

Inside...

EMO annual dinner: A celebration of faith. Page 2.

Event honors the spirit of Father Bertram Griffin. Page 3.

UFMCC joins EMO. Page 7.

Interfaith Advocacy Day, Feb. 1, addresses public policy issues. Back page.

Renovated Patton Home opens with celebration

On Wednesday, December 13, 2000, a historic event took place at the corner of north Blandena and Michigan streets in Portland, where celebrants were on hand to witness the grand opening of the newly renovated Patton Home. Despite impending threats of snow and ice-laden streets, a festive group of supporters cheered as Margaret Carter, president of the Urban League of Portland, cut the red ribbon, symbolizing the official grand opening of Patton Home. Joining Carter were Patton Home residents, past and present board members, and religious, business, and neighborhood leaders.

Dr. LeRoy Haynes Jr., senior pastor of Allen Temple CME Church and co-chair of the Patton Home Capital Campaign Committee, opened the afternoon celebration with an invocation, which was followed by an official salute from the Buffalo Soldiers. Holiday carols flowed through the

Norman & Associates; R&H Construction; Oregon Housing and Community Services; Oregon Corporation for Affordable Housing (OCAH); Concepts in Community Living; and Housing Partners.

"We couldn't have done it without help from our Patton Home Partners. From its inception they have shared their time, talent and financial support towards completing this project," stated the Rev. Renee Ward, communications manager for EMO and coordinator for the grand opening event.

A century of service

Patton Home was built in 1890 with money raised by 29 women, on land donated by a pioneer who herded sheep along the Oregon Trail. It was managed for over a century by the Ladies Union Relief Society of the Methodist Church. Mathew Patton, the original owner of Patton Home, donated the property to the women with a



Margaret Carter prepares to cut the red ribbon at the Patton Home grand opening on Dec. 13. Joining the festivities were residents, board members, and community leaders.

air as the Humboldt Elementary School Children's Choir serenaded guests in the main dining room. Charles Jordan, director of Portland Parks & Recreation and past president of the EMO board of directors, graciously served as master of ceremonies. A reception followed, with food provided by Billy Reed's Restaurant and beverages courtesy of Hopewell House.

On hand to extend congratulatory remarks were members of the redevelopment team, including Graham, Eberle,

stipulation that they use the building to provide food, shelter and friendship to those in need.

Today, through the generosity of foundations, individuals, businesses and the faith-based community, Patton Home continues a tradition of serving people in need. The 110-year-old residential facility offers home-style accommodations for 63 low-income adults with special needs, as well as 14,000 square feet of meeting space for community and nonprofit organizations.

Continued on page 4

Churches work for peace in the Middle East

Current events in the Middle East have been the intense focus of the Christian community throughout the United States. Statements by denominations and ecumenical organizations, prayer vigils, pastoral visits and humanitarian aid are just a few of the ways that the Christian community is responding to renewed violence in Israel and Palestinian territory.

The NCC's Pastoral Letter

On December 9, an ecumenical delegation sponsored by the National Council of Churches of Christ in the U.S.A. (NCC) delivered a Pastoral Letter to the Churches of Christ in Jerusalem and the Holy Land. The letter states, "We have witnessed with deep distress, sorrow and concern the resurgence of violence in the Holy Land. We have heard the witness of our brothers and sisters in Bethlehem, Beit Jala and Beit Sahour, in Ramallah and Gaza, of the destruction that has been wrought . . . we have heard and seen the increase in rage and hate, which destroy the soul as weapons do the body.

"Therefore, the General Assembly of the National Council of Churches of Christ in the USA offers its prayerful support to the churches in Jerusalem and the Holy Land. . . . Recognizing that only justice will bring peace, it affirms the establishment of a Palestinian state alongside Israel, and its call for the preservation of the city of Jerusalem as a open, shared city where free access to the Holy Places and freedom of worship are assured for people of all faiths.

"Our churches have been called upon to support through prayer Christians, Muslims and Jews and all those who are working for true justice and peace, and to convey to U.S. policy makers their concern for peace with justice and reconciliation in the region."

Prayer Vigil for Middle East Peace

The Lutheran Office for Governmental Affairs (LOGA) of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in Washington, D.C., initiated the Prayer Vigil for Middle East Peace to help foster understanding.

Continued on page 3

At the crossroads

The Christmas season is that time when I find myself at the crossroads of reflection on

what has happened during the past year and anticipation of the possibilities for the new year.

Ecumenical happenings of note during this past year include movements toward and challenges to the unity we seek as Christians and citizens of God's world.

Celebrative moments were many. In July the Episcopal Church approved full communion with Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The African Methodist Episcopal Zion Church and the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church announced that the two denominations plan to merge in 2004. Conversations between the United Methodist Church and the historic African American Methodist churches continued, and the walls between the respective denominations seem to be coming down.

Yet amid the celebration were moments of struggle. The release of *Dominus Iesus* by the Vatican Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith created moments of ecumenical consternation throughout the world. While the content of the document was intended for the Catholic community and stated current Catholic teaching about the uniqueness of the Catholic Church and its relationship to other Christian churches and faith communities, *Dominus Iesus* was viewed as a threat to ecumenical relations, especially between the Roman Catholic and Protestant churches. Fortunately, however, respectful conversations between church leaders,

ecumenical worship services and common mission continued to be the order of the day.

Closer to home, a planned joint annual conference of regional bodies of the United Church of Christ and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) in Oregon was postponed because of leadership changes at the regional level and the objection by some Disciples



David Leslie

congregations to the open and affirming position of the UCC. While there are areas of impasse that need prayerful attention, not all is lost. A joint

ecumenism commission of the two regional denominational bodies in Oregon continues to meet, and a joint national meeting of the two denominations

will be held in Kansas City in 2001. Outside of the church there are also divides and relational chasms that call for our attention. Recent conflicts in the Middle East provide vivid images of the need for unity. Fortunately, in the face of the increasing body count, there are Jews, Muslims and Christians who continue to pray and work together in the Middle East, as well as in Oregon, to ensure that hatred and war do not have the last say. This courage and testimony to faith are reasons to celebrate.

As we look to the future, we do so acutely aware of the current social and political divides in this country. While the election season may be over, the

residuals are still with us. In Oregon, as well as throughout the nation, the marks of our division are clear. There seems to be little room for consensus, so how we respond to our immediate challenges, such as funding essential services for children and the elderly, ensuring respect for the civil and human rights of all people and developing just economic systems, will tell us much about our faith, as well as our politics.

