



United Church of Christ-Congregational
THE LIGHTED WINDOW
 Celebrating 159 years of faithful service for
 Christ and the Church



April 2017

Sunday Worship Time

10:00am

Children's Class 10:15am

Office Administrator Sally Forster

secretary@uccthedalles.org

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

Pastor

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Pastor's Pen

When I was in grad school, most of my peers were enamored with fly-fishing. They loved to exchange stories of stealth and cunning. They spoke endlessly of equipment, techniques and reading slight breezes on the water. Their enthusiasm was contagious, so when a group of us were headed up to the Wind River Range in Wyoming for a research project, I thought I'd give it a try. Outfitted with a fly rod and hand-tied flies, I waded into the Wind River hoping for fish for dinner. Turns out fly-fishing takes two things I did not possess, skill and a steady hand. I did not so much as catch fish as give them an experience akin to the rapture. One minute they were swimming in a clear mountain stream, the next minute they were flying through the air at a high rate of speed. I caught seven trout that day, they looked windblown.

I took a lot of grief and smirking from my colleagues. They loved to tell the story of my fishing prowess. They seemed to never tire of it. As far as they were concerned, my foray into their elite sport was a total failure. I disagree. What I remember about that experience is the clarity and gurgle of the water, warm sun on my back while standing

in the headwaters of the Wind River under a blue sky. Despite my friends shouting, "incoming", I remember that dome of grace and experienced peace, joy, and the majesty of creation.

The world has strict rules about what is a success and what is not. If we are not paying attention, we may even believe that the world's pronouncements are true, that the world's values are real. As Christians, we know that Holy Week and Easter upend the judgment and values of the world. The powers that be were dead wrong when they thought the crucifixion of Christ ended their problem.

The words of Jesus, "not as the world gives, do I give to you" should be seared into our souls and minds. God does things differently and gives us a covenant, a promise and a resurrected Savior that we might know we are loved, always. Good Friday looks like failure; it looks like death, but God had something else in mind. That something is a new way of being in the world that gives abundant life to all people. We are called to follow in that way and be the witnesses to God's truth in Jesus Christ. Look hard at what you think is failure and death. Hear the whispers of failure, "He is risen. He is risen, indeed." Happy Easter.

ORGAN CRAWL APRIL 23

The bi-annual event returns on Sunday afternoon April 23 from 2 to 5 p.m., 20-minute little concerts at each venue with 20-minute travel time between venues. Start at St. Peter's Landmark, to United Church of Christ Congregational, to Christian Science, to Zion Lutheran, and finish at St. Paul's Episcopal.

Check for flyers in the Narthex.



April pantry item will be fruit.

Because of my mix-up, some fruit was

brought in March. Not to worry, the food bank can use EVERYTHING we collect. Bring your donation to church and feel good about stocking the shelves at the Salvation Army.

Servers for April

Date	Greeter	Reader	Coffee Host
4/2	Yvonne	Rymmel	Janis, Judy, Sue
4/9	Yvonne	Caroline	Miller's
4/16	Yvonne	Cheryl	
4/23		Paula	
4/30		Rymmel	

UCCC's Women's Fellowship News

Monday, April 10th will be our next Women's Fellowship meeting at the normal time of 1:00 p.m. in the Isabella Gray Room. Annabella Lavier is our hostess and Rosemary Ross will be providing the program. Her topic is titled, "Different Ways of Praying." A short business meeting will follow. All women of the church are welcome to attend.

Last month guest speaker, Jill Kiefer from Water's Edge, spoke to us on Health Meditations. She provided us with 3 handouts. One handout defines meditation as "simply non-judgmental awareness or concentration. It consists of focusing one's mind on a repetitive phrase, word, object, action or observing the breath while adopting a passive attitude toward the thoughts, feelings and sensations that intrude into one's mind, setting them aside and returning to the object of concentration."

"Mediation is nearly as old as humanity." "It benefits us by decreasing stress and stress related diseases." Jill had us do a 10-minute meditation. We all enjoyed her presence with us and her informed presentation.

