

BEHOLD!!

Smyrna

A Newsletter of Smyrna United Church of Christ

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

September 2018

Dear Friends,

Jean Brugger is an amazing woman. She's a nurse who worked most of her life in a variety of roles in St. Louis, and her last job was one of community outreach at Deaconess Hospital there. She started an intentional community for young adults there called the "Diaconal Ministry Program," where people came to share a house and do volunteer work in the community. She also started the Parish Nursing Program at Deaconess, which was honored as an "Innovative Program of the Year" by the Council of Health and Human Service Ministries of the United Church of Christ in 1994. I had the pleasure of meeting her, as I began to work with the parish nurses that same year.

When Jean retired that next year, she took a giant leap of faith. She sold her home, cashed in her retirement savings, and travelled to Nicaragua, where she bought a piece of oceanfront property. But she didn't just build a beautiful retirement home there and sit around. She wanted to help others, so she built a small hotel (with an apartment to live in). People were employed to build the hotel, and then to run the hotel. And then she started raising money for school supplies for kids, and money for older students to go to college. Then she started getting friends to come down and build retirement homes near here, forming a retirement community of people around the hotel. It's kind of like the movie, the "Best Exotic Marigold Hotel" except that she is busy raising money to send kids through college.

Jean's foundation, the A. Jean Brugger Foundation, has put 65 students all the way through college already, and more are there now, and others on their way. 90% of the graduates have jobs, most in their chosen fields. Her story is an inspiration to what we can do, when we follow our hearts, and follow God to love our neighbors as ourselves.

May God bless all the students this fall, all the teachers, and all who help them along the way.

In Christian love,

Pastor Deb

P.S. You can learn more about Jean's work at her website: <http://www.fundacionajbrugger.org/>

**Sunday worship returns to its
regular time of 11:00 am on
Sunday, September 2nd**



Children for Change in September. . .

. . . will go to support the Fundación A. Jean Brugger (A. Jean Brugger Foundation) in San Juan Del Sur, Nicaragua, which provides university tuition (they have sent 65 students through college to date!), school supplies for public schools, and services to the elderly.

Jean, a colleague of Pastor Deb's in St. Louis, started the parish nurse program at Deaconess Hospital which eventually became the International Parish Nurse Resource Center that Deb headed up for a decade. Shortly after Deb started with the parish nursing program, Jean retired, sold her house, cashed in her retirement funds, and went to Nicaragua to help people there. She ended up building a hotel (for jobs for people), and an independent living retirement community, and she plans to age in place there until she dies.

You can learn more about this work on their website, <http://www.fundacionajbrugger.org/>. And Jean also has a book that tells her story that you can buy to read on your Kindle. She is an amazing lady, doing amazing things!



Special Worship Music

On Sunday, September 23rd, John Nilson will be providing the music during our worship service. On Sept 30 when the UCC Conference holds its annual weekend meeting and conference in Pendleton, Pastor Deb will be providing a report during the Adult Education hour at 9:45 am.

24 Months to

When disaster strikes, what should you do? 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 15 — Prep Your Pet:

Often overlooked in disaster preparations are dogs, cats, and other pets. Avoid having to share your canned meat with your pooch by getting him stocked. Here are the essentials:

Minimum three day supply of food and water

Manual can opener

Extra medications

Leash, collar with ID

Pet carrier

Copies of veterinary record and registration

Recent photo of pet

Microchip information

Salad Series:

Thank you to Ione Jenson for leading the series, "Changes, Challenges, and Transitions" this summer, which was sponsored and facilitated by the Health Committee. We met once a month, and each time we had about 30 in attendance for a Salad Potluck, a short presentation on each month's topic, and then conversations around the table. Many thanks to Ione; to the Health Committee members: Jane Dahl, Barbara Menkel, Tina Marshall, and Pastor Deb; and to all who came to share a meal and conversation.



Resuming this Fall:

Stitch Club resumes on Tuesday, September 4th at 1 pm at Jane Dahl's home. All are welcome!

Memory Café resumes on Friday, September 7th, when we will welcome Jan Irving, RN, who is the Brain Health Educator at the Community Health Education Center at Salem Health. She will discuss Brain Health activities and strategies.

Adult Education resumes at 9:45 am on Sunday, September 9th in Pastor Deb's office. Here are September's topics:

- September 9th: Welcome Back! An overview of the year ahead.
- September 16th: Terry Hershey and the Sabbath Pause
- September 23rd: Report on the Central Pacific Conference Annual Meeting
- September 30th: Mystery

Sharing Our Stories meets on the third Tuesday of each month at noon. We will put on the coffee and you are invited to bring a sack lunch. Our next meeting will be Tuesday, September 18th at noon.

