

On the Way

April 10, 2009

CENTRAL PACIFIC CONFERENCE * UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Extravagant Grace * Generous Hearts * Renewed World*



I drove up The Gorge, east from Portland on I-84. Past Hood River. Past The Dalles. Updrafts carried sentry raptors overhead. The Columbia's white-capped waves pushed upstream, against the river's current. I turned south on Hwy 206, heading for our church in Condon. I made my way up the twists and turns of the Fulton Canyon Road. Against one rocky wall was a drifted pile of tumbleweeds spilling onto the edge of the road. Marking the beginning of the high plain stood a deserted and weathered church building, with a small, orange "no trespassing" sign next to the door opening. The scene was echoed a few miles further up the road. This time, it was an empty house that kept its lonely watch, without the benefit of scraggly trees.

I remembered a passage in James Michener's novel, Centennial. The book traces the story of the plains of northeast Colorado. At one point, Michener introduces the settlers that built their sod huts on the wind-swept prairie. These hardy folks were often separated by miles from their nearest neighbor. Michener describes the howl of the relentless wind that sometimes drove pioneers to insanity.

And yet, it is this same wild wind that is now being tamed for human benefit. Along the ridge is a long line of contemporary prairie flowers – gleaming white towers stretching to the skies, their three pedals turning steadily to produce electricity for hungry homes. A beautiful sight!

Winds of change. Breath of God. Whisper of the Spirit.

It is a stretch to find a precise moral in this story, but it's worth a little reflection as we consider the ways our ministry moves forward. The same wind that wore down the spirits of the pioneers, now is a promising source of clean energy for our high-tech world. We can try to stand against the winds of time, or we can be open to that still speaking voice of God that calls us into the future.

Two weeks ago, more than a dozen folks from our Central Pacific Conference attended the Diana Butler Bass lecture and workshops, offered by Trinity Episcopal Cathedral's *Center for Spiritual Development*. Diana is a church historian and researcher who writes about the practices of vital churches from mainline traditions. These churches are from the same denominations that have been experiencing declining membership and influence over the past three decades

Diana states emphatically that the health of our churches is not simply a matter of adapting to change or trying to preserve the past. The world of our childhood is gone. It's dead. Our culture no longer assumes Christianity. No longer assumes Sunday morning worship. Science, technology, international events, and religious plurality have all brought challenges to our way of understanding our world.

If the culture no longer supports and encourages Christian practices, the people who wander through our doors have made an intentional decision to come. Diana points to intentionality as the theme that describes all the vital congregations she has studied. While the practices of these congregations vary widely, all these churches do what they do because they have made intentional choices about what makes for meaningful worship and mission. They don't carry on empty traditions, "just because." This intentionality manifests itself in two broad categories: theological reflection and hospitality. Diana says that "theological reflection" is not "right doctrine," but a thoughtful integration of head and heart. Congregations are able to talk about what they do, and why they do it. Hospitality is a natural consequence of this intentionality. Alive congregations welcome everyone to come and join in the "what & why" conversation. They don't just welcome people who are like them. They welcome the "stranger," honoring and celebrating the many ways people experience the sacredness of life.

Rather than framing our faith through the closing Great Commission of Matthew 28, Diana urges us to turn to Matthew 22. Instead of the winners and losers of "*Go therefore and make disciples of all nations . . .*" she calls for the interconnectedness of "*Love God. Love neighbor. Love self.*"

So, here we are in the Central Pacific Conference. Visit our churches and you'll find a variety of worship and ministry practices. You'll also find people watching *Living the Question* DVDs and exploring various expressions of Progressive Christianity. – the *8 Points* of the Center for Progressive Christianity and the twelve *Phoenix Affirmations*. You'll find people talking about what they do, and why they do it – churches living with intentionality. If you visit the churches of our conference, you'll find churches committed to welcoming the stranger – those who are at the edges of community, whatever that means in a particular setting.

