

# BEHOLD!!

A Newsletter of Smyrna United Church of Christ

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Smyrna



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

# November 2017



*Dear Friends,*

Jesus called us to preach, teach, and heal, so we did! Churches started most of the hospitals in this country (around the world, to be honest). Churches started many of the medical schools and nursing schools around the world, too. But as healthcare has become more complex and expensive, many other forces than compassion and charity have come into play, and the role of Christians has shrunk to bystanders. Yet....

Remember how we are called to preach, teach, and heal? Well, we have the opportunity to speak up for those who can't get to the "pools of healing" (See John, Chapter 5 and John, Chapter 9). Some, even those with health insurance, can't get to the doctors they want to see because those providers don't accept their insurance, even Medicare. Some have trouble finding a new primary care

doctor after their doctor retires because most physicians have become specialists due to the way healthcare is reimbursed. Some people have no health insurance at all and avoid going to the doctor, and many have untreated illnesses, even serious ones, like diabetes and cancer. If we are called to preach, teach, and heal, we need to speak up, but what do we say?

The Health Committee and the Church Council of Smyrna UCC would like to invite you to join us on Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm for dinner and movie, and a conversation around healthcare for all, where we will explore the issues and ways we as individuals and as people of faith can be involved in helping to provide help "into the pool."

Blessings to all,  
Pastor Deb

**Confirmation Class.** The Confirmation class will meet on Friday, November 10<sup>th</sup> from 4:30 to 6:00 pm to discuss "Stories of Healing."

### Adult Education in November

- November 5 – The Reformation 500 Years Later
- November 12 – Waking Up White and Finding Myself in the Story of Race: Part 3
- November 19 – Mystery
- November 26 - "Giving Thanks"

Neighbors in Need – Thank you to all who donated to this United Church of Christ offering on October 8<sup>th</sup>. 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.

**Memory Café** meets Friday, November 3rd with a special presentation by folks from the Molalla Adult Center on Safety and Nutrition to keep your brain healthy. 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, November 1<sup>st</sup> to Pastor Deb at [debpatternsonhome@gmail.com](mailto:debpatternsonhome@gmail.com) or call 503-689-4450.



## Voices of Faith – Health Care for All

The Health Committee and the Church Council of Smyrna UCC invites you to join us on Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 pm for dinner and movie, and a conversation around Health Care for All.

Starting at 5:30 pm we will have a salad potluck, and at 6 pm, we will show the 45-minute movie, “Fix It: Healthcare at the Tipping Point.” At 6:45, we will be joined by special guests Dr. Michael Huntington, a retired oncologist from Corvallis United Church of Christ, Dr. Samuel Metz, a retired anesthesiologist from Portland, and Lee Mercer, former director of Healthcare for All Oregon, who is from Silverton. They will lead us in a discussion from 6:45 to 7:30 pm of issues surrounding access to affordable, quality healthcare for all.

Please share this information with your friends and neighbors, and encourage them all to join us!

## Annual Smyrna UCC Ingathering

**November 19, 2017** has been selected as the date for our annual Ingathering of food for area Food Banks. We will be bringing in a table to the Sanctuary, which will be covered with a cloth, cornucopia and gourds. Everyone needs to think of non-perishable food you can bring to send to the Food Banks.

As has been mentioned in the past, they are in need of breakfast food, soups and at this time something that will make their Thanksgiving memorable, such as stuffing mix, canned milk, instant potatoes, canned yams and anything else you think someone might like for a meal. The collection of this food will take place during our church service. If you have any questions, please let someone in the Diaconate know.



Rev. Jean Doane will be joining Pastor Deb to speak about the Christian church in Bethlehem, and the work at the Palestinian YMCA there.

## Our Whole Lives: Sexuality Education for Teens –

The class will meet on November 3 from 4:30-8:30 pm to go through the first two units. Dinner will be served.

### Meeting dates

**2017 dates:**  
December 1  
January 5-6 (Retreat)

**2018 dates:**  
February 2  
March 2  
April 6  
May 4  
June 1-2 (Retreat, possibly also the 3<sup>rd</sup>)  
June 15<sup>th</sup>

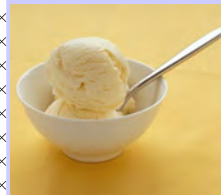
Please contact Heather or Kristin if you would like more information.

*Women's Fellowship Thanksgiving Luncheon* will be served on November 9<sup>th</sup> at noon.



## WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP ANNUAL

### HOLIDAY BAZAAR



November 18, 2017 is the date for the Women's Fellowship Annual Bazaar. Our event will begin at 6 PM with dessert of pie, cake and ice cream and a chance to view the auction items. We will begin the auction at 7 PM.

