

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.

January 2017



Dear Friends,

As I am writing this, it's a snow day, and I took the opportunity to stay up late last night to read Susan Faludi's newest book, [Into the Darkroom](#). In it, Faludi explores her father's corporate identity as a child growing up within the Jewish community in Budapest before he moved to New York in the 1930's. She also learns about his evolving personal identity in his later years.

Identity. It is something that forms and changes within us, as individuals, and as members of communities, over the course of our entire lives from birth to death. We have a whole list of identities that we include in our call to worship – young, old, or in the middle; man, woman, teen or child; gay or straight; married, never-married, widowed, or divorced; healthy or ailing, and so forth. We have identities as members of communities – we connect with Canby, or Molalla, or Mt. Angel, or Salem. We identify

with different social interests, different civic engagements, different political opinions, and the list goes on and on of the ways our identities are shaped.

There is one part of our identity, however, that is held in common by all Christians – that we should be known by our love – love of God, neighbor, and ourselves. Jimmy Carter believed that we should live in a manner that if we were on trial for being Christian, there would be enough evidence to convict us. It's a good reminder for myself as we begin a new year.

That is why in the UCC we say this: “In essentials—unity, in non-essentials—diversity, and in all things—charity.”

So in this season of giving, I give thanks for each of you, fellow travelers on this Christian journey, which started back in a little manger filled with God's love. May they know we are Christians by our love as we look to the future. Wishing you all a happy, healthy New Year!

Blessings,
Pastor Deb

**Please turn in all reports for the Annual Meeting book and directory by
January 5th, 2017.**

All-church Annual Meeting January 22, 2017

The Church Council will have lunch for the congregation brought in to be followed by the meeting.

The revision of Smyrna's Church Constitution has been completed and will be available for perusal on Sunday, Jan. 8. We will vote on it at the Annual Meeting.



New Year Needs

Stitch Club is advocating we gather the following items to take to the Food Bank during the month of January:

Restock the SHELVES

Canned meat or fish
Soup, any kind
Canned fruit and vegetables
Peanut butter
Pasta—to include Mac N Cheese
Milk products—powdered milk, boxed pudding mixes
Non-Food items—toilet paper, tooth brush and paste, feminine hygiene products
Cereal-any kind
Baby food, any kind
Grains—brown and white rice

The need is great for all we can provide to help the service centers throughout the year. If you have any questions about any of the food items please contact Stitch Club.

Barbara Daniels

STITCH CLUB NEWS

On Monday, January 16, Stitch Club will gather at Ethel Henderson's to do crafts at 1 pm. (no meeting Jan. 3!)

Pastor Deb's note: The Stitch Club delivered a number of cheer baskets and poinsettias to folks again this year, and I would like to thank them for the beautiful cheer basket that they shared with our family, which we are still enjoying! I know that every recipient was very grateful!



Restroom updates

At the November Council meeting it was recommended and approved that all restrooms at Smyrna would be designated gender neutral.

A diaper changing station has been purchased by Women's Fellowship and installed by Carl Menkel.

New signage has been installed to reflect these updates.

Free parenting & Group

Support for all Expecting Women

Starting January 3, 2017
6-8 PM
31119 S Hwy 170



Light Supper Provided Each Week

1st & 3rd Tuesday of the Month
To RSVP or for more info:
Carly.itami@gmail.com



Confirmation continues on the 2nd Friday of each month from 5:30 to 7 p.m., with a light supper served. In November, we talked about the Torah, and the stories in the first five books of the Bible: Genesis, Exodus, Leviticus, Numbers, and Deuteronomy.

In December, we talked about the prophets throughout the Bible, from the book of Genesis, through the New Testament, including John the Baptist, Mary (Jesus' mother), and Jesus. There were both male and female prophets who called the kings, judges, and people to care for the poor, the orphans, the widows, and to follow in God's ways of mercy and compassion.

Thank you to Heather Anderson who brought pizza, Kathy Robinson who brought juice and veggies, and the Maurers, who brought cheese and crackers.

This month, Confirmation will meet on Friday, January 13th to discuss the parables. Parents are welcome to stay and hang out in my office, and to visit and nosh during the class.

Clerk's Notes 1971

4/4/1971 —

We are thankful for the new, beautiful offering plates made for our worship service by Otto Hudrlik.



4/11/1971 — Correction:

The plates which were recently donated came from genuine black walnut "fiddleback" stock donated by a local lumber manufacturer who prefers to remain anonymous. They were turned by a recently retired salesman who also prefers to remain anonymous. (editor's note: This is not to say that last week's announcement was in error; only that it needed further amplification.)

2016 note: handwritten in the margins of the original notes was the identification of the local manufacturer as Yoder Mill.