Are we perfect? Are we the vital church of tomorrow? No – but we are heading the right direction. We are focused on the right priorities – loving God, neighbor, and self. We shape the practices of our churches with intentionality. We are followers of Jesus, and together, we follow Jesus *On the Way*.

Spring Assembly set for May 1st & 2nd in Eugene, OR

The Spring Assembly of the Central Pacific Conference will be held at Eugene First Congregational UCC on May 1-2. The theme is: "*Holy Habits: Faith Practices for Transformation.*" This is an important gathering for our Conference family. I hope you have made your plans to attend.

Covenants Ministry Team offers Boundaries Training Event – April 30th, Eugene, OR

All authorized clergy in the Central Pacific Conference are invited to participate in a Boundaries Training Event, Thursday, April 30th, in Eugene, OR. This workshop is conveniently scheduled the day before our CPC Spring Assembly, May 1st & 2nd, at Eugene First Congregational UCC. The event is scheduled from 10:00 am to 4:30 pm. Registration is \$25.00, which includes lunch.

Our workshop leader is Dr. Karen A. McClintock. Karen holds a Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology and is licensed by the Oregon Board of Licensed Psychologists. She is a graduate of Pacific School of Religion with a Master of Divinity Degree, and the Union Institute and University of Cincinnati where she completed the Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology. Read more about her: www.healthycongregation.com

In April of 2008, the Covenants Ministry Team of the CPC approved a policy of requiring Boundaries Training for all its authorized ministers (ordained, licensed, commissioned, and retired) every four years. This policy was affirmed by the Conference Board of Directors the same weekend. All authorized ministers in the CPC have until the Spring Assembly of 2012 to complete the training requirement. The CPC is committed to offering a training event every other year. We are in conversation with the Disciples of Christ region in Oregon about offering training in alternating years, to provide more opportunities. We'll also talk with ecumenical partners in Idaho to offer additional events. If you are not able to complete training sponsored by the CPC, you can find a training venue and ask the Covenants Ministry Team in advance if the event will qualify.

Many UCC Conferences and sister denominations are now moving to require boundaries training for their authorized ministers. This is motivated both by insurance concerns and by a desire to support the health of both clergy and congregations.

Please send a check for \$25 (to: CPC-UCC) to the Conference office to register.

You are Invited! An Easter Concert Celebration at Highland Christian Center

Highland's Music and Fine Arts Department presents *All Hail the King* on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009 at 6:30 pm. Highland Christian Center is located at 7600 NE Glisan St. in Portland, OR. Special Performers for the concert are *Michelle Lang and Still Water* from Seattle Washington. For more information, call 503-287-9567 or visit online at www.hcclive.com.

Parkrose Community UCC offers a group study experience

“Unwrapping Our Gifts” – Creative Christianity in Our Daily Lives

This study group offers a special affirming opportunity to awaken and enjoy those gifts that make each one of us the special person God has intended. We will explore the Biblical vision that all Christians - not just the ordained are Ministers, gifted and called by God to different kinds of focused Christian action. The course is ecumenical, and the public is invited to attend. .

8 week course with Saturday retreat. Workbook fee: \$5 (scholarship waiver available)

Seven Tuesdays, 6-8pm, April 14-June 2, 2009 * Saturday Retreat, May 16, 2009

childcare provided * transportation arranged if needed

Leaders:

Camie Pugsley, Jean Johnson, Donna Gamble & The Rev. Charles S. Currie, Jr, M.Div, Interim Pastor
The Parkrose Community United Church of Christ: 4715 NE 106 Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97220
For more information, call the church office: 503: 253-5457 **Laity Empowerment Project**

***You're Invited to the 3rd Annual Micronesian Songfest in the Pacific Northwest
Singing Praises: Continuing Tradition ~ Mike Terpstra***

Visualize young men chanting and clapping, the rhythm reverberating through the sanctuary as a dance group enters two by two. Young women echo the sounds as they follow down the center aisle. Slowly the groups merge into a choir formation on the stage. Applause greets them and appreciative murmurs signal approval of one of the performances at the third annual Micronesian Songfest in the Pacific NW.

