



All Peoples
United Church of Christ
SOJOURNER NEWS

A Central Oregon House Church

December, 2016

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Alert, Active Christians on Duty

One arm of the UCC is located in Washington, DC. The UCC Office of Communication (OC) advocates for media justice when regulations impinge upon fairness. UCC OC's *Cheryl A. Leanza* posted the following article:

We have been contemplating next year's work after this month's presidential election—taking seriously our obligation to find the common humanity in all people and, at the same time, to raise loudly our prophetic voice for justice.

In communications policy here in Washington, we do not know what will occur next year: we are still learning about the people President-elect Trump will appoint to help him run his administration. But we have identified **three serious threats**:

- **Media concentration.** The Federal Communications Commission or Congress could permit a single company to own multiple local TV and radio stations as well as the local daily newspaper in big cities and small towns across the country.
- **Net neutrality for an open internet.** Our Faithful Internet campaign demonstrated that all people and organizations in the U.S. rely on the Internet to build networks, organize and raise much-needed funds. These rules could be rolled back by the new Congress or

Continued next page

Continued from page 1

simply not enforced at the FCC, meaning slow lanes for those who cannot afford to pay.

- **Prison phone rates.** Because the rules stopping predatory rates are under legal attack by the prison phone companies, they could be vulnerable to changes by a new FCC leadership.

You can help! Take these three steps now:

1. Make recurring contributions to organizations led by people of color fighting for media justice and accountability. In the media justice space, we recommend: The [National Hispanic Media Coalition](#), [ColorofChange.org](#), and [Center for Media Justice](#).

2. Engage in civil conversations online and over the holiday. Can you post in a way that opens hearts and minds, listens to others, and also stands up for what you believe is just?

3. Support our work in Washington with a [recurring donation to OC Inc](#). At this time, we need your support more than ever.

God Bless!

Cheryl A. Leanza ▲

MAKING SOLIDARITY VISIBLE

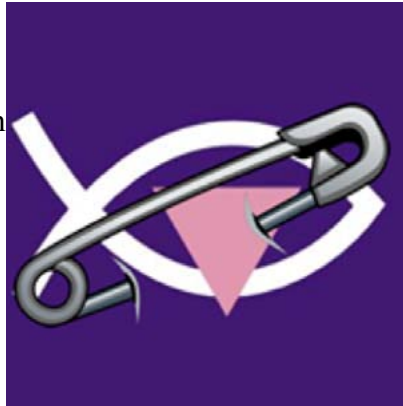
While Supreme Court rulings protecting marriage between same sex couples will be hard to reverse, it is not unforeseeable that it may be challenged and reversed in the future. UCC national leaders, however, fear for the transgender community since, in many states there are no laws safeguarding such folks. AND, Trump appointees can wield more power since transgender protections are the result of Executive Orders or expanded interpretations of existing statues by the Justice Department.

Originating with the Brexit vote in Great Britain, protesters signaled their solidarity by wearing a safety pin. Now, that simple sign has crossed the Atlantic in the interest of fairness against groups suffering discrimination. The Rev. Ron Buford, father of the God is Still Speaking movement and now pastor of the Congregational Community Church of Sunnyvale, UCC, Sunnyvale, Calif. says, “I wear a safety pin AND a comma to show that I stand with the teachings of the Stillspeaking God who requires love, hospitality, and kindness to all immigrants, refugees, and

Continued from page 2

anyone else threatened by hate and fearmongering as condemned in the sacred Jewish, Christian, and Muslim texts.. God is still speaking, calling us all to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God and **ESPECIALLY** all those most vulnerable in our midst—whether they are strangers or our estranged brothers and sisters.”

Photo by: Unicorn Riot



REMEMBER...THE CHRISTMAS FUND!

The final 5-for-5 collection gathered annually by the national offices of the UCC improves the lives of pastors, spouses and other church professionals whose retirement funds are inadequate to cover daily costs of living. All Peoples has a proud tradition

Each of us might consider taking up the practice when out in public. The curious may ask what that is about. At the very least, it opens an opportunity to share a bit about our church in a less than hostile manner. ▲

GRATITUDE WINS AGAIN

William Faulkner wrote, “Gratitude is a quality similar to electricity: it must be produced and discharged and used up in order to exist at all.”

Special thanks to our Jericho Table November volunteers:

David and Nancy Cook, Kathi Bumblis, Evelyn Doherty, Bill and Pris Hardin, Gloria Olson, and Gerry Soto ▲

of never failing to contribute to these 5, special collections each year. Please help us to maintain our record and support our retired personnel at the same time. Just write your check to All Peoples UCC; enter “The Christmas Fund” on the memo line. ▲

You Are Invited to a discussion and dessert at Mike Lovely’s home: on Dec. 11 at The Regency Village–Bend, 127 SE Wilson, in the Private Dining Room from 1–3 p.m. Milly Whatley will bring her “wicked” chocolate dessert. Coffee and tea are available in the main dining room. The topic: An APUCC Post-election Forum.

EDITOR'S NOTES

Early church teachings regarding Advent advocated dwelling on a series of themes as the weeks unfolded. Advent began in darkness culminating with the birth of the light of the world—hope, love, joy and peace. There are symbolic connections to discover in current events that parallel Biblical times.

Start with the dark despair of homelessness and refugee status. The modern world is overwhelmed with refugees. In the face of unimaginable loss, hope has driven them to seek new lives somewhere else. On a smaller scale, the little Holy Family became refugees when Herrod decreed death to all Jewish first borns. Mary and Joseph fled to Egypt in HOPE of safety for their very special son.

United Methodist Advent tradition follows HOPE with LOVE, then JOY, then PEACE.

The 4 (or 5) candles on the Advent wreath stand for that journey into renewal. (The fifth candle, the Christ candle, is lit on Christmas eve or day.) We fervently hope for the progression of hope, love, joy and peace to enter the lives of all homeless, refugee and threatened people. Indeed, let us hope for that sequence to repeat for our entire global environment. Focus on what we as individuals can do to contribute to that Advent miracle wherever we are called to be the body of Christ. ▲



DECEMBER WORSHIP PLANS

All Peoples UCC meets to worship the first and third Sundays of each month 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 above.
- **Finding the Juniper Room**—Enter at the main entrance or the next door on the left. Go left to the end of the hall; turn right and enter the first room on the left.



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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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WORSHIP SCHEDULE

DEC. 4th—

11 a.m. Worship: Thom Larson

10 a.m. Discussing Advent devo-
tional booklet from the UCC Still
Speaking Writers' Group. Read-
ings for 11.27 & 12.3 for those
who have the booklet.

Laurie Power leading.

DEC. 18th—

11 a.m. Worship: Laurie Power

10 a.m. Discussing Advent
readings—TBA. Nancy Cook leading.