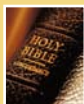


the mcLain family from bremerton congregation all recently became new members in community of christ—from left: mom lynette, nathan, amanda, kimberley and joshua

WHAT'S INSIDE:



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news from the greater
pacific northwest mission center

THE chinook GPNW

Community of Christ

SPRING/SUMMER 2011

veazeys bring ministry to bend institute labor day weekend

by Craig Perryman, Bend Congregational Support Minister

President Steve Veazey and Cathi Cackler-Veazey will bring ministry this summer to Bend Institute on Labor Day weekend, September 2-5, as we “move forward with divine vision.” Plan now to attend!

Recent revelation has called us to “become a prophetic people,” but what does that really mean? Do images of soap boxes, street corners and megaphones fill your mind? Or are you perhaps having visions of walking through the High Desert eating locusts and honey? Well, before you go trading your denim jeans for camel hair tunics, make sure that you block out Labor Day weekend, **September 2-5**, for the all new Bend Institute (camel hair tunics optional). Our theme for this year is, “Move Forward With Divine Vision,” and we are thrilled to announce that guest ministry will be provided by **President Steve Veazey** and **Cathi Cackler-Veazey**.



steve veazey and cathi cackler-veazey

multiple workshops offer choices

Steve and Cathi will explore what it means to be a prophetic people, how we become prophetic, and what impact that might have on our personal and congregational lives. In order to best take advantage of the wealth of knowledge and personal experience that Steve and Cathi bring to this subject, simultaneous workshops will be held throughout the weekend.

During the workshops President Veazey will focus on:

- Opening ourselves up to divine guidance and inspiration: A how-to study in the process of discernment
- Becoming a prophetic people: What it means for the future of the Community of Christ, my congregation and me

continued on page 2

PLAN ON IT! upcoming mission center events

(see page 2 for a listing of youth camps)

MAY 2011

- 14 — “Feed My Sheep” Movie Night, Crystal Springs
- 14-15 — Caravan Huddle, Roseburg
- 20-22 — WA Women’s Retreat, Ocean Shores WA
- 22 — Special MC Conference, Puyallup
- 28-30 — NW Singles Retreat, Lewis River

JUNE 2011

- 4 — Caravan Huddle, Eugene, Medford & Bend
- 11-17 — Samish Adult Reunion
- 18-26 — Caravan Trip, San Francisco
- 25-July 1 — Remote Reunion
- 26-July 1 — Lewis River Reunion

JULY 2011

- 10-16 — Samish Family Reunion
- 20-30 — Spectacular

AUGUST 2011

- 14-20 — NW Support Group Singles Reunion

LOOK AHEAD

- Sept. 2-5 — Bend Institute

camping 2011

youth camping

Register now for 2011 youth camps. Check out all the details and register online at www.cofchrist-gpnw.org/camp.

lewis river campground

camp zarahemla: (grades 3-6)
July 6, 6 pm to July 9, 3 pm

jr. high boys camp (hosmer lake):

(boys grades 7-9)
July 10, 10 am to July 15, 6 pm

camp israel: (grades 10-2011 grads)
July 10, 3 pm to July 16, noon

jr. high girls camp: (girls grades 7-9)
July 17, 3 pm to July 22, noon

samish island campground

camp genesis: (grades 3-4)
June 3, 7:15 pm to June 5, noon

camp mungai: (grades 5-6)
July 3, 4 pm to July 9, noon

camp kluane: (girls grades 7-9)
July 24, 4 pm to July 30, noon

camp chimacum: (boys grades 7-9)
July 31, 4 pm to August 6, noon

camp kimtah: (grades 10-2011 grads)
August 7, 4 pm to August 13, noon

camp remote

kids camp: (grades 3-5)
July 6, 3 pm to July 9, noon

sr. high camp: (grades 9-2011 grads)
July 9, 3 pm to July 16, noon

jr. high camp: (grades 6-8)
July 16, 3 pm to July 21, noon

reunions

samish adult reunion:
June 11, 3 pm to June 17, noon

remote family reunion:
June 25, 2 pm to July 1, 11:30 am

lewis river reunion:
June 26, 3 pm to July 1, noon

samish family reunion:
July 10, 2 pm to July 16, noon

northwest support group singles:
August 14, 3 pm to August 20, 12:01 pm

- Continuous communion with God: Is it really possible?

While Cathi Cackler-Veazey will address:

- Discerning my God-given gifts
- Building an effective team
- How to empower, enable and encourage our priesthood and/or members

With so many wonderful workshops available, even multi-taskers may find it difficult to choose which ones to attend. Why make it hard on yourself? Bring some friends, divide up and share the experience.

worships and special events

We will join together for a number of special worship services, beginning with an ecumenical worship service Friday night.

Saturday will open with a worship service planned by our mission center evangelists, followed by the workshops.

In the afternoon, Mission Center President **Kathy Sharp** will lead a Mission Center Chat session. After an exciting day of learning, discerning and sharing, we're offering an opportunity for some good old fashioned competition with a Congregational Chili Cook Off. Each congregation is encouraged to submit at least one entry. Each entry costs \$10. The fees will be donated in the name of the winning congregation to the Mission Center's Outreach International Fund to rebuild a school in Haiti. (*See related story, page 8.*) Saturday evening will conclude with a worship service planned by our mission center young adults and featuring Webb of Life.

