

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.

May 2019

Dear Friends,



The Christian church has a long history of imagery of God as “father.” This imagery gives us a whole different set of ideas about God than does imagery of God as “mother.” It has been reflected in our theology over the years (and Brian Wren does a great job showing some of those images in his hymn, “Bring Many Names.” For example, one stereotypical male image is God as a strong, conquering hero – the type of God that encouraged the conquest that we find in the first five books of the Bible, which lingered into the way we settled our own country (among others.) There is, however, much other imagery of God in the Bible, which shows us other ways of approaching care of Creation – our neighbors, the animals, and the earth.

To be sure, even gender roles are not uniform in the Bible, because Jesus, a man, talks about longing to gather the people of Jerusalem like a hen gathering her chicks. He reminds us that we are all in this together, and

that we need to nurture relationships, and take care of the earth – the plants, the animals, the water, the soil, the atmosphere, the climate.

Jesus’s father was a carpenter, and just like a good carpenter would take good care of his (or her tools) in order to do their work, so are we called to take good care of the tools God gave us – the manifold gifts of this good earth.

May God – our father and mother in all the rich and full connotations these roles connote – and more – bless you and keep you, now and always.

In Christian love,
Pastor Deb

OSU Gerontology Conference

On April 3 and 4, I attended OSU's 43rd annual Gerontology Conference in Corvallis, hearing keynote speakers and attending breakout sessions on Redefining Aging, Pain Management, Communications Skills for Dementia, Social Security, and Disease Prevention. I also was able to visit a great book display and see many exhibits related to aging. I went to find new ideas for Memory Cafe and the Health Committee, and was not disappointed. I even had a chance to stop in and see where Lisa Gottwald Harve works in Corvallis.

Psalm Composition Project



Thanks for singing through the Psalms with me. Currently, I have 55 Psalms completed, so am more than one-third of the way through all the Psalms. As for starting again from the beginning at Smyrna, we are up to

Psalm 24 as of this week. At this pace, we will be through the rest of them in about three more years!

Nation Pet Week/Art Committee Project

The Art Committee invites folks to bring photos of pets (past and present) for display on the Sunday of National Pet Week. (May 5-11).



Memory Café

On Friday, May 3rd, we welcome Stefanie Reid, Aging and Disability Contracts & Community Coordinator for Clackamas County, who will share her own experience of regaining her brain health, and talk about resources to help protect your cognitive well-being available in this area. Please RSVP by Wed., May 1st to Pastor Deb.



"Days of Giving"

May 5, 2019, has been designated by the Fund Raising Committee as the Spring Days of Giving. Some years ago the Fund Raising Committee thought we might designate a time when we would initiate a call for donations from the congregation to help our general funds cover the expenses of our church.

At this time we are also looking into upgrading our sound system and adding viewing screens to the Friendship House and the Nursery area. Our current system speakers are at least thirty years old. We are also looking to add a camera security system outside our building as we've had items taken from our property over the past year. Please consider giving to this project. Thank you.



Another way to support Smyrna —

If you shop Amazon, use the address: smile.amazon.com. It has all your same information and search features, and in addition gives a small donation to the charity of your choice.

Smyrna United Church of Christ is now set up to be one of those charities. It will ask you to choose a charity the first time, then will automatically donate to that charity unless you make a change.

Adult Education -

During Lent, Adult Ed was the program following the Soup Lunch each week. We are grateful to the following for providing programs during Lent:

- Kristin Wishon and Joel Daniels (Kiva)
- Jon Steiner (WE Care International)
- Mary Ann McCammon (Quilts for Empowerment)
- Terri Milliren (Cuba)
- Jean Doane and Marcia Gilliland (YWCA Palestine)
- Ann Neiderehe and Lorraine Milan (One Fair World)

Stay tuned for ways we can stay connected to this good work.

"Soup and Pie Sunday"

Another Fund Raising activity coming in May is Soup and Pie Sunday. This year we have selected May 19, 2019, as the date to hold this fund raiser. We will have several soups and pies for your taste buds to try.

This is a fund raiser to help our General Fund. Following church services on the 19th you can sit down and enjoy a bowl of soup followed by a slice of pie. There will be a free will offering for donations. We hope you can join in this once a year activity. Thank you.



Dear Deb,

I was stunned by the generosity of the Smyrna UCC donation to WE Care! You have an amazing congregation and community in which to work

I will send an official thank you to the church this week explaining that their contribution will permit a student to return for the second semester at her university in Nairobi. She had gone home because her former sponsor had withdrawn support. I saw her grade report and she has earned all A and B grades. I am so happy to be able to support her now.

Thanks again and have a wonderful Easter season.

Jon Steiner, WE Care International



The old oak tree that stood at the entrance to Smyrna's parking lot for as long as anyone can remember was removed last fall. As it was in poor health and being attacked by borers, we determined that it would be a safety hazard if left any longer.

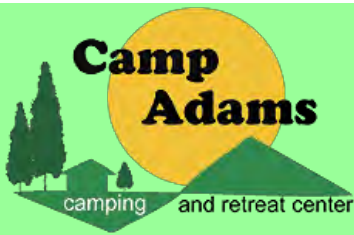


A slice of the stump shows the tree's age to be about 130 years, which would mean it was an acorn or a seedling when the land was being cleared for the building of the Church. The diameter of the trunk was 1 inch at 3 years, 2 feet at 50 yrs., and 4 feet at 130 yrs. Borer tunnels (borers are the grub stage of wood beetles) and rotted wood can be seen in the outer edges of the trunk in this sample.



Easter at Smyrna
April 21, 2019





The Central Pacific Conference of the United Church of Christ offers a variety of summer camping opportunities for youth grades 2nd through 12th.

