



The Pilot Light



February 2009

"Columbia Presbyterian Church: encouraging you to enter into a life-changing relationship with Jesus, and helping you find your place in God's work."

High School Work Camp Auction



Sunday, March 15

For one week in July, Columbia's High School Youth will take an active part in transforming lives through work and ministry. We invite you to attend the annual Work Camp Auction on Sunday, March 15, to show your support for this awesome mission. All proceeds from this auction help defray travel expenses and pay for work projects the youth participate in. This is a wonderful opportunity to come with family, friends, and small groups, and enjoy the food, fellowship and "entertainment". Plus many merchant and congregation donated items guarantee an afternoon you won't want to miss! If you have any questions, or would like to donate items to the auction, please contact Kelly Christel, 696-3029 or email, kellychristel@comcast.net. Items for the auction are needed by March 6. See you there!

THE VIEW OUTSIDE MY WINDOW

The Ten Commandments

We have just started a series on the Ten Commandments. Each week we'll spend time on each of the ten, unpacking their meaning for today and applying them to life in the midst of our present day challenges.

And the challenges abound: economic recession and the fear that attends it; wars and rumors of wars; the threat of terrorism – something that seems to loom just over the horizon; ecological concerns; personal fear related to all the above; paying the bills; sickness; all the changes that come with a new presidential administration. It can overwhelm a person if you let it.

Don't let it overwhelm you. There's no need for that. Concerns? Yes. Despair? No. But how do we navigate the shoals of fear on the one hand and the cliffs of greed and self-centeredness on the other. By following Christ. And one of the ways we follow him is to let the Ten Commandments be a guide for life.

By now I hope we all are acutely aware of how we are made righteous in God's sight by faith, not by moral effort. *"God has saved us," Paul said, "Not because of righteous deeds we've done but because of his mercy. He saved us by the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us generously through Jesus Christ our savior, so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs having the hope of eternal life."*



Fitz Neal,
Pastor



Based on that grace, then, God calls us into a life of eager goodness. That's where the Ten Commandments come in. They are what the good life looks like, and when we do them in the grace of Christ, they create space in which our lives can flourish.

So I encourage you to come to worship ready to learn the Ten Commandments afresh, and to put them into practice joyously. Jesus said, "You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your strength, and with all your mind. And you shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets." Jesus didn't replace the Ten Commandments, he fulfilled them, explained them, and then grants to us the grace to live them out in his resurrection. They are the right path.

I'll be in Senegal for 12 days in February as a member of the Senegal Go Team of 2009. Please add us all to your prayer list as we discern how God might have us involved in this important ministry to unreached people groups moving forward.

Blessings in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Fitz'.

ADULT MINISTRIES



MEN'S RETREAT

"Standing Firm"

February 27 - March 1

Menucha Conference Center

Cost \$125

Speaker:

Rich Zimmerman, Pastor
Tualatin Plains Presbyterian

Sign up at the table in the Gathering Area on Sundays



"A Soul Spa Experience"

Starring:

Laurel Neal

In

"Out of Eden"

Real Life, Real Faith, Real Women

April 17 - 19, 2009

Menucha Retreat Center



Bruce Armstrong,
Associate Pastor

Tickets are available on Sundays in the Gathering Area.



News for YOU-th



HS Ski Retreat

It's back...the ski retreat this year is back with a couple of modifications:

- **First**, the date: March 6-8
- **Second**, the place: Mt. Hood (we'll ski/board at Meadows and we'll sleep at The Lodges—an absolutely amazing lodge!!)
- **Third**, the people: we want you to go but we have room for only 55, so be sure to sign up right away to secure your place...this is a DON'T MISS ADVENTURE

Registrations and details are in the youth room and on the youth link of the web-page.

Soup-er Bowl Sunday



Students will be collecting cans of soup for the hungry and \$money\$\$ to contribute to an organization committed to feeding the hungry. Can you help out their cause, February 1?? We'll see you at the front doors of the church ready to receive donations!

Middle School Youth Group

Wednesday Night 6-8pm...stunt, dinner (\$3...parents and friends welcome!), worship with music, bible study, small groups. One might think, "hmmm it's almost too much fun for one night" but then the question gets asked: "can you ever have too much fun?!"



HS 30-Hour Famine

Last year the middle school students participated in World Vision's 30-Hour Famine and this year our high school students will have the opportunity to experience hunger and make a difference for the hungry.

