

Springwater CURRENTS

Springwater Presbyterian Church
24553 Springwater Rd
Estacada, OR 97023
503.630.5480
www.springwaterpres.org

A Place of worship, nurture and service for God's people of all ages

June 2015

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Sunday Hours

No Sunday School

10:15 Hymn Sing

10:30 Worship

11:45 Fellowship

Deadline for next
newsletter:

June 22



Birthdays

Heidi Finlayson	6/3
Don Barbee	6/5
Mary Kirby	6/8
Kit Johnson	6/16
Deb Odell	6/23
Ruth Newman	6/27
Tom Coyne	6/27

Anniversaries

Nancy & Jim Tedrow	6/3
Kathy & Richard Scott	6/11



Church Events in June

June 9: day retreat for Franciscan Spiritual Center spiritual directors peer supervision group

June 11: session, 6:00 p.m.

June 14: deacon meeting at the Watson home, immediately following worship

June 19-20: presbytery meeting at St Andrews Presbyterian, Portland

June 21: celebration of the Lord's Supper during worship, Father's Day

Springwater Currents is published monthly by Springwater Presbyterian Church.
Send submissions, corrections and comments to enviromom@rconnects.com.



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Pastor's Perspective

One of the toughest recruitment challenges for a small church comes down simply to the mechanics of how work gets done. Being small, we tend to think of volunteer tasks in terms of *who does it*, rather than *what type of gifts are needed and how does it fit into our ministry*.

For years, because he was the person who did it, we thought of our Food Bank ministry interpretation as “what Lloyd does,” rather than *our local ministry of food justice*. Many of our ministry roles have been filled for so many years by the same faithful, competent volunteers, that we tend to simply honor the individual doing the work and that person's passion for ministry. And well we should! But by seeing the job *as the person who does it* limits both creative and flexible thinking, so necessary to being Church in the 21st century.

Not Another Rant!

No, this will not be another rant about our changing cultural climate, area demographics, and various challenges of life in the None Zone. Ironically, this is prelude to thanking a particular volunteer, whose name has become synonymous with his position.

To say “Lay Ministry Coordinator” at Springwater is to mean “Gilbert Shibley.”

Technically speaking, this is true, since Gilbert not only invented the position at SPC, he has been our *only* Lay Ministry Coordinator (LMC). That is about to change. Session has accepted Gilbert's resignation from this position, so we are in the process of recruiting another.

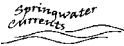
The LMC came about as a result of conversations between me and the Personnel committee about cutting back my hours. The role of the LMC was to make sure those things got done that do not require a seminary degree. The goal was more than “reducing the pastor's hours.” It was really a match-maker's role, because ideally the LMC would not be the only person recruited to use his gifts. The idea was to help match people's gifts and passions with opportunities to serve.

Which is a Pretty Cool Way of Thinking

It is also a lot more abstract than we'd thought, once you get down to implementation. It is more than “someone to call” when “things” come up. “Things” do not always come up in an overt way, so critical thinking about how tasks and roles go together is necessary. As is an intimate knowledge of the organization and the people who make up the organization. A historically long point of view also helps.

You can see why Gilbert's willingness to test the idea of an LMC was such a gift. His ability to articulate our organizational hopes, quantify and

(the Lay Ministry
Coordinator position)
is more than “someone
to call” when “things”
come up.



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Take a look at the LMC position description elsewhere in the *Currents*. Can you fill all or part of that position description?

firm them up, and practice making them work was exactly what we needed. All along, his strategy was to work himself out of that job. He has been invaluable to me as someone with whom to strategize about how to get things done, going on to recruit the volunteers and connect them with resources. The technical term for that is “interpreting volunteer and ministry positions within the congregation.”

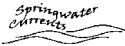
While retiring from this LMC position, Gilbert will continue as Steward of Buildings and Grounds. It is no accident that the church building is a comfortable temperature on Sunday mornings and committee nights, that the manse water heater was replaced over Christmas, that outdoor work days, roof repairs, building system needs, and insurance and liability policy negotiation seem to take place “effortlessly.” That’s all Gilbert’s handiwork, which he will continue as Building Steward.

What about You?

Here’s where you come in. Take a look at the LMC position description elsewhere in *The Currents*. Can you fill all or part of that position description? Short of cloning Gilbert Shibley, session understands the need to be flexible about how this valuable role is filled in the future.

