

# *The Link*

First Congregational  
United Church of Christ  
1220 NE 68th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98665-0508  
360.693.1476  
Website: [www.vancouverucc.org](http://www.vancouverucc.org)



Volume 37 No.19

*God is Still Speaking,*

October 13, 2015

## **How To Persevere: Love And Do Good**

I am a bit chagrined to admit how many times I have no idea exactly where I am supposed to be going in life. It seems like everybody else is using a Coleman lantern and all I have is a puny flashlight with dying batteries. The path is somewhere out there but I'm struggling to find it.

I imagine this is a bit like how the members of the early Church may have felt. Those early Hebrews, facing persecution for their belief in Jesus' teachings, must have struggled to see the path ahead of them. They must have seriously wondered if they were lost or if they should persevere on their path.

It was to these potentially lost folk that Paul spoke in Hebrews 10: 24-25. He knew they were struggling to persevere as the new church. He knew they needed a guiding light. Luckily, he knew that no one was better suited to guide them than themselves.

**24** "And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, **25** not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching."

According to Paul, the way is simple. There are only three things we need to do to persevere: Help each other to love others; help each other to do good deeds; and come together to encourage and support one another.

I believe Paul's words are still the best guidance we can follow here at Vancouver UCC. We can help one another love others. We can help one another do good deeds. And we can come together to be the church on Sundays as well any of the other six days of the week. We can do all these things because God is still speaking to us and through us. We can do all these things and we will persevere.

Let us light our way towards the future and the good works we can do together!

Blessings to all!

Kristina Martin

## WORSHIP IN OCTOBER

### October 18, 2015

10 a.m. Worship Service. Natalie Becker, Pulpit Guest  
Infant and Toddler Care available. 10:20 a.m.:  
Christian Education for children 3 yrs. - Grade 7.  
Youth Group (**MAZI**) meets at 11:15 a.m.

#### **Worship Volunteers:**

Greeters: Dwight and Opal Chapman  
Worship Leader: Melanie Handshaw  
Ushers: Ken Rowe and Cory Saum-Blystone  
Ray Jones

### October 25, 2015

10 a.m. Worship Service Pam Osborne, Pulpit Guest.  
Infant and Toddler Care available. 10:20 a.m.:  
Christian Education for children 3 yrs. - Grade 7. .

#### **Worship Volunteers:**

Greeters: Patty and Tom Yates  
Worship Leader: Jeff Osborne  
Ushers: David Macko and David Harrington  
Susan Rush

## Mary Jo Ebel Circle

**When?** Wednesday, October 21, 2015  
**Where?** The Plymouth Room in the church.  
**Time?** 1:00 PM  
**Bring?** A book on any subject to share.

Our group has changed its meeting time to  
**1:00 PM** on the third Wednesday of each month.

## REMEMBERING OUR FAMILY IN PRAYER

Prayer requests for:

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

CONTINUING PRAYER  
REQUESTS FOR:

Joan Blair  
Ken Kerr  
Betty Ferner  
Dorothy Mathews  
Nita Calvert  
Irma Slocum  
Cordelia Rush  
John Priel  
Connie Oppel

## UPCOMING PUBLICATION DATES FOR "The Link"

<b><u>Link Deadline</u></b>	<b><u>October 25, 2015</u></b>
<b><u>Link Mailed</u></b>	<b><u>October 27, 2015</u></b>

## Youth Group (MAZI) News

The following is our schedule through  
December. 1st and 3rd Sundays aren't the  
same without you! So see you there!

**October 18, 2015 (Halloween Party)**

**November 1, 2015**  
**November 15, 2015**

**December 6, 2015 (Advent Festival)**  
**December 20, 2015**



Flapjack Fundraiser  
Tickets \$8

Get your Tickets Today

Saturday  
**17<sup>th</sup>**  
October  
8am  
through  
10am

At all four local  
**Applebee's**

WHOprogram.org

who winter hospitality overflow  
A collaborative effort of...

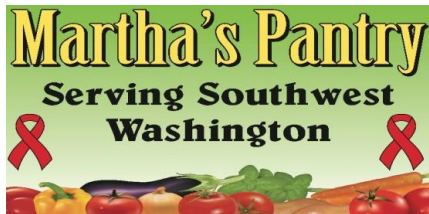
COUNCIL OF THE HOMELESS  
Share Serving The Hungry & Homeless



## UCC SPECIAL OFFERING FOR OCTOBER

**Neighbors in Need (NIN)** is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants.

Neighbors in Need grants are awarded to churches and organizations doing justice work in their communities. These grants fund projects whose work ranges from direct service to community organizing and advocacy to address systemic injustice. Funding is provided through donations to the Neighbors in Need offering. **Please support this important ministry by writing a check to our church and putting "NIN" in the memo line**



## WINTER COAT & SOCK DRIVE Help Our Neighbors Stay Warm!

Martha's Pantry, our neighbor downstairs, invites you to participate in their annual Winter Coat/Warm Sock drive. It is underway now and will last until the end of October. New or clean "gently used" men's & women's coats in a variety of sizes are needed.

Look for the clearly marked barrel near the office, in the entrance way. We'd love to have you as partners! Contact Judy Dahlen if you have questions. [360-597-8815](tel:360-597-8815).

## All Saint's Day and News from the Memorials Committee

We continue to work with family members to make the best possible use of funds that have been donated in memory of a loved one. Funds have been designated to go to building maintenance, labyrinth maintenance, sound system, books, choir and Capital Campaign. There are a few funds that we are still working with the families on.