PLEASE NOTE an important CHANGE in our age graded groupings:

- 4th graders will now attend Genesis/Seekers rather than Discoverers
- 6th graders will now attend Discoverers rather than Sojourners.

Camp Dates 2019!!!!

June 30-July 3	Taller & Smaller (K-3rd w/adult)
July 7-13	Exodus (completed 9th-12th)
July 14-July 20	Sojourners (completed 7th-8th)
July 21-July 27	Discoverers (completed 5th-6th)
July 28-August 3	Genesis/Seekers (completed 2nd-4th)

Registration **CLOSES June 2, 2019.** <http://campadams.org/our-camp/>

Many of Smyrna's youth attend Camp Adams' summer camp programs, assisted by a "campership" provided by Smyrna Women's fellowship. The cost of camp is \$420. Register online at campadams.org. The camper will pay \$140. When the completed scholarship application is returned to Sheila Daniels **by May 22**, the balance will then be paid by Women's Fellowship. Be prepared to state your reasons for wanting the scholarship and list activities you do with the church — assisting with services, youth group, Easter Egg Hunt etc.



Children for Change –

During May, we continue to collect funds for UNICEFF to buy PlumpyNut, a "ready-to-use therapeutic food" (RUTF) which is distributed to severely malnourished children in countries around the world. Thank you for your support!



Peace Garden Clean-up — Before and after

Look close, you can see two of Smyrna's elves hard at work. Well, one is hardly working!



Walk to Jerusalem:

Thank you to the Health Committee for helping us Walk to Jerusalem by Palm Sunday, and for the lovely Mediterranean Soup Luncheon on April 7th. Special thanks to Jane Dahl, Mary Ashton, and Ethel Henderson. Get well, soon, Ione – we miss you on the Health Committee!

Treasurer's Report

Balance 2/28/2019	15,326.75
Receipts	9,604.01
Trans/Adjustments	(250.00)
Expenditures	<u>(10,193.22)</u>
Balance 3/31/2019	14,487.54

Asa and Ione Jenson
The Meadows, Apt #124
1546 S. Fir Street
Canby, OR 97013



Remember: The post office won't deliver without the apartment number.

May 2019

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																										
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Apr 2019</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></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>29</td><td>30</td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p style="text-align: center; margin: 0;">Jun 2019</p> <table style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; text-align: center;"> <tr><td>S</td><td>M</td><td>T</td><td>W</td><td>T</td><td>F</td><td>S</td></tr> <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></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td><td></td></tr> </table> </div> </div>		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					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							<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">1</p> <p>9 am Tai Chi</p> <p>Deadline to rsvp for Memory Cafe</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">2</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">3</p> <p>12 noon Memory Cafe @ Smyrna</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">4</p>
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<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">5</p> <p>10 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School</p> <p>b.d. Isabella Gano</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Mary Namit, Ginger Redlinger Flowers: Jane Dahl</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Spring Days of Giving</i></p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">6</p> <p>7 pm AA/AO</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">7</p> <p>10 am OA</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">8</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">9</p> <p>12 Noon Women's Fellowship</p> <p>b.d. Mark Gano</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">10</p> <p>b.d. Paul Hudrik, Cheryl Sano-Kirkele</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">11</p> <p>b.d. Jeff Hammock</p>																																																																																										
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">12</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Mother's Day & "Undie Sunday"</i></p> <p>10 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School</p> <p>b.d. Judy Burbank, Bernadette Yoder, Florence Pease</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Women's Fellowship Flowers: Virginia Yoder</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">13</p> <p>7 pm AA/AO</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">14</p> <p>10 am OA</p> <p>6 pm Staff Parish mtg</p> <p>7 pm Church Council</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">15</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">16</p> <p>b.d. Lauren Humphreys</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">17</p> <p>b.d. Lincoln Bangs</p> <p>Wedding Ann. John & Florence Pease</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">18</p> <p>Armed Forces Day</p>																																																																																										
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">19</p> <p>10 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School</p> <p>b.d. Colton Fisher</p> <p>Soup & Pie Sunday</p> <p>Flowers: Jane Dahl</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">20</p> <p>7 pm AA/AO</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">21</p> <p>10 am OA</p> <p>1:30 Diaconate mtg</p> <p>b.d. Sherry Skiles</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">22</p> <p>b.day Kaden Wells</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">23</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">24</p> <p>b.d. Linda Dunn</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">25</p> <p>b.d. John Patterson, Ron Lindland</p>																																																																																										
<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">26</p> <p>10 am Adult Education 11 am Worship and Sunday School</p> <p>Coffee Hour: Diaconate Flowers: Irene Schriever</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">27</p> <p>7 pm AA/AO</p> <p>b.d. Sarah Zannotti</p> <p>Memorial Day (Observed)</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">28</p> <p>10 am OA</p> <p>b.d. Paul Holbrook, Louise Allee</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">29</p> <p>b.d. Sidney Humphries</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">30</p>	<p style="font-size: 2em; color: red; margin: 0;">31</p> <p>b.d. Dan Allee</p>																																																																																											



- Rod and Pat Bullard
- Dorothy Krebs
- Mickey Hester
- Blanche Kober
- Ione and Asa Jenson
- Louise and Dan Allee
- Vonda Stoneking
- Katherine Holt,
- Elaine Daniels
- Beryl and Dan Fisher
- Paulette Eyman

• and all those 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.

Soup Lunches –

Thank you to all who made soup and lunch for the Lenten Soup Lunches in March and April, including: Barbara Menkel, Levonne Gano, John Mason, Irene Schriever, Paul Ashton, Jane Dahl, Barbara Daniels, Linda Dunn, Ethel Henderson, and Deb Patterson. Thanks!!)

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.