

BEHOLD!!

Smyrna

A Newsletter of Smyrna United Church of Christ

Ministers: All members of the church

Minister: The Rev. Dr. Deborah Patterson

Editor: Jeannie Rogers

Asst. Editor: Elaine Daniels

Church Phone (503) 651-2131

e-mail: smyrnaucc@canby.com

Website: www.smyrna-ucc.org

31119 S. Highway 170, Canby, OR 97013



No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here.

May 2015

Dear Friends,

You may know the poem, "God's World" by Edna St. Vincent Millay, which begins, "*O world, I cannot hold thee close enough!*" Though it is a poem about the beauty of autumn, the second verse seems to speak of the beauty which we see around us this spring:

*"Thou'st made the world too beautiful this year;
My soul is all but out of me."*

It is on such beautiful days like this that we remember we must treasure them, for we do not know how many days are written for us in the book of life on this earth. Our consolation is that we confessed on Easter that death is not the end.

Yet....something there is in us that still calls us to pause, to ponder, to praise. It's the same sentiment that Louis Armstrong must have had when he sang, "*What a Wonderful World.*"

Spring. It reminds us that time is marching on. And yet....it reminds us that this moment – NOW – is a time of amazing wonder and blessing. A time to plant a flower or a vegetable. A time to take a dog for a walk or play catch with a child. A time to do good. A time to heal.

Yes, the writer of Ecclesiastes says, "For everything there is a season...." (Eccl. 3:1). And this is a season of wonder and thanksgiving.

With thanksgiving for the Smyrna

community of faith,

Blessings, Pastor Deb

A CHALLENGE TO THE YOUTH

Inviting all youth to submit
a question for a "Youth Sermon" to Pastor
Deb at

debpatersonhome@gmail.com.



ADULT EDUCATION IN MAY

9:45 am in the Pastor's Study

May 3rd – Eckhart Tolle, Mystic

May 10th – Mothers in the Bible

May 17th – Steve Patterson, Bible Study

May 24th – No Adult Ed class on Memorial Day
weekend

May 31st – "Mystery"



The Smyrna United Church of Christ/Glenda Yoder Sano Scholarship Committee will be accepting applications through **May 4th, 2015**. The applications are available in the narthex of the church or by

contacting Rick Gano. Eligibility Requirements are: the applicant must be a current or recently graduated high school senior or in a post high school program making satisfactory progress, and the applicant must be an active participant in Smyrna UCC with active participation during the past year in the life of Smyrna UCC (Examples would be participation or assistance with the worship, Sunday School, grounds cleanup, Strawberry Social, Chili Cook-off, Vacation Bible School, etc.).

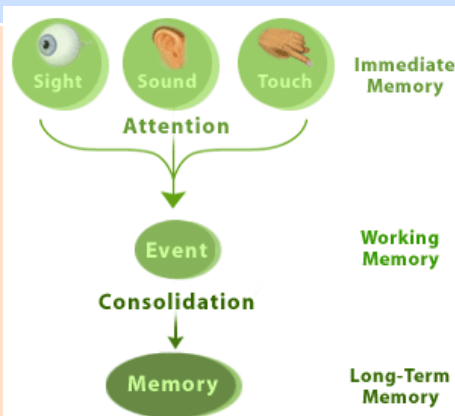
This is the twelfth year that Smyrna has provided church members scholarships for furthering their education after high school. The church scholarship is granted in memory of **Glenda Yoder Sano**, a 1963 Molalla High graduate and a long time member of the Smyrna Church family, who, as many of you know, was instrumental in starting and continuing many youth programs in our church.

The Memory Café – April Report

The Memory Café met for the second time on Friday, April 3, 12-1:30 pm with Kristi Murphy, Aging & Disability Resource

Connection of Oregon, presenting. She brought a special guest with her – Sarah Hout, Unit Manager for Aging for the State of Oregon (who is also Charles and Helen Odell's daughter!) Kristi shared information on finding the right resources and services to stay independent. We also had more brain information, lunch provided by Louise Adams, with help from Barbara Daniels, and a lot of fun. There were 35 in attendance for this special event.

See the article in this Behold about our upcoming May gathering!



The fishing was good!

After just one week of “fishing for tuna” our catch had a total of 129 cans. That is fabulous – and I’m sure the food bank in Molalla can use this.

Now The Stitch Club will add another 100 cans, so Chuck and Helen Odell can make a much needed delivery. Thank you to everyone who helped make this possible.



Sale!

The Stitch Club will be having a clearance sale with 25% off all items in their

inventory—except for the chocolate bars. This sale will be held on Sunday, May 17th during the “Soup and Pie” event.

