

# *The Link*

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*God is Still Speaking,*

July 14, 2015

## **Turn! Turn! Turn!: A Groovy 60s Sunday**

Dear Church Family,

For our Groovy 60s Worship Service this upcoming Sunday, Doug and Judy Smith will perform a song made famous by the Byrds. In 1965, the Byrds reached the top of the charts with their folk rock rendition of “Turn! Turn! Turn!” While the melody was originally composed by Pete Seeger, the lyrics have the distinction of being the oldest of any #1 hit. The lyrics come from the Book of Ecclesiastes. In church, we often read the simple, yet beautiful poetry of this scripture at memorial services. Its words capture the seasons and cycles of life. They remind of us of how there is “a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance.”

Along with the refrain, “Turn! Turn! Turn!,” Seeger did make one slight addition to the lyrics. This addition may well explain why the song became such a hit at a time when the Vietnam War was escalating. Seeger added six words to the final verse from Ecclesiastes: “a time for love, and a time for hate; a time for war, and a time for peace, I swear it’s not too late.”

This Sunday I will be preaching on Ecclesiastes. I invite you to think about whether this scripture could at times be the soundtrack for your own life. What seasons have you been through? What season are you in right now?

For all of life’s ups, downs, and constant turns, may you feel God’s presence.

Your brother in Christ,

Pastor Brooks

Ecclesiastes 3:1-8

For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:  
a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted;  
a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up;  
a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance;  
a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together;  
a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing;  
a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away;  
a time to tear, and a time to sew;  
a time to keep silence, and a time to speak;  
a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace.

## WORSHIP IN JULY

### July 19, 2015

10 a.m. Worship Service. . Rev. Brooks Berndt, preaching. Infant and Toddler Care available.

#### **Worship Volunteers:**

Greeters: Ellie and John Bradley

Worship Leader: Jerry Mathis

Ushers: Ken Rowe, Cory Saum-Blystone  
Mike King, Ray Jones

### July 26, 2015

10 a.m. Worship Service. Rev. Brooks Berndt, Preaching. Infant and Toddler Care available.

#### **Worship Volunteers:**

Greeters: Linda Wear and Nancy Phelps

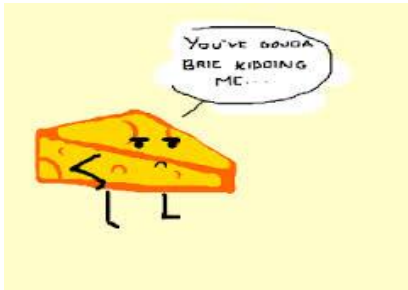
Worship Leader: Dwight Chapman

Ushers: David Macko and David Harrington  
Sue Rush

### All Church Picnic at Hazel Dell Park Immediately following worship

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## A CHEESY GOODBYE



Please join us at our annual **All Church Picnic on Sunday July 26<sup>th</sup>** immediately following worship service at Hazel Dell Park. This will be your last opportunity to say goodbye to Pastor Brooks, Eunita, Danalyn and Kylie. Brooks has selected the theme of **cheese** for this goodbye celebration, so let's make it as **cheesy** as we can. We will provide cheese hotdogs and cheddar brats, the beverages and the Cheetos! We will POTLUCK more fun and cheesy food. Think cheesecake, mac and cheese, cheesy potato salad, nachos, fried cheese sticks, cheese and crackers, cheese dips, chili and cheese for topping the dogs. The options are endless. We will have fun games for all ages.

Sign-up sheets for the picnic are now in the narthex. Please let us know the number of people that will be attending and also select your choice of hot dogs or brats so that we have enough food.

## REMEMBERING OUR FAMILY IN PRAYER

Prayer requests for:

**Our sons and daughters overseas, and the people of the Middle East;**

### CONTINUING PRAYER REQUESTS FOR:

Farley Maxwell

Joan Blair

Ken Kerr

Betty Ferner

Jean Mathews

Dorothy Mathews

Sue Benson

Irma Slocum

Andy Allensworth's  
daughter, Sheila

Sarah Allensworth has started this on Facebook for her sister, Sheila. No need to donate because it accepts well wishes, but funds are appreciated, too.

