

RANDOM NOTES

During this beautiful Fall season, we've learning about Worship by doing it. One of the best Scriptural descriptions about Worship is found in the Letter to the Hebrews. It's a rich rendering of the portrait of Jesus revealed in this portion of Scripture. Who He is, what He did & what that means for our ongoing adoration of the Lord

In Hebrews Chapter 8, we find what God the Father promised to accomplish through Jesus the Son as taught by the Holy Spirit. This text promises a new-and better-Covenant with God given through Jesus Christ. Here's the Scripture itself:

"The time is coming, declares the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant I made with their forefathers when I took them by the hand to lead them out of Egypt, because they did not remain faithful to my covenant, and I turned away from them, declares the Lord.

This is the covenant I will make with the house of Israel after that time, declares the Lord:

I will put my laws in their minds and write them on their hearts.

I will be their God, and they will be my people. No longer will a man teach his neighbor, or a man his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' because they will all know me.

I will forgive their wickedness and I will remember their sins no more."

(Hebrews 8:8-13)

The beauty of what this means for us is this: God does not put regulations on our lives, but relationship into our hearts. We do not obey God because we *have to* but because He helps us *want to*. We do not have to *hope* that we are God's Chosen People, but to *receive* the gift of being called God's Children by His grace through faith. We do not have to *work* off the sins we commit, but get to *trust* that the Almighty One cleanses us with the shed blood of Jesus.

In light of the great thing that our God has done for us, our response is thankful adoration for His great love. That is at the heart of what Worship is. Why not join us to do that on a coming Sunday in October. See you there.....

By Grace Alone,
Rand D. Sargent

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL IN FULL SWING

Sunday School for all ages began September 10th. Classes meet at 9:30 AM. The adult class has been going through the "Design for Discipleship" series. They are concluding Book 2, "The Spirit-Filled Christian" and should be starting Book 3, "Walking with Christ" by mid-October. Regis Peregrin facilitates this group, but it is the open, Bible-focused discussion and that provides the teaching. The books are quite economical at \$5.00. All adults are welcome.

COMMUNITY CORNER **KNITTED BLOCKS PROJECT**

Now that the days are getting cooler, and you find yourself snuggling in for evening, doesn't knitting by a warm fire complete this picture? In May the church council began discussion on how we can bless our new neighbors (houses yet to be built). One way is to knit lap blankets. Use size 7 needles and the patterns found in the book, "200 Knitted Blocks" located on the narthex table. Call Regis Peregrin for more details, and enjoy the changing weather!

CARUS UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
22765 SOUTH HIGHWAY 213
OREGON CITY, OREGON 97045

NEW CONSECRATION SUNDAY IS COMING ON OCTOBER 15TH

Carus UMC has celebrated the third Sunday in October as *New Consecration Sunday* the past two years. It is our day to express our thanks to God for the blessings of life in our giving to the Lord for the coming year. Please join us on Sunday, October 15th at 10:45 AM for a special Worship time featuring Guest Preacher *Rev. Edson Gilmore* that will include your opportunity to respond to the Lord's goodness by sharing an estimate of your giving for 2007. Please RSVP your place on this day as well as the Fellowship Lunch to follow (Catered by the Markum Inn). We look forward to seeing you in celebration with us on that day!

Congregations that approach financial stewardship from a biblical perspective do not view the money Christians give to their church merely as a way to pay its bills. Rather, such congregations see financial contributions as a way to help people grow spiritually in their relationship with God by supporting their church's mission and ministry with a percentage of their incomes.

Our congregation's finance committee has selected the *New Consecration Sunday Stewardship Program* as a way to teach the biblical and spiritual principles of generous giving in our stewardship education emphasis this year.

