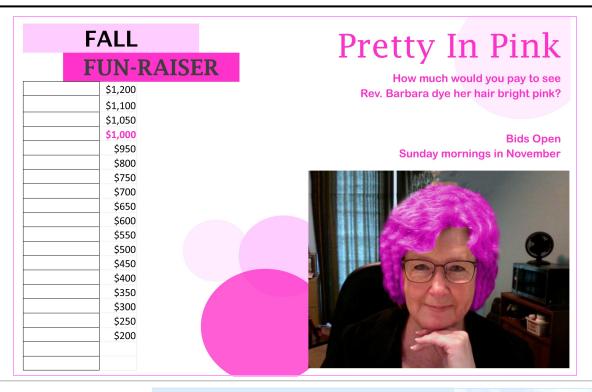


## The Corvallis United Methodist

Oct. 26, 2017 Volume 63, Issue 11

www.corvallisfumc.org



### **FALL**

## **FUN-RAISER**

Start packing...
Tuck Tour Offers Your Choice:

A Pacific Northwest Adventure! August 6-15, 2018 Ten Days! Value:\$2499. per person based on two sharing a room.

Autumn in the Canyonlands Nov. 5-14, 2018

Value: \$2599. per person, based on two sharing a room. San Juan Islands July 9-15, 2018

Value: \$1899. per person, based on two sharing a room.

We are a Reconciling Congregation that welcomes everyone into full participation in the life of this church! Your age, sexual orientation, gender identity, racial or ethnic background, economic situation, marital status, and physical or mental condition will enrich the fabric of our community. We accept all people as children of God.

We are a congregation on a journey to Sustainability, recognizing that we are stewards of God's creation for all generations, and believing that all human needs must be met equitably. The Natural Step Framework is our guide to Sustainability.

## Random Musings from Pastor Barbara

As October comes to close and November begins, we will have concluded a season of worship services focused on church words - language we use that we may not have thoroughly unpacked. I have received lots of appreciation for this series and the conversations it has created in families and with friends. Our language matters, especially in this highly sensitive, deeply polarized culture that surrounds us.

You may recall that the last two Sundays in October, I reflected on "things I choose not to say," commenting on common phrases in Christian culture that contain some potentially problematic theology. Again, language matters.

This brings me to a subject I touch on periodically – the language we use in worship. Here again, our word choices matter. We want to be clear and as theologically sound as possible. We gather for worship choosing to be together as diverse people, knowing that we may have differing views about how to express ourselves. Still, if we are going to share in liturgy and song, it is necessary, at times, to sort of put words in each other's mouths.

In this context, you will find I am careful in writing opening prayers and offering prayers, trying to choose words that most of us can join together in speaking. "We open ourselves to you and to each other." "Help us to discover what is possible." "We seek your wisdom and courage." I always close the Opening Prayer with the phrase "until your kingdom comes in fullness" and the Offering Prayer with the phrase, "In Christ's name we pray..." I make this choice for two reasons. 1) to honor the deep tradition (meaningful to many) of praying in Jesus' name AND, 2) to note that praying in Jesus' name is not required for us to connect with God. (By the way "until your kingdom comes in fullness" is a great phrase for a justice-seeking church!)

When we share Prayer of the People, we have chosen a call and response of "God of love"... "we thank you for your presence." Since not all of us understand what happens in prayer the same way, the intention of this phrase is to have us share in the claim that God is present in all things, without treating a prayer as strictly a request or petition.

During communion you will always hear me pointedly say, "This is the body of Christ. This is the bread of life. This is the blood of Christ. This is a cup of love overflowing." Then, our servers simply say, "This is for you." The body and blood language is powerful for some and problematic for others. Offering two different understandings of the bread and cup allows people to receive it freely from their own understanding.

