



# ***THE LINK***

**May 1, 2018**

**First Congregational  
United Church of Christ**

**Temporary Location for Wor-  
ship:**

**The Luepke Center  
1009 E. McLaughlin  
Vancouver, WA**

**Office Location:**

**1220 NE 68th Street  
Vancouver, WA 98665  
360-693-1476**



**May 1            Kristin Martindale**  
**May 5            Isaac Martin**  
**May 6            Janet Melton**  
**May 7            Jim Crossman**  
**May 7            Alona Steinke**  
**May 13          Stephanie Pykonen**  
**May 21          Laela Brittain**  
**May 22          Jean Matthews**  
**May 25          Ruby Frank**  
**May 29          Kathy Woolley**  
**May 31          Boean Marquardt**

***SPECIAL CONCERNS***

**Tim Oppel**  
**Joan Blair**  
**Dorothea Johnson**  
**Alfried Goldstein**  
**(Cindy McNally's Mother)**  
**Darrell Brandenburg**  
**Josiah Renner**  
**(Deployed to South Korea)**  
**Shirley Brandenburg**  
**Bill McTigue**  
**(Matthew McTigue's Father)**

## ***From Our Pastor***



Dear friends,

Over the next month, I will be facilitating two Saturday retreat days. Please join us on Saturday, May 5 and/or Saturday, June 2 to grow in your faith, connect with God and others in the church. Look for details below!

Our last day worshipping at Luepke Center will be Sunday, May 13. The following week is Pentecost, Sunday, May 20 - a special day in the life of our congregation. We will return to our property that day for worship under a heated tent. During a full and festive 10:00 am worship, we will honor those who have been baptized or confirmed in this congregation. It'll be a great opportunity to invite your friends and family members to join you. On that day, we will also welcome new members, so let me know if you are interested in joining the church as a member. And last, but certainly not least, we will lift up prayers of gratitude for the incoming church officers. Later that day, at 3:00, please come on back for a service of installation, celebrating our past and ongoing ministry as pastor and congregation. Childcare will be provided and a light reception will follow.

In the midst of learning and celebration, the staff will be on the move during the month of May. The trailers will be moved offsite on May 16. After that Kathy, Kristina, the finance team and I will be working in temporary quarters, most likely offsite. Wherever we are physically located, I will be available for pastoral care visits, meetings and appointments in homes or other meeting locations, and you will still be able to reach us by email or by phone at 360-693-1476. Hopefully this period will not last long, but with so many moving parts in both the construction and permit process, we are not yet able to set an exact date for return.

Out of the ashes, dust and chaos, we continue to rise as God's faithful, hopeful people! It is an honor to be in ministry with you.

Blessings,  
Jennifer

### ***Saturday, May 5, 10-3 Embodied Prayer Retreat***

*Tired of words? We'll spend the day connecting with Spirit in both new and ancient ways. Walk the labyrinth, explore simple artful prayers and spend some time in silence. Includes time outdoors, rain or shine. Brown bag lunch. Free, but registration is limited to 12 people – there are a few spots left! RSVP by Thursday, May 3 to [Jennifer@vanucc.org](mailto:Jennifer@vanucc.org) or 971-340-6316. Location – office trailer at 1220 NE 68<sup>th</sup> St.*

### ***Saturday, June 2, 10-3 Resistance and Resilience - An Interactive Walk through UCC History.***

*A fun and hands-on way to learn more about the history of our denomination, the United Church of Christ, and what that history can teach us about how resist a culture of consumerism and violence, and be resilient in our lives today. Cost of \$20 includes book and lunch (scholarships are available). RSVP to [jennifer@vanucc.org](mailto:jennifer@vanucc.org) . Location - TBA*





Doug and Judy have been long-time supporters of ours and performed at several Fundraisers for the church.



**The Mary Jo Ebel Circle**  
**is going to lunch,**  
**Wednesday, May 16,**  
**2018**  
 At  
*C'est la Vie*  
*1307 NE 78th Street.*

**Members are requested to contact**  
**Beverly Crossman by Sunday, May 13th**  
**to reserve your place at the table.**

**Hope to see you there!!**



**Central Pacific**  
**Conference Women**  
 United Church of Christ  
*Women's Annual Meeting*  
 Saturday, May 19, 2018

Beavercreek UCC  
 23345 S/ Beavercreek Rd.  
 Beavercreek, OR 97004

Guest Speaker:  
 Rev. Molly Carson  
 CPC Conference Minister  
 Speaking on  
*Ministry: By, With and For Women*

**11:30 a.m.**  
 Registration  
 (\$10.00) Includes Luncheon

**12:00 p.m.**  
 Luncheon

**1:00 p.m.**  
 Opening Worship:  
 Waverly Heights UCC  
 Offering to support  
 Rev. Anne Smith  
 Educational/Loan Fund

**1:15 p.m.**  
 Program  
*Ministry: By, With and For Women*

**2:15 p.m.**  
 Business Meeting

**2:45 p.m.**  
 Closing

Beverly Crossman and Ellie Bradley are going to the meeting and, if anyone would like a ride, they can call Ellie at 360-944-7838.

We will be back in time to attend Randy and Brian's wedding.



