



THE LINK WEEKLY UPDATE

**First Congregational
United Church
of Christ
Vancouver, WA**

Temporary Location

for Worship:

Luepke Community Center

1009 E McLoughlin Blvd.

Vancouver, WA 98663 www.vanucc.org

Office Location:

1220 NE 68th Street

Vancouver, WA 98665

360-693-1476

SPECIAL CONCERNS

Joan Blair

Cordelia McBride

Pam Sander

Dorothea Johnson

Opal Chapman

Connie Oppel

Sunday, October 22, 2017

10:00 AM

Worship at the Luepke Center

Tuesday, October 24, 2017

7:00 PM

Council at the office

Wednesday, October 25, 2017

10:00 AM

**Bible 103 at Salmon Creek
UMC**

7:00 PM

**Bible 103 at Salmon Creek
UMC**

Thursday, October 26, 2017

11:00 AM

Memorials at the office

Sunday, October 29, 2017

10:00 AM

Worship at the Luepke Center

11:00 AM

Trunk or Treat

A BEAUTIFUL DAY IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

There is wonderful news to share and celebrate about our ongoing ministry! At a meeting of the congregation on Sunday, October 15, 2017 a motion was received from Personnel Committee and endorsed by Council to modify the terms of call for Rev. Jennifer Brownell. In a vote of the congregation, Rev. Brownell's status as our Designated Term Minister was changed and she is now called as the Seated or Settled Pastor of First Congregational Church United Church of Christ, Vancouver, WA. This means that our period of searching for a new pastor is officially completed and Rev. Jennifer is our minister, pastor, and teacher going forward. She will continue to work part-time as she has during this in-between time and will continue to live in Beaverton, Oregon with her family. We look forward to her continued pastoral leadership as we move back into our restored and re-imagined church building and prayerfully for many years yet to come. There were 92 votes cast with 90 voting yes, 1 no, and 1 abstaining. Thank you to everyone who was present and for the thoughtful discussion and participation.

Also at the congregational meeting the Re-Imagining Committee with its various sub-committees was empowered to continue taking leadership of the church rebuilding process. Members who have participated in this activity were asked to stand to be recognized. Nearly everyone in the congregation has participated in supporting the rebuilding/re-imagining process during these many months since the fire. Thank you to all.

Sincerely,
Tom Yates, Moderator





ALL SAINT'S DAY AND NEWS FROM THE MEMORIALS COMMITTEE

On November 5, 2017, 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. Because we are now worshiping in a new space we've had to make some adjustments. It is a challenge but we hope the service will be just as meaningful as it has been in the past. We will be remembering: Thaddeus Stevens, Marilyn Ross, Vernon Swaim, Mary Alice Carter, and Eric Sander. **If you know someone that should be remembered in the ceremony that has passed the last year, please let the Memorials Committee know and that person will be recognized at the service.**

We will continue to work with family members to make the best possible use of funds that have been donated in memory of a loved one. Because of the fire, we are currently on hold until we know what will be needed after our church is rebuilt and how the families wish to use the funds. All donations will be accepted at any time and we can now see that the rebuilding of the church will be done in early 2018.

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 Memorial Committee are receptive to ideas and will facilitate the approval process.

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

The Memorials Committee,

Ruth Hammer

Judy Water

Shirl Zent

Connie Oppel

Trunk or Treat Sunday October 29th

Immediately following worship

Join us for our second annual Trunk or Treat celebration.

We had so much fun last Halloween that we decided to do it bigger and better this year! Get in on the fun by decorating your vehicle and bringing plenty of goodies so our kids (big and small) can Trick or Treat. This year our church is taking part in the National UCC program “Three Great Loves” and the first phase is “Love of Neighbor”. To honor that, we will have a canned food drive along with our Trunk or Treat. Any food donated will go to a local food bank so please give generously.

There will be prizes for the Best Decorated Car, Best Costume for Kids, and Best Costume for Adults.



Food Drive for Martha's Pantry Sunday, Oct. 29th

The United Church of Christ is urging all congregations to take part in a 2 year initiative called **Three Great Loves**:

**Love of Neighbor,
Love of Children, and
Love of Creation.**

In October, one way we will celebrate Love of Neighbor, is by having a food drive for Martha's Pantry. We will do this in conjunction with our Trunk or Treat Sunday on Oct. 29th. So bring your non-perishable food item and “trade” them for a treat!



**Saturday, October 28th at
10:00 am** volunteers are
needed to help rake leaves,
mulch and clean up the
grounds at church.

**Coffee and donuts provid-
ed. Please bring shovels
and rakes if you have
them.**



DWIGHT AND OPAL CHAPMAN
6818 NE 110th AVENUE
VANCOUVER, WA 98662

Dear Fellow Nomads:

We are both sure that everyone at Vancouver First Congregational United Church of Christ is more than anxious for a jubilant return to our beloved home on 68th Street. We are also sure that there will be some financial needs that we will be faced with that may not be covered by our insurance. (This is NOT a plea for Stewardship Pledges.) We have been discussing what we personally could do to help meet some of these needs.

Twenty five years ago when the church initiated a building fund for the Centennial Wing (the Christian Education and office area), we decided to engage the talents of our members by collecting their writings and compiling a book which the two of us would complete at our expense and then sell back to the congregation. We named this book SPIRIT. The entire money raised by its sale was donated to the Capital Campaign fund.

The experiment was a resounding success – beyond our expectations! Our little booklet turned out to be 71 pages long. We had 24 poems submitted by our children. 42 poems from adults, and 12 pieces of prose from adults. We had 31 authors.

Now we propose to do the same thing – but we need your help. We can't ask our previous authors to help. Half of them have died, and the children have grown up and are no longer here. We now have only 3 of the original writers in the church – Kaye Kipp, and the two of us.

We are sure that our members today are at least as talented as our predecessors and we welcome your contributions. We are considering some of the following subjects: Poetry and Stories from our children and young people, Prose and Poetry from adults, and we would be especially interested in how our nomadic days have impacted your spiritual life the past year and a half.

We would also like to include a couple of new features such as: Kids Say the Sweetest and Sometimes the Most Outlandish Things (as parents, grandparents and great-grandparents we have had more than a few such experiences); also photographs of anything you want to share, including of your pets doing things you certainly didn't expect them to be doing. We may also include a few special items from the original SPIRIT.

You may give your work either to us at church, by leaving in the church office, by e-mail (dwright&opal@gmail.com), or mail them to the above address.

Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you.

Dwight and Opal Chapman