

Inside...

Bryant receives
social justice
award, p. 2

Congregations &
environmental
stewardship, p. 3

HIV services:
deconstructing
the myth, p. 5

Ballot measure
recommendations,
p. 6

Ecumenical
service award
nominations, p. 7

Audrey Chapman featured at Collins Lectures

The Rev. Dr. Audrey Chapman, 2002 Collins lecturer, is an accomplished scholar and pastor intrigued by the intersection of science and religion—a topic that has long generated controversy and unease in scientific and faith communities alike.

“The questions that stem cell research and genetic engineering raise are fundamentally religious in nature,” states Dr. Chapman.

Currently serving as the director of the Dialogue on Science, Ethics and Religion at the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS), Dr. Chapman finds herself uniquely placed to explore current issues of stem cell research, genetic engineering, health care reform and biotechnology from a religious perspective. In her Collins lecture

“Shaping Our Genetic Futures: Theological and Ethical Implications of Stem Cell Research,” Dr. Chapman will share her insights, concerns and hopes for the contribution faith communities can bring to the scientific exploration of stem cells.

“The questions that stem cell research and genetic engineering raise are fundamentally religious in nature,” states Dr. Chapman. “They involve our understanding of the human role in creation and our obligations to our Creator and each other. Religious questions deserve religious answers. Nevertheless, to be able to frame a religious response first requires an understanding of the science and the ability to apply our religious traditions to the contemporary issues that advances in genetic science bring. Doing so offers a major challenge.”

Dr. Chapman, who earned a Ph.D. from Columbia University in public law and



Collins lecturer The Rev. Dr. Audrey Chapman.

government as well as a M.Div. from New York Theological Seminary, has served as a foundation consultant and seminary professor. An ordained United Church of Christ pastor, she headed the World Issues Office of the United Church Board for World Ministries for almost ten years. Her work there sparked her interest in connecting the religious and

scientific communities, and she joined AAAS in 1991 to work on projects dealing with the ethical, legal and social dimensions of the Human Genome Project. This involvement eventually led to Dr. Chapman playing a major role in the establishment of the AAAS Program of Dialogue on Science, Ethics and Religion.

Continued on page 7

Faith community responds to Oregon's budget crisis

Oregon's state budget is still in doubt after several politically contentious special legislative sessions, a summer of forest fires, corporate scandals and a special election on a tobacco tax and a school funding measure. For advocates of the poor and people with special needs, such as Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO), the safety net of services for basic human needs has been shredded slowly over the past decade and accelerated recently. For example, while the families

that EMO serves through its Northeast Emergency Food Program have dramatically increased to 1,500 households a month, the Legislature cut state programs such as Food Stamp Outreach and Emergency Assistance, despite the advocacy of EMO, the Oregon Catholic Conference and the Oregon Food Bank. By far, the state's Department of Human Services budget has been cut disproportionately, compared to other

departments such as education and public safety. Oregon families are falling further into the cracks with little help in sight. The state is expecting a \$1.3 billion deficit in the next biennium.

In the June special session, the Oregon Legislature passed a series of budget bills that filled the budget shortfall, relying on cuts and several sources of revenue, including reserve funds and one-time

Continued on page 6

Look inside for your EMO Ballot Measure Guide

The guide is included with the Fall issue of the *Voice*.

Additional copies are available for a suggested donation of \$1 per copy.

To order, call
(503) 221-1054,
or you may download
the guide at

[www.emoregon.org/
publicpolicyadvocacy](http://www.emoregon.org/publicpolicyadvocacy).

Wassmuth's legacy will live on

Hate movements in this country lost an admirable foe with the death of Bill Wassmuth on Aug. 27. Bill was a former Catholic priest who served parishes in the Northwest including St. Pius X Catholic Church in Coeur d'Alene, Idaho. While Bill was serving this parish in the '80's, Richard Butler and his Aryan Nations moved to Hayden Lake, located just north of Coeur d'Alene. Butler's presence and his invitation to white supremacists throughout the country to join his Aryan Nations, made Hayden Lake a focal point for the white supremacist movement.

[Bill Wassmuth's] legacy will continue because his public commitment to human rights and dignity is grounded on a foundation that has been built over the millennia and rooted within the witness and teachings of the prophets, Jesus and the myriad of saints and activists throughout the years.

In response, the Kootenai County Task Force on Human Relations stepped up its efforts to make sure their new neighbors knew they were not welcomed. Bill was recruited as the leader of the task force, and through his leadership pressure on Butler and his followers increased. As a result, Aryan Nations operatives detonated a pipe bomb that blew up the back



David Leslie

of Bill's house. This event, combined with Bill's increasing commitment to battling hate movements, led Bill to leave the priesthood and, in 1987, he coordinated the creation of the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment. The Coalition provided the context for him to expand his work regionally, develop a network to connect similarly committed individuals and organizations and train more people in the fight against systemic hate. Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon was an early member of the Coalition. Through our involvement, we were able to learn more about these movements, sharpen our advocacy and training skills and strengthen our resolve to end organized bigotry and hatred in the Northwest.

Today, the landscape is changing. Bill Wassmuth is no longer physically present among us. The Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment has become the Northwest Coalition for Human Dignity. Richard Butler no longer lives in Hayden Lake and his Aryan Nations compound is no more. While these changes may give us pause, they do not mean the struggle against organized hate movements in this country is over.

Groups like Matthew Hale's racist World Church of the Creator is alive and well and actively promoting white racist propaganda. Other political, media, religious

and economic separatist movements are operative in our country, doing all they can to separate and divide people, chipping away at our democratic principles of equality and the worth of each person.

Bill Wassmuth was a friend and a teacher. He had great respect and hopes for the ecumenical community and was readily available to help us in our efforts. Along with many others, I will miss him. And yet, his legacy will continue because his public commitment to human rights and dignity is grounded on a foundation that has been built over the millennia and rooted within the witness and teachings of the prophets, Jesus and the myriad of saints and activists throughout the years. It is a foundation that will never crumble.