Flexible is not only good when it comes to being church, it is necessary—because we are not all gifted in the same way. Whenever there is turn-over in volunteers, the way things get done is bound to alter. Think about my earlier example of Lloyd’s interpretive role for our mission at the Estacada Food Bank. Even in that example, it took more than Lloyd to be “Lloyd,” since both he and Lucy took our donations to the Food Bank, kept the records, and encouraged us in our food donations. After Lloyd died, his “role” became what Kathleen and Lynda and Barbara do.

It might take more than one person to be “Gilbert” as well.
See you in church.



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“How to Be Human” on June 21

Well, not exactly a how-to session, but maybe the title caught your eye enough to tempt you to read on to find out what we ARE doing on June 21.

The worship service on June 21 won't just be paperless, it will also be sermon-less. Instead of our gathering to passively read God's Word and hear one person talk about it, we'll all be “proclaiming” on June 21. It will be a guided conversation around the story of God's creation of humanity (see the lectionary texts proposed elsewhere for this Sunday). These are some of the things we'll wonder:

What is the stated purpose of humanity in scripture?

What is the difference between “dominion” and “domination”?

Is work a blessing or a punishment?

Come on June 21 and help us unpack those questions!

POSITION DESCRIPTION:

Lay Ministry Coordinator, Springwater Presbyterian Church

Purpose:

Our members are all ministers --to each other and to the communities we touch. If we are to serve well we need to find our own best fit of interests and skills into the tasks available. We must also stay in touch with each other, the goals of a project and the mission of the church. Someone needs to keep a broad perspective and help each of us see where we fit in.

This Coordinator position exists to better fit all those parts into a happy harmony. That means knowing the people, the system in which we function and our mutual goals. The aim is to coordinate all our efforts into a meaningful whole.

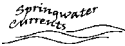
Functions:

Work closely with the Pastor, Deacons and Nominating Committee to find who has skills and interests which may fit well into current leadership needs. Discuss such options as appropriate.

Keep informed of the directions set by session and their implementation by groups or individuals through committee reports, session's Action Minutes, and conversations with various leaders. Remind people that we are depending on them as part of our ministry together.

Be alert to overlap of any group's ministry with that of other groups or individuals. Help them see ways to facilitate the others' actions, and connect well with their own. Good communication oils the parts of our machine reducing heat build-up and smoothing the ride.

Contribute newsletter articles about people doing ministry, highlighting how they are using their talents and commitment while being “the hands and feet of God.”



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THANKS from Your Buildings and Grounds Committee.

Our Annual Spring Spruce Up day was Saturday May 9, 2015. The small but able crew concentrated on the Labyrinth and forest pathways area in the back of our property. We succeeded in restoring the Labyrinth paths to an appealing condition and also the pathway leading in to the Labyrinth from the amphitheatre area. We also did a couple of other minor clean-up and maintenance tasks outside.

Thanks to all who participated and we hope the congregation will continue to enjoy this peaceful part of our Church's site.

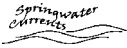
The tasks planned for Spring Cleanup back in our woods and labyrinth are now done or in process. May 9 happened at a busy time in many of our lives and fewer made it that Saturday morning than hoped for. So to finish up we posted a list of several that could be done by individuals, as described on a small tear-off slip from a poster in Fellowship Hall. Please visit this sacred space and admire our mutual results.

Just two weeks later you have demonstrated that this church family is very committed to upkeep on our shared property. Thanks to all involved on any day, including Rick Parfrey who advertised and demonstrated the tear-off opportunities on Sunday May 24.

Gilbert Shibley, for your Committee

What's on your Schedule?

	Ushers:	Worship Leader:	Snacks:
June 7:	Don & Barbara MacKinnon	Gwen Shearer	Wilma Shibley
June 14:	Nike & Tim Guttridge	Kara Guttridge	Connie Ryan
June 21:	Judy Coyne Gilbert Shibley	Peter Sturman	Souders
June 28:	Debbie Ingamells Mary Neigel	Deb Ingamells	Open-Please sign up



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What Is the Session Doing?

In case you didn't know: the session is the governing board of an individual PCUSA congregation. The Session for Springwater meets roughly once a month in what are called "Stated" meetings. These are scheduled and announced. Anyone is welcome to attend.

Each meeting is held in the context of worship. We pray and read scripture together. We often have some training. This month we discussed the article "Can churches disagree and still stay together?" by [Jonathan Merritt](#). Then we do the routine things of approving the minutes, reviewing and receiving both the financial report and the pastor's report.

