

Grace Notes

Community of Grace Presbyterian Church

May 2009

May Highlights

[New Interim Pastor Arrives!](#) This month we welcome Rev. Bill McGuinness as our new interim pastor, and his wife Kathy who will assist as Pastoral Ministry Coordinator.

[Time to Update Your Church Records.](#) As our new interim pastor transitions to COG, please help by updating your contact information.

[Royal Family Kids Camp](#)

[Volunteers Needed.](#) Volunteers are needed to support this year's camp for abused and neglected children. Many opportunities from a half day to a full week.

Our Church Community

[Food Co-op Update.](#) Now in our fourth month, participation is strong and feedback has been excellent. Any members, friends, and neighbors are welcome to join.

[Session Notes.](#) Here you will find the notes from the April 21 Session meeting.

[March Financial Update.](#) This is our updated monthly financial picture provided by Tim Fluetsch.

[Presbyterian Links.](#) Here is a listing of helpful links for those who are interested in our denomination's work at the national level, including what Presbyterians believe.

[Church Officers.](#) This is a listing of the current elders and deacons.

Children & Youth

[Celebrations!](#) With the close of another program year, May is a great time to celebrate all that has taken place for children and youth.

[Youth Summer Mission Trip.](#) The Wind River Mission trip is now full. However, all ages are invited to join them in a COG camp and raft weekend at Flaming Gorge on June 26 and 27.

Adult & Family

[Celebrating Life Transitions.](#) Deacons will be honoring those transitioning out of 6th grade or high school following each worship service on May 17th. Sunday School teachers concluding this year's classes will also be thanked for their service.

[Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans](#)

[RHINO.](#) COG is sponsoring a mission trip to New Orleans in May to join Habitat for Humanity in a housing construction project.

Faith and the Land. COG was part of a dialogue that developed a collective interfaith statement articulating the spiritual importance of wilderness lands that was recently presented to Utah's two Senators.

Crossroads Items of the Month. In May the Crossroads Urban Center is asking for dry pasta and rice. For their thrift store they need men's clothing and kids summer clothing.

May Prayer Calendar. Prayers from the hearts of our members. *"Confess your sins to each other and pray for each other so that you may be healed. The earnest prayer of a righteous person has great power and produces wonderful results."* James 5:16

**Thanks to XMISSION for providing our church
with free internet access and a website.**



New Interim Pastor Arrives!

by Dave Adamson
Elder

Bill McGuinness begins his ministry at COG this month, assisted by his wife Kathy who will serve as Pastoral Ministry Coordinator. Over the next year or two Bill will be charged with filling our pulpit and all of the pastoral responsibilities that come with the position. In addition, he will provide guidance and direction for the process of finding a called pastor for our congregation.

Bill has served in several churches, most recently in Saratoga Presbyterian in San Jose, California. Bill has an MBA from Harvard and an MDiv from Fuller

Theological Seminary. He brings an energy and excitement to COG, writing, *"I want to help shape a church that won't tolerate coldness, boredom or joylessness--not for members, or for seekers, or for the true secularists who increasingly populate our spheres of influence."*



Meet
Our New
Interim
Pastor

Bill McGuinness

We are looking forward to working with Bill and Kathy. This is a great time to invite friends and neighbors to meet and greet our new pastor and be a part of this new chapter in the history of our community of faith.

New Officers Elected

by Dave Adamson
Elder

At a called congregational meeting on April 19, a slate of new officers was elected to service on the Session and the Board of Deacons. Elder Debbie Colt, chair of the Nominating Committee, presented the following names to the congregation:

Elders, 3 year term, class of 2012:

Jane Cooper
Alwyn Vanderwalt

Deacons, 3 year term, class of 2012:

Erica Adamson
Scott Adamson
Sherry Britt

Deacons, 2 year term, class of 2011:

Barbara Gentry
(One unfilled opening for class of 2011)

Wes Starkenburg
Keith West

(One unfilled opening for class of 2012)

Many thanks to our new officers for their time, commitment, and willingness to serve. Many thanks also to the members of the Nominating Committee for their work: Debbie Colt, Pat Holmes, Brooke Holyoak, Dale Bailey, Bill Cooper, Sheral Schowe, and Joan Smith.

