



# United Church of Christ-Congregational THE LIGHTED WINDOW



Celebrating 158 years of faithful  
service for Christ and the Church

## January 2019

### Sunday Worship Time

10:00am

### Pastor

Rev. Dr. Bill Comfort

Phone 541.296.2909

### Office Administrator Sally Forster

secretary@uccthedalles.org

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

Website- [www.uccthedalles.org](http://www.uccthedalles.org)

### From the Interim Pastor

Greetings from Interim Pastor Bill Comfort. It seems like I have been here a long time without writing my thoughts on our time together. I started on December 2, 2019 and now it is the middle of January. It has been a busy time. We had seven worship services during December. Now that we are moving into the ordinary time after Epiphany it is time to talk about the things that will need to happen during the interim process as I see it.

The interim process has five phases which are not necessarily chronological. They are: learn the lessons of the past and let it go, discern who you are as a congregation and who you want to be, finding your strength as lay leaders, healing and strengthening your connections with the Central Pacific Conference and with the UCC denomination, and getting ready for your new pastor.

During the first phase I will be talking to as many of you as I can. These conversations will involve the questions

of how you have experienced the church up to now, how you are experiencing it now and how you would like to experience it in the future. After I have talked to as many people as I can I will write a report that delineates what I see as the issues that need to be worked on for the remainder of the interim. I'm looking forward to talking to all of you. I always learn a lot about the church in these talks as well as making a lot of good friends. I'm coming to talk to you so stand by to be amazed!

Blessings, Bill



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**SERVERS FOR JANUARY**

Date	Greeter	Reader	Coffee Host	Child Care
1/6				
1/13	Yvonne	Tama	Klea & Caroline	Dottie
1/20	Jackie Clark	Caroline	Corliss	
1/27	Yvonne	Sheri	Annual Meeting	
2/3		Rymmel	Jackie Clark	

**Calendar of Events**

Jan 9—3pm Diaconate  
 Jan 14 —1pm Women’s Fellowship  
 Jan 15—2pm Church Council  
 Jan 21—Office closed MLK Day  
 Jan 27—Annual meeting and potluck follows Worship

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

**Noon Book Study**  
**Wednesday, February 6<sup>th</sup>**  
**Isabella Gray room.**

THE FAITH CLUB

A groundbreaking book about Americans searching for faith and mutual respect, The Faith Club weaves the story of three women, their three religions, and their urgent quest to understand one another.

**Books are available at Klindt’s and marked “UCC Book Club”**



**January Birthdays**

**Heather Thompson 4**  
**R.J. Miles 15**  
**Floyd Emerson 22**  
**Helen Thomas 28**  
**Yvonne Hartung 30**

**January Anniversary**  
**Patty and Susan Herring 21**



The December collection was our annual Adopt-A - Family. Over \$900.00 dollars of presents, clothes

and household items was received. January’s pantry item is SOUP. Please help fill the shopping cart in the Roberts room.

**Save the Dates!!!**

UCCC will serve community meals:  
**February 10<sup>th</sup>**  
**May 5<sup>th</sup>**  
**September 15**  
 These are Sunday afternoons. Contact Annabelle Lavier if you would like to volunteer.

## **Women's Fellowship News**

Can you believe it...the new year, 2019, is upon us! Women's Fellowship's next meeting is on Monday, January 14<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 pm in the Isabella Gray Room. Our Hostess will be Annabelle Lavier and the Devotional will be given by Rymmel Lovell. The program will be provided by Joy Krein. She will share her experiences with Nature's treasures. This will draw our attention to one of the 3 Great Loves...the Love of Creation! All women of the church are welcome to attend our meeting whether a member or not. We hope to see YOU there! Our December Soup and Bread Luncheon presented a great turnout and great soups, bread and a birthday celebration with a decorated cake on the very day of Rosemary Ross's 75th birthday. Other December birthdays were recognized as well: Sue Wilson, Betty Dahlberg, Shirley Miller, and Rev. Bill Comfort. Rev. Bill Comfort and his wife, Sheri, were our special guests along with Jenny Loughmiller our program presenter. Jenny shared about her 100 Hearts Project that rolled right into her Million Hearts Project. Her projects are based on Love and Gratitude and her message demonstrates what happens when our perspective is changed when LOVE and GRATITUDE enter in to our thinking and our creative sense. Go to her web-site to learn more: [hundredheartsproject.org](http://hundredheartsproject.org) or [millionheartsproject.org](http://millionheartsproject.org)

The Christmas Church Bazaar was on Sunday, December 9 and again on the 16<sup>th</sup>. We are very grateful for all the participation from YOU with goods and then the purchasing of those goods. This is an all church effort with Women's Fellowship providing the set-up and support. Monies collected (over \$400) will be used to help fund various needs within the church and community. Thank you ALL very much!