In singing hymns and anthems, you should know that Jim Davidson and I work hard to find hymns that truly connect to the theme of the morning, while also trying to limit the number of words and phrases that espouse a theology not widely held in our congregation. We may skip verses that speak of blood atonement. We may offer the option of singing "God" instead of "He." Jim has asked the choir to adapt some language in anthems. This is extremely challenging since most old, beloved hymns and many fine anthems have problematic language. We sometimes we really can't eliminate all of it without wrecking the integrity of a lyric or entire song.

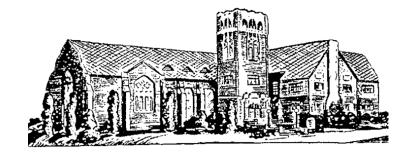
All of this is important for you to know, but I offer this information to lead us to a most important point. If you don't believe or understand something, don't sing it. Don't say it. The spoken and sung word is SO reinforcing. As you work to clarify and claim a living faith for yourself, (and I hope you are doing this) you do not need to inadvertently reinforce old ideas and beliefs that are not your own! Always feel free to drop out of a prayer or song, or change a word or phrase. There is integrity in this and I'd like to encourage it. It means you are paying attention in worship. It means you are thinking and feeling the presence of God without clutter. It means you are practicing how to speak of what you believe authentically. In this way, we are learning how to share good news of God's extraordinary love.

email: revbabs2000@gmail.com ~ phone: 208.991.8464



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#### **Game Night**

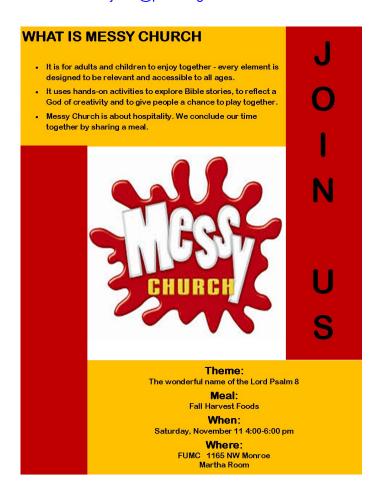
**Friday, November 3 and 17** game night from **6:30-9:30 pm** in the Martha Room (B19). Bring a favorite board or card game to play. Drop in anytime; bring a snack to share, if you wish. Everyone welcome. Children and youth need to be accompanied by a parent or other responsible adult. Questions? Contact Elizabeth Nielsen at 541.757.0057 or nielsenrek@comcast.net.

#### Amore Music Series Production

The next noon-time Amore Music Series Organ Concert is **Wednesday, November 15, 12:15-12:45 pm** in the Sanctuary. Music by Johann Christoph Kellner performed by Craig Hanson. Free but donations to support the series are appreciated.

#### 4F

4-F Fellowship will meet at **7:00 pm Friday, November 17**, at the home of Bob and Luella Henderson, 32091 Fern Road, Philomath, for a night of fun, fellowship and games. Activities will include table tennis, card and board games and/or visiting. Please bring finger foods to share if your last name begins with A through L. If you plan to attend please contact us at milubo@peak.org or call us at 541.929.2650.



## **UMVIM Trips**

In the months ahead, many churches will be planning United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) trips to Texas, Louisiana, or other places in need. Trip leaders need to attend leadership training to participate in conference sponsored insurance and support programs. Get qualified early by attending one of two trainings being offered in the Pacific Northwest Conference. The first is **Saturday**, **October 28** in Pasco, Washington. The second is **Saturday**, **November 18** in Tumwater, Washington. For more information and to register: http://www.pnwumc.org/event/um-volunteers-in-mission-team-leaderteam-member-training/

Oregon-Idaho's new UMVIM Coordinator is Louise Kienzle from Hermiston, Oregon. She will be setting up more training opportunities in the months ahead to support local church ministry through mission experiences. You can contact Louise at oridumvim@gmail.com.