We hope you can come and help us by bidding on hand made items. We will also be asking for money to help with scholarships for our young people to attend our church camp, Camp Adams, located out of Molalla. Hope to see you all there. Thank you.



## Mission Needs

- ⇒ **Stitch Club Challenge:** The Molalla Service Center still is in need of Oatmeal, Soup and Toilet Paper.
- ⇒ **Filling the Ark:** Thank you to all who have helped with this life-transforming project. Check out the table to see the wonderful animals available for purchase, and continue to save your change. Thank you!
- ⇒ **Cookware Needed:** Please bring new or gently used cookware to share with those who are moving from homeless shelters into new apartments – Kristin Wishon will deliver.

*Molalla Community  
Choir Concert  
Saturday, Dec. 2 at  
Smyrna 7:00  
A good way to start  
the Holiday Season*



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

## Group meetings —

**Stitch Club** —meets on Tuesday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 1 pm at LeVonne Gano's house

**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.

**Tai Chi** meets Wednesday at 9 am.

**Church Council** will meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday of each month from 7:00-8:30 pm in the Church Library.

**Mustard Seed Parenting Group** continues to meet on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesdays at 6 pm. The first Tuesday of the month is for the parent/primary caregiver and child or children, and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday is for the parent/primary caregiver, partners, and other family supports, along with the children.

**Aging Backwards** is being discontinued at the present time. Thank you to Carl Menkel and Mary Namit who led Aging Backwards sessions, and to all who participated.

Thank you also to Virgil Foster who continues to lead Tai Chi classes.

## 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.

Month 6

First Aid Supplies:

- Adhesive bandages in various sizes
- safety pins
- Adhesive tape
- latex gloves
- Sunscreen
- Gauze pads
- Roller bandages
- Extra hearing aid batteries, if needed

To Do:

- ⇒ Secure home danger spots (hanging objects, tall furniture and other items that can fall or tip during an earthquake)
- ⇒ Learn child's day care or school disaster plans
- ⇒ learn about emergency transportation services from local emergency management office.





*Thank you, Jane Dahl, for the beautiful banners you created for this season. Thanks also to Rod Bullard for hanging them around the sanctuary.*



### **Thank You!**

*I want to thank everyone who could come to my 90th birthday party on Oct 8, at Smyrna UCC. My family — Arlene Hampton, Louise Adams, Paul Yoder, and Twyla Blatchford— hosted a delicious coffee hour & lunch enjoyed by many friends and relatives, including my two brothers and sister-in-law from Arizona.*

*Thanks to David and Vernon Yoder for the homemade ice cream to go with the birthday cakes.*

*My big surprise guest (who sent the 90 red roses which David Adams arranged beautifully in the sanctuary and on the tables) was Katie Tang. Several remembered her from the late '70s when she came from Hong Kong for a college education. Starting at Clackamas Community College, she lived with us as our daughter Loretta was also a CCC student. Katie led a children's choir at Smyrna during her time here. We've been friends ever since.*

*Thank you again, Virginia Yoder*



### **We Need You! The Canby Adult Center**

is badly in need of volunteers to help in the kitchen. You can work one shift a week, one a month or serve on our "on-call" list – whatever works for you! Starting time is between 8:30 – 10:30 and ends at 1 pm.

Duties include basic food preparation, home-delivered meals packing and serving. Please stop by the Center for an application or call 266-2970 today!

Please help us spread the word and pass this message on to your networks.

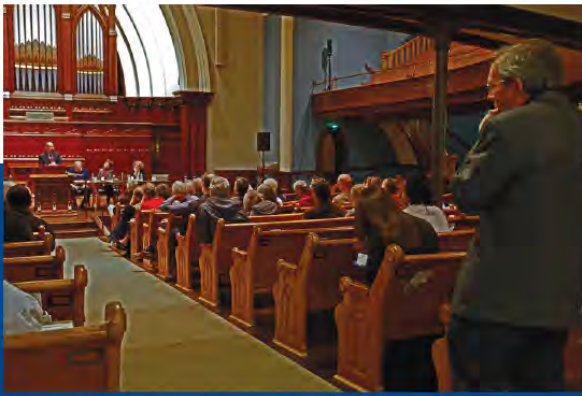
Thank you for your assistance!

Jeanne Vodka, Canby Adult Center, MOW/Outreach  
[cacmow@canby.com](mailto:cacmow@canby.com)  
[www.canbyadultcenter.org](http://www.canbyadultcenter.org)



**The September Potluck and Game Night at Smyrna provided an enjoyable evening of shared food, conversation and board games.**





## Let the Voices of Faith be Heard



In July 2009, religious leaders from a wide spectrum of faith traditions in the United States issued a joint statement in support of health care reform, citing it as an urgent priority “so that all of our neighbors, especially the people living in poverty, children, and the aged can be assured of the fullness of life that is central to the holy vision of a beloved and peaceable community.”