New Consecration Sunday is based on the biblical philosophy of the need of the giver to give for his or her own spiritual development, rather than on the need of the church to receive. Instead of treating people like members of a social club who should pay dues, we will treat people like followers of Jesus Christ who want to give unselfishly as an act of discipleship. *New Consecration Sunday* encourages people toward proportionate and systematic giving in response to the question, "What percentage of

my income is God calling me to give?" During morning worship on Consecration Sunday, we are asking our attendees and members to make their financial commitments to our church's missionary, benevolent, and educational ministries in this community and around the world

Every attendee and member who completes an *Estimate of Giving Card* does so voluntarily by attending morning worship on Consecration Sunday. We urge people to attend who feel strongly opposed to completing a card. The procedure is done in such a way that no one feels personal embarrassment if he or she chooses not to fill out a card.

We will do no home solicitation to ask people to complete cards. During morning worship our guest leader will conduct a brief period of instruction and inspiration, climaxed by members making their commitments as a confidential act of worship.

We will encourage participation in Consecration Sunday events through the Consecration Sunday team and governing board members. Since we will make no follow-up visits to ask people to complete their cards, we will make every effort to inform, inspire, and commit everyone to attend Consecration Sunday worship.

Thanks in advance for your enthusiastic participation in Consecration Sunday events.

Holly Rudie
Church Council Chair

TERI & EV EREBELE IN MARQUAM ON NOVEMBER 8TH

The Marquam congregation is a covenant partner with UM Missionaries Teri & Ev Erbelle who minister in Lithuania, Latvia & Russia. They will be stateside this Fall. Come to a Lunch Meeting in the Church Hall on Wednesday, November 8th to greet them & hear about what the Lord is doing in these former Soviet Republics. Watch this space as well as the Worship Bulletins for more particular information on this exciting opportunity.

CHURCH CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS

Our annual Church Conference was held on Sunday, September 10th with District Superintendent Katherine Conolly presiding. 13 Carus UMC Members joined Pastor Rand with D.S. Kate in an afternoon of business, reporting & celebration of our ministry in the past year. We shared in these important moments:

- Worshipping Together
- Approved *Pastor Rand's* Compensation Package for 2007
- Elected Leadership for the coming year
- Learned that our Professing Membership stands at 58 persons
- Received *Carol Johns* Report as a UMC Certified Lay Speaker, approving her continuation in this ministry in 2007
- Heard how *Pastor Rand* intends to "Give God His Best" in the year ahead
- Learned of at least 12 ministries we "Give Our Best to God" with as a congregation
- Heard *DS Kate* say "You have a good thing going outside and inside of the Church. Bless You!"
- Blessed our People and Community with Prayer
- Celebrated *Pastor Rand's* 54th Birthday with Pie and Ice Cream

A complete listing of reports can be found on the Foyer Table if you would like to know more of our time together. Please feel free to take one for yourself.

REFORMATION SUNDAY

Bring your favorite version of the Bible to church for worship on October 29th as we look to our history in memory of the Reformation.

October Birthdays

2 Lorrie Fulton
 5 Marie Stewart
 5 Richard Friedman
 6 Dann Houghton
 11 Kieran Gale
 16 Barbarajean Gribble
 17 Amy Thomson
 22 Amy (Jacobson) Thompson
 27 Mathew Rudie
 29 Melody Monzon
 31 Bonnie Thomas

October Birthday Sunday Sign-up
 Karen Uhl

<i>Sun</i>	<i>Mon</i>	<i>Tue</i>	<i>Wed</i>	<i>Thu</i>	<i>Fri</i>	<i>Sat</i>
1 World Communion Sunday September Birthday Sunday	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12 UMW Meeting 7PM at Helen Smidt's	13	14
15 Consecration Sunday with celebration meal at 12:15 PM	16	17 Church Council at 7 PM	18	19	20	21
22 Worship Team Training / Planning 12:30 - 2:30	23	24 Lay Leadership Meeting at Carus 7 PM	25 Newsletter deadline	26	27	28 Reminder: Turn back clocks one hour - Daylight Savings Time ENDS Sunday
29 Reformation Sunday- Bring favorite version of the Bible October Birthday Sunday	30	31	Nov 1	2	3	4

October 2006