On April 25, 2009, all are invited to celebrate the musical heritage of Micronesia. One of the traditions of the island churches is a songfest, a celebration that might last for days back home on the many tiny islands. The largest off-island population of Micronesians in the continental U.S. now calls the Pacific Northwest home. The people represent all the islands of Micronesia, from Pingelap to Chuuk to Pohnpei to the Marshall Islands and more. Before the first event in 2007, the traditional singing celebration had not been held on the mainland.

A worship service in several languages officially begins the Songfest. Hymns familiar to Micronesian congregations reverberate through the sanctuary. The closing prayer blesses the feast to follow. Every family brings food for the feast – rice, chicken, banana-tapioca pudding, sashimi and more. The centerpiece for the celebration feast is whole roast pig. It is a time to celebrate and get to know one another.

As soon as everyone has eaten, the crowd files into the sanctuary to begin the Songfest itself. Group after group comes forward in turn and offers traditional singing with enthusiasm and excitement. Both instrumental and a cappella music engage the appreciative audience. Several hours later, the event comes to a close, leaving participants and observers both happily anticipating the next chance to celebrate together.

The event takes place on Saturday, April 25, 2009, at Highland Christian Center at NE 76th and NE Glisan St in Portland. The opening worship begins at 11:30 a.m. followed by the Celebration Feast at 1:00 p.m. The meal is free to Micronesians; donations are requested from non-Island guests. The SongFest itself begins at 2:30 p.m. The facility has ample free parking available.

For information contact: Mike Terpstra, 503-282-0362

Are You Going to Synod? Grand Rapids, MI – June 26th-30th, 2009

The Central Pacific Conference has four delegates elected to General Synod. I know that some of you attend Synod as representatives of National boards, and others attend as visitors. If you are going to be at Synod in Grand Rapids, please let me know so we can include you in our plans.

Opportunity for a Musician at Forest Grove UCC ~ Elena Parker

HELP WANTED: Progressive, inclusive church (that's us at FGUCC) seeks a part-time pianist/organist to vitalize our blended worship, through:

- *leading congregational singing
- * accompanying our choirs
- * providing service music
- * introducing new music that will enhance our spiritual growth working as a part of our music team

Contact the Forest Grove United Church of Christ via email, elena@fgucc.org. No phone calls please. Salary dependent on schedule and experience.

Idaho Association Youth Retreat ~ Truman Parker

The Idaho Association youth retreat will be held on the weekend of Friday, April 24 to Sunday, April 26. The retreat will be run by Truman Parker, Susan Howe, and Ryan Levinger, the youth leader at Boise First. We will look at the power of story and how story shapes our lives. On Saturday afternoon we will go to Zim's Hot Springs. Cost of the weekend is \$55.00. The retreat will be held at Pilgrim Cove in McCall. Oregon youth groups are invited to attend. Please contact Susan Howe (New Plymouth) or Truman Parker (Mountain Home) for more info.

SOAK IT IN! Central Pacific Conference Clergy Retreat – April 20-22

Come to the newly renovated Carson Hot Springs resort in Carson, WA for the CPC Post Easter Retreat for clergy and significant others. Relax in a mineral water claw foot tub bath, then nap snuggled in sheets and blankets as your body purifies. Schedule a massage or two if you wish. Stimulate your mind in conversation with our new Conference Minister Walter John Boris and your colleagues in the conference. Enter into the spiritual practice of embodied states of grace led by Gabrielle Chavez of Christ the Healer UCC. Enjoy healthy communal breakfasts and a dinner buffet; explore area restaurants for Tuesday lunch and dinner; hike nearby trails or stroll Stevenson's riverfront and shops.

Check in Monday, April 20 after 3 pm; Check out Wednesday at 11. Program begins with pre-dinner gathering at 5 pm Monday and ends Wednesday at 11, though you may still visit the spa to enjoy another bath/wrap/massage Wed. afternoon. Free time on Tuesday 11-7.

