



United Church of Christ-Congregational
THE LIGHTED WINDOW
 Celebrating 156 years of faithful service for
 Christ and the Church
November 2014



Sunday Worship Time

10:00am

Children's Class 10:15am

Office Administrator Sally Forster

secretary@uccthedalles.org

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

Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Deborah J. Allen

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Pastor's Pen

I love fall; I love pumpkins, Halloween, crunching leaves the color of fire, and those crisp, clear days. I love the first day that it feels right to have a pot of chili or soup on the stove. I also love Thanksgiving, a day where the only thing required is to sit at the table with family and friends.

Giving heartfelt thanks, when we truly experience deep and abiding gratefulness, is powerfully transforming. We feel loved, known, and sustained. Gratefulness endows us with the ability to seek less after our own needs and fires up our desire to spread around the blessings we've been given.

Offering thanks entails more than saying "Thank you, God." It is a good first step, but by no means a complete step. Giving thanks requires action, participation, and sometimes sacrifice. True thanksgiving leads us to get out our chairs, routines, offices and offer warmth, good-cheer, help, or time. These are the fruits of thanksgiving and these bring God's mercy, peace and joy to the doorstep of another. It is sacred work.

Let's celebrate this season by showing our God what these blessings mean to us. Be kind to people you meet, especially to those whose day, week, year is not the best. Apologize for something you've avoided, write a note of thanks or appreciation, clean someone's gutters (now that's love in action!)

Thankfulness creates in us a wellness that transcends physical health. When we live with an attitude of gratitude, we experience the holy, sacred presence of God. This depth is sustaining and life-giving, enlarging our hearts, minds and lives.

Give thanks to God this season and get busy your joy be full, just as Jesus promises.

*Grace and Peace to you all,
 Deb*



Greetings from the Children's corner,

Last month the Sunday school class followed Moses through his journey to the Promised Land. This month the class will move to the New Testament and follow Jesus in the Book of Matthew.

Just a reminder no Sunday school on November 2nd.

November 9 will be about Keeping Faith. The story this week will be on the story of the ten bridesmaids and their lamps. November 16 will be about Expectant Choices. The story this week will be on the landowner who leaves his property in the hands of his slaves. November 23 will be about the Reign of Christ. The story this week will be about goats and sheep. November 30 the class will begin the season Advent and will be about longing. The focus scripture is back in the Old Testament in the book of Isaiah. The story will be about the potter and the clay.

Christmas is coming and so is the children's Christmas program. This year the kids will be signing two Christmas songs. I would like to thank Paula in advance for her help in teaching the kids again sign language for these songs. Songs will be announced in December's Lighted Window

Angie Schultze

To link to the website, click below
<http://www.uccthedalles.org>

A Word about Missions....

This is a generous and caring church, especially at the holidays. Two years ago we established a mission committee to help us sort through all the worthy causes. We will be sponsoring the UCC Christmas Fund that supplies emergency monies to retired pastors and families. We will also be hosting the Foster Children's Christmas Party. We have room for one more. If you are passionate about a cause, please write a brief description and give it to one of the members of the mission committee,

(Corliss Marsh, Randy Stewart, Denise Miles, Joy Krein or Sally Forster.) We will be meeting in November.



Calendar of Events

Nov 2nd—10am service at Zion Lutheran

Nov 5th—5:15 Diaconate meet

Nov 9th—10am Worship includes
Baptism

Nov 10th—1pm Women's Fellowship

Nov 11th —Veteran's Day

Nov 25th—5:15pm Trustees meet

Nov 27th—Thanksgiving

Celebrate with Floyd!

Religious faith is a common every day thing. it's the overflow that ends up in church. Celebrate the mundane parts of your daily faith.



November Birthdays

Matt Newton—3
Patti Dale—3
Jim Torgerson—7
Mark Poppoff—8
Jada Gay—13
Hew Hillis—21
Barbara Bailey—25

Annadale Rooper—28

Joanne Brewer—29

Jim Wilcox—29

Bob Krein—29

November Anniversaries

Gary & Jackie Deckard—9

Dave and Bonnie Long—16

Floyd and Jean Emerson—28

Breakfast!!!

We forgot to make an announcement in church yesterday morning but the regular Men's Breakfast Bible Study Group will meet at UCC on Sunday, November 2nd at 8:00 a.m.

Donna and Lyle Miller are cooking breakfast. Yummmmmmmmy

Breakfast for everyone else starts at 8:30 a.m. in the Fireside Room.

We are worshipping at Zion Lutheran Church at 10:00 a.m.

If you're anything like us, you needed this reminder.

Gene and Dixie



November Pantry donations

Adult toiletries will be collected in November to make up personal kits that will be donated to the Salvation Army and

distributed all year long. Items needed include soap, toothpaste, combs, wash-cloths and nail clippers.

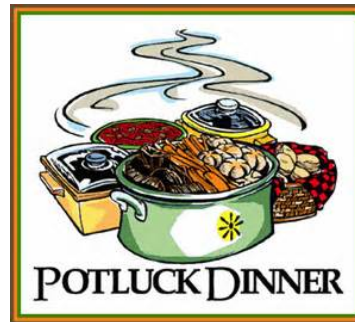
Swedish Proverb:

Fear less, hope more; eat less, chew more; whine less, breath more; talk less, say more, and all good things will be yours.



