

# ***On the Way***

**January 20, 2011**

**CENTRAL PACIFIC CONFERENCE \* UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

***Extravagant Grace \* Generous Hearts \* Renewed World***

## ***Two Issues of On the Way in One Week?***

One time-sensitive article that was left out, and more recently arrived articles meant a second issue of OTW was needed this week. Check the previous January 19<sup>th</sup> edition for:

***CPC Mid Winter Retreat for Middle School Youth – Feb. 11-13***

***2011 Spirituality Retreat – Feb. 18-20***

***Nominations Invited for CPC Justice & Witness Award – Feb. 28***

***OWL (Our Whole Lives) Facilitators Training – March 11-13***

## ***Suggestions Requested for CPC Mission Trips ~ Kwasi Diehl***

The Wider Church Team has decided to take some time to explore mission work/education programs to recommend to the Conference for consideration as a long-term partner in mission either domestic or international such as Back Bay Mission, where we have sent people the past few years. To help us out, we are soliciting your recommendations. We would like information and opinions about the potential for reciprocity, spiritual/educational growth for CPC members, positive impact in the lives of those with whom we minister, and likely financial costs. Of course, websites and other means of communication with prospective partners would be very helpful.

We would like to have the recommendations as soon as possible. Because we plan to make a Wider Church Team recommendation to the Spring Assembly, we would like to have the individual or church recommendations by February 20 if at all possible. Please email recommendations to [kwairuns@yahoo.com](mailto:kwairuns@yahoo.com) or to the Conference office.

Due to logistics, we will not be sponsoring a group to Back Bay Mission this year, but will consider it along with other options for the future.

Thank you, The Wider Church Team

## ***Prayers for Gail McDougle***

Gail McDougle, pastor of First Congregational UCC, Salem, OR was recently hospitalized following a stroke. She is now recovering in a rehabilitation facility. Gale will not have access to email or phone as she rests for the next several weeks. Gail says, “My experience has taught me that the most important part of stroke recovery is rest and tranquility. As much as I would like to see you, right now what I need is for you to be present with me in prayer and cards, but not in person: I need time and space to heal.” Mail cards to: First Congregational UCC, 700 Marion Street NE, Salem, OR 97301

## ***CPC Ministry Team Meetings \*\*NOTE DATE CORRECTION FOR BofD!!***

Board of Directors – Tuesday, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 8:00 – 9:00 AM, Conference Call

Personnel Committee – Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 – 12:00 Noon, Interchurch Center

CPC Women's Board – Saturday, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM, CPC Conference Offices

Covenants Ministry Team, Monday, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, Interchurch Center

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## ***Raw Food Retreat ~ Gabrielle Chavez***

Looking for a real change in life? The members of Christ the Healer UCC have put together a spring event at the warm and lovely Resort at the Mountain in Welches to help us all SPRING INTO RAW VITALITY!

Featuring interesting speakers who have transformed their health through diet such as Dave the Raw Food Trucker and Penni Shelton from Raw Food Rehab, this 2 day celebration of life includes mini-workshops, health practitioners, and exhibitors to support your healthy lifestyle. Your admission treats you to all this, three full course raw gourmet meals--and a life changing introduction to the *Compass of Grace*, a holistic practice that can help you reach your highest potential in life and relationships. (For more information about the Compass of Grace, visit [www.compassofgrace.com](http://www.compassofgrace.com).)

There's a generous Early Bird Discount (25%) for folks who register by Jan 31 at [www.exploreraawvitality.com](http://www.exploreraawvitality.com). You can make separate housing arrangements at the Resort where they are offering a group rate of just \$89 per night per *room* (which can sleep 2 or more) by entering the code RAW at [www.theresort.com](http://www.theresort.com).

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## ***Portland CROP Hunger Walk \* Church World Service***

**January 23, 2011 (1-2 p.m.):** Recruiter's Meeting for the Portland Church World Service CROP Hunger Walk, First Congregational United Church of Christ of Portland, 1126 S.W. Park Avenue. Lynn Magnuson, Managing Regional Director, Pacific Northwest Church World Service, will present. Contact Ron MacKenzie, [ron.w.mackenzie@gmail.com](mailto:ron.w.mackenzie@gmail.com) for more information.

**April 9, 2011 (10 a.m.):** Portland Church World Service CROP Hunger Walk. Start and Finish in front of the Union Gospel Mission, 3 N.W. Third Avenue. The course is approximately three miles and will pass several homeless agencies in downtown Portland, as well as City Hall. Please contact Ron MacKenzie, the Coordinator, at [ron.w.mackenzie@gmail.com](mailto:ron.w.mackenzie@gmail.com) for more information.

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## ***Bob Leitner Receives Everyday Hero Award***

Congratulations to **Bob Leitner of Bethel Beaverton UCC** for receiving the Everyday Hero award from the Washington County Interfaith Vision Action Network at last Sunday's MLK Event at Southminster Presbyterian Church. Bob was recognized for leading the Westside UCC partnership work with **Habitat for Humanity**, which resulted in building a house for Joel Lopez and his family.

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## ***Lynn Magnuson Announces Retirement from Church World Service***

Hi, everyone,

So 11 years after that first nervous day on the job, I am still loving CWS and am committed to the work being done on our behalf around the world.

But things do change! Last Sunday, at our Redmond United Methodist Church, Dennis and I announced that we are both retiring as of the end of June.

While I do so enjoy working with all of you, it is time to move on to doing family, friends, gardening, travel, other volunteering, and so much more. With our schedules, Dennis and I are usually lucky to both have one day a week off together, and never have two days off in a row at the same time outside of planned vacations! We have great dreams for what we want to discover together after almost 25 years of this kind of a schedule.