Sunday morning communion service will feature guest minister Cathi Cackler-Veazey. Following breakfast, we will join together in worship featuring President Steve Veazey. Sunday afternoon includes more workshops and Individual Spiritual Development time (a chance to practice what we preach). Sunday evening we are offering a unique opportunity for fellowship: a "Guess Who's Coming

To Dinner." The concept for Guess Who's Coming To Dinner is simple. Various families from Bend and Redmond Congregations will host dinners at their homes, but they have no idea who is showing up. Those participating will be randomly assigned to a host family. You'll be given an address and directions to the host's home, but you won't know who else might show up. What better way to get to know one another than by breaking bread together? After dinner we will gather back together for worship with Kathy Sharp as our guest minister.

Monday morning will include praise singing, our closing worship and closing fellowship.

activities for all ages

Whatever you do, don't forget the kids! Throughout the weekend, our youth will enjoy a simultaneous retreat with games, activities, campfires and a Saturday evening barbecue with Steve and Cathi.



attendees enjoy a worship service at 2010 bend institute

register early

This year it's more important than ever to **register early** for Bend Institute. Meal tickets will be issued with paid registrations. Register and pay online by visiting www.bendinstitute2011.eventbrite.com or return a paper registration with your payment. In order to receive meal tickets, you must register by **Monday, August 29**. The full weekend registration cost is:

- Family (parents & children) - \$120
- Individual - \$45
- Individual Student (under 18) - \$25

The Holy Spirit is at work in the Greater Pacific Northwest Mission Center. God is calling each of us to take the next faithful step in our journey as a people. Doctrine and Covenants 164:9e asks, "...Will you remain hesitant in the shadows of your fears, insecurities, and loyalties? Or will you move forward in the light of your divinely instilled call and vision?" Be sure to make this year's Bend Institute a vital and enjoyable part of your journey.

ash wednesday service remembers jesus

by Chris Lasley

“Thank you so much for providing this tool. It was such a spiritual experience. This was an excellent way to start off the Lenten season. I really appreciated the work you did to put this together for us.” — Service participant

Ash Wednesday, March 9 at Garden Grove Congregation in Vancouver, WA was a unique experience for the 42 individuals who attended. The evening was a self-guided journey through the life and ministry of Jesus. Young adults from Longview, youth from Lacamas Heights, members from Tuality, Portland and Southridge Congregations, as well as friends from as far away as Hermiston and Wilsonville, OR participated.



worshippers meditate as they walk the labyrinth

Pamphlets explained the different station purposes and symbolism. Oil and ashes were provided for those who wanted to mark themselves on the hand or forehead with a cross symbol, humbling and acknowledging themselves as a sinner. A dove, fishing net, loaves, fish, palm branches, large vases, pitcher and basin, bread, grapes, goblet and a garment were some of the symbols displayed to signify the life of Jesus.

In the fellowship hall was a labyrinth for people to meditate as they walked the pathway. Bibles were provided for discovery, and paper for journaling. Candles were available to light as a physical



station with symbols signifying the life of jesus

representation of our prayers. A peace table displayed crafts from different places in the world. Facts about the Ivory Coast and the struggles they are experiencing were printed out and recommended for peace prayers.

In the chapel, a 30-minute presentation of written prayer and poems, scriptures and pictures scrolled

on the large screen for reflection and meditation. Elders were available for administration. A pathway was created in the main aisle of paper stones to “make straight the pathway for Jesus.”

Ministry of music was provided every 15 minutes by **Maria Keesee, Mickey Bevard,** and the instrumental quartet of **Sam McFarlin, Young Park, Eli Cronbaugh** and **Austin Webberley.**

For more information on this event and how you might organize one at your own congregation, contact **Chris Lasley** at fijinow@hotmail.com.



bev burk is one of five ordinands on february 27, 2011 at eugene congregation

5 mission center ordinations

a special day in eugene

by Marne Benedict

February 27 was a special day for Eugene Congregation, as we shared in the ordination of five members: **Sandi Schubert** to the office of Elder; and **Bev Burk, Elaine Canaday, Barb**



barb dobkins



sandi schubert

Dobkins, and Jeanie Freeman to the office of Priest.

Over 140 members, families, and friends from many places shared in the service and following reception. Evangelist **Joan Thompson** brought an inspiring message about the “importance of listening.”

upcoming ordinations

- A Special Mission Center Conference will be held on **Sunday, May 22 at 10:30 am** at Puyallup Congregation to vote on a priesthood call for **Barbara Crask**, of Mossyrock Group, to the office of Elder.
- **Kim Naten** will be ordained to the office of Elder and **Rick Naten** will be ordained to the office of Priest during a service on **Sunday, June 26, at 3 pm** at Olympia Congregation.

