

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

September 2015

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Sunday Hours

No Sunday School

10:15 Hymn Sing

10:30 Worship

11:45 Fellowship

Deadline for next
newsletter:

September 21

September Birthdays

Cheryl Watson	9/10
Bob Poore	9/19
Samantha Sturman	9/19
Nike Guttridge	9/19
Eric Roden	9/24
Steve Stiles	9/29



Anniversaries in September
Kathleen & Vernon Souders 9/8

Church Events in September

September 6: guest preacher, the Reverend Susan Grewe

September 13: Round Up (Highway Home Gospel Band providing worship music), see page 5

September 17: session meeting, 6:00 p.m.

September 20: Blessing of the Animals, see page 6

September 28-29: presbytery lectionary retreat, Mt Angel, Oregon

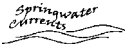
October 4: World Communion Sunday; dedication of Peace and Global Witness Offering, see page 8

Lucy Olson has a new address:

13145 SE River Rd
Room 244 HC
Portland, OR 97222

Phone: (503) 353-7086
Heritage Rose neighborhood
Doors open 8-4:30 for visitors

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



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What we discovered...
was a genuine openness
and curiosity about
other ideas and
opinions...

Pastor's Perspective

If I were called upon to write the classic first-day-of-school essay, "What I Did on Summer Vacation," mine would be entitled, "We Went on Our First-Ever Intergenerational Mission Trip."

This Is What We Learned

Springwater's primary distinctive characteristic is its intergenerational way of doing things. Church experts say this is what happens in small churches, but that seems a tad dismissive to me. I think our intergenerational nature is more authentic than, "There aren't that many of us, so we all do it, regardless of age." One has only to look at the roster of worship leaders' names to know that at Springwater, age is not a predictor of either willingness or opportunity to serve. Look around at any church activity, and you will see adults and children of all ages comfortably mixing with each other.

Generational experts tell us that Millennials and Boomers (the two generations most represented on the trip) have totally different ideas as to what constitutes a meaningful way of doing church. What we discovered, living and working in close quarters for a week, was a genuine openness and curiosity about other ideas and opinions, regardless of the generation from which it came.

This openness to and respect for the experiences and opinions of all the generations is a particular strength of Springwater's. It is one of the reasons that we have had a lively witness in our community for 126 years. It took a mission trip to appreciate this in a new way.

The Privilege of a Mission Trip

Our congregation's generosity made the trip possible. At any other church I've been part of, trip participants have paid at least part if not all of their cost to go on the trip. Springwater's generosity ensured that no one was precluded from making the trip because of financial considerations.

The generosity of the Presbytery of Plains and Peaks made it possible for us to be the vehicle of even more extravagant generosity. I don't know about you, but I don't generally cry for joy at Home Depot. When the presbytery doubled their grant as I was in the process of verifying the amount, my tears were the most genuine way I could express my gratitude. Our "client" family cried right along with me.

Looking back, I think that's the definition of "grace." Gratuitously passing on the gift we've received by giving it to others.



Springwater Presbyterian Church

... traits that had seemed quirky at the beginning of the week, become an essential, if unpredictable, contribution to the well-being of the group...

Lasting Impressions—Not the First Impressions

In the course of the week, we were constantly amazed by the gifts each person brought. One of our Bible studies early in the week asked, “Are first impressions always the best?” As we lived and worked with each other, traits that had seemed quirky at the beginning of the week, become an essential, if unpredictable, contribution to the well-being of the group as a whole and the success of the trip.

It was a week of discovery—about other age groups, life in the mountains and in a canyon, how not to mess with a rattler. We ate new foods, tried new activities, demonstrated God’s love, made friends, discovered skills we didn’t know we had. We read stories and asked questions that may never have answers. And we also did some hard work.

Ask any one of us if we’d do it again, and I think the answer you’d get would be, “In a heartbeat!”

See you in church.

Eileen

MISSION TRIP PHOTO GALLERY

More photos can be found throughout the newsletter. For those receiving a print copy of the newsletter, these photos will look best if viewed online. Go to www.springwaterpres.org and follow the link titled “newsletter”.



Corinne Varitz Herrera (left front) and her daughter, Marguerite (right) surrounded by the descendants of people with whom she grew up in Springwater. Corinne brought us dinner one night.



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From the Mission Yearbook of Prayer: Public Education

From the Mission Yearbook of Prayer entry for August 23, emphasis on Public Education

“Created in 1965, Head Start is the premier early childhood development program supporting our nation’s lowest-income households. Head Start takes a holistic approach, bringing together education, health care, social services, nutrition services, and parental involvement. Studies indicate that Head Start graduates show better math and language skills, social conduct, and physical development than their non-Head Start peers.

