# BEHOLD!!

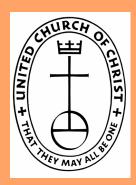
A Newsletter of Smyrna United Church of Christ

Ministers: All members of the church Minister: The Rev. Dr. Deborah Patterson

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31119 S. Highway 170, Canby, OR 97013

## Smyrna



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

# October 2017



### Dear Friends,

As Christians, we are called to preach, teach, and heal. We preach the good news of God's life-giving, sustaining and blessing love for all people. We teach stories we have been taught, including the sayings and works of Jesus the Christ. And we seek to bring healing and hope.

Back in the days of Jesus, no one knew that germs caused people to get sick. They thought leprosy was a punishment or a curse, not a chronic, progressive infection caused by the bacterium Mycobacterium leprae. No one was aware that challenges such as schiz-

ophrenia were mental illnesses, not possession by demons. There were no surgical procedures to repair other conditions, so pity, for example, the poor woman with a flow of blood for all those years.

But with more knowledge, like we have today, come more tools for healing. Of course we can still pray for the sick and the hurting ones, and we should. But we can also look to the medical profession for treatment, get second opinions if we have any concerns or want reassurance that we are making a good decision about our care, and help others navigate the healthcare system (which, as former Deaconess Health System President, Dr. Richard Ellerbrake points out, is mostly illness care and a very fragmented system, indeed.)

In health, **prevention** is key – washing your hands, getting your regular checkups, exercising, eating healthy foods, getting enough sleep, staying active, and engaging (and resting) our mental faculties. **Preparation** is also key – be prepared for emergencies (see the article elsewhere here in Behold), being prepared for health emergencies with your health data and an advance directive up-to-date and accessible, and making plans for what next steps in housing and transportation might look like as you (and I) age.

But remember, we are not alone. As Jesus reminds us in the Gospel of Matthew (18:20), "Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them." We are all in this together!

Peace be with you, Pastor Deb

Thank you to the Mt. Angel Octoberfest Poutine Committee — Adam Maurer, Dereck Crispin, Joel Daniels, Audrey Yoder, Barbara & Carl Menkel, Barbara Daniels, Mary Namit, Linda Dunn, Diane Potter and Rick Gano — for all your hard work in making this mission project possible!!

#### **Adult Education in October**

- October 1 Special Guest Speaker Frank Baldwin (Pastor Deb will be at the wedding of a family friend in Southern Oregon that day).
- October 8 Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race: Part 2
- October 15 May Sarton: Mystic "At Seventy"
- October 22 Mystery
   October 29 The 500<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Protestant Reformation: So What!?



The garden has been planted, weeded, and watered.
The pickles are pickled.

The pickles are pickleu.

The berries are jammed.

The flowers are tended.

The porch has been mopped.

So, Virginia is taking an afternoon off

\*\*\*\*\*\*

You are invited to Virginia's 90<sup>th</sup> Birthday Party Open House with lunch.

Sunday, October 8, 12:30-3:00pm Smyrna UCC, 31119 S. Hwy 170, Canby

\*\*\*\*\*\*

No gifts please, your presence is the present.

## **Memory Café**

Memory Café meets Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup> with a special presentation by the Alzheimer's Association about understanding "Communicating through Behaviors" in people living with dementias. We will also have a lovely lunch catered by Louise Adams and Barbara Daniels, and will have brain health information and activities. Please RSVP by Wednesday, October 4<sup>th</sup> to Pastor Deb at



# **An Invitation from the Confirmation Class.**

The Confirmation class would like to invite their parents, and all the congregation, to join them for a special evening on Friday, October 13<sup>th</sup> from 5 to 6:30 pm, when they will welcome Gary and Nancy Spanovich from the Wholistic Peace Institute in Portland, to meet with them. We will begin with a gathering at 5 pm in the sanctuary, and will move to the Fellowship Hall at 5:45 for a simple meal together, ending at 6:30 pm. Please bring a dish to share, come meet the confirmands, and come join the Peace Circle!

**Blood Pressure Screenings continue.** Thank you to Jane Dahl of the Health Committee for making this possible.

Neighbors in Need Offering – We will be receiving our Neighbors in Need offering on Sunday, October 8, 2017. These funds go to support the ministries of indigenous congregations within the United Church of Christ, along with a variety of other justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects.

