

BEHOLD!! SMYRNA

November 2020



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Dear Smyrna Friends,

Our theme for November, with thanks to Beryl Fisher who came up with the idea, will be “A Season of Thankfulness.” That is indeed the season we are entering now, and not only because Thanksgiving comes later in the month.

It seems rather trying to be thankful in the middle of a global pandemic with all the other challenges surrounding us. Yet, there is so much to be thankful for – our homes, for starters, many of which were threatened by wildfires, to the point of needing to evacuate elsewhere. The clean air that we have now is something to be very thankful for, even while we pray for others in California and Colorado and elsewhere who are still facing danger from fires. We are thankful that the coronavirus is less prevalent here in Oregon than elsewhere, even as we mourn the loss of those who were taken by this terrible virus, including, among them, a number of people dear to our faith community.

On All Saints Sunday, November 3rd, we remember the lives of those who have passed away this year, and give thanks for all the years of their lives and all that they meant to their families and others who knew and loved them. This year we remember Rod Bullard, Rev. Asa Jenson, Stanley Watson, and Linda Younger.

We give thanks for the technology that allows us still to worship together in spirit, through virtual services online, and for zoom fellowship hours and meetings, and conference calls. And for the occasional outdoor social gatherings in small groups, with masks and social distancing.

The Health Committee invited us to participate in “Gratitude Journaling” on Facebook, and we would extend the invitation to all through this month – to keep a small journal, or even sticky notes on the fridge to remind yourself of that for which you are grateful.

I am grateful for Smyrna, and for the steadfast community of faith that will be entering its 130th year in 2021. What a fellowship, what a joy, divine! May God bless you and keep you, during this season of Thanksgiving, and always.

Peace be with you,
Pastor Deb

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SMYRNA 2020 QUILT

2020 HAS INDEED BEEN AN EVENTFUL YEAR!! Several of us thought it would be fitting to commutate our experiences of this time. We would like all who would like to, to participate in the creating of a SMYRNA 2020 Quilt.

All who sew and would like to create blocks:

per block: cut 4" center square - this is where our memories, lessons learned, comforts, take a-ways of 2020 will be written, so it must be light enough fabric to show written message— cut 1. I have left a few 4" white squares on the table in the foyer for those who do not have white fabric. Cut 2 more 4" squares from fabric in your stash - then cut each on the diagonal to make 4 half square triangles. Finger press the center square to find the middle, then sew one half square triangle centered on each side. press open. trim the block to 5 1/2" square.

If you would like to create your own memory block, that is also fine, but to fit in the quilt it must measure 5 1/2 inches square (5" block with 1/4" seam allowance), or multiples thereof - i.e. 5 1/4"x 10 1/4", etc.

Those who do not sew :

I have left a few premade blocks in the foyer. Those who do sew please make a few extra for those who do not sew.

I have also left an assortment of colored permanent markers in the foyer. These are for writing your 2020 message in the center of your block. Please return your pen when you are finished for the others to use.

There is also a box for completed blocks.

We have talked of possibly displaying the completed quilt in the foyer..

HAVE FUN!!!

P.S. the blocks will be assembled on point (in a diamond shape)

Women's Fellowship Bazaar

As we have mentioned on our zoom coffee hours, we will be holding a virtual bazaar on the following website:

<http://smyrna-ucc.org/bazaar/>

It will start on Saturday, November 21, 2020 when we will have articles for sale at a listed price. To purchase something go to the website and look through for an item that might be of interest to you to purchase. We will be adding more items to the list on a daily or weekly basis.



The Virtual Bazaar will continue through December 12, 2020. Someone will respond to you when you check-box the items you want to buy and click on the submit button to send a bid sheet to us regarding your purchase(s). We will have the items you purchase available for pick up at the church at an agreed upon time. We will respond to you about making payment and how that will be arranged.

We will also have camperships available for purchase as well. **We look forward to hosting this year's bazaar.**

If you have any questions, you can contact Barbara Daniels at 503-390-4686. Thank you.

Just Peace Committee

The Church Council has discussed forming a committee to explore what **it means to become a "Just Peace Church" in the United Church of Christ.**

To be honest, we already are doing most of the things that are involved in being a Just Peace Church, but there is a formal process to go through to receive that designation.

Sheila Daniels, who has worked for many years with the Justice and Witness Ministries of the UCC, has agreed to chair that committee, and we are looking for a few more members to join in these discussions, with the hope of bringing a proposal for consideration and a vote at the January Annual Meeting.

Please contact Sheila or Pastor Deb if you might be interested in serving on this committee, or if you would just like more information about this process. Many thanks!



The Collins Lecture – “Shalom in Divided Times: Can We Create a Just Peace and Real Unity?”