#### **Environmental Care**

Leaves are falling and shortly the City of Corvallis will begin picking up the leaves raked to the curb. But why waste those leaves? Pound for pound, leaves of most trees contain twice as many minerals as manure. They carry 50-80% of the nutrients the trees and shrubs took from the soil and air – including carbon, potassium, and phosphorus. Use leaves on your lawn and in your garden beds.

**On your Lawn**: Mowing the leaves into your lawn is environmentally-friendly. Just mow over the leaves in a crisscross pattern until the leaves are not really visible anymore.

On your Garden Beds: A two- to three-inch layer of leaf mulch spread over your garden soil will give many benefits:

- ❖ Weed seeds will be suppressed and those that do sprout will be easier to pull.
- Organic matter vital to the health of soil organisms will be added.
- Soil will be protected from compaction caused by rainfall.
- Soil temperature will be buffered, keeping soils cooler in summer and warmer in winter, protecting plants.
- Soil moisture is retained, lessening need for irrigation.
- Soil erosion will be reduced.
- ❖ If saved until spring, leaf dressing can add natural beauty to garden beds.

However, using whole leaves as mulch does not work well in our climate. The leaves form a compact mat, which water has trouble penetrating. Successful leaf mulching needs two things:

- 1. Grinding or shredding. If you don't own a leaf shredder mow back and forth over the leaf pile until it is shredded.
- 2. Add extra nitrogen to shredded leaves to start them composting. Grass is an easy addition if you are shredding your leaves with your lawn mower. Manure is a good nitrogen supplement, but other natural nitrogen supplements work well, too. Add 2 cups of natural nitrogen supplement to each wheelbarrow load of leaves.

So don't throw away the garden gold your trees and shrubs have given you. Mulching with leaves is inexpensive, renewable, and rewarding!

Thoughts & Prayers

Family of Joan Gathercoal, following her death on September 24.

Emery Castle, now on hospice.

Carolyn Miller, working through chemo treatments.

Pat Sorem, in Tigard having radiation and chemo for her lymphoma.

Courtney Nelson, as her dad transitions to a memory care facility.

Remember: *Evelyn & Teri Erbele*, Missionaries in Ketchikan, Alaska.

## Special Offering

## Campus Ministry November 19

United Campus Ministry at Westminster House (WestM), founded in 1919, is a multidenominational student ministry organization.

Honoring the radically inclusive ministry of Jesus, they seek to cultivate a progressive Christian community that welcomes all students in celebrating the diversity of race, ethnicity, nationality, citizenship, gender identity, sexual orientation, ability, financial circumstance, and faith tradition.

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September 2017 General Fund Income: \$47,725.10 September 2017 General Fund Expenses: \$40,090.89

YTD General Fund Income: \$410,285.65 YTD General Fund Expenditure: \$395,897.71

YTD Surplus: \$14,387.94

Over the last few months I have been gratified to see a number of very generous members of the church contributing over and above their pledges in order to help the church avoid a year-end deficit. Because of this help, I am seeing my forecasted deficit continue to shrink. I am now forecasting a year-end deficit of about <\$10,000.00>. My deepest thanks to those generous people who have been willing and able to help.

At the request of the Church Council, the Finance Ministry Team met to discuss the deficit and make recommendations to the council with respect to decreasing or eliminating the deficit. The recommendation adopted by the council is that Corvallis FUMC will withhold payment of apportionments to the Oregon-Idaho Conference until mid December. The Council will review the situation at that time and determine whether or not to make these payments.

As I noted in the last Newsletter, the church has paid off its loan to the bank and is currently debt free. I also noted that there remain a number of high priority and expensive projects that need attention. This week we have sent out pledge cards and I would ask those who are in a position to support these Capital Repairs to make this as part of their pledge. You will notice that I have changed the name of the Building Fund to the Capital Maintenance Fund. This fund will support the various Capital Repair projects in the future.

