

February 3, 2010

Faith Notes



Pastor's Column

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 First Presbyterian
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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**
 April 5

Next Faith Notes
Deadline
 February 8 at Noon

Next Publication:
 February 17, 2010

One of the traditions of our church is to share a common journey by reading a book together as a church community and participate in a small group for six weeks during the season of Lent. The book we will be reading this year is called "The Hole In Our Gospel" by Rich Stearns. Books are on sale on Sunday mornings. "The Hole In Our Gospel" is an inspiring and challenging book that tell one person's story of transformation as he encounters suffering in the world and he experiences God calling him to respond.

The first Sunday of Lent is February 21 and our theme for Lent this year is "Inward Journey... Outward Passion". Father Richard Rohr says the inward journey of

encountering the presence of God in your life plants the seeds that are harvested in compassionate action in the world.

You will be invited to join a small group in your neighborhood during Lent. If the day and time of the small group in your neighborhood doesn't work for you, we will help you find a group that will work for your schedule.

A tradition over Lent is to focus on your relationship with God by giving something up as an exercise of sacrifice and discipline. Instead of giving something up, I encourage you to add the discipline of making room for and participating in a small group for six weeks.

We want to make sure we find a small group that works for you. If you have any

questions, don't hesitate to call the church at 541-382-4401 or e-mail me :skoski@bendfp.org

There will be a special Ash Wednesday worship service, February 17 at 6pm as we begin traveling out Lenten journey of transformation together.

One of the questions the book we will be reading together asks is "What does God expect of us?" What does God expect of you? What does God expect of us as a community of faith? May our journey during Lent as we explore and wrestle with these questions transform our lives.

Session Highlights

At its January 19 meeting, Session:

- Discussed the relevancy of the strategic goals that were set several years ago and determined that changes in our world make our strategic goals even more important and the goals have a greater relevance now.
- Affirmed the remarkable work being done by all of the church staff.
- Received a report from Church Administrator Boyd Levet on the analysis of income and expenses from 2005 to 2009.
- Approved the 2010 budget with a \$39,507 faith factor included in the income section of the budget.
- Approved the payment of the per capita apportionment to the Presbytery of the Cascades on an installment basis with payment to be completed by no later than September 30, 2010.
- Heard a report from Dr. Koski that this year's theme for Lent will be "Inward Journey, Outward Passion" and that the book that will be used for the Lenten study is *The Hole in our Gospel* by Richard Stearns, the CEO of World Vision.
- Received a report from Rev. Bolt that the youth will be starting fundraising to help them attend the Presbyterian Youth Triennium that will be held at Purdue University on July 20-24. The youth will be attending the Triennium instead of taking a mission trip this year. They are also working with Habitat for Humanity and other local mission projects once a month.
- Finalized the planning for the Annual Gathering to be held January 30 at Bend High School.
- Heard a report that Greg Bolt will be installed as Associate Pastor of Youth and Family Ministry on Sunday, February 21, at 3 p.m.
- Expressed appreciation for all the work that Church Administrator Boyd Levet, the Finance Committee, and the ministry teams did in preparation of the 2010 budget.

A copy of the January 19 Session minutes and the December financial statements are on file in the Session notebook in the Library. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the clerk or one of the Ruling Elders. The next Session meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 16, at 6 p.m. in the church library. The Session will hold a retreat on Saturday, February 20, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the church.

Sharon Lichti, Clerk of Session (388-9982 or slichti@bendcable.com)
Ruling Elders:

Todd Ainsworth, 598-9210
Teddie Allison, 317-8978
Betty Bullis, 389-8108
Ron Carver, 389-4226
Brian Cash, 549-1663
Tim Conlon, 388-0292

LeBron Hardie, 550-7541
Clay Higuchi, 388-2746
Scott Hill, 383-3964
Sarah Holtzclaw, 318-7496
Chuck Piersee, 312-1628
Sue Nell Phillips, 817-3131

Thank You

My family and I have been truly blessed by the outpouring of support and caring from the First Presbyterian church family at Dick's passing. We would like to thank everyone for being so very considerate and helpful. Also, we would like to extend a special thank you for the prayer shawl, as it continues to be a source of comfort.

Anita Gassner
and Family

Lenten Journey Groups

Lenten Journey Groups begin after Ash Wednesday, February 17.

These groups, many convening in neighborhoods and some at the church, offer you the opportunity to reflect on your journey and the ways God has been leading Rich Stearns, author of *The Hole in Our Gospel*.

This is a very timely book in light of the Haiti earthquake disaster and reminds us that we're on an inward journey of faith, expressed with outward passion as Stearns tells his story.

Lenten Journey Groups are a wonderful opportunity to get to know others in the congregation during the six weeks of Lent. Books are available (\$10 or check for \$10

made out to First Presbyterian Church, with "Lenten Book" in the memo line) on Sundays, February 7 and 14, in the Commons.

For more information, ask Deb Klotz and Joyce Purcell at Sunday's book table or contact coordinator Betty Seidel (541-385-5433 or kbseidel@bendbroadband.com).