The Chinook includes events, announcements and photos submitted. Be sure to get your news included in the next issue by sending to kshort@cofchrist-gpnw.org by August 1, 2011.



graceland president john sellars (l) and community of christ president steve veazey

graceland offers church members big tuition break

by Randy Meline, Graceland Media Relations

Community of Christ and Graceland University recently announced a Study and Faith scholarship program for undergraduate church members who otherwise might see Graceland's tuition as prohibitive.

The program, which will begin in the autumn of 2011, will offer scholarships to all Community of Christ students equal to 50 percent of tuition at the Lamoni, Iowa, campus.

U.S. News & World Report and The Princeton Review rank Graceland as a top private university in the Midwest. With the economic downturn and mounting education costs, leaders hope the new scholarships will make Graceland affordable for all church students.

Graceland President John Sellars praised the program, "This is a tremendous opportunity for students of our faith tradition who want to make the 'Graceland Experience' a part of their lives," he said. "Study and Faith scholarships will preserve that partnership."

He also reminded people about the original mission of the college. It "was to ensure our church young people have the opportunity to... get to know each other, to learn, but also grow within their faith."

EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES IN THE GPNW MISSION CENTER

by Christian Skoorsmith, GPNW Learning Officer

Across our Mission Center there are multiple opportunities for continuing to enrich and sharpen our ministry skills, knowledge and awareness. Many of these opportunities are to be found within the church, but just as often there are dynamic offerings in ecumenical and academic settings nearby or over the internet.

graceland university seminary online

Graceland University Seminary now offers a Master of Arts in Religion (MAR) degree entirely online, as well as an MAR degree and Masters of Arts in Christian Ministry through a combination of online and in-class experiences at the Temple in Independence, Missouri. In addition to classes offered for credit in degree-seeking programs, most classes are available for auditing or non-degree-seeking attendance for a fraction of full tuition. Auditing a class also does not require any homework or testing, but it does not earn any "credit" either. For more information regarding Seminary education opportunities and requirements, contact Judy Luffman at luffman@graceland.edu.

Upcoming online course offerings are:

- **August 29-October 21**—Hebrew Scriptures I, taught by **Wayne Ham**
- **October 24-December**—Hebrew Scriptures II, taught by **Wayne Ham**

meads

Community of Christ Seminary and Temple School co-sponsor the MEADS (Ministerial Education and Discipleship Studies) program. The courses offer a concentrated study of foundational theology, church history, scripture, and practical ministry formation. You can find out more and contact the MEADS program directly via their website at www.cofchrist.org/MEADS. The next round of classes will be **August 1-5** in Independence, MO, and features the following courses and instructors:

- New Testament, taught by **Tony & Charmaine Chvala-Smith**
- Theological Foundations for Christian Ministry, taught by **Don Compier**
- Worship, taught by **Jane Gardner**

temple school

A variety of Temple School courses are frequently offered or considered across the Mission Center. If you are interested in having a particular course offered or would be willing to teach one, please contact Mission Center Learning Officer **Christian Skoorsmith** at cskoorsmith@cofchrist-gpnw.org.

seattle university stm

Community of Christ played a key role in creating the ecumenical program at Seattle University School of Theology and Ministry ("STM") and has been an active and welcome member in the decades since. STM offers many graduate-level courses for audit during the year. Auditing a class carries the benefits of offering excellent teachers and subject matter at a fraction of the cost and commitment of degree-seeking programs. For more information on courses and registration, visit www.seattleu.edu/stm. Upcoming classes available for audit are:

weekend courses

- **June 24 & 25**—Spiritual Retreats: Theory, Design and Implementation
- **July 9 & 10, 22, 23 & 24**—Christian Anthropology

weekday courses

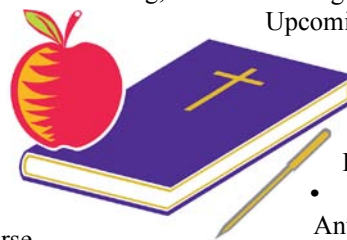
- **July 11-22**—History of Pastoral Care
- **July 18-22**—Martin Luther King, Jr.: Beloved Community
- **July 25-29**—Contemporary Christian Spirituality & Prayer

ecumenical associations

Many of the local ecumenical associations our church is affiliated with offer occasional seminars, weekend courses or lectures. In addition to education and spiritual formation events, these organizations provide opportunities for peace and social justice education and direct action. Subscribe to email lists to receive announcements about these. Some of the most well-known are listed below:

- Church Council of Greater Seattle: www.thechurchcouncil.org
- Washington Association of Churches: www.thewac.org
- Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon: www.emoregon.org
- Associated Ministries (Pierce County, WA): www.associatedministries.org

If you hear about other educational opportunities that you think our church members would be interested in, contact Christian Skoorsmith.



tangible love grant awards help gpnw ministries

We are thrilled to announce that two of our local organizations sponsored by the Greater Pacific Northwest Mission Center recently received Tangible Love Grants from World Church!

tangible love grants & oblation

Tangible Love Grants are supported through the church's Oblation Fund and are available for peace, justice, and compassionate ministries sponsored by Community of Christ congregations and jurisdictions in collaboration with communities. Continued contributions to the Oblation Fund will make these types of ministry possible.