Bill Wassmuth was a gift from God. We all have the opportunity to share in this gift by working to build communities where hate is no more, and all people can live free from bigotry and oppression.

AmeriCorps Funding Opportunity

The Oregon Commission for Voluntary Action and Service announces the availability of funding for the operation of a full AmeriCorps program. All agencies interested in applying must register and attend a Technical Assistance Meeting being held across the state during early October. To register, call 1-888-353-4483 or e-mail ocsc@pdx.edu. For more information, visit www.nwrel.org/ecc/ameriCorps.

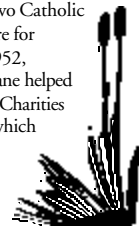
Bryant recipient of the Murnane Social Justice Award

The Rev. Dr. Dan Bryant, senior minister of First Christian Church in Eugene and Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) board member, is the first recipient of the Murnane Social Justice Award.

As part of its 50th Anniversary Celebration on July 18, Catholic Community Services presented the award to Bryant, who exemplifies what it means to work for social justice. Besides his responsibilities as senior minister, Bryant is steadfast in his commitment to the community at large. His most recent endeavors include organizing the Twin Rivers Interfaith Ministry to encourage understanding between different faiths, facilitating monthly meetings to promote healing since the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, serving on the Homeless Prevention Task Force, organizing nonviolent action on the Roe v. Wade anniversary and currently serving as chair on the EMO Farmworker Issues Task Force.

Monsignor Edmund J. Murnane inspires the Murnane Social Justice Award. Monsignor Murnane was pastor at St. Mary's Parish in Eugene from 1950 to 1969.

During that time, he was instrumental in developing five more parishes. He also worked to open two Catholic schools and prepare for another one. In 1952, Monsignor Murnane helped establish Catholic Charities of Lane County, which today is known as Catholic Community Services.



EMO celebrates recent grants and gifts

The board of directors and staff extend their appreciation to the many supporters who have given their time and talents in support of the program ministries of EMO. The following is a list of recent foundation and community support received by EMO.

Program	Award	Donor (Fund)
HIV Services	\$7,000	PGE-Enron Foundation
Hopewell House Hospice Center	\$2,000	O.L. Moore Foundation
Hopewell House Hospice Center	\$5,719	Summerfield Women's Golf Club
Hopewell House Hospice Center	\$5,000	Thomas D. Taylor Foundation
Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns (INEC)	\$6,000	National Religious Partnership for the Environment
Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns (INEC)	\$5,000	Ralph L. Smith Foundation
Portland International Community School (PICS)	\$2,500	Rose Tucker Charitable Trust
Russian Oregon Social Services (ROSS)	\$69,816	Oregon Dept. of Justice, Oregon Domestic & Sexual Violence Services Fund

voice

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

Publisher:
Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

David A. Leslie
executive director

Michelle Bush, graphic designer, editor
Stephanie Howell, editor

Interchurch Center, Suite B,
0245 SW Bancroft Street,
Portland, Oregon 97239

Telephone (503) 221-1054
Fax (503) 223-7007
www.emoregion.org

EMO MEMBER DENOMINATIONS

African Methodist Episcopal Church • African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church
American Baptist Church • 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

Congregations put faith into action for environmental stewardship

Increasingly, Oregon congregations are “walking their talk” about caring for God’s creation in addition to preaching and teaching about it. The following are some examples of what congregations and institutions are doing to manage and construct their facilities in more environmentally-sound ways, that frequently have economic, aesthetic and other benefits.

Oregon Interfaith Power & Light – Making energy efficiency easier

Oregon Interfaith Power and Light (OIPL), a project of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, created a pilot project to help congregations finance energy efficient lighting projects using two new sources of funding, in addition to utility rebates. The pilot project pioneered use of the Business Energy Tax Credit (BETC) program of the Oregon Office of Energy that, starting in fall 2001, was made available to non-profits with a business pass-through partner. This program refunds about 30 percent of the total costs of qualified energy efficiency or renewable projects for non-profits. Another new financing opportunity in the pilot project is a payment for the carbon dioxide savings or “carbon offsets” of projects. The partner for both of these opportunities was Norm Thompson Outfitters, a business with commitments to community betterment and to becoming “Climate Cool” (having no net carbon dioxide emissions) through a certification program with the Climate Neutral Network.

The pilot focused on congregations with both high levels of use and community service. Two of the eleven congregations that participated in the pilot project are Tabor Heights United Methodist Church and Southminster Presbyterian Church. Both participated in the May 2001 Cool Congregations workshop of the Oregon Interfaith Global Warming Campaign. With a combination of utility rebates, the BETC pass through program and carbon offsets, these two congregations were able to reduce their project costs by over 70 percent.

Tabor Heights United Methodist Church: One green thing leads to another

Tabor Heights United Methodist Church in SE Portland opens its doors for services, forums and programs that involve many members of the

community. Last fall, one event they hosted included a community workshop by the City of Portland on water and energy conservation. Community use continues to increase, making energy efficiency more important that ever to reduce overhead costs.

The congregation’s lighting efficiency project not only had economic and environmental benefits but safety benefits as well. New stairwell lights provide better lighting with more contrast to make the steps more visible. Some emergency lights were installed, providing the security of battery backup spotlights. A large portion of their project replaced lights in the annex, providing uniform light throughout the room.

Tabor Heights’ involvement in OIPL’s pilot project stemmed from their decision to begin some renovations of their facility. They incorporated a healthy concern for sustainability and renewable resources in their discussions on this and other projects. Additional renovation projects include replacing carpet with bamboo—a rapidly growing, environmentally sound source of long-lasting hardwood flooring that is more durable than maple. Also under consideration is a “green” elevator. As the elevator descends, it stores energy for the return trip upstairs. Since their first lighting project was such a success, the church is also considering using the BETC program for a second lighting project, and further down the road, a solar electric project to take advantage of excellent solar rooftop exposure.

