



All Peoples
United Church of Christ
SOJOURNER NEWS

A Central Oregon House Church

June, 2016

Vol. XVI, Number 6

VANCOUVER CHURCHES SUFFER SANCTUARY FIRES FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC INCLUDED



On May 25th around 3:30 a.m., our friends and colleagues in the beautiful Vancouver UCC church faced a sanctuary fire that did enormous damage (“Before” photo on left; fire photo, next page.)

Alarmingly, two other church arsons have occurred around Vancouver to date! The city has set up a church fire “detective” team. Other city churches are on high alert pending arrest of the arsonist or arsonist gang.

Insurance and restoration officials rushed to the UCC church and began restoration plans. A Go-Fund-Me account titled “Save the Ark”(www.gofundme.com/Vancouver UCC) offers a secure place to make donations; 17 people raised over \$1500 the very first day.



Built during the 1970s, the sanctuary was the design of renowned Portland Architect Warren Weber. Controversial from the very beginning, the unique design earned many nick names. Eventually, it became known as “The Ark.”

The Vancouver UCC. has grown to be a stalwart of the Central Pacific Conference through a succession of dynamic pastors and members dedicated to peace, activism and social justice. Just as many Central Pacific Conference congregations stepped forward to assist All Peoples at its founding, All Peoples will discuss a contribution toward restoring this landmark sanctuary. ▲

JERICHO TABLE THANK YOU’S

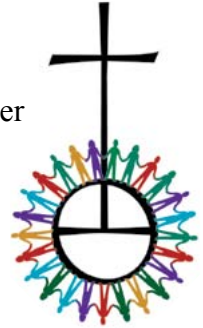
May was our most recent month to serve the hungry on Monday nights through Jericho Road. Willing APUCCers stepped forward to volunteer. Thanks: Sue & Dean Flory, Liz Douville & Laurie Power, Suzi Sutton & Pris Hardin, and David & Nancy Cook.

APUCCers will next volunteer to serve in July, our next month to help with this worthwhile mission of the church. ▲

MODERATOR'S MUSINGS

Last month on 25 April our fellowship gathering hosted Stan Paine discussing the Aging and Spirituality Network, a group sponsored by the Central Pacific Conference of the United Church of Christ (CPCUCC). For a summary of Stan's time with us, see the May 2016 Sojourner News (<http://www.allpeoples-ucc.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/Sojourner-e-News-5.16.pdf>). Such events and resources are commonly found through CPCUCC. I would like to highlight two other events available through (CPCUCC). The first is a workshop on June 17, 2016 at Riverside Community Church (UCC) in Hood River, OR. The workshop, Four Doorways to Deepening Worship, lasts all day (9:30 am – 4:30 pm) and costs \$20, which includes lunch. To see complete information about the workshop, go to the CPCUCC newsletter page at <http://cpcucc.org/wp14/on-the-way/>. Click on "May 2016" next to Current Issue. Scroll about one-third of the way down the page.

Briefly, the workshop presenter is Adam Kukuk, a musician, composer, and worship consultant. Here is the description of the event from the flyer:



Four Doorways is a day-long event designed to inspire and equip clergy, musicians and lay people; anyone involved in creating worship. Participants leave spiritually refreshed and brimming with new ideas. From hands-on worship to informed, engaged teaching, Four Doorways turns participants into creators empowered with the knowledge that they already have everything necessary to craft vital worship. Participants leave with a blueprint to re-create vital worship at home.!

Please contact me if you are interested in attending this workshop.

The second event is CPCUCC's annual fall meeting on September 23-25 in Pendleton.

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The May 2016 issue of *On the Way* (<http://cpcucc.org/wp14/on-the-way/>) has some preliminary information. My experience is that the annual meeting is a wonderful, spirit-filled way to network with UCCer's from congregations throughout the Central Pacific Conference. I will be away and unable to attend this year's meeting, but would recommend that any of you who can do so, attend. The annual meeting includes a business meeting and election of officers and board members for the conference. Shalom

Nancy Cook Moderator

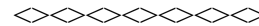
PRIDE NEWS

Recent email from the Rev. Tara Wilkins, announces that this is the start of her 14th year leading the Community of Welcoming Congregations (CWC). As Executive Director for many of these years, Tara has guided the CWC, an ecumenical group of welcoming congregations, into an organization with influence throughout the northwest.

CWC has been instrumental in the freedom to marry effort, has created an interfaith movement highlighting the power of diverse religions working together. CWC has been a visible presence that has helped LGBTQ persons in finding spiritual homes and, perhaps most importantly, has saved lives.

