

## **Eugene Peace Village 2010**

***What is Peace Village?*** Peace Village is an interfaith day camp with this mission: *to provide an experiential learning environment in which young people can be equipped in the ways of personal and communal peacemaking and nonviolence.*

***When is Peace Village?*** Peace Village will be held June 28 – July 2, 2010. We will gather at 9:00 A.M. each morning and finish by 3:30 P.M. On the last day, we will gather only for the morning because of the holiday weekend. That morning participant families will be invited to join their children for a closing celebration.

***Where is Peace Village?*** Peace Village will be held at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 1050 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, in Eugene. The church has lots of space, inside and out, and will well accommodate our group. Peace Villagers will participate in service projects during the week and whenever possible, use public transportation or walk to these events. Parents will be invited to provide transportation for the service projects if necessary.

***How much does Peace Village cost?*** Peace Village is generously funded by the congregation of First Congregational. We invite families to contribute \$75 or a portion of that per child to help to cover some of the costs of Peace Village. **Of course, no one is turned away for inability to pay.** Each family gives what they are able to give. Checks can be made to *First Congregational Church*.

***Who participates in Peace Village?*** Peace Village is available to 60 participants. Those participants must have completed grades first through eighth, and be *at least seven years old*. Children will be put in age groups of 15 children, and at times all the children will participate in activities together. Youth who have completed 8<sup>th</sup> grade are encouraged to apply to be a group leader. Please indicate this on the application. Training is required for group leaders. **Children of all religious/spiritual traditions are encouraged to apply.** The more diverse the group, the more rich the experience for all!

***Who are the adult leaders?*** Representatives from Temple Beth Israel, First Congregational United Church of Christ, the Muslim, Hindu and other religious communities are planning the program together with input from many other faith communities and traditions. In addition, skilled adults with special expertise will be enlisted to teach and lead the week, including skilled yoga teachers, chefs, artists, storytellers, musicians, religious leaders, and educators. College students and high school youth will shepherd the small groups of children and stay with them throughout the day.

***What do the children learn at Peace Village?*** Children will learn about peacemaking through spiritual practices such as prayer/meditation, yoga, the arts (music/dance/storytelling/visual arts), through non-competitive games and movement, nature studies, learning about healthy diets for body and mind, and learning skills in nonviolent conflict resolution. All of these experiences will be developmentally appropriate for the ages represented and will model a deep respect for cultural and religious diversity and sharing. We celebrate that our children are nurtured by many faith traditions and welcome this opportunity to learn from one another.

***How can I apply to Peace Village and/or get more information?*** To apply, please fill out the attached application form and return it to First Congregational UCC, 1050 E. 23<sup>rd</sup> Avenue, Eugene, OR 97405 or email it to Melanie Oommen at [melanieo@fceeugene.org](mailto:melanieo@fceeugene.org). We hope to accommodate all children who apply, but please understand that there may be a waiting list if the response is great. ***For further information, contact:*** Rev. Melanie Oommen, 541-345-8741, [melanieo@fceeugene.org](mailto:melanieo@fceeugene.org)