

BEHOLD!! SMYRNA

June 2024



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

Dear Smyrna Folks,

For some reason, June always seems like a party sort of month. Maybe it's the long days and short days that put **me in a celebration mood. Maybe it's the graduations, weddings and barbecues** that seem to come together this time of year. Maybe it's the earth itself, which seems to be celebrating by creating a profusion of green and **flowery things wherever we look. Whatever it is, I'm happy** to be celebrating with you through the month of June 2024.

June 23rd will be a particularly celebratory day, so make **sure to mark your calendar. We'll be celebrating the graduates among us as well as hearing from Peace Campers about what they have learned during their week together. Then, following worship, all are invited to our own Canby Pride celebration. For the first time this year, we'll have a table with activities to share. Please**

come by Wait Park from 12-4 on June 23rd to join the fun and to show our support and care for our local LGBTQ+ community.

I'm not sure if it's exactly a party, but I'm really looking forward to cracking open the book of 1 Samuel with you during worship during the month of June. Weeping. Re-joining. A helpful apprentice. A corrupt king. War. Crisis of leadership. God in, and around, and with. Court intrigue. An overlooked shepherd. At least one giant. A very well thrown rock. A same-gender loving couple. And being careful of what you ask for because you might get it...This book has it all! What does it have to say to us in this tumultuous election year? Let's find out together.

See you in church AND out celebrating in the world!
Many blessings,
Jennifer

June Worship Services — *REMEMBER! STARTING JUNE 2 AND GOING THROUGH THE SUMMER, WORSHIP BEGINS AT 10 AM ON SUNDAY MORNINGS*

June 2 – Communion

1 Samuel 1:9-16, 20

June 9 – 1 Samuel 2:26 and 3:1-10

June 16 – 1 Samuel 8

June 23 – Graduation and Peace Camp Sunday

1 Samuel 15:1,34-35 and 3:1-5,10-13

June 30 – Open and Affirming Sunday

1 Samuel 17:1-4, 41-50, 55-58 and 18:1-5

Looking ahead:

July 7 – Ask the Pastor Sunday - a spontaneous sermon **generated by those burning questions you've always wanted to ask in church**

July 14 - Camp Adams Sunday! We will worship outdoors at Camp Adams (18499 S Highway 211, Molalla, OR 97038) at 10 am followed by a potluck and time to hike the trails at camp.

Ministers: All members of the church

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Graduation and Peace Village Sunday

On Sunday, June 23, Smyrna will recognize **this year's graduates Ann Marie Bangs, Donald Hammock, Celia**



Kersens and Hadley Kersens; last year's graduates, Carly Itami and Lauren Humphreys; and all our peace villagers during worship. A special coffee hour honoring them follows worship.



The support we have felt after Audrey's passing has been so strong it is hard to thank everyone. From the first time Audrey visited Smyrna through her last days she always felt comfortable at Smyrna. Some of the faces are the same ones that greeted her nearly 50 years ago and some have changed, but the feeling has remained constant. The welcome was so complete that if she was mistaken for an exchange student, it did not bother her and it was something she could laugh about all her life. -- Paul

Thank you for all your compassion and support. My mom loved the Smyrna community and truly enjoyed helping with activities for the children of the church including Bible school, Sunday school, holiday parties, and training young acolytes. — Laura

The kind and welcoming nature of Smyrna is what my mom enjoyed most when she came to church as a young person. In her passing we are grateful for the same kindness and support that we have received from our Smyrna family. — Ryan

Peace Builders: A Peace Village Experience

at Smyrna UCC
31119 S Hwy 170 (aka Canby/ Marquam Rd)

June 17-21, 9:30am -1 pm

F or kids in K-6th grade

Learn to build peace:

- within yourself
- at school
- in the world

Activities include: crafts, games, music, and gardening.

Snacks and lunch will be provided.

Registration just \$10

[Click Here for Online Peace Village Registration Form.](#)

Or email smyrnaucc@canby.com with your child/ children's names and ages.



Update on Kiva

Kiva, as an organization, stands for a financially-inclusive world where all people hold the power to improve their lives. Since 2005, Kiva has lent over USD\$1.7B to 4.3 million borrowers in 94 countries. Smyrna has had a team since 2009 and has 17 members who have collectively lent over \$17,000, one small loan at a time. Typically, the loans are for \$25 and go toward small projects in many countries including the U.S. When the loan is paid off, it can be relent. If you would like to join in this worthwhile endeavor, go to Kiva.org and join. Choose Smyrna United Church of Christ as your team. The latest loan **from Smyrna's group was May 28, 2024 for \$25 to Ana Cristina in Guatemala who is asking to borrow \$650 for help in her agricultural enterprise to amend the soil for her crops. It is a ten-month loan. Questions? Ask Joel or other members of the team.**

What to do if you've fallen and can't get up

About a quarter of older adults take a fall every year. If you fall and have symptoms of a stroke or an injury such as a hip fracture, try to get to the phone any way you can—crawling or rolling if you **can't stand up**.

