

- Sitting with a friend during a chemotherapy treatment
- Deliver books to a friend in foster care
- Help Latino families learn English
- Send a grandmother flowers
- Bake cookies for a neighbor
- Share dinner and play games with a friend's autistic son every other week
- Work with a Serenity Lane client
- Give blood
- Work in the wetlands
- Many, many, many other random acts of kindness

As people of faith, we are called to love God and love others in profound ways. Together we are doing this. Together we are being the church. Thank you. Debbie

New Visions at First presents...

Diana Butler Bass
March 17-18, 2012

Details Coming Soon

New book release in February
*Christianity After Religion:
 The End of Church and the Birth
 of a New Spiritual Awakening*



Looking Glass Ministries

Thank you for your generous donations to Looking Glass' Station 7. Your support makes it possible for us to provide vital assistance to troubled youth in our community. Life as a teenager is a balancing act... and Looking Glass is the safety net. Anywhere along the way a child may falter, teetering on the brink of disaster. When this happens, Looking Glass is there to pick up the pieces.

Thank you for supporting Looking Glass' mission to build a better future for youth and families by helping them navigate the challenges of childhood, adolescence, and young adulthood. We deeply appreciate your support. Scott Williams, Board President.

STAFF SENIOR PASTOR - Debbie Pitney ASSOCIATE PASTOR - John Pitney MUSIC DIRECTOR - Julia Brown YOUTH DIRECTOR - Jessi Rich CHILDREN & FAMILY MINISTRY - Dody Hansen	PERIODICAL POSTAGE PAID IN EUGENE, OREGON	
FUMC 1376 Olive Street Eugene OR, 97401	<small>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER (UPS 342-880) is published every other week by First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive Street, Eugene, Oregon 97401. Periodical postage paid at Eugene, OR. Postmaster: Send address changes to FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH MESSENGER, 1376 Olive Street, Eugene, OR 97401</small>	

Sunday, February 5, 2012

10 to 10 am ~ Songs & Celebration
 10:00 am ~ Worship
 11:15 am ~ Symposium

Believing Out Loud ~ Being a Christian in 2012

Do you sometimes feel ashamed for others to know you are Christian? Have you found yourself at a gathering of friends or family unsure of how to share your beliefs? We are all on a journey of faith, becoming the people God wants us to be and needs us to be. In a society where the definition of being Christian may seem very foreign to how most of us define ourselves, it is important to embrace an adult faith as we discern what God is calling us to do, both as individuals and as a congregation. We need to find our voices and believe out loud. Our February Symposium will introduce us to some new possibilities for our shared journey.

Sunday, February 12, 2012

10 to 10 am ~ Songs & Celebration
 10:00 am ~ Worship
 8:00, 8:30, 11:15 am ~ Classes for all Ages

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
 A Reconciling Congregation
MESSENGER
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January 31, 2012

"As members of this congregation, will you faithfully participate in its ministries by your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service, and your witness."
 From the membership vows of The United Methodist Church

Dear Friends,

In a book that I am reading with other clergy colleagues, *The Externally Focused Quest: Becoming the Best Church for the Community*, the authors tell the story of a congregation that is thinking about a new requirement for membership. This is what the congregation is considering: *"all people can participate in the life of the church, but they become members when they bring to the pastor the name of one person whom they are loving, serving, and ministering to that can do nothing for them in return."*

On Sunday morning, 135 members of this congregation made a commitment to faithful witness and service, consecrating an intended act of loving and serving our community during the next few weeks. It was so amazing to see the basket begin to fill with bright green sheets of paper, each one naming an act of kindness that will be done by the members and friends of First United Methodist Church. By the time the service was over the basket was overflowing and some people even brought in their commitments on Monday!

Here are just a few of the things that we will be doing in the next few weeks, living out our commitment to be faithful followers of Jesus Christ...

- Putting together bags of high protein foods for Food for Lane County
- Volunteering at a neighborhood school
- Participating in Oregon Emergency Management Training
- Visiting an elder who lives alone

(con't on back panel)

Be an advocate! In our democracy it is important for the voice of the people to be heard. The week following our forum you can drop by the JAMM table to send a message to your elected officials. Volunteers with their laptops will assist you in getting your message to the appropriate place. Also at the JAMM table will be handouts with all the US Mail and email addresses of our elected officials. For those of you who have your own computers, it is easy to go to our church website, under OPEN DOORS click on JAMM, scroll down to the Advocacy section and click onto the desired link to send your message.



Sunday, Feb. 5 ~ Concerts at First at 4:00 pm
"The Things We Do For Love"

A concert of love-themed Baroque music with Cascade Consort and friends. This program includes works by Kapsberger, Handel, Marais, Monteverdi and more, with instrumental and vocal music depicting love and the many turns it takes.

Aaron Cain, baritone; Joanna Blendulf, viola da gamba;
 David Rogers, arclute; Julia Brown, harpsichord;
 and guest artists Estelí, soprano and Stephen Rodgers, tenor.

Please bring canned goods for Food for Lane County.
(suggested donation \$10)

Calling all K-6th graders ~ M&M's!
(Meaningful Moments!)