Happy New Year from Carol Loe

The first part of 2016 I was busy with church activities at St Michael & All Angels Episcopal Church, going to church almost every Sunday and attending special events at the church. A church friend took me to Canby in May to see friends there and put flowers on my parents' graves. On Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays I would to Providence ElderPlace to have lunch with the group there.

July 18 I celebrated my 71st birthday and had a nice party at the American Dream Pizza Parlor. I continued to keep busy with my knitting and sewing..

Things changed in October. I fell at a restaurant and was hospitalized for about a week. I am still recuperating from that fall and have been in and out of the hospital and nursing homes the past 2 months. Monday, December 5, I moved back to my home. I am in a wheelchair and working on getting stronger. I go to ElderPlace three days a week. Friends from my church, ElderPlace, and the community continue to help me in many ways.

I wish you a wonderful new year

Carol Loe & her teddy bear & Cabbage Patch doll family



We enjoyed this dish prepared by Louise Adams at Memory Café from the blog called Smitten Kitchen.

Root Vegetable Gratin — Servings: 8 to 10

- **Time:** 2 to 2 1/4 hours

Source: [Ina Garten's Cooking For Jeffrey](#)

Once I realized how much this made, I divided it between [two pans](#), one 3-quart baking dish and one 1-quart, freezing the larger one until I need it.

Garten's original recipe calls for 1/2 cup chicken broth and 2 1/2 cups heavy cream. I do not like gratins to be this rich and find much less cream goes a long way to impart richness, but not the kind that muffles flavors, so I used 2 cups broth and 1 cup cream. I also love mascarpone and/or creme fraiche in a gratin; you could use 1 cup of either here with an extra glug of milk or broth.

To make this ahead of time, you have many options but since a dish like this doesn't need to be baked *a la minute* to taste good, I'd go ahead and assemble and bake it as soon as you can. If just 1 to 3 days out, keep it in the fridge. 3 or more, freeze it. Make sure it spends a day in the fridge defrosting and then an hour on the counter shaking off its final chill before going in the oven (the last part mostly about protecting your stoneware, should it not be a friend to big temperature changes).

- Olive oil
- 1 large onion, sliced (1 1/2 cups)
- 2 cups (1/4-inch-sliced) fennel, top and core, if thick, removed

- 3 cloves garlic, minced (1 tablespoon)
- 1 pound peeled sweet potatoes, sliced 1/4-inch thick
- 1 pound celery root, peeled and sliced 1/4-inch thick
- 1 pound yukon gold, peeled and sliced 1/4-inch thick
- 1 cup heavy cream (see Note up top)
- 2 cups chicken or vegetable stock or broth
- 2 cups grated gruyere cheese (6 ounces with rind)
- 2 teaspoons minced fresh thyme leaves
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 2 1/2 cups coarse fresh breadcrumbs or panko (what I used)
- 2 to 3 tablespoons melted butter

Heat your oven to 350°F. Butter a 13×9-inch deep baking dish.

Heat 2 tablespoons olive oil in a large deep (ideally 12-inch) saute pan over medium heat and add the onions and fennel. Cooking, tossing occasionally, until lightly browned and tender, about 10 minutes. Add the garlic and cook for one minute more.

Meanwhile, in the largest bowl you own, combine the onion mixture with remaining vegetables, cream, stock, cheese, thyme, 1 tablespoon kosher salt and 1 1/2 teaspoons black pepper. Pour mixture into prepared dish and spread until even. Mix breadcrumbs and butter until evenly coated and distribute evenly over top of dish.

Bake 1 1/2 hours uncovered, or until vegetables are very tender when tested with a small knife and the top is browned and bubbly. Allow to set for 15 minutes at room temperature and serve hot.

THE TREE OF WARMTH



The Mission and Outreach Committee would like to thank you for bringing hats, mittens, scarves, socks, and underwear to put on the Christmas Tree through Christmas. The smaller items were shared before Christmas with the Molalla Elementary School for kids who needed these items over the holidays, and the other items were delivered to the Canby Center

for families in need in the weeks following. Thank you!

And a special note of thanks to Jim and Kristin Daniels for delivering the beautiful tree for this purpose. It was beautiful, and absolutely perfect!

A THANK YOU NOTE FROM PASTOR DEB

I would like to thank all of you for the lovely surprise on Sunday, December 11th, when you surprised me with a note of congratulations for my 25th anniversary since my ordination to the Christian ministry, along with a beautiful gift and a generous gift. I have been thinking about what to do with the money, and I have decided to use it as seed money to create things that can be used to generate additional income for mission. I love being at Smyrna, and I look forward to the years to come. Thank you!!