If you don't have those kind of symptoms, wait a while to compose yourself. Don't try to stand up unless you're sure you can do it safely, and do it slowly. If you have trouble standing up, try the following techniques:

- Roll onto your side, then into a sitting position on the floor, and get on your hands and knees.
- Crawl toward a piece of sturdy furniture, then turn so that your stronger leg is next to the furniture. Place your hands on the furniture for support. If you can, bend the knee closest to the furniture and plant that foot on the floor, then push yourself up.
- If you keep your cell phone handy, in a pocket or shoulder holster, you can call for help even if you are unable to get up.

If you have a history of falling, it's best to get a medical device, such as a life alert, which can detect falls and call for help if you are unable to. You can generally wear it even in the shower (check the instructions for your particular device). Check with your insurance company to see if the device and the monthly monitoring fee are covered



Thank you to all who worked so hard to make the installation on May 5 such a joyful celebration. It was wonderful to celebrate with you all and with the wider Conference as we covenanted to our mutual ministry together. Special thanks to Joel for his extra work as both musician and welcome-er, to Ginger for participating in the service even though she was just recovering from surgery, and Barbara and the intrepid kitchen crew for pulling together a feast of fruit and desserts.

Books to consider —

The Smyrna library has a few health-related books that tell the story of an illness from the viewpoint of the person affected. Here are a few:

Christ on the Psych Ward by David Finnegan-Hosey (manic depression).

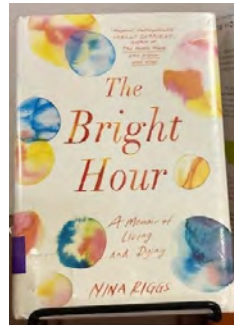
Everything Happens for a Reason and Other Lies I've Loved by Kate Bowler (stage IV colon cancer).

Still Alice by Lisa Genova (early-onset Alzheimer's disease).

The Bright Hour, A Memoir of Living and Dying by Nina Riggs (breast cancer).

These books are valuable in understanding the human impact of medical problems, which is quite different from knowing the medical facts, and possibly learning something of how to respond to people undergoing the problems.

The Bright Hour is the story of a 37-year-old poet, wife and mother of two young sons, who discovers that she has breast cancer. Within a year she loses her mother to multiple myeloma and learns that her own cancer is terminal. Her story, filled with humor and sadness, is of her journey with her family and friends through the medical treatments and everyday life events. She teaches her youngest son to ride a bicycle, she and her family scatter her mother's ashes, she and a friend (who also has cancer) joke about developing a line of snarky greeting cards to respond to the unhelpful and/or thoughtless comments they get about their cancer, and above all she fills her life with love. Read the book for a unique perspective on life and approaching its end.



LONELY? Medical issues? Need Help?



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



Audrey (Amaya) Yoder

Sept. 10, 1958 — April 27, 2024

Audrey was born in Delano, California on September 10, 1958. Her family moved to Hawthorne, California in 1959 where her father started work at North American Aviation where he worked on aircraft design and the Apollo program. This is when Audrey first learned a love of star gazing.

As a child in Hawthorne, she walked to school every day with her sister Loretta through grade six. In her free time, she enjoyed riding bikes around the neighborhood, also with Loretta. In



her early grade school years, she became interested in art and took a painting class. Throughout her life she expressed her creativity through drawing, painting, crafting, cake decorating, flower gardening, and crocheting.

In 1970 she moved with her family to Oregon and attended Silverton schools for grades seven through ten.

In 1974 her family moved from Silverton to Marquam where Audrey finished high school at Molalla and met her husband, Paul.

After graduating from Molalla High School in 1976, Audrey started work for the State of Oregon at the Public Utility Commission. In 1979 Audrey and Paul were married at Smyrna UCC. Their first child, Laura, was born in 1985, their second child, Ryan, was born in 1987, and Audrey had a few years of being a full-time mother.

Then in 1990 Audrey, Paul, Laura, and Ryan moved to the Yoder Store, where she lived and worked. As co-owner of the store Audrey worked full time behind the counter, while at the same time raising two children and keeping house. Over the course of the 34 years at the store she developed friendships with many of the regulars. Her favorite customers were the younger ones and she would spend as much time on a .10 sale as a \$50 sale.

Time away from the store was commonly spent camping on long weekends like Labor Day and Memorial Day. She also was able to take a week-long vacation most years by calling on family, friends, and neighbors to watch the store. In later years, she would sometimes leave Paul alone to travel with family.