Southminster Presbyterian: Setting an example

Last year, Southminster Presbyterian in Beaverton established an Energy Task Force as part of its Peace, Health and Justice Committee. The committee was immediately interested in a solar electric project, but the lack of seed capital placed the idea on the back burner. However, it was determined that with assistance from OIPL, the congregation could further improve lighting efficiency in some parts of the building. The OIPL pilot project came along at the right time to help them take advantage of new financing opportunities and undertake the project with minimal budget impact.

Following the lighting retrofit project, which was completed in February 2002, the church advertised the opportunity for members to sign

up for green power through their utility. Southminster’s project was featured in a brochure for the new Electric Stewardship program of the Presbyterian Church, USA. The program has adapted OIPL’s Energy Pledge and mentions it in the pamphlet.



Pastoral letter inspires community caretaking

The Columbia River Pastoral Letter calls for Catholics and all people of good will to develop and implement an integrated spiritual, social and ecological vision for our watershed home—a vision that promotes justice for people and stewardship of creation. The letter includes ten considerations for community caretaking. One important step to give shape to community caretaking at the parish level took place in May 2002, when property managers for the watershed dioceses met in Spokane to discuss sustainable practices that will be adopted for current and future church property.

For more information about the Business Energy Tax Credit, call OIPL at (503) 221-1054, ext. 278. OIPL has prepared fact sheets and a report to help other congregations and non-profits. Also, OIPL is offering a workshop on using the BETC in partnership with the Oregon Office of Energy on Oct. 16 in Portland (see calendar for details).

Sign up for renewable power options now and benefit your congregation

From now until Dec. 31, 2002, when members of your congregation sign-up for clean, renewable power options offered by Pacific Power and Portland General Electric, \$10 can be donated to your congregation or Oregon Interfaith Power and Light (OIPL). This currently applies to the three options offered by each utility. (Only one option was noted in the last issue of the *Voice*). Call OIPL at (503) 221-1054, ext. 278, to get special forms and brochures.

Clean, renewable power is electricity generated in a way that causes little environmental impact, using resources like wind, water, sun and the natural heat of the earth. It helps reduce our dependence on coal and natural gas power plants. Your choice decreases your share of the pollution that causes global warming. OIPL has an outreach kit available to congregations that want to hold a special event on renewable energy or want to integrate education and action on energy and climate change into their programs.

McKibben to speak at luncheon

Environmental author William McKibben will speak on the topic “Global Warming Is a Moral Issue” at a luncheon on Friday, Oct. 18, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Smith Memorial Ballroom, Portland State University. The event is hosted by the Oregon Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns, Oregon Interfaith Global Warming Campaign and others. An interfaith panel will follow. The cost of the luncheon is \$25 per person. Pre-registration for the event is required.

McKibben is the author of *The End of Nature*, which has been translated into 20 languages, as well as six other books. A lay leader and Sunday school superintendent at a rural Methodist church, his work appears regularly in *The New Yorker*, *New York Times*, *The Atlantic*, *Christian Century* and many other national publications. He is the recipient of Guggenheim and Lyndhurst Fellowships.



Environmental author McKibben

To register or for more information, call (503) 221-1054.

Northeast Emergency Food Program

A place where the community meets the needs of its neighbors

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's (EMO) Northeast Emergency Food Program (NEFP) is truly a place where spirit meets action, resulting in quality service to the local community of North/Northeast Portland. The small house on NE Killingsworth currently meets the increasing needs of over 1,500 people each month.

Families and individuals come to NEFP for nourishment—both in body and spirit. Each person leaves with an abundant five day supply of food, including fresh dairy, produce, frozen meat products, bread and a good supply of staples like canned vegetables, chili, tuna fish, soups and personal care items. Each guest at NEFP is treated with dignity and respect.

The service NEFP is able to provide to its neighbors is a testament to the many community volunteers who come in weekly or monthly, enabling the program to open its doors each day. Individual and group volunteers sort donations, greet and assist guests and pack food boxes five days a week.

NEFP is one of 280 local network agencies of the Oregon Food Bank. The Oregon Food Bank recovers food by cultivating relationships with food processors, transport companies, manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers. These donated foods are then made available to NEFP for a nominal distribution fee. The Oregon Food Bank also receives nonperishable food from community-based food drives. In addition,



NEFP clients unpack fresh produce, which is delivered to NEFP on the fourth Tuesday of every month.

the Oregon Food Bank administers USDA surplus commodities allotted specifically to emergency food providers. Approximately 65 percent of the total food NEFP distributes to families-in-need comes to the program via a weekly delivery from the Oregon Food Bank. The remaining 35 percent is direct in-kind support from local churches, individuals and businesses. As the number of families NEFP serves continues to grow, food costs alone have increased to about \$1,000 per month.

Who are our neighbors-in-need?

NEFP has seen the number of guests increase by 40 percent during the past year. Over

one-third of the families served have at least one employed adult. However, the average annual median income of guests is around \$8,000. Most adult guests are working, retired or disabled, and 50 percent of those served by NEFP are children. NEFP's neighbors are frequently underemployed (low-wage, part-time or seasonal employees), facing high housing costs and often attempting to balance employment with childcare costs.

Your support counts

NEFP is dependent on the direct support of the community. Local congregations and individuals provide over 70 percent of the program's total operating budget. This means that without the contributions of individuals and congregations, NEFP would be unable to continue its service to a growing number of vulnerable families. Because of volunteer commitments, donated foods and USDA commodities, NEFP is able to provide an abundant five day supply of nutritious food with a warm spirit for under \$5 per person.

For more information about NEFP, to volunteer or to send a monetary contribution, contact Millyellen Strayer, program manager, at (503) 284-5470 or e-mail nepf@emoregon.org.

Remember EMO in your planned giving

You've provided for your loved ones. By supporting EMO's Endowment Fund, you will provide for others. Your planned gift perpetuates your interest and concern, and it allows the Fund to continue EMO's work of unity and service.