My reflections on the past always lead me to think about the future and the sacred stories from Scripture that speak of a new day complete with new possibilities for human relationships. These hopeful images help to temper

the temptation to make life's divisions normative, thereby undervaluing the cause and power of the ecumenical movement.

Motivated by Jesus, who came to witness to God's

call to justice, compassion and unity, Catholics, Protestants and Orthodox Christians continue to seek ways to transcend differences, pray and work together. Motivated by the deep belief that God's world is all-inclusive, many Christians risk life and limb for the holy causes of peace and justice. As my anticipation of the future moves beyond the eve of Christmas and New Year's Day into 2001, I find my hope growing that we do in fact have another opportunity to live our faith in creative ways and that there will be many who will continue the ecumenical task of making known God's care and concern for all of creation to all in God's creation.

You can reach David Leslie at (503) 221-1054 or by e-mail at dleslie@emoregon.org.

EMO's annual dinner to be held Feb. 22

On Thursday, February 22, at 7 p.m., EMO will host its annual awards dinner at Tigard United Methodist Church, located at 9845 SW Walnut Place in Tigard. Tickets are \$25 each, and sponsors may host a table for \$250.

This annual community celebration will feature a short video, highlighting EMO's ministries and their accomplishments during the year 2000, as well as an Ecumenical Service Recognition Awards program, honoring individuals, congregations, interfaith groups, and ecumenical and religious organizations for their time, talent and financial support.

Nominations will be accepted from clergy, churches and laypersons for the following awards: Vollum Ecumenical Humanitarian Award, Ecumenical Service Award, Two Pauls Award, and Ecumenist of the Year Award.

Requests for nomination forms and ticket purchases can be made via EMO's Web site at www.emoregon.org. For more information, contact ShaRee Rhone, EMO executive assistant, at (503) 221-1054.



voice

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon

David A. Leslie
executive director
Interchurch Center, Suite B
0245 SW Bancroft Street
Portland, Oregon 97201

Rev. Renee Ward
editor & public relations

Elise Gautier
contributing editor & graphic designer
(503) 221-1054
www.emoregon.org

EMO 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
Diocese of Oregon—Episcopal Church in Western Oregon
Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon • Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
Greek Orthodox Church • Presbyterian Church USA
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ, Latter Day Saints
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Portland
United Church of Christ • United Methodist Church
Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches
Designated Member: Church Women United

Linfield College selects interim chaplain

Interim Chaplain Katie Pate has returned to Linfield and is wasting no time in developing strategies to expand the spiritual life on campus.

Pate, a 1996 Linfield graduate, was recently appointed to the full-time interim chaplain position, according to Dave Hansen, vice president for student services and dean of students at Linfield.

"At its best, the college experience should promote spiritual development as well as cognitive development," Hansen said. "For that reason Linfield is committed to having a full-time chaplain. We're pleased to have Katie Pate in that role, because she has a genuine excitement about that mission. As an alum we already know her well, and I've been pleased at the

number of faculty and staff who, upon learning that we've employed her, have both thanked and congratulated me on that appointment."

Pate received a bachelor's degree in mass communication and religious studies from Linfield, and a master of divinity from Princeton Theological Seminary. She is currently a candidate for ordination as a minister of the Word and Sacrament in the Presbyterian Church (USA).

"My main roles at Linfield are to provide for the spiritual care of all students and to facilitate opportunities for students to express their faith," Pate said. "I will be a liaison for religious groups on campus and the administration."

Honoring the spirit of Father Bertram Griffin

On February 4 at 4 p.m., family and friends will gather at Portland's Old Church, 1422 SW 11th Ave., to pay tribute to the late Father Bertram Griffin, who died on July 28, 2000.

Griffin, a longtime member and two-term president of EMO's board of directors, will be remembered for his dedication to racial justice, human rights, and interfaith dialogue and for being a brilliant preacher and mentor for many Oregonians involved in community organizing and social action.

The celebration, titled "Honoring the Spirit of Father Griffin," will feature the presentation of Griffin's published narrative, which is based on ten hours of interviews with him conducted by the Legacy of Hope oral history/book project. Several individuals will read excerpts from the narrative, sharing some of Griffin's insights and observations as well as the wit, eloquence and occasional irreverence

that defined his speaking style. The celebration will continue with a musical performance and a reception.

The event is sponsored by the Legacy of Hope project in cooperation with EMO and Marylhurst University. Host committee members include Gordon Dickey, Marilyn Fleming, Bobbie Doré Foster, Susan Kelly, Alice Koehler, David Leslie, Fr. Jack Mosbrucker, Fr. Arthur Schoenfeldt, Fr. Rick Sirianni, and Dr. James Strassmaier.

The Legacy of Hope project is producing a book that will feature stories from visionary Catholics and others working for social justice. Other contributors to the project include the Rev. Rodney Page, former EMO executive director, and Barbara George, former EMO deputy director. The book, intended to inspire people to become involved in community service, will be published in two years.

Admission to the event honoring Griffin is \$35 per

person and includes a copy of his narrative; attendees may purchase additional copies for \$20 each. (The publication may be ordered separately for \$25, including postage.) Tickets may be purchased in advance by sending a check or money order (payable to Legacy of Hope) to Legacy of Hope, Marylhurst University, P.O. Box 262, Marylhurst, OR 97036. For more information, call (503) 282-4787.



Father Bertram Griffin

EMO appoints new interim development director and communications manager

Teri Ruch, longtime supporter and employee of EMO, recently left her position as development director, where she successfully coordinated fundraising projects for EMO's ministry programs. Prior to her position as development director, Ruch served as communications manager and editor of the *Voice*. We join together to wish her the best in her new endeavors.

Ruch's conscientious efforts in coordinating funding projects provided a challenge in finding a suitable replacement. EMO appointed Gordon Dickey as interim development coordinator.

Dickey is well acquainted with EMO's funding projects. Before joining EMO as interim development coordinator, he coordinated the successful Capital Campaign Committee for the Patton

Home redevelopment project. Dickey's consulting services feature grant writing (over \$20 million raised) and establishing planned giving programs (over \$4 million developed). Dickey received a master's degree in social work from Catholic University of America and a doctorate of ministry from San Francisco Theological Seminary.

