

Springwater CURRENTS

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

November 2014

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November Birthdays

Mary Shearer	11/7
Margo Maris	11/9
Mary Stiles	11/10
Renate Ryan-Jeppeson	11/12
Emma Kirby	11/16
Al Conway	11/21
Adelia Jeppeson	11/21
Karin Thomas	11/24
Tim Guttridge	11/27
Randy Johnson	11/28
Sam Fisher	11/30

Birthdays &



Anniversaries

Happy Anniversary

Al & Lynda Conway	11/4
Barbara & Gilbert Shibley	11/27

Church Events in November

- November 9:** Nominating committee meeting after worship
- November 14-15:** Presbytery meeting at Westminster, Portland
- November 16:** Consecration Sunday (dedication of financial pledges) and Thanksgiving potluck in the Grange following worship
- November 18:** Session Meeting, 6 p.m.
- November 23:** Reign of Christ Sunday, celebration of the Lord's Supper during worship
- November 30:** First Sunday in Advent

Sunday Hours

No Sunday School

10:15 Hymn Sing

10:30 Worship

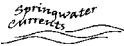
11:45 Fellowship

Deadline for next newsletter:

November 24



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



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That's what I hope has emerged for me from this pilgrimage—wisdom and renewed power to serve this congregation that I love so much.

Pastor's Perspective

Since I've returned from pilgrimage in September, people have greeted me with the query, "How was your trip?" Realizing that I had probably regaled everyone I ran across with my up-coming plans before I left, and perceiving that they probably didn't want the *full* answer, I usually laugh and say that they can read about it on the blog, or they can wait for the movie to come out starring Meryl Streep as me. Sometimes I'll admit I'm working on a book.

And that's where it gets serious. I *am* working on a book. That's how I integrate powerful experiences—through art and visual imagery. I make a book.

The whole sabbatical, and especially the pilgrimage in September, was such a powerful, incredible adventure that what I'd really like to do is hand people the book and talk it through with them. Fortunately, I know this transcends the polite answer required of the normal, pro forma social question.

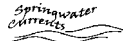
So Far, So Good

If you've been around Springwater the last month, you have been blessed by Pastor Beverly's insights into the trip. In the coming weeks, as I return to life as your pastor, I will share my pilgrimage insights as well. But fear not! I will not burden you with "The Book" (unless you ask for it). I will, however, share stories in sermons and conversations.

Which is sort of the point. In my pre-pilgrimage readings, I learned that, unlike a tourist or business traveler, a pilgrim returns with a "boon," usually the stories. Joseph Campbell, who writes a lot about pilgrimage, says that boon should be "the wisdom and the power to serve others." That's what I hope has emerged for me from this pilgrimage—wisdom and renewed power to serve this congregation that I love so much.

The Boon

Working on The Book has helped me find some common threads and insights from what at first seemed a series of disconnected stories. One of the early insights to emerge is the realization that the sheer act of *walking* on the Camino is a good metaphor for what is happening in our institutional Church.



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But what we learned was to **receive the abundance of our limitations.**

The primary insight came from a decision Bev and I had to make the third day, when we decided to leave the trail. It was hard decision to make, and it called into question many of our assumptions. But what we learned was to **receive the abundance of our limitations.** The story surrounding that decision, and what I mean by that insight, will be unpacked with you all in the coming weeks.

In the meantime, see you in church.

Eileen



Youth Group November Event

Hi everyone! Youth group has gotten off to a great start! This November we will be only meeting once, to see Tabitha perform in Estacada High School's production of *Beauty and the Beast*. We will be meeting at the Junior High auditorium at **6:45 on Thursday, November 20th.**

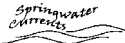
Progressive Dinner Planned

The deacons are planning a progressive dinner, tentatively scheduled for **December 14th.** They are planning a three course meal beginning with appetizers at someone's home, soup at the Watson's, and dessert at another's home. There will be caroling, too.

Watch for word from the deacons about signing up to host or to participate.

Cheryl Watson and the deacons

"Get up in the morning and look at the world in a way that takes nothing for granted. Everything is phenomenal; everything is incredible; never treat life casually. To be spiritual is to be amazed." (Abraham Heschel; "Between God and Man")



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It's Pledge Time

It's the time of year when session asks you to make a pledge for the following year so that we can plan. Letters and pledge cards will be given on out Sunday, November 2 or mailed Monday, November 3.

