



All Peoples
United Church of Christ
SOJOURNER NEWS

A Central Oregon House Church

Vol XIII, Number 9

September, 2014

CPC SUPPORTING WEBINAR TRAINING FOR APUCC TEAM!

The Central Pacific Conference (CPC) has agreed to sponsor a 3-person team from All Peoples for webinar training from the Center for Progressive Renewal (CPR). Conference funding comes from the budget of the Local Church Ministries team. Thankyou, CPC. Kathi Bumblis, Nancy Cook and Laurie Power will engage in several weeks of one-hour sessions about Church Renewal. The congregation hopes for valuable ideas emerging from the experience.

In addition, Nancy Cook and Pris Hardin are combining skills to construct a web site for the church with occasional guidance from Gayle Dee, CPC IT consultant. Watch for the site soon under a new domain name.

POVERTY DENIERS MISSING THE FACTS!

A recent statistical presentation on Truth-Out.org disabuses some of the claims of current “poverty deniers.” The United States stands out as carrying the highest poverty rate in relation to the richest people.

- In 2013, last year’s entire welfare budget did not equal the investment earning of just two American millionaires.
- Last year, the total cost of SNAP, WIC (Women, Infants, Children), Child Nutrition, Earned Income Tax Credit, Supplemental Security Income, TANF, and Housing, was not equal to the total investment income of just 400 of the famous 1% of America’s richest people.

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- And, last year, the total investment income of the 1% exceeded the cost of Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and the entire safety net!

More figures: • Over the last 6 years, the median American family's \$100 meant for food, rent and medical care shrank in value to \$57.

- And, over one third of Americans have been reported to collection agencies since they could not keep up with their bills.

- More depressing: two-thirds of all food stamp (SNAP) participants are children, elderly or disabled.

- And, in 2012, nearly half of retirees had fewer than \$10,000 in savings. That placed them in the official category of "economically vulnerable."

The article concludes: "Too many rich people have removed themselves from a society that they no longer care to understand."

A Proverb to Ponder

"Charity sees the need, not the cause."

—*German Proverb*

NOTES FROM UCC NATIONAL

- September 21-27 is the World Week for Peace in Palestine and Israel. Congregations and individuals around the globe who share the hope of justice shall unite during the week to take peaceful actions, together, to create a common international public witness. Join people of faith worldwide in calling for a just peace under the 2014 theme "Let My People Go!" Sponsored by the WCC's Palestine Israel Ecumenical Forum.

- These are challenging times for our local communities, our country, and the world. More and more people are withdrawing from



engagement in the political process out of a growing sense of cynicism and mistrust. Now, more than ever, your voice and your efforts are needed.

As people of faith, we can play a unique role in this election. Learn how—download our toolkit, check out our recorded seminars, and start thinking about how your congregation can engage in the 2014 elections!

EDITOR'S NOTE:

A few weeks ago, our worship service focused on the subject of compassion. Lately, your editor has been experiencing more subjective lessons on compassion.

Many of you have experienced painful lower back problems. Now, it is my turn. By afternoon every day walking is very painful even with painkillers at work.

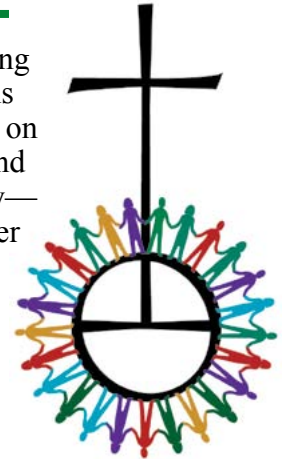
Waiting on a bench in front of Fred Meyer last week, I watched the parade of younger, healthy customers entering and exiting the store and felt a twinge of self pity. Those folks stepped along without even thinking about the ease with which they walked. I, on the other hand, was waiting for Bill to bring the car around so I could hobble over to it and painfully climb in.

But, soon, at the doctor's office, my self pity bit the dust; severely crippled patients filled the chairs in the waiting room and I felt ashamed of my momentary lapse. Compassion becomes vivid when, however lightly, one experiences the dilemma of those with whom one shares a problem.

That's why it is so frustrating to hear wealthier Americans express contempt for those on welfare, the unemployed and people with food insecurity—the “one percent” may never have experienced those problems. Likewise, those who have never walked around wearing black or brown skin have no idea what that day-to-day fear of discrimination and victimization can become. Furthermore, unless we walk in their shoes, how can we understand, the contempt often imposed on those who are LGBT, handicapped, mentally ill, poverty-stricken, or other “different” people.

A review of life experiences often brings up memories of becoming friends with those experiencing contempt, disrespect or unfair treatment; that heightens one's compassion. That is why we, as progressive Christians, are called to befriend as many people of different life stories as possible.

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Whether we are serving a meal to the hungry and homeless or reaching out to the frail and handicapped, compassion steps up and pushes us toward being service-oriented Christians. Reach for experiences in empathy and grow toward a more abundant life.

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

See You at the Dawg House II—The last Monday of the month, Sept. 29, APUCC friends gather for fun and supper at Redmond's Dawg House II restaurant, 507 SW 8th St, in Redmond. The staff reserve a special area and give great service. In September, we gather at 6:15 to allow our volunteers time to complete their Jericho Table duties and join us.

Mission giving in August came from two sources. Church budget: The Bethlehem Inn—\$125, Jericho Road—\$50.

Congregants: St. Vincent de Paul in Bend (\$55) and in Redmond (\$25), Jericho Road (\$30) and Church World Service (\$30).

Another Opportunity for sharing: Can you donate some condiments to Jericho

Table (JT)? Salad dressings, mayo, catsup, mustard, packets of sugar, salt, pepper, and dry creamer are welcomed. These items will be available for JT use any night that the meals are served. Take gifts, labelled for JT, to the kitchen during JT service hours, M– F, 4:30–6 p.m. OR, bring non-refrigerated items to church for the next day's volunteers to deliver. See schedule below.

Jericho Table servers for September are:

Sept. 8—Nancy & David Cook and
Melanie Feilzer

Sept. 15—Nancy & David Cook and
Melanie Feilzer

Sept. 22—Dean & Sue and
Melanie Feilzer

Sept. 29—Mike Lovely, Judy Morgan and
Melanie Feilzer

RUTH LOCKE'S NEW ADDRESS!

Follow the of Ruth Locke's recovery means we all need her newest address:

Ruth Locke

The Heights of Redmond

3000 SW 32nd Street, Apt. 207

Redmond, OR 97756

Her cell phone number is still:541.279.1940

SEPTEMBER WORSHIP PLANS

All Peoples UCC meets to worship the first and third Sundays of the month at 11 a.m. Bible study meets from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Worship in September will be in the Juniper Room, at Redmond's St. Charles Hospital

FINDING ST. CHARLES HOSPITAL IN REDMOND

- **From the north**—From Hwy 97 reroute in Redmond, right on Larch; first left on Canal, right on Kingwood, 2nd right into parking lot.
- **From the south**—coming north on Redmond Hwy 97 reroute, exit left at Glacier, right on 5th all the way north through town to Kingwood, right on Kingwood, go 1.75 blocks, and turn left into hospital parking lot.
- **From west** on Hwy 126, left on 5th and follow southside directions to hospital.
- **Finding the Juniper Room**—Enter the hospital at the main entrance or the next door on the left. Go left down hall and then right to the first room on left, right across from the rest rooms.



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- Sept. 7th**—11 a.m. Worship—
Bill & Pris Hardin
10 a.m. Laurie Power leads discussion of
Chaps. 7–9 of Zealot, by Reza Aslan.
- Sept. 21st**—
11 a.m. Worship—Welcoming guest pastor
Rev Tara Wilkins
10 a.m. Nancy Cook leads discussion of
Zealot, Chaps. 10–12

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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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