Please Update Your Church Records

by Sandy Growe
Church Administrative Assistant

With the start of our new Interim Pastor, Bill McGuinness and his wife Kathy, we want to make sure our records are current. Pastor Bill plans on utilizing email to pass

information on to our members. Please forward to Sandy Growe, Administrative Assistant, any new email addresses, updated cell phone numbers, or additional updated personal information. Also, remember to wear your name badges on Sundays so Pastor Bill and Kathy can better place names with faces. If you need a name badge, please let Sandy Growe know. We have clip-on or pin-on. Thank you & God bless.



Royal Family Kids Camp
RFKC Volunteers Needed

by John and Shelly Horel
Camp Co-Directors

Always wanted to go on a mission trip but thought you couldn't afford it? Or maybe you don't like to travel? We have a great deal for you:

Royal Family Kids Camp is a ministry in our own back yard. It is a week long camp just for children who have been abused or neglected, who are referred by the state foster care system. Most of the children attending are in foster care, some have been adopted by their foster parents. But all of them have had a very rough start in life through no fault of their own.

We are currently recruiting for staff to build our team of caring adults who give these children one week of the love of Christ, fun, and positive memories. This is a ministry through Good Shepherd Lutheran Church, which is well supported by the Community of Grace congregation with funding, staff, and encouragement. We are in our seventh year, and hope to have 30 children at camp this year.

Because of the special needs of some of these children, we will need at least 60 staff members to help in various ways throughout the week. There are many positions to fill including counselors, support staff, grandparents (whose sole duty is to love on the kids), planning, technical and organizational staff, set up and tear down staff, transportation and registration staff, and cooking staff to name a few.

RFKC AT A GLANCE

- **WHAT:** a positive, Christ-centered week at camp for children between ages 7 and 11.
- **WHO:** 60 volunteers to support 30 abused or neglected children
- **WHEN:** August 9-14
- **WHERE:** Camp Kostopulos near the zoo, just up Emigration Canyon
- **TRAINING:** June 6 and 13
- **WEB SITE:** www.rfkc-gslc.org
- **MORE:** Contact John or Shelley Horel at 523-9298



Royal Family Kids Camp

What can you do to help? Pray for the children who will attend the camp and for the over 100 volunteers who will attend the camp and for the over 100 volunteers who will donate their time and talents. You can also volunteer for a half-day, 2 ½ days, or the full week. To volunteer, download an application form from www.rfkc-gslc.org.

Many types of volunteers are needed:

8 Female Counselors	An Uncle
Plenty of Cooks	An Aunt
8 Male Counselors	Grandparents
10 Assistant Counselors	15 Support staff
2 Assistant directors	
	And much...
	...much more!

Our Church Community

Food Co-op Update

by John and Shelley Horel
Co-op Team Leaders

We are now in our fourth month, and to date it has been a great success! We have gone from approximately sixty orders the first month to over 100 in April. Reviews have been very favorable.

The Utah Community Food Co-op is conducted through Crossroads Urban Center. This is a great way to get fresh and locally distributed produce, meats, and other grocery items at a very reasonable price. Orders are taken and paid for through

the first week or so of each month and the food is distributed on a Saturday morning towards the end of each month. The quality of the food has been very good, and because the co-op buys in bulk and runs on volunteer labor, the prices remain low. Volunteering is highly encouraged.

Any leftover food or orders that are not picked up will be donated to needy families. We are also encouraging members to buy an extra order to share with a family who needs it if they are able.

For more information, you can pick up a newsletter in the church narthex to get started, or go online at crossroads-u-c.org. If you have any questions, or can help on distribution day, please contact John or Shelley Horel at 801-523-9298, or 801-870-9450, 801-870-9454.

Session Notes *(Meeting of April 21, 2009)*

by Dave Adamson


Elder

1. Tim Fluetsch reported that because we saved the pastor's salary and benefits during the first quarter, we are currently on solid financial ground. However, this may not continue as our new pastor begins in May and we move into the summer season. We also want to keep last summer's goal of having a part-time youth leader in mind. It is not too early to begin planning next fall's stewardship campaign.
2. A few transition details were reviewed. Pastor Bill will moderate the May 3 Session meeting to receive confirmands. He has been given a picture directory, keys, and an orientation to his office. Jane Cooper is keeping a list of unfinished business he will need to address. Session voted to allow an exception to its employee personnel policy so that Kathy McGuinness can report directly to her husband, Bill, as a part-time member of our staff.
3. Moderator David Henry conducted a review of eight issues related to Amendment B that will be addressed by Presbytery in May. This was followed by a discussion, but no action was taken by Session. Rev. Henry suggested that it can be healthy for churches to take time to learn how to have civil discourse on controversial issues.
4. Session expressed its thanks to Rev. David Henry for serving as our interim moderator during the past five months, and presented him a gift in acknowledgement of his service.