One of Dickey's favorite quotes is from Mother Teresa of Calcutta: "God does not call us to do great things. We are called to do small things with great love."

EMO recruited the Rev. René Ward, associate minister of Allen Temple CME Church in Portland, to serve as communications manager. Ward brings a creative energy to the EMO management team with her prior professional

experience in mass media communications, special event planning and the entertainment industry.

"After working in the for-profit arena for several years, it is refreshing to have an opportunity to implement all of God's gifts which He has given me . . . to God be the glory," commented Ward.

She received a bachelor of science degree from the University of Oregon, and is currently studying for her master of divinity degree in family ministry and grief counseling. She is married and has three children.

EMO can look forward to benefiting from Dickey's expertise with development and Ward's creative influences in the days ahead. We are pleased to have them join the EMO family.

Churches work for peace in the Middle East

Continued from page 1

dialogue and support "for the Christian communities in Jerusalem, for all those who are suffering in the Holy Land—Palestinians and Israelis, and for peace in the Middle East," according to the LOGA Web site.

Mark Brown, LOGA's assistant director for international affairs and human rights, said that the prayer vigil "was started by LOGA but is spreading throughout the world. While it had its roots in one particular denomination, the prayer vigil has developed into an ecumenical—better yet inter-religious—international movement. The World Council of Churches, Lutheran World Federation, and churches in Canada and Australia are supporting the vigil."

The prayer vigil was also inspired by a letter that the Rev. Munib Younan, bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan (ELCJ), sent to partner ELCA and Lutheran World Federation churches. In his letter, the Rev. Munib called on Christians "to intensively pray for the Christian Churches and their prophetic role for a lasting, comprehensive, just peace and reconciliation in our area."

In the United States, the vigil began on the first Sunday in Advent, December 3. According to the LOGA Web site, the prayer vigil is organized by state, beginning in Alabama and New York, and shifts to "Alaska and North Carolina on December 4, Arizona

and North Dakota on December 5 and so on. The vigil will continue on the same day each month in each state until the violence in the Middle East ends and all can celebrate a just and lasting negotiated resolution to the Palestinian-Israeli conflict." The 8th of the month is the day designated for Oregon.

The organizers hope, said Brown, that the Prayer Vigil for Middle East Peace will be a catalyst for additional prayer vigils and for inter-religious dialogue and study sessions on the Middle East. Information on the Prayer Vigil for Middle East Peace can be found at www.LOGA.org or by calling (202) 783-7507.

Statement by the U.S. Catholic Conference

A statement released by the U.S. Catholic Conference on November 15 titled "Returning to the Path of Peace in the Middle East" quotes a letter from the Latin Patriarch Michel Sabbah to Bishop Joseph Fiorenza, president of the National Conference of Catholic Bishops, describing the violence in the Middle East: "Our people in the Holy Land are living gloomy days during which the dream of peace which seemed very close is now vanishing away. Violence, retaliation, fear, death, unemployment, the end of the peace process summarize our situation today."

The statement on to say, "We are deeply disturbed by efforts of extremists, in the region and abroad, who incite and intensify religious conflict through inflammatory rhetoric, and anti-Semitic, anti-Muslim and anti-Christian acts. The Holy Land must be a symbol of peace, love and unity, not a source of religious hatred and violence.

"With our Holy Father and our brothers and sisters in the Holy Land, we pray for the peace of Jerusalem, and ask Jews, Christians, and Muslims to join us in beseeching God Most High that by his grace "justice and peace may embrace" (Ps. 85) in the sacred land we all love. What people cannot do by themselves, God in his mercy can surely bring to fruition."

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon will dedicate part of its Web page to tracking prayer vigils, humanitarian aid efforts, seminars, worship and other educational events concerning the Middle East. The EMO Web page is located at www.emoregon.org.

"It is important for the religious community of Oregon to contribute to the peace process in the Middle East. Our hope is that through this service, faith communities will be encouraged to support the peace movement in ways that are appropriate to their individual circumstances," stated David Leslie, EMO executive director.

Oregon Interfaith Global Warming Campaign begins

On October 29 and 30, nearly 100 people from over a dozen denominations and faith groups across the Northwest (including Washington and Idaho) launched the Oregon Interfaith Global Warming Campaign by attending a two-day training event at the Silver Falls State Park. The event was designed to educate congregations and communities about global warming issues and urge them to become conscientious stewards of God's planet. Spearheaded by Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, the event encouraged participants to use less energy; support clean, renewable energy efforts; improve public relations with the media and elected officials; and advocate for public policy to slow global warming.

Presentations were made by some of the Northwest's leading experts on global warming and its solutions. Speakers included Dr. Jack Dymond of the College of Oceanic and Atmospheric Sciences at Oregon State University; Portland City Commissioner Erik Sten; Dr. Russell Butkus, chairman of the department of theology at the University of Portland; and Christine Hagerbaumer of the Oregon Environmental Council. In addition, participants were inspired and entertained by Native American storyteller and artist Dayton Edmonds, whose eloquent stories were interwoven with his flute melodies.

During the event, the Oregon Religious Leaders' Statement on Global Warming was issued, emphasizing why global warming is a religious issue and urging actions such as ratifying an international treaty to reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The leaders stated, "We speak not as members of an 'environmental movement,' but as people of faith giving thanks to God for the blessings of creation by working to preserve them for present and future generations."

Oregon is one of 16 states in which a religious organization is conducting an interfaith campaign to engage communities of faith in addressing global warming. The Oregon campaign will hold regional conferences this year in Medford (April 29 at First Congregational United Church of Christ), Portland (May 6), Eugene (October 7 at First United Methodist Church) and other locations. If you would like information on these or other campaign events or would like to purchase campaign resource materials, please contact Jenny Holmes at EMO's Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns, (503) 244-8318 or inec@emoregon.org.



Storyteller Dayton Edmonds plays the flute.

Voice • January 2001
JIM LESTER

Patton Home grand opening

Continued from page 1

Patton Home is a state-licensed residential care facility for elderly and young adults with disabilities. A professional and courteous staff provides 24-hour care and other amenities, including a full-time nurse, three meals a day, housekeeping, and laundry services. A nurse's station is conveniently located near the residents' rooms, where doctors examine their patients and administer medical treatment. Persons or family members interested in applying for residency can call (503) 281-1844.

