



United Church of Christ-Congregational THE LIGHTED WINDOW



Celebrating 158 years of faithful
service for Christ and the Church

July and August 2018

Sunday Worship Time

10:00am

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....

Since I have been here, I have been appreciative and interested in our sanctuary windows. Their brilliant colors and messages enhance our worship space. The windows tell a story of what was important to the previous stewards of our church.

The scenes in the windows are very comforting. There are no depictions of challenging words, words of caution, or calls to more faithful life; such as the word to the rich young man to give away all he had, Jesus' admonition to let the dead bury the dead, Jesus' proclamation of coming with a sword. or the many instances where Jesus chastises the anemic faith of the disciples. And maybe that is ok, it is called a sanctuary for a reason. The church was built in the 1930s, right after the devastation of dust bowls, stock markets and unprecedented unemployment. People needed comfort and assurance. Hymns that came to us and rose to great popularity in the 1930s were, Morning Has Broken, In the Garden, God of Grace and God of Glory, and Precious Lord,

Take My Hand. We still sing these. When things are falling apart in a spectacular way, we seek the succor and comfort offered in Christ. There are also no depictions of miracles, healing, feeding, transfiguring, or walking on water. People in the 1930s needed practicality and a way to keep going. If we were to buy new windows, what would we choose as our stories, declarations, and images of faith? Interesting question.

Starting in August, I am going to preach a sermon series on the content of our windows. I will not give you a history of the window nor information on who donated or dedicated it. These sermons will be on the theological content of the windows. There will be six sermons, given twice a month (have to leave room for the winds of the Holy Spirit). I will start the first Sunday of August, combining the window of Jesus teaching in the temple, as a boy, and the window in the narthex of Jesus learning from Joseph. Let's celebrate what is right before us every Sabbath.

Grace and Peace to you all, **Deb**

SERVERS FOR JULY/AUGUST

Date	Greeter	Reader	Coffee Host	Special Music
7/1	Yvonne	Annabelle	Lavier	Caroline
7/8			Jackie Darrell	Tom & Sue
7/15				
7/22				Jim Wilcox
7/29				Klea
8/5				

Celebrate With Floyd...

Perhaps we create God in our own image. Harsh unforgiving people will have a harsh unforgiving God. Merciful people will find a merciful God. As you sow, so shall you reap.

**July Birthdays**

Olivia Church	4
Sohaila Church	6
Judy Dinnell	9
Lucile Torgerson	19
Rymmel Lovell	26
Robert Bailey	30
Shirley Ulrich	31
Bonnie Long	22

July Anniversaries

Tom & Sue Peachey	5
Jim & Lynn Wilcox	6

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Randy & Susan Stewart	7
Dale & Pattie Thompson	18
Brenda & Gary Ragar	25
Adele & Ernie Barnett	25
Corliss & Bill Marsh	29

Calendar of Events

July 4—Office closed
 July 8—10am Worship in courtyard
 July 9-12—Office closed
 July 15—Raz Mason preaching
 August 12—11:30am Kitchen Blessing and Potluck
 August 14—3pm Church Council
 August 26—10am Pet Blessing

AA MEETS: Mon-Fri 7-8am
 Mon & Fri 6-7pm
 Sat & Sun 5-6pm
 Tues 5:30-6:30pm



July's pantry item is VEGETABLES. August donations will be BABY SUPPLIES. Please bring your

contribution to the shopping cart in the Roberts room.

Kitchen Update

It all seems to be coming together. Tedd and Lyle wrestled the new refrigerator into the kitchen this week and are installing the wall oven. We are waiting on cabinet base trim and countertops. The new sinks and faucets will be installed when the countertops are put in. Mark Poppoff is installing door and floor trim in a few places. We are also figuring out how to cover the electrical panel in an attractive way. There is still some caulking and touchup painting to be done, but we should be ready for the dedication on August 12th!

The Kitchen Remodel Committee

Annabelle Lavier
Tedd Lovell
Corliss Marsh
Lyle Miller
Randy Stewart



Kitchen Gratitude.....

On March 4th, demolition of our ageing kitchen commenced. Work (free, unpaid, totally volunteer) has been progressing steadily and the end is in sight. It is shaping up to be a beautiful kitchen, one that will serve us for decades to come. We are planning a kitchen blessing and potluck in **August (Sunday, August 12)** but way before that, all of us need to thank our hardworking kitchen committee. Randy Stewart, Lyle Miller, and Tedd Lovell have been tirelessly laboring at demolishing and rebuilding the kitchen. Annabelle Lavier and Corliss Marsh have been vital members in oversight of finances, painting, selection of materials, and the hundreds of small details that arise from a major project like this.

