



All Peoples
United Church of Christ
SOJOURNER NEWS

A Central Oregon House Church

Vol XIII, Number 7

July, 2014

ANNUAL WORSHIP/PICNIC JULY 20TH!

THE TRADITION— All Peoples will meet at Hardins place at 10:45 a.m. for a change of venue, worship, good food, great view and the opportunity to eat at APUCC's folding tables and sit on the APUCC chairs.

Here's what to bring:

- A potluck dish—hot or cold. We can keep your contribution hot, cold, or frozen as needed until the service is over and it is time to eat.
We'll provide everything else except possibly your favorite beverage. We'll have coffee, tea, hot water and punch, table service and condiments.
- Your hymnal if, you have one, for worship. There will be extras there for those who need them.

Invite a guest—or two or more! It's summer and visitors abound. If some show up at your house, we'll happily include them. All are welcome!

The open, called congregational meeting will be the final event of the day. Guests who might wish to leave before the meeting should feel free to do so.

PHOENIX CONGREGATION OFFERS SANCTUARY!

When Immigration Custom Enforcement (ICE) refused to extend his stay of removal from deportation, Marco Tulio was determined to find a way to stay with his wife and 4 children. United Church of Christ

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and a number of immigrant rights groups rallied together to support the Tulio family in their time of desperation by accompanying Tulio to submit one more request for a stay of removal. At the same time, Shadow Rock UCC in Phoenix, AZ, offered him sanctuary.



“Marco Tulio is a human being with a beautiful family doing the best he can do,” said the Rev. Ken Heintzelman, pastor of Shadow Rock UCC. “This is the bottom line which motivates the actions of our congregation.”

Heintzelman went on to say, “Marco’s life is caught up in the machinations of a broken system arbitrarily enforcing unjust laws created by bigotry and unfounded fears. The congregation of Shadow Rock United Church of Christ was ready to stand between

Marco Tulio and the system which would rip him away from his family, thus we offer him and his family sanctuary.

“We do not know, nor can we help, every deserving and suffering family that lives under the threat of deportation and devastation, but we do know Marco, his family, and his story,” Heintzelman continued. “We stand with him and act with compassion and justice. All other political, economic, and legal arguments and rhetoric fail in the light of this human family and their need.”

Update - June 26: On Wednesday, June 25, Marco Tulio was granted an order of supervision for one year by Immigration Custom Enforcement, allowing him to stay in the United States with his family.

REMEMBER THE CALLED BUSINESS MEETING—7/20/14

Don’t forget the called business meeting after the annual potluck/picnic at Hardin’s.

It is time to consider finding a larger place to worship . We have been a bit crowded at the Green Plow Coffee Roasters lately.

Business meetings of All Peoples UCC are open to all. All opinions respected!

EDITOR'S NOTE:

Let's begin with an "uber-abridged" story of Jesus and Lazarus (John 11:1-45).

Sisters Mary and Martha, Lazarus and Jesus are all close friends. Lazarus falls ill, dies and is entombed. Four days later, Jesus is called to the tomb, announces that for those who believe, nothing is impossible and calls Lazarus back to life. Many witness the act and become followers.

John's purpose is to show that Jesus' miracle struck fear in the chief priests and Pharisees and potentially in their Roman oppressors. That sets up the decrees that call for Jesus' arrest and trial; that should please the Roman overlords and get that troublesome itinerant preacher out of the way.

John says nothing about the tremendous relief and joy of the close friends over the return of Lazarus to life. But, we assume that Jesus' close friends are fully committed believers and followers.

And such is the case when we, as already committed Christians and followers of The

Way, are faced with a situation that blesses us with great relief.

The recent events surrounding my own sister's lymphoma cancer are a case in point.