A work in progress

Additional money is needed to complete the \$6.1 million renovation project, and fundraising efforts continue. The Capital Campaign Committee members and Patton Home Partners hope that the third floor can be completed by August.

"Working with the Capital Campaign Committee members to achieve community fundraising has been encouraging and rewarding. Deserving special merit are co-chairpersons Bonny

Groshong, Ron Means, and Dr. LeRoy Haynes Jr., senior pastor of Allen Temple CME Church," stated Gordon Dickey, EMO interim development director and Patton Home project consultant.

David Leslie, EMO executive director, said at the dedication, "It indeed takes a village to build a home." A partial list of Patton Home Partners includes Meyer Memorial Trust, the Portland Development Commission, State Housing Trust Fund, Oregon Equity Fund IV, Wells Fargo Bank, Washington Mutual Bank, Standard Insurance Company, Fannie Mae, and Union Bank of California.

"After a year and 5.8 million dollars invested into the project, the facility we see today is actually a safer environment and more comfortable than when it was originally built," said Gary Logsdon, Patton Home renovation project coordinator and EMO finance and property manager. He went on to say, "The top floor of the facility needs to be completed. Once the additional funding of \$325,000 has been received, contractors will complete the third floor, where office space has been designated for nonprofit groups."

Renovation highlights already completed include a new roof and upgrades to the foundation and the heating, cooling, plumbing and electrical systems. In addition, a sunroom, beauty salon, computer room, eight new bathrooms and a state-of-the-art kitchen have been added to this historic site. A community garden has been established at the north end of the



An artist's rendering shows the newly remodeled Patton Home. Drawing courtesy of Graham, Eberle, Norman & Associates.

home, and gardening volunteers are coordinated by Jenny Holmes, program manager of EMO's Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns (INEC), and the Humboldt Neighborhood Association Community Garden Project. Portland Nursery has generously donated supplies and plant bulbs.

For more information about how you can become a Patton Home Partner, contact Gary Logsdon or Gordon Dickey at (503) 221-1054. Please visit our Web site at www.emoregon.org to find out more about Patton Home history and residency qualifications.

A United Way of giving

EMO can now benefit from United Way contributions. Although EMO is not a United Way member agency, individuals may designate our organization as a beneficiary by selecting "EMO" in the "donor option" box on the United Way pledge form.

Please consider doing so.

EMO's refugee resettlement program seeks new home

There's no place like home, and EMO's refugee resettlement program (SOAR) is currently seeking a new location to call home. For the past ten years, the program has occupied office space at the Southeast Asian Vicariate, located at 5404 NE Alameda in Portland, but due to renovations taking place at the Vicariate, the program must find a new home very soon.

Program Manager Ann Stephani is looking for a location that has the following features: (1) 2,100 square feet of office space, (2) a ground floor entrance, (3) near bus lines, and (4) adjacent to free parking. If you have information on property sites that might accommodate the program, please call Stephani at (503) 284-3002.

EMO advocates for tax credit revisions

The passage of Measure 88 in November amended Oregon's statutes, by legislative referral, to provide a state income tax break to higher-income Oregonians. Meanwhile, Oregon continues to tax low-income workers at rates higher than most states.

During the legislative session, EMO policy advocates will join with others in Salem to encourage key revisions to two tax credits for lower-income working Oregonians. Established in the 1997 legislative session, these two credits are the Working Family Child Care Credit and the Earned Income Tax Credit. Of the two credits, EMO's highest priority is the Working Family Child Care Credit, because that credit will reach more income-eligible working families in Oregon.

Background

Low-income workers in Oregon today face many challenges, not the least of which are economic disincentives to work that may result from the combined effects of several government subsidies and tax credits as wages rise. When multiple subsidies and tax credits are reduced or ended as earnings increase, the result can be a net decrease in spendable income. Low-income working families with substantial child care costs are especially affected by this phenomenon, because they receive a greater percentage of their spendable income from child care subsidies. However, federal food stamp recipients may also be affected.

The subsidies and tax credits that combine to create these unintended consequences were developed over many years, by different state and federal agencies, for different purposes, using different eligibility criteria. In some cases, working families using these programs today find that most are phased out at approximately the same pay levels, creating a net loss in spendable income. This situation does not apply at all income levels, and was not intended to occur at any income level. It is an anomaly that clearly conflicts with the policy goals of the state and

federal agencies that provide work supports to Oregonians.

As an example, assume that a single parent with two children who is working full time has monthly child care costs of \$433 and earns a raise in hourly wages from \$8 to \$10. On a monthly basis, this family will experience the following: increased earnings of \$346, an increased federal income tax of \$26, a \$73 reduction of its federal Earned Income Tax Credit, a \$256 increase in the family's required child care co-payment (under Oregon's Employment Related Day Care program, or ERDC) and a \$117 decrease in federal food stamps. In this example, the family is earning \$346 more each month, but has \$125 less to spend than it did before the wage raise. Additional hardships would be incurred if the family also lost state health care subsidies and/or housing assistance. Under some circumstances, a family moving up from a wage of \$7.08/hour will not recover its net spendable income until the wage rises above \$12/hour.

The Working Family Child Care Credit

Oregon provides a specific tax credit against child care costs incurred by working families earning less than 250 percent of the federal poverty level who have children under the age of 13 or with disabilities. The credit was designed to refund up to 40 percent of out-of-pocket child care expenses, depending on family size and income, including any co-payments made to ERDC. However, Oregon's working family child care credit is structured so that relatively small gains in income produce a sharp reduction in the benefit. In addition, the credit is useful only to families earning at least \$6/hour and is not maximized until wages reach \$12/hour. Thus, those families who need this credit the most do not benefit from the credit as currently structured. The remedy is to make the Working Family Child Care Credit "refundable."



When a tax credit is "refundable," all eligible families receive either (1) the full credit or (2) partial credit, based on the family's tax liability, plus a payment equal to the difference between the credit received and the full credit. In its recently released *Tax Expenditure Report*, the state notes that Oregon's Working Family Child Care Credit would be more successful if it were refundable.