What is the right amount to pledge? Whatever you feel called to give in support of our ministry is the right amount. Last year the pledges ranged from \$200 to \$9,300 per year or, put another way, from \$17 to \$775 per month. All of them were the right amount and appreciated by the session.

The session dreams of expanded ministry in some areas, including those listed here:

- Send folks on an all church mission trip
- Increase pledge to the Estacada Area Food Bank
- Increase support of our mission co-worker
- Grow the building maintenance reserve funds
- Offer the pastor and musicians a pay increase

So prayerfully decide how you would like to support our ministry with your financial gifts. Please consider increasing your pledge to support an increase in our ministry. We will dedicate the pledges during worship on November 16.

"The work of [the Church] is, in part, to help people discern their gifts, provide opportunities for people to publicly praise God for them and support them as they exercise those gifts—regifting them for God's glory." (C Christopher Smith and John Pattison, "The Slower Church: Cultivating Community in the Patient Way of Jesus")

Theater at Warner Pacific College

If you are interested in seeing a set of thought provoking plays, Warner Pacific College will be performing 6 One Act plays revolving around the history of violence in America. I must warn you that these plays are raw and have some content that may trigger emotions or feelings in some people that have dealt with domestic violence. That being said, they are very interesting nonetheless. We will be performing the weekends of November 6th-9th and November 13th-16th. Please contact **Jennifer Souders** for more information if you are interested in going.

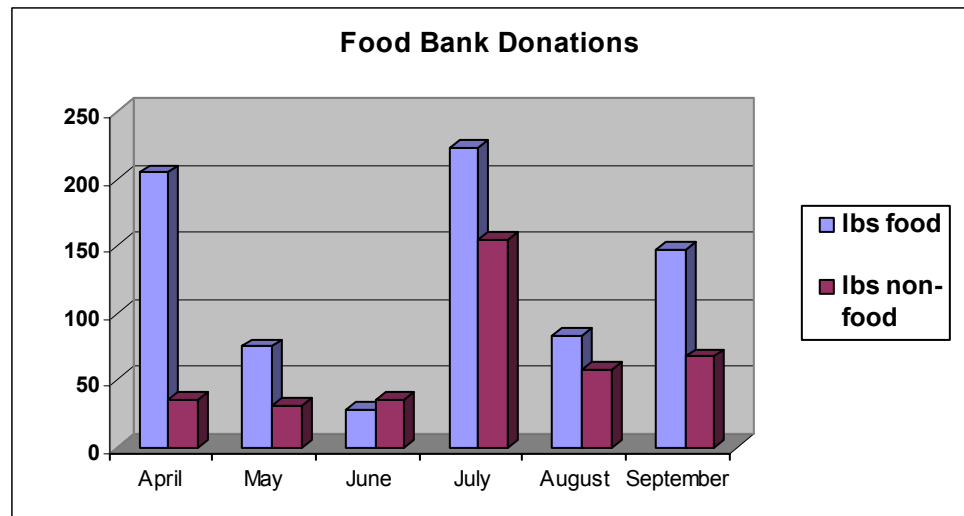


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Estacada Area Food Bank Contributions

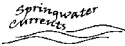
The food bank depends on our support. As you can see below, our contributions vary from month to month. On average, we give 127 pounds of food and 64 pounds of non-food items each month. We understand the importance of giving non-food items. Our non-food contributions have increased since last spring. Clients of the food bank depend on receiving these items because they cannot be purchased with food assistance funds.

Please do what you can to continue our trend of increasing donations to the food bank. Thank you for your support.



What's on your Schedule?

	Ushers	Worship Leader:	Snacks:
November 2:	Nike & Tim Guttridge	Peter Sturman	Neal Jeppeson Nona Shearer
November 9:	Mary & Kevin Kirby	Deb Odell	Open-Please sign up
November 16:	Debbie Ingamells	Nona Shearer	Potluck
November 23:	Steve & Mary Stiles	Deb Odell	Souders
November 30:	Gary Guttridge	Randy Johnson	Open-Please sign up



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A Pioneer Family Farm At 150: report to our communities
10/19/2014 by Wilma Guttridge and Gilbert Shibley,
Managing Members, **Shibley Family LLC**

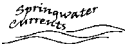
The Shibley family is a cornerstone of our community, and were founding members of our church.