Camp Adams Women's Retreat. The Central Pacific Conference UCC Women's Board is sponsoring a Women's Retreat at Camp Adams on October 6-8 led by Maria Gillibrand and Rev. Jean Doane, who are on the CPC Palestine/Israel Network. The topic is "What's Going on in the Palestine YMCA?"

Exercise Classes: Aging Backwards meets Mondays at 9:30 and 10:30 (2 sessions, you are welcome to both). Tai Chi meets Wednesdays at 9 am.

**Coffee and Friends** has moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesdays of each month from 2-3:30 pm.

**Church Council** will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 7-8:30 pm in the Church Library.

**Stitch Club** meets on Tuesday, October 3rd at 1 pm at Cheryl Sano's house. They are inviting us all to bring Oatmeal and Soup, which will be shared with the food pantry at the Molalla Service Center.

### Mustard Seed Parent Support Kick-off was on

September 19 and Smyrna's Friendship House was filled with laughter,

supportive and encouraging conversation and the occasional cry once again!

We are doing some pretty spectacular things on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday evenings of the month. Take a look at the North side of the Hall to see a Mustard Seed banner that gives you a little more detail about the Toddlers, Infants and their families that Smyrna is supporting. As always we are looking for monetary donations for the dinners we provide at every meeting, and door prizes (valued under \$5).

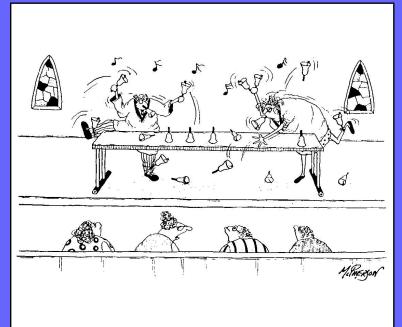
More importantly Rebekah and Carly are looking for church members to come and "teach a skill" to these families. Do you have a passion for canning, recipe sharing/cooking, sewing or mending (even how to sew on buttons), or any other life skill that can make parenting easier? Then we have a place for you to make a difference and minister to the next generation of Smyrna members. Lastly, we are looking for baby holders and nursery playtime attendants for our Tuesday evenings together.

We meet from 6-8PM and if you could come to hold babies, or supervise playtime for even an hour it would give the parents time to eat (with both hands) and learn useful skills to equip them for raising their family. Contact Carly Itami (503)-954-6318 if you're interested.

Thanks to all for donating much needed school supplies. The supplies were divided and delivered to North Marion, Rural Dell and Ninety-One Schools. This is what we collected: 3 back packs, 11 pencil pouches, 2 sets of highlighters, 2 three ring binders, 8 pocket folders, 5 sharpies, 6 sets colored pencils, 53 boxes of crayons, 4 packs of ink pens, 31 packages of pencils, 9



composition notebooks, 50 glue sticks,4 pair scissors,12 Elmer's glue,47 spiral notebooks, 20 packages notebook paper, 13 boxes of markers, 6 paint boxes, 19 erasers, 8 rulers and 6 packages of notecards. Well done, Smyrna!



"The rest of the bell choir is out with the flu."

#### 24 Months to

When disaster strikes, what should you do? You could move away from the Northwest, but that would just allow more Californians to move in. 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.

2 rolls toilet paper

extra toothbrush

small toothpaste

disinfectant

#### Month 5

Grocery Store:

1 gallon water\*

2 cans meat/fish/beans\*

1 can fruit\*

2 cans vegetables\*

1 can soup\*

foods for special diets

\* per person

#### To Do:

- Make a floor plan of your house with escape routes
- Identify nearby emergency shelter locations

EAT, DRINK, AND GIVE . . .

... the Gift of Time
IN HONOR OF

Cuddle Cots

DINNER & AUCTION FUNDRAISER
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 21ST
AT 5 P.M.
10100 South New era Road

CANBY, OR 97013

To purchase dinner tickets — Please contact Maryssa at 503-347-9476

Donations of an item or service for our auction are also being sought. Monetary contributions are tax-deductible

### **Costco Dinner Dinner**

# Mark your calendar for Sunday, October 15, 2017

to attend the annual Costco Dinner fund raiser for the Church's general fund. The fund raiser will be held following our church service and is open to everyone. There will be a free offering for the meal.