“High-quality early childhood programs help children in low-income families develop the skills to succeed in school and give parents the support they need to be productive at work. Studies show that children from low-income families who participate in such programs are less likely to be held back in school or placed in special education, have lower rates of juvenile crime, and are more likely to graduate.

“Sadly, Congress does not allocate sufficient funds for these programs. Only one in six children eligible for federal child-care assistance receives it. Head Start serves only about half of eligible preschoolers, and Early Head Start serves approximately 4 percent of eligible infants and toddlers.”

Springwater’s own Eunike Guttridge is a Head Start teacher in the Woodburn area. Nike regularly shares with us her prayer concerns for the families she serves. Please continue to keep Nike and her ministry in your prayers.

The Springwater group (sans Pastor Eileen) in their PDA T-shirts, surrounding Miss Doris (white shirt, center), whose house we raised. Her sons Joe (next to her) and Jerry (back row) are also pictured.





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Round Up

It has become an annual tradition for the first Sunday after Labor Day—Springwater’s Round Up. This year, our western-themed worship will be enhanced by the band, Highway Home Gospel Band, sharing their version of Cowboy Church. The band will lead in hymns we can sing along with, as well as songs they perform.

If you want a sneak preview of what they will offer, check out <http://www.woodburncowboychurch.org/music-videos/> and scroll down to the “Highway Home” video. Or go to their website www.highwayhomegospelband.com and look for the videos.

This is their ministry—bringing the message of God’s love through bluegrass music. While the church will give them a check, we will also take a freewill offering for them.

A potluck will follow in the Grange after worship. BBQ sandwiches will be provided, so bring a dessert or salad.

WEAR YOUR WESTERN CLOTHING!!

INVITE YOUR FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS TO THIS EXCITING EVENT!!!!



HIGHWAY HOME

BLUEGRASS GOSPEL BAND

What’s on your Schedule?

	Ushers	Worship Leader:
September 6:	Peter & Carol Sturman	Kara Guttridge
September 13:	Randy & Mary Johnson	Debbie Ingamells
September 20:	Kathy Scott Alan Siefken	Nona Shearer
September 27:	Renate & Neal Jeppeson	Jessie Jo Guttridge

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Blessing the Animals

The preaching series this summer has focused on Seasons of Creation, so it is fitting that we include a service of Blessing the Animals on September 20.

In the Genesis creation story, God puts animals into the special care of humans. Accordingly, the focus of this service is the public expression of the bond we have with animals. In scripture, the act of blessing means “the imparting of power or life.” The person performing the blessing is mediating that power from God to the person or animal involved. To bless is more than an expression of goodwill or caring. To bless is impart God’s power in person! The blessing of each animal, by name, means that health, healing and life are being mediated from God for the benefit of the animal in its relationship with its human partners.

Bring your caged or leashed dog, cat, bird, reptile, amphibian, rat, fish, chicken—domesticated or wild. If you are unable to bring an animal, you may wish to bring a picture of an animal you love or an endangered species in the wild.

Left: To Kasey, his constant companion for three days was “Bob,” but for the rest of us—“That’s MR Cat, to you!”

Right: The Shovel Puppies, who labored so valiantly to ready Miss Doris’ house to be raised above the flood plain.



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"4:30 A.M." is mighty early, no matter how you spell it. A 6:00 AM flight means getting up long before breakfast. Fortunately, we all got the memo about what to wear: the mission T-shirts.



For the second mission trip in a row, Jennifer celebrated her birthday with cake and the rest of us serenading her with silly songs.



Loveland has a large collection of public bronze sculptures scattered around town. At the Benson Sculpture Gardens near Mountain View Presbyterian, the intrepid mission group clusters around the only non-metal sculpture. Was it because marble does not retain the heat on 100-degree days? Yes.





Springwater Presbyterian Church

Lectionary Readings

September 6: Guest preacher the Rev. Susan Grewe

September 13 (Round Up): Psalm 19; James 3:1-12

September 20 (Blessing of the Animals): Genesis 2:18-25; Psalm 148; Revelation 5:11-14, Matthew 6:25-29

September 27: Esther 7:1-6, 9-10, 9:20-22; Psalm 124; James 5:13-20; Mark 9:38-50

Special Offering: Peace and Global Witness

Formerly known as the Peacemaking Offering, we will receive the Peace and Global Witness special offering on October 4 as part of the World Communion Sunday observances.

Twenty-five percent of the offering collected will remain in our community to be used to support peace and justice. In the past, our 25% has been used to support such things as the Estacada Area Food Bank, the Eastminster warming shelter, and Oregon City Backpack Buddies.

A gift to the Peace & Global Witness Offering enables the church to promote the Peace of Christ by addressing systems of injustice across the world.



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