orphans africa

Orphans Africa (OA) was awarded a \$25,000 Tangible Love Grant toward the continued construction and development at the Mwaji Secondary School in Bujela, Tanzania, East Africa. OA has been providing funding and technical expertise to build and operate the school. The Mwaji school was started in a one-room hut by local tribes' people in a rural mountain village to provide a secondary education to orphans. The school currently serves about 90 orphans while continuing its development. Secondary education is not free in Tanzania, so OA provides a free education for these students. A girls' dormitory, kitchen and dining hall will eventually be joining the current structures with the help of this grant. These will significantly help the orphan students to achieve their potential.



students at mwaji secondary school

Orphans Africa was co-founded by GPNW Mission Center members **Carl Gann, Michele Torrey** and **Lisa de Guzman** (Highland Park Congregation). OA is a charitable nonprofit dedicated to the education of orphans and empowerment of widows in Tanzania. You can read more about the Mwaji project at www.orphansafrica.org.

share and care house

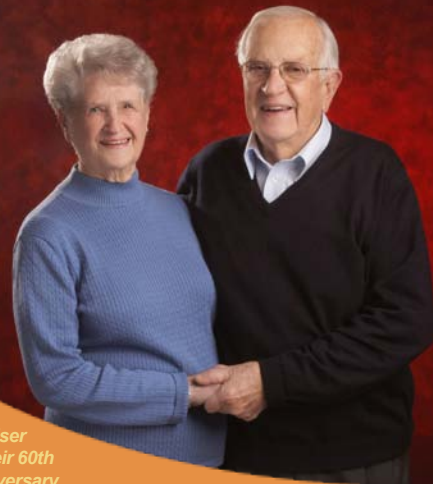
Share and Care House (SCH) received a \$10,000 Tangible Love Grant towards improvements of Independence House for Men (IHM), a new permanent housing project. The program's goal is to provide permanent housing to ten chronically

homeless, disabled men, in conjunction with supportive services and individualized case management, to help them become independent and productive citizens.

This is the third housing project of SCH, in addition to its other human service programs which have operated from **Puyallup, Tacoma, Highland Park, and Tuality Congregations** over the years. SCH is a Community of Christ non-profit affiliate, established in 1982 by GPNW Mission Center member **Betty Fernandes** (Puyallup Congregation), which provides social services and programs to individuals and families within WA and OR.



share and care house helps homeless men



marj & bill weiser celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary

4 very special marriages

1 marj and bill weiser celebrate 60 years

Marj and Bill Weiser of Auburn Congregation celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary on December 31, 2010.

2 sheyne benedict and ken hutchinson marry

Sheyne Benedict, Eugene Elder, and **Ken Hutchinson** were married in a small, lovely service at the Excelsior Inn in Eugene on January 12. Sheyne's father, **Ron Benedict**, officiated.

3 barbara and leonard glenn celebrate 55 years

55 years ago on February 25, **Barbara and Leonard Glenn** were married by Elder **Ephraim Barnhart** at Eugene Congregation. They met while both were working at Sears, and Barbara introduced Leonard to her church. Barbara and Leonard have lived in the Sunriver/Lapine area where they attend Bend Congregation.



4 jill windes and jake reents to wed

Jill Windes, Eugene Priest, will marry **Jake Reents** at Eugene Congregation on June 11. **John Bonney** will officiate.

Community of Christ



the creek at lewis river campground

lewis river partners for youth

by Karen Sundstrom, Caretaker

Did you know Lewis River Campground partners with the Clark County Juvenile Court? Yes, it's true, and it's been going on for years.

Lewis River Campground Caretakers **Les** and **Karen Sundstrom** attended a Mentor Training program for the Clark County Juvenile Court in February.

The focus for this program is "restorative justice." Clark County pairs juveniles in detention or in need of community service hours with mentors to take on supervised projects at the campground such as cleaning the grounds, landscaping, removing old carpet and painting. In short, they want to encourage the youth to take responsible steps to turn their lives around. It focuses on the positive rather than negative.

This interaction with other volunteers helps the teens to build self-esteem and social skills, as well as constructive working skills that can be used in future employment situations. We really appreciate the help!

Clark County Juvenile Court provided several youth and mentors to help on the campground's April 16 work day, and will do so again during the May work week. We look forward to having the youth on the grounds and helping with the projects.

walking in the dust of our rabbi

by Craig Perryman, Bend Congregational Support Minister

Then he said to them all, 'If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross daily and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will save it. What does it profit them if they gain the whole world, but lose or forfeit themselves?' — Luke 9:23-25

What does it mean to truly follow Jesus? Is it enough to put on our best Sunday clothes, attend church, and do unto others as we would have them do unto us? Is it enough to simply believe in Jesus? Is that what is meant by being a disciple? Pastor **Rob Bell** has defined discipleship as, "Giving everything we have... to learn what the Rabbi knows... in order to do what the Rabbi does... so that we can become who the Rabbi is." Ancient Jews would often bless a Rabbi's disciple at the end of an encounter with these words: "May you be covered in the dust of your Rabbi." It was an acknowledgement of how closely a good disciple would follow the Rabbi as they traveled from village to village in order to learn everything about that Rabbi's theology.