This year there will not be a silent auction as there has been in the past so hold onto your gently used items and stay tuned for further details. We hope to see everyone there.

## To the members of Smyrna UCC:

My name is Merritt McCall and I was privileged to be pastor of Smyrna half a century ago (1966-1969). Much as I loved the people and place of Smyrna, though, and I did, I gradually came to realize that the parish was not the type of ministry to which I felt most called. A few years after I left Smyrna I began a very different kind of ministry at Menucha Retreat and Conference Center in Corbett, Oregon. I found that ministry to fit me very well, and I spent 31 years at Menucha. As the Menucha Administrator I was also a staff member of Portland's First Presbyterian Church (FPC), which owns Menucha. A large downtown congregation, FPC is quite different from Smyrna in most things except our shared purpose. Of necessity I spent a significant part of my working life at FPC. Not surprisingly, over time I came to have many friends at FPC and I became very involved in its life and work. In spite of invitations to do so, though, I never wanted to leave the UCC to become Presbyterian.

While at Menucha I joined a small, warm UCC church in Gresham which closed several years ago (Zion). I haven't joined another church since. When Carolyn and I retired we moved to Portland. I felt drawn to return to Smyrna, either occasionally or regularly, and perhaps to join it again. However, the combination of our strong and continuing commitments to the life and work of FPC and the travel time to Smyrna made us slow to do that, and now health issues preclude me from it. Consequently I am writing to tell you how I feel about Smyrna and its members, and why.

A definite part of the reason I was and am never interested in leaving the UCC is Smyrna! No other church I have en-

countered has shown the combination of the attitude and breadth of service Smyrna exhibits, the quiet yet very deep faith I was privileged to know in Smyrna's members, and the level of love and caring for each other and those around us which Carolyn and I both observed and personally experienced at Smyrna. For half a century now, Smyrna has been the image I have carried in my mind of what a church should and could be. Of course Smyrna is not perfect. Of course there will be disagreements within Smyrna - both personal and regarding certain activities or involvements of the church - that is simply a consequence of being human and is certainly nothing new. Several parts of Paul's letters were written to help the churches of his time deal with similar concerns. But despite any problems, Smyrna offers a great deal to our world and, for me, what you do is very important work! Smyrna offers love and support within itself and to the world around it, and I believe that's what we, who call ourselves followers of Christ, are most called to do. The Behold newsletter chronicles that caring as expressed in many ways for many persons.

So, though I would like to tell you much more and to express it more ably, ultimately I find that this letter is simply a way to thank you for the work you do and for the beacon you have been for me through all the years since we shared our time and work and caring together. Please don't stop! Please don't let yourselves become discouraged. Smyrna offers something too rare and without equal - genuine love for each other and for those others who share this world with us. Individually and all, we need that and you share it remarkably well and generously!

Mac





It is that time again! The fall clean-up of Hwy 170 from Heinz Road to Hiway 211 will be on October 7. Volunteers needed — meet Rod at Smyrna at 9 AM.

# Get the facts.....about the flu

- ⇒ **False:** Getting a flu shot can cause the flu
- ⇒ **True:** You can't get the flu from a flu shot. The flu shot does not contain a live virus. However, when your body is building its defenses, you may experience a minor reaction after getting the shot, like body aches or a mild fever for a day or two.
- ⇒ False: The flu isn't serious
- ⇒ **True:** Flu causes serious illness, hospitalizations, and approximately 30,000 deaths every year in the US. Most flu-related deaths could be prevented by immunization
- ⇒ False: You can die from a flu shot
- ⇒ **True:** It's rare to have a dangerous reaction to the flu shot. Consult with your doctor before getting a flu shot if you have a history of Guillain-Barre syndrome or if you've ever had a serious allergic reaction to eggs or a previous dose of flu vaccine
- ⇒ **False:** You can wait and see if an epidemic breaks out, then get a flu shot
- ⇒ **True:** It takes from 2 weeks or longer to develop immunity. That's why you need to get your shot before the flu season begins
- ⇒ False: Flu shots are for old people
- ⇒ **True:** All adults and children should get a flu shot. Even healthy adults and children can catch the flu.
- ⇒ **False:** You don't need a flu shot if you got one last year
- ⇒ **True:** Immunity to the flu wears off within a year. Flu viruses change often. If you're not immunized against this year's expected virus strains, you and those around you are at risk for getting the flu. Get your flu shot soon, so you will be protected before the flu season begins