The plan is to fast for 30-hours (if you can do this and be healthy...exceptions are worked out with Suzie) starting at 8am Friday, February 27 and ending at 2pm Saturday, Feb. 28. We will meet at the church on Friday night (7pm) for activities and service projects and will have a sleep over.

Students will ask for sponsors for their fasting commitment in which all proceeds will go to World Vision to fight against hunger!



Suzie Herman,
Interim Youth Director

High School Youth Group:

Sunday Nights 5:58-8:02pm...

- Feb.1- Super Bowl Party....Welcome Speaker Bob (from Flying-H)
- Feb. 8-come dressed in your fancy clothes and be ready to eat an "elegant" meal for DATE NIGHT. We'll be talking about relationships and purple...
- Feb. 22-Speaker, Missions

Thank You to...

*Geri, Robert, Alasdair and Duncan Stuart for the basketball hoop! What great fun we will have in our parking lot this spring and summer...

*Leontina Liebe for the healthy, delicious and fresh snacks in our Youth Center. Yum—sandwiches with all the fixings, fruit, veggies...

Children's Ministries



DID YOU KNOW?

- 90 % of U.S. kids believe helping others is important
- 21 % say they'd purchase products that donate part of the profits to a good cause.
- Grandparents boost their grandchildren's physical, cognitive, social and emotional development through their regular interaction with the grandchildren.

PATHFINDERS FOCUS ON PRAYER

Pathfinder kids are learning about prayer this month. They would like you to add your prayers to their bulletin board in the upstairs hallway by the drinking fountain. What a visual display of all kinds of prayers.....let's see the power of prayer....add yours today!

K² LIVE KIDS HAVE THE MOST FUN!

Join us anytime.....Wednesdays, 6-8 p.m. Take a look.....



SHARON FRANKLIN,
CHILDREN'S MINISTRIES
DIRECTOR

Circle of Friends Preschool

2009-2010 Fall Registration

New families seeking information out Circle of Friends Preschool are invited to attend an informational orientation Tuesday, February 10 @ 7:00 PM. Come meet the staff, see a slide show about our program and visit the classrooms. Registration packets will be available at the event. Registration packets may be returned from 9-10 AM on Saturday, February 21. Each packet is numbered in the order in which it is received. Placement is based on a first come, first serve basis.



Ah-h-h-h, it's a Girl

Ty is uncertain just how he feels about girls. Hailey feels quite relaxed around her friend.



Peter is totally involved in the creation of his sugar cone frosted tree as well as the enjoyment of the tasty snack during Jesus Birthday party.



Going Green

The church is making a conscientious effort towards going green. Gracie is enjoying her time at the sensory table that is filled with small pieces of recycled plastic. It is light and presents a different texture to work with, but what a challenge it is to keep it all in the table. A dust pan and broom are always nearby.

We will follow the steps of Jesus

The Gumball, young 4's class, painted footprints as a lesson about Jesus and following his path by remembering to always to be loving and kind to others.



Sharon Wallenborn.
Director
Circle of Friends Preschool

"As different as we are from one and other, as unique as each one of us is, we are much more the same than we are different. That may be the most essential message of all, as we help our children grow towards being caring, compassionate, and charitable adults."

The World According to Mister Rogers

MSSION STATEMENT BANNERS

"The Mission of Columbia Presbyterian Church is to be centered in Christ, guided by Scripture, led by the Spirit and united in Witness."

WORSHIP -- NUTURE -- OUTREACH

We are thankful for our beautiful banners that aid in our worship experience. Jane Vanderveld was commissioned to design them. Jane explains in her artist notes:

Placing the concepts of a mission statement into a visual art was quite a challenge. The result is three banners. The wonderful part of designing for Columbia Presbyterian is the cross at the front of the Sanctuary. It should be the essence of any mission statement for a church. The banners are integrated into the Sanctuary by being placed *behind* the cross. It is through the cross that we exist as a church. It is what defines us Christian.

The center banner has rays of light and the Alpha and Omega which depict the Father's gift of the Son to us. The remaining portions of the center banner are our response to the gift of grace: praise is represented by music, and worship is represented by the words describing the Trinity. The banner ends with the cross section of the Bible, another way we communicate with God and He with us. Columbia Presbyterian is a church whose members have responded to the grace extended to them by God. The response to the pursuit of God is Worship (center banner), Nuture (vine), and Outreach (seeds).

The Vine: It is through the relationship with God that we grow and are nurtured. Faith grows or dies. Jesus referred to this process in the metaphor of the vine and the brances. We as branches must be connected to the vine to survive.