Music Program Review and Planning Process Continues



A meeting was held on Sunday, April 19th from 10 to 10:50 am in the Pastor’s office to discuss the music program planning process. All are invited to join the conversation starting the first Sunday in June, with meetings to be held one hour before church, as there is no Adult Ed or Chancel Choir during the summer.

The hope is to have the planning process completed by the end of the summer, so that the Chancel Choir and Handbell Choir, can resume in September, with other aspects of the program to be implemented then. Over the summer, as in years past, we will have special music by members of the congregation.

We hope you can join us in these conversations, and all are welcome to share their musical gifts.

Noted Author to Speak at May 1st Memory Café

Virginia Walsh Furtwangler, a noted American-Canadian writer, will be the guest speaker for the Memory Café to be held **Friday, May 1st at noon at Smyrna United Church of Christ**, 31119 S. Highway 170. Using the pen name, Ann Copeland, she has written five collections of short stories, one of which, *The Golden Thread*, was a shortlisted nominee for the **Canadian Governor General's Award** for English-language fiction. She has also written a textbook on creating fiction.

Born and raised in Hartford, CT, Virginia was educated at the Catholic University of America and Cornell University, obtaining her PhD in English, with additional studies in music. She went through the novitiate to become a Catholic sister, but after taking final vows, prayerfully left the order with a dispensation from Rome. Later, Virginia married Allan Furtwangler, and they moved to Sackville, New Brunswick to teach at Mount Allison University. In the 1990's, they returned to the US to teach at Willamette University, where she is currently a professor emeritus.

In addition to her fiction, Dr. Furtwangler is an accomplished composer, transforming Gregorian chant into jazz. She also regularly performs with various musicians in the mid-Willamette Valley, and is a service musician for St. Vincent de Paul Parish in Salem. She and her husband are avid opera and theatre fans, participate in continuing education opportunities at Willamette, and regularly host music and art gatherings in their home. Now in her 80's, she is a shining example of a life filled with diversity to remain fully engaged in retirement.

Smyrna UCC's Memory Café helps middle-aged and older adults learn ways to keep their brains healthy, and to learn about resources available to help them live independently, and/or care for loved ones with cognitive impairment. It meets the first Friday of each month from noon to 1:30. **There is no cost, although free-will donations are accepted for lunch. Reservations are required by Wednesday, April 29th** to debpaterson-home@gmail.com or by calling 503-689-4450.



HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Health Committee co-sponsored the Disaster Preparedness workshop led by Justin Ross, the Emergency Preparedness Program Coordinator from OHSU on Sunday, April 19th following worship, with approximately 50 in attendance. His contact information is rosju@ohsu.edu, and his phone number is 503-494-4858, in case you have further questions.

Here is a simple template for a Family Disaster plan from the Red Cross:

http://crinorthwest.org/files/Family_Disaster_Plan_Template.pdf

Here is a flyer with weekly steps (24 weeks) for budget-friendly preparedness (Washington Co.)

http://crinorthwest.org/files/Weekly_Steps_for_Emergency_Preparedness_1.pdf

More links here:

<http://www.crinorthwest.org/preptalk.html>

Health Tip: Today's families are led by traditional parents, single parents, gay couples, blended or step-families. Without any family people are often set adrift with no direction or support. This tends to make them less healthy. Positive relationships provide unconditional love and encouragement which fosters self-esteem, positive attitudes and better health habits.

How does one build and nurture positive families? Be interested in each other's activities, plan outings for family that encourage bonding experiences. Listen to each other to understand and deal with conflict.

Since all families endure highs and lows, it is necessary to teach children how to handle disappointment and adversity as well as how to celebrate the joys and wonders of family life. Each setting is important to your body, mind, and spirit!

Source — *Focus on the Family*

CAN YOU GUESS?

Someone in our congregation has not eaten chocolate during the last 40 years-(overheard during coffee hour)
Answer in next month's Behold!!



YOUTH GROUP News



On the last Sunday of March, the Youth gathered to tie dye t-shirts for themselves and as a fundraiser. They enjoyed making unique designs. We wore our tie dye shirts for the Easter Service and Brunch on Sunday, April 5th. The Youth Group also collaborated in creating the banner to hang over the buffet Easter Brunch. During the brunch, the youth helped pour drinks and bus tables. A big thank you to the Christian Nurture Committee and all who brought baked goods for the brunch! Donations of over \$350 were collected for the Youth Group Fund.