March Financial Update

by Tim Fleutch

Treasurer

2009 Income & Expenses	 Financial Update	<i>Current to 03-31-2009</i>
	Year To Date	Budget Year To Date
<u>Income</u>		
Pledges	\$84,309	\$84,099
Other	\$10,744	\$12,300
Total Income	\$95,053	\$96,399
<u>Expenses</u>		
Personnel	\$34,379	\$40,697
Outreach & Mission	\$5,065	\$10,515
Operations	\$33,793	\$32,187
Children & Youth	\$705	\$2,213
Adult & Family	\$291	\$1,288
Worship	\$331	\$875
Total Expenses	\$74,566	\$87,774
Surplus (Deficit)	\$20,487	\$8,625

Presbyterian Links

Here are some helpful links for those who are interested in our denomination's work at the national level:

Home Page, PCUSA (www.pcusa.org)

Presbyterian 101 [Facts about Presbyterians] (www.pcusa.org/101)

Expressing Our Faith: National and International Service
(www.pcusa.org/navigation/mission.htm)

What Presbyterians Believe (www.pcusa.org/catech/studycat.htm)

Church Officers

Board of Deacons

Deacons Moderator: Lisa Wiscomb

Class of 2009

Randy Carter
Dave Fry

Class of 2010

Cynthia Alex
Debbie Bybee

Class of 2011

Kim Beaslin
Elaine Nordberg

Barb Gentry
Lori Packard
Sharon Riley
Wes Starkenburg

Denise Harris
Brooke Holyoak
Tom Keene
Bonnie Sackett

Linda Page
Lisa Wiscomb

Session

Acting Session Moderator: Rev. David Henry

Recording Secretary: Jane Cooper

Class of 2009

Tim Fluetsch
Dave Adamson

Class of 2010

Pat Holmes
Chuck Stolfa

Class of 2011

Kelly Harris
Debbie Colt

Children & Youth

Celebrations!

by Lorrie Gaffney

Area Director of Children and Youth

May is a good month for celebrating. We celebrate together:

- Interim Pastor Bill, and Kathy, leading and strengthening us in our interim period.
- The end of a year with committed and caring Sunday School teams: Join us May 17 in Worship and leave a gratitude note on our Sunday School bulletin board.
- Nursery Staff and attendants who plant the first seeds of church and God's love, and those who lead our children to know the joy of God through events like the Easter Egg Hunt
- An awesome Message of God that was shared in creative and valuable ways each Sunday by Max Roth: Never too late to wish Max a Happy Birthday (April 27!)
- Completion of confirmation program and the teams that studied, worshipped, connected, and served together. Guess who is who in our Powerpoint presentation on May 10 in Worship.
- Amor Mission teams completion of a home and safe return – Thanks to all who joined us in support and prayer!
- 5th/6th graders who shared God's joy and care with Seniors at COG and the Wentworth Assisted Living.
- Wind River Youth team preparing to serve on the Indian reservation in Wyoming (see below).



Youth Summer Mission Trip

by Lorrie Gaffney

Area Director of Children and Youth

The following youth, leaders and chaperones will be serving with YouthWorks in Wind River, Wyoming on an Indian Reservation. Community of Grace will send them off on Sunday, June 21st with a blessing in worship.

Trip Leader: Gerald VanCampen
CO-leader: Minerva Overstreet

Chaperones: Linda Tyree, Matt Gentilcore
Students: Erin VanCampen
Bianca Overstreet
Cameron Tyrell
Hannu VanDerWalt
Marilize VanderWalt
Jacob Fluetsch

Following their trip join with the team in Flaming Gorge. Camp for one or two nights, June 26,27. Great swimming beach, rafting on Saturday the 27th. Space is limited and reservations are required so sign up this month at the Welcome Center. Members, family, friends are welcome.



Wind River Wyoming Mission Trip June 21-27 is full. This group will paint/repair homes; play with kids in a Kids Club, eat homemade fry bread prepared by an Indian couple; explore Sinks Canyon where the river disappears for about ½ mile underground.