The Seeds: Jesus again uses a metaphor, this time the image of sowing seed. What happens to the seed depends on where it is scattered. We as sowers are to labor in outreach. This congregation is to prepare the soil and cast the seed.

It is not an accident that these two metaphors depict the two ingredients for Communion. This is what true communion with God is: personal growth and outreach.

Our thanks and gratitude to those who worked so diligently and faithfully to present these banners to us:

Bev Note, RoseMary Schuette, Dawn Welch, Sharon Loomis, Ruth Waller, Barb McFarlin, Gladys Jennings, Anne Esch, Joyce Gobble, Suzy Ackerman, Peggy Click, Carol VanZytveld, Jane Malmquist, Becky Deleissegues, and Deane Green.

Our thanks also to our mechanical experts, Bill Wheeler and Bob McFarlin, for braving the heights to hang these banners.

The banners were provided by the memorial funds for Lyn Moore and Paul Plowman.

MISSIONS



Kairos Cookies at Columbia

February 8-15

Kairos is a prison ministry which our church supports. It takes place over a four-day weekend. For further information about Kairos see the mission brochure rack by the world map in the Gathering Area. There will also be brochures on the Kairos table beginning February 1. Plan to save March 22 at 11:00 am for a Kairos presentation in the Chapel.

During a Kairos weekend, the prison is flooded with home-baked, prayed-over cookies. Every resident in the institution receives a dozen cookies each day for the Kairos weekend. For the six retreats in the three Western Washington prisons, over 36,000 dozen cookies are needed. God uses these cookies to bring others to Himself. Some inmates come to Kairos "just for the cookies". Yet as they sit and eat, they not only hear about the love of God, but they experience it too! Here are some quotes about the cookies:

- ☺ "As I was sitting in my cell one day before I knew anything about Kairos, someone gave me a bag of cookies, home baked. You see, at the time, I had not had a home-baked cookie in six years and I thought it was the neatest thing in the world that someone would take time to bake me cookies."
- ☺ "The homemade cookies bring back memories of my childhood when my mother used to make cookies for me and my brothers and sisters out of love and kindness, and for this, I thank you!"

There is a greater need for cookies now than ever before. Kairos is now operating in six prisons. For the first time ever, a prison ran out of cookies this past year. In this economic downturn it is harder for some to contribute cookies. Let's see how we can help to take up the slack! Consider a cookie bake for your group in our church kitchen.

How to prepare cookies: Bake sturdy cookies that won't crumble or stick together. Cookies should be large, but no larger than 3 inches, with no frosting, nutmeg, or poppyseeds. Cookies should not be rolled or sprinkled in powdered or granulated sugar. Please label cookies when raisins are used. *(These stipulations are necessary so cookies can go through security at the prisons)*

Pack the cookies carefully in plain ziploc-type bags in quantities of up to four dozen. *(Please do not use twist ties or foil, as they will not pass the security scanners)* It is helpful if you label how many dozen cookies are in each bag. If possible, pack them upright in the bag. This will minimize breakage. Pray as you bake, asking God to bless those receiving the cookies.

Use your own recipes, or use the suggested ones on the table in the Gathering Area, beginning February 1. Cookies will be received February 8-15 at the Kairos table in the Gathering Area. For more information, contact Betty Ruth Frakes, 256-6359.



MISSIONS

What Does God Have Planned For Your Life?

Watching tv, shopping, laying on the couch or snuggling up to a good book? Sounds inviting, but is it what God has planned for your life? Is he calling but you aren't answering?

There's lots to be done to share the Word of God and minister to those in need. The opportunities are endless. To help you find your place in God's work, the Missions Committee will host Mission Communication Forums that cover both local and world missions supported by Columbia and/or members of the congregation. Each week, a different mission will present what they do, how you can become involved, and answer questions. Columbia Presbyterian Church's mission: "encouraging you to enter into a life-changing relationship with Jesus, and helping you find your place in God's work."

Time: 11 AM Sunday mornings

Place: the Chapel

Upcoming Schedule:

January 25, 2009: Children and Youth Ministries. Come hear about all the wonderful things going on with our children and youth and find opportunities for you to help kids grow in a lifelong faith in Jesus Christ.

February 1, 2009: Seafarers. Seafarers Center provides a mission outreach of physical, emotional, and spiritual support to some of the 5,000 merchant crews that dock at the Port of Vancouver each year. In a home-away-from-home environment, they can relax, call home, and shop at the small exchange. A chaplain is on staff and Bibles in a variety of languages are available. God may be calling you to reach out to crew members.

