

HOUSEHOLD OF FAITH COMMUNITY CHURCH

Dear Fellow Pastor,

ELDERS:

Merv Best
Eric Burd
Ray Carter
Dan Garfield
Denny Garvey
Gregg Harris
John Pontier
John Patrick
Steve Rouse
Jim Schmit

CHURCH OFFICE &
CONTACT ADDRESSES:
HOFCC

P.O. Box 441
Gresham, OR 97030

Email: info@hofcc.org

Website: www.hofcc.org

OFFICE PHONE:
(503) 359-2124

MEETING PLACES:

Gresham, OR
Milwaukie, OR
Vancouver, WA
Hillsboro, WA
Boring, OR

It is my pleasure to invite you and your wife to a free **Pastors' Dessert & Private Screening** of an excellent new pro-life film entitled "**Come What May**" from Advent Film Group. Our event will be held **Thursday, December 11, 2008 at 7:00 P.M.** at **The Aerie at Eagle Landing**, located just up the hillside, north and east of New Hope Church in Clackamas, Oregon. (Go to www.theaerieateaglelanding.com for directions.) Dessert will be provided by **Papa Haydn** in Portland, internationally known for creating some of the finest desserts in the world (go to www.papahaydn.com for a virtual tour of their work). It will be a wonderful night out with your wife, all for the low-low price of a few hours plus nothing.

"Come What May," the film you will see, is the winner of the 2008 Redemptive Storyteller Award. Filmed in Virginia, it stars two of Oregon's own young new actors, Austin Kearney of Oregon City, and Victoria Emmons of Grants Pass, in lead roles that make this film not only great entertainment, but also a great lesson on the current legal standing of abortion. You may check out a trailer for the movie at www.comewhatmaypdx.com.

Our purpose in this screening and dessert is to gain your prayer support and leadership assistance in spreading the word about the **public showing of "Come What May" on Thursday, January 22** (the 35th anniversary of the Roe v. Wade decision that made abortion-on-demand the law of the land). Many in the Christian community are discouraged after the recent election. It appears that President Obama and the Congress will make life more difficult for the unborn. Thus, we cannot rely solely on political action; we must raise awareness in our community of why abortion is wrong. That awareness should begin with ourselves and with our church members. Together, as we cry out to God with prayer and fasting -- not only for the unborn, but for all those involved in the act of abortion -- God may yet hear and respond with mercy.

There will not be a request for money, or an opportunity to give at this screening. Our goal is to secure your support for this citywide venture. We are doing this because we care about what is happening in our community. What higher moral obligation does Christ's church have besides worship, evangelism and discipleship, than the saving of innocent lives from an unjust death? Our January 22 showing will simply issue a call to renewed action, for everyone to use their gifts and resources in a broad array of practical strategies to fight abortion. At the Pastors' Screening, you will be able to see the general action plan which we will distribute to the audience on January 22. We do not intend to start another organization. Instead, we hope to make more people aware of all the existing organizations that deserve support and the many good ways each of us can make a difference on this issue.

Note: The Portland showing of "Come What May" is led not by HOFCC leadership, but by two ordinary families who have felt the call to unite the Body of Christ to staunch the flow of innocent blood. I hope you will join with them as I have to make this an example of local Christian solidarity.

Seating for the Pastors' Screening & Dessert is limited so **please reserve your seats and desserts today** by calling **Jeremy** at **(503) 891-7117**. Thank you.

Your Fellow Servant In Christ,



Gregg Harris, Teaching Elder

“Never place a period
where God has placed a comma”
(Grace Allen)



God is still speaking.

**PARKROSE COMMUNITY
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**



November 30, 2008

Mr. Gregg Harris
Teaching Elder
Household of Faith Community Church
P.O. Box 441
Gresham, Oregon 97030

Dear Mr. Harris:

Your invitation to the screening of “Come What May” arrived this week.

I am sorry that you took the opportunity in your invitation to falsely charge that President-elect Obama and the new Congress “will make life more difficult for the unborn.” The president-elect has a long record of defending a woman’s right to make her own health care decisions (a right supported by many Christian denominations) and has also pledged to reduce the need for abortion by providing additional support for women who want to raise children.

The United Church of Christ, Presbyterian Church USA, Episcopal Church, and the United Methodist Church are among the Christian denominations that support Roe vs. Wade.

I urge you to abandon the tactics used by pro-life groups that divide Americans and to instead work alongside other Christians and health care organizations to reduce the need for abortion through comprehensive sex education, access to birth control and family planning, and support for families with children.