The Earned Income Tax Credit

Oregon also provides a state personal income tax credit that is calculated as a percentage of the federal Earned Income Tax Credit. Both the state and the federal credits are named "Earned Income Tax Credit" (EITC). Oregon's EITC is set at 5 percent of the federal credit, placing Oregon well below the 10–25 percent that most states with an EITC now offer. EMO encourages Oregon to raise the percentage allowable under the state EITC, and also to make this tax refundable. Again, making this credit refundable would mean that all families receive either (1) the full credit or (2) a partial credit, based on the family's tax liability, plus a payment equal to the difference between the credit received and the full credit.

For more information about EMO's efforts to promote refundability for Oregon's Working Family Child Care Credit and the state Earned Income Tax Credit, call Enid Edwards, EMO's director of public policy advocacy, at (503) 221-1054.

Interfaith Advocacy
Day is February 1.

Please see
back page
for details.



Recent grants support EMO ministries

EMO program managers and staff extend their appreciation to the many supporters who have given their time, treasures and talent in support of EMO ministries. The following is a partial list of financial donations awarded to EMO programs by congregations, area businesses and foundations.

Program	Award	Donor
EMO	\$1,000	The Oregon Community Foundation
EMO	\$5,000	Poznanski Foundation
Hopewell House	\$1,000	Clark Foundation
Hopewell House	\$10,000	A.J. Frank Family Foundation
Hopewell House	\$75,000	M.J. Murdock Charitable Trust
INEC	\$2,500	The William & Flora Hewlett Foundation
INEC	\$20,000	The Bullitt Foundation
NEEMER	\$20,000	Providence St. Vincent Medical Center
Patton Home	\$2,500	Wells Fargo Foundation
Patton Home	\$5,000	Portland Rotary Charitable Trust
Shared Housing	\$3,500	Washington Mutual Foundation
SOAR	\$10,000	Providence St. Vincent Medical Center

Jubilee 2000 Oregon honors the Rev. David Duncombe

On January 9, in observance of the Epiphany, a celebration was held in Portland honoring the Rev. David Duncombe and Congress's vote for \$435 million in international debt relief, authorization for IMF gold sales to fund multilateral debt relief, and prohibition on user fees for education and health care in poor countries.

Duncombe, a retired United Church of Christ minister and lobbyist, participated in highly publicized fasts on Capitol Hill in 1999 and 2000, explaining that "I want to show the face of starvation and poverty to the U.S. Congress and federal agencies." As a result of his visible witness through fasting, the national Jubilee 2000 office established the David Duncombe Fund to enable further education and action in the United States.

The event on January 9, sponsored by Jubilee 2000 Oregon and U.S. Representatives Earl F. Blumenauer and David Wu, also recognized contributions made by the people of Oregon to the international campaign to cancel the debts of impoverished countries.

For information on the campaign and upcoming events, please call the Rev. Charles Lang at (503) 226-7807, ext. 105.

EMO forms Oregon Interfaith Power and Light

On January 21, EMO announced the establishment of Oregon Interfaith Power and Light (OIPL). The announcement took place at First Unitarian Church in Portland as part of the kickoff of the congregation's new action program to slow global warming. The event also celebrated the congregation's purchase of PacifiCorp's wind energy. Portland General Electric provided support for OIPL's launch in the Portland region. The Bullitt Foundation also provided support.

Eight utilities in Oregon offer customers the opportunity to purchase blocks of clean, renewable energy. The purpose of OIPL is to educate congregations and their members about clean, renewable energy and energy conservation and enable congregational action. OIPL, a complement to the Oregon Interfaith Global Warming Campaign, is inspired by the work of Episcopal Power and Light, a national organization focused on global warming that helps congregations become emission-free institutions.

A growing population and economy have increased the Northwest's demand for electricity. Clean, renewable energy is the most environmentally sound source for new generation, but there is strong push to construct inexpensive natural-gas-fired turbines for electricity, which emit greenhouse gases. Since clean, renewable energy currently costs more than electricity from fossil fuels and existing hydroelectric dams, strong consumer demand will be essential in enabling the development of these new sources.

Fossil fuels currently provide 40 percent of Oregon's electricity. To do its share in reducing carbon dioxide emissions to slow global warming, Oregon must invest in aggressive conservation and development of clean, renewable energy sources. Oregon's faith communities have a tremendous opportunity to shape the market for new electrical generation. When congregations and their members purchase clean, renewable energy, demand for it will rise. Thus, OIPL will provide an effective vehicle for congregations to put their values into action to address the overarching threat to God's creation in our time—global warming.

OIPL staff will be available in selected areas of Oregon to provide faith-based education on green energy and energy stewardship, and to help congregations develop action plans and "green teams" to carry out those plans. For more information, contact EMO's Interfaith Network for Earth Concerns at 503-244-8318.

Middle East Peace Quilt: A common thread among many

The Middle East Peace Quilt is not simply a work of art. As one views the beautiful fabrics displaying colorfully interwoven threads, the quilt offers a message of hope. Now on display in the ArtReach Gallery at First Congregational Church in Portland (1126 SW Park Ave.), the quilt brings together many individual visions of peace, and it continues to grow.

The project was conceived by Vancouver, British Columbia, native Sima Elizabeth Shefrin, a fabric artist who fashioned an idea to bring about peace through a "common thread." Organizers of the project hope to stimulate dialogue and educate people about the impact of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict on people on all sides. The touring display, which includes 30 quilts, each 3' by 3', and statements by the contributing artists, will remain at the church through January 28. For viewing hours, please call the church at (503) 972-7727.

The Middle East Peace Quilt's appearance in Portland was coordinated by Building Bridges for Peace in the Middle East, a local grassroots group



Squares in the Middle East Peace Quilt

formed in 1999 to develop connections and understanding among Palestinians, other Arabs, Jews and Israelis in the community. For information on the quilt's tour schedule or related special events, please call Building Bridges at (503) 972-7727.

Gustav Niebuhr delivers Collins Lectures

The ever-popular Collins Lectures were held on December 3 and 4, featuring Gustav Niebuhr, an award-winning religion writer for *The New York Times*. The two-day event provided an opportunity for local journalists and members of the faith community to hear Niebuhr's opinions on



Gustav Niebuhr

many issues concerning religion and to talk with him about his 14-year span as a journalist writing articles on religion. On December 3, Niebuhr gave a lecture at Westminster Presbyterian Church in Portland titled "Pluralism and the Future of Religion in America." Niebuhr said that the main religious identity of the United States has always been Christian, but that today there are a larger number of visible religious minority groups in this country than there were 30 years ago. One of the questions that society should be concerned with, he

said, is what kind of role these religious minorities will play in society. Niebuhr attributed the growing number of religious groups and religious practices to rights guaranteed in the Constitution.

