let you know about an exciting and important opportunity for personal and spiritual growth. There will be a workshop at the church on January 23, from 9:00 am to 12 Noon called

"Understanding Spiritual Pain" by Richard Groves, the founder and Executive Director of the Sacred Art of Living Center. All are welcome so please tell your friends. There is no charge for this workshop. We are hosting this event but encouraging all faith communities in Central Oregon and anyone else who may be interested to attend.

I am also excited to announce that the Sacred Art of Living Center will be offering for the first time, Unit 1 of the internationally acclaimed series, "Understanding Spiritual Pain" in a new format of six two hour sessions beginning after Easter here at First Presbyterian.

These two opportunities, the workshop on January 23 and the six week unit after Easter will profoundly impact your life and will profoundly impact the way in which we are Christ to one another. Please prayerfully consider investing in these spiritual growth opportunities.

I want to let you know that I try to update my blog at least four times a week which you can find on our website at [www.bendfp.org](http://www.bendfp.org).

And don't forget that a group of us meet on Wednesdays at 10:00 am in the church library to read and discuss the scripture and theme of my message for the following Sunday's worship. All are welcome.

May you inhale the gift of every sunrise, look for the joy under every rock and make a difference in someone's life today!

Grace Flows,

## News from Our Sister Church in Placetas, Cuba

Xiomara Arenas, a member of the Placetas congregation and a friend to many in our congregation, writes that the old church building was condemned and has recently been demolished.

Architectural plans have been drawn, but until enough money for the building project can be collected, actual building plans are on hold. In the meantime, the congregation is meeting in an old house across the street from the church property.

Xiomara has organized several projects to address the many needs of the Cuban people in the community. Twice a week two church members prepare a hot lunch and distribute the meals throughout several neighborhoods. Other members are providing laundry

services for the elderly who cannot manage to do so on their own. Still others are sewing clothes for the elderly. A young woman from the church has developed an afterschool program for teens who otherwise have nothing to do and wander alone through the town.

In general, all Cuban churches have taken active roles in helping their communities. Cuba has been heavily affected by the economic downturn, as has almost every country. The Cuban government has told its people that very difficult times are at hand, perhaps the most difficult since the Russians left the island in the early 90's. Virtually everything is scarce. Major hurricanes the past three years have damaged many of the

island's food crops, and the Cuban government has few resources to pay back the heavy debt it has acquired.

In March Terry Re, Kurt Svendsen, and Judy Alford will travel to Cuba with a Presbyterian group from Portland. They will be taking medicine, school supplies, dress fabrics, and many other basic supplies to be distributed among many of the Presbyterian churches.

Our church has sent many groups to Cuba in the last 10 years, and many people in our congregation have met Xiomara and worshiped at the Placetas church. If anyone would like to send a message to Xiomara, or if anyone would like additional information about Cuba, please call Judy Alford at 541.388.4583.

*On behalf of the Board at Family Kitchen, I would like to thank you for the support your church has given to the Family Kitchen. As you can imagine, the number of meals we are serving continues to break records, which is why your support is so appreciated. Have a wonderful holiday season.*  
Tyler Simones

## Register Now for the Spring Women's Retreat!

Registrations are now being accepted for the annual First Presbyterian Women's Retreat. Sign up today for the event, which has a theme this year

of "Journey Inward, Journey Outward: Stitching the Stories of our Spiritual Travels." The retreat is set for March 12-14, 2010, at the beautiful and

tranquil Sunriver Resort, and the award-winning writer and lecturer Jane Kirkpatrick will be the speaker for the weekend.

## Spiritual Formation & Education

### “Stories of Migration—Their Journeys and Our Own”

January 31 at 9:00 and 10:45 a.m. Bend resident Betsy Lamb, whose journey for 25 years has included Latin American people and places, will lead us in reflecting on a May 2009 Witness for Peace trip to Mexico to follow the migrant trail. The face of the U.S. population is changing. Why do people come here? What happens when they arrive? How

does their journey inform and inspire our own? “How do they call us to action?” The presentation will include a brief clip of the video “Dying to get in.”

### “The Post-American World”

The ecumenical class that meets at the St. Helen’s Center of Trinity Episcopal Church will begin a study of *The Post-American World* by Fareed Zakaria. This book recognizes that since the fall of the Soviet Union, the United States role of

sole superpower is being challenged by what Zakaria calls “The rise of the rest,” specifically China and India. Also, an assessment is made of the challenge of the Muslim world. The class is under the leadership of Dr. W. Daniel Klingler. It meets at 9:30-11:00 a.m. beginning on Thursday, January 28, and will extend for six weeks until March 4. Come join in this study of the shift of global power that is taking place in our world.

