



# United Church of Christ-Congregational THE LIGHTED WINDOW



Celebrating 158 years of faithful  
service for Christ and the Church

## April 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

Phone 541.296.2909

Cell phone: 509.499.1294

Email- revdeborahjallen@gmail.com

Website- www.uccthedalles.org

### Pastor's Pen....

Have you ever gone to an event that you didn't want to go to, grumbled about going, dragged your feet getting there, yet had a nice time, anyway? Of course, you have. We all show up at times and places that we would rather be elsewhere. One of those places might even have been church. It just highlights the truth that we don't always know what it is that we really want. Good thing God knows exactly what is the longing of every human heart.

Easter is like that. It might be a bother to come, but it turns out to be just what we needed. Somewhere deep within us is a longing to hear the Good News. Even those who are not church attenders show up on Easter; now that is the power of the resurrection. God calls to all human hearts even if it is only a faint echo heard on our high holy days. We celebrate and honor the response to that call, after all, we too, have grumbled about coming and then been astonished that it was just what we needed. The church has always acknowledged the church visible and

invisible and sometimes we get to see the size and scope of the invisible church. The displays of flowers, the triumphant music, the gathering of families announce the joy of the Good News heard around the globe on Easter Sunday. It is a powerful message that stirs the hearts of the regulars and irregulars. We may even arrive at Easter Sunday and come to church because of habit or tradition, unaware of the compelling and dynamic yearnings. The God who made us and knows the deep longings we harbor within us responds with the very thing we did not know we needed.

That longing is to be loved, valued, treasured, to be safe and belonging to a community. Somewhere deep within us we long to hear the eternal truth and joy of the Easter message. Fear, misery, grief, and death do not last, the love of God for each of us does. God knows what we yearn for and what we need. Come and hear the Good News. See you in church.

May your Easter be a blessed and holy time, *Deb*

**SERVERS FOR APRIL**

Date	Greeter	Reader	Coffee Host
4/1	Randy	Sue Wilson	Wilsons
4/8	Randy	Susan Stewart	Klea Caroline
4/15	Tama	Rosemary	Stewarts
4/22		Rymmell	Brenda Dottie
4/29			



March 28-Apr 5- Sally out of office  
 1—Easter service 10am  
 4—Noon book study  
 9—1pm Women’s Fellowship  
 11—3pm Church Council  
 12—BSA Roundtable  
 16—Rev. Deb out of the office  
 18—3pm Diaconate  
 26-29—Deb out of the office

**Celebrate With Floyd...**

**The cross is a prayer of confession. If you want to know what humankind is like, study the events that led to the crucifixion. The empty tomb is an assurance of pardon. If you want to know what God is like, study the resurrection.**

**AA 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**



April is the month for FRUIT. Please bring your donation to the shopping cart in the Roberts room.

.....

## Women's Fellowship News

Women's Fellowship's April Meeting will be on Monday April 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in the Isabella Gray Room. Our Hostesses will be Patti Thompson and Shirley Miller.

The Devotional will be provided by Rymmel Lovell. Rosemary Ross will provide the program sharing information titled "Sections of the Bible". All women of the church are welcome to attend. At our March meeting Jean Vercouteren provided the program about "Creeds and Covenants". In a handout she stated, "Congregationalists prefer covenants to creeds. The thought was Creeds were tests of faith while Covenants were testimonies of faith held by the whole community. Starting with the Mayflower compact (1620) and continuing through to the UCC Statement of Faith of 1959 the UCC continues the tradition of affirming the faith of the church." Thank you, Jean, for this very informative presentation.

At our March business meeting, one hundred dollars from our treasury was designated towards the Rev. Ann Smith Educational Loan/Grand Fund provided by Central Pacific Conference Women that supports UCC Seminary and lay students and members in need from our conference.

**REMINDER- NO SUNDAY SCHOOL ON EASTER APRIL 1.**



## The Listening Project

In March, our church participated in CPC Starling Project. We hosted about 30 people from Condon, White Salmon, Hood River and The Dalles. In technology free, face-to-face rotating small groups people shared their realities, hopes and visions for the church in their communities, conference and beyond. The rotation of the groups allowed participant to meet new people and hear new ideas throughout the morning. The messages from each Starling meeting will assist the CPC in direction for the future.

## KITCHEN UPDATE

The Kitchen Remodel Committee has been hard at work measuring, drawing, planning, discussing, researching, prioritizing and talking with contractors. Many of the decisions have been made and more will be made soon. While this has been going on, the work crew has been deconstructing. The appliances and cabinets were removed and put on Craig's List for sale. The cabinets, grill/oven and sink have been sold. Lath and plaster has been removed from walls as needed to facilitate plumbing and wiring revision. Once we complete the electrical and plumbing, sheetrock will be hung and painted. Flooring and cabinet/countertop installation, followed by installation of appliances and the new dishwasher system, will come later. We'll keep you posted and you are welcome to come downstairs and view the progress.

The Kitchen Remodel Committee  
Annabelle Lavier  
Tedd Lovell  
Corliss Marsh  
Lyle Miller  
Randy Stewart

## Sacred Lenten Walk

In the February Lighted Window, Rev. Deb in her message, directed us to "put on our discipleship training wheels. Notice the glory of God everywhere, I mean everywhere, and in 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 every day. This old world needs this love in action and so we do we!"

Women's Fellowship took on this challenge. At our March meeting we shared these positive Lenten outcomes in writing:

Visiting outreach to those in need; sense of God being with me always, grateful to be part of this wonderful church and its members as my friends, and our wonderful pastor and her preaching and her wisdom, layman preaching when pastor is out of town, R &R time for our pastor, sunny bright days, bright flowers blooming, fellowship with friends and family, being a participant of The Starling Project, joys such as my pet dog brightening my day, birds gathering in my bird feeder and singing to me, my garden starting to grow, helping a friend in need, forgiving and letting go of hurtful times, joys of family, praying for the safety of my grandchildren and all children in school everyday and everywhere, walking with friends, working with church members and getting to know them better, church workers in the task of demolishing and remodeling the kitchen, helping in organizing a friend's home, every day of Spring with rain and new flowers is truly a gift. This is definitely a grand list of giving thanks to God for things that add joy and love to our life and feeling God's glory everywhere!! Thank you, ladies, for sharing!!



### Thank You!

**We want to thank the congregation for the continued support of the Backpack Program, you are making a real difference in many children's lives. We appreciate the generosity.**

### The Backpack Program