February 8, 2009: Open House Ministries. The purpose of Open House Ministries is to enable homeless families to regain their independence. They admit only those families that agree to participate in a program designed to assist them resolve their homeless situation. Open House Ministries allows them to remain only as long as they continue to make steady progress toward that goal. Perhaps the Lord is touching your heart to work with a homeless family.

February 15, 2009: Clean Water for Haiti. Clean Water for Haiti (CWH) is a volunteer run, faith based missions and humanitarian aid organization that works to provide sustainable solutions to the water crisis in Haiti.

February 22, 2009: Presbyterians for Renewal. PFR's mission is to mobilize the leaders of congregations within the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) to be biblically faithful and missionally minded in their service to Jesus Christ.

March 1, 2009: Christian Missions Charitable Trust. Dr. Colleen M. Redit works with the poor in India to uplift and to train them in an occupation which would give them a measure of independence and self-esteem.

March 8, 2009: Presbyterian Frontier Fellowship. PFF works with congregations to help them get involved in establishing indigenous churches among unreached people groups.

Still to come: Jose Oliviera/Partners International, Kairos Prison Ministry, and Unreached People Groups. We will also have visits from two of our missionary families, the Nagelkirks and the Van Zwols. More about them later.

If you have questions about these sessions, feel free to ask any of the members of the Missions Ministry Team: Geo Plumberg, Jerry Allin, Dave and Joan Cram, Jerry Kavanagh, Lynne Libby, Glenn Livingston, Florence Monfore, Susan Randolph, Donnetta Spink, Carol Van Zytveld, and Rich Vohs. Please join us in seeing what God is doing locally and around the world, and find out how you can become involved!



**What in the World is
Columbia Doing in
the World? How can
you be a part of it?**

MISSIONS

Northwest Harvest South Food Bank Update...

A few months ago, we provided information about one of the local missions supported by Columbia Presbyterian Church; Northwest Harvest South Food Bank. As a reminder, this organization was founded in 1983 by CPC along with six other churches from the Vancouver area. Since that time, Northwest Harvest South has been raising money and food to help supply nine food banks throughout Clark County. CPC donated 2,410.5 pounds of food in 2008 – up 1,191 pounds from 2007! Thank you for your support.



The food collected on **"Food Pantry Sunday"** goes to Northwest Harvest South for distribution. This month, we're going to make a change: Instead of having the food bins in the Gathering Area on the last Sunday of January, we're going to wait until the first Sunday in February - Souper Bowl Sunday. In keeping with that theme, we're asking you to remember the hungry in the area and donate a can of soup on Sunday, February 1. Donations are urgently needed due to an increase of approximately 30% in the number of families utilizing area food banks and this figure is expected to grow through 2009.

We've been blessed by our ability to feed our families and not experience the pains of true hunger and malnutrition. Below is info on those impacted here in the US.

- 35.5 million people live in households that experience hunger. 12.6 million are children.
- In 2007, an average of 26.5 million people used food stamps each month. Although final numbers for 2008 are not complete, it is expected that this number will increase by 30%
- Nearly 12% of America's seniors live below the poverty line and 1.6 million households with seniors experience hunger.
- One in four people in a soup kitchen line is a child and more than one in three household served by food pantries include children.

For more information, the following website provide excellent information: www.bread.org and www.feedingamerica.org

Isaiah 58:10 (The Message) If you are generous with the hungry *and start giving yourself to the down-and-out, your lives will begin to glow in the darkness, your shadowed lives will be bathed in sunlight.*



CPC NEWS

TUESDAY MORNING WORK CREW



In 2008 the Tuesday Morning Crew transformed the west side of the north campus into a place where youth in the church and community have a place to gather. When we began the project we did not realize how this space would serve in helping young people feel they had a place to gather, be accepted and loved. The work crew put in many extra hours to have the gathering place ready for fall and it became a work of love.

We have started 2009 by giving the chapel a new coat of paint. By the time you read this, the carpet will have been cleaned and new window coverings will be in place.

Two thousand nine will be a year of challenge as we seek to keep the expense of materials at a minimum and stretch our talents and expertise.

Both men and women are welcome to join the Tuesday Morning Work Crew. We meet every Tuesday in Terry Robertson's office at 9:00 am. Most days we work until 12:00 pm, but if we get involved in a project we sometimes work longer. It's not necessary that you come every Tuesday or that you stay the whole time. Any day or hours you can work will be appreciated and well spent. There is a lot of fun and fellowship, so come join us.