The Health Committee will meet at 3:30 pm on September 25th and continue regular meetings on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 3:30 pm.

Women's Fellowship Luncheons resume on Thursday, September 27th at noon with lunch being prepared by Irene Schriever, Florence Pease, and Barbara Menkel. All are invited!

Thanks so much again for the beautiful camp you all put on. Charlee said that she wanted it to go on forever (And she meant that literally). She is still talking about the new friends she made and the activities she participated in, and now uses Smyrna as a landmark to describe where other people/places are located. We can't wait for next year's camp. Thanks for faithfully serving your community and our kiddos. We are so blessed by you!

Beth Skinner

Thank you to all who supported Children for Change over the summer to raise funds for Kiva small business loans to families around the world. We raised the funds to make small loans to more than 30 families (stay tuned for the final total!), and this money will be repaid and loaned out again – many times! The youth will help to pick the first group – please let Joel Daniels know if you would like to manage one of the \$25 loans, and you can help with watching for re-lending when the funds are repaid by the families. Thank you to all!



Peace Camp was a real joy.

Thank you to the many people who made Smyrna's Peace Camp such a success! We had 28 children and youth involved, and the following adults:

- Director: Sheila Daniels
- Teachers: Sheila Daniels, Kristin Daniels, Mary Namit, and Rebekah Yoder.
- Speakers: Sheila Daniels, Ione Jensen, Mary Namit (with Jonesie), and Lucia Bangs
- Art: Audrey Yoder, Jeannie Rogers and Amber Enfield
- Dinner and Snacks: Barbara Daniels, Linda Dunn (and all who brought food to share)
- Yoga: Anne Bangs
- Tai Chi: Virgil Foster
- Music: Deb Patterson
- Registration Assistance: Liz Chapin.

This year's format was in the evening (Tuesday-Friday from 5:30 to 8:30 pm), and Jane Dahl made brand new beautiful Peace Banners. We received positive feedback from the families who participated.



Thank you to all!



September 2018

Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
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<p>2</p> <p>11 am Worship b.d. Margaret Adams Wedding Ann. Dan & Beryl Fisher</p> <p><i>Coffee Hour and Flower Volunteers needed</i></p>	<p>3</p> <p>7 pm AA/AO</p>	<p>4</p> <p>1 pm Stitch Club @ Jane Dahl's 10 am OA</p>	<p>5</p> <p>9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna</p>	<p>6</p> <p>b.d. Scott Schuebel</p>	<p>7</p> <p>12 noon Memory Cafe at Smyrna Wedding Ann. Philip and Barbara Daniels</p>	<p>8</p> <p>b.d. Paula Martin Wedding Ann: Nick and Carly Itami</p>																																																																																																		
<p>9</p> <p>9:45 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School Coffee Hour: Volunteer needed Flowers: Jeannie Rogers</p>	<p>10</p> <p>7 pm AA/AO b.d. Audrey Yoder. Lulu Anderson</p>	<p>11</p> <p>10 am OA 7 pm Church Council</p>	<p>12</p> <p>9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna</p>																																																																																																					
<p>16</p> <p>9:45 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School Coffee Hour: Elaine Daniels & LeVonne Gano Flowers: LeVonne Gano</p>	<p>17</p> <p>7 pm AA/AO Wedding Ann: Virgil & Christine Foster</p>	<p>18</p> <p>10 am OA 12 noon Sharing Our Stories b.d. Sarah Deumling</p>	<p>19</p> <p>9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna b.d. Laura Yoder</p>	<p>20</p> <p>b.d. Paul R. Yoder, Mary Ashton</p>	<p>21</p> <p>b.d. Josette Waitman</p>																																																																																																			
<p>23</p> <p>9:45 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School b.d. Zane Shultz Coffee Hour: Mary Namit & Ginger Redlinger Flowers: Jane Dahl</p>	<p>24</p> <p>7 pm AA/AO b.d. Angela Baker</p>	<p>25</p> <p>10 am OA 3:30 pm Health Committee b.d. Ken Schriever</p>	<p>26</p> <p>9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna b.d. Kasha Wallace</p>	<p>27</p> <p>12 Noon Women's Fellowship b.d. Louise Adams</p>	<p>28</p> <p>b.d. James Daniels, Richard Daniels</p>																																																																																																			
<p>30</p> <p>9:45 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School Coffee Hour: Diaconate Flowers: Volunteer needed <i>Special Music by John Nilson</i></p>																																																																																																								

Please hold in prayer:

- Catherine Mosiman
- Mickey Hester
- Rick Gano
- Robert Schuebel
- Carl Cline
- Vonda Stoneking
- Blanche Kober
- Asa and Ione Jensen
- Mattie Harmon
- and all who have been mentioned 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.

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.