



All Peoples  
United Church of Christ  
**SOJOURNER NEWS**

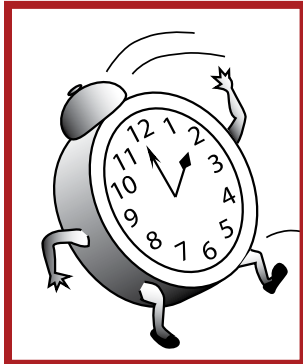
A Central Oregon House Church

Vol. XVI, Number 11

November, 2016

## **BEING THE BODY OF CHRIST TAKES TIME AND ENERGY!**

In one of the small group discussions at the Central Pacific Conference annual meeting in Pendleton, I mentioned that APUCC had asked members to list the “non-UCC” charitable organizations in which they served. The ensuing APUCC lists were heart warming and broad in scope.



To my surprise, the Pendleton discussion group embraced the idea and said their congregation had never approached the subject. Most indicated that they would return home

and urge their home congregations to honor their members’ wider service, too.

At our APUCC “Last Monday of the Month” fellowship gathering in Redmond, conversation turned to the community activities of two representative organizations (Jericho Road and the Crooked River Ranch Lions Club). We pause to honor the good work that APUCC members are doing as part of those organizations

Jericho Road, is an ecumenical organization serving Redmond-area needy and homeless. APUCC contributes to the work of the organization. So do APUCC members who serve in the Board of Directors: Sue Flory and recently, David Cook. We thank them for their work and for the hours they contribute

**Nov. 6–Fall back 1 hr.!**

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- **Jericho Table** provides hot meals 4 nights a week to the hungry. Thursday nights at the Jericho Table location become very busy as the following services are all available there. THURSDAY NIGHTS include—

- **Hot showers** in a mobile shower truck,
- **Housing Assistance** applications received for short term aid in securing rental shelter,
- **Medical aid** through the mobile Mosaic medical office,
- **Thrive** provides aid in securing referrals to mental health care.

In addition to the Thursday night weekly services—

- **Backpacks** of food go to the public schools to help “food insecure” children and their families through the weekend.

The Crooked River Ranch Lyons Club, the largest in the state, serves most of central Oregon with vision screening of all school kids. Dean Flory has traveled far and wide as a part of this valuable program.

Referrals to local optical professionals are a part of the service. In addition, the Lions Club provides financial assistance to kids who qualify for help in obtaining the needed service of professionals. One measurable benefit of this ongoing program is visible in the smaller number of children identified each year in need of referrals!

## **2015-16 Central Oregon Vision Screenings**

<b>Prineville Schools</b>	<b>Students Screened:</b> 1,162
	<b>Referrals:</b> 116
	<b>% Referred:</b> '16 10.0%

<b>Redmond Schools</b>	<b>Students Screened:</b> 3,199
	<b>Referrals:</b> 271
	<b>% Referred:</b> '16 8.4%
	'15 8.6%

<b>Bend-LaPine Schools</b>	<b>Students Screened:</b> 5,327
	<b>Referrals:</b> 390
	<b>% Referred:</b> '16 7.3%
	'15 7.3%

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<b>Warm Springs K-8 Academy</b>	<b>Students Screened:</b>	<b>545</b>
	<b>Referrals:</b>	<b>127</b>
	<b>% Referred:</b>	<b>'16 23.3%</b> <b>'15 20.1%</b>
<b>Metolius ES</b>	<b>Students Screened:</b>	<b>285</b>
	<b>Referrals:</b>	<b>38</b>
	<b>% Referred:</b>	<b>'16 13.3%</b>
<b>Burns Schools</b>	<b>Students Screened:</b>	<b>377</b>
	<b>Referrals:</b>	<b>38</b>
	<b>% Referred:</b>	<b>'16 10.0%</b>
<b>Sherman Co. Schools</b>	<b>Students Screened:</b>	<b>123</b>
	<b>Referrals:</b>	<b>8</b>
	<b>% Referred:</b>	<b>'16 6.5%</b>
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<b>Totals</b>	<b>Students Screened:</b>	<b>11,018</b>
	<b>Referrals:</b>	<b>988</b>
	<b>% Referred:</b>	<b>'16 8.9%</b> <b>'15 8.4%</b>

We thank the Florys for their continued service to our community and beyond. In the future, Sojourner News will honor more APUCers for their outreach service. ▲

The Dalai Lama says...  
“The whole purpose of religion is to facilitate love and compassion, patience, tolerance, humility, and forgiveness.”

## “ESTABLISHMENT CLAUSE” UNDER THREAT

Kentucky Governor Bevin recently told a group of lawmakers that they shouldn't sweat the federal tax law prohibiting tax-exempt houses of worship from formally endorsing or opposing political candidates.

