

ECUMENICAL MINISTRIES *of* OREGON

Media Release

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Community garden and kitchen workshops to inspire and educate faith communities

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's Interfaith Food and Farms Partnership (IFFP) is hosting three workshops this spring and summer in Corvallis and the Portland metro area to equip faith communities to build local food systems and fight hunger. The workshops equip congregations to create or improve community gardens and transform their kitchens into a resource for the community, especially people with low-incomes. The workshops are free, but donations are welcome. Pre-register by calling (503) 221-1054, ext. 201, or sending an e-mail to emo@emoregon.org.

Starting a Community Garden will take place on June 14, from 7 to 9 p.m., at Westside Community Church, 4000 SW Western Blvd., Corvallis. Veteran community garden coordinator, IFFP Westside Garden Coordinator and Master Gardener Sue Domingues will offer practical tips on planning, launching and maintaining successful gardens; making community gardens welcoming to low-income neighbors; working with your institution or congregation and negotiating land use agreements. Those with existing community gardens are encouraged to attend and share their experiences.

On June 17, join "Jammin' for the Hungry" Coordinator Sara Power and Community Kitchen Coordinator Rebecka Weinstein for *From Faith Kitchens to Community Kitchens*, a workshop on radical hospitality in the kitchen: how to welcome low-income neighbors for cooking classes, food preservation and micro-enterprise. The class will be from 9 to 11:30 a.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1165 Northwest Monroe Ave., Corvallis. For more information, call (541) 757-1988, ext. 307, or e-mail rweinsteiger@emoregon.org.

MEMBER DENOMINATIONS

African Methodist Episcopal Church ■ African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church ■ American Baptist Churches ■ Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) ■ Christian Methodist Episcopal Church ■ Church of the Brethren
Community of Christ ■ Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon ■ Episcopal Diocese of Oregon ■ Evangelical Lutheran Church in America ■ Greek Orthodox Church ■ Presbyterian Church (USA)
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) ■ Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland ■ United Church of Christ ■ United Methodist Church ■ Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches

On July 24, from 1 to 3 p.m., *Community Gardens Workshop for Faith Communities* will take place at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1220 NE 68th St., Vancouver, Wash. This workshop will cover how to create financially and environmentally sustainable gardens that serve community needs.

A bulletin insert for these opportunities and others may be downloaded at www.emoregon.org/events.php.

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's (EMO) Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns connects, inspires, informs and empowers people, congregations and religious institutions to work for justice and the care and renewal of the earth. EMO is a statewide association of Christian denominations—including Protestant, Roman Catholic and Orthodox bodies—congregations, ecumenical organizations and interfaith partners working together to improve the lives of Oregonians through community ministry programs, ecumenical and interreligious dialogue, environmental ministry and public policy advocacy.