

IUCC Members Well Represented at Vigil

What a joy it was to spot so many IUCC members (including our own Rev. Paul) wearing red at the March 26 “Light the Way to Justice: Orange County” event at the Federal Courthouse in Santa Ana. Over 300 people came together in a peaceful vigil for hope, unity, and support of marriage equality!

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David Karsten, Rev. Sarah Halverson, Michael Spindle



Bob McClean & Steve King



Pastor Paul Tellstrom



Tricia Aynes (R) with daughter Alia

Other supportive IUCC folks spotted in the crowd (but not pictured) include Larry Gates, Jeff Oleson, and Jen, Matt, & Katie Mirmak. We’ve probably missed a few, but you get the general idea!



Felicity Figueroa & Michael Spindle



Dean Inada & Felicity Figueroa

Senior Pastor's Column

Rev. Dr. Paul Tellstrom



Easter was spectacular—IUCC broke the “500” number for attendance at both services, and the “feeding of the 500” took place between services with enough food of every variety for all. I don’t know how our volunteers did it, but it was a great day on every level.

In the midst of the beautiful music with brass and flute, we welcomed in five new members. Read further on in this issue, and you will learn about our

new members and their families.

The great “collapsing sound” on Easter afternoon came from pastors everywhere who, having gotten through Holy Week, fell into their easy chairs and made plans to take some time off. Carl and I are spending a long weekend at the cabin in Big Bear with the usual pile of magazines, books and other catch-up reading. Carl is reading Caroline Alexander’s wonderful book, *The Bounty*, which captures the true facts behind his favorite story, “The Mutiny on the Bounty.”

I am reading Jonathan Kirsch’s book, *Moses*, which I just picked up as a result of “The Trial of Moses” at University Synagogue this past month, where I acted as a panelist. The trial of biblical figures is an inspired idea, and this year was no exception.

Moses looked both ways to make sure no one saw him before he killed an Egyptian, and then dragged the body into a shallow grave of sand. Only the inimitable Erwin Chemerinsky could get Moses declared “innocent” on all charges.

April: There is something going on every Sunday—don’t miss a week. On the 7th, Ken Wyant will be handling the Comma Group topic, “Sacraments.” George Johnson will be co-celebrant with Ken for Communion at 2nd service.

On the 14th, there will be a Global Mission Faire, and 1st service will feature a special missionary speaker, Kristine Tessinger, while I will be preaching only at 2nd service. If you are interested in mission work, this will be a great

Sunday. We will have several guests, including my friend and colleague from Church of the Foothills, the Rev. Mike Holland, who will give a special presentation at our luncheon following second service, and talk about how his involvement in Global Mission has changed his life. See Bill Aulenbach for more details.

On the 21st, the Sunday service will address environmentalism. In the evening (6:30), we are hosting Jennifer Tyrell, the woman whose story made national news when she was asked to discontinue her role as a Den Mother of her son’s Cub Scout pack because of her sexual orientation. Michael Lobo, of Scouting for All, will also be our guest.

One of the favorite weekends of the year is our Jesus Seminar on the Road. We usually gather people from all over Southern California, and our speakers are always top-notch. This year, Joe Bessler and (by request) Stephen Patterson will be our scholars. You can read more on the IUCC website.

Frequently, the pastor of the Understanding Principles for Better Living Church in Los Angeles brings her students down for the weekend. It is always a treat to have her gentle presence with us when she can make it. You know this pastor as Della Reese, from “Touched by an Angel” and other shows.

There will be a special “surprise” in church on Sunday, the 28th. It is also a special Sunday for me, as it marks my 7th anniversary as your pastor.

AIDS Walk, Women’s Retreat, Big Sunday—help us make these important parts of our ministry count on May 5.

Pentecost is coming up in May. A Dixieland Band? Why not? John St. Marie is working on getting us really swinging in the spirit a month from now.

I’m looking forward to coming back from a quick rest in the mountains and moving forward with you all this Spring.

Finally—double thanks. Thank you, Keith Boyum, for bringing us online with this model newsletter, and for doing it for over three years. And, thank you, Tricia Aynes, for taking over as of this issue!

Yours,
Pastor Paul

Associate Pastor's Column

Rev. Elizabeth Griswold



My participation with the UCC Feed Your Spirit Writers' Group continues. We are excited about the launch of the page we re-created on the UCC website at <http://www.ucc.org/feed-your-spirit/>. I am regularly contributing to the "Peek, Ponder, Pray" and "Pray the News" sections.

