

The Link

October 2019



Dear Friends,

The work of justice is knocking on doors.

The work of justice is calling on the phone.

The work of justice is getting educated about the issues.

The work of justice is marching in the streets.

The work of justice is writing letters to those in power.

The work of justice is prayers of persistence.

The work of justice is showing up again and again and again.

The work of justice is not easy, and those who work persistently for justice can suffer from burn-out. Burn-out is the emotional, mental, spiritual and physical exhaustion caused by prolonged stress. We may ask, what is the right number of phone calls, of letters written, of steps marched? Those who do the work of justice never know what the tipping point might be. It could be today's visit, it could be tomorrow's phone call, it could be next week's letter that move the needle. But unlike those who experience burn-out, those who are able to continue their justice work approach each encounter as if this was the one that will have the hoped-for effect.

How can we be energized rather than encouraged by the knowledge that each

CONTINUED...



Vancouver
United Church
of Christ

Worship: Sundays 10 AM

Office Hours: Mon thru Thurs: 10 AM—2 PM

360-693-1476

Pastor: Rev. Jennifer Garrison Brownell
jennifer@vanucc.org

Dir. of Membership Exp: Kristina Martin
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LETTER FROM OUR PASTOR CONTINUED

encounter could be the last one, or just the next one?

When the list of work to be done gets long and daunting, try taking a look at this list as well. It may seem counter-intuitive to do more, but attending to these may actually make the work of justice more sustainable into the future.

The work of justice is gathering community.

The work of justice is taking time to be creative.

The work of justice is experiencing intentional Sabbath.

The work of justice is letting go of perfectionism.

The work of justice is feeling optimism balanced with realism.

The work of justice is focusing on the task at hand.

The work of justice is seeing the long view.

The work of justice is praying with gratitude.

I'm grateful for you and for all the ways you show me how to be a community of justice!

See you in church,

Jennifer



Connecting with Pastor Jennifer

Lots of my work takes me out of the building. If you are looking for me, I am in the office Monday and Wednesday from 10 am-2 pm and available Monday through Thursday for scheduled appointments and meetings.

We are learning and growing together in Bible study on Wednesday at noon or Spirituality group (first Mondays at 10:30 am and third Mondays at 7:00 pm) - drop by! You can also find me in the cloud by following me on facebook. See you in church! Jennifer



UCC SPECIAL OFFERING FOR OCTOBER

NEIGHBORS IN NEED 2019



Learn more. Get involved. Make a donation.



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.**



We love our pets and yours! Many people use our building and experience allergies or other adverse reactions to animals. The building is open to certified service animals, so please leave your pets and support animals at home. Church Council.

MEET YOUR COUNCIL MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES!

Allison Kocher

Karaoke Song of Choice: "Killing Me Softly"

Favorite Holiday: Christmas

Favorite Hymn: "Great is Thy Faithfulness"

How Did You Find the UCC: Googled it!

Areas of Leadership: Recruit and train Lay Leaders (Leslie Chapman), Planning & recruiting for: Easter, Holy Week, Christmas Eve, Christmas pageant, All Saint's Day, liturgical arts including banners, décor, and dance/w Jennifer, planning on worship team with pastor, worship supplies like candles, registers, etc.

Leslie Chapman

Favorite Superhero: Maternal Grandmother

Favorite Holiday: 4th of July

Most Unusual Thing Eaten: Alligator Pot Pie

Interesting Tidbit: Accidentally cut off husband's toe

Area of leadership: Clerk

Eric Pykonen

Favorite Superhero: Yes, all of them

Nickname: Pike, or Troll

Most Unusual Thing Eaten: Calamari

Favorite Hymn: "Swing Low"

Areas of leadership: Website updating and social media content, prepare and deliver meals for families or ill in time of need, visit homebound, send cards to church family as needed, flowers for homebound or for new babies, monitor, activate and update prayer chain, deliver prayer shawls, work with families for distribution of memorial gifts/donations, assist for wedding receptions, provide rides to church or medical appointments.

MEET YOUR COUNCIL MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES!

Ken Rowe

Favorite Superhero: #12 -Tom Brady

Nickname: Rowdy

Most Unusual Thing Eaten: Sushi

How Did You Find the UCC: Looked in the phonebook

Areas of leadership: Coordinate Potlucks (potluck set up/clean up team), coordinate festivals, parties & events, Internal Communications, Signage as Needed, External Communication, LINK & Bulletins w/office staff, advertise potluck, recruit and train ushers (Arlene Arnold lead), recruit and train greeters (Jean Stolle lead), recruit and train Acolytes, personnel, safety team.