On December 4, Niebuhr discussed at a morning workshop his experiences as a journalist covering religious topics, and he offered additional observations at the concluding event, a luncheon. Both events were held at First United Methodist Church in Portland. At the luncheon, Niebuhr led a panel discussion on the topic "Portrayal of Religion in the Media," which also featured journalists who report on religion in Oregon. Panelists included Bobbie Doré Foster, executive editor of *The Scammer*; Osker Spicer, writer for *The Oregonian*; and Ed Langlois, writer and assistant editor for the *Catholic Sentinel*.

The Collins Lectures continue to present outstanding theologians, historians, humanitarians and scholars who address issues related to religion and society. Previous guest lecturers have included Nobel Peace Prize laureate Adolfo Pérez Esquivel, religious scholar Dr. Huston Smith, and the Rev. Dr. Cecil Williams, pastor of Glide Memorial Church in San Francisco.

EMO and the Collins Foundation sponsor the Collins Lectures, providing a venue for great dialogue and study among participants. For more information on the Collins Lectures, please visit EMO's Web site at www.emoregon.org.

Join the Walk for Farmworker Justice in June

On June 18 to 24, 2001, the Walk for Farmworker Justice (WFJ) coalition hopes to bring national attention to the injustices and struggles faced by Oregon farmworkers and their right to bargain collectively. The National Walk for Farmworker Justice will offer an opportunity for farmworkers and their supporters to convene in the Willamette Valley and show their solidarity.

The march's organizers and participants want to raise public awareness and increase the pressure on NORPAC to meet with the farmworkers at the negotiation table. NORPAC is one of the largest grower-owned processing cooperatives of frozen fruits and vegetables.

Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste

(PCUN), Oregon's farmworker union, has actively supported the workers' collective efforts to negotiate with growers for fair resolutions to significant problems. Despite repeated attempts by PCUN and religious and community organizations to create dialogue between the two parties, NORPAC has systematically refused to participate in any negotiations. Workers who attempt to claim their basic rights are met with discrimination, termination, eviction from grower-owned housing, mechanization of harvests, proposals for anti-farmworker and anti-immigrant legislation, and threats of physical violence.

Throughout this weeklong event, people can show their support by participating in these activities:

- Visiting fields where farmworkers labor

- Sharing meals and evening programs with farmworker communities
- Attending workshops with nationally renowned theologians and social justice leaders
- Listening to inspiring speeches by well-known religious, labor, and political leaders
- Participating in rallies and an interfaith service at the state Capitol in Salem
- Helping to build broad-based support groups for farmworkers in Oregon

For registration information or to obtain a list of endorsers, please contact the Walk for Farmworker Justice coalition at (541) 607-8097, by e-mail at wfjustice@mail.com, or by U.S. mail at WFJ coalition, P.O. Box 10272, Eugene, OR 97440.

The Dalai Lama to visit Portland during Pathways to Peace festival

The Northwest Tibetan Cultural Association (NWTCA) will present a communitywide festival called "Pathways to Peace" on May 13 to 15 in Portland. The keynote speaker at the festival will be the Dalai Lama, spiritual advisor and political leader of the Tibetan people, who will speak about the power of compassion and nonviolence.



The NWTCA, in association with a steering committee of other organizations, including EMO, laid the foundation for this three-day event.

Events scheduled during the Dalai Lama's visit include the following:

- A celebration of the Dalai Lama's arrival in Portland at Pioneer Courthouse Square on Sunday, May 13.
- The Amala Peace Walk, a one-mile walk for peace that ends at Portland's Pioneer Courthouse Square in time to welcome the Dalai Lama on May 13.
- A two-day seminar titled "Generating a Good Heart and Awakening the Mind" at the Earle A. and Virginia H. Chiles Center, University of Portland, on Monday and Tuesday, May 14 and 15.

- A youth summit on nonviolence for selected Oregon and southwest Washington high school students at Portland's Memorial Coliseum on Monday, May 14.
- A luncheon at the Hilton Hotel in downtown Portland to benefit the NWTCA on Tuesday, May 15.

"We are trying to unite people with great wisdom about peace together with our local peace leaders in Oregon and our national leaders to identify a new vision, one that focuses on the 'spiritual search for peace' in today's world," stated Gary Alan Spanovich, executive director of the NWTCA.

The NWTCA was established in 1994 to support cultural activities for Tibetans who make their home in Oregon and southwest Washington. The NWTCA hopes that the Dalai Lama and Pathways to Peace festival will help the association in its plans to build a permanent Tibetan Studies and World Peace Center in Portland. The center will be the first of its kind in North America and will help preserve Tibetan culture and foster the study of peace and understanding.

For more information, please contact the NWTCA at (503) 222-7172 or by e-mail at info@nwttca.org, or visit its Web site, www.nwttca.org.

Nobel Peace Prize laureates to appear at World Peace Conference

This May, Portland residents will have an opportunity to experience the teachings of the Dalai Lama during his Portland visit at the Pathways to Peace festival. (See story at left.)

A number of statewide events are scheduled to occur in conjunction with the festival, including a World Peace Conference on May 15, which will take place from noon to 5:00 p.m. at the Smith Memorial Center Ballroom at Portland State University. Organizers and participants will discuss world peace and how it can be achieved in our lifetime.

"We have traditionally looked at the problem of world peace in secular terms. This conference looks at it from a spiritual dimension," explained Gary Alan Spanovich, executive director for Wholistic Planning Resources.

Nobel Peace Prize laureates Betty Williams and Adolfo Pérez Esquivel are scheduled to speak at the peace conference. Other speakers and participants will include Dr. Helen Caldicott; Dr. Robert K. Musil; Dr. Robert Schulz; Sr. Nirmala, successor to Mother Theresa; and the Children's Choir for Peace. Mark O. Hatfield, former Oregon governor and U.S. senator, and the Rev. Mary Manin Morissey of the Living Enrichment Center will serve as moderators.

