BEHOLD!! SMYRNA

October 2023



Dear Smyrna friends,

You did it! You engaged in the work of intentional interim ministry with me and the Rev. Dr. Janet Parker, you produced a local church profile that reflected you had done the work, and now you've called a new settled pastor who loves that (and many other things) about you! It has been a joy and a privilege to journey with you in ministry, first as your Supply Pastor in 2021 and then again as one of your Interim Pastors. On Sunday, October 8th we'll celebrate our time in ministry together and incorporate a litany of release (as we did on Pastor Janet's last Sunday). It is so satisfying to know that the very next day you'll be in the pastoral care of the Rev. Jennifer Garrison. Read her greeting below the benediction (written by Roger D. Knight) that I share with you in a spirit of everlasting love and gratitude.

The grace of God, deeper than our imagination; the strength of Christ, stronger than our need; and the communion of the Holy Spirit, richer than our togetherness; guide and sustain us today and in all our tomorrows. Amen.

Peace be with you, Pastor Cat



Dear new friends —

It was such a joy to share in worship with you on September 17. I want to especially thank the search committee for their loving reflections and to Joel for stepping in as the voice of God! And I'm very grateful for the steady leadership of Pastor Cat and Pastor Janet, who have guided you through the interim process. I'm looking forward to exploring more what God has in store for us in our ministry together. As I write this, I am on the way out the door to the conference annual gathering. It is always a treat to gather as the conference, and I'm curious what learnings and worship experiences I will be able to share with you in the weeks ahead. Next month, I will offer more in the way of introductions of me and my family, but for now please know how very happy I am to be anticipating what is next!

Blessings, Pastor Jennifer

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THE GREAT CHILI COOK OFF

It is that time again at Smyrna when we hold the Chili Cook off and pit chili teams against each other to win the prize.

This year the Chili Cookoff will be on Sunday, October 22nd following our church service. We hope to have at least 3-4 (or more!) teams who will cook their favorite chili recipe and bring it in on Sunday for tasting. If anyone would like to make salsa or cornbread don't hesitate, bring that also.

Smyrna is known to try anything once. Name your team, sign up and join in on October 22, 2023. The voting isn't tabulated by Price-Waterhouse for the win, but whichever team generates the most money for Smyrna will win. So get the pots boiling and bring them to Smyrna for tasting. See you there.



Bazaar/Holiday Market

Women's Fellowship is holding their annual Bazaar, crafts, and Holiday treats sale every weekend in November of 2023. The sale will begin on Saturday, November 4, from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, and on Sunday, November 5, following church services for at least an hour and a half.

Following sales will be on:

- Saturday, November 11, 10AM to 2 PM and on Sunday as well.
- Saturday, November 18, 10 AM to 2 PM and again Sunday.
- Saturday, November 25 from 10 AM to 2 PM and on Sunday.
- The first weekend in December, the sale will only be on Sunday, December 3, following the church service
- The last day of the sale will be on Sunday, December 10 following our church service.

We will have everything for sale listed on our facebook page prior to the weekend they will available for sale so that you will know when to stop by, pay and pick up.

If you have any questions, please contact our president Barbara Daniels at 503-390-4686 or barbara4989@gmail.com Thank you.

OCTOBER WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

October 1 — World Communion Sunday, Pastor Cat leading

October 8 — Pastor Cat's last Sunday

October 15 — Pastor Jennifer's first Sunday

October 22 — Pastor Jennifer leading

October 29 — Pastor Jennifer leading



Saturday, October 21th at 9 am is the date for our next road cleanup on our adopted portion of High-

way 170 – Canby/Marquam Highway. I will have the road signs, vests, yellow bags, and pickup devices on hand at the church at 9:00 am.

It would be great to have as many volunteers as possible which will make the job quicker. This is a good opportunity for scholarship applicants to provide service to the church. Any questions can be directed to Rick Gano at 503-651-2044.



Mission and Outreach:

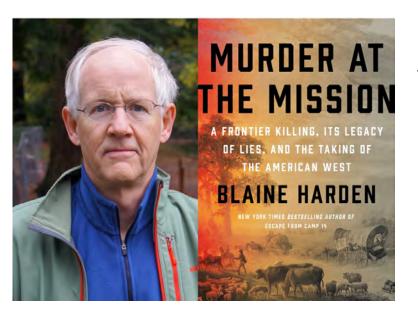
Our "Children for Change" offerings for September and October will go to the Conference Office and designated for Camp Adams scholarships. Our Women's Fellowship has been paying 2/3 of this cost for the children in our congregation, with only one person attending this last summer. Our hope is to make it possible for other children in the conference to have this opportunity.

