



United Church of Christ-Congregational  
**THE LIGHTED WINDOW**  
 Celebrating 156 years of faithful service for  
 Christ and the Church  
**January 2015**




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**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**

People get notions and pastors get them, too. Let me explain.

The celebration of Epiphany in the church year marks the arrival of the Magi at the stable in Bethlehem. It is the twelfth day of Christmas and highly celebrated in some cultures. January 6 is the day that Christians mark God announcing to the entire world (not just Israel) that the Savior of the world is for all people. This revelation, this epiphany (appearance of God) cross cuts all differences between people that we like to uphold and use to separate us. It is a startling announcement, one God for all people, come to be with us. I was thinking about the magnitude of this announcement after last year's Epiphany service, which left me a little flat, frankly. Then I heard about the Epiphany service at Parkrose UCC, where they had the entrance of the kings. Next, I had a notion, we should have the kings and process them in, then we should have Herod, too, in order to tell the story right. And maybe a camel... truth to tell, the camel is not making an appearance this year.

Sally was totally on board with this idea and we were going to start building large puppet/scarecrows of the kings this summer. Well, that didn't happen. We were so busy in the office this summer, we kept asking each other when the summer lull was going to

commence. It didn't. Fall arrived and you know how that goes around here. Finally, toward the end of October, we thought we should get going on it.

Sally's basement is heated by a wood fire, which is perfect for drying papier-mache` heads. I haven't used papier-mache` since third grade, but its amazing how quickly skills returned. We tore paper, glued, layered and layered; we fashioned robes suitable for kings; we designed exotic headdresses, we sewed, ironed, painted, and made multiple trips to the store. I couldn't tell you how many hours we have into this project. We were assisted by Sally's husband, Scott, who made the bamboo framework for the puppets and Corliss Marsh who made special paraments and sewed the neck holes. There is no way we could ever purchase such kings; they are labor intensive.

So, the kings will arrive in worship our January 4, with their gifts and attendants and bells and drums. They are coming. The light of God is revealed to the entire world with the entrance of the kings. It's a holy and sacred moment. Sometimes we pastors get notions. My dearest wish is that the one of the heads doesn't fly off and alarm the children. Arise. Your light is come.

*Grace and Peace to you,  
 Deb*

## Greetings from the Children's corner,

*Once again I would like to thank Paula Christy for helping with last year's Christmas program. I would like to thank the choir and Cheryl for helping out as well. I also want to thank the children for learning the signs as quickly and supporting each other.*

*The first Sunday in January will not have a Sunday school class. The children will be upstairs for the Coming of the Kings. January 11<sup>th</sup> the children will be learning about John the Baptist and Jesus's baptism. January 18<sup>th</sup> the children will be learning about the calling of Samuel. January 25<sup>th</sup> the children will be learning about Jesus calling his first disciples.*

*Thank you once again to the congregation for supporting the Sunday school program through last year. Chrissy and I appreciate all that you have done to support us as the teachers.*

*Angie Schultze*

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

### **Celebrate with Floyd!**

**What is the difference between worrying about something and praying about it? Is prayer just worrying in the presence of God? Can you hide your worries (and your joys) from God? Share your joys and cares with God and celebrate.**

### **Faith & Fun Trivia Night**

Saturday, February 7th, 7 p.m. at the church. Bring your brain to play and desserts to share. Coffee and tea will be provided.



### **January Birthdays**

Heather Thompson-Telfer—4  
 R.J. Miles—15  
 Floyd Emerson—22  
 Helen Thomas—28  
 Mollie Newton—30

### **January Anniversaries**

Patty and Susan Herring -21

### **Women's Fellowship News**

January 2015 is here! Women's Fellowship is set with their January meeting on Monday, January 12th, in the Isabella Gray room at 1:00 pm. Our Hostess will be Doris Anderson. Jean Vercouteren will provide the devotion. Our Guest Speaker will be Reagan Evans who will share about the Seventh Day Adventist Church. All women of the church are welcome to attend.

Women's Fellowship's 2014 Christmas Bazaar was a huge success and we thank all of you who provided something to sell and/or made a purchase! Monies raised will be used towards outreach within our church and community.

On January 4<sup>th</sup>, our Epiphany Sunday, we are having special events during worship. You won't want to miss it... The Kings are coming...



**The annual meeting is scheduled for January 18<sup>th</sup> following worship. This is also a potluck event.**



### **Snow Removal**

Snow removal around here is do-it-yourself, but the Trustees have designated a lead person for each snowy month.

January—Dave Long

February—Mark Poppoff

If you can help out in snowy weather, please contact that month's lead person. We want to keep everyone safe in slippery weather.

Thanks Trustees!

### **Report from Lyle Miller**

The water lines were consolidated to one meter. One line had been leaking (possibly for many, many months) the savings on the water bill is \$100.00 to \$150.00 per month. The bid to do the work was \$3,000.00, but the work was done by volunteers for about \$500.00 PUD provided an energy audit concerning the fluorescent lights in the whole building. The bulbs were changed to energy efficient T-8 lights and the old-fashioned incandescent bulbs to compact fluorescent or L.E.D. bulbs. The cost was \$3873.00 and PUD paid \$3417.00 leaving the church to pay \$456.00. The cost for the new energy efficient windows for the building was \$82,376.00 and the Urban Renewal grants totaled \$69,870.00. The church paid \$12,506.00.

A new kitchen stove was purchased with funds from the Men's breakfast group and Women's fellowship.



Pastor Deb will be out of the office from January 6-8. She is headed to Canada to visit her mother. Deb will be having her long awaited foot surgery on January 22<sup>nd</sup>. She will be at home for 10 days. We wish her a speedy recovery.

### **Community Meals- dates set**

Our church will host community meals three times in 2015. The dates are the second Sunday of months of April, July and October. Corliss Marsh will be coordinating the volunteers. Mark your calendars for April 12<sup>th</sup>, July 12<sup>th</sup> and October 11<sup>th</sup>.

Sign-up sheets for 2015 are ready for **YOU!** Every Sunday, greeters and coffee hosts are needed to bring the extravagant welcome to church members and friends. Every Sunday, Pastor Deb asks for a liturgist to read during the service. Could this be **YOU?** Please take a moment and volunteer to serve today. The sign-up sheets are located near the Roberts room hallway.