A steering committee representing clergy, business and interfaith ministries was responsible for planning the event. The committee included Gary A. Spanovich; David Leslie, EMO executive director; business owner Bob Murase, Murase & Associates; the Rev. Stephen Schneider, pastor of Grace Memorial Episcopal Church; Rabbi Joshua Stampfer of Congregation Neveh Shalom; and the Rt. Rev. Abbot Joseph Wood, OSB of Mt. Angel Monastery.

For ticket information, call (503) 725-4195. If you would like to join in the efforts toward building this dream of world peace, please call (503) 266-8996.

UFMCC joins EMO

On September 27, the EMO board of directors voted to extend membership in EMO to the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). The UFMCC, a Christian denomination, was established in 1968 by the Rev. Troy D. Perry in Los Angeles and has expanded into nine districts throughout the United States, as well as three international districts (including Eastern Canada, Australia and Europe).

The Rev. Roy Cole, pastor of the Portland-based Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) stated, "The Metropolitan Community Church of Portland is honored to join Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon. I

know that the partnership we create is strengthened by our common goals of justice, inclusion and equality. Recognizing the great contribution EMO has made in the lives of Oregonians, MCC is ready to join our resources with those of our sisters and brothers who have worked tirelessly for so many years to the benefit of us all."

Lori Brocker, president of the EMO board of directors, said on the occasion, "The addition of the Metropolitan Community Church and the Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's fellowship is a gift to our collective Christian witness in Oregon. The MCC has a strong commitment to ecumenism and ministering to needs of all people. We welcome their membership in EMO."

"Seeing the Bible Again" theme of lecture series

On February 2 and 3, Dr. Marcus Borg, an internationally known Biblical historian and author, will present a series of lectures based on his recently published book, entitled *Seeing the Bible Again*, at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland.

Borg, a professor at Oregon State University, is considered by his peers to be one of today's leading theologians. His latest book, *Seeing the Bible Again*, will make its publication debut at this event and will be available for purchase.

The two-day event, sponsored by the Center for Spiritual Development, located at Trinity Episcopal Cathedral in Portland, will provide an opportunity for "conversation between Scripture, tradition, reason and experience."

"Borg is one of the New Testament scholars of our age whose learning is so lucid that it takes the Bible

back from the specialists and makes it in all its complexity and splendor available to the thoughtful reader," commented Peter J. Gomes, author of *The Good Book*.

Borg's lecture schedule is as follows:

"Seeing the Bible Again: What's at Stake?"

Friday, February 2, 7:30 p.m.

Admission is \$10 each, but is free for students.

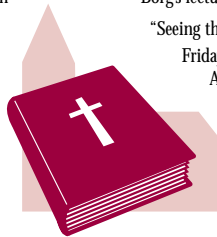
"Seeing the Bible Again: Applications"

Saturday, February 3, 9:00 a.m.

to 3:00 p.m. Three talks will each be followed by a time for

discussion. Lunch is included in the \$45 per person admission price.

For more information or to purchase tickets, please call the Center for Spiritual Development at (503) 478-1218 or visit its Web site at www.center-for-spiritual-development.org.



Lecture series presents Dr. John Dominic Crossan

"The Historical Jesus and Contemporary Christian Faith" will be the main theme of a lecture series presented by First Christian Church in Eugene on February 23 and 24. Dr. John Dominic Crossan, a world-famous historian and best-selling author, will be the featured speaker.

Crossan will introduce the topic in a lecture on Feb. 23 from 7:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. He will conduct a seminar on Feb. 24 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on the sources, methods and results of historical Jesus research. On Feb. 25, a church group discussion on the historical Jesus is scheduled for 10 a.m., and Crossan will deliver a sermon at an ecumenical worship service at 11 a.m. The sermon is entitled "Psalm 82: The God of the Historical Jesus—Divine Justice on Earth."

These events will take place at Eugene First United Methodist Church, 1376 Olive St., in Eugene. For more information or to purchase tickets to the lectures, please call the church at (541) 345-8764.

Calendar of Events

January 23

The Six Thinking Hats 6:30 to 9 p.m., Building Bridges, 1950 SW Sixth Ave., Room 121, Portland. Oregon Peace Institute (OPI) presents a workshop with Stephen Kaplan of Creativity Associates. For more information, contact OPI at (503) 725-8191 or friends@orpeace.org.

January 24

IAM Cares Annual Recognition Luncheon. 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., OAME Cascade Plaza, 4134 N Vancouver Ave., Portland. Key Note Speaker Jim Francesconi, Commissioner of Public Utilities. For more information or to RSVP, call (503) 335-6161.

January 24

Creature as Consumer. Creature as Citizen. 7:30 p.m., Buckley Center Auditorium, University of Portland, 5000 N Willamette Blvd. A free talk with theologian and author Walter Bruggemann concerning what God has given us and what we are each doing with it. For more information, contact Carol Dempsey at (503) 943-7366 or dempsey@up.edu.

January 24

N Interstate Avenue Station Public Meeting. 6 to 9 p.m., Oakley Green Middle School, 6031 N Montana, Portland. City of Portland Office of Transportation invites the community to identify possibilities for the area surrounding the five planned Interstate MAX stations. For updated materials, child care or more information, contact Art Pearce at (503) 823-7791 or art@trans.ci.portland.or.us.

January 27

Eastern Washington Ecumenical Legislative Action Event. 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., First Presbyterian Church, 318 S Cedar, Spokane, Wash. Learn how to write letters to legislators on issues critical to the 2001 session, during which the two-year budget will be established. Sponsored by the Spokane Council for Ecumenical Ministries.

January 27

Art and the Inner Journey. 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., The Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St. NE, Lacey, Wash. A supportive class for personal growth and healing, working with guided imagery, music, and mandalas. For more information, call (360) 438-2595 or e-mail spiritualityctr@stplacid.org.

January 30

Understanding Hospice. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Hopewell House Hospice Center, 6171 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. The first in the Caring for the Terminally Ill series, this course will introduce hospice philosophy, give historical perspectives on death and dying, and cover the rights and choices of the dying person. For further information, contact the Rev. Melinda Smith at (503) 244-7890 or e-mail hopewell@emoregon.org.

February 2 to 4

Money: An Integral Part of the Spiritual Journey. Journey into Freedom will sponsor a workshop to explore our personal relationship with money alongside the values of our culture and the teachings of Jesus. To register or for more information, please call Dale Stitt or Esther Armstrong at Journey into Freedom at (503) 244-4728 or e-mail journey@teleport.com.