“As we together pursue this vision our direction is certain—it is toward the common good. The prospect of high-quality, affordable health care for everyone is a measure of our wholeness as a nation. We pray that our best minds and kindest hearts might be joined in this effort so that all men, women, and children will have the health care they need to live the lives for which they were created. We stand ready to give our support and energies to its achievement.”\*

\*A complete list of signers can be found at the National Council of Churches website.

People of faith led the social movements that abolished slavery and led to universal education, women’s suffrage, civil rights, and environmental protections. People of faith are leading another social movement—to achieve compassionate and sustainable health care for ALL.

**WHEN** patients regardless of age or insurance status cannot find primary care doctors;

**WHEN** medical costs contribute to the majority of personal bankruptcies for American families;

**WHEN** a Medicare patient chooses between life-saving prescription medications and food;

**WHEN** a doctor’s appointment is put off because the patient hasn’t met the insurance deductible;

**WHEN** significant disparities exist in health care among racial and ethnic communities;

**THEN** we, as people of faith, must raise our voices to confront the injustices of our health care system.

In our country today, even after extensive federal and state legislative reform efforts, we have a broken health care system that distributes services unjustly and rations care inequitably, based on income. People of faith living in this, the richest nation in the world, have no choice but to condemn the lack of affordable health care for millions of people as a moral outrage. Although the Affordable Care Act (ACA) will provide temporary help by prohibiting the use of pre-existing conditions to exclude Americans from health care insurance and by limiting out-of-pocket costs to individuals, the ACA will not be sustainable. This is because it controls neither costs nor incentives to profit from the illness of others, and it leaves the destiny of our health care system under the control of vested interests in the health care industry instead of the public.

## People of faith apply the age-old moral test of a society--how do we treat:

- those who are in the dawn of life...the children,
- those who are in the twilight of life...the elderly, and
- those who are in the shadow of life...the sick, the needy, and the differently-abled?

All faith traditions challenge believers to act with justice, engage in healing, and treat people with compassion. People of faith are called to embrace this faith tradition and declare that health care for ALL is a matter of conscience, a moral imperative for the common good.

## WHAT PEOPLE OF FAITH CAN DO

**EDUCATE:** Faith communities are especially suited to help members understand our health system and its injustices and the effects of proposed and existing legislation. In compassionate dialogue, faith groups can study the issues of justice, ask the difficult questions, and challenge misinformation.

**BUILD BRIDGES:** Faith communities have unique opportunities to build bridges and initiate collaboration among various congregations, the business and labor communities, health care providers, civic groups and others. Voices of faith can bridge ideological differences and partisanship.

**OFFER HOPE:** Hope allows people to imagine what could be. Hope is communal and collaborative. People of faith, people of hope who seek justice, have a vision of right relationships. Hope will not be overcome.

**ADVOCATE:** Now, more than ever, there is a need for voices of faith to speak out. Help your congregation and denomination actively transform the political outcome and establish health care for all in Oregon.

For more information on these and other faith statements: [www.faithfulreform.org](http://www.faithfulreform.org)



### CONTACT US

#### Health Care for All-Oregon

1443 SE 122nd Ave, Portland OR 97233

503-206-6709 | [info@hcao.org](mailto:info@hcao.org) | [HCAO.org](http://HCAO.org)

If you are interested in joining the HCAO Faith Caucus, contact us at [faith@hcao.org](mailto:faith@hcao.org)

# Health Care for **ALL** Oregon

# November 2017

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
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<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>26</i></p> <p style="font-size: small;">9:45 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School Blood Pressure Screening Coffee Hour: Diaconate Flowers: Volunteer needed</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>27</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>28</i></p> <p style="font-size: small;">10 a.m. O.A. meeting at Smyrna 2:30 pm Coffee &amp; Friends 3:30 pm Emergency Preparedness Com. 6 pm Namaste Cafe</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>29</i></p> <p style="font-size: small;">9 am Tai Chi @ Smyrna b.day Deborah Hancox, Steve Patterson</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;"><i>30</i></p> <p style="font-size: small;">b.d. Richard Gano</p>																																																																																												

***Please remember  
in prayer:***

Tina Marshall  
Lois Johnson  
Joanne Gribble  
Blanche Kober  
Lucia Schuebel  
Jean Epley  
Vonda Stoneking  
Ethel Henderson

Mickey Hester  
Robert Schuebel  
Jon Schriever  
Steven Watkins  
Dick Hall  
Don Blatchford  
Bobbie and Steve Rigg  
Debbie Hancox and family.  
Eileen Boss & Family



To the family and friends  
of Rose Marie Bentley,  
Louise Allee's mother,  
who passed away at the  
beginning of October.

## **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.