Audrey was an active member of Smyrna UCC for 45 years, where she enjoyed teaching Sunday School, teaching craft projects, and helping to organize Christmas pageants.

In February of 2023, Audrey was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis. She didn't want to let that change her routine and found ways to adapt to her leg weakness. In November of 2023 she got a diagnosis of multiple myeloma which she didn't want to tell people about because it might make them worry. In the week before her death, she told Paul "Maybe I should

stop driving soon. Sometimes I need to use my hands to lift my leg off the gas and onto the brake."

Although she was battling serious diseases, her passing was sudden and unexpected.

Audrey is survived by her husband, Paul Yoder, her father, Philip Amaya (Linda), her mother, Elsie Stadeli (Otto), her daughter Laura Yoder (Chad), her son Ryan Yoder (Romaric), her sister Loretta McCool (Randy), her brother Philip Amaya (Lisa) and her sister Elsa Hominda (Rod).

Donations in Audrey's memory may be made to the Glenda Yoder Sano Scholarship Fund of Smyrna..



EarthCare Update:

We are several weeks away from the 3rd anniversary of the installation of the solar panels at the church. The system is functioning as planned and we have achieved advantages for the church aside from the main one of helping to mitigate the effects of climate change. Over the life of our project, we have saved 76,224 pounds of CO2 emissions, the equivalent of 576 trees planted. The system was sized to produce power about equal to our usage requirements, and our bill stays constant at about \$20 per month in fixed charges such as the extra meter we need. We save and bank extra kilowatts in the summer and draw on them in the winter. Since the project went on line three years ago in June, we have generated power worth \$6,316.99. Even Tuesday, May 22, when it was full clouds with rain, we generated 26.9 kWh worth about \$3.50 compared to 85 kWh at \$11.05 on a May day with full sun.

The oak tree plantation is leafing out and doing well. We are watching out for briars and discouraging other unwanted weeds by allowing the native grasses to grow.



Canby Pride June 23 Celebration 2024



Wait Park, 350 N Grant St, Canby, OR
More info: www.canbypride.org & [@canbypride](https://twitter.com/canbypride)



The weather cooperated with sun and clear skies on Memorial Day, May 27, 2024, during a dedication and old-fashioned Decoration Day service in Smyrna's cemetery. Among the attending crowd were several veterans.

June 2024 at Smyrna

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<div> <div> May 2024 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 </div> <div> Jul 2024 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 </div> </div>						1 b.d. Justin Peterson
2 10 am Worship – Communion 1 Samuel 1:9-16, 20	3 7 pm AA/AO	4 b.d. Ethel Henderson	5 7 pm Diaconate mtg via Zoom b.d. Paul Ashton, Mason Heilman	6 7 pm Diaconate mtg via Zoom b.d. Nick Itami	7 b.d. Aaron Liechty	8 b.d. Andrew Mahar
9 10 am Worship 1 Samuel 2:26 anbd 3:1-10 b.d. David Yoder	10 7 pm AA/AO b.d. Amber Enfield	11	12	13	14 b.d. Marcus Daniels	15 b.d. Emily Holt, Imani Robinson
16 10 am Worship 1 Samuel 8	17 7 pm AA/AO	18 b.d. Bill Peterson, Barak Holt-Newton Wedding Ann. Steve & Jane Dahl	19 7:00 PM Church Council Mtg on Zoom	20 b.d. Elsa Anderson	21 b.d. Pat Bryant	22 b.d. Benjamin Daniels
9:30 am to 1 pm Peace Camp at Smyrna						
23 10 am Worship – Graduation and Peace Camp Sunday 1 Samuel 14:34-35 and 3:1-5, 10-13	24 7 pm AA/AO	25	26 Wedding Ann. Steven & Eileen Boss	27 b.d. DaNelda Strode, Beth Koberstein, Sophia Patterson	28 b.d. Murlene Liechty, Pastor Janet Parker	29 b.d. Robert Schuebel, Heidi Crispin Wedding Ann. Katherine & Allen Holt
30 10 am Worship – Open and Affirming Sunday 1 Samuel 17:1-4, 41-50, 55-58 and 18:1-5						

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

SMYRNA



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST
a just world for all

- Paul and Mary Ashton
- Pat Bullard
- Beryl and Dan Fisher
- Genevieve Freeman
- The Holt family
- **Jeannie Rogers' brothers Steven and John**
- Virginia Yoder
- Robin Alexander
- Ginger Redlinger
- Janet Bess Farrell
- Linda Dunn and Barbara Daniels
- Rick and Levonne Gano
- Anne Stronko and Roger Marin
- Paulette Eyman
- Ethel Henderson



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.