Stewardship

You may have noticed that our stewardship cards are different this year. We are asking for financial, time, and worship commitments parallel to the promises all of us made when we joined the church. The life of faith is shared, sustained, sacred, and sabbath filled. Please consider thoughtfully your giving to our church.



We will be hosting one of our famously delicious potlucks to celebrate receiving our pledges for 2015. We will meet after worship on

November 16. All are welcome to enjoy our feast together. Mark your calendars.



On Saturday night November 1st!

November 2-All Souls Day Ecumenical Service

The congregations of UCCC and First United Methodist Church and Zion Lutheran will be joining together at 10am to worship as one body.

We will be meeting at Zion Lutheran Church.

You are invited: A Revival for Social Change

The Justice & Witness Ministries with the Central Pacific & Pacific Northwest UCC Conferences invite you to a time of inspiring worship, preaching, and training to fan the flames of justice in the Northwest. We seek hearts aglow with the fire of the Holy Spirit! We come together to pray and proclaim, to sing and rejoice, to receive an abundance of grace in our lives, our ministries and our churches. Like the disciples after Pentecost, we gather to be re-inspired to be Christ's Church in the world. [Join us!](#)

Details

[First Congregational United Church of Christ, Vancouver](#) 1220 NE 68th, Vancouver, WA November 8, 2014 | 8:00 am - 3:30pm

Register now:

<http://www.cvent.com/d/w4q5yz> Staff of Justice and Witness Ministries will be offering workshops and visiting area churches. Questions? Contact [Karen Kulm](#), (360) 991-5774.

November 10th is the next Women's Fellowship Meeting

Women's Fellowship will be meeting Monday, November 10th, at 1 p.m. in the Isabella Gray Room. Sue Wilson is our Hostess and Cynthia Graham will be providing the prayer. Our program's message is titled "What is in the Bible and Why?" It will be presented by Rev. Deb Allen. All women of the church are welcome to attend. We hope to see YOU there!

Foster Children's Christmas Party

For the second time, we will be hosting a Christmas party for foster kids and their



parents. We will host on Wednesday, December 10th from 2-4pm. It is earlier than we hosted last year, we have about 6 weeks to prepare. We need you! We need greeters, cooks,

present wrappers, table setters, cookie decorators, punch fillers, room decorators, Santa Claus, musicians, craft helpers and all people of good cheer.

If you can donate small presents for adults (M/F), supplies, money, or time please call the office. Last year we had over twenty people helping- and can always use a few more.

This is our Christmas gift to the community, please help us make this a happy celebration.

Women's Fellowship Visits St. John the Forerunner Greek Orthodox Monastery

On a rainy Monday, October 20th, seventeen women from our church traveled ten miles past Goldendale, Washington to visit St. John the Forerunner Greek Orthodox Monastery. It was an incredible field trip for us all. We were definitely enlightened and impressed by our visitation as our spirit was not dampened in the least by the weather. After we drove a short distance on the Monastery grounds, we found the outer walls of the Orthodox Church still under construction. Once inside we were in awe of the interior's beauty. It has been gorgeously completed with striking Icons, inlaid marble floors, and artistically designed wooden carvings along the walls, the altar and the chairs. Incredibly, all have been hand-crafted by Orthodox Christians in Greece and sent over. Eventually, lighting fixtures will be hung once they arrive from Greece. The nun who guided us through the tour was very sweet, articulate and inspirational as she informed us about her daily life at the Monastery, this particular Greek Orthodox Church that started in Goldendale in 1995, and the Greek Orthodox Church in general.

After our tour, we stopped at the St. Johns Bakery Coffee and Gifts on the edge of Highway 97 but still on the Monastery property. Many of us made purchases of hand-crafted items and the delicious bakery goods, like Baklava and Biscotti. The nuns do all the baking for the Bakery which also includes Greek food items like Gyro, Lamb and Manestra, Mousakas and Pastitsio. In addition, they make many of the hand-crafted items of soaps, lotions, Beeswax candles and incense.

The Icons are painted by them, too, when they have time. The following information is provided for your interest as quoted from the brochure titled "Welcome to St. John the Forerunner Greek Orthodox Monastery".

"The Holy Greek Orthodox Monastery of St. John the Forerunner was founded in 1995, when local Doctor Gerard Johannes Timmer donated his 48-acre property to the Greek Orthodox Metropolis of San Francisco for the foundation of a women's monastic community. His Eminence the late Metropolitan Anthony, of blessed memory, accepted the donation, and contacted Elder Ephraim to help establish the monastery in Washington State."

"Since 1995 the sisterhood increased from three founding sisters to more than 20 nuns and novices. Here in the Pacific Northwest, as in many other places, young, Orthodox women are devoting themselves to God and a life of prayer despite the confused state of modern society."

The brochure states that, "the Orthodox Church is the first Christian church, founded by the Lord Jesus Christ Himself. Her history can be traced in unbroken continuity back to the original Pentecost, the descent of the Holy Spirit on the Apostles. The Orthodox Church has continued in her undiminished and unaltered faith and practice and today her apostolic doctrine, worship and structure remain intact."

If interested in learning more or in purchasing items at the Bakery visit their web-site:

www.stjohnmonastery.org