

BEHOLD!!

A Newsletter of Smyrna United Church of Christ

Ministers: All members of the church

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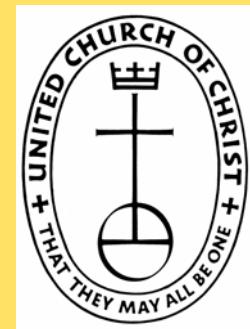
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Smyrna



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

August 2018

Everyday Saints

I'm currently reading a wonderful biography of St. Francis of Assisi, called, Reluctant Saint: The Life of Francis of Assisi, by Donald Spoto. In it, Spoto describes the transition of Francis from a rich, spoiled brat to a mystic, an itinerant preacher who cared for the poor, for animals, and for the environment before environmentalist was a word.

As Spoto's book points out, "much of what we have come to know of Francis is in fact the product of legends and the accumulation of hundreds of years of pious iconography, so much so that this remarkable man has become obscured by his image."

Indeed. Most of the saints, as the hymn, "I Sing a Song of the Saints of God" points out, were just regular people doing what they were called to do:

"They loved their God and they lived that love. It was loving that made them strong.

They did what was right, for Jesus' sake, lived justly their whole lives long....

They lived not only in ages past, there are hundreds of thousands still.

The world is filled with living saints who choose to do God's will."

The British author of this hymn, Lesbia Scott, concluded, way back in 1929,

"You can meet them in school, on the road, or at sea, in a church, in a train, in a shop, or at tea:
for the saints are folks like you and like me, and I mean to be one, too."

Dear saints of God who are part of the body of Christ that is seen at Smyrna United Church of Christ, let us keep on keeping on, doing God's will, living and loving each day of our lives.

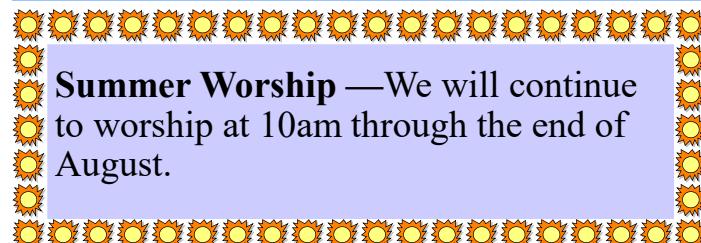
Blessings to all,
Pastor Deb



Strengthen the Church Offering

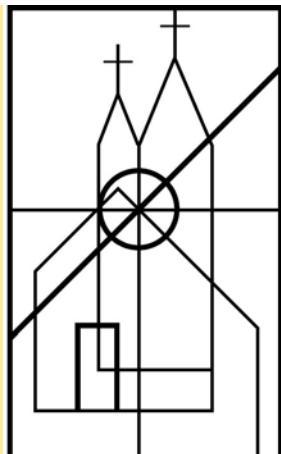
Smyrna is a "5 for 5 Church," which means that we contribute to all five of the denominational offerings within the UCC. (Can you name the other 4?) On August 19th, we will receive our "Strengthen the Church" offering, which will go to the Conference and the National Offices to help support the ministries and growth of local congregations in the UCC.

Last year, 24 new churches were added to the UCC through these gifts, a new fellowship program was launched to help equip future church leaders, and grants were made through the "New and Renewing Spiritual Communities" fund. Let's help other churches get started through this fund again this year!



How Safe Is Our Church?

The members of the Diaconate Committee have been discussing "How Safe is our church." We will be scheduling someone to come and talk with us during coffee hour about our safety concerns and how best to address someone entering our church intent upon doing bodily harm during a service. The discussion will take place at a coffee hour in the near future.



Beginning with our service on Sunday, August 5, 2018, we will be locking three doors to the outside of our facility at the start of our church service. The doors to be locked will be the kitchen door, the nursery door and the door from the added class rooms facing the cemetery. Following the service those doors will be unlocked.

The front door will not be locked at any time during the service.

If you have any questions, please feel free to talk with a member of the diaconate. Thank you.

Sharing our Blessings —Elaine delivered 62 pounds of food to the Food Bank in July. Needed at the food pantry: Sugar, oil, coffee, and box dinners, pancake mix and coffee as well as soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste and personal hygiene items. Thanks to all who are sharing their blessings!

Children for Change — During the summer, we will be collecting for Kiva projects, to be chosen by the young people of the congregation.

Sharing Our Stories meets at noon on the third Tuesday of each month – bring a sack lunch or just come for coffee and join the conversation! We meet again on Tuesday, August 21st at noon.

Smyrna has several old six pane window sashes

from the Friendship Hall. Anyone interested in taking some home can make a donation to the church.

These vintage wood windows are popular with crafters and sell on Craig's list for \$10 to \$30. The old window screens are also available.

For more information talk to Paul Yoder.