Jan Foulke

Favorite Superhero: Mighty Mouse

Karaoke Song of Choice: "It's My Party"

Book Read More than Once: The Girl with the Dragon Tattoo

How Did You Find the UCC: Grew up in the UCC

Area of leadership: Financial Secretary

Gina Marquardt

Karaoke Song of Choice: "Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go"

Warning Label: Annoyingly Positive

Favorite Hymn: "Beauty of the Earth"

How Did You Find the UCC: Born into the UCC

Areas of leadership: Memorials-Assist at receptions or provide refreshments for services as necessary, work Memorial Reception, bake cookies or breads for memorial, coordinate Thanksgiving baskets, coordinate Christmas baskets, Sunday school teachers, adult education, Bible Study for Worship, Bible 105 classes, parent group, summer Christian Education like VBS or day camp, Lenten education and lunches, Confirmation mentors.

MEET YOUR COUNCIL MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES!

Chuck Foulke

Karaoke Song of Choice: "Rocky Mountain High"

Favorite Holiday: Thanksgiving

Warning Label: Keep things neat!

Favorite hymn: "Here I am Lord"

Areas of Leadership: Stewardship (November), oversight of Income and Expenses, establish and review Financial procedures, count money on Sundays after worship, memorial fund distribution, property management and maintenance of the church (landscaping and mowing, gardening, building upkeep inside and outside), budget planning, rental usage and agreements.

Richard Trefren

Favorite Vacation: Alaskan Passage cruise

Favorite Holiday: Independence Day

Book Read More Than Once: Stranger in a Strange Land

Warning Label: Beware of Noxious Gas

Area of Leadership: Treasurer

Pat Sutherland

Favorite Superhero: Mother Teresa

Karaoke Song of Choice: "You Are the Wind Beneath My Wings"

Most Unusual Thing Eaten: Beef tongue

Favorite Hymn: "All Are Welcome"

Areas of leadership: Prepare and upkeep the visitors' bags, nametags and welcome table, recruit people to prepare and serve coffee after worship, inventory and purchase coffee supplies, recruit people to provide snacks for coffee hour, organization and publicity of Oasis groups, directory updates with office personnel, foster new members, sponsor orientation, assist pastor as needed with baptisms, communion including set up and clean up, serving and serving homebound.

MEET YOUR COUNCIL MEMBERS AND REPRESENTATIVES!

Karen Kulm

Favorite Superhero: Zena Warrior Princess

Karaoke Song of Choice: "California Dreaming"

Book Read More that Once: Catcher in the Rye

How Did You Find the UCC: Friends from work and the "bouncer" commercial

Areas of leadership: Coordinate: FAN (Faith Action Network), Portland Pride, Vancouver Pride, Peace and Justice Fair, Immigrant Welcoming, and WHO, advocacy work, activism marches, activism vigils, oversight & PR or Special Offerings.

Jean B. Stolle

Favorite Superhero: Wonder Woman

Nickname: "Beanie Jerry"

Favorite Holiday: Christmas!

How Did You Find the UCC: Born into it!

Area of leadership: Moderator

Tom Yates

Favorite Vacation: camping on Mt. Rainier with family as a child

Karaoke Song of Choice: anything by Simon & Garfunkel

Favorite Holiday: Thanksgiving

Favorite Hymn: "Be Thou My Vision"

Area of leadership: Past Moderator

Brenda Houchen

Favorite Vacation: Surprise 50th Birthday trip to London

Favorite Holiday: Christmas

Book Read More than Once: Harry Potter

Favorite Hymn: "*Amazing Grace*"

Areas of Leadership: Moderator Elect & Pastoral Relations Team

COUNCIL MODERATOR'S UPDATE

I write this as I prepare to represent our congregation at the annual Central Pacific Conference gathering September 27-29 in Forest Grove, OR. Richard Trefren led a commissioning of all delegates including Arlene Arnold, Steve Bloodworth, Pat Sutherland and myself during worship on September 22. We were blessed with a congregational "laying on of hands" which inspired me and our group to wisely represent our membership at this important meeting of our larger UCC community.

We have begun the process of organizing a group to help plan for the use of the amazing financial gift from the former Naselle, WA UCC. Please continue to share your ideas with me and/ or Jennifer as we prayerfully consider the plans for this gift.