REGISTRATION FORM ATTACHED

Join the Portland Pride Parade on June 14th ~ Joyce Liljeholm

Dear Friends: Once again, our conference subcommittee will take care of parade and booth registration for the Portland Pride festival, so that all UCC churches can participate as one group.

On June 14, Portland will again celebrate with a Gay Pride Parade through the streets of Portland. In the past – and we hope this year as well – a number of our O & A churches have marched with their church's banner. Also in the past, the people marching have carried placards which identified O & A congregations who were not able to send people to march in the parade. Those of you who are able to bring a contingent to march in the parade should gather at NW Park and Davis.

The Pride Northwest website [www.pridenw.org] states that the parade will step off at 11:15 AM. It will be an individual decision, whether to come line up at 10:45 AM, or come as soon as your worship ends, and join us as close to the start of the parade as you can. (The parade route proceeds along Broadway to SW Taylor. Look for the UCC banner and join us. Portland First Congregational UCC invites you to a brief pre-parade service at 9:30 am. Portland First is located at 1126 SW Park across from the Portland Art Museum.

For those who are not able to join in the parade, we would like to know if you would like us to carry a placard identifying your congregation as an O & A church. Please phone me at 503-232-4556 or e-mail me at jliljeholm@gmail.com

I will check the Pride Northwest website in early June to find out our pride booth location and our parade line-up position. Thank you for your support and commitment to this important witness.

Conversation for Youth Leaders at Spring Assembly ~ Bunny Oliver

To all youth leaders in the churches of the Central Pacific Conference: At the Spring Assembly in May there will be an opportunity to gather with other adult leaders/advisors of youth in the local churches of our conference. The Youth Event Squad adult leaders, who have sponsored and lead conference-wide youth events for the past two years, invite your presence and voices. What do you need in the way of support and assistance? Are the conference-wide youth events something you value and support---or not? What else for youth and/or leaders do you want and need to see happen. Bring yourself and your voices to Spring Assembly and let us work together for future of youth ministry in our churches and in our conference. May God bless you and your ministry!

Bunny Oliver * Liz Paulson * Jeanne Randall-Bodman * Bill Buffam

Civil Rites - Same-Sex Marriage and the 1st Amendment - A Symposium

A Symposium on Marriage Equality presented by the Clark County and Columbia Chapters of Americans United for the Separation of Church and State will present a symposium on marriage equality on Sunday, April 19th, 2:00 pm, at Hoffmann Hall, Portland State University. This event is free and open to the public. Co-sponsors: PSU Women's Studies Department, Basic Rights Oregon, and Love Makes a Family.

Panel

* Steven K. Green, Director – Center for the Study of Religion, Law & Democracy, Willamette University School of Law, Moderator

* Tamara Metz, Professor of Political Science – Reed College

* Beth Allen, Attorney at Law – Allen2 Law, LLC

* Reverend Tara Wilkins, Executive Director – Community of Welcoming Congregations

* Rabbi Daniel Isaak – Congregation Neveh Shalom

* Special Thanks to Bonnie Tinker

Hoffmann Hall is on west edge of the PSU campus. The back of the hall is on 12th Street, right where it ends at the I-405 exit. A map of the campus is at: <http://www.pdx.edu/map.html>

More information and directions: www.keepthemseparate.org

Clergy Clusters

Portland Metro East/West – Thurs., April 16th, 12:00 – 1:30 pm, brown-bag, location TBA.

Gorge Cluster - Thursday, May 7th, 11:30 am at the Cottage Café, 111 East 2nd St, The Dalles

The phone number there is 298-3880.

