



All Peoples
United Church of Christ
SOJOURNER NEWS

A Central Oregon House Church

October, 2015

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“IT IS MORE BLESSED TO GIVE...”

Western Europe is caught up in the biggest refugee migration since World War II. But, this time, modern media deliver to our living rooms gripping images of the scope and details of the desperate exodus from areas ravaged by war, terrorism and hardship. The political bickering over the unfolding tragedy goes on and on with nation disagreeing with nation and forces seeking to lay blame anywhere but in their own yards.

However, the social dimensions of the exodus speak to people of faith throughout the western world. Compassion overwhelms us Christians. Yet the action, so far away, leaves us feeling unable to jump in and help.

Now comes word that the UCC’s own Church World Service (CWS) is playing a

sizeable role in reaching out with aid to the needy, hungry, grieving and dispossessed among the refugees swarming into Europe. As a matter of fact, CWS earned mention on the nightly news last week. To send aid that will be managed well—

1. Give cash or checks marked payable to APUCC marked for OGHS/CWS with the request they be sent on to Wider Church Ministries via the Conference office,
2. Send gifts, made out to Wider Church Ministries and marked in the memo portion for OGHS/CWS to:
Office for Global Sharing of Resources;..
Wider Church Ministries, 700 Prospect Avenue, Cleveland, OH 44115.
3. Make a secure on-line donation by giving to One Great Hour of Sharing ▲

EDITOR'S NOTE:

“When you come to a fork in the road, take it.” Yogi Berra takes the blame for that famous quote. Yogi died September 21st in my home town of Montclair, NJ.

“Some things take longer than they take.” That paraphrases a longer idea quoted by many famous and not-so-famous folks.

And, Mark Twain said, “Kindness is the language which the deaf can hear and the blind can see.”

“Suffer the little children to come unto me... for of such is the kingdom of God.” (KJB)...attributed to Jesus of Nazareth.

Famous quotations become a sort of social philosophy, a glue that bonds, teaches, sometimes entertains and contains truth that is more or less clear.

Pope Frances' recent visit to Cuba and the U.S. has made more vivid the power and direction of his ministry. He is proving to be very “quotable.” We especially value those papal statements that jibe with ours—how human we are!

Pope Frances said:

On global stewardship:

“What kind of world do we want to leave to those who come after us, to children who are now growing up?” and

“Right now, we don't have a very good relation with creation.”

and

“The earth, our home, is beginning to look more and more like an immense pile of filth.”

and

“A great challenge: stop ruining the garden which God has entrusted to us so that all may enjoy it.”

On world-wide behavior:

“Many things have to change course, but it is we human beings above all who need to change.”



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On faith, the Pope says:

“Grace is not part of consciousness; it is the amount of light in our souls, not knowledge nor reason.”

and

“I believe in God—not in a Catholic God; there is no Catholic God. There is God, and I believe in Jesus Christ, his incarnation. Jesus is my teacher and my pastor, but God, the Father, Abba, is the light and the Creator. This is my Being.”

Thanks be to God. Amen. ▲

WELCOME—NEW MEMBERS

• Susi Sutton who recently moved to Redmond from her Portland church home at Ainsworth UCC. Susi stepped right into service as a APUCC delegate to the Central Pacific Conference annual meeting.

• Joel Greenfield, at St. Charles Hospital and Hospice chaplain. Joel is an ordained UCC minister from the Minnesota conference of the UCC. He is transferring his credentials from Minnesota to the Central Pacific Conference. Joel is married to Sahnja; they have two sons ages 10 and 12. The family lives in Bend. WELCOME ALL! ▲

CENTRAL PACIFIC CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING REPORT

The Central Pacific Conference (CPC) of the UCC held its annual meeting once more in Pendleton, Oregon, from Sept. 25 to 27. At the Pendleton Convention Center, APUCC delegates Nancy Cook, Pris Hardin, and Susi Sutton, sang, worshiped, attended six of the workshop sessions and the three plenary business meetings, ate sumptuously and were inspired and moved to action by the dynamic keynote speaker, the Rev. Cameron

Trimble, UCC. Clackamas UCC pastor Denise Anderson led each general session bringing art activities (an impromptu altar, left), a strong singing voice, and perpetual enthusiasm to the job.

Between sessions, delegates visited with members from our sister churches all over the CPC, made new acquaintances, shopped the bookstore and refreshed at the ever-present cookies, fruit and drinks bar. ▲

REV. CAMERON TRIMBLE'S REVOLUTIONARY MESSAGE

At age 35, Rev. Cameron Trimble, UCC, is a titan for church renewal and a visionary of future church evolution— not only from a U.S. perspective but globally. As keynote speaker for the Central Pacific Conference annual meeting last week in Pendleton, Cameron laid out a road map for where the mainline Protestant churches need to go and how the emerging church should be listening, watching and making decisions to take us into the next century of church life.

Topics of her introductory address follow.

THREE POSSIBLE FUTURES

Continuing Contraction

Shrinking Numbers

Wrinkling members

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Above—APUCC delegates Nancy Cook and Susi Sutton join Nyan Fleyner in songs from *Sing* and from words projected on huge screens.
Left—Altar design representing earth, air, fire and water.