# Steps to take to stay well this flu season

- 1. Practice good food health habits: get plenty of sleep, be physically active, manage your stress, drink plenty of fluids, and eat nutritious food
- 2. Wash your hands often with warm water and soap for 20 seconds (it takes 20 seconds to sing Happy Birthday TWICE), rinse, then dry completely.
- 3. Hand sanitizer is a good second option to washing. Use when your hands are not visibly dirty. Put a dollop of sanitizer and rub into your hands, covering all surfaces for 20 seconds or until dry.
- 4. Pay particular attention to cleansing hands before contact with others such as shaking hands, etc, or eating or drinking.
- 5. Stay home when you are sick.
- 6. Cough or sneeze into the crook of your arm, or into a tissue you then dispose of properly.
- 7. Avoid touching your eyes, nose or mouth. Germs are often spread when a person touches something that is contaminated with germs and then touches his or her eyes, nose, or mouth.
- 8. Use a disinfectant cloth to wipe down surfaces often touched: phones, countertops, TV remotes, door handles, toilet handles, computer keyboard & mouse, light switches, etc.....
- 9. Get a flu shot—the CDC recommends everyone 6 months and older get a flu vaccination every year. Vaccination is especially important for: people 50 years and older, children 6 months through 4 years old, women who are or will be pregnant during flu season, people with chronic medical conditions or weakened immune systems, people who live in nursing homes and other long-term care centers, health care workers, people who live with or care for anyone at high risk for flu-related complications. Complications of flu can include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, dehydration, and worsening of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes.

Smyrna's Annual Halloween
Party Saturday October 28th
from 5-7PM

It will be a Trunk-Or-Treat Part
ty on the Black-top so stay
tuned for sign-ups to be one of
the featured "Trunk's".
Winners will be awarded for:
People's choice, Pastor's choice
and most original Trunk destination. Google search "Trunkor Treat" for amazing ideas. A
light supper will
be provided inside the church,

Trunk-Smyrna's Annual Halloween
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Trunk

## Be Prepared, Not Scared

(Editorial reprinted from the Salem Statesman Journal, Sunday, September 10, 2017)

There's nothing like fire, flooding, hurricanes, and earthquakes to remind of us of our vulnerabilities. Last week, the Oregon Department of Forestry reported that an estimated 525,662 acres of land in Oregon was burning. To put that in perspective, said ODF spokesman Jim Gersbach, nationally less than 2 million acres was ablaze. Quick back-of-the-napkin math suggests that Oregon is home to about a quarter of all wildland fires currently burning in the nation. The nation.

Yet for all the smoke and ash, deep, standing water and rubble-pile reminders, most Oregonians are still woefully unprepared for the lasting challenges they could face following an emergency event like a Cascadia Subduction Zone earthquake. Some seismologists expect that the next full rupture of the Cascadia Subduction Zone, which runs beneath the Oregon coast for about 600 miles from Northern Vancouver Island to Northern California, will be the worst natural disaster to hit North America.

evidence also suggests these mega-thrust earthquakes occur at intervals of between 400 and 600 years. The last known subduction zone quake in these parts was slightly more than 300 years ago. That means it could happen in our lifetime. A Cascadia quake has the potential to measure a magnitude 9.0 to 9.2 on the Richter scale with an accompanying tsunami of epic proportions. It would easily

### **Our Whole Lives: Sexuality Education** for Teens.

Thanks to a generous donor affiliated with Smyrna, our church will be able to offer the Unitarian Universalist curriculum for sexuality education, which is endorsed by the United Church of Christ.

Last weekend, both Kristin Wishon and Heather Anderson (who will be co-facilitators of this program) attended a teacher training for this program in Portland. This program, which will be offered this school year, will be open to teens in our church, and to teens in the wider community. The parent orientation was on September 29<sup>th</sup> from 5:30 to 7 pm.

Here are the dates for the students, to get on your family calendars (all sessions for students are from 4 to 8:30, unless otherwise noted, and a light meal will be served):

October 20, 2017 November 3, 2017 December 1, 2017

January 5-6, 2018 (Retreat) February 2, 2018 March 2, 2018 April 6, 2018 May 4, 2018 June 1-2, 2018 (Retreat, possibly also the 3<sup>rd</sup>), and June 15<sup>th</sup>.

