BEHOLD!! SMYRNA June 2020 UNITED CHURCH

Dear Smyrna Friends,

Isn't it amazing how, we, as a community, have adapted to the "new normal" of what life is now? For worship, we gather bits and pieces of the service from various people, and Tom Daniels pulls those together those bits into a cohesive whole. In case you missed it, his efforts were noticed by the Associated Press, and he was included in an article about church services moving on-line for the moment in the Statesman Journal, among other papers. Here's the story in the US News & World Report: https://www.usnews.com/news/technology/articles/2020-05-16/houses-of-worship-gain-audience-by-going-online-during-virus

Karen Peterson, who is Arlene Peterson's daughter and Sheila Daniels' sister, was also mentioned in that article. Karen grew up attending Smyrna, and is able to join us on-line each Sunday. Liz Chapin, who you saw participating in the Call to Worship on Sunday, wasn't able to get to Smyrna often recently because of helping to care for her disabled in-laws, but she can join us virtually, and she invited a friend from Michigan, Harry B., to join us. Welcome, Harry!

The Health Committee meets every two weeks by phone, and the Diaconate and Church Council have started to meet by phone. Our grant application for the Solar array is completed, and now we await their response. Thank you to Joel Daniels for your leadership on this.

We are investigating what gathering at Smyrna in the future might look like, until there is a vaccine or safe and reliable treatment, but it seems like there is consensus that having a virtual option to participate has real value.

So, thank you all for your patience, and diligence, and persistence in reaching out to other church members, family and friends. We will get through this.

God bless you all, Pastor Deb



Adult Education —

Adult Ed will resume again in the fall – please send Pastor Deb ideas for programs that you would like to see, or if you would be willing to lead a session, as well.

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Memory Café -

We hope to start back with Memory Café again in September, on the first Friday, September 3rd, but will keep you posted. See the article on the next page of the Behold for more information.

ARE YOU STRUGGLING TO GET TO THE GRO-CERY STORE during the stay at home?

Meals on Wheels Canby can deliver meals within 24-48 hours. Call Wendy May at Canby Senior Center 503-266-2970 to sign up. Free with monthly donation, and will deliver to anyone in the Canby district. Folks south of the church will need to call Molalla Service Center, Silverton



Senior Center, or Salem 50+ depending on where you live.

-STAYING-CONNECTED

Virtual Coffee Hour

Please join us on Zoom (or by phone) for a virtual coffee hour Watch for the internet link or the

each Sunday at 11:30 am. Watch for the internet link or the phone number in your e-mail each week.

Hello,

These have been trying times for everyone and I know how important the work of your church has been to your community. Many of those you know may have recently suffered financial losses, in addition to the emotional stress we have all faced. The 2020 Census may be able to help with replacing the income lost during this time by hiring census takers in your area. Please see the notice below and consider letting your parishioners know about these opportunities. I am including some graphics that you can use in an email or in postings. We would appreciate any help you can give to spread the word. Thank you! "Urgent Hiring Update from the 2020 Census! We are hiring! We are calling applicants now for our \$18/hour jobs and will continue to do so until we've hit our goals, probably within 10 days. Training will be in July, with work starting in August, just after the COVID 19 unemployment supplement is set to expire. You must indicate that you can work 20 hours a week, with availability on evenings and weekends. You must be at least 18, a citizen, and have access to a car. You will be going to people's doors, but will be issued masks, gloves and hand sanitizer, and exercise 6 foot social distancing. The job will last about 8 weeks. Apply immediately at <u>www.2020census.gov/jobs</u>!" Margaret Ott, United States Census Recruiting Assistant, Census Response Representative 229-349-9820 Margaret.e.ott@2020census.gov

A Note for All Our Memory Café Friends,

I hope you are all doing well and enjoying these blustery spring days. This has really been a challenging test to keeping our brains and bodies healthy - I'm glad those of us who have been taking part in Smyrna's Memory Cafe have had five years of learning about brain wellness to draw on!

Here are some updates for you.

1. Obviously, we are not going to meet in June, July, or August, and perhaps may not meet in the fall. But we will be back together one of these days. So, hold that thought!

2. Louise Adams, our wonderful chef, is doing well, and is busy planting a garden and spending time with her Mom, Virginia Yoder, whom you know from Memory Cafe.

3. "Silver and Fit" is on YouTube and you can watch and do new exercises everyday! Thanks, Elaine Daniels, for this tip!

4. Check out the Dana Brain Foundation for great articles and ideas of things to do while you are staying home more these days. They are at www.Dana.org. And don't panic! Here's an article they recently sent out about how stressful situations affect the brain: https://dana.org/article/dont-panic-how-stressful-situations-affect-the-brain/

5. Remember, the OHSU Brain Institute and the ULCA Longevity Center have great resources for brain health, as well. UCLA has workshops to help keep your brain strong that you can subscribe to. Some are free, and there is a charge for others, but they are sure cheaper (and safer!) than flying to Los Angeles!



Here is the UCLA Link: https://www.semel.ucla.edu/longevity (They also have a newsletter.)

Here is the OHSU Link: https://www.ohsu.edu/brain-institute (They have a newsletter, too.)

6. Remember the ways to help keep your brain healthy: exercise, eat healthy foods, get enough sleep, keep your brain occupied, reach out to friends and neighbors, manage your medications, and manage your stress. You know what to do!