*Merry
Christmas
and
Happy
New
Year
from
Blanche
Kober*



Christmas
Eve
and
Christmas
Day
at Smyrna
UCC

Treasurer's Report

by Irene Schriever

General Fund Balance 10/31/2016	\$6, 886.97
Receipts	6,005.42
Expenditures	6,638.43

EXERCISE CLASSES

Smyrna has a variety of exercise classes to help you keep your balance.

- “Aging Backwards” happens here each Monday Morning from 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. (two sessions, beginning at 9:30, and at 10)
- Tai Chi takes place on Wednesdays at 10 and Saturdays at 9:30 am.



ADULT EDUCATION IN JANUARY

All classes meet at 9:45 a.m. in Pastor Deb's office

- January 8th – Creating a God Box
- January 15th – Creation and Freeman Dyson
- January 22nd – Discussion about the Annual Meeting Reports
- January 29th – Teillard de Chardin, Mystic

Earth Care Committee

The Earth Care Committee met on Dec. 13, 2016. One topic of discussion was recycling. We understand that the rate of recycling is down in Oregon, and we spent some time talking about what the Smyrna community could do to promote this important part of caring for our environment.



We have a brown cart outside the kitchen door for recyclables and a dumpster bin in the parking lot next to the newspaper drop box. There is concern that garbage and recycling are not being sorted properly. Several times someone has had to sort through the bin and remove items that are not recyclable:

shrink wrap, plastic containers such as cookies come in, cardboard cartons used for frozen food, plastic grocery bags, plastic clam shells, etc. It is confusing and we are working on some things we can do to make this work better.

We plan to laminate a large poster to place outside the kitchen door which will be a guide, and to have some materials available on the subject. Garbage in the blue can is picked up weekly early Monday morning; the recycling can is picked up the FIRST Monday of the month. The workers will come and get the cans, and we take them back in.

MEMORY CAFÉ

Our December Memory Café had 50 in attendance, and included two different programs. Stan Paine, from the Aging and Spirituality Network of the United Church of Christ, came from First Congregational United Church of Christ in Eugene, and brought information about that initiative across the conference, which is open to all. Here is the website for more information about that:

<http://bit.ly/AgingWithSpirit>.

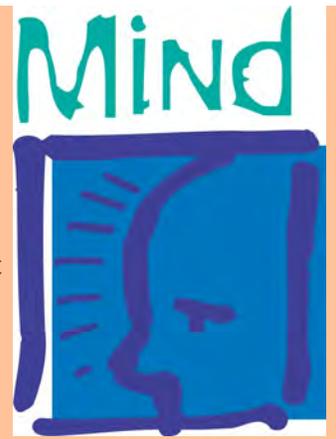
We were also visited by a group of older adult musicians, who brought us a half-hour concert: Ginny Furtwangler on piano, Barbara Bonnem and Elizabeth Siebert on violin, and Al Furtwangler on banjo. They encouraged us all to keep on keeping on with our hobbies and the things that we love to do. And all were invited to the Molalla Community Choir Concert later that evening.

And as always, we had a lovely lunch catered by Louise Adams, Arlene Hampton, Barbara Daniels, and Genevieve Freeman. Thank you so much to all who make this program possible.

Stay tuned for more information about the next Memory Café, to be held Friday, January 6, 2017 from noon to 1:30 pm. Be sure to RSVP by the Wednesday before (Jan 4th) to Pastor Deb at 503-689-4450

or

debpatersonhome@gmail.com.



Looking ahead —

It is the annual Chili Cook-Off with proceeds going to the general fund. Join the competition, get your team organized and let's have fun on Sunday, Feb. 5th —



Superbowl Sunday.

This is a church fundraiser to help with the expenses of utilities, purchase of music and curriculum for Sunday School, salary expenses for staff (all

**Annual Reports needed:
Deadline January 5, 2017**

- Pastor
- Moderator
- √ Board of Trustees
- Grounds Committee
- Stitch Club —
 - √ President's Report
 - Financial report
 - √ Meeting Dates
- √ Diaconate
- Scholarship Committee
- √ Finance Committee — 2017 Fundraising dates
- Clerk's Report
- Mission and Outreach
- Staff/Parish Committee
- Building Use
- Board of Christian Education
- Board of Christian Nurture
- Youth Group
- Women's Fellowship Report
 - √ Secretary's report
 - Financial Report
- Nominating Committee —
Officers, Board & Committee Members
- Memorial Committee
- Heartline
- Cemetery Committee
- Health Committee
- Environmental Committee
- Treasurer Report — separate from annual
- Coffee Hour Volunteers — please sign up
- Flower Volunteers — please sign up

This list will be posted on the Narthex bulletin board, If you are on a Board or Committee, please ensure that the report is turned in and checked off the list.



Please hold Joann Gribble and family in prayer, following the passing of Joe Gribble.

Joe lived a good life, and fought a hard fight during this final illness. We offer his family our love and support.

Celebration of life information will be available soon.