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon invites you to the 2020 Collins Summit, which will be held on-line on November 18th from 7 pm to 8:30 pm. The Summit will include a lecture by Lisa Sharon Harper, who is the founder of FreedomRoad.us., and a leading voice on the topics of poverty, racial and gender justice, and transformational civic engagement. The Summit will also offer the opportunity to hear from members of the faith-based “Common Table” about their work on healing the things that divide us. The registration fee is \$10, and you can learn more here: <https://emoregon.org/event/2020-collins/>



Chain installed across south driveway

The Trustees have installed a chain across the grove on the south of the church to prevent driving in or out that way. The gas main is there and with it's high pressure line it is vulnerable.



In addition, the county requires us to have only one driveway into the church property. There is a new warning sign in the back of the church reminding people that it is not an exit. It is still possible to drive in by the kitchen door and park. Thanks for your patience in this effort.

FUN HISTORICAL FACTS



Sometimes they could obtain pork, which made them feel quite special. When visitors came over, they would hang up their bacon to show off. It was a sign of wealth that a man “could bring home the

bacon. “They would cut off a little to share with guests and would all sit around and “chew the fat.”

Those with money had plates made of pewter. Food with high acid content caused some of the lead to leach onto the food, causing lead poisoning and death. This happened most often with tomatoes, so for the next 400 years or so, tomatoes were considered poisonous.

Bread was divided according to status. Workers got the burnt bottom of the loaf, the family got the middle, and guests got the top, or “upper crust.”

Christmas Fund

While it is not yet December, we have received an early appeal from the United Church of Christ related to the “Christmas Fund.” This fund, which used to be called, “Veterans of the Cross,” has been caring for active and retired clergy and lay employees of the UCC for over 100 years, providing emergency grants, supplementation of small annuities, and small Christmas “thank you” gift checks each December to lower-income retirees. Over the last nine months, because of the COVID-19 pandemic, the emergency financial needs of many who serve the UCC have increased dramatically.

In such a time as this, the need for the Christmas Fund is more urgent than ever. UCC congregations and members have blessed the Christmas Fund with their generosity for many years. This year, your care and compassion will be especially appreciated by those servants of the church who are facing a time of need. We will be receiving a special offering during December for this, and we just wanted to bring it to your attention. Thank you for the many ways you support the ministries of our congregation in our local communities, across the denomination, and around the world!

Treasurer's Report

Balance 8/31/20	\$16,362.70
Receipts	\$5,061.10
Transfer to Bldg. Repair Fund	\$250.00
Expenses	<u>\$8,210.59</u>
Balance 9/30/2020	\$12,963.21

Lead cups were used to drink ale or whisky. The combination would sometimes knock them out for a couple of days. Someone walking along the road would take them for dead and prepare them for burial. They were laid out on the kitchen table for a couple of days and the family would gather around and eat and drink and wait and see if they would wake up. Hence the custom of **holding a “wake.”**

England is old and small and the local folks started running out of places to bury people. So they would dig up coffins and would **take the bones to a “bone-house” and reuse the grave. When reopening these coffins, 1 out of 25 coffins were found to have scratch marks on the inside and they realized they had been burying people alive. So they thought they would tie a string on the wrist of the corpse, lead it through the coffin and up through the ground and tie it to a bell. Someone would have to sit out in the graveyard all night (the “graveyard shift” to listen for the bell; thus, someone could be “saved by the bell” or was considered a “dead ringer.”**

Whoever said that History was boring?
author unknown

Living Through a Pandemic

While epidemics and pandemics have come and gone for centuries, humans have discovered some ways to adapt to life in the midst of disease and help to slow down its spread. Here are some of these lessons from the past:

Quarantine. The first quarantine law was passed in the city known today as Dubrovnik, Croatia, in 1377 during an outbreak of bubonic plague. People coming from plague-infested areas were prevented from entering the city until they had spent a month in isolation. During the 1918 flu pandemic, U.S. soldiers were quarantined before being allowed into at least some cities. In some cities, there were bans on social gatherings and schools and theaters were closed. Unfortunately, the regulations were locally based; and the cities which allowed large social gatherings later paid a price in illnesses and death.

Socially distant food and drink pickup. Possibly one of the first known examples of this is in Italy during a plague epidemic from 1629 to 1631. Wine sellers in Tuscany cut narrow windows into their homes to pass wine through to customers. Some of these wine windows are still in existence and have been revived to serve customers during the COVID-19 outbreak, selling wine, coffee, gelato, etc.