The Shibley land in Springwater has been in farm and forest production since 1864. This year the family has renewed its promise to the land and each other to proceed on toward the next half (or full?) century in a similar mode. The business entity has been changed and some of its ownership has changed but our family has renewed a commitment to keep the core half of this historic property intact, in productive natural resource use and in family ownership.

We converted this week in the State's eyes from a Limited Partnership to a Limited Liability Company. In our accountant/tax preparer's eyes it is a minor, almost meaningless change. In our attorney's eyes it is a more up-to-date and flexible form for being a family business. We see it as a good tool for our family's stewardship of the land. We as a family have grown up and out to become not just a nuclear family in a house on the farm. That was what we two had experienced as children, as had our parents and grandparents. Now we are a three-generation mix of occupations spread into several states. Not all current descendants of our parents are owners but all are still part of the family and most have some emotional ties to the Shibley Place, rooted in Springwater.

Our family business may someday even have owner/members in other countries but hands-on management will need to be local. This is our home base, our home on the planet, our place. It was aptly named Forest Home Stock Farm in the 1920s by our dad and Grandpa Shibley. Springwater is our geographic community. Our church here is celebrating its 125th birth-year. It has changed a lot too, with active members from miles away. Our extended family, including our mother's family, the Becks, is a community of interest as well as genetics. Our family is also part of other communities of interest in this county, especially the Grange, Clackamas County Farm Forestry Association (the family forest owning organization) and two resource stewardship organizations (Soil and Water Conservation District and Clackamas River Basin Council). Only some of us who participate in these communities own shares in the new LLC.

We are reporting to "our communities" because we celebrated last evening with a dinner for four and felt more of you should know how much we felt like celebrating, and why. This week was the culmination of about a year of thinking, meeting and planning for how to keep the whole thing working for the family and the land. We spent a lot of time as General Partners, ask a lot



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of time from our other Limited Partners and paid for a lot of time by our accountant and attorney. We think we have a solution that will be good for you folks in our various communities as well as for our family and our property.

There were two main projects in this whole process. One was figuring out how to pay the six of thirteen owners who wished to have their smaller shares bought by the Partnership and thus to not continue as members in the new LLC. The other was shaping the terms of an Operating Agreement for the LLC so as to fit our family and our business goals better than did the previous document, a Partnership Agreement which was due to expire on Friday, October 17. Both projects took much time and effort. Meanwhile, we conducted the Partnership's ongoing farm/forest operation while trying to not neglect each of our own separate properties and homes, plus still do most of our usual volunteer community roles. Whew!!!

The young folks cooperated and so did our house mates and celebratory dinner guests, Gary and Barbara. The old folks are tired, the rains have started. The chair by the fire will feel good now as we reflect on the past and plan for the future. We like and need the support of you folks in all our communities as we sustain the land legacy and soon, we hope, find new legs of leadership to carry the baton forward.

A local old-growth forest may take 200 years to develop. That is about seven generations of people. This family currently has several 6th generation members and one 7th. Some of those will someday own shares in the LLC. We two are of the 4th and as we look back to the four great grandparents who settled here we also like to look forward to showing the Shibley Place to some great grandchildren. This year as we celebrate 150 years we two stand halfway to that seventh generation. We are pleased to manage what we were given and we do so on behalf of the 1st, the 7th and all other generations who will keep loving this land, this special place.



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Lectionary Readings

November 9 (READINESS OR CLEVERNESS?): Joshua 24:1-3a, 14-25; Matthew 25:1-13; Psalm 104

November 16 (REWARD OR PUNISHMENT?) (Commitment Sunday, in which we dedicate our financial pledges during worship): Matthew 25:14-30; Psalm 104

November 23 (LIVE AS-IF) (Reign of Christ Sunday, celebration of the Lord's Supper during worship): Matthew 25:31-46; Ephesians 1:15-23; Psalm 95

November 30 (FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT): Isaiah 64:1-9; Mark 13:24-37; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9.



"Gratitude and wonder are squeezed out when our lives are packed full with busyness and responsibilities. There is simply no room, no time, to notice. We experience God's gifts when we pause long enough to notice them." (Christine Pohl, "Living Into Community")

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Currents

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