Your Missions Ministry Team wants to thank you for all of your support at the recent Alternative Christmas Market. It was wonderful to see children and teens, as well as adults, "buying" gifts. Nearly \$5,000 was raised to provide special Christmas support for our local and global missions.

It should warm all of our hearts to think of how much chickens, gloves, shoes, Bibles, phone cards, computer supplies, and other items, mean to so many people. Here in Vancouver we helped people at Share House, Seafarers Center, and YoungLife. Internationally our Christmas support went to Senegal, Zambia, and our missionary families; Nate and Koolyas Fleming, Rich and Joyce Mattocks, Roy and Jennifer Nagelkirk, and Dave and Joan Cram.

Thank you again and we hope to see you next year at the market.

CPC NEWS

2009 Cascades Leadership Fair

Saturday, February 28

8:30 am - 3 pm

Registration Deadline
Wednesday, February 18

Keynote speakers:
The Rev. Dr. Donald J McKim
The Rev. Dr. LindaJo H McKim

The Cascades Leadership Fair is an event sponsored by the Congregational Support Committee. It features guest speakers and timely workshops for a day long event of fellowship and learning. The cost is only \$20 per person and includes lunch. This is an event for every Presbyterian in the pew as well as church leaders and staff.

Questions??
Dawn Champoux 1-800-926-3223
dawnc@cascadespresbytery.org

Thought of the Month:



The measure of God's love is that He loves without measure!

Session Member Contact Information

Trustees:

Bob Gebhart	991-9362
Glen Baungard	834-7991
Bob McFarlin	834-7169

Personnel Ministry Team:

Ian McFatrige	571-3225
John Van Dinter	891-0804

Spiritual Formation & Discipleship:

Shirley Moore	253-8474
Alan Garcia	360-369-6382
Nancy Bishoprick	695-8589

Evangelism & Fellowship:

Dave Nacke	254-8136
Jennifer Mears	737-7952
Susan Murphy	882-1370

Preschool, Children & Youth:

Dawn Taylor	835-1557
Marc Hartquist	834-4098

Worship & Music:

Sheena Brooke	571-4170
Dennis Gish	891-7443

Missions Ministry Team:

Geo Plumberg	260-8096
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Clerk of Session:

Donnetta Spink	944-6716
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Pastor:

Fitz Neal	597-4298
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Associate Pastor:

Bruce Armstrong	887-2573
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CONTACT INFORMATION

How to Reach Us:

Please call the church office at 694-7549 to reach any of the church staff. Staff can also be reached via e-mail by using the person's first name followed by @columbiapresbyterian.org. *Example: bruce@columbiapresbyterian.org*. The only exceptions to that rule are Sharon Franklin and Sharon Wallenborn. In those cases, use their first name with the first initial of their last name.

		Phone Extension
Fitz Neal	Pastor	x 206
Bruce Armstrong	Associate Pastor	x 209
Jeff Haagenson	Minister of Worship & Music	x 210
Sharon Franklin	Children's Ministries Director	x 211
Suzie Herman	Interim Youth Director	x 208
	<i>Direct Youth Line</i>	823-0220
Terry Robertson	Church Business Administrator	x 207
Jo Coila	Head of Staff Admin. Asst.	x 201
Dana Hanson	Children/Youth Admin. Asst.	x 204
Viva Dennis	Communications Specialist	x 213
Marilyn Roberts	Bookkeeper	x 222
Rich Raitano	Facilities Manager	x 216
Diana Gage	Nursery - 833 -1017	
Anna Haagenson	Kingdom Kids - 891-1494	
Sharon Wallenborn	Director, Circle of Friends Preschool - 696-9926	x 212

The *Pilot Light* is a monthly publication of Columbia Presbyterian Church.

The next Pilot Light deadline is February 17, 2009. *Articles turned in after the deadline will not be published and all articles are subject to editing.* Whenever possible, announcements and articles for publication should be sent via email to: info@columbiapresbyterian.org.



Visit us online at
www.columbiapresbyterian.org



Columbia Presbyterian Church
805 Columbia Ridge Dr.
Vancouver, WA 98664

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2009 Per Capita Apportionment

Each year Columbia must make a per capita payment to fund the work of the Presbyterian Church USA. The assessment is levied for each member of the church and the money is distributed as follows:

The General Assembly	\$6.15
The Synod of the Pacific	\$5.17
The Presbytery of the Cascades	<u>\$11.23</u>
Total	\$22.55 per member

Each member is being asked to help the church with this expense by contributing their \$22.55 share. You will find a Per Capita envelope in this Pilot Light for you to use or you may include it with your regular contribution.