We would also like to remind you that all tangible memorial donations must be approved through the church's administrative committees. The Pastor and the Memorials Committee are receptive to ideas and will facilitate the approval process.

On November 1, 2015, we will hold the All Saint's Day service remembering members and loved ones that have passed since the last All Saint's Day service. This is a very meaningful service and lighting candles in memory of our loved ones is impressive. We will be remembering Larry Mauke-Wiswall, Mary Jones, Jane Knuth, Agnes Alexander, Wendy Cokely, Clarice Fossen, Verna Meyers, Gloria Ross, Chris Wright, Sheila Schreiber and Farley Maxwell. **If you know someone that should be remembered in the candle-lighting ceremony that has passed the last year, please let the Memorials Committee know and that person will be recognized at the service.**

We welcome input and questions from you regarding the work of our committee.

The Memorials Committee,  
Ruth Hammer  
Judy Walter  
Shirl Zent  
Virginia Ebersole  
Carol Pendergraft

**When you arise in the morning, give  
thanks for the morning light,  
for your life and strength.  
Give thanks for your food and  
the joy of living.  
If you see no reason for giving thanks,  
the fault lies in yourself.**

*~Tecumseh*

## Stewardship News "All In Family Album"

Contributed by John Greenauer

This year's Stewardship Campaign will kick-off on October 25th, and feature a Family Album to present our many Programs and Ministries. We encourage you to support our church with a pledge for support in 2016. Forwarding the album to the next family on the list until the album has reached every family assures that over 90% of our pledge commitments will be collected on Sunday November 22nd for dedication and celebration. A Family Thanksgiving Dinner and Celebration will follow worship that day. The celebration will include entertainment after dinner. Please save the date and plan to attend our Family Thanksgiving Dinner.

***A pledge is a good faith estimate of your support and will not be legally binding or used in anyway other than to calculate our estimated income from pledges.***

***Approximately 75 - 80% of our total income is received from pledges made. If you need to change the amount pledged at any time kindly notify John Fite our Financial Secretary.***

The Stewardship Ministry Team wishes to thank Ellie & John Bradley, Bert Martin, Ken Rowe, Richard Trefren, Laurie Parafinczuk, Leslie Chapman & Parish Life and Kathy Woolley for their extraordinary efforts and support of this year's campaign.

***Ed Frank will be contacting twelve leaders to assist as Route Mangers for one of the albums, please consider helping if asked. This task can be accomplished with phone and email messages and ensures that the album gets moved along its appointed route.***

## Honor Garden

The Honor Garden Committee has been working over the summer to install the side wall and patio, grass berm and a Japanese Red Maple tree. Now that all the names for individual bricks nominating honorees have been submitted, the bricks will soon be engraved and set along the walk. The committee is also in need of additional funds to complete the plan. Items such as benches, an arbor and additional plantings range in cost from \$50 to \$200 and may be suitable a memorial or honorary purposes. Contact Ed Martin or John Greenauer for details.

## Pie Reception for Rev. Jennifer Brownell

Yes, you read right. We're having a Pie Reception on Sunday, November 1 in Bradford Hall, following worship, to welcome our Interim Pastor, Rev. Jennifer Brownell. While her first Sunday in the Pulpit will be November 8<sup>th</sup>, Pastor Jennifer will be here on the 1<sup>st</sup> with her husband, Jeff and their son, Elijah for a warm welcome from her new church family.

The reception, sponsored by Parish Life, will feature just about every home made pie you could dream of along with a variety of cheese and crackers for those non-pie people. (?)

Be sure to make plans to come downstairs to Bradford Hall, Meet and Greet the wonderful Brownell family and get to have dessert before lunch!

## Tuesday A.M. Bible Study Resumes

The Tuesday Morning Faith Formation group has resumed meeting in the Plymouth Room on Tuesday mornings at 9:30. The group focuses on discussion of the Scripture for the coming Sunday and is currently led by Kristina Martin.

Everyone is invited to come and participate in this lively group.



*Diane Romanella* AUTUMN ROAD

## Search Committee Forming for Seated Pastor Position

The Personnel Committee is currently seeking nine interested members for the Search Committee to fill the pastor role in our congregation. The Personnel Committee will hold an informational meeting about the roles, responsibilities and time commitment of search committee members after church services on Sunday October 25<sup>th</sup>, in the Nettie Fries Lounge. If you are interested in being on the search committee, or would like to nominate someone, please complete the ½ page informational sheet found either in the bulletin or in the Link. You can give this information sheet to any Personnel Committee member: John Fite, Bert Martin, Kristin Martindale, Arlene Arnold, Shirl Zent, Leslie Chapman or Ken Rowe (Moderator). There will also be a basket on the visitor's table where you can leave your information as well. Thank you!

---

### Seated Pastor Search Committee Informational Form

**Your Name:**

---

**If you are nominating someone, your nomination's name:**

---

**Have you spoken to the person you are nominating about serving on this Committee?**

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**Please describe briefly why you would like to be a part of the Search Committee, and/or why you are nominating this individual to serve on the Search Committee:**

---

---

---

---

*Please return this form on or before October 25, 2015. You may turn it in at the Visitor's table or give to one of the Personnel Committee Members - John Fite, Bert Martin, Kristin Martindale, Arlene Arnold, Shirl Zent, Leslie Chapman or Ken Rowe (Moderator)*