Like a tree planted near running water yielding fruit in due season. Psalm 1:3

The Fund's purpose is to provide a strong financial base for EMO to ensure its ability to address the vital issues and meet the increasing needs of our region. Your planned gift to EMO's Endowment Fund will provide ongoing support for EMO's service, advocacy and education ministries.

We all want to leave something behind by which we will be remembered. Let yours be a gift that will help others for years to come.

For more information, contact Stephanie Howell, at (503) 221-1054 or by e-mail at showell@emoregon.org.



Shared Housing program seeks volunteers and donations

Shared Housing, a program of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, is a matching and referral service that unites those seeking housing with people who have at least one extra room in their home that they want to share. After the matching and referral takes place, it is up to both parties to work out the housing arrangement. The majority of people offering housing ask for monthly rent, which includes utilities. Others may need extra services done in their home such as housekeeping, companionship, personal care, childcare or yard work in exchange for reduced rent or room and board. When the amount of services increases, a stipend or small salary may be offered in addition to room and board. Currently, Shared Housing serves the greater Portland metro area, which includes Multnomah, Washington and Clackamas Counties in Oregon and Clark County in Washington.

In the midst of many changes, including a new office location, the Shared Housing program strives to continue its ministry. During the past year, the program has seen a sharp rise in the number of calls from people seeking affordable housing, receiving from 35 to 40 phone calls per day. Program manager Verlin Byers, observes, "The need for shared housing has increased, and the number of people seeking services seems to be on the rise." Due to the increased demand for shared housing, Byers is seeking volunteers to assist him in the office or to help with presentations and outreach.



The program recently received a \$6,338 grant from the Office of Community Development in Gresham, funded through Housing and Urban Development. Other funders include the Bureau of Housing and Community Development in Portland, the Office of Community Development in Washington County and the City of Beaverton. While Byers is grateful for the funds offered by these supporters, the success of the Shared Housing program also depends on the donations of resources and volunteers.

If you are interested in participating in the Shared Housing program, making a donation or inquiring about volunteer opportunities, please contact Verlin Byers at (503) 225-9924 or housing@emoregon.org. You are also welcome to visit the office at 2906 NE Glisan St., Portland, OR 97232. Office hours are Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Se habla Español.

Deconstructing the myth Need for HIV services continues to grow

For over 13 years, Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's (EMO) HIV Services has provided support for people living with HIV disease. HIV Services consists of two programs, the Daily Bread Express (DBX) and the HIV Day Center. The DBX program delivers nutritious, appealing meals five afternoons per week to the homes of individuals living with HIV/AIDS.

The HIV Day Center is a drop-in center for people living with HIV/AIDS. Clients are provided with hot breakfasts and lunches, Monday through Friday, as well as take home sack meals for later in the day.

In addition, the Day Center provides or facilitates the following primary services:

- *Counseling.* Available every day, on demand, crisis and ongoing; addresses typical mental health issues as well as adherence, stress reduction and problem solving and often addresses substance abuse issues.
- *Psychosocial support.* Offers an opportunity to socialize and interact with people who are in a similar situation; often includes direct support such as rides and moving assistance.
- *Facility.* Provides a safe, warm, dry place to manage medications, which is especially important for homeless clients.
- *Bilingual staff.* English and Spanish language options are available.
- *Nutritional counseling.* Provided by staff that are familiar with HIV issues (also provided to DBX clients).
- *Phones and mailing address.* These are especially critical for the lowest income and homeless clients.

- *Computers/internet.* Computers allow for e-mail communication, web searching for health and employment information and word processing for resumes.
- *Other.* Laundry facilities, haircuts, therapeutic massage.

All of the center's clients are low or very low income, with 20 to 30 percent being homeless. It is very difficult for any individual facing the dual challenges of HIV disease and poverty to maintain their dignity and sense of worth. It is HIV Services' basic mission to provide support for the dignity, health and self-esteem of low income, HIV+ people through the provision of a safe, respectful and supportive community. As the epidemic has changed and grown, so has EMO's HIV Services program to best meet the community's needs.

Over the past two years, the Day Center has experienced a 50 percent increase in the numbers of client visits and meals served. During this same two-year period, the Day Center expanded services by adding computers with high-speed Internet access and a shower.

In 2003, HIV Services expects to provide 38,000 meals, have 6,000 client visits to the Day Center and serve 375 unduplicated clients. They will continue to expand outreach to minority communities and is currently working on providing a special menu for Latino DBX clients

The Day Center is open from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., Monday through Friday, and is located at Ainsworth United Church of Christ, 2941 NE Ainsworth, Portland. For more information about the Day Center or DBX, call (503) 460-3822.



A Day Center client receives a nutritious take-home meal.

Portrait of a Day Center client

Juan (not his real name) is a frequent client at the HIV Day Center. He is an immigrant from Mexico. He left Mexico because there are very few services for people who are HIV+.

Juan moved to the United States knowing that he would have better access to HIV services. Juan has been in Portland for less than a year. While he has been able to find housing through a service agency, he has not found work yet. He says that having access to the Day Center is very important for him, especially since it is hard to eat healthy food while being unemployed. In addition to nutritional services, Juan has utilized bilingual counseling services. Until recently, volunteers were also tutoring him in English.

Juan says of the Day Center, "The staff and volunteers always treat me very well here. I am not discriminated against because of my culture. This is a positive place where everyone is treated like a human being."

Jazz Under the Stars a beautiful success

On Aug. 1, the Hopewell House Hospice Center grounds were once again transformed into an open-air coffeehouse for the tenth annual fundraiser "Jazz Under the Stars."

Approximately 150 concertgoers relaxed on the lawn, sampled gourmet appetizers and desserts and enjoyed specialty coffees as they listened to the dynamic melodies of local jazz virtuoso Dan Balmer and his band.