Barbara Menkel has delivered all the school supplies that were donated to the Canby Center and in addition a check has been sent for \$514.41. We continue to bring items for the Molalla Food bank and also \$693.77 was sent in July. Thank you for being so generous!

—Elaine for Mission and Outreach—

Dates of Note:

- ⇒ October 1, Health Committee mtg after worship
- ⇒ October 4, 7:00 PM Scripture Dialogue with Pastor Cat via Zoom
- ⇒ October 10, 11:00 AM Graveside service for Rev. Jim Buffington at the Forest Lawn Cemetery in Gresham
- ⇒ October 10, 7:00 PM Diaconate meeting via Zoom
- ⇒ October 15, Nami presentation after worship
- ⇒ October 12 , Noon Women's Fellowship Community Luncheon
- ⇒ October 17, 7:00 PM Church Council
- ⇒ October 20 Behold!! Deadline
- ⇒ October 22 Chili Cook-off
- ⇒ October 26, Noon Women's Fellowship Community Luncheon



Our Conference Minister, Rev. Tyler Connoley has suggested Murder At the Mission: A Frontier Killing, Its Legacy of Lies, and The Taking of the American West by Blaine Harden as a book for churches in our conference to read. His original article about the book appeared in the June 2023 On The Way ,.. Read Tyler's article here.

Harden's research uncovered the frustrations of the Cayuse tribe with missionary Dr. Marcus Whitman and many warnings from knowledgeable inhabitants of the Oregon Territory that the missionaries were at risk of being killed. Dr. Whitman became a fierce advocate of Western expansionism and promoted himself as an Oregon Trail guide. After Whitman and his wife Narcissa were killed, his fellow missionary the Rev. Henry Spalding promoted sensationalized stories of the massacre as Christian martyrdom and these stories were published and spread throughout church mission boards and the general public. They resulted in a distortion of history that continues to—a distorted version of how the U.S. became a continental nation. The lies would torment the Cayuse tribe for more than 150 years---punishing a whole group of people for the actions of a few.

There are 3 events that you might want to attend after/while reading the book and include the 2023 Oliver Lecture featuring Blaine Harden on Saturday, Oct. 21 at 7pm at First Congregational UCC at 1126 SW Park Ave, Portland, OR. First Congregational UCC invited Harden to present this story as a step towards reckoning with the role of Congregationalists in the taking of the Northwest from indigenous tribal people. Ticket information may be found at:

https://2023oliverlecture.getresponsesite.com.

Proceeds from the lecture will benefit the Tamástslikt Cultural Institute located on the Umatilla Indian Reservation near Pendleton, Oregon. There will also be two Zoom discussions on Oct. 26th at 11:30 and Oct. 28th at 9:30. The zoom links haven't been provided yet. Watch for more information.

Smyrna Reading Group

Murder at the Mission is the choice for reading and discussion in October. See the article in this issue of <u>Behold</u> about the book. There are rumors that the reading group might meet in **person to discuss the book**. **If you'd be interested in a live discussion** of the book--maybe after worship at Smyrna UCC or another time/place---let Audrey Yoder (<u>yoderstore@canby.com</u>) or Ann Clites (<u>annclites52@gmail.com</u>) know. Watch the bulletin for announcements of time and place.



A BIG THANK YOU to

- the Pastoral Search Committee Dave Clites, Sheila Daniels, Barb Menkel, Ginger Redlinger, and Audrey Yoder — for a job well done!
- Paul Ashton and Pat Bryant for managing the sound system for Richard's memorial service and for weekly Sunday worship.
- Joel for hosting the viewing of the Annual Gathering Conference worship service in Friendship House.
- Elaine and Joel Daniels for cooking the first Women's Fellowship Community Luncheon meal of the program year



Halloween is coming!

Plans are under discussion — Will we have our first inhouse Halloween party since the pandemic? Will it be stop and go?



Free at-home COVID tests will again be available soon. Go to COVIDTests.gov to request four free tests. The kits are intended for use through the end of 2023 and will detect currently circulating strains of the virus. The latest COVID vaccine is now available. Check with your physician's office or local pharmacy to see if they have it. COVID cases may rise further in the winter months, along with the flu and RSV (another respiratory disease).