All ages are invited to hear their adventures by joining in a COG **camp/raft weekend at Flaming Gorge June 26 and 27.** Campsites are limited so reserve your space, at the Welcome Center. Flaming Gorge is just over a 3-hour drive from SLC.

Adult & Family

Celebrating Life Transitions

by Dede Carpenter
Area Director of Adult & Family

Seniors graduating from High School, 6th graders transitioning and our Sunday school teachers wrapping up another year of Bible classes! The Deacons would like to acknowledge these life transitions with a time of celebration in the Narthex Sunday May 17th following each worship service. Please join us in congratulating our students and thanking our teachers!



CONGRATULATIONS, COG GRADUATES!

Rebuilding Hope in New Orleans

RHINO

by Dede Carpenter

Area Director of Adult & Family

Community of Grace is sending a team of 16 individuals to New Orleans May 11-17th. Our mission team will be working with the St. Charles Avenue Presbyterian Church and Habitat for Humanity on a work project; building 14 new homes on Ferry Place. This project is one the ongoing Presbyterian Disaster Assistance worksites continuing to rebuild a community devastated by the effects of Katrina four years ago. Please pray for our team; Nyla and Dave Adamson, Dede Carpenter, Ginny & Nancy Halden, David Henry, Sandy Killion, Thom Mansen, Larry Marvin, Damon Medina, Linda Page, Suellen & Matt Riffkin, Dan Smith, Delayna Stout and Robin Tracy.

Faith & the Land

by Dede Carpenter

Area Director of Adult & Family

A collective interfaith statement articulating the spiritual importance of wilderness lands and the need to protect them was presented to Senators Hatch and Bennett on April 21st. Copies of this statement and the independent faith community dialogues may be found at www.suwa.org/faithandtheland

(Community of Grace dialogue was held January 18, 2009)



May Prayer Calendar

by Millie Nielsen

Prayer Coordinator

1. Bless Pastor and Mrs. Bill McGuinness as they begin working with us. May we all work together in a joyful, authentic, and productive relationship.
2. Dear God, help me to enjoy family, friends, and the comforts of life without depending on them for my strength and happiness.
3. May my worship and Holy Communion today nourish my spirit.
4. Lord, keep me safe from the pain and grief that my pride and carelessness brings.
5. Oh God, renew and restore our deacons as they serve the members of our congregation.
6. God of mercy, thank you for the help women receive in battered women's shelters.
7. I pray for the aged in the last years of their lives.
8. Dear loving God, thank you for being with me in my darkest experiences.
9. Lord, Thank you for all the loving women who have nurtured me in my life.
10. Bless those heading to New Orleans this week to connect with the RHINO project and Habitat for Humanity building homes.

11. Lord, I pray for wisdom for the leaders of our country and also for the ordinary people such as farmers, garbage collectors, those who work in stores, and those without employment.
12. God, give me faith to do what I can and to trust you with the rest.
13. Oh God, I thank you that I am never alone.
14. God of new beginnings, help me to trust you when there are endings in my life; help me to trust you and to be with me and to show me new things.
15. Bless our sister church, the Immanuel Church, Kiriro in Chogoria, Kenya, that it may be a bright light of your love and truth.
16. I pray for those who are passing through trials and difficulties. May they know you are with them.
17. Thank you, Lord, for the opportunities we have had to grow and learn during our 2008-2009 Sunday School season
18. Lord, give your strength and power to those fighting addictions.
19. Fill our session members with your Holy Spirit so their discussions and decisions all glorify you, Lord.
20. Today I pray for all men and women on the front lines of war who must kill or be killed.
21. Lord, bless the peacemakers of the world.
22. Bless New Beginnings church that the good news of your word may take root and grow.
23. I pray for families who are struggling with relationships and/or finances.
24. Lord God, I give thanks for the musicians who lead us in praise through music.
25. Today, Lord, I give thanks for those who have sacrificed their lives for the freedom of others.
26. Lord, give me wisdom to seek your priorities.
27. Lord, may I see Christ in everyone I meet today.
28. God of compassion, with you and all the world family, I weep and mourn. Comfort those who are alone or afraid.
29. Lord, help me be in your heart reaching out to those who grieve.
30. Father of all, show me how to be your hands working to assist those who still live.
31. Faithful God, touch me with your grace in worship today.