SOUP AND PIE FUNDRAISER
May 17th, 2015, After Church
Come and Enjoy Homemade
Soup and Pie
Free Will donations accepted



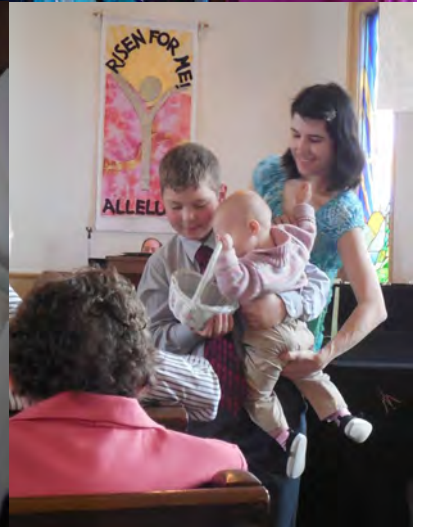
Frozen Assets

I would like to thank everyone who has donated and helped out in some way with the Frozen Assets Program. It is going well. Chicken and beef were donated in the past and now that supply has been depleted. In order for me to keep the costs down I am asking for any donations of meats and/or vegetables.

I currently cook twice a month for 6 people. It's a great program. If you have any questions about donations or the program, please feel free to contact Pastor Deb or myself. Thank you very much.

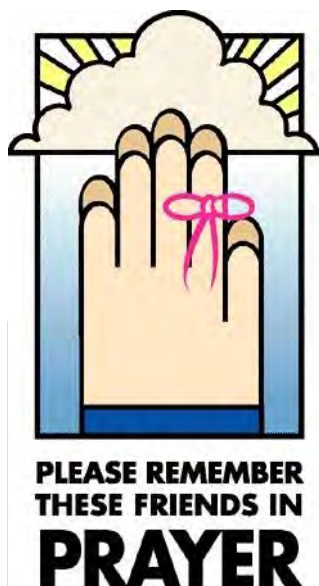
Angela Stierle

Easter Sunday at Smyrna UCC



May 2015 at Smyrna

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																				
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3 9:45 a.m. Adult Education 11 a.m. Worship and Sunday School All Church Birthday Party Flowers: Virginia Yoder <i>Spring Days of Giving</i>	4 7:30 AA and AI Anon	5 1 p.m. Stitch Club @ Irene Schriever's 10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna	6	7	8	9 b.d. Mark Gano																																																																																				
10 9:45a.m. Adult Education 11 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 12:30-1:30 p.m. Youth Group b.d. Paul Hudrlik, Cheryl Sano-Kirkele Coffee Hour: Irene Schriever Flowers: Mary Lee Schuebel <i>Mother's Day</i>	11 7:30 AA and AI Anon b.d. Serafina Baker, Jeff Hammock	12 10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna b.d. Judy Burbank, Bernadette Yoder, Florence Pease	13	14 12 noon Women's Fellowship Luncheon	15	16 Armed Forces Day b.d. Lauren																																																																																				
17 9:45a.m. Adult Education 11 a.m. Worship & Sunday School 12:30-1:30 p.m. Youth Group b.d. Lincoln Bangs Flowers: Irene Schriever <i>Soup and Pie Sunday</i> Wedding Ann. John & Florence Pease	18 7:30 AA and AI Anon	19 10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna b.d. Colton Fisher	20	21 b.d. Sherry Skiles	22 b.day Kaden Wells	23																																																																																				
24 11 a.m. Worship & Sunday School NO Adult Education or Youth Group b.d. Linda Dunn Coffee Hour: Volunteer needed Flowers: Jeannie Rogers Pentecost	25 7:30 AA and AI Anon b.d. John Patterson Memorial Day (Observed)	26 10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna	27 b.d. Sarah Zannotti	28 12 noon Women's Fellowship Luncheon b.d. Paul Holbrook, Louise Allee	29	30																																																																																				
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Donald Hammock
Brenda Hammock
Blanche Kober
Mickey Hester
Ruth Hepler
Robert Kyrk
Don Stoneking

Orville & Dorothy Krebs
Ernie & Ethel Henderson
Joe & Joann Gribble
Linda Younger
Debbie Hancox
Lucia Schuebel
Steve & Mary Pustay

Treasurer's Report — Irene Schriever

Balance 2/28/2015	\$11,052.28
Receipts	10,857.83
Transfers/Adjustents	(250.00)
Expenditures	<u>(17,256.62)</u>
Balance 3/31/2015	\$4,403.49

Mission Statement

Smyrna United Church of Christ is striving to be:

- ♦ A place of peace where we teach the word of God and the story of God's love.
- ♦ A spiritual haven where we accept and care for all humanity in an outreach of grace.
- ♦ A lighthouse of God's light, where worship, teaching, learning and spiritual growth take place in community powered by thought and action.
- ♦ A Christian people, working for God's realm in ecumenical harmony with other people of faith and conviction.