

# BEHOLD!!

Smyrna

A Newsletter of Smyrna United Church of Christ

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

## January 2019



### Dear Friends,

In Advent, we lit candles for peace, hope, love, and joy. How will we live in 2019 to welcome these gifts into our lives?

We have to have faith in the steadfast and sure love and providence of God. As the apostle Paul reminds us in his letter to the Romans, *“Now hope that is seen is not hope. For who hopes for what they already see?”* (Romans 8:24). So, hope comes from something beyond ourselves, for we cannot create hope out of whole cloth for ourselves, but we can reach out beyond ourselves – to hope in God, and to create hope for others, that they not feel alone.

The same is true of love – it springs from within, and yet from somewhere beyond ourselves. And what about joy? How is it even possible that we can know joy, particularly when we know that life is not always perfect, as we strive to be peacemakers. Where does true joy, and where does true peace, come from? They come from the giver of all good gifts.

And the thing about these gifts is – they can be re-gifted – over and over and over again. These are the original “you CAN have your cake and eat it too” types of gifts. You can give away love – and still HAVE love – in fact, if you don't, you won't be nearly as likely to have the love that you need. The same is true of sharing the peace of Christ, the joy of Christ, and the hope of Christ. They will come back to bless you, as well.

Peace, love, hope and joy be with you in this year of our Lord 2019,  
Pastor Deb



**Adult Education in January:**

During January, we would like to try something different. Each Sunday, starting at 10 am before worship services, there will be “Pastor Is In” sign on a table in the Fellowship House. Each week, I will prepare a topic and some Q&A's for discussion in this more informal setting.

### Walk to Bethlehem:

Thanks to the Health Committee for sponsoring a “Walk to Bethlehem” each Sunday in December, and for the pot-luck on December 23<sup>rd</sup>. On the first Sunday, we walked over 300 miles, and I know some of us were inspired to move a little more than usual on these dark midwinter days. Thank you to Jane Dahl, Mary Ashton, and Ione Jenson for your leadership on this project, and thanks to all who participated.



*Smyrna celebrated the first Sunday in Advent with a potluck, fellowship and the creation of ornaments to add to the Hat/Mitten tree in the Friendship House.*



*Congregation members took part in a Readers' Theatre presentation of the Nativity Story on December 16, 2018.*





## Memory Café

Memory Café continued on Friday, December 7<sup>th</sup> with 36 in attendance for a Christmas gathering of brain games, songs, reminiscences, and a lovely lunch prepared by Louise Adams and Barbara Daniels assisted Genevieve Freeman and Linda Dunn.

Our next Memory Café will be on the first Friday of February, when we will welcome Frances Chapple, an all-round bundle of activity in her 80's who will inspire us to keep engaged for the New Year.

## Facebook Photos –

Could members of the congregation please help to take photos of the various activities of the church to post on our Facebook page? Those can be sent to Jeannie (at smyrnaucc@canby.com) or to Pastor Deb. Pictures posted on our Facebook page may also show up in the Behold. Many thanks!



- ⇒ Thank you to Sheila Daniels for organizing the Christmas Pageant, which took place during worship on Sunday, December 16<sup>th</sup>.
- ⇒ Thank you to Jim and Kristin Daniels for the Christmas Tree in Friendship House. It was decorated with “cold weather” contributions once again this year.
- ⇒ Thank you also to Paulette Eyman who will deliver these items to both Molalla and Canby.  
The totals are:  
Gloves – 102 pair    Hats – 62  
Scarves – 6            Socks – 27 pair  
Throws – 4
- ⇒ Thank you to all those who have been sharing items with the Molalla Service Center, and to Elaine Daniels for delivering the food. We were able to share MORE THAN A TON OF FOOD! Needed in January: Personal hygiene items.
- ⇒ A Note from the St. Vincent de Paul Center in Canby:  
*“A time to give thanks, a time to celebrate, a time to appreciate people who mean so much. To Smyrna United Church of Christ: thank you from the volunteers of the Canby, St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank. Your donation this year provided 10,389 food orders to our neighbors in need. Thank you for your generosity!”*

## Smyrna Donations

Food continues to be delivered to the Molalla Food Bank on a regular schedule. This is our contribution so far for 2018:

February-189 pounds  
March-372 pounds  
April-168 pounds  
May-136 pounds  
June-76 pounds  
July-62 pounds  
August-94 pounds  
September-214 pounds  
October-140 pounds  
November-275 pounds  
December-239 pounds (This includes food brought by those attending the concert given by the Molalla Community Choir)



Beginning in January 2019, we are suggesting that more hygiene type items be included. (toothpaste, soap, shampoo etc.)