Our safety committee is active both in arranging for a medical emergency team as well as for the overall safety of our children and members in the instance of an intruder. Thanks, Ken Rowe, and committee for proactively working on these plans.

I continue to be excited with the planning of our upcoming Stewardship campaign. Some amazing creativity and thoughtful consideration is in place to meet our financial needs and dreams for the next year. I can't wait to have their work shared with the whole church!

Thank you to Jennifer and the worship planning groups who have been creative in incorporating a variety of styles, seating configurations and audio/ visual elements into our worship life. We are truly living into the re-imagined spaces designed for us since we re-entered our building a year ago.

I want to personally welcome the new members who will be joining us on October 6. It was a privilege to meet and chat with those interested in becoming a part of our church family at a luncheon on September 15. It will be a blessing to have you join us on our faith journey.

Please remember that the Council is your council! We are in the process of organizing an all church retreat to work together with the whole congregation on our mission and priorities for the upcoming year. This is an exciting opportunity for everyone to be involved in our future planning to "be the church". May the blessings of this community echo throughout our gathered experience, and may the peace and love of Jesus be in all our hearts.

Peace and Blessings,
Jeanie Beary Stolle
Jtstolle@comcast.net

Special MUSIC

Have a talent you want to share with our congregation? We have such a gifted community we want to celebrate you! See Allison Kocher to sign up to provide Special Music for our Sunday service. This will be the prayer response after the sermon and can be a reading, instrumental, and/or vocal selection.



Trunk or Treat

Following worship on Sunday, October 27, we will have our annual Trunk or Treat. Kids can come to church in costume and trick or treat in the upper parking lot after worship. Please join in the fun by decorating your trunk and passing out candy to the youth.



Spirituality Group has re-met and is refreshing. Please join us on the first Monday from 10 am-1:30 pm and the third Monday from 7-8:30 pm in Clawson Corner. Come to either or both sessions.

This fall, we are meeting with Pastor Jennifer to explore and deepen our individual and group spiritual growth.

We have a new check-in format that allows everyone to be heard, and gives plenty of time to dig into the topic, which is building community. We are using the biblical book of Corinthians as our guide.

All are welcome! If you would like childcare to be available, please contact the church office.



CONGREGATION NEWS

ALL SAINT'S DAY AND NEWS FROM THE MEMORIALS COMMITTEE

On November 3, 2019, 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. We will be remembering: Virginia Neal, Joan Blair, Jai Hari Kaur, Dorothea Johnson, Meda Long, Jerry Fick, and Helen M. Foulke.

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. Several of the funds have been used for various needed items in our church. The Red Memorial Book in the stand by the elevator has a record of what funds were used and what they were used for.

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 Walter, Shirl Zent, Leslie Chapman



CARE FOR THE EARTH SUNDAY, October 20

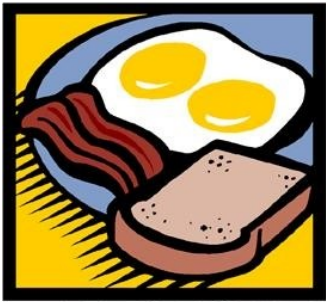
We will have a "Rethink Plastic" event available before and after church on October 20th. There will be lots of information about what each of us can do, product examples, and shopping lists (what to buy and where). Info and items will be in the hallway outside of the Nettie Fries Lounge as well as in the lounge. Come and check it out - you may find some great ideas for holiday giving. See you there! For more information, see Pat Sutherland

OASIS GROUPS

OASIS Sunday—October 6

Please join your friends and "friends-to-be" in Bradford Hall after church on October 6, 2019. Grab your treats and a drink, pick up a pen, and sign up for the group(s) that appeal to you. There will be additional sheets so if you have a great idea, you can even create a new group. Each group needs a leader/contact person, so please consider being the leader for any group you are interested in. Sign-ups will continue through the month of October.

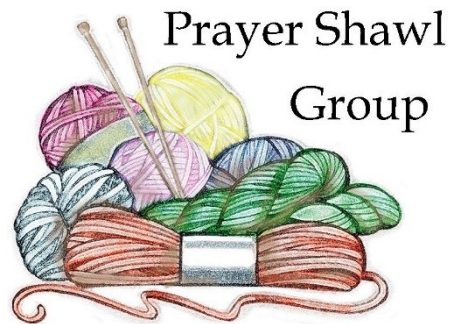
BREAKFAST



FELLOWSHIP

The Breakfast Group meets at 9:30 am every 2nd Saturday at the Peachtree Restaurant and Pie House at 6600 NE Hwy 99, Vancouver, WA, 98665.

