

BEHOLD!! SMYRNA

March 2021



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Dear Smyrna friends,

Thank you for the warm reception I've received! It has been a blessing to begin to get to know you, and to have the privilege of preparing worship with and for you each week. As I write this, the Lenten season has just begun.

It started during the aftermath of an ice storm that led to power outages for many, if not most, of our church members. Between generators, and friends and family who opened their homes to loved ones without power, it seems folks have been able to **make do with what they have, and with what they don't**. Experiences like these tend to help us realize something about ourselves, our lifestyles, our strengths and weaknesses, our neighbors / community — and how connected we are or not (or could be!). They can even turn our attention, more intentionally, to God (how Lenten!).

The storm's damage to our tree friends has been heartbreaking to see (for the trees' sake), and for many property owners — a real mess to cleanup. It has been heartwarming to see both the way Smyrna UCC community members have expressed concern for each other, as well as for the property, with acts of service and kindness.

Throughout the long month of March, which will mark the one-year anniversary of worshipping virtually, we will continue "seeking God" in this wilderness time that has stretched well beyond 40 days. What better time than right now, to try out (one week at a time) the six spiritual practices Beth Richardson invites us into?

As we practice Being Present, Lament, *Lectio Divina*, Trust, Compassion, and Hospitality, may we deepen our relationship with the Holy — beyond us, within us, and among us. And may these practices, and this deepening help sustain us for the while longer we'll be worshipping online.

As daylight hours lengthen, we give thanks for more light. As more of our community members get vaccinated, we give thanks for their protection. As we walk with Jesus to Jerusalem, we give thanks for all he teaches us along the way. For every reminder that the Love we're born from and return to, is the same Love that abides in us and with us every day — we give thanks! Amen.

Lenten blessings,
Pastor Cat

Ministers: All members of the church

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Mission and Outreach

This year's theme for One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS) is "Let Love Flow." March 14, 2021 is the date our congregation will receive this offering.



Your support enables us to respond to a variety of global and local concerns. The COVID-19 pandemic, wildfires, earthquakes, hurricanes and flooding have ravaged communities in the United States and worldwide, leaving families and communities in desperate need of assistance.

Some of these disasters have occurred here or in nearby communities or to friends in countries thousands of miles away, across the globe. **When you share your gifts, you "Let Love Flow" and your generosity ensures that, even in the midst of uncertainty, the transforming power of God's love continues to change lives here and around the world, as together we build a just world for all.**

Our Children for Change Offering in March and April will go to our local Habitat for Humanity.

Thank you for your support.

Habitat for Humanity News

As of Thursday, Feb. 11, 2021

Opening thought or celebration

We're building again and people are starting to get vaccinated. Also, it's nice to have new, young, hardworking construction volunteers.

Aztec Build

We need to get the Silverton single-family home "dried in" before beginning work on Aztec. We should be able to start building at Aztec in March.

Silverton Planned Development

The narrative draft and site plans are ready. Ben is going to meet with the PSU contact. **Once they get the designs from PSU, they'll plug them into the site plan.**

Silverton Pine Street single-family home

Things are moving along. We should finish underfloor framing next week. The plumber is scheduled to come out next week. Ben is planning to order the trusses. He will order as soon as we get the floor deck on.



Lenten Study: "Walking in the Wilderness"



Throughout our Lenten journey we will be using the book "Walking in the Wilderness: Seeking God in Lent" by Beth A. Richardson. Every week, Pastor Cat will email the Zoom link for our Wednesday Lenten Study.

These are the five Wednesday sessions in March:

- Mar 3, 2021 07:00 PM
- Mar 10, 2021 07:00 PM
- Mar 17, 2021 07:00 PM
- Mar 24, 2021 07:00 PM
- Mar 31, 2021 07:00 PM

What to have on hand: Your book, a writing utensil, and journal or doodle pad (if writing/drawing during the time of silence after the first reading would help you engage in the time of silence; and/or if you are inclined to make notes after the spiritual practice exercise)

Contact Barbara Daniels if you need a copy of the book.

E-mail Notifications

You should be receiving messages regularly from Realm keeping you up to date with events and concerns at the church. If a week goes by and **you haven't received any, please let Joel know.** Occasionally an email gets blocked and we can unblock it with a phone call. We want to be sure you are kept in the loop.



Easter "Basket" Give Away And Decorating the Cross

Christian Nurture will have treat filled Easter "Baskets" available for pickup at Smyrna UCC on Friday, April 2 and Saturday, April 3, 2021.

Our Easter Cross will be at the church entry, ready to decorate with flowers on Friday, April 3.



A special thanks to Jane and Steve Dahl for continuing to change the banners and parments at the church. Although we cannot see them in person, they are very evident in the online weekly services.



Thank You!

A huge thank you for all who have helped to clean up the cemetery since the devastating ice storm. The parking lot has been cleaned up, and the maple trees along the road. Lots of the wood has been piled on the edge of the parking lot. The wood is available on a first come, first served basis. We would ask for a donation which we will send to the food bank.