John Reed, Business Manager

## **Care Packages**

It's getting to be that time of year. OSU students will soon be taking finals and going home for winter break. To help them be at their best for finals, treats are needed for care packages. Please bring hot cocoa packets, microwave popcorn, wrapped or packaged candies (especially chocolate), post-it notes, and highlighter pens to the office by Wednesday, November 29, noon.

Church and Church Office Closed Thursday, November 23 and Friday, November 24 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.

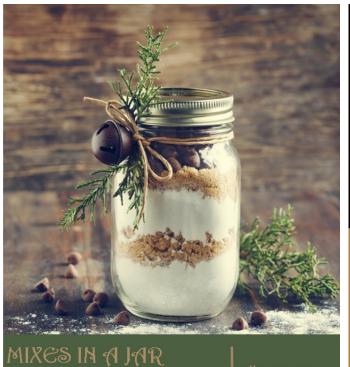




One who is between the age of 90 and 99, inclusive. One who is in his or her tenth decade.

- ➤ Miriam Wicks turning 93 on November 13.
- ➤ Helen Quale who will be 96 on November 29.





SHARE THE JOY

ALTERNATIVE CHRISTMAS
2017

#### **Choose From:**

Corvallis Multicultural Literacy Center
UMCOR—Puerto Rico
Room At The Inn

\$5, \$10 & \$25 donations

Friendship soup,
Three Grain Pilaf

Proceeds support our

Quinoa Curry (gluten free) Layered Lentil Soup Coffee Cake Supreme

 Francis Duryee
 12/12/2016

 Virginia Wilson
 12/24/2016

 Rhonda Mast
 2/21/2017

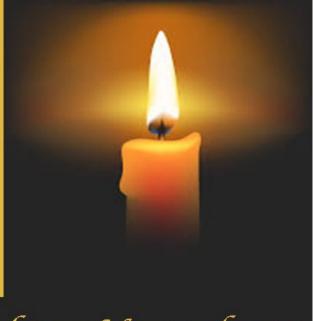
 Patty McClintock
 5/02/2017

 Victor Amoth
 7/01/2017

 Betty Wallace
 7/22/2017

 Norma Craven
 8/11/2017

 Joan Gathercoal
 9/24/2017



All Saints Sunday - November 5

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#### Once upon a time...

There was a church who knew that the truest, fullest expression of what we believe about God is revealed in how we behave toward others and ourselves.

#### There was a church with open doors...

Therefore, we work for a less violent world, a healthier planet, human rights, and economic justice.

#### Because of that ....

While we minister directly with many who struggle, we also aim to correct the root causes of these concerns.

#### And because of open doors and open minds... We house, facilitate and fund...

 Room At The Inn—To provide a safe and secure emergency home for women in the Corvallis area November-March. It can accommodate up to 17 women. Showers, snacks, and a case worker are provided. A hot dinner is served once a week, with a salad bar all other nights.

Sign-up to volunteer at:

http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050944afa92fa02-2014

Corvallis Family Table/Mesa Familiar de Corvallis—First United Methodist Church,
Tunison Neighborhood Association, Willamette Neighborhood Housing Services, and Parks
and Recreation have teamed up to bring free hot meals to go in South Corvallis, making it
easier for families to enjoy a meal together meal by serving simple healthy dinners to lowincome individuals in a manner that maintains dignity, builds community, and brings
families together.

Sign-up to volunteer at:

http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050a4aa5af2ca31-volunteer1

• Jammin' For The Hungry—Each week, we make jams and jellies for area food banks in our commercial kitchen. Fruit and all ingredients are provided by local donations and from our regional food bank, Linn Benton Food Share. Philomath Community Services provides freezer storage so we can make our jams year round. Since September 2008, we have produced almost 20,000 jars of jams and jellies. All are welcome Mondays 6:00-8:30 pm.