Changes, Challenges and Transitions

On July 24th we discussed "Challenges," and on August 28 we will talk about "Transitions." This has been a wonderful conversation, with about 30 members and friends of Smyrna joining together in fellowship.

Please join us at 6 pm for the last of the summer Salad Potluck Suppers, coordinated by Ione Jensen and sponsored and facilitated by our Health Committee.

Please bring a salad to share, and your own plate, cup, and silverware, to cut down on dishwashing and disposal of paper and plastic goods.

Happy Birthday, Murlene!



On Sunday, July 22, The family of Murlene Liechty hosted a luncheon for friends and family after church to honor Murlene on her 85th birthday.

Left: Murlene and her sister, Miriam Pacha, from Iowa

Below: Murlene and her children (left to right) Paul, Judy, Barb, and Dawn



Coffee Hour Volunteers are needed for the first three Sundays in August. There is a Sign Up sheet on the bulletin board in the Narthex



Peace Camp

August 7-10, 2018, 5:30-8:30 pm
Smyrna United Church of Christ
31119 S. Canby-Marquam Highway
(Highway 170), Canby, OR 97013
Phone: 503-651-2131 (Church office)
or 503-689-4450 (Pastor Deb's Cell)

E-mail: smyrnaucc@canby.com or
debpatersonhome@gmail.com



Peace Camp is a multicultural camp with the mission to provide a fun, educational environment in which children can learn messages and practices of nonviolence and peacemaking. Our theme this year is "**Let Peace Begin with Me**," and we will have lessons, music, yoga and art each evening.

Peace Camp will be held August 7-10, 2018. We will gather at 5:30 pm each evening for a light meal together and finish by 8:30 pm. On the last evening, Friday, August 10th, families of the children attending will be invited to join us for a closing ceremony at 8:00 pm.

Where is the camp? Peace Camp will be held at the Smyrna United Church of Christ, 31119 S. Canby-Marquam Highway (Highway 170), Canby, Oregon. Contact info above.

How much does it cost? There is no charge, but we are asking for preregistrations to order enough materials. Meals, snacks, t-shirts, and all materials will be provided for all participants through the support of members of Smyrna UCC.

Who participates in Peace Camp? We have space for 40 participants, so apply early. This year, we are including Pre-K through all school grades. We will have four different age groups: Pre-K, Primary, Elementary, and Upper Grades.

What do the children learn while at Peace Camp? Children will learn about the practice of peacemaking, by learning practical techniques to deal with conflict and violence in around them. These techniques for peacemaking include nonviolent conflict resolution, physical and mental practices such as mindfulness and yoga, the arts, nature studies, and media literacy. These experiences will be developmentally appropriate for the ages and will model a deep respect for cultural, social and religious diversity. We celebrate that our children are nurtured by many traditions and welcome this opportunity to learn from each other in order to create a more peaceful and tolerant world, where everyone feels like they have a sense of belonging.

To apply, please fill out an application form (available via e-mail or in the Narthex at Smyrna) and return it to Smyrna United Church of Christ.

Please understand that submitting this application does not guarantee participation. We hope to accommodate all the children who apply, but space is limited, and there may be a waiting list. For more information, contact our church office or pastor (contact information above).

24 Months to

When disaster strikes, what should you do? You could move away from the Northwest, but that would just allow more Californians to move in. You could build an apocalypse vault and fill it with dried elk meat, but who has the time? You could curl up into a ball, close your eyes and plug your ears, but you're smarter than that.



There's a sensible, cost-effective way to prepare. It involves taking things one step at a time over the course of a year. Breaking down tasks and shopping lists will make the work manageable and help you avoid overwhelming your schedule and your bank account.

With the help of disaster preparation experts, we've crafted a month-by-month guide to get you fully prepped with the basics by this time next year.

Month 14

PREP YOUR RIDE

Keeping a basic disaster kit in your car means you'll be ready whether you're at home, shopping, or at work. Below is a basic 24 hour kit. Add more food and water if your trunk allows.

1 gallon water	5-8 high calorie energy bars
Emergency blanket	Plastic poncho with hood
Headlamp	2 glow sticks
Basic first aid kit	Safety whistle
Dust masks	Pocket knife
Vinyl emergency gloves	
Hand crank radio/flashlight/USB charger	
Contact card with phone #s of out of state friends and relatives	

Treasurer's Report

Balance 5/31/2018	\$811.10
Receipts	9,415.98
Trans/Adjustments	(250.00)
Expenditures	<u>(8,342.37)</u>
Balance 6/30/2018	1,634.71



Jean Marie Schriever Epley

Feb. 17, 1928 — July 15, 2018

Jean Marie Schriever Epley lived her formative years on a small farm in the community of Yoder Oregon south of Canby. She was born in Portland, Oregon on February 17th, 1928 to Harry B. Schriever and Myrtle M. McNeil Schriever. In 1936 the family moved to the Yoder area, where she graduated from Yoder Grade School. She attended Molalla High School and enrolled in Oregon College of Education (now Western Oregon University) where she graduated with a degree in Elementary Education.