christ invites you to deepen discipleship

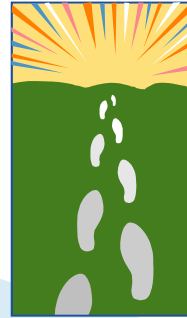
Our world is filled with believers in Jesus Christ. There are many who try to follow Christ's teachings. But Jesus called us to become His disciples, to give everything in order to learn what our Rabbi knows, so that we can do what our Rabbi does, in order to become who our Rabbi is. Right now Christ is inviting each of us to take the next faithful step in a lifelong journey of deepening discipleship. This invitation, filled with the hope of God, was extended to us recently in Doctrine and Covenants 164:9e-f which says, "When your willingness to live in sacred community as Christ's new creation exceeds your natural fear of spiritual and relational transformation, you will become who you are called to be."

a spiritual journey

Following in the dust of our Rabbi means going wherever Jesus chooses to lead us. On March 20, Bend Congregation embarked on "A Spiritual Journey," a nine-week period dedicated to becoming the disciples

that Christ has been inviting us to become. Through daily scripture study, prayer, meditation, activities and small group discussions, we hope to open ourselves to the movement of the Spirit. Our desire is to learn to trust God and our Lord Jesus more fully, tear down the obstacles that stand between who we are and the disciples we want to become, and fully commit ourselves to following Christ wherever He may take us. We know that this journey may take us outside of our comfort zone and that each of us will be challenged to allow ourselves to be molded and shaped into the instrument that God always knew we could be.

OUR JOURNEY OF FAITH our future



Imagine a congregation filled with men, women and children all committed to becoming true disciples of Christ, each eagerly offering their lives in service to God, to their community and to one another. Better yet, imagine a mission center filled with them. Jesus Christ changed the world with a handful of disciples; what do you think He could do with a mission center filled

with them? There's only one way to find out. The invitation has been extended. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit are anxiously waiting for our response. Doctrine and Covenants 164:9e-f asks, "Will you remain hesitant in the shadows of your fears, insecurities and competing loyalties? Or will you move forward in the light of your divinely instilled call and vision? The mission of Jesus Christ is what matters most for the journey ahead." My prayer for each of us, brothers and sisters, is that we choose to run, not walk, in the dust of our Rabbi.

For more information about Bend's Spiritual Journey, contact pastor **Shawn Sahlberg** (ssahlberg@aol.com, 541-420-8264) or CSM **Craig Perryman** (541-604-6932, cperryman@cofchrist-gpnw.org).

ministry given and received

by Susan Gregory, Bend Congregation

Providing ministry was our goal, but the tables were turned on us the moment we entered the community gathering room. Bend Congregation had planned to bring lunch to the residents of CORIL (Central Oregon Resources for Independent Living), eating together and then sharing in planned activities. But we soon realized that we were the ones being blessed.

CORIL empowers people with disabilities—their mission is building independence, productivity and full inclusion for all people with disabilities, whether

cognitive or physical. CORIL believes that we are all more alike than different and that while we are all “differently-abled,” each of us possesses unique gifts. We certainly experienced an unforgettable afternoon with special people who captured our hearts.

During our normal Sunday School time, we prepared a lunch of baked potatoes and chef salad with luscious brownies for dessert. We met for a short worship, and then headed over to an apartment complex where residents have different degrees of cognitive or physical disabilities. Our church group ranged

in ages from three years to over 80, and this was our second venture of going into the neighborhoods to offer ministry. (We had previously made and served lunch at a homeless shelter).

We immediately had our hearts touched by **Linda, Richard, Stephanie, Tiffany, Chris, Bridget, Jenny, Pam, Jeff and Troy**. They told us we were family, and their cheerful conversation and interaction

uplifted us. After a couple of activities, we started singing together in a fairly ‘traditional campfire’ way, starting with fun songs and

transitioning to more serious. When a resident requested a playful song after having sung a slower, more serious number, we recognized the Holy Spirit at work and, instead of following our ‘script,’ we were able to truly provide and receive ministry.

There really aren’t adequate words to describe our experience, but it has been etched onto our hearts, and serves to help us focus on what is truly important.



susan gregory (right) and a CORIL resident



declan king, son of jess and heather king, enjoys the latino potluck which raised funds for books

2 special moments in congregational life

roseburg:

Roseburg Congregation celebrated **Diega Cabera**’s recent baptismal commitment (see photo, page 12) by holding a Latino potluck complete with Mexican food and decorations. Over \$100 was donated by congregational members to a book account at While Away Books, inside the juvenile detention center where Diega is employed.

east wenatchee:

“Walk Along with Me,” a new youth program at East Wenatchee Congregation, turned one in January 2011. It has been a year since the program restarted after a failed attempt a few years ago. It was with excitement that the youth celebrated their first year of the program’s fresh start. WAM, as it is referred to, is a program designed to address the needs of the 12-16 year old youth that

have outgrown the Young Peacemakers Club. WAM meets twice a month, once for a meeting and a second time for some type of outing or activity.



youth celebrate one year of WAM in east wenatchee

The Chinook includes events, announcements and photos submitted. Be sure to get your news included in the next issue by sending to kshort@cofchrist-gpnw.org by August 1, 2011.



guests enjoy a fabulous dinner at the benefit

orphans africa benefit raises over \$35,000

by Sean Langdon, Benefit Chair

On Saturday, February 12, around 160 guests attended the second annual Orphans Africa Benefit at Emerald Downs in Auburn, WA.