Mask-wearing. In past centuries, some doctors treated plague patients while wearing masks with long, bird-like beaks. Before the discovery of microorganisms, diseases were believed to be spread through bad smells in the air; and the beaks of these masks were often packed with scented herbs believed to ward off illness. During the 1918 flu pandemic, masks were mandatory in some cities, such as San Francisco. Non-mask wearers were punished by fines, imprisonment, and public shaming by having their names published in the newspaper.



Washing hands and surfaces. Before the discovery of microorganisms as a cause of disease, frequent washing was considered unnecessary. Even in the early 1900s, during the flu pandemic, it was not commonplace. To encourage frequent handwashing, powder rooms (or ground-floor bathrooms) were installed to protect families from germs brought in by delivery people bringing in coal, ice, milk, etc. The delivery people previously had to walk through the residence to reach hand-washing facilities. The families in the homes, too, found it more convenient to wash their hands in a bathroom closer to the entry upon returning home.

Fresh air and adaptive schooling. The current coronavirus pandemic has been a reminder that airborne diseases spread more rapidly in confined indoor spaces, and schools have been closed in many places to protect students and teachers. In past centuries, there have been similar questions about what to do with schools. Isaac Newton, for instance, was sent home from Cambridge University in 1665 due to an outbreak of bubonic plague. Germany originated the idea of open-air schools, and the idea spread to the U.S. in the early 1900s. Tuberculosis outbreaks in the early 1900s killed 450 Americans a day, many of them children. Fresh air was used to help contain the outbreaks. During the second wave of the flu pandemic of 1918, however, schools in Chicago and New York remained open; public health officials reasoned that many urban homes were unsanitary and children would be safer in school buildings.

These are some of the ways found to help prevent the spread of disease in a pandemic. To turn to a more socially or emotionally based response, The Oregonian recently ran an article on how to help your children cope with a pandemic. They suggested asking children these daily quarantine questions:

- What are you grateful for?
- What are you going to do to connect with someone today?
- How are you going to move your body?
- How are you going to create something beautiful today?

These questions may well be useful for the rest of us as well

Mission and Outreach:

Children for Change will continue to support the Molalla Food Bank. During September \$445.50 was contributed and in addition some of you brought canned items to the church. Paulette Eyman delivered 113 pounds this last month, so thank you to everyone.

Also, \$328.00 was sent to K.I.N.D. (Kids in Need of Desks) administered through UNICEF. During November and December cash donations can also be earmarked for the coffee fund as our church has contributed \$500 to both Molalla and Canby at Thanksgiving and Christmas.

In September \$569.84 was given to Quilts for Empowerment. The total for October was not in at press time, however \$425.50 had been collected so far. Looking ahead to advent, the Health Committee and Mission and Outreach encourage you to consider taking part in the following:

Reverse Advent Calendar

Between Christmas and New Years, these boxes can be brought to the narthex for delivery. They will be taken to the service center in Molalla. Thank you.

REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

**EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A
FOOD BANK.**

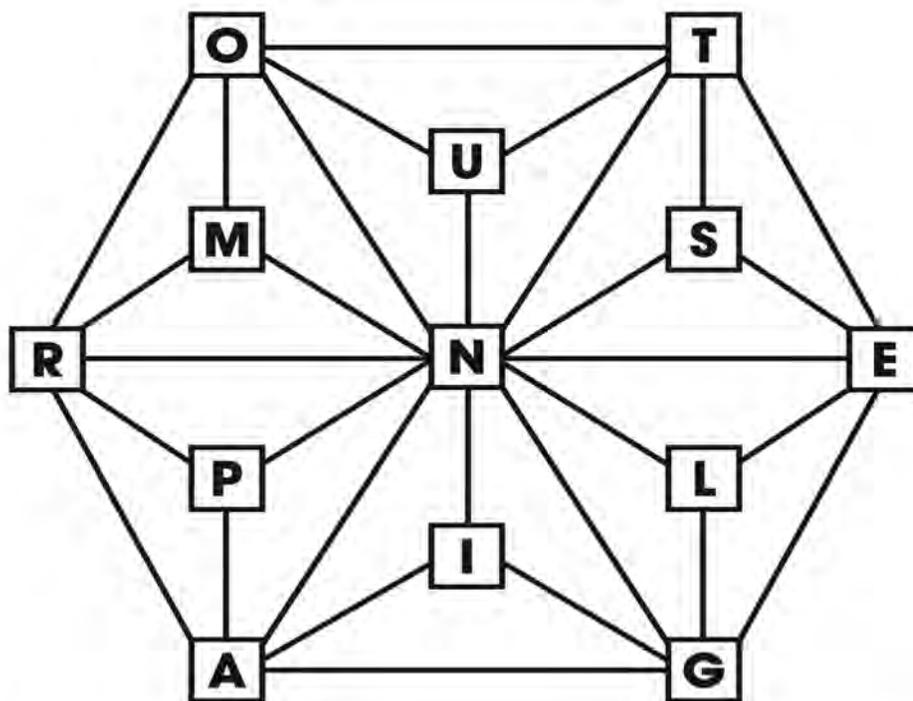
- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM

Answers include: 4-letter words: gain, pain, lens, mote, page, nuts, nest, sent, rant, rain, pant; 5-letter words: giant, paint, tents, notes, stone, stout, motor, mount; longer words: morning, routes, giants, mounts, promote, ragging.