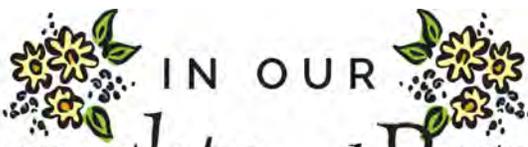


We are grateful to Julia and Bill Peterson, and Juliana Kyrk and their families, for the beautiful bench donated in loving memory of Julia and Juliana's father, Robert J. Kyrk, a long-time and faithful member of Smyrna UCC, who contributed in many ways to the life of this congregation, including a special regard for the care of the cemetery. The bench was dedicated Sunday, December 4, 2016 — the same day that Smyrna's Sanctuary was re-dedicated.



January 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																	
<p>1</p> <p>11 a.m. Worship Coffee Hour: Volunteer needed Fowers:</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Happy New Year!!</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7:30 p.m. AA and AI Anon</p> <p>9:30 & 10 a.m. Aging Backwards @ Smyrna</p> <p>b.d. David Schriever, Linda Younger</p>	<p>3</p> <p>10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna</p> <p>6-8 p.m. Free Parenting Group & Support for all Expecting Women</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Coffee & Friends in Pastor's office</p>	<p>4</p> <p>10 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna</p> <p>Deadline to RSVP for Memory Cafe</p>	<p>5</p> <p>b.d. Don Blatchford, Tavi Robinson</p> <p>Deadline for Annual Reports</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Noon-1:30 p.m. Memory Cafe @ Smyrna</p>	<p>7</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna</p>																																																																																																	
<p>8</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Adult Education 11 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, and Youth Group</p> <p>b.d. Christine Foster</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Stitch Club Flowers: Volunteer needed</p>	<p>9</p> <p>7:30 p.m. AA and AI Anon</p> <p>9:30 & 10 a.m. Aging Backwards @ Smyrna</p>	<p>10</p> <p>10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna</p> <p>11 a.m. Diaconate Mtg in Pastor's Office</p> <p style="text-align: center;">b.d. Liz Chapin</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Prayer Group in Pastor's office</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna</p> <p>b.d. Helen Odell</p>	<p>12</p> <p>12 Noon Women's Fellowship Luncheon</p> <p>b.d. Morgan Rogers</p>	<p>13</p> <p>b.d. Ryan Yoder</p> <p>5:30-7 p.m. Confirmation class @ Smyrna</p>	<p>14</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna</p> <p>Wedding Ann. David & Irene Schriever</p>																																																																																																	
<p>15</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Adult Education 11 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, and Youth Group</p> <p>b.d. Nicholas Stanbro</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Volunteer needed Flowers: Volunteer needed</p>	<p>16</p> <p>7:30 p.m. AA and AI Anon</p> <p>9:30 & 10 a.m. Aging Backwards @ Smyrna</p> <p>b.d. Julie Stanbro</p> <p>Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday</p> <p>1 p.m. Stitch Club Crafting @ Ethel Henderson's</p>	<p>17</p> <p>10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna</p> <p>6-8 p.m. Free Parenting Group & Support for all Expecting Women</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Coffee & Friends in Pastor's office</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna</p>	<p>19</p> <p>b.d. Anne Schuebel Bangs, Matthew Emmert</p>	<p>20</p> <p>Behold!! deadline</p>	<p>21</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna</p>																																																																																																	
<p>22</p> <p>9:45 a.m. Adult Education 11 a.m. Worship, Sunday School, and Youth Group</p> <p>b.d. Diane Potter, Cari Wooley</p> <p>Flowers: Volunteer needed</p> <p>Luncheon and All-Church Meeting</p>	<p>23</p> <p>7:30 p.m. AA and AI Anon</p> <p>9:30 & 10 a.m. Aging Backwards @ Smyrna</p> <p>b.d. Carol Schultz</p>	<p>24</p> <p>10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Prayer Group in Pastor's office</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna</p>	<p>26</p> <p>12 Noon Women's Fellowship Luncheon</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p> <p>9:30 a.m. Tai Chi at Smyrna</p> <p>Wed. Anniv. Rod & Patricia Bullard</p>																																																																																																	
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IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

- Joann Gribble (recovering from surgery) and family
- Helen Odell, in Memory Care
- Ione Jenson, recovering from recent illness
- Lucia Schuebel, her family and caregivers
- Marion Golonka, on the loss of her brother, and having an injured ankle
- David Roddy (Brenda Hammock's brother), undergoing cancer treatment
- Jane Dahl's family facing health issues
- Blanche Kober, Vonda Stoneking and Jean Epley, in assisted living
- Mickey Hester, with health concerns
- Jon and Susie Schriever
- All those mentioned for prayer in church
- And let us hold each other, and our neighbors around the world, in prayer.

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.