These are the actions taken on May 7:

- *Approved the planting plan for the area just north of the front door (funded by donations)
- *Approved Gilbert Shibley's plan for transitioning to a new Lay Ministry Coordinator
- *Approved the Endowment Committee's recommendation to use Endowment funds for the Mission Trip. And approved an estate planning workshop to be held in the fall.
- *Approved added expenditure for an enhanced website that will allow audio and page protected abilities.
- *Asked Buildings & Grounds to draft emergency response scenarios for the church (earthquake, fire, communications)

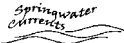
The Worship committee put together a fabulous proposal for creative ways to do worship this summer. The sermon/worship theme for the summer is Seasons of Creation. The session:

- *Approved having three family movie nights in our outdoor worship area for the congregation and community
- *Approved negotiating with a gospel bluegrass band to lead worship and have a concert afterwards with a picnic
- *Approved utilizing website and blogging capabilities, to have pre-sermon discussions as well as a Sunday of pass-the-mike interactive sermon. The first of these will be after on June 21
- *July 19, we will commission mission trip and make use of "witness" stories from members of the congregation
- *July 26 (when Eileen is on the mission trip) having a Hymn Sing Sunday, led by Kathleen.

The most exciting suggestion, one that has independently percolated up through Worship Committee, Deacons, and Faith Nurture, is the practice of "The Church Has Left the Building." This is an enormously appealing practice for Millennials. Please read more about this at the top of page 7, in the Worship committee report.

Additional thoughts from Session:

In light of the changes in both state laws and the PCUSA Constitution, we have known for some time about the need to talk about Christian Marriage. At the March meeting, session asked Eileen to look up the PCUSA curriculum on the subject. Dave and Bev Crow are both willing to lead that, time and venue to be negotiated (maybe in the fall). Further discussion is planned.



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Summer Worship

Summer worship news includes the fact that we are not holding a "Vacation Bible School". Instead we are going to host family movie nights in the amphitheater. We are in the process of working out logistics of the speakers, projector and DVD player at this time. I'll keep you posted.

We are hoping to invite a Blue Grass Gospel band to visit us in worship sometime this summer or fall. Worship may include Pass the mike sessions and witness messages from members.

The biggest change we are hoping to make is "Church Has Left the Building". This would be a new direction in Christian fellowship and service. On one Sunday a month in place of regular service, we as a congregation would gather to do a service element. This might include: open the food bank one Sunday a month. hold a soup kitchen somewhere in Clackamas County, hold a work party for someone in need, or assemble Kord's Klub bags. I'm sure there are many areas where we may be of service. There are lots of opportunities for changes and improvements to answer God's call to act in his name. These are just a few.

Debbie Ingamells, for the worship committee

Free Vision Screening in Estacada

The Casey Eye Institute Outreach Van together with the CVIM Founders Clinic, will be coming to the Estacada Community Center on June 6, offering free vision-screenings from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. to county residents in need of eye care. The CVIM Founders Clinic assists with follow-up care and eyewear. CVIM's mission is to provide free medical care to low income, uninsured and underinsured Clackamas County residents on an appointment basis.

To pre-register for the free vision screening exam, call 503/722-4400. Tell your uninsured neighbors know about this, too.

The van is staffed by volunteers, who will need to be fed. If you are able or willing to help provide and/or serve snacks or lunch for these volunteers, call the Estacada Community Center.





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Lectionary Readings and Summer Worship

Again this summer, the Order for Worship will be paperless. It will be more casual in style, and the form of the service vary. Throughout June and part of July, the preaching will focus on the Season of Creation. We praise the Triune God as "Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer," but the church calendar does not have an overt focus on God as Creator, as it does on Jesus as Redeemer and Holy Spirit as Sustainer. The preaching series will consciously reflect on the foundations of redemption and sanctification, namely, the very creation itself, which scripture tells us is also redeemed and sanctified. Throughout Church history, our theology, our ethics, and our worship has been oriented toward our relationship with God and our fellow humans, overlooking God's relationship with all creation and our corresponding relationship it.

Since our worship services will be more inter-active this summer, you may wish to prepare by reading and reflecting on these texts before coming to worship on Sunday:

June 7 (EARTH): Genesis 1:1-15; Romans 1:18-23; Psalm 104:24-26

June 14 (OCEAN): Job 38:1-18; Luke 5:1-11; Psalm 33:1-9

June 21 (HUMANITY, celebration of the Lord's Supper): Genesis 1:26-28, 2:7-8, 15, 19; Psalm 8

June 28 (SKY): Jeremiah 4:23-28; Philippians 2:9-13; Psalm 29

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