**Pastor Jennifer's  
Installation Celebration!  
Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm**

On Sunday May 20<sup>th</sup>, we will install Reverend Jennifer Garrison Brownell as our pastor. Following the installation service, we will host a reception in Jennifer's honor. We are asking members of our congregation to help provide homemade cookies and breads as well as vegetable trays for the reception. We expect a large crowd for this celebration including ministers and members from other churches within the Central Pacific Conference as well as Jennifer's father

Reverend Phil Garrison who will preach for the service. If you are able and willing to help us make this a great celebration by providing some of the reception food, please contact Kaye Kipp via email at [kkipp@gmail.com](mailto:kkipp@gmail.com) or call her at 360-721-3804.



## **Mission & Outreach May Special Offering Triple Point Youth Group**

Vancouver Triple Point, a program of Children's Home Society, is Clark County, Washington's safe haven support group and drop-in program for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Intersex, Pansexual, Queer, and Questioning people ages 11 to 18 years old. Triple Point is not only where participants can be proud of their sexual orientation and gender identity, but support others and develop friendships.

Triple Point is a place where participants get to meet supportive peers but also straight and queer supportive adults, agencies, and community to help remove isolation and barriers of discrimination. Participants are able to develop leadership skills and have access to free mental health services if needed.

Triple Point is located at 1112 Columbia in downtown Vancouver. To learn more about volunteering, providing dinner/snacks or becoming a member of the Queer Youth Advisory Board: Email [triplepoint@chs-wa.org](mailto:triplepoint@chs-wa.org) or call 360-695-1325 ext 4217.

## Upcoming Name Changes

One of the small tasks to accomplish before getting back into the building is making repairs to our street sign. When the Communications ministry began researching the best way to do this, we realized here was another opportunity to reimagine. Priorities are increasing the sign's readability and adding Martha's Pantry and MCC to the sign to highlight our partnership with them.

We wondered how to hold onto our history while reflecting where our congregation and national church are today. Since our beginning, our name has evolved right alongside our ministry. Although we began doing ministry in Vancouver in 1891 as a the **Pilgrim Congregational Church**, we became **First Congregational Church of Vancouver, WA** in 1910 and then added "**United Church of Christ**" to our name after we joined the UCC after its creation in 1957. In addition to the changes in our legal name, we have also acquired some nicknames over the years to reduce confusion between us and the other five First Congregational churches in just our conference. Locally, we are typically called Vancouver UCC or First Congregational Vancouver.

We also wondered how to best capture people's attention who find us solely via the internet. Googling "First Congregational" results in many other churches before finding us. However, there is no other Vancouver UCC or Vancouver United Church of Christ.

Communications and the Council agreed that it is prudent for us to file with the Secretary of State any variations of our name and any nicknames we have. For that reason, we have filed to with the State for two "Doing Business As" (DBA): Vancouver United Church of Christ, as well as Vancouver UCC. By adding these DBAs to our official name, we will keep any other organization from using them.

At our congregational meeting on April 29th, Communications announced that our street sign will reflect our DBA instead of our full legal name. Using the DBA of "Vancouver United Church of Christ" will make our street sign more readable as well as allow us to add the complete name of our partner church and their food pantry. This will also save us the expense of demolishing our current sign in order to build a larger sign.

Who we are is not changing. We are still the congregation that has been the voice of progressive Christian ministry in SW Washington since 1891. Our new street sign will simply help people find us so that they can join us in that ministry.

# May 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		<b>1</b> <b>7:00</b> <b>CE</b> <b>Location</b> <b>TBA</b>	<b>2</b> <b>10:00</b> <b>Bible 103</b>  <b>7:00</b> <b>Bible 103</b>	<b>3</b>  <b>7:00</b> <b>Choir</b>	<b>4 Office</b> <b>Closed</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>6</b> <b>10:00</b> <b>Worship</b>	<b>7</b> <b>10:30</b> <b>Spirituality</b> <b>Group</b>	<b>8</b> <b>1:00</b> <b>Membership</b> <b>TBA</b>	<b>9</b> <b>10:00</b> <b>Bible 103</b>  <b>7:00</b> <b>Bible 103</b>	<b>10</b> <b>10:00</b> <b>Prayer Shawl</b> <b>6:00 Parish</b> <b>Life TBA</b> <b>7:00 M&amp;O</b> <b>7:00 Choir</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> <b>9:30</b> <b>Women's</b> <b>Bkfst Group</b> <b>At Peachtree</b>
<b>13</b> <b>10:00</b> <b>Last Worship</b> <b>At Luepke</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>  <b>7:00</b> <b>Deacons</b> <b>Location</b> <b>TBA</b>	<b>16 Office</b> <b>Closed</b> <b>10:00</b> <b>Bible 103</b> <b>Office Closes</b> <b>5:30</b> <b>P&amp;F TBA</b> <b>7:00</b>	<b>17</b>  <b>7:00 Choir</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> <b>Pavilion</b> <b>3:00</b> <b>Rehearsal</b>  <b>5:00</b> <b>Wedding</b>
<b>20 Pavilion</b> <b>10:00</b> <b>Worship</b> <b>3:00</b> <b>Installation</b> <b>For</b> <b>Jennifer</b> <b>Brownell</b>	<b>21</b> <b>10:30</b> <b>Spirituality</b> <b>Group</b>	<b>22</b> <b>7:00</b> <b>Council</b> <b>Location</b> <b>TBA</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>  <b>7:00 Choir</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> <b>10:00</b> <b>Worship</b>	<b>28</b> <b>Memorial</b> <b>Day</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>  <b>7:00 Choir</b>		