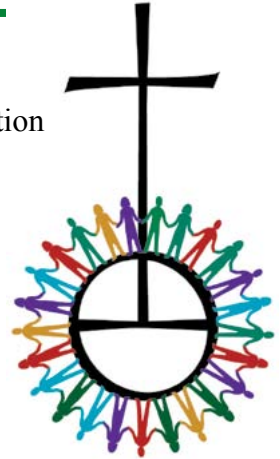
Braced for the worst we have watched her loss of strength and a plunging blood count. Imagine our relief when further tests resulted in a re-diagnosis of the type of lymphoma involved and a change in prognosis and in treatment.

What's a progressive Christian to do?

Our response to situations where great relief is involved should be to recommit. Recommit to the persons most intimately connected to the reprieve. Recommit to living the life of The Way and thrill to the reinvigoration of one's ability to hope and rejoice.

Shalom,

Pris Hardin, Editor



BEND SWELLS WITH “PRIDE”

This year’s Pride Festival took place in Drake Park near downtown Bend. It was full of color, sound and general exuberance. All Peoples shared space in the Community of Welcoming Congregations (CWC) booth. Volunteers savoured the diversity and fun. Nancy and David Cook, Bill and Pris Hardin, Laurie Power, Dean and Sue Flory and others rotated through providing conversation and church brochures to visitors. To all who staffed the booth, “Thank you.”



Photo by Nancy Cook

PRESBYTERIANS (USA) VOTE TO DIVEST!

In a highly controversial vote the Presbyterian church (USA) passed a resolution calling for to divest \$17 million from three companies that participate in the Israeli occupation of Palestine—Caterpillar, Motorola Solutions, and Hewlett-Packard. These corporations have stood with the Israelis and against the Palestinians in the terrible battle for Palestinian independence.

The history of divestment in corporations supporting the apartheid regime in South Africa stands as witness to the potential effectiveness of divestment. Congratulations to the Presbyterian Church (USA) for taking their bold stand.



UCC DECLARED OPEN AND AFFIRMING NINE YEARS AGO

The recent ruling allowing same-sex marriage in Oregon was long in coming for the UCC. What an anniversary present for Oregon UCCers!



Nine years ago the picture was very different. The United Church of Christ was the first mainline Christian denomination to stand up for equal rights for the LGBT community. The position cost this denomination of 5,200 churches more than 250 congregations.

The Rev. J. Bennett Guess, the first openly-gay national officer and executive minister of the United Church of Christ, writes, “What I remember most vividly after the 2005 vote were the tears, both in joy and in anger. And, since we are a church that was born out of a radical, even zealous, commitment to Christian unity—with the

prayer of Jesus, “that they may all be one,” as our unifying motto—a hefty amount of our raw emotion centered around the now-uncertain nature of our ecumenically-formed denomination.”

All over the nation, particularly in the Bible-belt states, UCC congregations pulled away. North Carolina alone lost 70 of its 225 churches in just 18 months.

Now, we all rejoice, along with the Rev. Guess, that we are witness to a cultural shift of major proportions involving religion. Our deep gratitude goes out to all those who have gone before to bring about this change.

REPUDIATING THE DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY!

Celebrate what is going on in the South Dakota conference of the UCC.

The South Dakota Conference of the UCC has transferred nine of 11 tribal land parcels on which UCC churches are located, mostly throughout the eastern portion of the state, to the Dakota Association of tribes

The deeds to the church lands were held by the mission organizations of the

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denominations that preceded the UCC and were transferred to the South Dakota Conference after the UCC was formed in 1957. The conference held those deeds for decades “in trust” on behalf of the Dakota Association.

Two building blocks paved the way for the tribal land transfer from the conference to the Dakota Association.

1. Sacred Conversations on Race resources and
2. A 2013 General Synod resolution to repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery.

As for the General Synod resolution, it passed in early July 2013 and called the church to repudiate the Doctrine of Discovery and restore seized lands to their rightful owners. The Doctrine of Discovery, which originated out of Christian Europe in the 1400s, was a way to assert a right to claim indigenous lands, territories, and resources on behalf of Christendom, and to subjugate native peoples around the world – including Native Americans in the U.S.!

