

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

May 2014

Table of Contents	
Birthdays	1
Anniversaries	1
Church Events	1
Pastor's Perspective	2
125th Birthday	3
Vacation Bible School	4
Sabbatical	5
What's on your Schedule?	5
Food Bank	6
Youth Group	6
Session news	7
Commemorative Mugs	7
Lectionary Readings	8

Sunday Hours

9:30 AM Sunday School
for all ages

10:15 Hymn Sing

10:30 Worship

11:45 Fellowship

Deadline for next
newsletter:

May 25

May Birthdays

John Pearce	5/2
Leon Hilgartner	5/3
Kara Guttridge	5/20
Tabitha Souders	5/20
Jim Tedrow	5/22
Kenneth Fisher	5/24
Bruce Ryan	5/29
Kord Kirby	5/31



Happy Anniversary

Heidi & Robert Finlayson	5/2
Kevin & Mary Kirby	5/15
Mary & Randy Johnson	5/17
Nike & Tim Guttridge	5/24

Church Events in May

May 4: guest preacher Rodger Clawson

May 11: Mother's Day

May 18: Deacon meeting immediately following worship

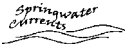
May 21: sabbatical support committee meeting, 6:00

May 25: Faith Nurture Committee meeting immediately following
worship

May 28: Knit Nite, 4:30 onwards

No session meeting in May

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Send submissions, corrections and comments to enviromom@rconnects.com.



Springwater Presbyterian Church

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does not answer
the needs of young
people.

Pastor’s Perspective

It was the catchy title that got me onto the book—*What’s the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?* But it stayed on my “get around to it” bookshelf until, in search of resources for the youth Sunday School class, I finally read it. When my co-teacher, Nike, shared with the youth the section “Ten Things Christians Don’t Need to Believe,” the ensuing conversation lasted for months.

So I got to thinking, maybe the adults had these things on their minds, too. Thus was born an Eastertide preaching series. Since the theme of the Eastertide season is always “How to be the Church,” what better way to examine “being church” than by examining the beliefs we hold in common?

Another Wrinkle

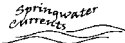
At our annual joint deacon/session planning retreat, I was given the assignment of exploring the absence of 20-somethings in church. The bottom line, I have discovered, is that “churchiness” does not answer the needs of young people.

Really? Forming the proper kind of committee doesn’t fascinate everyone? It turns out that, for people in their 20s and 30s, meaningful service is what gets them to form community, rather than denominational affiliations. For them, it’s about *doing* compassionate service, and nuances in theological flavor don’t matter. “Faith tradition” is a non-starter for them. If you are not a 20- or 30-something, “how to be the church” is going to be different for you.

For the Silent Generation (born 1930-1945), membership is critical to being church, and most have the sort of loyalty that means they do not leave the denomination of their birth. They express their faith in communal terms. For the Boomers (born 1946-1964), God is about relationship, but their notion of church hinges on advocacy and justice, whereas for the Gen Xers (born 1965-1980), the “tradition” portion of “faith tradition” does not even figure. Rather than the peacemaking approach of the Boomers, Gen Xers deconstruct and question. For them, God is concerned for all of creation, but not so much for the individual. They are the beginning of the “spiritual but not religious” movement, whereas the Millennials (born 1981-2000) are the real standard bearers for it. For them, God creates and orders the world, but faith is so taboo a subject that most have no faith practices at all.

Connection

Where these two topics intersect—the beliefs we hold in common and generational issues—is crucial for the future of the church. Religion changes, because what shapes each generation is different and exerts a



Springwater Presbyterian Church

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different influence. What shaped the Silent Generation was the Great Depression and World War 2. What shaped the Boomers was protest and civil rights movements. Gen Xers were the first latchkey kids, shaped by an economy of boom and bust and television's popular culture. Millennials have stay-at-home dads, soccer moms, helicopter parents, and cybernetics as their influences.

God does not change, but how we approach and perceive God changes, in part because of the world in which we grow up. We need to change who answers the question, "Is the church still relevant?" Rather than allowing popular culture and talking heads to define and disseminate what we believe, we need to learn what makes us distinctive Christian. As Springwater celebrates its 125th year of ministry in this community, the question becomes even more pertinent. That's what we'll be doing in Eastertide this year.

See you in church.