## Support Groups

### Depression Recovery Support Group

Meets in the Prayer Room on Wednesdays, 1:30-3:00 p.m. - January 20; February 3 and 17; March 3, 17, and 31.

Care Givers Support Group meets at 2:00 p.m. in the Prayer Room, January 18; February 1 and 15; March 1, 15, and 29; April 5 and 19.

## Cookies and Coffee Hour

Persons whose last names begin with the letters L-M-N (and of course any others) are invited to help keep the cookie box in the small Office Kitchen filled during the month of January.

### MISSING TABLECLOTHS

If you have taken tablecloths home to launder them, please bring them back to the drawers in Heritage Hall. A green one had been donated and it may still be waiting to be washed somewhere.

## Happy New Year from the Green Ministry and Peacemaking Teams!

During Steven's January 3 Sermon, he made a statement about not being able to be a Christian all by yourself. There is a need for Christians to be in solidarity, to learn, to grow, to express and experience faith together.

Are you satisfied with the status quo? Are you feeling the nudge from God to work with others to secure a better future for our children? Would you like to work with others to make a difference?

We want you to know that when you come to a Peacemaking or Green Team Meeting,

you will feel God at work in the minds and hearts of others. You will be planning together about how to make a difference.

Two important issues of our times are Peace and the Environment. Other important issues, such as the economy, health care, justice, immigration, and education, are directly related to and affected by Peace and the Environment.

The biggest concern both of these ministries face is how to engage others in actively working in these two areas. Will you pray about this and consider

joining us? Both teams meet once a month. Peacemaking meets the first Monday at 10:30 a.m. And the Green Team meets on the first Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. This year let's listen to the still small voice of God telling us that "Faith without Works is dead."

For more information contact Meg Brookover (541-382-1283 or [megbrook@bendbroadband.com](mailto:megbrook@bendbroadband.com)) for the Peacemaking team or Thiel Larson (541-388-4895 or [tlarson@bendbroadband.com](mailto:tlarson@bendbroadband.com)) for the Green Ministry Team.

## Peacemaking Team



The Peacemaking Team has drafted letters to senators and other national leaders regarding the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty. You may join to add your signature to them Sunday, January 10 in the Library

The Presbyterian Church (USA) says, "President Obama and other leaders are talking about a world without nuclear weapons. Ratification of the CTBT is an

important step toward that vision. A strong and sustained campaign by followers of Jesus and other individuals will play an important role in making that happen. Provide an opportunity for members of your congregation to urge your Senators to catch up to the church."

Hundreds of religious leaders have endorsed this goal. Yet the U.S. Senate seems to be a handful of votes short of the 67 votes

necessary to ratify the CTBT. Is it possible that our congregation could get 100 people to sign our petition? Our Peacemaking Team could then go to other local churches and ask them to do the same.

For more information on this issue, go to [www.capwiz.com/pcusa/issues/alert/?alertid=14119626](http://www.capwiz.com/pcusa/issues/alert/?alertid=14119626) or you can Google: "PCUSA nuclear test ban treaty" and choose the first option for more information.

## 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](mailto:jpearson@bendcable.com)).

### Sing Praises

The kindergarten through fifth grade choir will return to rehearsals between services on January 24. Singers meet downstairs in Fellowship Hall at 10:00 a.m. The choir is preparing to share their gift of singing in worship. Julie Cash is directing. Thank you, Julie, for providing a fun and meaningful experience for our children. You can contact Julie at [Julie@thecashs.com](mailto:Julie@thecashs.com) or 549-1663.

### Treasure Quest (9 a.m. Service, K-3 grade)

The Beatitudes

Our focus for the month of January in Treasure Quest is the Beatitudes. The Beatitudes come from Jesus' Sermon on the Mount. The Sermon on the Mount challenges us to live according to God's will. These are some of Jesus' most important words. The Beatitudes speak to the depths of our being.

Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

Mathew 5:3-9

### Godly Play

(9:00 a.m. Service – 3 and 4 year-olds; 10:45 a.m. Service – 3 year olds to grade 5)

In January the children in Godly Play will hear the stories of Jesus as a boy at the temple, Jesus' baptism, feeding the 5000, the parable of the sower and will learn about the circle of the church year.

At **The 501** on Sunday evenings, children will have the opportunity to enjoy worship with their families. A quiet activity center will be available in the back of the room for those with restless hands.

Children are always welcome to stay and worship with their families at all of our services.

## Bethlehem Inn Volunteers

First Presbyterian has signed up to take responsibility for serving meals at the Bethlehem Inn February 6-19. Innkeepers will be Dan Klingler and Brad Kent. See the sign-up posters in the Commons.

Dear First Presbyterian Church,  
Thank you for your help and support during these last six difficult years for our Dad, Ivan Eastwood. The church family really stood by us and Dad and we are very thankful. Peace be with you.  
Helen & Katie Eastwood

## Youth Ministries

### January 2010

- January 10 Informational Meeting for Presbyterian Youth Triennium (Open to all current 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders) Between Services in the Youth Center. Presbyterian Youth Triennium Bake Sale
- January 16 The Fold Habitat for Humanity Youth Service Day with youth from Nativity Lutheran and City Church. (Open to all youth 14 and older) 9 a.m.-3 p.m., Parkway Village
- January 24 Deposit, Registration and Scholarship Application due for Presbyterian Youth Triennium (Open to all current 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders)
- January 24 The Flock Get Together
- January 31 Super Bowl Sub Sandwich Fundraiser Ordering Day

### February 2010

- February 7 Super Bowl Sunday, Super Bowl Sunday Sub Sandwich Fundraiser Pick Up Day
- February 12-14 The Fold Habitat for Humanity Youth Service Weekend with youth from Nativity Lutheran and City Church (Open to youth 14 and older)
- February 24 Final Payment and Late Registration for Presbyterian Youth Triennium (Open to all current 8<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders)
- February 21 The Flock Get Together
- February 26-27 30-Hour Famine (open to all members of The Fold)

### March 2010

- (Greg out of the office for family leave)
- Sundays in March - Presbyterian Youth Triennium Quilt Fundraiser
- March 14 The Flock Get Together
- March 19-22 The Fold Service Reward Trip
- March 21-28 Spring Break

### April 2010

- April 4 Easter Pancake Breakfast
- April 4 Presbyterian Youth Triennium Quilt Drawing
- April 11 Confirmation Sunday
- April 11 Presbyterian Youth Triennium Bake Sale
- April 18 Youth Ministry Visioning Conversation (During Second Service)
- April 25 Youth Ministry Visioning Conversation. (During Second Service)

If you have any questions about anything listed here and would like to help out, don't hesitate to give me a call (541-350-8074) or email me ([ggbolt16@gmail.com](mailto:ggbolt16@gmail.com))

Blessings,  
Greg

## Study and Fellowship

### First Friday Fellowship will meet on January 8

11:30 am, Heritage Hall. Jesus tells us "One does not live by bread alone," but what about potatoes? "*Papas*" are the staple of the Bolivian diet, but with 126 varieties available, there's plenty of variety. On January 8, 2010, at the First Friday Fellowship, Ali and Brad Kent will share some of their experiences living, working, and dining in Bolivia. *Vengan todos!* (Y'all come!) Questions? Call Ray and Joyce Ownby (388-1334) or Harold and Jean Hull (385-6557).

**CIRCLE 3** will meet on Monday, January 11, at 1:15 p.m. in the Adult Center. Call Ginny Boone (389-3128) if you would like additional information.

**CIRCLE 2** will meet at 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 12, in the Adult Center. Brad Kent will lead lesson four in the Study Book Joshua. All women in the church are invited. For more information, call Betty Armer (388-2347).

**CPR Circle** will meet on Tuesday, January 26, at 6 p.m. at the home of Laurel Sorlie (322-9470—3343 Windwood Way) for a baked potato dinner followed by an evening of fellowship and prayer. This is an open circle; all women of the church are invited. Please bring a potato topping to share. Co-hostess is Gretchen Williver. Please RSVP to Laurel at sorlieol@bendcable.com if you plan to attend.

**MEN'S BOOK STUDY GROUP** meets in the Library every Monday from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. We're studying *Everything Must Change* by Brian McLaren. Come join us.

**MEN'S DISCOVERY BIBLE STUDY** meets

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** - 8:00-9:00 a.m. Wednesdays in the Adult Center will resume on January 27 continuing the year-long study of the Catholic Epistles. We will begin the study of 1 Peter on that date.

**TILTERS** is a group of women who read and discuss books related to faith. We are reading *The First Christmas: What the Gospels Really Teach About Jesus' Birth* by Marcus J. Born and John Dominic Crossan. We are excited to celebrate Advent through our discussion. Order a copy and 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 Acts and grow as friends in Christ.

**TRAVELER'S BIBLE STUDY** will resume January 14, 2010, at the usual time of 1:30 p.m. in the Youth Center.

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

## First Presbyterian Church

230 NE Ninth Street  
Bend, Oregon 97701

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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.

### **COMPUTER ASSISTANCE**

Jerry Schultz owns a small business that provides "Computer Solutions," experienced help in network assistance, hard drive crash repair, virus and spyware problems and more. Phone 541-390-3045 or [jerry@bendbroadband.com](mailto:jerry@bendbroadband.com).

### **FLASHBACKS**

– A service to document your family history. Free consultation. Susie Burns 541-788-5936, [davidand-susie@bendbroadband.com](mailto:davidand-susie@bendbroadband.com).