CRISIS INTERVENTION TRAINING

Jericho Road invites all who serve at Jericho Table to a special Crisis Intervention Training (CIT) session at the Community Presbyterian Church in Redmond on Tuesday, July 8th at 1:30 p.m. The training is expected to last one hour. Trainer will be Eileen Flory of the Bend Police Department. A second hour of training will follow at a future date.

While All Peoples volunteers have not faced an altercation between diners or between diners and volunteers, apparently some have. Knowledge of how to react safely and effectively could diffuse the situation. And, the training might be of value in other events in our lives.

A WIN FOR HOBBY LOBBY...

a loss for religious freedom. The American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) characterized last week’s Supreme Court decision in *Sebelius v. Hobby Lobby Stores, Inc.* as a double-edged disaster. It conjures up fake religious freedom rights for corporations while being blind to the importance of birth control to America’s working women.

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The ACLU wrote, “The justices have set a dangerous precedent. While the Obama administration may arrange for the government to provide contraceptives, a future administration could easily take that away. In years to come, many women may find their access to birth control hanging by a thread.”

FOCUS ON SEPARATION OF CHURCH AND STATE

Americans United for Separation of Church and State works to defend the Constitutional wall of separation. One case on which they recently spoke out took place in the City of Huntsville, AL. The city council traditionally opens their meetings with prayer. Blake Kirk had been invited to pray to open the meeting on June 26th, but then was UN-invited over concerns that his faith perspective was Wiccan!

The Rev. Barry W. Lynn, executive director of Americans United spoke out. “That decision was plainly unconstitutional.” Sometimes, Open-and-Affirming means speaking out for a minority in the face of religious bigotry.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

July Jericho Table volunteers:

7/7 — Sue and Dean Flory and Melanie Feilzer

7/14 — Fran Davis, David and Nancy Cook,
and Melanie Feilzer

7/21 — Laurie Power, Liz Douville and
Melanie Feilzer

7/28 — Liz Douville, Mike Lovely and
Melanie Feilzer

And, don’t forget our monthly “evening out” at The Dawg House II following the last Jericho Table service on July 28th at about 6:15. The exuberant hospitality we enjoyed last Monday at our first group visit to the place pepped up all who attended.

Thanks, Dawg House II staff !

JUNE MISSION DONATIONS ...

went to:

Saint Vincent de Paul—

Bend (\$55) and

Redmond (\$25),

The Bethlehem Inn (\$125),

Jericho Road (\$30), and

an exercise machine for Ruth Locke (\$225). Keep on pedaling, Ruth.

JULY WORSHIP PLANS

All Peoples UCC worships the first and third Sundays of the month at 11 a.m. Bible study meets from 10 to 10:45 a.m. **APUCC's WORSHIP SITE**— Meeting room of The Green Plow Coffee, 436 SW 6th St., Redmond.

FINDING GREEN PLOW COFFEE

- **Traveling through Redmond** on Hwy 97, turn west on Evergreen Ave. Parking directions follow.
- **Traveling east** from Sisters on Hwy 126 turn left on 5th St. and go north one block to Evergreen. Parking directions follow.
- **Park** in the lot on the NW corner of 5th and Evergreen Ave. Enter the back of Green Plow Coffee through the parking-lot entrance, **OR** park on 6th Street in front of the coffee shop and enter the front door.



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Please join us for worship every first and third Sunday.

Sunday worship is at 11 a.m.

For additional information and location/date
of the next worship service,
email the above.

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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

July 6th—At Green Plow Coffee Roasters
11 a.m. Worship—Sue Flory

Sue asks you to bring your “Sing”
song book if you have one.

10 a.m. Karen Armstrong video on
compassion followed by discussion

July 20th—**ANNUAL PICNIC**—

At Hardin’s—1824 NW Kesley Lane,
Terrebonne; call 541-504-4723 for
directions

11 a.m. Worship—Bill & Pris Hardin

In recognition of the picnic agenda,
there will be **no Bible Bookworms**.