

# RELIGION

## Ainsworth in the City

### Church hosts auction, festival



Linda Hornbuckle

A two-day celebration hosted by the congregation of Ainsworth United Church of Christ will promote a welcoming community.

On Friday, May 30 a silent auction, dinner and dancing takes place 6:30-10:30 p.m. at the Atrium at Legacy Emmanuel Hospital. The night will include music by Janice Scoggins and Linda Hornbuckle and company. Cost is \$50. A drawing for a weeklong vacation for two at a Mexico resort will also be raffled at \$10 per ticket. For more information or for tickets, call the church's office at 503-284-8767.

On Saturday, May 31, a family fun festival and street fair will take place from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the church located at 2941 N.E.

Ainsworth St. There will be free activities for children including a "bounce house," clown, face painting and a visit from a City of Portland fire truck. Jewelry, garden plants, and books will be on sale along with a BBQ lunch. All are welcome.

Proceeds from the auction and dinner evening will support the church's mission and ministry and the Community of Welcoming Congregations, an Oregon and Southwest Washington interfaith ministry and advocacy organization working toward full inclusion and equality for transgender, lesbian, bisexual, gay and questioning persons.

With 98 active congregations



Janice Scoggins will perform during a Friday, May 30 benefit.

and affiliated organizations in 21 religious traditions, the organization brings together people of faith who believe in the inherent dignity and worth of every person.

Led by the Rev. Lynne Smouse Lopez, pastor, Ainsworth United Church of Christ is a multi-cultural,

multi-racial, open and affirming church whose mission is to live out the teachings of Jesus Christ: by worshipping God, ministering to each other, nurturing our spiritual journeys, promoting justice, and serving the local and global communities.

## Book Records History of Church

### Vancouver Avenue: yesterday, today and forever

To mark the 65th Anniversary of the Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church, 3138 N. Vancouver Ave., the congregation has commissioned a gorgeous oversized, hardbound coffee-table book that is scheduled for publication.

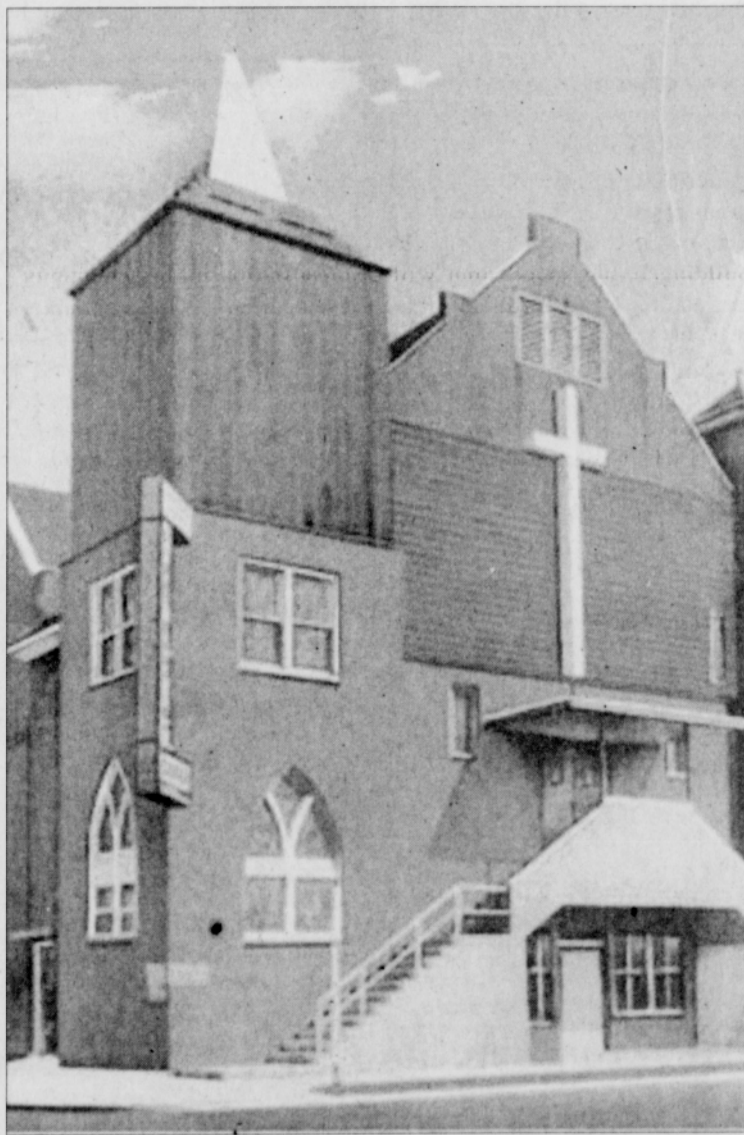
A special retrospective book featuring a tremendous collection of restored historical photographs taken during the 1940s through the '80s. Some of the images were discovered in a dusty attic tucked away some 50 years ago.

A portion of the book has also been dedicated to an anthology of rare written family histories of African Americans who came from the rural south to build and foster their new lives and the church.

Many of these families migrated from Texas, Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Alabama and Oklahoma. Also featured in the book is a genealogical gem, a birth and death registry of early members, about 800 individuals.

The Vancouver Avenue Church was founded in 1944, with approximately 25 African-American members in a one-room housing project in Vancouver, Wash.

Under the ministerial leadership of native Louisianan, Rev. Dr. O.B.



From its inception to where it sits in its current location, a coffee-table book will chronicle Vancouver Avenue First Baptist Church.

Williams, the membership grew to more than 1,300 parishioners.

Also featured in the book is a written capsule about the African-

American community in Oregon, a piece written by longtime local historian and former City of Portland Commissioner Dick Bogle.

## Pastor Appreciation Service

Community A. M. E. Zion Church, located at 3605 E. 13th St. in Vancouver, will hold a special service to give honor and recognition to Rev. Robert F.

Kemp for 24 years of faithful leadership.

The tribute under the theme: "Servant Sent by God" - Romans 10:14,15 will take place

at on Sunday, June 8 at 4 p.m.

The public is invited to join the joyful celebration. For more information, call 360-693-4566.

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