She taught school for several years in the Tigard School District. She then took employment with the Department of Defense's Dependents School System and taught in Japan, England and Germany. She met Lieutenant Colonel Thomas K. Epley, US Air Force, and they were married in Ramstein Germany in 1964. After her return to the US, she taught in the La-Marque School District in Texas City, Texas until her retirement. In 1986, she was named runner-up Texas teacher of the year.

Jean had a lifelong love of music starting with piano in grade school, picking up the flute in high school, and the violin in college. In her teaching profession she soon specialized in music, primarily in the elementary grades. She attended every musical event possible and was a long-time season ticket holder to the Oregon Symphony. Wherever she lived, she was active as a church musician. She was a member of Smyrna UCC since 1943. She was also a very active member of Delta Kappa Gamma, the International Society for Key Women Educators becoming Texas state president.

Growing up, she was part of a close-knit community, had many friends, and participated in numerous activities. She loved to tell about the time there was a family gathering and she and her brothers and cousins decided to go to a drive-in movie. Apparently, they didn't have enough money, or they wanted a better price, so some of them climbed in the trunk before they got to the ticket booth. They were let out to see the movie. Another time, she and some other girls were being taken by Mary & Ada Yoder to Portland for a cultural event. Driving past the paper mills in Oregon City, they had choice comments about the smell. They were told that proper young ladies should say, "What an unpleasant odor." Returning the same route, the girls stifled their giggles, and all said, "What an unpleasant odor." Another time, she and other neighborhood kids were riding with Perry Yoder to pick cherries at his orchard. He ran off the road and they had to hitch a ride back to Yoder unscathed.

After the death of her husband, she returned to Oregon and lived in Hope Village. In later years, Jean was adopted into David's family and attended all the family gatherings. Her grand nieces and nephews made her a T-shirt with all their little handprints, names, and, of course, musical notes on it. She loved animals, too, especially dogs.

Jean was very fond of her brothers. She told Irene that "Nothing will ever come between me and my brothers."

She died on July 15, 2018 in Canby. She is survived by two stepsons, John A. Epley (Joyce), of Greer, SC and Thomas K. Epley (Kathy), of Friendswood, TX, three grandchildren and two great grandchildren. She is also survived by brothers Byron Schriever (Dorothy) of Aurora and David Schriever (Irene) of Molalla, as well as seven nieces and nephews and their families. She will be interred at the Smyrna Cemetery.

The family suggests remembrances be made to the Schriever Family Scholarship of the Molalla Alumni Scholarship Fund. (Make checks payable to MASF, P. O. Box 1050, Molalla, OR 97038) or Smyrna United Church of Christ.



August 2018

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
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19 10 am Worship Coffee Hour: Volunteer needed Flowers: Rick Gano <i>Strengthen the Church Offering</i>	20 7 pm AA/AO b.d. Adam Maurer	21 10 am OA Wed. Anniv. Derek & Heidi Crispin	22 9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna b.d. Twyla Blatchford	23	24	25 b.d. Oliver Humphreys																																																																																										
26 b.d. Joann Gribble 10 am Worship Coffee Hour: Diaconate Flowers: Elaine Daniels	27 7 pm AA/AO b.d. James Yoder	28 10 am OA	29 9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna Wedding Ann. Jim & Susan Buffington	30 b.d. Anne Hudrik, Blanche Kober, Carly Itami	31																																																																																											



Please remember in prayer:

- The family of Jean Epley, who passed away on July 15th
- Dan Fisher, recovering from a second surgery
- Catherine Mosiman, who is awaiting surgery
- Kristin Wishon, recovering from a car accident which totaled her car.
- Carl Cline
- Mickey Hester
- Blanche Kober
- Dan Allee
- and all who were mentioned in prayer time at church.

If you know anyone who should be on the prayer list in the Behold, please let Jeannie or Elaine know. If they would enjoy receiving cards notify someone in the Diaconate.

Prayers of thanksgiving
for the family of Florence and John Pease, whose daughter-in-law Heather and son Bryce, welcomed a second child, Charlotte Pease, into the family earlier this month (a sister to Wyatt). Charlotte is their first granddaughter.

Mission Statement

Smyrna United Church of Christ is striving to be:

- A place of peace, where we offer to all an extravagant welcome wherever you are in your life journey regardless of your ethnicity, marital status, religion, gender, race, age, disability, national origin, or sexual orientation, and where we teach the stories of God's love and call on our lives.
- A spiritual haven, where we accept and care for all people and God's creation in an outreach of grace.
- A lighthouse of God's compassion, 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.