The benefit featured silent and live auctions, music from local classical & jazz artist **Heather Ruiz**, and a fabulous chicken dinner.

In less than four hours, we raised over \$35,000! The planning committee, consisting of Puget Sound area Community of Christ members and friends, spent many months planning and preparing for the event.

Cindie Ellwanger, from Auburn Congregation, has agreed to take over as Chair for the 2012 benefit, as **Sean Langdon** is stepping down from that role. Stay tuned for details about the 2012 Orphans Africa Benefit!



2011 benefit planning committee

THE SCHOOL BELLS ARE RINGING IN DE MICHEL, HAITI!

by Deborah Towner, Haiti Campaign Chair

In the fall of 2010, the Greater Pacific Northwest Mission Center accepted a challenge from Ken McLaughlin and Outreach International for a great cause. The challenge was to raise \$50,000 over a year's time.

The cause was to provide major financial support in the rebuilding and operation of a well-worn school for the children in De Michel, Haiti.

Well it's only been six months, but it's time to celebrate. We have exceeded our goal, and it's time to claim VICTORY!

The \$50,000 Challenge was accepted and got off to an incredible start at the fall GPNW Mission Center Conference with a

generous free will offering, as well as a major contribution from Portland Congregation. Over the next six months, individuals and congregations throughout the mission center were busy in many ways.

Here are some highlights demonstrating your generosity:

- A total of 14 congregations and 76 individuals participated in the Challenge.
- Portland, Anchorage and Fairbanks Congregations made significant, generous donations – thank you again!
- A Corporate Matching Gift ranked high amongst the major donors.
- We exceeded our goal by more than 11% in just six months, with \$55,538 raised.

Funds raised will be used for the following:

- Costs of building evaluation, design, and reconstruction, using available local materials and renewable wood sources
- Site supervision, project monitoring and management
- Administrative and tuition support for school effectiveness, serving populations that cannot afford high tuition costs

- Uniforms and school supplies to replace ones lost in the Haiti earthquake
- Feeding program in the form of a daily lunch; to enhance learning capacity

Congregations and individuals are still fundraising and striving to support the school in De Michel. Funds raised beyond the rebuilding costs will support the school operations as indicated in the future. Donations

will continue to be accepted until **October 31**. Don't let our "victory" slow down your interest and efforts.

You can continue to give in the following ways:

• **BY MAIL:** Use the GPNW Haiti Donation Form (address to

Outreach International) to mail in checks or a credit card number. Please include **7300 GPNMC Haiti** on the notation part of your checks.

- **ONLINE:** Visit the GPNW First Giving website at www.firstgiving.com/demichelschool. (There is a 1-3% fee for the service, but allows for easy networking to Yahoo, Facebook, Twitter and other accounts.)

Thank you for your generous and timely responses. I am confident the children in De Michel are smiling and grateful. I am confident we are making a difference in their lives.



students at de michel school give a thumbs-up to reconstruction

faith, fitness & philanthropy

by Roberta LaHue Brown, Tuality Congregational Nurse

Last November, Tuality Congregation developed a youth walking journey, "Faith, Fitness and Philanthropy," to raise funds for Outreach International while actively involving the youth in our common mission of being a people living out the principles in which we believe.

the program

The goal was for each youth to walk, hop, skip or run the distance from Nazareth to Bethlehem (60 miles) over the Advent season. The youth were encouraged to find sponsors to support their journey, and funds raised would be

used to purchase items from Outreach International's Sustainable Gifts catalog. Many of the sustainable gifts are farm animals, not unlike those that surrounded Jesus on the day of his birth in the stable.

A kick-off event took place during the congregation's annual Thanksgiving potluck after church on November 21. During this kick-off, each youth was presented with a packet containing an explanation letter, pledge forms, a calendar to track activity, a conversion chart and a pedometer donated by the local chapter of the American Heart Association. Our congregation was excited to support the youth in this endeavor, and youth received pledges from parents, grandparents, aunts, neighbors and church family.

special event held

During the season, a fellowship walk was held where youth met to walk together to help reach their goal. The local Parks and Recreation department let us use one of their indoor track facilities for an hour at a minimal cost. Each participant was given a bag with coupons of different colors. Every time they made a lap around the track, they placed a coupon in a bucket labeled with an OI gift catalog item that they wanted to purchase. In this hour, several kids walked three miles.