Sunday, February 5th
1:30 pm– 4:30 pm, M&M's will go see "Oliver"

Come to see Rose Children's Theatre's production of "Oliver" at Sheldon High School. Meet in the Sheldon Auditorium Lobby at 1:30. We will watch the show together and have a snack at intermission. Cost for this show and snack will be \$10.0, scholarships available if requested.

Please RSVP to Dody at
 Dody@eugenefumc.org or 541-255-5662

All are welcome! Hope you can make it!

Adult Transformation Classes ~ February 2012
Sundays at 11:15 am ~ February 12, 19 & 26

February classes feature teachers from beyond FUMC. A donation of \$15 is requested (not required) from participants to pay these respected experts.

"Nonviolent Communication" (NVC)

This workshop will introduce NVC as a concrete set of communication skills that help us create life-serving families and communities and a spiritual practice that helps us see our common humanity. It creates a path for healing and reconciliation in its many applications, ranging from intimate relationships to social change.

Gary Baran is a Certified Trainer with the Center for Nonviolent Communication serving as its executive director from 1998 until 2006; a Professor Emeritus of Philosophy; a California licensed Marriage and Family Therapist (inactive); and a member of the board of directors of the Oregon Network for Compassionate Communication.



"Introducing Midrash"

In the centuries just prior to and during the life of Jesus, ancient Israel saw the birth and flourishing of a method of interpreting Scripture called Midrash. This creative, playful, and multi-faceted method of exploring the possible meanings of Scripture was familiar to the early rabbis and the early Christians. Rabbi Harris will explain some of the key ways Midrash worked and provide examples of the possible influence of Midrash on certain New Testament writings.

Rabbi Maurice Harris served as Associate Rabbi at Temple Beth Israel for 8 years. Now, he writes and teaches in the Eugene area. His first book, *Moses: A Stranger Among Us*, is due out this winter from Cascade Books.



"Expressive Art as a Means of Grace"

Each Sunday we will have a different focus on how Art can be a means of Grace – "Art for Meditation;" "From Surviving to Thriving;" and "Art for Play." Come whether you see yourself as an artist or not, it does not matter! We will use a variety of media for our explorations and discoveries of God through art making.

Ardis Letey is an ordained deacon serving at Trinity United Methodist Church in Toledo, OR as Minister of Art and Communication. She has used the visual arts in ministry for over 20 years. Besides work in the church, Ardis also brings art making to Hospice Grief Group participants, plus dialysis and chemotherapy patients, during treatment at the Newport hospital.



Announcements

- ♦ **CHURCH WOMEN UNITED** meet on Friday February 3 at the United Lutheran Church, 2230 Washington St. 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. The program is entitled "Obesity Epidemic in Children: Root Causes and Community Based Solutions." The program is sponsored by the Lane Coalition for Healthy Active Youth. This same program will be presented on Tuesday, February 7 at Brail's Restaurant, 1689 Willamette St. , 7 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.
- ♦ **RUTH FELLOWSHIP** will meet Monday, February 6th at 7:00 pm in the church library. Our program will feature Gregg and Carol Monroe's VIM experience in Costa Rica. Contact is Ronnie Egger, 541-344-2075.
- ♦ **CHI RHO SERIES 2012, Feb. 10-12 at Central Lutheran Church ~ How Manuscripts Shaped Culture & Culture Shaped Manuscripts, Dr. Steve Delamarter;** Friday, Feb. 10, 7:30 pm at Central Lutheran; Saturday, Feb. 11, 9-12 noon at Northwest Christian University, Library, Rm. 203; Saturday, Feb. 11, 7:30 pm at Central Lutheran Church; and Sunday, Feb. 12, 9:30 am at Central Lutheran Church.
- ♦ **FUMC QUILTERS ~ February 16** (3rd Thurs.) 9 am - 4 pm in Fellowship Hall. Bring your sewing machine, sewing supplies, and lunch. Join us for a fun day of creating lap size charity quilts. Some fabrics and batting provided. Contact Valorie Schuelke 541-343-4988.
- ♦ **HEALTH & WELLNESS PROGRAM (Tai Chi):** Monday & Wednesday from 10:30-11:30 am at FUMC. Open to All. Suggested donation \$5 per class. For more information contact Michael Vasquez at 541-708-1163.
- ♦ **BLOOD MOBILE ~ Sunday, February 26, 2012** Call Gloria Bailey with your questions at 541-345-5392.
- ♦ **REBEKAH CIRCLE MEETING ~ Tuesday, February 14, 2012** at 7:00 pm. Meet at Sandy Harland's, 4400 Hilyard, 541-687-2814. Joe Blakely, a member of our congregation is a history & photography buff, who in retirement is a published author specifically on Oregon History. Joe will share with us how he chooses his subjects, his research & all that goes into writing historical novels. Come & hear this interesting journey. A Tribute to McArthur Court 1891 -1932; The Tall firs; some Historical Fiction Novels include: Kidnapped-On Oregon Coast Highway & The Heirloom-a story of the tumultuous events in the 1920's concerning the Nestle Plant story involving love, murder & tragedy.