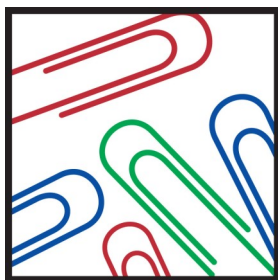
Please join us at the next breakfast on October 12.



Prayer Shawl Group

The Prayer Shawl Group meets on the second Thursday of each month at 10 am in Clawson Corner. All knitters and crocheters are welcome to join us. Please contact Joanie Nelson for more info.

Mary Jo Ebel Circle will meet Wednesday, October 16, 1-3 pm in Clawson Corner.



Office Hours

While we usually here a little early and we often stay a little later — the official hours are: Monday through Thursday 10 am—2 pm

Please come to the upper entrance and we'll buzz you in!

AROUND TOWN



CHRISTOPHER AT THE OLD CHURCH

Lunchtime Concerts at the Old Church in Downtown Portland (SW 11th Ave and Clay St). will present Dr. Schindler on Wednesday, October 9. The concert begins at noon and is free to the public. Christopher will perform piano music of Bach, Fauré, Messiaen and Prokofiev.

On October 20 (Sun.), 3:30 pm, at Vancouver UCC he will preform the same program as well as some Brahms. Admission by free will offering (\$10.00 suggested).

Northwest Regional Women's Retreat *Wade In Water*

November 1-3 at Oregon Gardens,
Silverton, Oregon

For more information about registration and workshops please visit the website

www.nrwr.us

The Central Pacific Conference and Pacific NW Conference invite all women to come together at our regional retreat this fall. With the theme "Wade in the Water" to share renewal, spiritual growth and fellowship. Registration can be done online or by mail. The cost is \$175.

Sunday Morning Treats

We are looking for volunteers to provide treats for coffee time after worship.

If you would like to provide cookies, fruit, or cheese and crackers for others to enjoy, please sign up on the list on the treat table. If you provide contact information, you will receive a reminder prior to the Sunday you have signed up for. If you have any questions please contact Pat Sutherland at 360-907-8383 or pesutherl@msn.com.



AROUND TOWN



Flapjack Fundraiser 2019 Saturday, October 26

This is a major fundraiser to support a crucial ministry serving our most vulnerable neighbors.

WHO will be at 3 Clark County Applebee locations from 8-10 am

Orchards at 5111 112th Ave

Mill Plain at 12717 SE 2nd Cir

Salmon Creek at 1306 NE HWY 99

You can host one of the sites, sell breakfast tickets, volunteer to serve at one of the sites, or donate tickets.

Questions? Contact whoprogram@gmail.com or message 360-200-8758



Annual Dinner & Auction

New date & time: Friday, October 18, 2019
6:00 p.m. at WareHouse '23
100 Columbia St #102, Vancouver

Our event features a fabulous dinner, silent and live auctions and a chance to learn more about the two new programs we will be introducing soon!

Come be a part of this exciting evening!

Table of 10: \$700.00 Single Ticket: \$75.00

Seating is limited so please make your reservations today!

Call 360-750-4752 or

buy online at friendsofthecarpenter.org

Sponsorships still available; contact christine@friendsofthecarpenter.org

Special Concerns

The Family of Joan Blair

Chapman Family

Steve Hitchens

Doraine Kohler and her
daughter Debbie Schnorr

Pam MacKintosh and the
Boydston Family

Connie Oppel

Karen Owen

Gary Roberts

Kathy Woolley



October

BIRTHDAYS

- October 1 Gratia McTigue
October 2 Gina Marquardt
October 2 Dave Slocum
October 6 Harriet Anani
October 9 Gary Roberts
October 11 Virginia Ebersole
October 11 Barbara Lair
October 12 Karen Kulm
October 12 Amelia Martin
October 12 Caroline Murphy
October 12 Wendy Wright
October 13 Milo McTigue
October 17 Kristina Martin
October 18 John Greenauer
October 20 Ellie Bradley
October 20 Brenda Orique
October 23 Ray Jones
October 26 Greg Saum-Blystone
October 27 Barb Harris