Face-to-Face Ministry Team Meetings

Conference Board of Directors – Saturday, April 18th, 9:00am-3:00pm, Interchurch Center, Pamplin Room, 0245 SW Bancroft, Portland

Administration Ministry Team – Friday, April 24th, 10:00-11:30am, Interchurch Center, Pamplin Room, 0245 SW Bancroft, Portland

Local Church Ministry Team – Saturday, April 25th, 9:00am-2:00pm, Interchurch Center, Pamplin Room, 0245 SW Bancroft, Portland

Volunteer and Mission Trip Possibilities at Challis Community UCC in the Mountains of Idaho ~ a letter from Sharon Maughan

During these difficult economic times, many people are reorienting their priorities and looking for a way to contribute their time, energy, and skills to make a difference in the world. Consider reaching out to our sisters and brothers at Challis Community UCC. The faithful congregation is a strong witness for the extravagant love and welcome of Jesus. And more, the surrounding countryside is gorgeous. When I visited last September, I hiked through an old mining town, stood beside hot springs, and viewed with wonder a herd of antelope and another resting herd of deer with their ears standing up above the grass like to crowd of Easter bunnies! Sharon Maughan shares a thoughtful letter about ways you could join them in ministry. Give it your prayerful consideration. walter john

- four or five people to be kitchen/clean up help for the church brunch July 19th. Each year our helpers get older and it's a bit more of a strain on them. This is for the ecumenical worship service we host for the Choral Rendezvous (CR). [see their web site at www.choralrendezvous.org]. Helpers could come up that Fri. or Sat. for the evening concert/s and work Sat and early morning Sunday through the brunch [you can pop into the Fellowship hall so you can hear the singing] and then go up to the CR site for the Sunday concert. People could get home in time to clean up and be ready for work the next day. The CR music is wonderful. I anticipate we can house four people among our congregants. Anyone can sign up and sing with CR, but it's hard to sing and help in the kitchen.
- "doing some painting" - in addition to having confirmed lead based paint on all exterior walls, our insurance company suggests we don't use volunteer painters on ladders and that we boost our insurance coverage if we're going to do any big projects. Consequently, we will probably put steel siding on the church incrementally and end the need for constant painting. That task will take us years - the only thing that will speed up the process is money. But that doesn't mean we can't use your helpers. We have interior painting to do. We even have the paint to do it with. At this time we're talking two walls in the winter chapel and three in the kitchen. Again, four to six people on a weekend would be great help!!! I anticipate the shower upstairs will be used by our renter or a student pastor, but painters could camp out at the church or board with congregants, or camp and shower at congregant's homes. It's workable.
- we have been given the vacant eastern lot next door which is now being eyed for use as a community garden. Now *there* is a bigger job. A work day or work week end or work week would be greatly appreciated. The lot hasn't been tilled for 30 plus years. It's been mowed, and leveled occasionally, but still some aggressive native plants have set up housekeeping and it will take muscles and a tractor to get them removed.
- VBS is not what we need, but we do have a multi-generational event with which we could use help. We have just started talking with the Anglican fellowship [eight people on a good day] about a summer community picnic modeled after an outreach program which recently took place at a library. This library urged clients to sign up to take a minority person to lunch. The point being; the parties involved could share and get to know each other as individuals. I think the program was called 'take a Muslim to lunch.' Well, we have only one black person in this end of the county and about 2.5% of the population is Hispanic [between 85 and 100 people]. Our minorities are the usual invisible ones; chronic illness, recently got their pink slip, hidden Alzheimer's disease, bankruptcy. These are real reasons why a person could feel marginalized and would be part of this program, but with our history of racial and hate crimes here, we are discussing how to really 'take a Muslim to lunch.' Any ideas you have about how you'll could help with and participate in this picnic would be greatly appreciated.

- I also need to pick your collective minds about another upcoming event. We are having a soup supper after church on Palm Sunday and inviting the community. Its being done to illustrate to others how much the people of the US consume in comparison to 3rd world populations, AND it is being tied into the community garden which, if done, will bring affordable nutrition to our local poor. We will serve three kinds of soup; 1- super-charged US fare, 2- meatless carbohydrate packed developing country soup, and 3- third world broth. For the last 15 year I've held onto an announcement of another CPC church doing a similar event, but can't find it now. Anyone remember what it was called or have any good ideas? I remember something about buying bowls, but not the details.
- Now, along a similar line, *I* need help. Maybe occasionally, maybe every Sunday, for more than ten years I have preached on Sunday. Am I complaining? No, not at all. It keeps me mentally agile, is the foundation on which my faith grows, and I take it very seriously. But, until last year I had at least one and some times two ordained ministers, one UCC and one dual Episcopal/UCC, who in addition to preaching, were very generous mentors for me, in their way. Recently, they have both moved away.
- My responsibilities are reduced after Pentecost when the season starts for student and guest preachers, and volunteer lay ministers from the congregation.
- But for now, I need an email address attached to a wise UCC soul who is willing and patient and generous. If anyone volunteers, please sign them up immediately. I have some big overarching conversations I'd like to have by way of our getting to know each other and eventually, I'd like to feel enough partnership for me to be able to put my whole hand down on the table. Right now I don't have a minister, I don't have a Sunday worship service, and I don't have a sanctuary and I'm feeling the loss. In turn, we all feel the loss.