Eileen



125th Birthday Celebration Planning Continues

The Quasquicentennial planning committee wants you to know:

- We are still collecting photos and stories of our history
- We are still looking for volunteers to help us write the history of the church for the last 25 years. Find a list of topics on the bulletin board in fellowship hall.
- Vintage clothing fashion show will take place at our Pentecost potluck celebration. We are looking for any vintage clothing, including wedding dresses.
- **Save the Date: July 19th:** we will have a BBQ dinner celebration with live music in the afternoon and evening. Afternoon events will include browsing photos and stories of our history while listening to the Old Time Fiddlers in the Grange. In the evening, enjoy BBQ pork, some salads, a roll and cookie in our own backyard, while the band Rascal Flats serenades us.

So, bring your photos, vintage clothing and stories to church and share them with the Quasquicentennial committee and with the church.

Kathy Scott, Nike Guttridge, Wilma Guttridge, Cheryl Weaver, Renate Ryan-Jepeson



Springwater Presbyterian Church

Vacation Bible
School: Finding
Courage in God



Kids, Take Courage!

A group of brave teenagers show just how courageous God's people can be. As prisoners they refuse the junk food the king gives them, in favor of vegetables—and grow to be the strongest, healthiest, and smartest in the class. Because these kids love God, they show they can be brave under fire—literally. One of them helps the king when he has a bad dream. Then, when he worships God, he spends the night with hungry lions to pay for it. Another becomes queen and saves God's people, while evil plots swirl around.

God's people have courage. These young people show that it makes a difference to be good, even when no one is looking.

Where Springwater Presbyterian Church

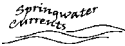
When June 23-27, 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

What Bible Stories, crafts, games, lunch!

Who Children age 3 through 6th grade

Invite your friends and neighbors. Speak to Kathleen Souders or Renate Ryan-Jeppeson to register, or call the church at 503.630.5480.

Children will also be encouraged to bring food donations for the Resource Center. Monetary offerings will be dedicated to Heifer Project International.



Springwater Presbyterian Church

What will the pastor's sabbatical look like?

The basics: Our regular pastor will be away for the months of August, September and October 2014 and on a religious journey on foot in Europe for about three weeks in the middle of that time. She will keep telling us about it before, during and after.

While Eileen is away we will have contracted replacement pastoral services provided by a couple of co-pastors who know us quite well, Beverly and David Crow. They will divide time and responsibilities about equally so as to best serve our congregation's needs. This will allow Beverly to walk with Eileen as a tactical and spiritual support person while on the pilgrimage.

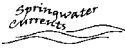
Who is going to make it all happen?

Session has already budgeted so the pay for services can keep us with the same rate of support our regular pastor provides. They will cooperate with the Crows to keep things running in our usual ministry. A Sabbatical Support Committee has plans to coordinate responsibilities for a smooth transition to and from the three- month "journey" we are all going to share. I am on the Committee with Nona Shearer and Kathleen Souders who chairs it.

As Lay Ministry Coordinator I may be asking you to do some new things to be sure nothing too big can fall through the cracks. Session and I join in pledging that we can all find it a good leg on our spiritual journey together. *Gilbert Shibley*

What's on your Schedule?

	Ushers	Worship Leader:	Snacks:
May 4:	Nike & Tim Guttridge	Neal Jeppeson	The Souders
May 11:	Judy Coyne Gilbert Shibley	Gwen Shearer	Please sign up to bring snacks on the
May 18:	Kathy Scott Allen Siefken	Kara Guttridge	calendar in the
May 25:	Debbie Ingamells Mary Neigel	Peter Sturman	fellowship hall



Springwater Presbyterian Church

Support the Food Bank

Here is a new way to help the Estacada Area Food Bank. If you have a Fred Meyer Rewards Card, go on line to www.fredmeyer.com/communityrewards and link your card to Estacada Food Bank #83682. We will receive matching points each time you use your card. Fred Meyer has decided not to award grants any more, but to support non profits in this way. A flyer announcing their Community Rewards Program is posted in fellowship hall at the church.

Springwater's many ways of supporting the food bank is greatly appreciated.

Thanks for all you do!

Barbara Shibley

Youth Group Activities

May 10th: Youth group meeting at Jennifer Souders' house from 5pm to 7pm. This will be a potluck, so please bring something to share.

June 22nd: Youth group Pre-VBS get together at church. Time to be determined.

July 25th-27th: Get ready for Canyon Campout!