It is with great sadness that we will no longer enjoy the richness Sue Wilson has brought to the church and to Women's Fellowship. Her sudden death on December 22<sup>nd</sup> shocked us all. Right before the Bazaar on the 9th and the Women's Fellowship meeting on the 10<sup>th</sup>, Sue made sure all her commitments were taken care of. Cookies for the Bazaar, croissants for the luncheon on the 10<sup>th</sup> right along with all the cards addressed and stamped for Women's Fellowship shut-in outreach when just days before she had been in the hospital. She was also one of the best customers at the Bazaar!! We were very concerned for her and her responsibilities she was feeling compelled to complete. We reach out to her husband, Bob, and their family and express our deepest sympathy and our deepest grief as well. Saying we will miss her is an understatement at best.

## **Mission Moment**

The Mission Committee organized the Foster Children's Christmas party, but over 25 members and friends of the church made it happen. Eighteen foster children and their parent/s participated in the fun, food and festivities under the supervision of DHS. Truly, it was a great success. Corliss Marsh and Joy Krein thank each of YOU for being a strong support for all that was achieved in this good-well endeavor. The enjoyment of Santa Claus, who brought infectious smiles by all in attendance, added to the joy of the event.

Another holiday endeavor organized by the Mission Committee pertained to the success of our church's sponsorship of three families in need during the Christmas holiday. An incredible truck load and car load took all the unwrapped presents to the Salvation Army on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Thanks to all of YOU that gave towards this Christmas giving.

You have blessed three families generously this holiday season. Thanks too, to the assistance of Bob and Joy Krein, Corliss Marsh, Brenda Ragar who provided the extra help to set up and move those presents. We especially want to thank Corliss Marsh for all the outreach she does organizing this project even though it takes all of US, including YOU to make it happen. Again, thank you!

### **Thank You!! And you and you!**

Sheri and I want to thank all of you for the warm welcome we have received at United Church of Christ Congregational. We have rarely felt so pleasantly embraced. Many thanks for the cards, gifts and hospitality. Love, Bill and Sheri.

I have been overwhelmed by the cards and prayers during my recent fall, hospital stay and fortunately quick recovery. I believe that all of the prayers from all of you as well as our friends from all of our journeys have helped boost me through a tough situation. Blessings, Bill

I would like to thank church council and the congregation for the lovely gifts I received in recognition of my TEN years as your secretary. The orchid is beautiful and the dinner certificate for Casa el Mirador was spot on! Thanks so much. In appreciation,  
Sally

### **UCCC Annual Meeting – You Should Attend, here’s why**

The United Church of Christ Congregational of The Dalles Meeting will be held after church on the 27<sup>th</sup> of January. I know that it is tempting to hurry out to start the rest of your Sunday right after church, but you should stay for the pot luck and the

meeting. The Annual meeting is when the business of the church is set in motion. This is the time when you have the opportunity to help shape the kind of church you want in the coming year. The budget for 2019 will be presented and you will be able to see if the things that are important to you are funded for the new year. The slate of officers who will carry out the plan that you and the rest of the congregation put in place will be presented. Finally you will have the opportunity to ask questions about any of the reports from 2018 or about the interim process which has begun as you move toward calling a new pastor. I will be at the Annual Meeting. I hope to see you there.  
Blessings, Bill

### **UCC Great Loves Initiative**

“What is Three Great Loves? It is a call by the UCC to the love of Children, to the love of Neighbor, and to the love of Creation. Our Church is answering that call with our past and recent Foster Children’s Christmas Parties, with our yearly sponsorship of 3 Salvation Army families in need, and our upcoming stories about Creation and how it influences us. Thanks Be to God for all the LOVE we are pursuing. There is definitely more: Under the love of Children: Sponsorship to Camp Adams, Columbia Gorge Peace Village, To YES, and to Colonel Wright School; to the love of Neighbor: Our monthly Shopping cart basket, Klea Espy’s outreach to the Homeless, to our community meal support, and providing building space to AA, Scouts, and Habitat for Humanity, and finally to the Love of Creation: cleaning up the neighborhood, and recycling.