Please contact Heather or Kristin if you would like more information.

overwhelm local emergency and relief responders in this state and others.

So how prepared are Oregonians? Not very. Too often, you'll hear residents say they having camping or tailgating supplies, so "they're good." They likely assume that if a large-scale disaster hits, they'll be able to rely on local, state, and federal agencies, and volunteers for aid or assistance. And they wouldn't be all wrong.

While federal low-interest loans cover rebuilding destroyed homes, first mortgage lenders still need to be paid. The American Red Cross gets on the ground fast, but not as fast as you'd like them to be if your children are hungry. Oregonians who make it a priority to build their own emergency preparedness kits have a leg up because barring serious injury, prepared folks have an ability to survive until the smoke clears, waters recede, rubble is overturned and help arrives.

The Statesman Journal has prioritized personal preparedness for that reason. A yearlong series of stories that ended in April outlined how residents can get prepared. (Smyrna readers, please note: We have been reprinting those in the Behold.)

We can and should send help to places such as coastal Texas and Florida and now Mexico. But we can do something to help ourselves as well, and that's taking a few moments and dollars each week to become prepared. A little care now can pay big dividends later.



- Don Blatchford
- Jean Epley
- Joann Gribble
- Ethel Henderson
- Mickey Hester
- Blanche Kober
- Tina Marshall

- Lucia Schuebel
- Robert Schuebel
- Jon Schriever
- Vonda Stoneking
- Steven Watkins
- Debbie Hancox
- Bobbie & Steve Rigg

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.

# October 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9:45 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School     Coffee Hour: Rebekah Yoder & Kristin Daniels Flowers: Beryl Fisher     Wedding ann: Jeff & Tina Marshall	9:30 am Aging Backwards @ Smyrna	3 1 pm Stitch Club @ Cheryl Sano's 10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna 6 pm Mustard Seed Parenting	9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna Deadline to RSVP for Memory Cafe	5 b.d. Susan Buffington	6 12 noon Memory Cafe	7
8 12:30-3 pm Virginia's 90th Birthday Party Open House @ Smyrna 9:45 am Adult Educ ation 11 am Worship and Sunday School Flowers: Virginia Yoder Neighbors In Need Offering Wedding ann: Nick& Carly Itami	9:30 am Aging Backwards @ Smyrna b.d. Levonne Gano Columbus Day (Observed)	10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna 2 pm Coffee & Friends 3:30 Earth Care Com 7 pm Church Council b.d. Allen Holt Virginia Yoder	9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna b.d. Arlene Peterson	12 Noon Women's Fellowship Luncheon b.d. Mariann Hagland	5-6:30 pm Confirmatio Class Program & Potluck – Everyone invited b.d. Paul E. Yoder	14
9:45 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School  Costco Dinner Dinner Flowers: Volunteer needed Wedding Ann: Joe & Rebekah Yoder	9:30 am Aging Backwards@ Smyrna	17 10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna 2 pm Coffee & Friends 3.30 pm Diaconate 6 pm Mustard Seed Parenting b.d. Caitlynne Schuebel	18 9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna	19	4-8:30 pm Our Whole Lives: Sexuality Education for Teens	21  5 pm Cuddle Cots Dinner and Auction 10100 S New Era Rd, Canby OR b.d. Casey Hampton, Pat Peterson, lone Jenson
9:45 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School Stitch Club Bake Sale after worship	9:30 am Aging Backwards @ Smyrna b.d. Patricia Bullard, Dan Fisher, Benjamin Liechty	24  10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna 3:30 pm Earth Care Committee 6 pm Namaste Cafe Prayer Group b.d. Jimmy Bickers, Steve Dahl	25 9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna	26 12 Noon Women's Fellowship Luncheon	27	28 5-7 pm Smyrna's Annual Halloween Party b.d. Daniel Liechty
29 9:45 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School	30 9:30 am Aging Backwards@ Smyrna b.d. Sarah Odell	31 10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna	3 10 17	Sep 2017 M T W T F S 1 2 4 5 6 7 8 9 11 12 13 14 15 16 18 19 20 21 22 23 25 26 27 28 29 30	5 6 7 8 12 13 14 15 1 19 20 21 22 2	T F S 2 3 4 9 10 11 16 17 18 13 24 25