In August, we will again welcome Tara as our visiting pastor at APUCC. During some of the formative years of our congregation, Tara's visits served to inspire and encourage our small band of pilgrims.

Watch for more information about the CWC fund-raising dinner this fall in Portland. ▲



Central Oregon's PRIDE Festival will take place in Bend's Drake Park on Saturday, June 25, from noon to 6 p.m. Currently, Nancy Cook, Pris Hardin and Suzi Sutton are planning. Pride leadership urges each booth to have a hands-on activity to offer to booth-visitors. Could you contribute to writing questions and answers for a "trivia game?" The church now has the necessary tent/booth thanks to careful shopping by Cooks. A "Trivia-style" quiz game is being planned

for participants. A 10' wide banner is on the drawing boards and Suzi Sutton has agreed to put her considerable gardening skills toward composing two colorful planters to give as prizes for the winning participants in the quiz game.

MORE HELP WILL BE NEEDED. Sat. morning set-up runs from 9–12. Please be prepared to sign up to tend the booth for a couple of hours and answer questions.....

HELP! ▲

CONGREGATIONAL LIFE

Memorial Day wrapped up another month of worship, service and fellowship at All Peoples. Beginning with the call to contribute to another of the UCC 5-for-5 annual national collections, the congregation then moved to perform its “every other month” meal service at Jericho Table.

June 5th begins the next Bible Bookworms discussion book—”Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha, and Mohammed Cross the Road? —Christian Identity in a Multi-Faith World,” by Brian McLaren.

Into every congregation, a little fellowship time should fall. The usual “Last Monday of the Month” dinner night came awkwardly on

Memorial Day evening. Gloria Olson, who secures locations for the monthly gathering, happily accepted the invitation of Nancy and David Cook to meet at their home for a potluck. Choice of chili or Mexican soup anchored the dinner with potluck dishes completing the meal. Yum-m-m!

APUCC monthly donations have remained steady for months now. Unless totals change, they will no longer appear in the Sojourner News! Can you help boost the numbers? ▲

UCC NEWS AROUND THE NATION

Stories emerge regarding the work of our fellow congregations around the nation. Here’s a heart-warming one to check out:

http://www.ucc.org/news_ucc_core_mission_calls_to_jewish_moderator_in_new_mexico_05272016

Note the reference to our current national UCC president in his former role as SW Conference Minister. This is a story of a congregation that stood by its claim of being truly open and affirming. Their moderator and skilled leader was not even a member of the church. Good for them! ▲

PRESENTING THE REV. DR. DAVID WEEKELY AND DEBORAH



Some of you will remember the Weekleys, David and Deborah, who came over from the Portland area several years ago as visiting pastor and spouse. David played his guitar and sang original music. He shared his journey as a transgender person and ordained Methodist pastor. Significant to his story was the explanation that when the Methodist church banned gays and lesbians from pulpit service, they neglected to include transgender people in the ban. Nevertheless, David took it upon himself to fight for the cause of all LGBT

(QQ) persons' right to serve as Methodist clergy with full standing in the church.

Following the Methodist national conference 8 years ago, when the church steadfastly continued their ban on LG clergy, David, with Deborah faithfully by his side, resigned his service to Methodist churches in the Portland area in order to return to school for a doctorate of divinity!

It has been a long haul with many eventful side trips. Deborah has kept us informed, via Facebook, throughout the process. And now, the proud day is here.

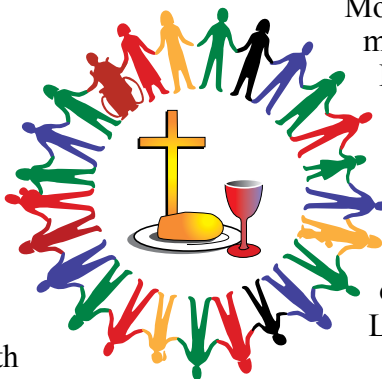
Congratulations to the newly minted graduate and to Deborah who has been a most active and loving partner in all of these endeavors. We eagerly await news of what is next for this courageous couple.

APRIL 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

June 5th—11 a.m. Worship:

10 a.m. Discussing “Why Did Jesus, Moses, the Buddha and Mohammed Cross the Road?” by Brian McLaren*, Chaps. 1–5
Laurie Power leading.

June 19th—

11 a.m. Worship:
Pris & Bill Hardin
10 a.m. Bible Bookworms;
discussing * Chaps. 6–11—
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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