So - I hope to schedule time to talk with each of you in the coming months. I don't know anything about the transition plans, but will let you know as I do. Rest assured, our commitment to providing the best support possible for you and all your congregations has not changed.

Thank you for all you do to make a difference - we'll talk more soon.

With heartfelt love, Lynn

*Lynn Magnuson \* Regional Director \* Church World Service \* 15111 - 8th Ave SW #205 \* Seattle, WA 98166 \* (206) 988-1622 \* toll-free (888) 297-2767 \* fax (206) 988-1640*  
[www.churchworldservice.org](http://www.churchworldservice.org)

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## ***Synod Contest for Creative Congregations ~ Edith Guffey, Assoc. General Minister***

Friends, in the KYeP\*\* that will come out in a few minutes, there will be an announcement of a Synod contest. The idea is to invite local churches to submit an idea or vision that they “imagined” and then worked to make possible. It could be a mission project, a new worship service, a new way of working with youth, something that challenged the congregation in a new way and then the congregation stepped out and worked for and they look back now and are both thankful and amazed that they pulled it off!! You may all know of such stories among your congregations. Well, the Program and Planning Committee knows these “good news” stories are out there and is inviting churches to share them..

There will be a winning church from each region and the pastor and a lay person from the six winners will be given an expense paid trip to General Synod where they will be honored. The link with the details is <http://www.ucc.org/synod/contest.html>.

\*\* **Keeping You e-Posted** – subscribe at: <http://www.ucc.org/news/keeping-you-eposted>

**UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland Ohio 44115, [ucc.org](http://ucc.org)

*God is still speaking,*

## *Webinars from the UCC Insurance Board – Amy Waltz*

<b>Building Trust, Preventing Disaster – Financial Controls for Your Church</b>	Feb 9 11AM Eastern 3PM Eastern	Financial controls are fundamental church stewardship. This program reviews related elements of church by-laws and basic principles of financial control, separation of duties and audit.
Litigation 101 -- You Have Been Sued	Mar 2 11AM Eastern 3PM Eastern	Special Guest, Don Clark, Esq. -- When suit papers arrive you must act. A review of the steps you must take in response, including disposition of suit papers, claim reporting, protection of evidence and the steps that follow in the litigation process.
Abuse Prevention Policy - - Where Do You Stand?	Mar 23 11AM Eastern 3PM Eastern	A review of the need for a well-rounded church statement of policy to prevent exploitation. Covers the essential components of policy – screening, interaction guidelines, monitoring, security, reporting & training.
What Is Your Church Worth?	Apr 13 11AM Eastern 3PM Eastern	Review of the components of building value and insurance considerations. Covers stained glass and other special items, and understanding when a professional appraisal is needed.
Social Media -- Plan, Prepare, Protect	May 18 11AM Eastern 3PM Eastern	Social media is “child’s play” for children, but not for churches. A review of the many consideration around church use of social media, including management controls and oversight, copyright, libel, privacy and security.

Make sure you visit the Insurance Board website often for a list of upcoming webinars  
Here’s a link: [http://www.insuranceboard.org/safety\\_solutions/webinar\\_information.aspx](http://www.insuranceboard.org/safety_solutions/webinar_information.aspx)  
You can also download a copy of the latest issue of [The Steward](#) and read more about Financial Controls for Churches.



PROGRESSIVECHRISTIANITY.ORG

You may have noticed that some changes are being made to The Center for Progressive Christianity- like our new name- [ProgressiveChristianity.org](http://ProgressiveChristianity.org). In the next couple of months we are also going to be improving our website and clarifying our mission. Our name change and logo change better reflects our mission to provide a [global network](#) of progressive Christians as well as offer support and tools to [create local](#) and global communities. We will continue to emphasize the creation of new [resources](#) such as [curriculum](#), [liturgy](#), [articles](#), [books](#), [music](#), [study guides](#), [discussion guides](#), [news](#) and [events](#). We hope you take the chance to [fill out our short survey](#) to help us evolve into ProgressiveChristianity.org so that we can continue to offer you support, information and guidance for your spiritual journey. There will be more about this in our upcoming eBulletins and on our website in the upcoming months.

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## ***Tax Cuts Enable You to Save More for Retirement ~ UCC Pension Board***

As part of the legislation signed by President Obama on December 17, 2010 extending the Bush-era tax rates, Congress has provided a temporary employee payroll tax cut of 2%.

The tax cut reduces the SECA tax rate for the old age, survivors and disability insurance (“OASDI”) portion of the program **from 12.4% to 10.4% for 2011**. Since ministers are required to pay SECA taxes, this reduces the amount of tax they will owe in 2011. The legislation also provides for a reduction **from 6.2% to 4.2%** in FICA taxes paid by non-ministerial employees in 2011.

### ***What can this 2% tax reduction do for you?***

You can plan for a more secure retirement by investing your tax savings in a [Tax-Sheltered Annuity \(TSA\)](#) account with the Annuity Plan.

As a UCC lay or clergy employee, you can participate in a TSA even if your employer is not contributing to the Annuity Plan on your behalf.

You can open a TSA account for as little as \$25 a month. Because TSA contributions are deducted from each paycheck through a Salary Reduction Agreement, no federal income tax is paid on your contributions and earnings until they are withdrawn at the time you annuitize. The Annuity Plan’s [eight investment funds](#) allow you to choose the option that best suits your needs.

There’s no better time to start – or increase your current contributions to – a Tax-Sheltered Annuity. For more information, visit [www.pbucc.org](http://www.pbucc.org) or call **1.800.642.6543, Option 6**.

Use that 2% savings to further help you meet your retirement goals!

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**The Rev. Dr. Walter John Boris – Conference Minister  
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