



United Church of Christ-Congregational
THE LIGHTED WINDOW
 Celebrating 154 years of faithful service for
 Christ and the Church
July 2013



Sunday Worship Time

10:00am

Children's Class 10:15am

Pastor

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Hours: M-Th 9am-12:30pm

Pastor's Pen


In my family, we have always used the terms "flotsam and jetsam" to refer to the debris that circles around a home that has no permanent location or purpose.

You sailors out there know that

these are actually maritime legal terms for the floating stuff at sea: flotsam-wreckage of a ship or cargo; jetsam-part of the ship or cargo that is deliberately thrown overboard. So, these terms refer to wreckage or abandoned stuff. These terms are on my mind, because, once again, I am moving. I have found a nice little one-story house, closer in. I'm going to enjoy being there, but it is the getting there that's hard. In just two years, I have my share of flotsam and jetsam. When the Israelites fled Egypt, they went with loaded carts of all they could take. When Jesus sent his disciples out, he said take nothing with you. I have decided that in this, my twentieth move since graduating from college, to try to have less in my cart. Even though I am more of a clutter-buster than a curator of stuff, there are still seductive voices that call out in the culling process. The loudest of these is "I might need it some day" which just edges out the second voice that says, "I really am going to get to that project." These are powerful voices. Let me introduce another maritime term "lagan". Lagan is an item that you

have thrown into the sea and is resting on the bottom with a buoy attached to it. You can reclaim this discarded item as long as there is a buoy. The key word here is "discarded."

Even though many of us have buoys bobbing out of our closets, garages, and sheds, we fail to notice that we have already discarded these items. We think they will be useful; they will not. As for me and my house, I am leaning toward Jesus' command, but fall far short. If we believe that nothing is lost in Christ, then every memory and experience we have ever had is remembered by God. In this current move, I am saving the best of the best, things I love or that make me happy, the rest is flotsam. When we pray, the first step is to clear our minds, not fill our brains, but seek quiet and calm, open, space-filled places that create order out of chaos. Why would we live any differently?

Here is our last maritime term "avast", as in "Avast, me hearties, arrg" It means stop, quit, desist. Cut the buoys from the stuff that you have already abandoned. Make clear a road for God. As we grow in faith, maybe we will all get to the place where Jesus says "Take nothing with you."

Got boxes?

*Grace and peace to you,
 Deb*

Greetings from the Children's Corner

Heifer time is here again and I received a short letter from Mr. Llama the other day.

Dear Sunday School Class,
and Congregation of The Dalles UCC,
Just have a couple of minutes to send you a quick letter. I am getting along just great with my new family. We travel a lot into the hills for firewood, and different plants to eat. I help them carry it all back home. They have given me a few haircuts and made blankets out of the clippings. I wanted to let you know that the animals chosen for the kids to pick this year are:

Heifer-Rwanda

Goat- Haiti

Horse- Romania

Well got to go- the family is waiting for me,

Mr. Llama

The kids picked the animal and it was the horse and chose to send it to Rwanda. Name for the horse will be announced in church on 14th of July. So in honor of Heifer project the kids will be learning about the animals in the Bible.

7/7: The Whale

7/14: The Horse

7/21: The Frog

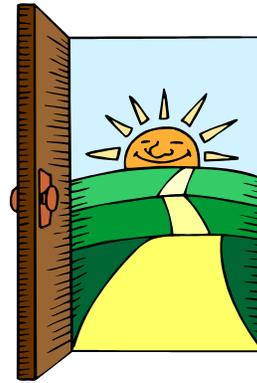
7/28: The Lion

Angela Schultze

July Pantry collection is VEGETABLES

Please bring your donation to the shopping cart located in the Roberts Room.

Canned, freeze-dried, shelf stable veggies. Check your cupboard- way in the back..