Vaccines for flu and RSV are also available or soon will be. To protect yourself and others, consider whether wearing a mask is wise and/or necessary. The most vulnerable population includes the elderly, those with compromised immune systems, and pregnant women. People in those categories can lessen their chances of infection if they wear a mask in crowded indoor areas.

If you are not in a high-risk group yourself, you may want to wear a mask to protect those who are. Always wear a mask around others if you have any kind of respiratory illness. It is a good idea to keep masks in your car or your purse or other area where you can reach them easily and put them on in case of need. In the future, COVID vaccines will probably just be given annually.

LONELY? Medical issues? Need Help?

Please visit the Smyrna Resource page. On Smyrna's website, www.smyrna-ucc.org, just click the Resource tab





the kitchen of Ann Clites by way of a friend in Virginia.

Served and enjoyed at Smyrna's Potluck Luncheon on September 17, 2023 and published by popular request

Chicken and Wild Rice Salad

Ingredients:

6 chicken breasts (boneless, skinless). About 8 cups

2 pkg. Good Season Italian Dressing

½ cup balsamic vinegar

1 cup olive oil

2 cups slivered almonds

1 cup dried cranberries

16 oz. pkg. wild rice, fully cooked

2 tsp butter

Fresh tarragon (1/2 of 1 pkg.) Can substitute with fresh basil

Directions:

Boil chicken breast and cool.

Shred chicken breasts and store in gallon size Ziploc bag.

Make dressing: 2 pkg. Good Season dressing

½ cup balsamic vinegar

1 cup olive oil

Mix well

Pour ½ of the dressing over the shredded chicken in Ziploc bag and marinate in refrigerator overnight.

In 2 tsp. of butter, toast 2 cups slivered almonds in oven or in skillet on stove.

Mix together: Cranberries, almonds, wild rice, tarragon (torn in small pieces-leaves), and remaining salad dressing.

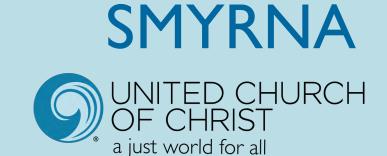
30 minutes before serving mix the chicken with other ingredients.

Do you have a favorite recipe to share? Send it in for inclusion in future Beholds.

October 2023 at Smyrna

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
11 am Worship Health Committee Mtg after worship Wedding Ann. Jeff & Tina Marshall World Communion Sunday, Pasfor Cafleading	2 7 pmAA/AO	3	4 7 pm Scripture Dialogue with Pastor Cat via Zoom	5 b.d. Susan Buffington	b.d. Debi Veatch	7
8 11 am Worship Blood pressure checks during Coffee Hour Pastor Cat's last day with Smyrna New Event	9 7 pmAA/AO b.d. Levonne Gano	b.d. Allen Holt Virginia Yoder 11 am Graveside service for Rev. Jim Buffington @ Forest Lawn Cemetery in Gresham 7 pm Diaconate via Zoom	b.d. Arlene Peterson	b.d. Mariann Hagland 12 Noon Women's Fellowship Community Luncheon	13 b.d. Paul E. Yoder	14
15 11 am Worship NAMI presentation after worship Wedding Ann. Joe & Rebekah Yoder Pastor Jennifer's first Sunday with Smyrna	16 7 pmAA/AO	17 7 pm Church Council	18	19	20 Behold!! deadline	b.d. Casey Hampton, Pat Peterson, Ione Jenson 9 am Road Clean-up
22 11 am Worship Chili Cookoff Pastor Jennifer leading worship	23 7 pmAA/AO b.d. Patricia Bullard, Dan Fisher, Benjamin Liechty Wedding Ann. Jeff & Brenda Hammock	24 b.d. Steve Dahl	25	26 12 noon Women's Fellowship Luncheon	27	28
29 11 am Worship Pastor Jennifer leading worship	30 7 pmAA/AO	31	3 4 10 11 17 18	Sep 2023 I T W T F S	Nov 202 S M T W 1 1 1 2 5 6 7 8 9 12 13 14 15 1 19 20 21 22 2 26 27 28 29 3	F F S 2 3 4 9 10 11 6 17 18 3 24 25

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





- Pat Bullard
- Beryl and Dan Fisher
- Genevieve Freeman
- The Holt family
- Jeannie Rogers' brothers Steven and John, and family
- Virginia Yoder

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.