Joel



Break-in at Smyrna

We are sad to report that the hasp on the shed was cut in a break-in at 8 am Thursday morning, February 25. The leaf blower was taken. We can see the blue SUV of the robber with our security cameras, but are unable to identify him or see the license. He was there 4 minutes. Paul Yoder has welded the hasp and replaced the lock.

A learning opportunity for Smyrna members

The EarthCare Committee of Smyrna is pleased to announce that Kristena A. LaMar, OSU Master Gardener and Metro

Master Recycler, will be with us via Zoom on Sunday, March 14 at 2:00 p.m. She will bring us the latest information on being a faithful steward of our resources. Her presentation will last about an hour with a time for questions. What a great way to prepare for the coming of spring



Activity Lending Library at Smyrna

It's been a long year of social distancing. Have you done all your puzzles? Watched all your dvds? Read all your **books? Smyrna's Health Committee** has assembled a lending library of activities in the Narthex. Stop by and pick a few to work on at home and return them when done. Repeat.

If you are unable to come to the church, please email sdahl5631@gmail.com (preferred) or call Mary at: 503-266-4890 to schedule delivery.



Emergency Contact Information Smyrna United Church of Christ

Thank you for taking the time to fill out this emergency contact information form to help the pastor and any supply pastor in case an emergency arises where they are not able to reach you.

This information is being maintained by the Health Committee in cooperation with Smyrna's Church Council. Please return asap to the Smyrna Church office at 31119 S. Highway 170, Canby, OR 97013.

Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone (Cell): _____ Phone (Home): _____

E-mail: _____

Name of Emergency Contact: _____

Relationship to you: _____

Home Phone Number: _____

Cell Phone Number: _____

E-mail of Emergency Contact: _____

March 2021 at Smyrna

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																																	
	1 7 pm AA/AO	2	3 7 p.m. Lenten Study Series "Walking in the Wilderness" via Zoom b.d. Mary Bickers, Kate Daniels Clark, Grant Stanbro	4	5	6																																																																																																	
7 During the COVID-19 pandemic, online weekly Worship Services are available www.smyrna-ucc.org/sermon :	8 7 pm AA/AO	9 b.d. Kaden Fisher	10 7 p.m. Lenten Study Series "Walking in the Wilderness" via Zoom	11 canceled--12 Noon Women's Fellowship	12 b.d. Jonathan Blatchford, Ethan Boss	13 b.d. Gary Peterson, Philip Sano, Irene Schriever																																																																																																	
14 During the COVID-19 pandemic, online weekly Worship Services are available www.smyrna-ucc.org/sermon : 2 pm Recycling with Kristena A. LaMar, OSU Master Gardener and Metro Master Recycler, via Zoom	15 7 pm AA/AO	16 b.d. Violet Humphreys, Kristin Wishon	17 7 p.m. Lenten Study Series "Walking in the Wilderness" via Zoom b.d. Halaina Crispin	18	19 b.d. Donald Hammock	20 Spring begins																																																																																																	
21 During the COVID-19 pandemic, online weekly Worship Services are available www.smyrna-ucc.org/sermon :	22 7 pm AA/AO b.d. Katherine Holt	23 b.d. Marina Daniels	24 7 p.m. Lenten Study Series "Walking in the Wilderness" via Zoom	25 canceled--12 Noon Women's Fellowship	26	27 b.d. Heather Anderson																																																																																																	
28 During the COVID-19 pandemic, online weekly Worship Services are available www.smyrna-ucc.org/sermon : Palm Sunday	29 7 pm AA/AO	30 b.d. Patricia Rice Wedding Ann: Paul & Audrey Yoder	31 7 p.m. Lenten Study Series "Walking in the Wilderness" via Zoom b.d. Kristin Daniels	<table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="7">Feb 2021</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td>1</td><td>2</td><td>3</td><td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td> </tr> <tr> <td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td><td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td><td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td><td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td> </tr> <tr> <td>28</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td> </tr> </table> <table border="1" style="margin: auto; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <th colspan="7">Apr 2021</th> </tr> <tr> <th>S</th><th>M</th><th>T</th><th>W</th><th>T</th><th>F</th><th>S</th> </tr> <tr> <td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td>1</td><td>2 3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>5</td><td>6</td><td>7</td><td>8</td><td>9</td><td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>11</td><td>12</td><td>13</td><td>14</td><td>15</td><td>16</td><td>17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>18</td><td>19</td><td>20</td><td>21</td><td>22</td><td>23</td><td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>25</td><td>26</td><td>27</td><td>28</td><td>29</td><td>30</td><td></td> </tr> </table>		Feb 2021							S	M	T	W	T	F	S		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28							Apr 2021							S	M	T	W	T	F	S						1	2 3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
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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.

Florence Pease

Ron Lindland

Barak Borges —Katherine & Allen Holt's grandson

And prayers for continued health and safety for all during this time.

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.