



United Church of Christ-Congregational  
**THE LIGHTED WINDOW**  
 Celebrating 158 years of faithful service for  
 Christ and the Church  
**November 2016**



**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**

What I like about Thanksgiving is that as a nation, both believers and non-believers, think about giving thanks. Too often, when it is our turn to proclaim gratitude, we rush to name the first thing that pops into our head. Hurry up. The turkey is getting cold. We are just glad something came to mind. Charm-free gratitude.

Are we grateful? Sometimes we are.

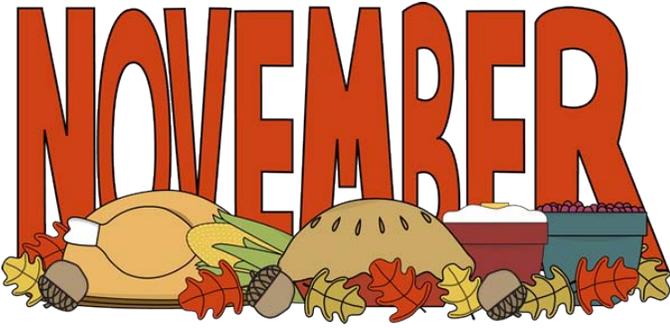
Sometimes we are too distracted by our busy days, or sense of loss, ill health, or days when everything seems to be going wrong. Life itself is the greatest gift. To live well and fully is to thankfully embrace this gift from God.

What if this were your last day? For what would you give thanks? Friends, family, and love you have known? Would you be glad for the risks you'd taken in the service of others? Would you be grateful or regretful that you spent such long hours at work? Would you rejoice that the bank account was comfortable or rue the fact that you didn't do some good with it? Would you give thanks for the

list of people you were privileged to help?

As people of faith, it is meaningful to think about the gifts we have been given; to notice the bounty is to be grateful and faithful. However, to live enthusiastically is to live a thankful life. Samuel Miller, who taught at Princeton in the early 1800s, contemplated the shape of grateful living. He said, "**To plunge fearlessly into life, to walk humbly on every level, to lend a hand in the common chores of existence, to cease fearing about advantages and disadvantages, comfort and peril, to lose oneself in living a real life--this is the meaning of faith.**" While that might be a little dramatic for our thanksgiving table declaration, it is a joyous and powerful way to live. In this season of grace, remember the God who gives you life. Remember to thank God for your daily bread and breath. Remember to live.

Grace and peace to you all. Deb



- Nov 2—Noon Book Study**  
**5pm Diaconate mtg**  
**Nov 6—Men's Breakfast**  
**Worship at Zion**  
**Nov 7—1 pm Finance Committee**  
  
**Nov 14—1pm Women's Fellowship**  
**Nov 20—Stewardship Sunday and**  
**Potluck**  
**Nov 24—Thanksgiving, office closed**  
**Nov 27—No Sunday School**



November's collection will be **adult toiletries.**

Klea will use these items for the Christmas packets given out at the community meal or Salvation Army.

### **Moderator's Note**

Nominating Committee is working to fill vacancies on the various church councils, boards, and committees. Please make a commitment of your time and talents and contact Annabelle Lavier or any Church Council member to volunteer. Please wear your nametags on Sundays. If we all wear them every Sunday it will become a habit by the holidays.

Randy Stewart  
 Moderator

### **News Flash! Snow Is Coming.**



Yes, indeed, snow is coming. It may come early. It may come late. Whenever it comes, we need shovelers. We have been lucky for the last few years that we have had willing and able volunteers. We are hoping you would be willing to help. Please sign-up for a week or two during the winter months. We need shovelers, not just on Sundays, but during the week, as well. Who knows? You may be fortunate and have no snow during your assigned weeks. Feeling lucky? Pick a week, any week, step right up. Thank you for helping us keep a safe zone around the church.

### **Mira Rizeq- Executive Director** **YWCA Palestine Dec. 1**

The Executive Director of the YWCA in Palestine will be with us in the Gorge on Thursday, December 1, from 11-1:00 pm at Riverside Church in Hood River. We have heard of the good work that this group is doing for women in the region before. The YWCA trains and assists women of all faiths. Come hear the hands-on efforts to help women and families in this volatile region. We will carpool to this event. Please call the office by Tuesday, November 29 if you wish to go.

**Servers for November**

**Younger Children’s Sunday School**

We still do not have a permanent person to teach our younger Sunday School class (K-3). We have had two great volunteers (Rymmel Lovell and Susan Stewart) who are covering this class until the first of the year. Could you volunteer for a Month? The curriculum is easy and very flexible. We want to make sure we have programming for this group, we hope some of our parents will volunteer, too.

Additionally, we have had a toddler or two on Sundays and Corliss has been taking them to the Isabella Gray room. There is sound in that room, you will not miss the sermon. It is just supervising playing with the toys. Can you take a Sunday or two? Let Corliss, Rymmel, or Susan know. Thanks.

**Note from the Trustees**

The Trustees work hard to keep our beloved building in tip top shape, but they need some help. The downstairs ramp door has been found open (locked but wide open) more than once. On Sundays, could you help double check the building? Just a rule of thumb;

- Light on? Turn it off
- Water running? Turn it off
- Door open? Shut it.