Spring Fling Youth join Beavercreek UCC for Palm Sunday worship at Camp Adams

Seventy members of Beavercreek with choir, guitars, and drums, joined forty senior high youth and advisors for a memorable Palm Sunday worship service at Camp Adams. During the sermon time, young people shared their experiences at camp. They responded to the question, "What would your life be like if there was no Camp Adams?" Their answers...

You make friends with everyone. Everyone is really cool!

Without Camp Adams, I wouldn't feel comfortable in church like I do.

To be walking in the midst of all these giant trees is amazing.

Camp Adams is my home away from home.

Summer camp is the highlight of my year.

I love Camp Adams because it is a constant in my life.

When I have troubles with people at school, I know my camp relationships are the ones that last.

Counseling at Camp Adams made me a better leader.

I feel connected to the kids I counseled.

I'm more outgoing than I was before Camp Adams.

I feel more a sense of being myself.

Camp Adams breaks me out of my smaller circle of friends.

Camp Adams is a place to find perspective, to put it all together.

I moved away – but I keep coming back to Camp Adams.

At Camp Adams, I found acceptance and developed close friendships.

Camp Adams is like nowhere else in the world. It's just CAMP ADAMS!!

Camp Adams Welcomes New Interim Camp Director

Jim Doane was asked to step into the Camp Director role for 3-4 months, while the search was underway for a new Director for Camp Adams. That was 3 years ago! The Central Pacific Conference owes a deep debt of gratitude to Jim for his dedication and commitment to Camp Adams during this extended time of transition. An additional thanks goes out to Jean Doane for gracefully sharing Jim with us. Jim is finally able to return to semi-retirement because the Camp Adams Board of Governors has found a new interim to guide Camp Adams for the next 2-3 years. Initially, the intention was to find a permanent Camp Director. We interviewed a number of very promising candidates, but were unsuccessful in finding the right match. Instead, we found a very qualified candidate to help us continue to develop the camp and guide us through the conversations about the future direction of ministry at Camp Adams.

Our new Interim Camp Director at Camp Adams is Ira Williams, Jr. Ira is a UCC minister, with extensive experience in parish ministry, Christian education, and camping ministry. He previously managed UCC camps in Kansas/Oklahoma and Rhode Island. He currently chairs the Outdoor Ministries Association of the UCC. Ira earned his M.Div. at Eden Theological Seminary in Webster Groves, MO and his D.Min. from United Theological Seminary in New Brighton, MN.

Ira, and his wife Carol, arrived at Camp Adams yesterday afternoon. They drove from their home on Lake of the Ozarks, Missouri, through the spring snowstorms of the Great Plains to be with us! Carol and Ira will be join us at Spring Assembly in Eugene. Ira is eager to visit the churches of the Central Pacific Conference as your guest preacher, sharing his passion for the educational ministry of the church. Please extend a warm welcome to Ira and Carol when you have a chance to meet them.

CPC Women's Annual Meeting – Thursday, April 30th, 2009

This year's CPC Women's Annual Meeting will be on April 30 in Eugene, at First Congregational UCC, 1050 East 23rd Street. The \$10 registration fee includes lunch. Please make your reservations by calling the church office at 541-345-8741. The meeting begins with lunch at noon. Mary Maxwell will present the program after lunch and we will also honor the Laywomen then. Mary is a quilter and lover of fabric. She has collected banners and needlework from many countries. Her program topic is *Every Stitch Tells a Story*. A flier for the event is included in this email.