Spiritual Formation & Education

"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. Thursdays through 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, 1:30-3:00 p.m. - February 3 and 17; March 3, 17, and 31.

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

Green Team

Martin Luther King Day Message from the Green Team: Decide to go deeper into issues often ignored. Acknowledge that for a little while, some people forgot that the web of creation is a spiritual issue. Let's reclaim it. Perhaps we

got caught up in things like changing light bulbs, saving paper and having the power company come out and do an audit. All important, but for us it needs to be about how we live our lives as Christians now that we know more about what

we've done to the environment. (A Quote from Hunt Priest, the rector of Emmanuel Episcopal Church in Mercer Island, Wash.)

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.

Remember in Prayer

Jack Sealock, Linda Henning, Karen Bates, Doug Watson.

Peacemaking Team

Exerpt from the "Causes of War" by Johann Christoph Arnold
 January 25, 2010
 "How does your life help to remove the causes of war?" is a popular bumper sticker. Is this just moralistic bromide--or does it really mean something?
 The idea that a single person can prevent war by the way he or she lives was suggested hundreds of years ago by George Fox. When asked to take sides in

the English Civil War, he said that he wished to live such a life – and by such a Power – that would “take away the occasion for war.”
 Every time one person decides to live for peace, it makes a difference for the whole world. When that happens, the world becomes a more peaceful place.
 War is the most destructive form of hatred and violence. In war nobody wins and everybody loses. But the seeds of war and

the seeds of peace lie in every human heart. In my lifetime, I have counseled many veterans and have discovered that the scars of wars are passed on to the next generation, through hatred. Every conflict sows the seeds of the next conflict.
 Courtesy of The Plough
 Complete article at <http://www.plough.com/articles/currentissues/causesofwar.html>

Children's Ministry

To volunteer, register or get more information, contact Janet Pearson, Director of Children and Family Ministry (541-382-4401 or jpearson@bendcable.com).

Godly Play is offered first service for pre-school children ages 3 to 5 and second service for students from pre-school to fifth grade. The stories presented in February will include three of Jesus' parables and an introduction to Lent as a season of the church.

Treasure Quest (9 AM, K-3 grade)

Treasure Quest is based on a workshop rotation model. Students explore a different theme each month using different types of active learning opportunities. Workshop leaders present to different age groups each week. Shepherds accompany a specific age group to the different workshops.

February's theme for Treasure Quest is "The Great Commandment." The "Great Commandment" is found in three of the four gospels. In each case Jesus is being questioned. Jesus' answer is simple and consistent. Love God. Love your neighbor and love yourself. Jesus' answer is directly connected to the Shema, the foundational scripture of the Jewish faith as found in Deuteronomy 6: 4-5

Hear O Israel, the Lord is our God, the Lord alone. You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul and with all your might.

Complete and total love of God, lived out in our lives, will bring about the reality of the Kingdom of God. This was the foundational message of Jesus' ministry.

Fourth and Fifth Grade Mentor class (9:00 am)

Fourth and fifth grade students work with Deb Klotz to prepare a workshop to share with the younger students once a month.

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

Thank You from Presbyterian Women

The Presbyterian Women would like to thank all of you who donated gift items this Christmas season. We held a Friends of Jesus gift wrapping party before Christmas and

about 30 children picked out gifts for their siblings and parents.

We also were able to donate two large plastic tubs each to Grandma's House, Meadowlark

Manor and Saving Grace. All the organizations were so excited to get these small gifts for their clients.

Youth Ministries

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 8th-12th 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)

Blessings, Greg

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. The award-winning writer and lecturer Jane Kirkpatrick will be the speaker for the weekend.

Study and Fellowship

First Friday Fellowship February 5

11:30 a.m. – Heritage Hall. Old-time radio is coming to First Friday! Around the Bend Players will present old-time radio recreations, complete with sound effects. Their presentation begins at 1:00 pm in the sanctuary following a soup and salad luncheon.

We especially welcome visitors, new members and guests. Don't forget to sign up on the easel in The Commons so we know how many to expect for lunch.

Questions? Call Ray and Joyce Ownby (388-1334) or Harold and Jean Hull (385-6557).

CIRCLE 3 will meet on Monday, February 8, 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, February 9, in the Adult Center. Nona Lowe will be leading Lesson 5 of the Joshua Study. All women in the church are invited. For more information, call Betty Armer (388-2347).

CPR CIRCLE will meet on Tuesday, February 23, at 6 p.m. at the home of Ann Kelly (382-6871 – 95 SE Cessna) 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. Please RSVP to Ann at eekmr@bendnet.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 is continuing the year-long study of the Catholic Epistles. We

began the study of 1 Peter on January 20.

TILTERS is a group of women who read and discuss books related to faith. We invite any woman to join us for the Lenten sharing of the book, *The Hole in Our Gospel: What Does God Expect of us? The Answer That Changed My Life and Might Just Change the World*, by Richard Stearns. 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 1st and 3rd Tuesday mornings, 11:15-12:00 noon in the Prayer Room.

First Presbyterian Church

230 NE Ninth Street
Bend, Oregon 97701

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.

FLASHBACKS

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