One of the adults even made it six miles.

the results

Each Sunday during Advent, we gauged our progress by placing an animal in the stable vignette on the rostrum

of our sanctuary. We were excited to announce at the final Advent service that the youth had raised a total of \$789.28, and we were able to buy more animals than would fit in our humble stable setting!

We know "Faith, Fitness and Philanthropy" will be put to good use by bringing Joy, Hope, Love and Peace to people in need all over the world. For more information on this program and how you might organize one at your own congregation, contact **Roberta LaHue Brown** at lahuebrown@msn.com.



participants at the fellowship walk



stable vignette tracking our progress



birthday party for sarah cravy (front row, striped sleeves) helped raise over \$600 for outreach international

2 congregational outreach activities

bridgeport:

Our congregation may be small (there are only six of us), but we give a lot. The Bridgeport (Okanogan Valley, WA) youth group, consisting of **Josh and Sarah Cravy**, decided this year to forgo any birthday presents and have their friends donate money towards Outreach International.

They collected over \$600 for their two birthdays, which they used to purchase medical supplies, goats, piglets, education and books for girls through Outreach International's Sustainable Gifts program.

It was such a successful humanitarian project that friends are now giving up their birthday gifts to donate money towards other such projects, and several families took home Outreach International catalogs so they could continue to give.

garden grove:

On Sunday, December 19 at Garden Grove Congregation, **Norma Murphy**, the congregations' representative for Outreach International,



betty croft and norma murphy raise funds for outreach international

and **Betty Croft** (left) donated handmade items and homemade goodies for purchase to benefit Outreach International's Sustainable Gifts program. A total of \$220 was raised. The funds will enable the purchase of one goat, two chickens and three piglets.

Community of Christ



auction supports caravan trip

by Jody Barnhart, Caravan Director

Recently the GPNW Youth Venture for Christ “Caravan” had their fourth annual auction to benefit the Venture trip in June. Eugene Congregation hosted the event, which filled the fellowship hall to the brim with eager supporters of the Venture program.

After a wonderful meal prepared by **Bob, Barbara and Doug Dobkins**, the very first Caravaners from the former Southern OR District were honored for starting such a wonderful tradition of mission in Community of Christ. Then the auction began!

Many great items were up for auction, from **Sandi Schubert’s** famous jam, walking sticks, numerous baskets, framed art and photographs of the Temple, jewelry and many other quality crafted items, and even a weekend getaway.

The auction raised more than \$6,900, and the weekend collected more than \$900 for the bus they will be taking. “Caravan” has a strong presence in the Northwest, with the Southern OR Youth Venture roots beginning more than 40 years ago and still going strong. Current Directors **Jody and Troy Barnhart** are humbled by the love and support the Saints continue to give to this very important program for our youth.

jamboree reaches out to kids

by Dan Murphy, Salem Congregation Missionary Coordinator

With what started as a discernment process inspired by the Co-Missioned Pastor Initiative, the Salem Congregation caught a vision that says, “We are the church that feeds the hungry: physically, spiritually, and emotionally.”

Out of that vision came a World Hunger Grant and the opening of the Good Samaritan Food Pantry. We were able to serve 11,000 individuals in our first 10 months of operation—and then the storms came.

Water came in during a severe wind and rain storm and flooded 50 percent of our building—everything but the sanctuary. During what could have been a desert time for the congregation, we began inviting and baptizing clients we had met from the pantry. In the 18 months that our building was being repaired, we were generous with the sacraments and baptized eight women and children.

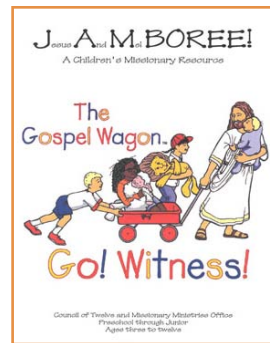
Now the building has been restored under the leadership of pastor **Margaret Polly**. We reopened our pantry on April 21! We realized that we had been blessed with the resources to feed the hungry in our community physically, and we began to ask God how we could also provide spiritual and emotional nourishment. We remembered that most of the families we served were Hispanic, lived below the poverty level and had four to 10 children. We began to search for a resource to

provide outreach ministry to children in our community and discovered “Jesus and Me Jamboree” (available through *Herald House*). The program contains exciting scripture, stories, activities, music, and craft resources designed to assist children in developing personal relationships with Christ that can be shared with others. We applied for mission funds from our Western Apostolic Field and were given a grant of \$3,750 for Jamboree.

Our children began inviting their friends because they were excited about Jamboree. Our first Jamboree was held on April 27. We share our building with a Hispanic congregation, the United Apostolic Church. They joined us to provide transportation and volunteers. We are now able to offer this ministry to children in Spanish and English.

From the grant, \$2,000 has been designated to send Jamboree kids to youth camps, and we hope to send 10-15 to camps this summer.

We have been blessed with a great calling, and we are so grateful for World Ministry tithes and the generosity of church members that have allowed us to begin this new ministry, even as our building has been made new again!



eileen turner helping those in need

Portland Congregation member **Eileen Turner** has volunteered at Macdonald Center since 1995, when her nursing students from Clackamas Community College had mental health rotations. Macdonald Center is a leader in providing outreach and support services, particularly housing and care for the poor and disabled.