Inside Hopewell House, guests engaged in spirited bidding on a variety of silent auction items, including catered dinners, gift baskets, weekends at the beach, children's toys and original artwork. Also offered for sale were chocolate truffles handmade by Hopewell's French-trained chef, Mona Ballard.

All monies raised at Jazz Under the Stars benefit EMO's Hopewell House Charity Care Fund, which provides funding for patients who cannot pay for the cost of their care at Hopewell House. This year, \$6,200 was raised for the Charity Care Fund.

"This year's event was a delight in every way," said the Rev. Melinda Smith, director of compassionate care and education at Hopewell House. "We were blessed with blue skies, wonderful music, delicious food and a tangible feeling of love and excitement for the mission of Hopewell House."

As in previous years, the involvement of so many volunteers in planning the event added to the success of the evening. "Volunteers add so much energy and insight to every aspect of Jazz Under the Stars," says Smith. "From planning, to setup, to the silent auction, we benefit from their creativity and commitment."

Sponsors for Jazz Under the Stars 2002 were Burke and Barbie Rice and Bob and Barbara Newell. Barbie Rice and Barbara Newell are also Hopewell House patient care volunteers.

Planning committee members included volunteers Ann Berlureau, Jodi Braun, Janie Graham, Barbie LeBrun, Janece Patrice and Jeff Thorne, with assistance from EMO staff Mona

Ballard, Dave Brown, Stephanie Howell, Melinda Smith and Janet Snedecor.

Already, plans are underway for Jazz Under the Stars 2003. If you would like to be involved next summer or could donate an item to next year's silent auction, please call Janet Snedecor at (503) 244-7890.



Hopewell patient Elaine Trouton (left), with granddaughter Brittney Dick (right) and artist Mary Camman, enjoys the music at Jazz Under the Stars.

In the community: EMO program tour

Every other month, EMO offers an interactive tour to educate the community about EMO ministries and services. The tour is free and offered to anyone who is interested in learning more about the many ways EMO meets the needs of people in our community. The next tour will be:

Monday, Nov. 11
9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

0245 SW Bancroft Ave., Suite B, Portland

Lunch will be served at Hopewell House Hospice Center. To reserve your space, or to schedule a private tour, please contact Mindy Becker at (503) 221-1054.

Summary of EMO's ballot measure recommendations

<i>Measure 14</i>	Removes racial references in Oregon constitution	Vote Yes
<i>Measure 15</i>	Authorizes general obligation bonds for seismic rehabilitation for public education buildings	Vote Yes
<i>Measure 16</i>	Authorizes general obligation bonds for seismic rehabilitation for emergency services buildings	Vote Yes
<i>Measure 17</i>	Reduces age minimum from 21 to 18 years for state legislators	Vote Yes
<i>Measure 18</i>	Allows certain tax districts to establish permanent property tax rates	Vote Yes
<i>Measure 21</i>	Allows vote for "None of the Above" option in judicial elections	Vote No
<i>Measure 22</i>	Requires state appellate judges to be elected by district	Vote No
<i>Measure 23</i>	Creates healthcare finance plan for medically necessary services	Vote Yes
<i>Measure 24</i>	Allows licensed denturists to install partial dentures	Vote Yes
<i>Measure 25</i>	Increases state minimum wage to \$6.90 and adjusts for inflation	Vote Yes
<i>Measure 26</i>	Prohibits payment by number of signatures for initiatives and referendums	Vote Yes
<i>Measure 27</i>	Labels genetically modified foods	No Position

Oregon budget crisis

Continued from page 1

sources. The Legislature also delayed implementation of the voter-approved Measure 88 that increases the federal tax deductibility for state taxes and referred a temporary 60-cent tax on tobacco.

Governor John Kitzhaber, M.D., responded by vetoing two bills that, he said, only prolonged Oregon's fiscal irresponsibility. The governor made an unprecedented address to the state in August, broadcasted on network television. The two vetoed bills—one that would delay school payments and another that would issue bonds backed by the tobacco tax revenue—would not provide a permanent or reliable source of revenue for state services. Kitzhaber affirmed that the state must determine if the current services provided by the state are adequate and desired. If so, the state would need to find stable sources of revenue and not rely on one-time funds or other similar sources. If not, the state should cut these services while recognizing that the cuts to some programs may actually cost more in the long run.

The Legislature overrode one of the governor's vetoes in a fourth special session, calling the governor irresponsible by putting at risk vital state services, especially education. Shortly thereafter in late August, the state revenue forecast projected an additional budget shortfall of \$482 million, bringing the total state revenue shortfall to more than one billion dollars for the year. The Legislature followed with an unprecedented fifth special session, where partisanship and divisiveness continued to dominate.

At a rally during the Legislature's fifth special session in September, both EMO and the Oregon Catholic Conference stood side by side with advocates for human services, state troopers, parents, educators, students and workers, calling for new revenue and taxes to pay for essential state services. EMO lobbied to get a hearing for a compromise budget bill that called for a temporary income tax surcharge and fewer cuts.

At the core of state and local budget woes has been a continuing debate on the proper level of government services and how to pay for them. While there may be significant agreement among legislators over which services are needed, the debate over taxes continues to divide the state of



Public policy director Phillip Wong lending a helping hand at NE Emergency Food Program.

Oregon. All told, the majority of the five special sessions to date have been particularly acrimonious among legislators, the governor, citizens and within political parties.

As the faith community bears witness to the state's ongoing debate in the Legislature, it needs to insert a moral voice and a call for social justice. The faith community of Oregon must enter the debate and help our state leaders and voters grapple with some tough questions. A public discussion of state budget and tax issues, with the inclusion of the impact on our society when programs for the most vulnerable are cut, would benefit our decisions.

Of the 544 registered lobbyists representing 668 entities in the state of Oregon, only three faith-based organizations have registered lobbyists. To address this disparity, EMO is developing a statewide grass-roots advocacy network, so that members of the faith community can have their voices heard at the Legislature and statewide. This network will provide opportunities for individuals and congregations to "practice" their faith through action alerts, mobilizations, lobby days, advocacy workshops, discussion forums and regular public policy updates. EMO plans to build the network during the fall and will continue through the next legislative session.