Here are a few samples of the very short pieces from "Peek, Ponder, Pray":

- Ponder: What will make you feel as if you've really, finally "arrived"? Pray: God of our strivings, of our comings and goings, you are with us wherever we wander. We know you are here even now. Grant us your traveling mercies, as well as the knowledge that sometimes the best place to be is right where we are. Amen.
- Ponder: What in your life needs to be burned away and left behind? Pray: Holy God, you lead us into the fire of transformation. May we have the faith to let go of what holds us back. Let us find the courage to rise up from the ashes of the past. Amen.
- Ponder: When did you last take the time to set aside your daily tasks and ponder the immensity of Creation? Pray: God, the beauty you create around us is much more vast than our problems. Your care for us is far greater than our fears. And you are even bigger than the ocean! When we need it most, lead us into the depths of your creation to remind us of your presence. Amen.
- Ponder: What brightens your life? Pray: God of bright joy and abundant growth, you provide all that we need. Your nurturance offers us both grounded contentment and blossoming delight. Be the sunshine towards which we upturn our faces in joyous expectation. Amen.

Youth Leader's Column

Erika Sanders

Spring Greetings!

What a delight it was to see so many youth on Easter Sunday! We talked about Easter, planned future youth activities, helped with an egg hunt, and served cake at the new members reception. Thank you to everyone who helped out! I am very hopeful that the energy we had on Easter Sunday will continue to grow throughout this Spring season.



Up-Coming Youth Events*:

- April 7th: Bowling after the 11 o'clock service
- April 14th: Global Missions Fair after church
- April 21st: Chapman University visit and Bruxie waffle sandwiches
- April 27th -28th: 30 Hour Famine & Overnight at Redlands IUCC
- May 4th: AIDS Walk at Disneyland

* Youth events are open to all 7th - 12th grade students. Many of these activities require transportation to other sites, so it is helpful to know who is planning to attend in advance. If you have any questions, don't hesitate to email me at sande128@mail.chapman.edu. Thanks!

Thanks, Keith!



Keith Boyum has been faithfully editing this newsletter for the past three years in addition to all the other important work he does at IUCC. Thanks for doing such an excellent job, Keith!

He has decided to step down as editor, and Tricia Aynes will be the new editor. Please send future photos and articles to her at tricia_aynes@yahoo.com.

Adult Education

Rev. Ken Wyant, Interim Director



SPECIAL NOTE: TUESDAY EVENING BIBLE STUDY WILL BEGIN AT 7:00 P.M. FROM NOW ON!

Bible Study

We are continuing study of Holy Week as told in Mark. Our study guide is *The Last Week* by Marcus Borg and John Dominic Crossan. Bible study meets every Tuesday at 2:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. BYOB (Bring Your Own Bible), or we can share one. BYOIO (Bring Your Own Ideas and Opinions), we like to share them, too.

Women's Retreat

Please join IUCC women at Pilgrim Pines for this year's annual retreat, "Engaging Our Gifts: Co-creating with God." Retreat leader Rev. Penelope Mann is planning an exciting weekend of learning and reflection. Cost is \$100, which includes meals, lodging, and materials. Some scholarships are available.

Jesus Seminar on the Road

Prominent New Testament scholars Joseph Bessler, Ph.D., Robert Travis Peake Associate Professor of Theology at Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, Okla., and Stephen J. Patterson, Ph.D., Geo. H. Atkinson Professor of Religious and Ethical Studies at Willamette University in Salem, Ore., will present a Jesus Seminar on the Road (JSOR) at Irvine United Congregational Church Apr. 26-27 titled *The Historical Jesus in a [Post-] Modern World*.

The Quest for the Historical Jesus did not emerge because someone wondered what Jesus must have been like as a real person. It originated as part of a movement to open up civil society, freeing it from the power of religious authorities, a power closely tied to the power of monarchs. In this seminar Bessler will draw from his new book, *A Scandalous Jesus*, and show how the search for a Historical Jesus was critical to the rise of democratic ideas and institutions. The Kingdom of God about which he spoke was the present, not the future, and here, not in some distant heaven. Bessler and Patterson will ask in this workshop whether there is, in the Jesus tradition, the makings of a secular faith appropriate to our own time and place. All sessions will take place at the Irvine United Congregational Church in Irvine, Calif., and are open to the general public. Attendees who register by April 12 will receive a 20 percent discount. Registrations can be submitted online at www.westarinstitute.org or by calling Westar Institute at (503) 375-5323.



Dr. Bessler is Robert Travis Peake Associate Professor of Theology at Phillips Theological Seminary in Tulsa, Oklahoma. He is currently on sabbatical, writing *Jesus: A Scandalous Theology* in which he develops the contours of a theology that takes the historical Jesus seriously.



Dr. Patterson specializes in the study of the historical Jesus, Christian origins, and the Gospel of Thomas, an early Christian gospel not found in the New Testament. Most recently he has written about the theological significance of the newest phase in the quest for the historical Jesus.



Adult Education Ministry

ADULT EDUCATION MINISTRY UPDATE

It's planning time, so included in this newsletter is a sample copy of the AEM survey (see page 6) that will be distributed to the congregation on four Sundays, April 28, May 5, 12 and 19. There will be a "collection box" along with free pens (gift from Global Mission) in the narthex of the church.

The AEM Committee relies heavily on your feedback and is hoping that many members will participate. The AEM Committee will then take the findings and start to develop the sort of programs, seminars, workshops that you want to happen at IUCC. We're looking forward to you sharing your creative ideas.

Perhaps by that time, the Administration Board will be able to announce who is going to be the next staff person for adult education. (The Rev. Ken Wyant is retiring in June.) This sort of feedback would be a great help as Adult Education at IUCC continues to be one our many strengths.

We are delighted that some 60+ folks attended our 5 part Lenten series on "Comparative Religions." We are also hoping that many of you will take full advantage of the upcoming "Jesus Seminar On The Road on April 26 and 27. It will be a rich opportunity to hear what some of the most progressive Biblical scholars are uncovering and teaching.

Peace Love Joy

Bil Aulenbach, John Emerson, Lee Murphy, Jim and Nitz Martin, George and Ruby Fulton, Carol Ballesty, and Ken Wyant

GLOBAL MISSION MARCHES ON

For the past 11 months your GM Committee has tried to share with you what it would mean to be a Global Mission Congregation. We had a great kickoff luncheon in October, 2012. Monthly we have had an article in this newsletter as well as putting a brochure on the chairs in the church sharing the work of GM. Every month Michael Spindle has inserted an information sheet about one of the 270 different GM projects around the world in the Sunday Bulletin. We've had missionaries from Japan and Swaziland come to IUCC to talk about their work. Our own Sarah Philips and Erika Sanders (Youth Leaders) have been and are doing mission work in India. The Executive Director of UCC came here from Cleveland to show us the bigger picture of GM in the world. Individuals/groups from IUCC have gone to Mexico, Guatemala, Tijuana, Japan, and India. All this is in an effort to give you just a little taste of the magnitude and importance of becoming "connected" with GM all of which is based on Jesus words, "Do this to the least of these my brethren." (Mt 25:40b)

I have heard members sharing their concerns that our emphasis on Global Mission is going to detract from our many local mission projects. Let me assure you that becoming involved in GM is NOT suggesting that local mission is of little importance. It says that both local and global mission need to be an integral part of the life of IUCC.

The congregation, on May 19, 2013, at their annual spring meeting, will vote on whether IUCC is going to be a GM congregation. Your GM committee hopes you will be there and vote "Yes."

However, before that event, the GM Committee is presenting a Global Mission Faire on Sunday, April 14, at 12:15pm after the 11am service. There will be a potluck of international food and then at 1pm we shall have a panel of missionaries from Johannesburg, Swaziland, Japan and India share with us their experiences and how their lives have been impacted. Then the Rev. Dr. Michael Holland, Pastor of The Church of the Foothills, Chair of GM for our Conference, as well as a worker-bee for GM, will share with us how transforming a GM Congregation can be. We hope to be finished by 2:30pm.

- Bil Aulenbach

ADULT EDUCATION MINISTRY SURVEY

IUCC ADULT EDUCATION MINISTRY

Interest Survey – May 2013

(Please put into "Survey" box by church entrance.)

Please take a few minutes to complete this survey to help the AEM Committee determine topics and areas of interest for future programming.

- *During the last 2 years have you attended any Adult Ed programs at IUCC? Yes ___ No ___*
- *If "yes", please circle all that apply: Adult Sunday School? Weekly Bible Study? Jesus Seminar on the Road? University Synagogue/IUCC Events? "The Jewish Jesus?" Comparative Religions? Separation of Church & State? Poverty Class? Food Farming and Faith?
Others: _____*
- *If "No", please circle all that apply: No interest in continuing education. Nothing has caught my attention. Conflicts with other commitments. Don't drive at night. Cost.
Other _____*
- *Can you suggest some topics/program that you would like IUCC to present? _____*
- *Is there a particular speaker that you would like IUCC to bring here?(1) _____*
- *Circle any of the following where you would like to have further or continuing education: Progressive Christianity? End of life issues? Spiritual Formation? Just Peace programs? Global Mission programs? Environment? "The Power of the Resurrection"(4 wks. studying each Gospel Myth? Mystery/ Metaphor?) The Jewish Jesus? Watch DVD "Life of Pi" (or other movies) & Discuss? Ethics?*
- *Your suggestions for social justice issues or topics to be presented. _____*
- *Any suggestions for Senior programs. _____*

Please share any other comments you have about the IUCC Adult Education Programs. _____

Use back of this page for further comments, if necessary

(1) Sr Simone Campbell, Nun on The Bus, Spkr Dem. Convention, ExDir "Network" Justice Lobby will be at IUCC on 9-21/22-13

Dr. Amy-Jill Levin: Jewish NT Prof at Vanderbilt Seminary has been suggested. Great speaker, very popular.

Special Events

The Advocates for Peace and Justice of IUCC, in cooperation with Scouting for All and Scouts for Equality, are proud to present

AN EVENING WITH JENNIFER TYRRELL & MICHAEL LOBO

Sunday, April 21st, 2013, @ 6:30pm
Irvine United Congregational Church
4915 Alton Parkway, Irvine 92604
No Charge (A donation will be taken at the event)

AIDS WALK 2013

SATURDAY * MAY 4 * 6:30AM * DISNEYLAND

Join the IUCC walking team for the 27th annual AIDS Walk. If you can't walk with us, please consider sponsoring one of our walkers when they contact you via e-mail or in person. Together we can all help make a difference in the lives of local people living with HIV/AIDS. If you have questions, contact Felicity Figueroa or Michael Spindle.

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Saturday-Sunday, May 4-5 at Pilgrim Pines
"Engaging Our Gifts: Co-creating with God"

Retreat leader Rev. Penelope Mann is planning an exciting weekend of learning, reflection, fellowship and fun! Cost is \$100, which includes meals, lodging, and materials. The retreat is organized by the Women's Fellowship with assistance from Ken Wyant, Interim Director of Adult Programs.

GLOBAL MISSION FAIRE

SUNDAY * APRIL 14 * 12:15PM * PLUMER HALL

Our Global Mission Faire emphasizes IUCC's local, national and international mission and ministry work. It will start with a free lunch presenting international foods prepared by members of IUCC (If you would like to add a dish of your specialty, please call Bil Aulenbach 949 240-299. The more the merrier!) After lunch a panel of missionaries from South Africa, Swaziland, Japan and India will share their individual work as well as the power of reaching out to the hurting world. We shall end the gathering with a share from the Rev. Mike Holland (UCC Church of the Foothills, Tustin) who has not only been personally involved in many projects but has had his life transformed because of his involvement with GM.

THE 28th ANNUAL GREAT AMERICAN WRITE-IN

Sponsored by
WOMEN FOR: ORANGE COUNTY
SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 2013
9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.
DELHI COMMUNITY CENTER
505 E. Central Ave., Santa Ana 92707

Once a year, concerned voters gather to have their voices heard at the Great American Write In. Your voice needs to be heard, too!

Various groups sponsor tables in which members of the public are provided with letters or postcards that discuss issues that are vitally important to them. Please plan to attend~and visit our Advocates for Peace & Justice table while you're there!

Southern California Nevada Conference of UCC Annual Gathering 2013

“GOD’S VISION”
Saturday, May 11, 2013
8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

Samoan Congregational Christian Church
1717 E. Carson Street, Carson, CA
Registration deadline is April 22
Cost for adults is \$50

To learn more, call Libby Tigner at (626) 798-8082
ext 18 or see website: www.scncucc.org

New IUCC Members - March 31, 2013

Scott Bollens grew up in Santa Monica and Pacific Palisades in the Methodist tradition. He is a Professor at UCI, and was invited by friends, the Rychnovsky's and the Haynes' families. He has two children, Damon and Denali. Scott was a collegiate and professional baseball player, and has lived in such places as Jerusalem, Belfast, Sarajevo, and Barcelona among others.

Jaimee Niles is from Chicago, and grew up in the Unitarian church. She works in the fields of marketing and fundraising. Jaimee has an interest in dance and art, and may be interested in teaching Sunday school here at IUCC.

Christine Roy was born and raised in Long Beach. She comes from both the Episcopal and Lutheran traditions. Christine is an Electronics Technician, and was invited here by Felicity Figueroa.

Ron Steiner is from Pennsylvania. He grew up in the Mennonite Brethren tradition. Ron is a Professor of Law at Chapman University. His wife, Mariam, is an Iranian Muslim, and Ron was looking for a church where other people's faiths were respected. They have two sons, Cameron and Darius, and they attend IUCC.

Todd Thompson is from Duncan, Oklahoma. He was baptized in the Southern Baptist church, and has had affiliation with the Assembly of God, Mormon and Episcopal traditions, with an interest in Buddhist meditation. Todd is a Software Engineer. He has two grown sons. Todd lives in Aliso Viejo, and his partner, Renny, has visited with us at IUCC.

GENERAL SYNOD 29 - JUNE 28-JULY 2, 2013
LONG BEACH, CA

From the General Synod:

Volunteering At General Synod

We are very excited that we are now ready to match your gifts and availability to the volunteer assignments for General Synod 29. We look forward to showing our great hospitality to folks as we welcome the United Church of Christ family to the Southern California/Nevada Conference!

Please go to this link (<https://www.volgistics.com/ex/portal.dll/ap?AP=1511352654>) and fill out the volunteer application form. Please make sure you fill out the form as completely as possible.

Once you have filled out the form, you will receive an email confirmation of your application. Over the next several weeks we will begin matching you with one or more openings. After you have been matched, you will receive an email notification of your assignment(s).

If you are an “on-site” volunteer (at the Convention Center), the next step will be to REGISTER as a Volunteer/Guest at GS29. You will receive more about this in our next email. If you are an “off-site volunteer” you will not need to, but may want to register.

Volunteer opportunities include assignments in the following areas: Registration, Delegate, Visitor Welcome & Reception, Hotel Reception, Environment, Worship and Stage Design, Children's Program/Child Care Information and Logistics, Special Needs Shuttle/Transportation, Floor Stewards, and Youth Stewards.

The co-chairs of Volunteer Recruitment are Diana Owings (diana8856@gmail.com) and Linda Yao (lindasyao@gmail.com). Please feel free to email them with any questions that you may have.

Powerful Parenting

Dr. Lorraine Fox

BULLYING PART 15: MONITORING MEDIA AND ADDRESSING SOCIAL CONTRADICTIONS

Children and young people growing up in modern American social culture are exposed to numerous contradictions in the way aggression is treated, making it hard for parents to deliver a clear message about their expectations for personal behavior and treating others.

Boxing is not only a sport, but a very lucrative sport. Kids watch boxers making millions by pummeling other people, often causing serious injury, while others not only watch, but cheer them on. When two young people arrange a fight between themselves and invite others to watch and cheer as they “make mincemeat” out of each other, they are both expelled from school. Not only do they not make money, they often lose privileges.

Messages about bullying often contain words about not taking advantage of the weaknesses of others, about not picking on someone who isn't their same size. At the same time parents routinely “pick on” (hit, grab, “spank”) people much smaller and weaker than themselves.

Parents hitting their own children is called “discipline.” Adults working with children in another setting – day care, pre-school, school, scouts – who hit someone else's child would be accused of “assault” with a subsequent lawsuit or firing. In a similar vein, if a man slaps his own wife it's referred to as a “domestic disturbance.” If a man hits another man's wife it is certainly called something other than a disturbance.

When children commit violent crimes they can be declared an “adult” by the courts and tried as such. This is not true, however, if a 14 year old wants to move into their own apartment, get a job instead of go to school, or vote.

Schools are investing time and money to teach “non-violent conflict resolution”. At the same time everyone in Hollywood knows that a movie featuring non-violent conflict resolution would be a flop because no one would go, much less line up to go. So they don't make such films.

Children, we say, are “our most important resource.” Yet 12 year olds are sentenced to life in prison, funds to education are cut, after school programs are cut.

As adults we should all be concerned about the “de-sensitization” that results from continuous exposure to violence in games, songs, television and movies. Parents buy their children games that teach and reward violence and killing, yet “screen” their movies. More often than not when children are busy “killing off” their opponents online, parents are working or off doing something else, giving the clear message that such

activity is not anything they are concerned about. These same parents are then heard dismayed over Sandy Hook, Aurora Colorado, and other killing scenes. Children get yelled at for spending too much time with games, and then for their aggressive behavior. A study of adolescents indicated that they spend on average a quarter of their waking hours alone, watching television or videos or spending unsupervised time on computers (Stern and Repa).

Media influences include: television, movies, video games, books, magazines, the internet, and music. It is parents job to know what their children are watching, playing, reading, and listening to.

There is no real debate about whether media influences behavior and all discussions to the contrary are red herrings to deflect our careful attention. If media did not influence behavior sponsors would not pay thousands and millions of dollars to advertise on radio, television and movie screens, and in magazines directed toward youth. Unhappily, there is a strong argument that excessive media exposure is resulting in a frightening “de-sensitizing” of young people toward violence and aggression, and minimizing their capacity for empathy.

We know that “de-sensitization” works because it is a widely used and an evidence-based therapeutic intervention. When not used therapeutically, it can have strong adverse effects on children and teens. You can put a small child on a very small roller-coaster at an amusement park for their first ride, but next time they will need a bigger coaster for the same thrill. As children continue to ride they will need bigger and bigger and scarier and scarier “rides” to achieve the thrill they seek. This is not a debate; just visit any amusement park and witness the graduation of imposed fear needed to get people to pay money for a false scare. Drug addiction happens as the impact of lesser drugs fails to get the desired result and stronger and stronger drugs are used to the point of real danger. Increased exposure to violence “deadens” one's internal response to it.

Adults in all roles with children and young people must accept responsibility for monitoring what they are being exposed to, in what quantities and in what “doses” if we want to interrupt bullying behavior. I don't think we can change the culture, but we can change what our children see and play, and we can provide “commentary” on media violence we see together. Bullying is a form of interaction that many children and teens are exposed to almost every day – playing some internet game, watching some television show, going to a movie. And parenting is an every day, even every hour, activity. They may not like you when you intervene, but they'll respect you in the morning.

Comma Groups Continue to Thrive



From Left: Renae Boyum; Mark Rychnovsky; Janet Emery; Howard Emery; Joan McDonald; Keith Boyum; Scott Rychnovsky.

Group member (and photographer) Terry LePage says: "Our Comma group met on March 23. Topic: afterlife. Consensus: there was pie (lemon meringue) but not sure about in the sky when you die."

Easter Services and Easter Breakfast a Huge Success!

A Big Thank YOU to all who participated in the breakfast. We an almost perfect amount of food to serve all who attended. And thanks to the helpers on Saturday who set up. The room would not have been perfect without all of the Easter decorations provided by Pat Sauter!
~ *Lindy Garber*



Thanks to Pastor Paul for a great sermon, to John St. Marie for all his hard work directing the choir, to David Clemenson for his flawless accompaniment, to our guest brass musicians who added a special touch, to our hard-working choir who sang so beautifully, to the Worship Committee who decorated the sanctuary, to those who purchased Easter lilies, and to everyone else who pitched in to make our two Easter services so meaningful and amazing. You are all appreciated!

~ *Tricia Aynes*

What is Mission 4/1 Earth?

ONE UNITED CHURCH on a shared resurrection witness for Planet Earth during 50 great days of greening up, powering down, and shouting out for the environment! That's Mission 4/1 Earth! "Mission 4/1 Earth: 50 Great Days" is about boldly living Jesus' let-your-light-shine proclamation in the Sermon on the Mount: "That they may see your good works!" It is an opportunity to live out our faith — in unity, as one church — for the sake of our fragile planet Earth. Launching on Easter Monday, April 1, 2013, and continuing through the great 50 days of Eastertide, United Church of Christ congregations, colleges, seminaries, camps and outdoor ministries, and health and human service agencies will join together in a shared mission campaign. We plan to do the following: Collectively offer more than one million hours of engaged earth care; and Collectively plant more than 100,000 trees; Collectively write and send more than 100,000 advocacy letters on environmental concerns to elected officials and local and national newspapers.

Together, we will inspire and aspire to what we can accomplish as ONE CHURCH.

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Jim Carse
Constance Cassady
Nathan Gough
Zachary Haynes
Linda Hidy
Janice Johnson
Lee KeslerWest
Dale Lang
Kyle Lutz
Connor McDonald
Jennifer Mirmak
Steve O'Dell
Jim Raver
Paul Tellstrom
Jaime Villacorte
Mark Willcox



News & Notes

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www.iucc.org