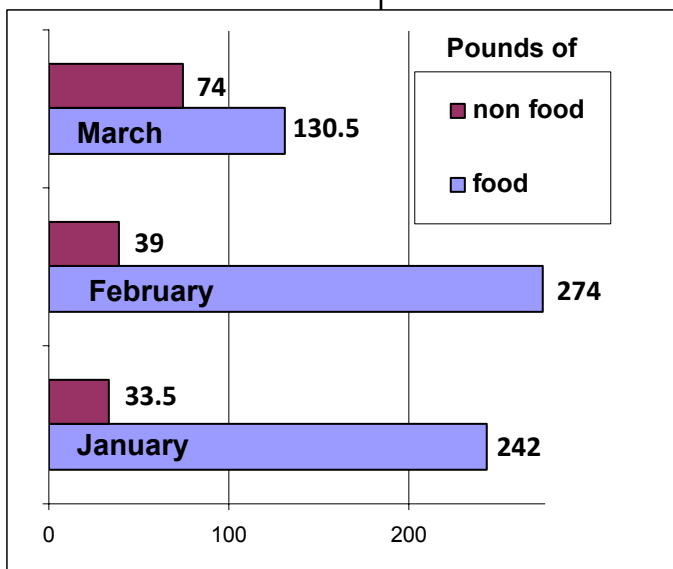
Other dates for get-togethers will be determined soon.

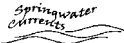
Food Bank Report

The generosity of our congregation in filling the "red box" for the food bank has certainly been appreciated in the first three months of the year. As we are all aware, hunger never takes a holiday – and demand has been steadily growing. It's always good to keep the food bank in mind while doing our shopping – many items that are in demand can be bought in bulk which saves money. See sidebar for the pounds of food and non-food items that were donated.

Keep up the good work folks!

Lynda Conway





Springwater Presbyterian Church

At Our Last Session Meeting . . .

. . . we prayed for the congregation, studied one of the Holy Week texts from scripture, and did some business:

- ⇒ authorized a letter to be written to both the County Commissioners and the County Highway Department, asking that a speed limit sign be posted on Springwater Road where there is currently just a "Congestion" sign.
- ⇒ asked the Personnel Committee to work with the Reverends Beverly and David Crow to develop a job description for them as co-pastors during our pastor's sabbatical August through October this year.
- ⇒ approved the Heifer Project offering for VBS and embraced the theme for this year, "Kids, Take Courage!"
- ⇒ approved worship in the canyon the same weekend as the youth camp out in the canyon (July 27).
- ⇒ examined Marlee Odell and received her for baptism as a believer.

Changes on the Session

It was with regret and gratitude that session accepted Cindy Woodbury's resignation as Clerk of Session. Cindy is caring for her mother and is no longer able to continue as an active elder. Please hold her and her family in prayer during this difficult time.

The congregation's talent scouts (a.k.a. the Nominating Committee) have been asked by session to present the names of persons to fill this office. This office is filled by session appointment. Although session may appoint either an active elder or someone from the congregation, the Nominating Committee will look for someone to serve out the remainder of Cindy's term. If you know of someone whose name should be placed in nomination, please let Nona Shearer (chair) know. We will hold a congregational meeting to elect the elder.

Commemorative Mugs Available

The Quasquicentennial Committee has designed and ordered coffee mugs for you to enjoy as a remembrance of the church's 125th birthday that takes place July 19-20, 2014. The mugs are cobalt blue with a picture of Springwater Church on one side and commemorative writing on the opposite side. They are a 13 oz mug and they are very comfortable in the hand.

They are available in the fellowship Hall on Sundays. If you would like to buy a mug or 2, you can call Kathy Scott at 503.630.4739 or 503.349.3585 to arrange a time and place. The mugs are \$15.00 each and there are a limited number.





Springwater Presbyterian Church

Lectionary Readings

The Eastertide preaching series asks the question, “What’s the Least I Can Believe and Still Be a Christian?” It comes from a book of the same name (see Pastor’s Perspective). Using some of the themes developed in the book, and some of our own, we will look at what beliefs we hold in common— with each other here and now, with our faith ancestors in the past, and with the church of the future.

April 27 (THE JOKE’S ON US!): Matthew 9:16-17; Matthew 19:3-9; Matthew 23:1-15, 25-28

May 4 (Rodger Clawson, guest preacher): 1 Peter 1:17-23

May 11 (WHAT GOOD IS THE CHURCH?): Ecclesiastes 5:1-20; 2 Corinthians 7:2-16

May 18 (WHAT IS GOD’S DREAM FOR US?): 2 Corinthians 8:1-24; Matthew 15:29-39, 16:1-12

May 25 (WHERE IS GOD WHEN WE HURT?): 2 Corinthians 9:1-15; Matthew 18:1-20

June 1 (WHAT USE DOES GOD HAVE FOR HUMANS?): 2 Corinthians 10:1-17; Mark 11:27-33, 12:35-37

June 8 (WHAT IS JESUS’ PROMISE TO US? Pentecost, celebration of the Lord’s Supper): Exodus 4:1-17; Acts 2:1-21

[Home Page](#)



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ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED