Martin Luther King, Jr. preached a powerful sermon in Ebenezer Baptist Church in Atlanta, Georgia on February 4, 1968, just two months before he was assassinated. It speaks to us today in our uncertain economic times about what greatness truly means and how a desire to be a leader – a drum major – can lead to materialism, exclusion, and prejudice:

“Now the presence of the drum major instinct is why so many people are "joiners." You know, there are some people who just join everything. And it's really a quest for attention and recognition and importance. And they get names that give them that impression. So you get your groups, and they become the "Grand Patron," and the little fellow who is henpecked at home needs a chance to be the "Most Worthy of the Most Worthy" of something. It is the drum major impulse and longing that runs the gamut of human life. And so we see it everywhere, this quest for recognition. And we join things, overjoin really, that we think that we will find that recognition in.

Now the presence of this instinct explains why we are so often taken by advertisers. You know, those gentlemen of massive verbal persuasion. And they have a way of saying things to you that kind of gets you into buying. In order to be a man of distinction, you must drink this whiskey. In order to make your neighbors envious, you must drive this type of car. In order to be lovely to love you must wear this kind of lipstick or this kind of perfume. And you know, before you know it, you're just buying that stuff. That's the way the advertisers do it. . . .

. . . you know what else it causes to happen? It often causes us to live above our means. It's nothing but the drum major instinct. Do you ever see people buy cars that they can't even begin to buy in terms of their income? You've seen people riding around in Cadillacs and Chryslers who don't earn enough to have a good T-Model Ford. But it feeds a repressed ego.

You know, economists tell us that your automobile should not cost more than half of your annual income. So if you make an income of five thousand dollars, your car shouldn't cost more than about twenty-five hundred. That's just good economics. And if it's a family of two, and both members of the family make ten thousand dollars, they would have to make out with one car. That would be good economics, although it's often inconvenient. But so often, haven't you seen people making five thousand dollars a year and driving a car that costs six thousand? And they wonder why their ends never meet. That's a fact.

Now the economists also say that your house shouldn't cost—if you're buying a house, it shouldn't cost more than twice your income. That's based on the economy and how you would make ends meet. So, if you have an income of five thousand dollars, it's kind of difficult in this society. But say it's a family with an income of ten thousand dollars, the house shouldn't cost much more than twenty thousand. Well, I've seen folk making ten thousand dollars, living in a forty- and fifty-thousand-dollar house. And you know they just barely make it. They get a check every month somewhere, and they owe all of that out before it comes in. Never have anything to put away for rainy days.

But now the problem is, it is the drum major instinct. And you know, you see people over and over again with the drum major instinct taking them over. And they just live their lives trying to outdo the Joneses. They got to get this coat because this particular coat is a little (cont pg 6)
In our church life we begin this month and new year with Epiphany, the revelation of baby Jesus to the world. For us, as disciples of Christ, this is important as we respond to the call to reflect God’s love throughout the world. Then we celebrate Jesus’ baptism (as an adult) and remember God’s declaration, “This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased.” We are called to reflect on God’s claiming and blessing on all of us as children of God.

Next we celebrate the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a prophet of God, a leader who shared the love of God and the revelation of the Good News Jesus shared with the world in his struggle for justice and civil rights. There is no way, as disciples of Jesus, that we can separate the struggle for justice & human rights from our faith in God and the celebration of God’s love for us and for all.

Finally, we will celebrate Equality Sabbath on January 30th which is an opportunity to express our faith through advocacy for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender folk. We thank God for the recent change of heart in Congress, not unlike that of Pharaoh’s. Repealing the “Don’t ask, don’t tell” rule for glbt folk who want to serve in the military is another step toward equal rights for all people for which we celebrate.

This is a month of revealing and expressing our faith, a faith centered on the One, Jesus born of a teen age mother, who with his family became a refugee, was baptized and declared beloved and who reflected the extravagant and generous love of God and liberator of the oppressed.

**Peace, Pastor Lynne**

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**Stewardship Message**

**The Need for Love Continues**

*An angel appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up...”* Matthew 2:13

Christmas and all the surrounding hoopla are over, and it is very tempting to just sit back, digest the season, and rest from giving for a while. There are credit card bills to pay, trees to take down, and houses to clean, and that seems enough for January.

The thing about babies, though, is that they continue to need all sorts of care, and we have just celebrated the birth of a baby! Joseph was called to flee with Mary and the infant Jesus to save him from Herod’s dangerous fear. Mary needed to feed him, change him, and rock him to sleep as they traveled. Seasons change, but the need for love continues.

And that’s what giving springs from, is it not? Love. Parents, foster parents, grandparents, godparents, churches, and all who care for children continue to give to them in season and out because they love them. God remembers what it is like to be a child! Consider the children of your church and of your town; what kind of love do they call forth from you today? How can we continue our Christmas love of children all through the new year?

*Rochelle A. Stackhouse is the Senior Minister of The Church of the Redeemer, United Church of Christ, New Haven Connecticut.*

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**To Ainsworth UCC Family:**

As the year comes to a close, I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to our Ainsworth UCC family for all your support through prayers, cards, food, poinsettia, and phone calls. My church family means more to me than words can express. May we all have a fulfilling New Year in 2011.

God bless you all.

*Mary Takayanagi*
January Sunday’s Schedule

**Epiphany**
**Sermon:** “What an Epiphany!”
**Scripture:** John 1:10-18
**Liturgist:**
*Acolytes:* Susan McHarris and Devanne Thomas
*Ushers:* Eldon Potter, Donald Parks, Adelina Taylor, Mabel Johnson and Eldon Potter

**Baptism of Christ**
**Sermon:** “Possibilities Unfolding”
**Scripture:** Matthew 3:13-17
**Liturgist:**
*Acolytes:* India & Shiloh Rockey
*Ushers:* Bruce Poinsette, Dan Ryan, Pat King, and Willard Valentine

**Martin Luther King, Jr. Celebration**
**Sermon:** “All That We Are”
**Liturgist:**
*Acolytes:* Madison Dowell and Jaclyn Harris
*Ushers:* Teresa Hill, Jean Borgerding, Jamie Partridge, and Ed Slaughter

**Congregational Meeting**
**Sermon:** “Called Together”
**Scripture:** Matthew 4:12-23
**Liturgist:**
*Acolytes:* Debra Baker/Olivia Putnam
*Ushers:* Carolyn Hinton, Jean Scott, Nadia Gutierrez, and Tim Loveless

**Equality Sabbath**
**Sermon:** “Vision of Beauty”
**Scripture:** Matthew 5:13-20
**Liturgist:**
*Acolytes:* Leo & Anniya Sproles
*Ushers:* Elijah Chimuka, Salome Chimuku, Kamil López, and Bruce Poinsette, Jr.

*To Hold in Prayer...*
Ole & Elaine Ordal
Louise Cambric
Shelly Penix      Joe Craig
James Crolley    Steve Beaman
Carolyn Hinton  James West
Fred Anderson’s father   the Gearry Family
Rev. Jack and Mary Takayanagi
United Church of Christ, in all settings

If you want prayers said for yourself or others, feel free to call on the Prayer Chain members. E-mail Peggy West @ ipwest@teleport.com or call her at 503-659-7922.

**New Sound System...**
The administration commission worked over the past year to seek funds to improve the technology of Ainsworth UCC. We were awarded a matching grant which was used to purchase a laptop computer, projection machine and supplies. Much work has gone into funding, purchasing and installing this new system.

This new system creates exciting opportunities for Ainsworth UCC. We are now able to record sermons and performances and make these resources available by CD or on our website to one and all. In order to assure that each weekly service is recorded we are seeking volunteers willing to be trained to use this equipment. Volunteers would be needed Sunday and periodically at church events.

The skills required are easily taught and implemented. Each Sunday in January immediately following the service Sarah Butler will be available to train anyone who is interested in volunteering to increase the accessibility of Ainsworth UCC to people throughout the community. For more information please attend a training session in January or contact Sarah at sreltub@hotmail.com

--submitted by Sarah Butler

**Jubilee USA... for the latest news...**
http://www.jubileeusa.org/
Calling All Men: Sing on the 5th Sunday!
We want men's voices to join the men's choir. The men's choir has committed to provide the special music on the fifth Sunday of the month. In 2011 there are 3 fifth Sundays: January 30, July 31, and October 30. Mark your calendars with these dates, and plan to attend rehearsals the two weeks ahead of time. Rehearsals for this special music will be part of the regular choir rehearsals on Thursday evening and before church on Sundays.

Contact Thomas Wright, or Cynthia Butts for more information. We want you men there!

Ainsworth Yard Sale Prep Begins…
Now that the holidays are behind us it is time to get read for the 2011 Ainsworth Yard Sale. In order for this yard sale to be successful we need your help. Below are examples of how you can support this fundraiser.

Donate items: We will begin accepting donations January 9th. Items will be stored on the stage of the second floor of the church. If you have an item that is larger than a standard size microwave oven, please contact Joslyn to discuss storage for this item. If you have items to donate that you feel are valued at $20 or more, please contact Joslyn to discuss the option of having your donated items sold on craigslist. Joslyn will take care of selling this item and this will allow us to receive the highest price possible. Joslyn will have receipts available for people who donate items and would like a tax deduction.

Donate Time: If you have time to help sort and price items, or want to help on the day of the event we need you! We will sort items occasional Fridays and Sunday after church.

Donate supplies: We are accepting donations of supplies as follows: cardboard boxes (in good condition), clear packing tape, and safety pins.

Spread the word: The Ainsworth yard sale benefitted greatly from word of mouth last year, please encourage your friends/family to donate items and shop at the sale.

And of course, come shop at our sale!

All unsold items will be donated to a local non-profit organization. Please contact Joslyn Baker at 503-799-4749 or at joslyn515@hotmail.com to donate items or volunteer to help.

Winter Weather and Church…
Ainsworth UCC will remain open during wintery weather. However, do not attempt the trip to church if you feel that conditions are unsafe.

Nurture Commission

Time for a Movie, at Ainsworth…
Which of these six countries do you think has the most comprehensive and affordable health care system? Canada, United Kingdom, Finland, France, Cuba, the United States?

Give up? Michael Moore will tell you it's not the US in his expose' Sicko. Provocative, frustrating, sprinkled with humor, come join the Nurture Commission of Ainsworth United Church of Christ in it's showing of the film SICKO.

Showtime is: Saturday, January 29th, 2011 at 6:30 pm. Location: Ainsworth United Church of Christ. Cost: FREE!

--submitted by the Nurture Commission

Ainsworth Directory Updates...
Send Ainsworth Directory corrections to: office.aucc@gmail.com

Marco Meijia
3339 SE Caruthers St.
Portland, OR 97214
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mejiayep@yahoo.com
Jubilee Oregon-Jubilee Zambia Partnership…
Zambian debt to international financial institutions dropped in 2005 from more than $7 billion to $500,000 as the bulk of the debt owed to IMF, World Bank, and the Paris Club was canceled. The current economic crisis is an opportune moment for Jubilee Oregon to share stories and experiences with Zambians as to what changes have taken place since the debt cancellation and how it has affected their lives.

During January 8-12, the former head of Zambia Jubilee, Priva Haang’andu will give speak at Portland State University and at our special Jubilee Oregon meeting (see Sunday bulletins for finalized dates and locations). Dr. Patricia Rumer will share how the PSU Winter Capstone – Ending Global Poverty will partner with Jubilee Oregon to organize educational events and other projects to make this “Linking Our Voices Program” visible and relevant to the community.

Ministry With Older Adults

Our Celebrated Christian for January…

Chrissy Larson

Read all about her life journey on Christian of the Month board in the Narthex.

The MWoa did not meet in December, as folks were awfully busy. We did, however, deliver poinsettias to the sick and shut-ins of Ainsworth. For our November meeting, we created a collage of things we were all thankful for, and shared stories of important times of thankfulness. If you have not seen the collage, take some time and stroll through the Cambric Parlor, where the collage sits on the bookcase along the north wall.

Next MWoa Meeting: Jan. 25, at 11:15 am in the Cambric Parlor

We will be discussing our schedule for 2011. For MWoa info, call Jean Bucciarelli 503.284.5335, or Helen Ellison 503.284.0721.

---submitted by Helen Ellison

Service Commission

The Service Commission didn't make any mini-grants in December, but it did conduct several fund-raisers. The HIV Day Center “Giving Tree” was up for three Sundays and yielded a total of $675 in gift cards, checks and cash. On two Sundays, glass angels made and donated by Susan Hathaway were for sale and produced $198 for the NE Emergency Food Program. Additionally, this year origami boxes with tiny origami birds and other creations inside, were sold. They were created by an Oregon death row inmate and, per his request, the proceeds of $89 were contributed to the church budget.

On the Service Commission's December 'to-do' list was The Christmas Fund. This national UCC fund helps lower-income retired UCC ministers and lay people. Donations made in the red envelopes at the December 19th church services and all that is collected at the Christmas Eve service will be sent to The Christmas Fund.

Finally, the Service Commission partnered with Lake Oswego UCC's Mission Committee in providing 10 generous food boxes to folks. Lake Oswego UCC stocked the Christmas food boxes with a ham, an apple pie, a bag of potatoes, 5 lbs. of flour canned green beans, dinner rolls, and oranges and apples. We arrange for people who welcome the food boxes to pick them up. Once again, lots of 'proof' that Ainsworth UCC folks are a giving people—giving of time, talent and money. Thank you, Ainsworth UCC!

Earth Care Summit

Jan 31st, from 6 to 8:45 p.m. at Neveh Shalom, 2900 SW Peaceful Lane

The Ecumenical Ministry of Oregon invites all interested in caring for creation to a celebration of going green. This year’s theme is “Food and Faith.” There will also be an interfaith environmental advocacy training from 2:30-5 p.m. For costs/registration or more info, go to http://www.emoregon.org/emo_events.php, or call Alison at 503.221.1054 ext. 210.

* Worshiping God  * Ministering to Each Other  * Nurturing our Spiritual Journeys
* Promoting Justice  * Serving the Local & Global Communities
**Ministry Commission**

A huge thank you goes out to everyone who helped make our 2010 Stewardship Campaign a very inspirational and exceptional one. As of early December, we had received 86 for a total of $134,518, and pledges still seem to be trickling in. At the beginning of the New Year we'll have some more concrete numbers, but for now, everyone gets a big "Woo hoo!!!"

I'd also like to send a huge thank you to our Consecrating Steward, Antoinette Edwards, who was an inspirational breath of fresh air on Stewardship Sunday. People were challenged to think about Ainsworth in a new way, and the whole day was moving. I'd also like to give some huge kudos to Sidney Thompson who planned, prepped and prepared our brunch on Stewardship Sunday. The food was great and it was something completely new, which is always fun. There were also dozens of people who helped behind the scenes preparing food in the kitchen, setting up tables and chairs, decorating the tables, serving the food, washing dishes, cleaning the kitchen, putting away tables and chairs, and doing the laundry. It truly does take a village.

As chair of the Ministry Commission, I would personally like to say thank you to the team I worked with during the whole process. They accomplished a lot of tasks, sat through a lot of meetings and had to meet a lot of deadlines. Thank you to the Ministry Commission: Scott Pike, Helen Ellison, Renata Hahn-Francini, and Sidney Thompson. A special thank you also to Eldon Potter for helping lead me through the entire Stewardship Campaign, to Judy Eichler for working with the pledge cards, to Elaine Ordal for copying and organizing the letters, and to Pastor Lynne for helping us bring it all together. Nice work everyone!  

--Chrissy Larson,  
Ministry Commission Chair

**MLK Dancers Wanted…**

If you would like to dance for MLK Sunday, January 16th, please contact Cynthia Butts or me. You don’t have to have experience, but do have to be able to practice.

**January Birthdays…**

- 2 Jan  Mark Boldman
- 7 Jan  David del Mar
- 8 Jan  Lyle King
- 10 Jan  Sylvia Eagan
- 11 Jan  Anita Chimuku, Annija Sproles
- 17 Jan  Pat Rumer, Tim Loveless
- 22 Jan  Ellen Yarnell
- 23 Jan  Lynne Patton
- 25 Jan  Mike Woodruff, Donald Edmunds, Tre Battle
- 26 Jan  Charles Nielsen, Makaley Dowell, Barbara Rogers, Malcolm Bunyoli
- 29 Jan  Sherrie Dodge, Sidney Thompson, Marilyn Minter
- 30 Jan  Ole Ordal

(continued from page 1)

better and a little better-looking than Mary's coat. And I got to drive this car because it's something about this car that makes my car a little better than my neighbor's car. I know a man who used to live in a thirty-five-thousand-dollar house. And other people started building thirty-five-thousand-dollar houses, so he built a seventy-five-thousand-dollar house. And then somebody else built a seventy-five-thousand-dollar house, and he built a hundred-thousand-dollar house. And I don't know where he's going to end up if he's going to live his life trying to keep up with the Joneses.

. . . Now the other problem is, when you don't harness the drum major instinct—this uncontrolled aspect of it—is that it leads to snobbish exclusivism. It leads to snobbish exclusivism. . . . And you know, that can happen with the church; I know churches get in that bind sometimes. I've been to churches, you know, and they say, "We have so many doctors, and so many school teachers, and so many lawyers, and
so many businessmen in our church." And that's fine, because doctors need to go to church, and lawyers, and businessmen, teachers—they ought to be in church. But they say that—even the preacher sometimes will go all through that—they say that as if the other people don't count.

And the church is the one place where a doctor ought to forget that he's a doctor. The church is the one place where a Ph.D. ought to forget that he's a Ph.D. The church is the one place that the school teacher ought to forget the degree she has behind her name. The church is the one place where the lawyer ought to forget that he's a lawyer. And any church that violates the "whosoever will, let him come" doctrine is a dead, cold church, and nothing but a little social club with a thin veneer of religiosity.

When the church is true to its nature, it says, "Whosoever will, let him come." And it does not supposed to satisfy the perverted uses of the drum major instinct. It's the one place where everybody should be the same, standing before a common master and savior. And a recognition grows out of this—that all men are brothers because they are children of a common father.

The drum major instinct can lead to exclusivism in one's thinking and can lead one to feel that because he has some training, he's a little better than that person who doesn't have it. Or because he has some economic security, that he's a little better than that person who doesn't have it. And that's the uncontrolled, perverted use of the drum major instinct.

Now the other thing is, that it leads to tragic—and we've seen it happen so often—tragic race prejudice. . . . Do you know that a lot of the race problem grows out of the drum major instinct? A need that some people have to feel superior. A need that some people have to feel that they are first, and to feel that their white skin ordained them to be first. And they have said over and over again in ways that we see with our own eyes. In fact, not too long ago, a man down in Mississippi said that God was a charter member of the White Citizens Council. And so God being the charter member means that everybody who's in that has a kind of divinity, a kind of superiority. And think of what has happened in history as a result of this perverted use of the drum major instinct. It has led to the most tragic prejudice, the most tragic expressions of man's inhumanity to man.

The other day I was saying, I always try to do a little converting when I'm in jail. And when we were in jail in Birmingham the other day, the white wardens and all enjoyed coming around the cell to talk about the race problem. And they were showing us where we were so wrong demonstrating. And they were showing us where segregation was so right. And they were showing us where intermarriage was so wrong. So I would get to preaching, and we would get to talking—calmly, because they wanted to talk about it. And then we got down one day to the point—that was the second or third day—to talk about where they lived, and how much they were earning. And when those brothers told me what they were earning, I said, "Now, you know what? You ought to be marching with us. You're just as poor as Negroes." And I said, "You are put in the position of supporting your oppressor, because through prejudice and blindness, you fail to see that the same forces that oppress Negroes in American society oppress poor white people. And all you are living on is the satisfaction of your skin being white, and the drum major instinct of thinking that you are somebody big because you are white. And you're so poor you can't send your children to school. You ought to be out here marching with every one of us every time we have a march."

Now that's a fact. That the poor white has been put into this position, where through blindness and prejudice, he is forced to support his oppressors. And the only thing he has going for him is the false feeling that he's superior because his skin is white—and can't hardly eat and make his ends meet week in and week out. [Americans] have perverted the drum major instinct."

--submitted by Dr. Traci Hodgson
Professor of American History
Provide a Gift for Later…

...Think of Ainsworth UCC when planning your estate.

Mark your Calendars.

Next Submission Deadline:

Sunday, January 23rd
(usually the third Sunday)
Submission is easy!
Place in the Chronicle box in Gooding Library.
Or Hand to Clinton or Traci before, after or during any Sunday Service
Or E-mail to Clinton at: hodrock@hotmail.com

Please include your name and phone number on all submissions.

The Chronicle is a publication of Ainsworth United Church of Christ, a multiracial, multicultural, open & affirming congregation.

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