Following her retirement in 2002, she’s been visiting “friends” served by Macdonald Center in single-room-occupancy hotels



(SROs) on a weekly basis. She recently took **Apostle Dale Luffman and Bishop**

Brad Shumate on visits with her to acquaint them with the lives of the poor who are sheltered in SROs.

Eileen was recently asked to join a Strategic Planning Committee for Macdonald Center. They are in the process of expanding services to the homeless, mentally ill, disabled and poor in downtown Portland. Fifteen people met with an organization called, “Decision, Decision” to listen, hear, and contribute ideas for dealing with the growing population of people who often “fall through the cracks.” Eileen says it was an amazing meeting, bringing together a diverse group of people, and she is honored to be a part of it.

eileen turner (far right) helps serve christmas lunch at macdonald center

shelby reed: future leader

by Lisa Reed, Roseburg Congregation

Shelby Reed of Roseburg Congregation was chosen as one of two to receive the honor of Future First Citizen for Sutherlin, OR. **John Lahley**, a member of the City of Sutherlin chamber board and also the Sutherlin School District superintendent, made the announcement of the student winners and presented each with a \$500 scholarship. There were 14 finalists. Shelby was also valedictorian of her senior class and is now attending the University of Oregon in Eugene.



shelby is the daughter of craig and lisa reed

The FILP training is an experiential learning program that gives existing and emerging rural leaders an opportunity to improve their leadership skills, network with and mentor other community members, and complete a small community improvement project over the course of one year.

Shelby spent many hours working with her group, learning about community leadership roles and working on a project for the City of Roseburg, which culminated this past winter.



one of several salmon statues resulting from shelby's project

Shelby also was chosen as one of four high school students in Douglas County to participate in the Ford Institute Leadership Program (FILP). The results of their hard work can now be seen in the salmon statues created by various local artists and placed throughout the city.

dave irby receives high honor

High Priest **Dave Irby**, former pastor and long-time member of Crystal Springs Congregation, recently received the 2010 Karolinska Institute Prize for Research in Medical Education.

This international prize is awarded for outstanding research in medical education. The purpose of the prize is to recognize and stimu-

late high-quality research in the field, and to promote long-term improvements in educational practice.



dave irby (right) shared the karolinska prize with his friend richard reznick

Dave and his wife, Janet, were flown to Stockholm for ceremonies on November 2-4, 2010. Congratulations, Dave!

The Chinook includes events, announcements and photos submitted. Be sure to get your news included in the next issue by sending to kshort@cofchrist-gpnw.org by August 1, 2011.



jim chapman (seated), with wife shirley (left) and family at his 80th birthday party

5 special moments in congregational life

southridge:

Allison Baylous will graduate from Columbia River High School this June. Her parents are **Jeff** and **Kristine Baylous**.

renton:

Jim Chapman celebrated his 80th birthday on February 12. A few days earlier, family gathered at Renton Congregation to share a meal together, sing old family favorites and view a digital slideshow of family life featuring Jim on the big screen in the sanctuary!

roseburg:

Ian King, son of **Mike** and **Gerrie King**, placed first in the Men's Beginner Featherweight category at a recent ju-jitsu tournament held in Portland. Ian hopes to travel to Russia to compete next fall. He is a student at Umpqua Community College.

auburn:

Andrew Heinz will be installed as President of the National Community Pharmacy Association Student Leadership Council in May 2011 at the NCPA Conference in Washington, DC. He has been active in leadership roles since he entered the University of Washington in 2006.

eugene:

Eugene Congregation is celebrating the high school graduations of **Kala Clarence**, **Audrey Hudson**, **Sam Osborn**, and **Andrew Schmunk**. **Melissa Bacon** is completing her program at Lane Community College. We celebrate all our graduates' accomplishments!

**We proclaim Jesus Christ
and promote communities
of joy, hope, love and peace.**

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we're growing: gpnw baptisms and confirmations

Below are new Community of Christ members in the GPNW Mission Center:

- Diega Cabera, Roseburg
- Alex Christodoulou, Highland Park
- Donita Clothier, Puyallup
- Stevan Martinez, Salem
- Amanda McLain, Bremerton
- Joshua McLain, Bremerton
- Kimberley McLain, Bremerton
- Lynette McClain, Bremerton
- Nathan McLain, Bremerton
- Justina Miller, Highland Park
- Nathan Miller, Highland Park
- Vicki Ann Simonsen, Cottage Grove
- Rich Stevens, Auburn
- Judy Stilts, Crystal Springs

*below: donita clothier was
baptized by terry richardson
and confirmed by mark
murphy and mary richardson*



*above: diega cabera was
baptized by michael king;
harry ruchaber presided
over her confirmation,
assisted by michael king*

*below: vicki ann simonsen
was confirmed into commu-
nity of christ by dale coop
and duane coop*



*above: rich stevens
was confirmed into
community of christ by
leslie frazier, assisted by
lynn roberts and
bill murphy*

*below: judy stilts was
baptized by laura fish and
confirmed by sean langdon
and laura fish*

