



United Church of Christ-Congregational THE LIGHTED WINDOW



Celebrating 158 years of faithful
service for Christ and the Church

February 2018

Sunday Worship Time

10:00am

10:15am Youth Education

Office Administrator Sally Forster

secretary@uccthedalles.org

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

Pastor

The Rev. Dr. Deborah J. Allen

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Website- www.uccthedalles.org

Pastor's Pen

Our practice of Lent has changed, in this century, from a solemn and prayerful time of preparation for the Great Feast of Easter, into a time marked by the paraments changing to purple. There are no community wide reminders that we are on thoughtful walk to Easter. Are we done with Lent?

The wisdom of the church has long held that Easter is so important, so powerful, so awesome, that it takes intentional time to prepare our hearts to enter into this high holy day. The church celebrates Christ's resurrection on Easter as God's great "yes" to us. It is our central proclamation that nothing, not even death, defeats God's love for us in Christ. It is hard to wrap our brains around this, so consciously readying our hearts with six weeks of prayer, worship and study has been the rhythm of the church for many centuries. It is faith training in action. The practice has been to make time for this spiritual discipline because it is worth our time.

Our culture will not help with Lent. This season of restraint flies well under the radar of news and social media, or even the awareness of our neighbors. Oh, just before this season, there is the excess of Mardi Gras and the eating of pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, but in our daily living, it is absent. As Christ has told us, that the sabbath is made for us, not the other way around. Maybe that is true for the practice of Lent, as well. It is for our benefit not an archaic religious vestige.

Starting on Ash Wednesday (Valentine's Day this year). Let us put on our discipleship training wheels. Notice the glory of God everywhere, I mean everywhere, and in all circumstances. Look and you will see. Give thanks for the things that add joy and love to your life. Name them out loud. Pray without petitions for wishes. Ask God to come into your heart. Be kind, gentle and helpful everyday. This old world needs this love in action and so do we.

May God be with you in this sacred walk.

Deb

SERVERS FOR FEBRUARY

Date	Greeter	Reader	Coffee Host
2/4	Sue Herring	Paula	Brenda & Dottie
2/11	Nikki	Gene	Joy
2/18	Brenda	Rosemary	Randy & Susan
2/25	Shirley Miller	Dale	Jackie Clark



- 6—5:15pm Diaconate
- 8—BSA Roundtable
- 12—1pm Women’s Fellowship
- 13—4pm Church Council
- 4:30pm-7pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake supper St. Paul’s
- 5-7pm Pancakes at 1st United Methodist
- 19—Office closed President’s Day
- 20—5:15pm Trustee’s
- 27—Pastor Deb on continuing Education trip
- March 4—8am Men’s breakfast

Celebrate With Floyd...

There is no salvation apart from or outside God’s compassion. There is no obedience apart from our outside our own compassion.



February

Birthdays

- Bob Peachey 8**
- Tedd Lovell 10**
- Gene Parker 11**
- Vicki Matthew 14**
- Moses Church 16**
- Jean Vercounteren 17**
- Marissa Miles 18**
- Adele Barnett 26**



February is MEAL-IN-A-CAN month! Please bring your donation to the Roberts Room shopping cart.

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February Anniversaries

- Darrell and Jackie Clark 14**
- Bob and Sue Wilson 26**

Women's Fellowship News

Monday, February 12th, Women's Fellowship will meet at 1:00 pm in the Isabella Gray Room. Caroline Homer will be the Hostess and the Devotional will be given by Corliss Marsh. The program, "A Brief Understanding of the Reformation", will be presented by Rev. Deb. Last month Rosemary Ross helped us understand the differences and similarities between the Pilgrims and Puritans. Eventually the similarities directed some members to merge into Congregationalist. Their polity focused on each individual church governing their congregation instead of having a bishop directing each step. This has brought greater freedom and leadership for the individual congregations even today. Following the program on the Reformation, there will be a short business meeting. All women of the church are welcome to attend. Hope to see YOU there!!

Joy Krein

ANNUAL MEETING – JANUARY 28, 2018 RECAP

Delicious potluck enjoyed by all with an interactive game of "find the person who..." Bingo following. The square "Someone who Tweets" was always a blank as our church doesn't have tweeters. Moderator Annabelle Lavier opened the meeting of 42 attending. Susan Stewart gave financial report on income including special collections. Tedd Lovell spoke to the budget report from Cheryl Ortega showing budget income and expenses balancing at \$134,980. From our UCF invested Church Funds, \$10,000 was used to balance this budget. A motion to move forward to raise \$20,000 in matching funds was approved for remodeling the kitchen. A committee of 5 is being appointed by the moderator for design and details. Remodel will follow same footprint, new interior. Other business included information on Northwest Regional Youth Event happening in Hawaii this year. Annika Baumgarten will be our delegate. Dottie was elected as Moderator for 2018. All committee positions are filled. New members; Tama Bolton, Nicki Lesich, and Adele Barnett stepped forward to be actively involved with Diaconate and Mission. Last, our Member in Discernment for ordination, Raz Mason, is continuing on that path, but for licensure as a Clinical Chaplain. She works as a teacher at Hood River High School and a chaplain part-time and on call at Providence Hospital in Hood River. Raz is also registered as a candidate in District 2 for U.S. Congress.