For more information about the progress of the state budget crisis and EMO's statewide grass-roots advocacy network, please call Phillip Kennedy-Wong at (503) 221-1054.

Join the Interfaith Climate Change Network

Faith-based climate change advocates have a great new tool at their disposal. The Interfaith Climate Change Network is an electronic advocacy network on the issue of climate change that provides members with information and suggestions for actions to take at home and in their congregations and links them with others through public policy advocacy.

The network has a Web site at www.protectingcreation.org that provides these suggestions and has information about pending U.S. legislation and other policy decisions that relate to climate change. The Web site also has sample letters that you can send to your U.S. senators and representatives and other policy makers. Those who join will be contacted by e-mail periodically (not deluged!) and alerted to new developments and opportunities for public policy advocacy. E-mails will contain background information for other activities as well, and some will be focused specifically on Oregon.

To register with the Interfaith Climate Change Network, visit www.protectingcreation.org.

Oregon Collaboration to convene economic justice workshops across the state

Concerned with the growing gap between rich and poor or economic policies that pit us against one another? The Oregon Collaboration is hosting a series of free workshops this fall across the state to promote education and awareness of economic justice. The four-hour workshop uses local facts, sharing of experiences and ideas, storytelling and theater to illustrate who is winning and losing in the Oregon economy. Instructors of the workshops are local volunteers trained by the workshop organizers.

The workshop enables participants to identify immediate steps and how to work across religious and nonreligious communities to promote economic justice. Participants will be able to join a statewide effort to change economic policies in our state and local communities. EMO Public Policy Advocacy will connect participants to key activities, action alerts and with updates in the next legislative session.

The workshops were developed in collaboration with Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, the Oregon Center for Public Policy, Oregon Action, Rural Organizing Project, CAUSA, Voz and Jobs with Justice as a part of a Ford Foundation study grant.

Please see the Calendar of Events page for dates, times and locations. To sign up for a workshop in a community near you, please call Phillip Kennedy-Wong at (503) 221-1054.

Ballot Measure Forums

EMO will be holding 2002 general election ballot measure forums. For dates and locations, please see the *Calendar of Events* page.

Seeking ecumenical service recognition award nominations

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon (EMO) annually recognizes individuals and groups in the community who have demonstrated a commitment to ecumenical service in Oregon. Award presentations for 2002 will be made at the EMO Community Celebration, Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2003. Nomination forms will be accepted until Nov. 15, 2002. The EMO Awards Committee will review nominations in November and notify award recipients and nominators prior to the annual Community Celebration. You may download a copy of the nomination form at www.emoregon.org or call (503) 221-1054.

It is not too early to begin thinking of individuals, congregations, or other interfaith, ecumenical or religious organizations and businesses that deserve to be nominated for the following awards.

Vollum Ecumenical Humanitarian Award
Presented in recognition of how an outstanding commitment to humanitarian responsibility has significantly enhanced ecumenical efforts in the state and quality of life for all. The award is named for the late Howard Vollum and his wife, Jean. *2001 recipient: Maribeth Collins*

Louise Hunderup Religious Education Award
Presented in recognition of outstanding educational leadership to the religious community of Oregon. The award is named for Louise Hunderup, who for over 30 years was the Director of Christian Education for the Greater Portland Council of Churches, one of the predecessor organizations of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. *2001 recipient: Dr. Sr. Cecilia Ranger*

Ecumenical Service Award
Presented in recognition of special achievements in supporting ecumenical community ministries

in Oregon. *2001 recipients: Betty Stephens; Lake Oswego Transitional Shelter Ministry*

The Two Pauls Award
Presented in recognition of outstanding promotion of ecumenical and interfaith dialogue, service and relations. The award was established in 1994 to honor two significant Oregon clergy members, The Rev. Dr. Paul Wright and The Most Rev. Paul Waldschmidt. *2001 recipient: Church Women United Intercultural Fellowship*

Ecumenist of the Year
Presented in recognition of outstanding efforts to promote ecumenism through a commitment to theological education and dialogue, community ministry, and justice advocacy. *2001 recipient: The Rev. Dr. Héctor López*

For more information about the annual awards or Community Celebration, please contact Mindy Becker at (503) 221-1054, ext. 214.

Register now for Collins Lecture events

The Rev. Dr. Audrey R. Chapman will be the featured speaker for the 35th Annual Collins Lecture on Nov. 4, at 7 p.m. Dr. Chapman's topic will be "Shaping Our Genetic Futures: Theological and Ethical Implications of Stem Cell Research." The lecture and other Collins Lecture events will be held at First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson St, in Portland.

The lecture by Dr. Chapman will be the keystone of a day of learning and dialogue. Pastors and others are invited to come to an optional pre-lecture workshop, "Faith Forum on Genetics: Genetics 101," beginning at 4 p.m. This 90-minute workshop will introduce basic concepts and challenges in the

field of genetics and stem-cell research and will be presented by bioethicist Dr. Mark Marengo and associate professor of genetics Dr. Lisa Sardinia, both from Pacific University in Forest Grove. A light dinner will follow at 5:30 p.m.

The goal of the Collins Lecture 2002 is to engage the ecumenical community in beginning a dialogue about current advances, controversies and dilemmas in the quickly progressing field of genetic engineering, from pastoral care, theological and social ethics perspectives. The lecture is designed to appeal to religious professionals, medical professionals, faith community members, faith and health practitioners (for example, parish nurses or School Ministers) and the general public.

Collins Lecture 2002

Registration Options and Pricing

Faith Forum on		
Genetics Workshop	4 p.m.	\$20
Dinner	5:30 p.m.	\$20
Lecture and Panel	7 p.m.	\$10
Package registration for all three events		
Advance registration by Oct. 15		\$40
Student advance registration		\$20
On-site registration after Oct. 15		\$50
Student on-site registration		\$25

To register for any of the Collins Lecture events, go to EMO's Web site at www.emoregon.org. For more information about the Collins Lectures, call Melinda Smith at (503) 244-7890.