Legislation such as The Pregnant Women Support Act and the Reducing the Need for Abortion Act need support. Both of these bills have support from pro-life and pro-choice members of Congress who understand that common ground approaches are needed.

As a United States Senator, President-elect Obama was an original co-sponsor of the Prevention First Act. The legislation was designed to reduce the need for abortion.

The Religious Coalition for Reproductive Choice reports that elements of the Prevention First Act include:

- Increase Funding for the National Family Planning Program (Title X): Title X provides high-quality preventive health care to low income individuals who may otherwise lack access to health care. Every year, Title X services prevent approximately one million unintended pregnancies, nearly half of which would end in abortion. This critical safety net program is grossly underfunded despite the fact that the health care services

financed by Title X improve women's health. The bill would increase the amount of money authorized for Title X.

- **Expand Medicaid Family Planning Services:** A low income woman is four times as likely to have an unintended pregnancy, five times as likely to have an unintended birth and more than four times as likely to have an abortion as her higher-income counterpart. This bill will strengthen Medicaid coverage of family planning services, by clarifying and ensuring that Medicaid coverage for family planning services remain accessible to low-income women. It will also amend the Medicaid statute to require states to extend coverage for family planning services and supplies to women who would be entitled to Medicaid-funded prenatal, labor, delivery and postpartum care if they became pregnant.
- **End Insurance Discrimination Against Women:** Women of reproductive age pay 68% more in out-of-pocket costs for health care services than do men of the same age. Expenses related to reproductive health account for much of this difference. The bill requires private health plans to cover FDA-approved prescription contraceptives and related medical services to the same extent that they cover prescription drugs and other outpatient medical services.
- **Improve Awareness about Emergency Contraception (EC):** Greater awareness of EC could substantially reduce the staggering number of unintended pregnancies. Approved for use by the FDA, EC prevents pregnancy and cannot interrupt or disrupt an established pregnancy. A study published in the Journal of the American Medical Association confirms that easier access to EC does not increase sexual risk-taking or STDs. The bill provides funding to implement important public education initiatives about emergency contraception (EC) and its benefits and uses to both women and medical providers.
- **Provide Compassionate Assistance for Rape Victims:** Women who suffer sexual assault should not have to face the additional trauma of an unwanted pregnancy. Approximately 300,000 women are reported raped each year in the US and nearly 25,000 victims of rape will become pregnant as a result. The bill requires that hospitals receiving federal funds promptly provide EC upon patient request, in addition to medically, factually accurate and unbiased written and oral information about EC to women who survive sexual assault.
- **Reduce Teen Pregnancy:** Thirty-four percent of young women become pregnant at least once before they reach the age of 20 -- about 820,000 pregnancies a year. Eight in ten of these pregnancies are unintended. The bill would provide funding for grants to public and private entities to establish or expand teen pregnancy prevention programs and for comprehensive sexuality education.
- **Ensure that Federally -Funded Programs Provide Medically Accurate Information:** Despite overwhelming public support for comprehensive sex education that includes medically accurate information about contraception and STDs, government-funded abstinence-only programs are precluded from discussing contraception except to talk about failure rates. A December 2004 review of federally-funded abstinence-only programs found that many federally funded abstinence-only programs distort public health data and misrepresent the effectiveness of contraception. The bill ensures that information provided about the use of contraception as part of any federally funded sex

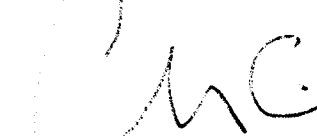
education, family life education, abstinence education, comprehensive health education or character education is medically accurate and shall include the health benefits and failure rates of such use.

- Provide Funding for Comprehensive Sexuality Education Currently, there is no federal funding stream to support responsible, comprehensive sexuality education in schools. The Real Education About Life Act would include science-based, medically accurate, and age appropriate public health information about both abstinence and also contraception. In addition to supporting healthy adolescent development, the REAL act would provide assistance to reduce teen pregnancy, HIV/AIDS, and other sexually transmitted diseases.

(Source: <http://www.rcrc.org/calltojustice/prevention.php>)

The Christian faith demands support for children. We should all agree on that. I urge you to drop the hyper-charged partisan rhetoric contained in your letter and to work with President-elect Obama and all those who wish to make real and lasting change that builds families and reaffirms our national commitment to the needs of children.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Currie', written over a faint, larger outline of the same signature.

The Rev. Chuck Currie