Bob Krein, not officially a member of the committee, but dedicated hours to deconstruction. Please thank and acknowledge this hard and dedicated work of these members. Did I mention for free?

Pet Blessing August 26th

Our yearly blessing of the animals will be Sunday, August 26th.

Look for our banner outside!

Pets need to be leashed or in carriers to attend. No snakes-and hooved animals will be outside. You may bring a photo of your living pet to be blessed if you like.



Pastor Deb has announced her retirement effective November 1st.

Community Backpack Program

Greetings to some very important people in this community.

I have some statistics for this school year for you so prepare to be wowed.

I am breaking this down by school so you can see where the 3,491 bags are distributed.

High School - 483 bags of food
Middle School - 125 bags of food
Dry Hollow - 434 bags of food
Colonel Wright - 432 bags of food
Chenowith - 1703 bags of food
Cross Roads - 314 bags of food.

Looking at the numbers alone isn't very impressive but if you add them up and remember that it is weekly, that's about 103 bags of food each week of school. That's impressive and to think that each bag can feed more than one person for the weekend and probably helps a whole family through the weekend . . . well, that's impressive.

I can't even begin to thank you for coming to my rescue each and every time I asked. We asked for food and we got food. We prayed for money and we got money to purchase food. I asked for gift cards to help the families over Christmas break and you supplied all the cards I needed. On top of all of this we got to spend time with great folks, both young and old, funny and happy, faithful and really faithful and each and every one a special child of God.

Silvia and I talked frequently about the energy that recharged us each week that came from our volunteers. We talked frequently about how you could feel the Holy Spirit at each packing session, see the Holy Spirit at work and be reaffirmed each week that we were a part of something alive and bigger than all of us together.

A huge sincere thank you and a hug to each of you and your groups of workers. Please pass our thanks on to your group and let them know they have been a part of something Holy, huge and very alive. I look forward to September and meeting you again.

Since the pantry is closed for the summer we aren't there to collect food. Please collect the fabric-like grocery bags over the summer and be ready to deliver them in August. I will let you know when we'll be there to meet you. We need about 2000 bags to get through the year so ask your friends to save them for you, too. Donations of money can be sent to the church, just mark Community Back Pack in the memo line and send it to FUMC, 305 E. 11th Street. Have a great and relaxing summer and rest up for the fall!!!!

May the peace of God fill you to the brim!!!

Glenis and Silvia

Thank You..

Dear UCC,

Our group wanted to take a moment to thank you for allowing and providing a place to hold our meetings. We are so grateful and appreciative to your church for this. Our group is significant to the community as we welcome newcomers searching for freedom and better way to live, and you church is key to making sure they have an open door to walk through.

May God bless you and your congregation.

Very sincerely yours,
 Newcomers A.A.

Book Study Revamp!

We are changing the way we do book studies. We will no longer have multi-week meetings to discuss the books. For our next two studies, we ask that you read the book and be prepared to discuss it in one meeting. Our selections have already been made. We will be reading **The Very Worst Missionary** by Jamie Wright, it is in paperback. The second book we will read is **Nomadland** by Jennifer Bruder. This is currently only available in hardback and kindle editions, but supposed to be out in paperback in September.

Our first meeting will be Wednesday, August 29 at noon in the Isabella Gray room to discuss the **The Very Worst Missionary**. If you would like us to order you a book, please let the office know by August 1.

Our second meeting will be Wednesday September 19 at noon in the Isabella Gray room. We will discuss **Nomadland**. Let the office know if you would like us to order you a copy by September 4.

Celebrate Caroline Homer's 45 years as Organist

Caroline Homer has been our organist for 45 years. She is not stepping down, but we could not let this dedication of service and loyalty slip by. We will honor Caroline in worship on September 9 and host a special coffee hour. Plans are still in the making. If you would like to donate to a monetary gift for Caroline, please drop your gift by the office or drop it in the collection plate. Let's show her how much we appreciate her gifts. Mark your calendars.

Time to be a Mentor?

Clay Blunk, from the organization **The Next Door** came and spoke to the congregation on Sunday, July 1 about the opportunity to mentor youth in the gorge.

Children who participate in one-on-one mentoring benefit from:

- Increased self-esteem and social skills
- Better school attendance and academics
- Less substance abuse and delinquency

Mentors are matched with youth based on interests and similarities and meet twice a month for an activity.

If you would like to volunteer or to find out about this program, please contact Clay at 541-296-8118.



Special Sundays

July 8- Church Camp in the courtyard Silly songs and more!



Pastor Deb on Vacation
July 9-15
August 15-24

August 12- Potluck after worship
Kitchen opening and blessing.



Office Closed
July 9- 12
so Sally can paint her house.

August 26- Animal Blessing during worship

