



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



June 2015

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

Our neck of the woods is fairly stable, nature-wise. Dangerous and scary natural phenomena are ravaging other parts of the world: earthquakes in Nepal, horrendous flooding in Texas, tornados across the plains, hail, soggy misery for much of the nation. Sure, we get the odd volcano eruption and blistering summer heat, occasional forest fires, but we are relatively sheltered from eye-popping destruction. I, myself, am saying daily prayers for the families who lost loved ones, especially for the families with children swept away. How can they ever recover?

Disasters, natural or otherwise, challenge the foundations of our beliefs. "Why O God?" can be heard as a steady refrain. As terrifying and raw as these events are, tough times also are community building. Ordinary people step up to offer whatever they have; cleaning up, preparing meals, offering housing or storage, tracking down family photographs launched into the wind of a tornado. Many strangers come together, bound by a desire to be of use, to help people in great need. This is the beginning of recovery. Our monies from One Great Hour of sharing are already on the ground, as well as health kits that we send. We have helped in

small ways. The earth is a dynamic

system, beyond our ability to control. The earth belongs to God. Take a moment to give thanks for the beauty and the calm outside your window.

We take the power of nature for granted when it is safely contained. When the lid comes off and gets personally close, it focuses our attention like nothing else. We treat God the same way. We take God for granted and like to keep a tight lid on spiritual things. We pay attention when life runs off the rails through sorrow, piercing despair, fear, pain or wonder and joy. God is ever present, forming us into communities to serve those who need what we can offer. Take this day to give thanks for the quiet ordinariness of our early summer weather. Give thanks for the ordinary blessings that we would be bereft without: families, friends, pets, comfortable homes, stocked pantries, gorgeous countryside, a might river, wind in the pines, work to be done. Make your own list of everyday blessings. Don't wait for the peaks and valleys of life. Notice the power of God in the gifts that are yours today. Pray for those who grieve. Then, rejoice, give thanks and sing.

Grace and peace to you.

Deb

Greetings from the Children's Corner

Once again I would like to thank Annabelle for covering 5/31/15 for me.

June 7th the Sunday school class will join the Choir to celebrate Choir Sunday. So please have the kids at the church by 9 am to practice with the choir.

Lessons for June will cover the New Testament book of Galatians: The Fruits of the Spirit: love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control
 6/7 Love, joy and peace
 6/14 Patience, kindness and goodness
 6/21 Father's Day Lesson
 6/28 Gentleness, self-control faithfulness
Angie Schultze



Summer Birthdays

June:

Allison Miles—1
 MaryLee Hattenhauer—10

Jean Emerson—11
 Lynn Wilcox—13
 Lyle Miller—18
 Bonnie Long—22
 Traci Church—24
 Cheryl Ortega—24
 Tom Peachey—26
 Dixie Parker—27
 Tracy Miller—29
 Bill Matthew—30

June Anniversary

John & Deidre Baumgarten—19

July:

Kasey Schultze—4
 Olivia Church—4
 Sohala Church—6
 Judy Dinnell—9
 Jase Carr Schultze—19
 Lucile Torgerson—19
 Bill Miller—21
 Rymmel Lovell—26

Wilma Schaub—26
 Robert Bailey—30
 Shirley Ulrich—31

July Anniversaries

Tom & Sue Peachey—5
 Jim & Lynn Wilcox—6

August:

Annabelle Lavier—6
 Louanne Starr—6
 Marjory Foley—12
 Nikki Lesich—14
 James Beckwith—19
 Denise Miles—26
 Pat Cox—30
 Brenda Ragar—30

August Anniversaries

Randy & Susan Stewart—7
 Brenda & Gary Ragar—25



Calendar

3rd —Noon Book Study
 5:15pm Diaconate
 10th —Noon Book Study
 17th — Noon Book Study
 5:15pm Church Council
 24th—Noon Book Study
 25th—Pastor Deb leaves for Synod,
 will be in the pulpit July 5th.

The Dalles UCC's Faith and Fun

Mark your calendar for a Saturday, June 20th event. We will travel to Lyle, Washington and the Lyle Trailhead of the Klickitat Trail.

The Klickitat Trail is 31 miles long and follows an old railroad corridor that once linked the towns of Lyle and Goldendale. Of course we won't be going the full 31 miles. In fact we can just hike up this trail as far as we each wish and at our own pace. This is an opportunity for fun, fellowship, and to enjoy God's creation.

The trail's spectacular scenery includes carved gorges, interesting geologic formations, abundant wildflowers, rolling hills, oak and Ponderosa Pine woodlands. Currently the trail is unpaved, with a packed fine gravel surface for the first 2 miles from Lyle to the Fisher Hill Trestle. This may be a good place to enjoy our lunch. Also, there may be an opportunity to get a well deserved beer afterwards. So mark your calendar, find your hiking shoes, fill your water bottle, pack your lunch and plan on enjoying this event. We will meet at the church at 10:00 o'clock, arrange carpooling, and head out.

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

This Month's collection is **paper products.**

Please bring paper towels, napkins, toilet paper and facial tissue.



Church Servers for June:

Date	Greeter	Reader	Coffee Host
June 7	Randy Stewart	Rymmell Lovell	
June 14		Gene Parker	Caroline & Klea
June 21			
June 28			

There is still time to join!

Get ready to read, laugh and learn more about other religions. This weekly study, begins at Noon on Wednesdays (June 3, 10, 17 and 24) in the Isabella Gray room.

The book chosen is Post-Traumatic Church Syndrome. A Memoir of Humor and Healing in 30 Religions, By Reba Riley. Cost of book is \$11.00.



Pulpit Rock Ecumenical Service Musicians, May 17, 2015



Mark Ulrich was recently inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa Honor Society at Columbia Gorge Community College.

General Synod

General Synod is the biannual meeting of the United Church of Christ. Here we talk with others about the leading of the Spirit, resolutions close to our hearts, uplifting worship, and, this year, vote on the next General Minister and President (ask Corliss, she was on the selection committee). I have been to Synod before, but not as a Delegate. I will represent the Central Pacific Conference and hope to serve the Conference well. The meeting this year is in Cleveland, Ohio, home to our national office. Though I am a midwestern girl, I have never been to Cleveland (remind me next time before I raise my hand to check out **where** the meeting is being held). General Synod is June 26-June 30. You can follow all the event on the UCC website. I will be reporting back to you. If you have things you would like to be raised in this meeting, let me know. Keep all those at the meeting in your prayers. Deb

New Directories have just been printed. Please



notice the large stack of lime green covers and take one or two with you!

June 7th is Choir Sunday. The children will join the choir for the celebration.

There is a sign-up sheet in the Roberts Room for special music during the summer. Please share your talent.



Celebrate with Floyd!

Always look for the common ground, but be aware that too often the only ground is ignorance, hostility, suspicion and hatred. Celebrate the fact we can do better.

Office Hours and Summer

After an open and lengthy discussion, Pastor Deb and I agreed that the office will remain closed on Friday- like it has all Fridays for the past five years. We will be here Monday through Thursday 9am to 12:30pm. Please remember to keep your pledge up to date. We appreciate it.