Rymmel Lovell, Clerk

**Friends of D21 Music Presents..
Pops 'n' Novelty Concert
Dessert Auction and Raffle
Fundraiser
Saturday, February 17, 2018
6:30pm
\$5.00 Admission
The Dalles Middle School Commons**

**Tickets available at
Klindt's Bookstore
Gorge Community Music
At the Door**

WE ARE GETTING A NEW KITCHEN.....

and we need your help. The church kitchen has been fussed with over the years but never had a real



renovation. Now it is time. A very generous person has offered to match donations up to \$20,000 for this project! The Financial Committee is tasked with raising enough money for this project to move forward.

Our Moderator has chosen a five- person Kitchen Design Committee. Church members are invited and encouraged to send their input for this project to this committee in care of the church office.

Members and friends of the church will soon be receiving a New Kitchen Pledge letter in the mail. Please be generous.

Thank You...

From the Columbia Gorge Habitat for Humanity

"Thank you- for coffee hour donations and thank you for all the other things we're able to do because of being located in this church!



WE ARE HOSTING!

The Starling Project

Central Pacific Conference UCC

Today we are launching The Starling Project!

Join the flock by gathering for conversations taking place in Lake Oswego, Boise, Beaverton, Eugene, The Dalles, Portland, Lincoln City, and Ashland.

Find a conversation you can attend The Board of Directors will host in-person conversations around the conference the first three weeks in March. We'll follow-up with several video conferencing conversations in April. We have over 20 conversations planned.

We want to hear your diverse voices -- What you are longing for and what is possible? What are your pressures, needs, hopes, desires and passions for your church community and for us together as UCC in the Northwest?

The purpose of The Starling Project is for the wider community of the Central Pacific Conference to gather together for connection, to discover the strength of the web that connects us, to be surprised by each other and by the holy. What more can we be together? What new shapes might we take?

Want to know more? Check out the project at StarlingProject.Church.

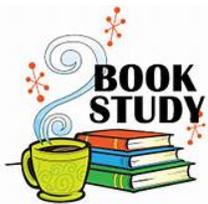
We believe in the power of gathering together and listening for the work of the Spirit among us.

Let's be church together, come and take flight.

**Please join us in The Dalles on
Saturday March 10 at 10AM
The CPC Listening Project**

Travelling with the Saints

From Feb 27-March 12 I will be on a pilgrimage to Italy with the St. James Cathedral Choir from Seattle. The choir will be traveling and giving concerts in Florence, Assisi, Siena, and Rome. They will give a concert for the Pope at the Vatican. I know people in this choir, which is how I got to travel with them. Traveling to Rome with Catholics is going to be an interesting experience, there will be many masses said. While the group is primarily visiting medieval and renaissance sites, we are staying an extra three days to see ancient Roman sites and a trip to Pompeii (a bucket list item). You will be in good hands while I am gone and I'll have a lot to share with you when I return. Ciao.



Beginning Wednesday March 14, the Noon book group will begin. For 4 weeks, we will delve into the fashion world of Muslim

women with the book "Pious Fashion" by Elizabeth Bucar as she defines modesty in the Islamic world. More details will be available at the end of February.

Mission Committee asks for Help



Everyone is invited to join the members of Mission as we assemble 100 bean bags for the 5th grade class of Colonel Wright school. Sewing skills is not required, but if you have a machine and want to bring it-

please do!! Also needed are people who can weigh and fill bags. The bean bags are to be used each year by the 5th grade class when they have a special overnight party in the spring. We will start sewing and stuffing on **Friday, March 2nd**, beginning at 10am in Tenney Hall. We will put the coffee pot on and look forward to seeing you.

Christian Education Update

Logan and Annika Baumgarten are joined each Sunday morning with teacher Sally Forster and her capable assistant Mavi Bonfil. We have spent 4 weeks improving our listening skills. One cannot hear God if one cannot pay attention to simple instructions...

We read from the Book of 1 Samuel and wondered how we would feel if called by God (scared, mostly.)

We are moving on the story of Joseph in the Book of Genesis and how it relates to being a sibling. Joseph had a complicated life and some super weird dreams.

Can you believe the summer camp schedule is already available at the Camp Adams website. Scholarship applications are in the office. Annika plans to attend the Youth conference in Hawaii in June. There will be Sunday school each week except April 1st- Easter.

SHROVE TUESDAY PANCAKE DINNER



Tuesday, February 13th, 5pm—7pm

First United Methodist Church
305 East 11th Street The Dalles

Donations will benefit Heifer International, a charity organization that tackles hunger and poverty by providing livestock to struggling communities.