6. If you would like to watch Smyrna's virtual worship services, we would love to have you join us! They are on-line at www.Smyrna-UCC.org. Please let us know if you would like to receive a link to our coffee hour, which is on "Zoom" each Sunday at 11:30. You are always welcome!

7. Please stay in touch! Here is my phone number: 503-689-4450. And please stay in touch with your other Memory Cafe friends and community neighbors as well.

Thanks, blessings, and good health to all! I'll check in with you again in a few weeks.

Pastor Deb

A Note of Thanks

Thank you so much to everyone who is creatively thinking on how to get through this pandemic as the body of Christ — scattered. The Christian Education and Nurture Committee has special activities planned and selected that will be coming out for Pentecost - thanks to Sheila Daniels for your leadership on that. The Health Committee has invited folks to create haiku's to share - please send them to Pastor Deb, and she will post them on our Smyrna Facebook page and Jeannie will put them in Behold. Thank you to Lois Johnson for getting the ball rolling on that. Ione Jenson, of the Health Committee, has offered to post ideas of things to do on our Facebook page as well - please send ideas to her to share on-line. Thank you to Joel Daniels for hosting the Virtual Coffee hour each Sunday at 11:30 am on Zoom - would others also be willing to learn how to host this, so we could have a team of hosts? Thank you to Jane Dahl for the beautiful changing banners in the church (and the masks you have made). And thank you to Jeannie Rogers for the beautiful flowers, and for sending out the bulletins each week to us all on-line, and mailing them to those who don't have internet access. Thank you to Paul Burkert for mowing around the white oaks, almost all of which are doing very well. And I know I am forgetting others, because there is a lot happening, so thank you to all!



Haiku Challenge

Lois Johnson provided us with haiku she has written and accompanying photos. She is sending us a "Haiku Challenge" to write a poem during these "staying home to save lives" days. The poems have 5 syllables in the first line, seven in the second, and five in the third. Several of our Smyrna family have already sent in some of their haiku, send yours to Pastor Deb, debpattersonhome@gmail.com

Is it Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday? Days are all the same Lois Johnson







Long days spent apart messages on window panes love at a distance.

Lois Johnson

The birds have come back. I watch them from my window. They sing for their food. Audrey Yoder



From Jo Algiers

Familiar face I remember hugging you If only I dared Frustration growing Locked in my own existence Stuck in quarantine

Warm bodies pass by Six feet of separation Desperate eyes meet

Outside my window Birds chirping their secret codes Life Continuing





From Ione Jenson

Music transcends all Through time and space we are one Spirits resonate

Life's sweet mystery Waits like an unopened book Calling to my soul

Joy of shared laughter Hours of camaraderie The warmth of friendship



From Sheila Daniels

Coronavirus You make me stay in my house When will I be safe?

Signs of spring are here Flowers, trees, bees, butterflies Why am I inside?

Flowers are blooming Bright red faces are happy Flowers are smiling





Laughing...then crying Inanimate...souls standing Loved ones...dying Julia Peterson

one

Every breath—Complete Out of fear—Hope comes again Life returns—Renewed Julia Peterson

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	7 pm AA/AO b.d. Justin Peterson	2	3	4	5 b.d. Paul Ashton	6 b.d. Nick Itami
7 www.smyma-ucc.org/sermons b.d. Aaron Liechty, Had ley Kersens During the COVID-19 pandemic, online weekly Worship Services are available	8 7 pm AA/AO b.d. Andrew Mahar	9 b.d. David Yoder	10 b.d. Amber Rogers Enfield	11	12 b.d. Nathan Gribble Blair	13
14 www.smyrna-ucc.org/sermons b.d. Marcus Daniels During the COVID-19 pandemic, online weekly Worship Services are available Flag Day	15 7 pm AA/AO b.d. Emily Holt Borges, Imani Robinson	 1:30 Diaconate mtg 7 pm Church Council Phone meeting 	17	18 b.d. Bill Peterson Wed. Anniv. Steve & Jane Dahl	19	20 b.d. Elsa Anderson Wed. Anniv. Asa & lone Jenson
21 www.smyrna-ucc.org/sermons b.d.Elsa Ander son During the COVID-19 pandemic, online weekly Worship Services are available Father's Day	22 7 pm AA/AO b.d. Benjamin Daniels	23	24	25	26 Wedding Ann. Steven & Eileen Boss	27 b.d. DaNelda Strode, Beth Liechty Koberstein, Sophia Patterson
28 www.smyma-ucc.org/sermons b.d. Murlene Liechty During the COVID-19 pandemic, online weekly Worship Services are available	29 7 pm AA/AO b.d. Robert Schuebel, Heidi Crispin Wedding Ann: Katherine & Allen Holt	30	3 - 10 1 17 1	May 2020 <u>M T W T F S</u> <u>1 2</u> 4 5 6 7 8 9 11 12 13 14 15 16 8 19 20 21 22 23 5 26 27 28 29 30	Jul 2020 S M T W T 1 2 5 6 7 8 9 12 13 14 15 16 19 20 21 22 23 26 27 28 29 30	F S 3 4 10 11 17 18 24 25

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



Please hold in prayer:

- Pat Bullard and all her family
- Beryl and Dan Fisher
- Garrett Veatch
- Debi Veatch
- Blanche Kober
- Asa and Ione Jenson
- Vonda Stoneking
- Paul Burkert
- and all who live alone or who have other concerns.

con I Thessalonians I:2, NIV

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.