Thanks!

Date	Greeter	Reader	Coffee Host
11/6	Service	At	Zion
11/13		Raz	Joy
11/20		Rosemary	Potluck
11/27		Traci	Brenda & Dottie

**AFS Grapefruit, Oranges and Pecans On Sale Now!!**

The annual AFS fundraiser is taking orders for boxes of delicious oranges and grapefruit. Price is \$20.00 per box. You can place your order in the church office or by calling Rymmel Lovell at 541-296-6546. Orders are due by November 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Celebrate With Floyd...**

“Do we know Jesus?” That is the wrong question. Does Jesus know us?” is the life giving and soul redeeming question. Most of us don’t have the wisdom to “know” Jesus, but we can celebrate an open faith that gives him access to the darkest corners of our lives.

**The Dalles WARMING PLACE  
needs you!**

**We will open our doors on November 20, 2016 to people in need of shelter from cold from 7pm to 7am and need your help. Volunteer training is available.**

**Contact Ed Elliott at 541-386-5857**

**UCCC's Women's Fellowship News**

The November meeting for Women's Fellowship will be on Monday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in the Isabella Gray room. Our Hostess will be Louanne Starr. We will begin our program with a Breath Meditation. Our program presenters will be Jean Vercooteren and Sher Schwartz. Jean will be speaking on the Ancient Christian Tradition of Prayer and Sher will follow with the Beginnings of Contemplative Prayer. Afterwards there will be a short business meeting. All women of the church are invited to attend. On the last Sunday during Coffee Hour, we will have the drawing for our November Raffle! Tickets can be bought each Sunday: one for a dollar or 6 for five dollars!! YOU must be present to win!

On October 3<sup>rd</sup>, our fieldtrip/retreat to the Trout Lake Abbey was very successful with 14 women attending. We were hoping to have a meeting with the Venerable Kozen Sampson but learned he had to leave to be with a dear friend recently diagnosed with terminal cancer. His student, Debbie, substituted for him. She shared her personal connection to Buddhism and then led us in a Metta Meditation. She also shared that Trout Lake Abbey was named after the original owner whose first name was ABBEY! We did a self-tour of the Abbey, the Mount Adams Zen Center and the Druid Center.

We found it all to be very impressive. After lunch, we used the conference room within the Abbey to have our own presentation on prayer led by Sher Schwartz. She asked the question, "What Does Prayer Mean to You," then gave us about 20 minutes to create our own artistic interpretation of that question using magazines, paper and art supplies. When done we shared our responses to one other person. Though they will be on display at our November meeting, we will wait until May to verbally revisit our creations and share how this year's programs have helped us understand more about prayer. To close our time at the Abbey, we sang two songs accompanied by Sher on her guitar: "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands" and "Kumbaya". We then drove to Trout Lake to visit the Meadow Rock Alpaca Farm. All in all, it was a delightful day. We even had some sunshine and were able to see briefly both Mt. Hood and Mt. Adams in their beautiful glory.

Attention all women of the church: November 4-6 is the date for UCC Pacific Conference's Northwest Regional Woman's Retreat XI at Kah-Nee-Ta Resort with the theme "Let Your Spirit Bloom". Keynote Speaker will be Jane Kirkpatrick. Corliss Marsh, Klea Espy and Adele Barnett will be attending. If YOU are interested in attending, please contact Corliss Marsh.

**November Birthdays**

Mark Poppoff	8
Jada Gay	13
Hew Hillis	21
Barbara Bailey	25
Annadale Rooper	28
Jim Wilcox	29
Bob Krein	29

**November Anniversaries**

Dave and Bonnie Long	16
Floyd and Jean Emerson	28

## **Benefit Concert for VanUCC Fire Fund, Martha's Pantry & WHO**

**Friday, November 18, 2016 at  
7:00 p.m.**

Three area bands are contributing their time and talent to provide an evening of music to benefit the Vancouver First Congregational UCC Fire Restoration Fund, Martha's Pantry and the Winter Housing shelter (WHO).

***Misty Mamas, Fadin By 9 and Doug Smith*** will be appearing in concert on Friday, November 18, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 4300 Main St, Vancouver, WA 98663.

**Tickets will be \$20** at the door and other locations TBD. Check the First Congregational website: [www.vanucc.org](http://www.vanucc.org) for more info.

**Sunday School Youth**

The new school year started off with a pretty regular crew of 6 kids. We have read about strong women in the Bible and the first two miracles of Jesus. We had a really fun Halloween party at Sally's house. Everyone in class has received a copy of Eugene H. Peterson's The Message. We will spend November placing Bible index tabs in our books and learning how to look up famous verses. We have a fabulous Advent play scheduled for December 18. In the meantime, expect to see the kids lighting candles, running around outside, or playing a challenging game in Tenney Hall.

Sally Forster



Decorating sugar skulls at the Halloween party.

**Upcoming Events...**

December 2<sup>nd</sup>--Colonel Wright Teacher's Luncheon.

December 14<sup>th</sup>--Foster Kid's Christmas party and lunch.