Audrey Chapman featured at Collins Lectures *Continued from page 1*

According to Dr. Chapman, "The recent stem cell controversy underscores the importance of finding ways to involve the public in informed discussion and decision making on issues related to scientific developments." Believing that the religious community has an appropriate public role, she thinks it is important to find ways to educate church members and structure their involvement in public discussions.

Dr. Chapman has written widely on the subject of genetics and religion. Her book *Unprecedented Choices: Religious Ethics at the Frontiers of Genetic Science* was published in 1999, and another book, *Designing Our Descendants: Potential and Limitations of Genetic Modifications*, is forthcoming in 2003.

As a result of her research and writing, Dr. Chapman says, "The most pressing and fundamental issue in the controversies relating to genetics is how do we determine limits to appropriate human interventions and the basis on which we do so." She hopes to address this issue in the Collins lecture, drawing on current insights, ethical thinking and genetic research to explore how the religious community might respond.

Book project to celebrate reading and humanity

Books are a wonderful way to connect people with ideas and with each other. In early 2003, Multnomah County Library is debuting an exciting new project—*Everybody Reads*, a community-wide discussion of the novel *A Lesson Before Dying* by the African-American author Ernest J. Gaines.

Speaking to universal issues of finding meaning and integrity in difficult times, *A Lesson Before Dying* is particularly appropriate for discussion within the faith community. How do we stay connected to hope in difficult circumstances? And, how can our religious faith help us comprehend and endure injustice? *A Lesson Before Dying* provides a meaningful context for people of all ages and backgrounds to consider these timeless questions.

After *A Lesson Before Dying* was published in 1993, Gaines was awarded a MacArthur Foundation "genius grant" in recognition of the rare historical resonance of his work. His other books include *The Autobiography of Miss Jane Pittman*, *A Gathering of Old Men* and *Of Love and Dust*.

The library is providing free discussion materials and training to churches and other faith-based organizations interested in hosting book discussions of *A Lesson Before Dying*.



Author Ernest J. Gaines.

Many related events are also being scheduled, including a talk by Ernest J. Gaines at the Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall on Feb. 5, 2003.

For more information, visit the library's Web site at www.mulcolib.org/reads.

Calendar of Events

September 22

International Speaker Series—Arme Mousa: The Arab World and the West; Political, Economic and Cultural Challenges. 7 p.m. (subject to change) at Chiles Center University, Portland. This is the first in a series of four lectures. Arme Mousa is Secretary General of the Arab League and former Egyptian Ambassador to the United Nations. Speakers for future lectures include Ernesto Zedillo, former president of Mexico, on Dec. 11; Senator George Mitchell on Jan. 28; and Archbishop Desmond Tutu on April 9. The cost for the General Admission Series is \$100, the Reserved Series is \$200 and the special rate for students is \$80. You may also purchase the Patron Series for \$525 or the Premier Series for \$375. EMO is a Community Partner with World Affairs Council of Oregon sponsor and will receive rebate bonuses for all series tickets sold. To order tickets, call (503) 552-9888 and mention EMO when ordering your tickets.



September 22

Crop Walk—Fight Hunger in Oregon and Internationally. The walk begins at Hood River Christian Church in Hood River (call number below for time). For more information, call Lynn Magnuson at 1-888-297-2767.

September 29

"All for One" Gospel Festival. Starts at 2:30 p.m. at the Hillsboro Stadium (Hwy. 26 at Cornelius Pass), Portland. The festival will feature the legendary Soulstirrers and the Holmes Brothers, as well as others. Tickets are \$3 to \$10 in advance or \$8 to \$15 on the day of the event. Tickets are available at all Ticketmaster Outlets at (503) 224-4400 or online at ticketmaster.com.

October 4 to 6

Serving God and Mammon: The Impossible Dream. To be held in Portland (call number below for location). This workshop will look at how money permeates our country and our lives. Presented by Journey Into Freedom. To register, call (503) 244-4728 or e-mail mail@journeyintofreedom.org.

October 6 to 11

The Contemporary Contemplative ©—A Retreat in Daily Life. This will be a week-long retreat that begins on Sunday, Oct. 6 from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Interfaith Spiritual Center, 3910 SE 11th Ave., Portland. Spiritual directors will host a home retreat for interested participants who are not currently in spiritual direction. If you would benefit from participating in a week of contemplative prayer, meditation and spiritual direction, this is your opportunity. Recommended donation: \$75 - \$300. To register or for more information, call (503) 233-2026, ext. 6, or visit www.InterfaithSpiritualCenter.com.

October 7

Religion and Medicine: Muslim Insights on Wellness and Healthcare. 7:30 p.m. at Chiles Center, University of Portland, 5000 N. Willamette Blvd. Lecture by Dr. Abdulaziz Sachedina. For more information, call Barbara Segal at (503) 216-1910.

October 13

Crop Walk—Fight Hunger in Oregon and Internationally. Walks will begin at Koinania House at Portland State University in Portland, the North Steps of the State Capitol in Salem and the Lion's Shelter at Avery Park in Corvallis. For times or more information, call Lynn Magnuson at 1-888-297-2767.

October 13

Interfaith Council of Greater Portland (ICGP) Shura Meeting. 3 to 6 p.m. at Bilal Mosque, 4115 SW 160th, Beaverton. The Shura Meeting is the general assembly of the ICGP, held on a quarterly basis. It is open to participation by all interested persons. For more information, please contact any of the following individuals: Rev. Dr. Héctor López at (503) 228-3178, Mr. Wajdi Said at (503) 228-3754 or Rev. Chris Laing at (503) 226-7807.