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Low retention
Low evangelization
Constrained leadership
Secure finances

Extremist resurgence

Immigration fears
Western domination
Terrorism fears/revenge
Playing to bases
New alliances (global, ecumenical)

Pregnancy

Theological Reformation
Missional Reorientation
Post-national, post-partisan identity/ethos
Spiritual/social movement—
Peace, planet, poverty

New alliances—global, ecumenical

Movements will emerge; what are options?

- Some movements successfully inject their values into the institutions they challenge
- Other movements create their own institutions, or pass away.

Anchoring her future visions to the teachings and career of Jesus, Rev. Trimble laid out the follow guideposts: What does Jesus say?

- He provides **rhetorical framing** — on hill-sides, in houses, on retreats, in public teach-



Left— Rev. Cameron Trimble listens intently.



Right—Cameron replies with vigor.

ins, in debates, through parables, through rituals and practices. He repeats key themes: the commonwealth of God, Life to the full, life of the ages, liberation—rooted in dynamic tension with tradition.

- He develops **mobilization strategy** based on 3-to-12-to-70, and then multitudes. He entrusts freely with responsibility and expresses high confidence in his agents. (Greater things shall you do...)

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- He provides his disciples challenge, rest, retreat, encouragement, recovery after failures. They testify that their **Participant Biographies** have been forever changed for the better.

In closing, Cameron urged:
“ Read Philippians 2:1–11”

If these notes sound dense or need clarification, please ask any of the three annual meeting delegates for some interpretation. They are eager to bring feedback to you. ▲

OUR CONGREGATIONAL LIFE INCLUDES GIVING AND CELEBRATIONS

APUCC has been abuzz with activity lately.

Projects include raising fire relief funds for those whose homes have been lost to wildfire. The campaign for the 43 homes consumed in the John Day area is now complete: \$577 came from immediate donations and the congregation voted to match that figure with moneys from our church treasury. That means that a check for \$1,154 is off to **John Day’s fire relief** fund.

The campaign to aid those struggling to recover from the **CountyLine2 fire** (Warm Springs) is still receiving contributions. Please write checks to APUCC with “Warm Springs fire relief” in the memo line.

All Peoples annual meeting—Following the September 20th worship and picnic at the home of Bill and Pris Hardin, the annual meeting brought some changes. Moderator-for-Now Gloria Olson conducted **elections** with 18 people voting. Nancy Cook will serve as the new Moderator. Gloria Olson received grateful applause for her dedicated and effective service to the church. All other officers received appreciative, enthusiastic praise for volunteering to continue to serve again: Liz Douville as Financial Officer and Mike Lovely as Clerk/Treasurer.

A review of responsibilities undertaken by members was the final business of the meeting. Volunteers stepped forward willingly! That is how a congregation operating without standing committees gets the work done! Thanks to all the willing workers who devote their energies to keeping All Peoples United Church of Christ vital, faithful and effective.

Mission giving for the month of September coming from the church treasury totaled: The Bethlehem Inn—\$125 and Jericho Road—\$50. Donations from individuals: St. Vincent de Paul in Bend (\$60) and in Redmond (\$30), Jericho Road (\$35). ▲

NEIGHBORS-IN-NEED OFFERING

The fourth of the 5 major fund raisers conducted annually by the national offices of the UCC will be received on October 4th.

Neighbors in Need (NIN) is a special mission offering of the UCC that supports ministries of justice and compassion throughout the United States. One-third of NIN funds support the Council for American Indian Ministry(CAIM). Two-thirds of the offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries(JWM) to support a variety of justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects through grants. The 2015 theme for NIN is "Unexpected Places" and connects to the work of the UCC's Council for American Indian



Ministries (CAIM) and our denominational advocacy to address centuries of injustice stemming from the Doctrine of Discovery. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. These churches and their pastors are supported by CAIM. CAIM is also an invaluable resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations in the U.S. ▲

LEADERSHIP IN PRAYER

Thanks to the work of Laurie Power (and our new moderator Nancy Cook any time Laurie is away), you can find the prayer list in your email for including in your prayer life or to add a friend or loved one in need of our love and spiritual support. ▲

“As soon as healing takes place, go out and heal somebody else.”

“Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.”

Maya Angelou, 21st century ▲

OCTOBER 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 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

Oct. 4th—11 a.m. Worship: Gloria Olson
10 a.m. Discussing Chapter 11 of *An Altar in the World* by Barbara Brown Taylor—Nancy Cook leading.

Oct. 18th—11 a.m. Worship: Nancy Cook
10—Bible Bookworms; Discussing Chapter 12 of *An Altar in the World*. Laurie Power leading

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PO Box 1287, Bend, OR 97709

allpeoplesucc@gmail.com

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.

Moderator: Nancy Cook, ncook963@gmail.com

Newsletter editor: Pris Hardin, prisbill@earthlink.net

Facebook: Sue Flory: [facebook.com/allpeoples.ucc](https://www.facebook.com/allpeoples.ucc)

Webmaster: Nancy Cook: www.allpeoples-ucc.org