February 2 to 3

Seeing the Bible Again, with Dr. Marcus J. Borg. Lectures and workshops on understanding how the Bible relates to modernity, with a comparison of perspectives from the ancient and contemporary Christian perspectives. For more information or to register, contact Trinity Episcopal Cathedral at (503) 478-1218.

February 3

Third Annual Peace Feast. 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., Smith Ballroom, Portland State University. The Oregon Peace Institute and Sokagakki International present a day dedicated to peace and nonviolent conflict resolution. For further information, contact OPI at (503) 725-8192 or e-mail awinter@nutech.com.

February 6

Care for the Dying: A Nursing Perspective for the Caregiver. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Hopewell House Hospice Center, 6171 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. The second in the Caring for the Terminally Ill series, this course touches on pain and symptom treatment and practical comfort care for the dying person. For further information, contact the Rev. Melinda Smith at (503) 244-7890 or e-mail hopewell@emoregon.org.

February 8 to March 8

American Jesus Christ. 7:30 p.m. nightly, IFCC, 5340 Interstate Ave., Portland. Passin' Art presents a play in celebration of Black History Month. For more information, call (503) 823-4322.

February 9 to 11

Healing Retreat with Massage, Healing Touch and Intercessory Prayer. The Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St. NE, Lacey, Wash. Letting body, mind and spirit come together in a healing space will be the focus of this weekend retreat. For more information, call (360) 438-2595 or e-mail spiritualityctr@stplacid.org.

February 11

Importance of Dialogue: In Search of Jewish-Christian Understanding. 3 p.m., Agnes Flannigan Chapel at Lewis and Clark College, 0615 SW Palantine, Portland. A forum with Bishop John Shelby Spong and Rabbi Joshua Stempfer, co-sponsored by St. Luke Lutheran Church, Lewis and Clark College, and EMO. For more information, contact Michael Ford at (503) 768-7216.

February 11 to 13

Eliminating Bias Crimes. Healing Our Communities. Eugene Hilton. The Oregon Hate Crimes Conference is presented by the city of Eugene, the Coalition Against Hate Crimes, the Department of Public Safety, Youth for Justice, and the Standards Training Office of the United States Attorney. The conference will include programs for law enforcement, nationally recognized speakers, networking, workshops, special programs for educators, a youth conference and more. For more information, call (541) 682-5177.

February 13

Getting through the Day: Practical Skills for Caregiving. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Hopewell House Hospice Center, 6171 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. The third in the Caring for the Terminally Ill series, this course covers safely moving infirm individuals, giving baths, infection control, and more. For further information, contact the Rev. Melinda Smith at (503) 244-7890 or e-mail hopewell@emoregon.org.

February 20

Living with Dying. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Hopewell House Hospice Center, 6171 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. The fourth in the Caring for the Terminally Ill series, this course will touch on understanding and coping with the psychological and emotional experience of illness and loss, grief, and ritual for mourning. For further information, contact the Rev. Melinda Smith at (503) 244-7890 or e-mail hopewell@emoregon.org.

February 27

Communication: Talking, Listening, and Being Present. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Hopewell House Hospice Center, 6171 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. The fifth in the Caring for the Terminally Ill series, this course focuses on understanding the special communication needs of the dying person, and how to respond to someone who is confused, disoriented, or verbally limited. For further information, contact the Rev. Melinda Smith at (503) 244-7890 or e-mail hopewell@emoregon.org.

March 6

Finding Meaning and Sustenance While Caring for the Dying. 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Hopewell House Hospice Center, 6171 SW Capitol Hwy., Portland. The sixth and last in the Caring for the Terminally Ill series, this course addresses self care for caregivers, facing the challenges of terminal illness and loss, and spiritual care perspectives on caregiving. For further information,

contact the Rev. Melinda Smith at (503) 244-7890 or e-mail hopewell@emoregon.org.

March 9 to 11

Sacred Trust Betrayed: Retreat for Women Survivors of Clergy Sexual Abuse. The Priory Spirituality Center, 500 College St. NE, Lacey, Wash. This women-only event will focus on the suffering carried by those who have been betrayed by one who represents a trusted institution or God. Healing will be sought through personal reflection, group discussion and consideration of the future in a supportive environment. For more information, call (360) 438-2595 or e-mail spiritualityctr@stplacid.org.

March 12

Wesley's Wisdom for Christian Living. George Fox University, Portland Center Campus, 12753 SW 68th Ave., Portland. Randy L. Maddox of Seattle Pacific University will give three talks titled "Visiting the Poor," "Holistic Healing as Christian Ministry," and "The Divine Conspiracy." Part of the George Fox Evangelical Seminary's Clapp-Wesche Theological Lecture Series. For more information, contact the GFU Church Relations Office at (503) 554-2122.

March 14 to 25

Trips of Perspective. Travel to Haiti to be taught by those who possess little of the world's resources, to gain perspective and have our lives changed. To register or for more information, please call Dale Stitt or Esther Armstrong at Journey into Freedom at (503) 244-4728 or e-mail journey@teleport.com.

March 30 to 31

The Wound of Religion and Jesus: Prophet of Resistance and Transformation, with the Most Rev. Richard F. Holloway. The Carl H. Gross Memorial Lecture/Workshop will cover human experiences of religion, the way of Jesus, and concerns of a Godless Morality. To register or for more information, contact Trinity Episcopal Cathedral at (503) 478-1218.

Interfaith Advocacy Day is February 1 in Salem

Please join your fellow faith-based advocates from around the state for the second annual Interfaith Advocacy Day in Salem. On February 1, we will gather in Salem at First United Methodist Church, 680 State St., in the MICAH building.

The day will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. and conclude with a plenary at 3:30 p.m. After a brief interfaith service in the morning, participants will attend advocacy training and issue briefings on three common areas of concern: securing support for seniors, protecting income supports to ease the transition from welfare to work, and securing adequate funding for affordable housing. All participants will be encouraged to visit with their state legislators in the afternoon.

To register for Interfaith Advocacy Day, please call EMO at (503) 221-1054.

For more information, call Enid Edwards, director of public policy advocacy at EMO, or refer to the EMO Web site at www.emoregon.org.