During our business meeting, we finalized plans to send a gift to Sonam Dolma who will be 18 years old on April 15. We have sponsored Sonam through Global Ministries since 2007. She is Tibetan and lives in the Tibetan SOS Children's Village School in Kangra, India. It is also our understanding that she will be graduating from her school this year. We have appreciated our sponsorship of her and her informative letters she sends to us each year.

Joy Krein

Backpack Program Wants and Needs

We need granola bars, soup, individual cereal (hot or cold) and jam. The Dollar store has these items, especially jam and cereal, more affordable than the other stores. We can always use green beans and corn as well. Thank you so much for your contributions, prayers, service and promotion of the program.

You can take the items directly to the First United Methodist Church. They have a drop-off box located near the office door.

May God Bless You as richly as you have blessed us, Glenis Schreffler
541-993-3059

Celebrate With Floyd...
Religious faith helps us distinguish between value and meaning. Some things of little or no monetary value may have great spiritual meaning. Pity the person who has many things of great value, but nothing of spiritual meaning.



- 2—8am Men’s Breakfast
- 4—3pm Church Council
- 5:15pm Diaconate
- 9—Palm Sunday & Baptism
- 10—1pm Women’s Fellowship
- 13—7pm Maundy Thursday service
- 16—Easter worship 10am
- 17—Office closed
- 20—Noon Mission Commission
- 23—Organ Crawl 2-5pm
- 25—5:15pm Trustee’s mtg

A.A. meets:
Mon-Fri 7-8am
Mon & Fri 6-7pm
Sat & Sun 5-6pm
Tues 5:30-6:30pm



April Birthdays

Robert Deckard	4
Barry Frizzell	13
Donna Miller	13
Cynthia Graham	15



Lynn Wilcox and Tom Peachey
Some members of UCCC attended Wednesday’s court proceedings and presented Judge Tom Peachey with chocolate chip cookies as he serves his last week as a Municipal court judge.

Sherman Alexie Is Coming We Have Tickets

Sherman Alexie, a Native American author, is coming to The Dalles as part of the American Indian Cultural Festival. We (UCCC) contributed monies, through our Hanna grant, to help bring this well-known author to speak to our communities' kids. On April 13, he will be speaking to all third graders in six counties. We have been given four tickets to this very special event. We will be raffling off these tickets the first Sunday of April. Interested? All you have to do is put your name in the hat.



Mill Creek Conservation Area

The second event will be held following church service on Sunday, April 30th. Bruce Lumper will lead a hike along the ridge between Mill Creek and Brown's Creek. This area is the Mill Creek Conservation Area. The Columbia Land Trust is the organization that now owns and manages this area. It covers 418 acres and 2 plus contiguous miles of ridgeline. We will carpool from the church to the public access entry just off Cherry Heights Road. The hike up to the ridge is about 1/2 mile. We will then hike to the penultimate view on top of Jerry's Knoll, this is a hike of about 1/2 mile and climb an additional 110 ft. This will be our picnic spot. We will hope for little wind and for the flowers to be out. There should also be migrant birds about. Anywhere we walk should be pretty enjoyable. Folks should bring a pair of binoculars for the birds, cameras for the flowers, a walking stick and a day pack for your picnic lunch and water. Hiking shoes or tennis shoes would be fine. Sunscreen and sunglasses are a good idea.

Randy Stewart

Spring Clean-up!

Please sign-up for one of our many cleaning projects. Sign-up sheets are in the Roberts room, you can complete your task(s) at your convenience. Many hands make light work.



Habitat For Humanity Pizza Feed
Wednesday, April 19th T
4:30-7:30pm at Spooky's
Adults \$13.00
7-12 \$8.00
6 and under \$4.00
You can purchase tickets from
Corliss or at the door.

Faith and Fun will be having
TWO events in April.

Celilo Pow-Wow and Salmon Feast

On Sunday, April 9th, those interested will meet after church service, and carpool to Celilo Village. We will attend the Celilo Pow-Wow and Salmon Feast. The Washat service in the Long House begins around 1 a.m. but will last until about 1 or 2 p.m. This is usually a private affair. The Salmon Feast follows. I hope those who are planning to go were able to attend Jean Vercouteren's program on the Celilo festivities given at the Fellowship of Churches meeting. If you didn't, please ask someone who attended to fill you in.