CPC Women's Spring 2009 Cluster Meetings.

Who and What were the Women Christian Mystics?

Hildegard of Bingen * Julian of Norwich * Teresa of Avila * Catherine of Sienna

What do we know about them and how do their writings and music relate to us today? These historical women were ahead of their times in the 12th, 14th, and 16th centuries and some of their words resonate with feminist theology. We'll learn about these special "Foremothers: during our spring gatherings.

Friday, April 24th, 1st Congregational UCC, Corvallis (worship by Lincoln City UCC)

Friday, May 29th, Riverside Community UCC, Hood River (worship by Bethel UCC, White Salmon)

An offering will be received for the Rev. Anne Smith Educational Loan/Grant Fund.

Please make reservations for the cluster of your choice at least 3 days before the meeting. Registration begins at 9:30am with a \$7 fee which includes lunch. Worship begins at 10:00am, followed by the program. Please note: no church in the Portland area was available to host this cluster.

Personal Note . . .

I know that the end of Holy Week isn't the best time for you to be receiving *On the Way*. Many of you are in the midst of multiple worship services, marking the events of this sacred time of the Church. I considered waiting Monday, but my next few weeks are full. Monday I'll head north to join colleagues at Camp N-Sid-Sen, a year-round camp and conference center located on the shores of Lake Coeur d'Alene in northern Idaho. The name comes from a phrase of the Coeur d'Alene native people meaning "Point of Inspiration". N-Sid-Sen is one of the two camps owned and operated by the Pacific Northwest Conference of the United Church of Christ. The event is a gathering of solo Conference Ministers - there are twelve of us now, out of 38 Conferences. We're meeting for mutual support and encouragement. The following week I'll join clergy of the CPC for our annual Clergy Retreat. I'll also meet with the CPC Board of Directors, the Administrative Ministry Team, and the Local Church Ministry Team in face-to-face meetings this month. The first weekend in May, I'll join with many of you at the Spring Assembly in Eugene.

On April 19th, I'll be preaching at Waverly Heights Congregational UCC in Portland. The following week I'll preach at St. John's UCC in Tillamook, OR. After Spring Assembly, I'll stay in Eugene to join the congregation of Eugene First Congregational UCC in worship. On May 17th, I'll be preaching at Bridgeport UCC in Portland. The first Sunday of June, I'll preach at our church in Bend. May 4th-6th I'll be on vacation in Kirkland, preparing our house to go back on the market after a six month rental contract. The end of that week I'll be in Cleveland for a training session with Parish Life and Leadership around the issues of search & call and ministerial authorization.

Yours in Christ, walter john

**The Rev. Dr. Walter John Boris – Conference Minister
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CENTRAL PACIFIC POST EASTER CLERGY RETREAT

Carson Hot Springs Resort

Carson, Washington

April 20th – April 22nd

(Check-in after 3pm on Monday, April 20th. Check-out 11am Wednesday, April 22nd)

REGISTRATION

NAME _____

PHONE# _____ **E-MAIL** _____

NAME _____

PHONE# _____ **E-MAIL** _____

Please Select one of the Following:

_____ **\$220.00**

Includes 2 people sharing
a room with 2 Queen Beds.

_____ **\$200.00**

Includes 1 King Bed
2 people.

_____ **\$160.00**

Includes 1 Bed
1 person.

Prices include: Lodging for 2 nights, Bath/Wrap daily, Catered Vegetarian Dinner on Monday, breakfast Tuesday & Wednesday.

Visit local restaurants for Lunch & Dinner Tuesday.

Registration Deadline April 13, 2009

Please send your completed registration form and payment to the Central Pacific Conference UCC, 0245 SW Bancroft Street, Suite E, Portland, OR 97239.

For further information regarding this resort and directions, you can visit their Website
at:

carsonhotspringresort.com