Church Doors

We are such a welcoming church that it seems natural to us to "fling wide the portals" of the church on Sunday mornings. We want people to know that we are open and that anyone can join us. However, with a bow to modern conveniences, which we all enjoy and appreciate, we are air-conditioned. Yeaaa, let's hear it for air conditioning. This means we need to keep the church doors closed, especially in the steamy heat we've been experiencing. Sign-up as a Greeter this summer and welcome one and all into the church, but shut the door behind them. Thank you.

Foster Children Rooms

We received the following thank-you note from the DHS for our sprucing up of the Foster kid-parent visiting rooms. We totaled 54 person hours and just over \$600 for this project. They look clean and cheerful and welcoming. Women's Fellowship donated some of the money, as well as other sources. This was truly an all-church project. Thank you to everyone who donated their time and energy to this. It is making a difference.

"What a huge improvement in our child welfare visit rooms! I will forever be grateful to you all for taking on this project. For the first time in decades we are proud to serve our area children in

these rooms. The staff and clients are so thrilled with the new, clean and fun items. The room is full of color and creativity! Cannot thank you all enough.. What a positive difference you have made in our community and needy families. Thanks all those involved for me- and from our entire staff- THANKS!"
Carri Ramsey-Smith
DHS

The "New Look" to the website is thanks to Trish Neal. She has collected all the bits and pieces and photos that make up church life at United Church of Christ Congregational and put a fresh face on our website. It is still a work in progress, so check it out and let us know what you think.
<http://www.uccthedalles.org>

July 10th – 7pm Missionary Rev. Loren McGrail will join us for a dessert potluck in Tenney Hall. She will be speaking about her work and life in East Jerusalem.

July 23rd – Fellowship of Churches potluck picnic at 5pm at Sorosis Shelter. Ice cream provided.

July 28th- Animal Blessing service

No August Sunday School for children

New Intern Coming

Welcome Drew Frisbee
Many of you know that the Methodist Church is a teaching church that gets a new student intern pastor every summer. This year, Pastor Deb will be the supervising mentor. Drew Frisbee and wife Julia will arrive mid July and join us in worship two or three Sundays a month. This is a great opportunity for close cooperation between our two churches. Drew will also have responsibility with the joint Methodist-Lutheran youth group and confirmation. The internship guiding committee is made-up of members of both United Methodist and Zion. UCC members Annabelle Lavier and the Rev. Floyd Emerson have agreed to serve on this committee this year.

**"Out of the Dirt"
P.E.T. Project**

**Wow! As of June 30, we have donated \$2,085.08 to the P.E.T. project. That is eight new personal energy transporters.
Well done, UCC.**

Mark your calendars...

**July 4th – City of Rufus Fireworks
3:30pm Parade
4-7pm Old Rufus grade school.
Food, vendors, car & quilt shows,
kid's games.
7pm- meet at Rufus Rocks for dessert,
chips and dips potluck. Fireworks
should start around 9-9:30pm**

**July 7th- No Sunday school for children
UCCC serves Community Meal**



Community Meals – on the job training

On Sunday, July 7th, UCCC serves the community meal. If you haven't volunteered to help before- this is a positive and uplifting ministry. There are all sorts of tasks to do and many hands make light work. So come and see for yourself. For more information- contact Dixie Parker.



Bulletin Artwork

You may not know this, but every week, Sally and Pastor Deb search for just the right artwork for the bulletin. We try to match the theme of the day. Some days are harder than others and some days our search results are just hilarious: Amazing what non-church search engines consider faith-based. That said, two weeks ago, we searched and could not find anything appropriate. Finally, we decided just to use the Mr. Dancing Hotdog, which we'd been saving for a special occasion. Only one person noticed. We may spend less time on this activity in the future. Then again, you may want to watch carefully. Who knows what will grace our bulletin?

**Please note
Carolyn Wilks has moved to the
Springs at Mill Creek. Her room is
#234.**

**New Sign
Arrived
Today!
Drive by
and check it out**