Economic Justice Workshops

See page 6 for more information about the Economic Justice Workshops. The workshops are four hours long. Times of workshops differ for each location, so please call to confirm time of the workshop in your community. To register or for more information, call Phillip Wong at (503) 221-1054 or Kris Smock at (503) 235-2492.

September 28

State Farm Insurance, 6527 NE Martin Luther King Blvd., Portland - 1 p.m.

September 29

Medford Congregational Church, 1801 E. Jackson, Medford - 2 p.m.

October 5

PCUN, Woodburn (call number above for location)
First Presbyterian Church, 230 NE Ninth St., Bend
Grace Episcopal Church, 1545 Franklin, Astoria

October 12

Mano a Mano, 3545 Portland Rd. NE, Salem
First Christian Church, 1166 Oak St., Eugene

October 19

Programa Hispana, 451 1st St., Gresham - 1 p.m.
Human Rights Alliance of Coos County, Coos Bay (call number above for location)

October 26

Centro Cultural of Washington County, 1110 N. Adair St, Cornelius

November 2

Oregon Rural Action, La Grande (call number above for location)

Ballot Measure Forums

Representatives from EMO will be conducting discussion forums on the ballot measures for the 2002 general election. For more information, call Phillip Wong at (503) 221-1054.

September 25

7 to 9 p.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 216 S. Third St., Cottage Grove.

October 6

11:15 a.m. at First Presbyterian Church, 230 NE 9th, Bend.

October 6

6 p.m. at Pioneer Presbyterian Church, 417 West Washington St., Burns.

October 13

9:45 to 10:30 a.m. at Ladies of St. Bartholomew, Parish Hall, 11265 SW Cabot, Beaverton.

October 23

6:30 p.m. at Sisters of St. Mary of Oregon, 4440 SW 148th, Beaverton.

October 27

10 a.m. at First Christian Church, 1315 SW Broadway, Portland.



October 16

Financing Congregational Energy Projects. 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Tabor Heights United Methodist Church, 6161 SE Stark, Portland. EMO's Oregon Interfaith Power & Light is offering this workshop on using the new Business Energy Tax Credit Pass-Through Program to help fund energy saving projects. Learn how to use a this new program for non-profits, offered by the Oregon Office of Energy, to help your congregation save up to 30 percent of the cost of their energy efficiency or renewable energy project. Cost: \$10, includes lunch and a resource packet. Pre-registration deadline is Oct. 11. To register or for more information, call OIPL at (503) 221-1054, ext. 278.

October 18

Global Warming Is a Moral Issue. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. at Smith Memorial Ballroom, Portland State University. See page 3 for more information. To register, call (503) 221-1054.

October 24

Abraham: A Journey to the Heart of Three Faiths. 7:30 p.m. at the Center for Spiritual Development, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 147 NW 19th Ave., Portland. Award-winning author Bruce Feiler will be speaking on his research for his latest book on Abraham. Cost for the lecture is \$15. Tickets are available at the Center for Spiritual Development or by calling (503) 478-1218 or e-mail emorrison@center-for-spiritual-development.org.

October 25 to 27

Contemplative Writers Workshop. To be held in Portland (call number below for location). This workshop is for writers, and would-be writers, who have a hunger for God, for truth and for getting voice on paper. Presented by Journey Into Freedom. To register or for more information, call (503) 244-4728 or e-mail mail@journeyintofreedom.org.

November 1 to 2

Breaking Open the Sacred Stories of Scripture. Friday, 7 to 9 p.m. and Saturday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at St. David's Episcopal Church, 2800 SE Harrison St., Portland. Will Hornyak, master storyteller, will lead this weekend storytelling workshop. Preachers, teachers, youth, lectors and others who may wish to develop their storytelling skills will gain from this presentation. Cost: \$75, includes lunch on Saturday. Class size is limited to 30 participants and registration is required by Oct. 15. Child care will be provided. For more information or to register, contact Deacon Marla McGarry-Lawrence at (503) 284-7141 or e-mail MarlaML@stmaa.org.

November 4

Collins Lecture: Stem Cell Research with Rev. Dr. Audrey R. Chapman. 7 p.m. at First United Methodist Church, 1838 SW Jefferson, Portland. See page 7 for more information. You may also contact Rev. Melinda Smith at (503) 244-7890 or visit our Web site at www.emoregon.org.

November 6 to 8

Poverty in Oregon: A Call to Action in 2002. To be held at the Convention Center in Seaside. Community Action Directors of Oregon will host this anti-poverty conference. Cost: \$165. To register or for more information, call (503) 316-3951 or e-mail Bonnie@cado-oregon.org.

November 11

EMO Program Tour. 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Interchurch Center, 0245 SW Bancroft, Suite B, Portland. To reserve your space, or to schedule a private tour, please contact Mindy Becker at (503) 221-1054.

November 15 & 16

Lectures: When Religion Becomes Evil / Claiming the Promises of God. Friday from 7:30 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Center for Spiritual Development, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 147 NW 19th Ave., Portland. Dr. Charles Kimball will be the presenter. Lectures are \$10 each. For more information, call (503) 478-1218 or e-mail emorrison@center-for-spiritual-development.org.

November 23

10th Annual "An Evening of Eight-Eight Keys" Concert and Awards. 7 p.m. at Parkrose High School Auditorium, 12003 NE Shaver, Portland. The Eighty-Eight Keys gospel award program is designed to be a life changing experience for young people. For more information, call (503) 285-7234.

December 6 & 7

Lectures: Examining Life's Priorities: Asking Sacred Questions. Friday from 7:30 to 9 p.m. and Saturday from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Center for Spiritual Development, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral, 147 NW 19th Ave., Portland. Richard Groves will present this lecture. He has spent the past 25 years creating unique programs in spiritual studies, pastoral counseling and hospice-related ministries. Lectures are \$10 each. For more information, call (503) 478-1218 or e-mail emorrison@center-for-spiritual-development.org.

To submit calendar items for the Voice, please e-mail mbush@emoregon.org.