This is the fundraising campaign for Helping Sheila: <http://de.gofund.me/zc76g4>

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## UPCOMING PUBLICATION DATES FOR "The Link"

Link Deadline

July 26, 2015

Link Mailed

July 28, 2015



## A Groovy Sunday

When you arrive for worship on this Sunday,, don't flip your wig when you see the stylish threads that everyone will be wearing. You won't have to be a flower child to enjoy our 60s-themed worship service. Everyone is invited to dress the part, so be cool with bell-bottom pants, a tie-dyed shirt, and a hippy headband. The music will transport you back to a far out time. On this Groovy Sunday, you won't want to bug out and split. It will be a gas.

## Cards for Brooks and Eunita

Most, if not all of the congregation by now, is aware that Brooks has been called to UCC headquarters as the National Minister of Environmental Justice. We are collecting cards to show our appreciation for Brooks during the past eight years. If you would like to give a card, please bring it to the church between now and July 26<sup>th</sup>. There is also a box by the membership table in then narthex or you may mail a card to the church, c/o Ken Rowe. There will be a presentation to Brooks and Eunita during the July 26<sup>th</sup> service,



### Welcome to our New Music Director

**STERLING  
ROBERTS**

I am pleased to announce that Sterling Roberts has been selected as our Music Director. This past year Sterling has been acting Assistant Director of Music at First Unitarian Church of Portland. While in this position, he was co-conductor of the Chalice Choir, Conductor of the Unitarian Universalist Women's Choir and assisted supervision of Children's Music Ministry (chimes, K-5 Children's Choir)

Hailing from Rancho Cucamonga, California, this vocalist, vocal instructor and choral conductor holds a 2010 Bachelor of Music degree in Vocal Performance from the University of California, Irvine in Orange County.

He entered Portland State University as a graduate teaching assistant in 2014, working under Dr. Ethan Sperry, while also pursuing the Master of Music in Choral Conducting.

Sterling has helped conduct various choral ensembles at UC Irvine and Mt. San Antonio College in Walnut, CA, including the acclaimed Mt. San Antonio College Chamber Singers under the direction of Bruce Rogers, and has performed in various choral groups throughout California for over ten years.

Sterling will start September 9 with choir rehearsal and will direct the choir during September 13 service.

## Mission & Outreach July Special Offering

Faith Action Network (FAN) is a statewide interfaith advocacy organization through which over 97 communities of faith across the state partner for the common good. Our church has been a member for years and partnered with FAN on several of our recent All-Church Social Action events.

FAN believes that: justice work is part of our religious calling, communicates with elected officials about critical social issues, and advocates for a more just and sustainable world.

**Join us in supporting FAN by writing a check out to our church and noting "FAN" in the memo line.**

## Our Amazing Neighbors

Many of our church family may not be aware of a the vandalism that occurred over the holiday weekend. In the past, our parking lot has been a favorite place to set off fireworks over the 4<sup>th</sup> of July quite often leaving a huge mess behind. On the evening of Tuesday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, someone was seen setting off very large fireworks for over two hours, one of which exploded into the window of the Martha's Pantry van. The window was shattered. To give them credit, they did clean up as they went as there was only one rocket in the lot next to the van. This is where our amazing community stepped up. After receiving e-mails, phone calls and visits on Wednesday, the neighborhood volunteered to stand watch through the 4<sup>th</sup> to make sure that everyone remained safe. I also alerted the Sheriff and requested patrols to keep tabs. Thanks to the generosity of one of our neighbors, the window of the van was replaced at no cost to the Pantry. How lucky we are to be a part of this community.

## **Invitation to “Never Again” Hiroshima Exhibit on August 6th**

Over the past year, Pastor Brooks has served on the board of directors for the Wholistic Peace Institute. This organization led by Gary and Nancy Spanovich helped bring Arun Gandhi to our church. It is now sponsoring the “Never Again” Hiroshima Exhibit at Concordia University. This exhibit from the Hiroshima Ground Zero Museum in Japan commemorates the 70th anniversary since the bombing of Hiroshima. The opening of the exhibit will take place on August 6th from 11 am- 2 pm. The event will begin with prayers for peace followed by a luncheon with a keynote speech by atomic bomb survivor Mr. Ed Kawasaki. The event will be at Concordian’s George R. White Library and Learning Center (2900 NE Library Street, Portland). For more information about the Wholistic Peace Institute, visit its website at: [www.wholisticpeaceinstitute.com](http://www.wholisticpeaceinstitute.com)

## **Time to Begin Harvesting!**

The community garden has started to come in with zucchini, beans, eggplant, peppers, and collards available. Soon tomatoes, corn, and squash will also be ripening. If you have need of produce you are welcome to pick what you need for yourself. If you are unable to pick, please contact Ed Martin and he will make arrangements to have the produce picked for you.