Sign-up to volunteer at:

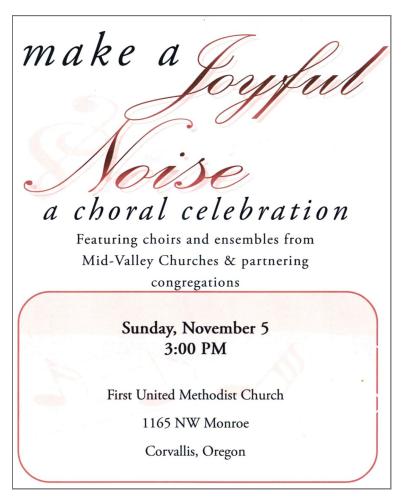
http://www.signupgenius.com/go/8050944afa92fa02-jammin

• • • And this is not a fairytale

# THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

#### From FUMC...

Thank you to all donated money, items, and time toward the recent call for UMCOR cleaning buckets. \$700 was collected. We made and delivered seven complete buckets to the pick-up site. It provided a thoughtful and kinesthetic learning opportunity for the families at Messy Church and the youth during their lock-in. The remaining funds were donated directly to UMCOR.





## **Immigration Presentation**

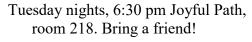
Come to the Immigration presentation on **Sunday, December 10,** during Pastor's Forum, by Francisco López. He is a Salvadoran-American that came to the United States in 1985 as a refugee from the war in El Salvador. Francisco is a member of Queen of Peace Catholic Church in South Salem and Director of CAUSA, Oregon's Latino immigrant Rights Coalition, one of the largest Latino organizations in the Pacific Northwest. In 2008 he was the Field Director with Voz Hispana Vote Project, a Woodburn-based organization that seeks to empower Latinos by increasing their participation in the American democratic process.

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## Youth Activities

#### Middle School and High School

Sunday mornings Building Leaders Today, 10:30-11:30, room 218. Tuesday nights, 5:00 pm homework club, room 119.





Date	Time	Event
Sunday, October 29	9:00 am	5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday Ushering
Sunday, October 29	TBA	Corvallis Youth Collective, clay workshop #1 at CHS
Sunday, November 5	TBA	Corvallis Youth Collective, clay workshop #2 at CHS
Sunday, November 5	6:30-8:30 pm	First Sunday High School Youth
Friday, November 11		Registration intent form & \$50 deposit due for July 10-15 mission trip
Friday, November 11	9:00 am - 2:00 pm	Mixes in a Jar assembly
Sundays, NovDec.		Mixes in a Jar sales
Sundays, Jan. 21, 28, & Feb. 4		Valentine's brunch sales
Saturday, February 10		Valentine's brunch prep
Sunday, February 11	10:30 am	Valentine's brunch
July 10-15, 2018		Mission trip, Special Olympics state games

## **Oriental Rugs**

Oriental Rug Sale, many purchased on LoErna and Jim Simpson's many trips to the Middle East. Sizes rang from small to 9 x 12 feet. Mostly wool, some silk, all hand made and of top quality. **November 5, 10:45 am-5:00 pm**, community center.





Sunday, November 5 return to Standard Time. "Fall back" one hour as Daylight Saving Time ends.



What we see depends on what we look for.



#### **First United Methodist Church**

A Reconciling Congregation

1165 NW Monroe Avenue Corvallis, OR 97330 **Phone**: 541 752 2491

**Phone**: 541.752.2491 **Fax**: 541.752.3636

**E-mail**: fumc@corvallisfumc.org **Web site**: www.corvallisfumc.org **Sunday Worship**: 9:30 am

Office Hours:

Monday-Thursday:

9:00-4:00; closed noon-1:00

Barbara Nixon, Pastor Rob Kirby, Campus Minister Bob Lewis, Lay Leader

Nursery Care is available. Church building is accessible.

#### **Our Mission**

Our mission is to bring people into a living relationship with God, through Jesus Christ, that we might love the world as God loves the world.





Newsletter Deadline:
November 30, 2017
for the December Newsletter.