Again in 2018, Smyrna donated \$500 each to the Molalla Service Center and Canby St. Vincent de Paul for Christmas. This is in addition to a like amount sent for Thanksgiving.

Thank you for your support.  
Mission and Outreach

P.S. Donations after the report was written brought Smyrna's total for the year to over 2,000 pounds!



## Children for Change . . .

Thank you to all who helped us purchase pumps for three villages through Heifer Project!

Stay tuned for our January mission outreach.

## Invitation from Hubbard UCC:

We are invited to the worship service to mark the transition of Hubbard UCC – at 2:00 pm on Sunday, January 6<sup>th</sup> in their former sanctuary.

We are grateful to the Hubbard congregation also for their gift to us of their baptismal font, as well as Bibles and UCC hymnals. Please hold in prayer this congregation in transition.

## Annual Reports needed: Deadline January 5, 2019

Pastor  
Moderator  
Board of Trustees  
Grounds Committee  
Stitch Club —  
    President's Report  
    Meeting Dates  
Diaconate  
Scholarship Committee  
Finance Committee — 2019 Fundraising dates  
Clerk's Report  
Mission and Outreach  
Staff/Parish Committee  
Building Use  
Board of Christian Education  
Board of Christian Nurture  
Youth Group  
Women's Fellowship Report  
Nominating Committee — Officers, Board & Committee Members  
Memorial Committee  
Heartline  
Cemetery Committee  
Health Committee  
Emergency Preparedness  
Earth Care Committee  
Camp Adams  
Treasurer Report — separate from annual  
Coffee Hour Volunteers — please sign up  
Flower Volunteers — please sign up



You may e-mail your reports to the church at [smyrnaucc@canby.com](mailto:smyrnaucc@canby.com) or to Jeannie's personal e-mail (listed in the last report book)

Smyrna's Annual Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 20, after worship services. Annual Potluck following the meeting.

### Treasurer's Report

Balance 10/31/2018	\$8,623.18
Receipts	9,619.75
Expenditures	<u>(5,294.27)</u>
Balance 11/30/2018)	\$12,948.66

# January 2019

## Monthly Planner

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																								
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th colspan="7">Dec 2018</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> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2</td> <td>3</td> <td>4</td> <td>5</td> <td>6</td> <td>7</td> <td>8</td> </tr> <tr> <td>9</td> <td>10</td> <td>11</td> <td>12</td> <td>13</td> <td>14</td> <td>15</td> </tr> <tr> <td>16</td> <td>17</td> <td>18</td> <td>19</td> <td>20</td> <td>21</td> <td>22</td> </tr> <tr> <td>23</td> <td>24</td> <td>25</td> <td>26</td> <td>27</td> <td>28</td> <td>29</td> </tr> <tr> <td>30</td> <td>31</td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Dec 2018							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	31						<b>1</b> 10 am OA	<b>2</b> b.d. David Schriever, Linda Younger	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> b.d. Don Blatchford, Tavi Robinson
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<b>6</b> 2 pm Hubbard UCC Last Service 9:45 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School Coffee Hour: Volunteer needed Flowers: Jane Dahl	<b>7</b> 7 pm AA/AO	<b>8</b> 10 am OA	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> b.d. Liz Chapin	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> b.d. Morgan Rogers																																																								
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*Remember in  
your thoughts  
and prayers...*

Levonne and Rick Gano, following the passing of her brother, Leland Mitts, on 12/8/2018 (and please remember his widow, Mary Mitts).

Please also remember:

Rod Bullard,

Ione and Asa Jenson,

Catherine Mosiman,

Dorothy Krebs (back at home),

Vonda Stoneking,

Blanche Kober,

Mickey Hester

Katherine Holt,

Beryl and Dan Fisher (who have moved to Canby),

and all who have been mentioned at church.

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.