Puzzle!

Try to spell as many words as possible. Start anywhere and move along the connecting lines. Don't skip letters; for example, you can't form *must* because to get from *m* to *u* you'd need to skip either *o* or *n*. You may return to use the same letter twice, as when you form *noun*, but you can't use the same letter twice in a row.



4-letter words: _____

5-letter words: _____

Words with 6 or more letters: _____

November 2020 at Smyrna

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																		
<p>1</p> <p>During the COVID-19 pandemic, online weekly Worship Services are available www.smyrna-ucc.org/sermons</p> <p>Virtual Coffee Hour Please join us on Zoom (or by phone) for a virtual coffee hour each Sunday at 11:30 pm. Watch for the internet link or the phone number in your e-mail each week.</p>	<p>2</p> <p>7 pm AA/AO</p>	<p>3</p> <p>b.d. Arlene Hampton, Melissa Liechty</p> <p style="color: red;">Election Day</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p> <p>b.d. Karen Peterson</p>																																																																																																		
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<p>29</p> <p>b.d. Deborah Hancox, Steve Patterson</p> <p>During the COVID-19 pandemic, online weekly Worship Services are available www.smyrna-ucc.org/sermons</p> <p>Virtual Coffee Hour Please join us on Zoom (or by phone) for a virtual coffee hour each Sunday at 11:30pm. Watch for the internet link or the phone number in your e-mail each week.</p>	<p>30</p> <p>7 pm AA/AO b.d. Richard Gano</p>	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7" style="text-align: center;">Oct 2020</th> <th colspan="7" style="text-align: center;">Dec 2020</th> </tr> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">S</th><th style="text-align: center;">M</th><th style="text-align: center;">T</th><th style="text-align: center;">W</th><th style="text-align: center;">T</th><th style="text-align: center;">F</th><th style="text-align: center;">S</th> <th style="text-align: center;">S</th><th style="text-align: center;">M</th><th style="text-align: center;">T</th><th style="text-align: center;">W</th><th style="text-align: center;">T</th><th style="text-align: center;">F</th><th style="text-align: center;">S</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td style="text-align: center;">1</td><td style="text-align: center;">2</td><td style="text-align: center;">3</td> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">4</td><td style="text-align: center;">5</td><td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td> <td style="text-align: center;">6</td><td style="text-align: center;">7</td><td style="text-align: center;">8</td><td style="text-align: center;">9</td><td style="text-align: center;">10</td><td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">11</td><td style="text-align: center;">12</td><td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">15</td><td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td style="text-align: center;">17</td> <td style="text-align: center;">13</td><td style="text-align: center;">14</td><td style="text-align: center;">15</td><td style="text-align: center;">16</td><td style="text-align: center;">17</td><td style="text-align: center;">18</td><td style="text-align: center;">19</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">18</td><td style="text-align: center;">19</td><td style="text-align: center;">20</td><td style="text-align: center;">21</td><td style="text-align: center;">22</td><td style="text-align: center;">23</td><td style="text-align: center;">24</td> <td style="text-align: center;">20</td><td style="text-align: center;">21</td><td style="text-align: center;">22</td><td style="text-align: center;">23</td><td style="text-align: center;">24</td><td style="text-align: center;">25</td><td style="text-align: center;">26</td> </tr> <tr> <td style="text-align: center;">25</td><td style="text-align: center;">26</td><td style="text-align: center;">27</td><td style="text-align: center;">28</td><td style="text-align: center;">29</td><td style="text-align: center;">30</td><td style="text-align: center;">31</td> <td style="text-align: center;">27</td><td style="text-align: center;">28</td><td style="text-align: center;">29</td><td style="text-align: center;">30</td><td style="text-align: center;">31</td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>					Oct 2020							Dec 2020							S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S					1	2	3								4	5	6	7	8	9	10	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	27	28	29	30	31		
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**No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's
journey, we welcome
you.**

SMYRNA



**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
a just world for all



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 or Carly Itami.

Prayer Requests

Please remember all who live alone; those who have health concerns, particularly Sandra Mahar, Terri Milliren, and Donna Yenne; and those who are facing other challenges. Let us hold each other in prayer, and give thanks for this Christian fellowship.

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.