Next, we learn that the Governor is just a step ahead of a parallel project. Donald Trump and Jerry Falwell have teamed up in an effort to pass legislation that would go against the U.S. constitution. They want to make it legal for houses of worship to formally endorse or discourage worshipers from voting for electoral candidates without the threat of losing their tax exempt status.

Depending on the outcome of the vote on November 8, expect such legislation to be proposed.

Whether such a bill would be offered directly as a constitutional amendment or simply as ordinary legislation, subject to Supreme Court action is unclear. But, the prospect adds more pressure to the question of who will be in a position to make nominations to the Supreme Court the outcome next week's elections ▲.

## MODERATOR'S MUSINGS

The story goes that when Jesus was only 10 or 12 years old, he vanished from the group of Nazareth-bound family and friends walking home following the Passover celebrations in Jerusalem. He stopped off to talk with scholars and leaders of the great temple. The boy asked probing questions and entered into intelligent discussion with these learned men. The wise men and scholars of the temple were amazed by his perspicacity and clear interpretations of the scriptures. They marveled that Jesus possessed great wisdom and character at such an early age.

Fast-forward roughly two decades to the time when Jesus began his ministry to people instead of to wood chips and shavings.

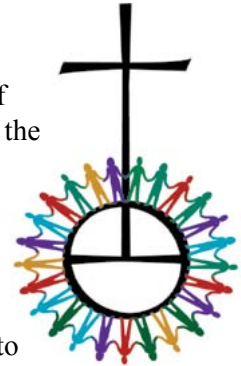
Luke 4:16–24 recounts how Jesus “came out” to his home synagogue. After reading the Messianic prophecy of Isaiah from the holy scroll, he proceeded to announce that **HE** was the very savior Isaiah had foretold. The home folks wondered at his claim. But as he explained the details of his mission, they reacted with anger and violence. They seized Jesus and

ushered him to a nearby cliff intending to throw him over the precipice! Mysteriously, the scriptures do not explain how he magically turned, walked safely back through the angry crowd to freedom and went off to Capernaum to continue his ministry.

Are there parallels between this story of Jesus’ early character, his judgment by hometown neighbors and modern, 21<sup>st</sup> century folks?

In a few days, the strangest election that most of us can remember could yield numerous leaders whom we may judge to be inadequate, ill-prepared and/or lacking in character.

Even before the voting has completed, people are wondering how to explain the potential failures of the process. Where might the fault lie? Is the democratic system to blame? Are highly qualified candidates unwilling to stand for election? Or, could it have been poor judgment on the part of voters.



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Consider some parallels. In both instances, the protagonists felt called to participate. In both instances, locals believed that they were qualified to judge the protagonists. In the Biblical account, reactions were immediate and forceful following the announcement.

We do not know how Americans will react to tumultuous election results. Pray that our better angels will prevail, subduing violent impulses and coming together to keep our nation and it's populace safe. Let us work to heal rifts and build bridges between factions in healthy and lasting ways.

Pris Hardin, editor

## **THE STANDING ROCK SIOUX NATION CONTINUES TO CALL FOR SUPPORT**

Note that among those who have heard the call to help are leaders from the Christian tradition who have been participating in the DAPL protests, and are now calling on their fellow clergy to join them in whatever ways they can. The million member [United](#)

[Church of Christ \(UCC\)](#), [reports that help is on the way](#):

A coalition of clergy, including UCC ministers, are converging on the Standing Rock Sioux Reservation on the banks of the great Missouri River, called by an Episcopal priest who serves the community. Fr. Joseph Floberg has reached out to interfaith friends to come stand with environmental advocates and the people of more than a hundred Tribal nations, in protection of the water and sacred lands, against the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL). He says,

“We will gather to stand witness to water protector’s acts of compassion for God’s creation, and to the transformative power of God’s love to make a way out of no way,” Floberg writes in [an internet invitation](#).

“I have been serving 25 years as the supervising priest of the Episcopal churches of Standing Rock in North Dakota. In recent days, the repressive power of the state has increased: armed riot police are guarding ongoing pipeline construction, increased arrests and repression of non-violent prayerful action.”

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**To all people of faith and conscience, we invite you to also take a stand of solidarity through the following actions:**

- 1—[Send a message to elected officials to call for an end to the militarized reaction of law enforcement agencies in response to nonviolent water protectors.](#)
- 2—Educate yourself and help educate others by sharing [the letter of Chairman Archambault.](#)
- 3—Make your commitment part of your faith practice. Make an upcoming Sunday a Standing Rock Sunday. Preach with Standing Rock, pray with Standing Rock, and act with Standing Rock. Wherever you are, join in solidarity with the persecuted and the jailed. ▲

### **AVOID “NO DAPL” SCAMS**

Sue Flory warns that unscrupulous scammers are making money using false offers and claims. A partial scammer list follows:

<https://www.facebook.com/NativeAmerican-Days/...>

<https://m.facebook.com/Native-Americans-208032332862704/>

<https://m.facebook.com/nativeamericancher-okeee/>

<https://m.facebook.com/NativeAmerican-Chiefs/>

<https://m.facebook.com/Native-American-Indian-Chiefs-16684.../>

<https://www.facebook.com/IndigenousPeople.America/...>

<https://www.facebook.com/proudtobeana-tiveamerican/...>

<https://www.facebook.com/NativeAmerican-Indians/>

<https://m.facebook.com/Native-American-Wisdom-177983870228.../>

<https://m.facebook.com/WeLoveNative/>

<https://m.facebook.com/FirstNationPride-Com/>

## **11TH ANNUAL HOEDOWN FOR HUNGER!!!**

**Saturday, Nov. 5th, 3–6 p.m.,**

Bend’s Community Center, 1036 NE 5th St.

Our own Milly Whately and her band will entertain early in the program (so we can get home before dark!) Eat all the chili and fixin’s you want PLUS delightful desserts!

## **HELP FEED THE HUNGRY!**

## **NO END IN SIGHT TO THE FLINT WATER CRISIS**

*The following are excerpts from an article by the Rev. Deb Conrad who serves as the pastor for Woodside Church in Flint, Michigan.*



Who would have thought we'd still be dealing with this? It has been about two and a half years since the water was switched, precipitating the poisoning; it has been more than a year, now, since Dr. Mona Hanna-Attisha announced to a room of government officials, activists and journalists that there was indeed something wrong with the water.

In that time, we've had state promises, federal sympathy, the world's attention. But too few new pipes. ... we still don't have water we can trust. We still seek out distribution centers, still deal with filters, still deal with health effects, and still wait for another shoe to drop,

Then, the next shoe. In our mistrust of water, we are neglecting proper hygiene. So there has been an outbreak of shigellosis, a bowel thing that feels about as pretty as it sounds. Diarrhea... abdominal pain or cramps, fever. And it is quite contagious. To help us stay safe, our church ordered free-standing hand-sanitizer stations for the lobby, the nursery and the parlor. Hand sanitizer isn't the only recent development for Woodside. There's also bottled water... We have now established our "safe water" stations here at

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Woodside, with water free to any who want to come and get it. And we're providing larger bottles folks can fill. Our hope is that our community will reuse these bottles, and we'll help reduce the plastic the earth and its oceans are struggling to digest.

Early in the crisis, Woodside became the point person in Flint, the "steward" for the generosity of churches throughout the American Baptist Churches and the United Church of Christ. These, our brothers and sisters, have continued to send gifts, to keep us in mind and in prayer, to offer their help, to lobby in whatever ways they can, not only for our city, but for safe water for all the world's people. (You'd think it would be a no-brainer that water is a human right, but there are some really powerful people who make their money off the water needs of the world, who aren't willing to concede that.)

The end will come, eventually. Water will be better, and we'll drink again. Woodside Church continues to support each other, to offer ourselves in service of others, and to give thanks for the care of folks from around the world. ▲

## **JERICHO TABLE IN NOVEMBER**

Volunteers who will assist with serving meals to the hungry this month are:

- 11/7 Bill and Pris Hardin
- 11/14 Evelyn Doherty and Gloria Olson
- 11/21 Gerry Soto and Kathi Bumblis
- 11/27 David and Nancy Cook. ▲

## **SIGN UP FOR THE AGING AND SPIRITUALITY NEWSLETTER**

All Peoples is in a position to be fully engaged in the work of the Central Pacific Conference's Aging and Spirituality team.

The recently formed group is able to offer its newly minted newsletter but you must agree to receive it— it IS free.

Log in to: <http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=c1fab9f89ecab71f0d3f77c3&id=a91d19e5af&e=7546633af5>

The Aging and Spirituality Network envisions old age as the transformative stage of spiritual development, fostering greater understanding and support within the CPC, resulting in more social responsibility in our communities.

**Join us as we explore this time of life together** ▲



## NOVEMBER WORSHIP PLANS

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

### 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, 3rd 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 the hospital parking lot.
- **From east or west** on Hwy 126, go north on 5th and follow south-side directions.
- **Finding the Juniper Room**—Enter at the main entrance or the next door on the left. Go left to the end of the hall and then right to the first room on left, opposite the rest rooms.



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

**Nov. 6th**—11 a.m. Worship: Liz Douville  
10 a.m. Discussing “Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha and Mohammed Cross the Road?” by Brian McLaren, Final two chapters. Laurie Power leading.

**NOV. 20th**—

11 a.m.—Worship: Fran Davis  
10:a.m.—Discussing the Advent season ahead. Laurie Power leading..

### SOJOURNER NEWS

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Please join us every first and third Sunday for  
worship at 11 a.m.

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

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