



All Peoples
United Church of Christ
SOJOURNER NEWS

A Central Oregon House Church

August, 2016

Vol. XVI, Number 8

HOW DO POLITICAL CRAZINESS AND FAITH COME TOGETHER?

It would have required a massive effort to avoid awareness of two national political conventions and the media barrage accompanying them. We are unwilling to officially endorse one candidate over another, not only because of our wish to remain open to all opinions but also because it is against the law for non-profit organizations to do so, we focus our concerns on campaign issues. That concern should span the ballot from national to local issues.

There are loads of issues that deserve our attention from poverty, hunger, and education, to unfair banking, financial inequality and injustice. Major issues include climate change and immigration. What would Jesus do about all of the above? We

try to respond to the challenges in our mission statement as we apply his principles to 21st century life.

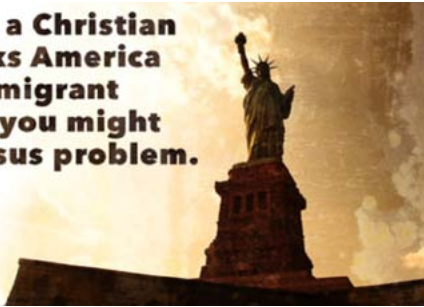
We can turn to a comment from our UCC General and Minister and President the Rev. John C. Dorhauer who addressed one of the most prominent immigration issues. The recent inaction of the deadlocked U.S. Supreme Court doomed the administration's plan to shield millions from deportation by affirming the rulings of lower courts in 26 states. Those decisions rendered millions vulnerable to deportation.

Dorhauer decries the court action and its many consequences in the following:

“The Supreme Court deadlocked...on a decision that could have given comfort to

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If you are a Christian who thinks America has an immigrant problem, you might have a Jesus problem.



four million immigrants with jobs and with children who are citizens. This deadlock is only going to deepen the fear and suffering of those who have arrived on our shores with little more than a dream of a better life and a strong desire to contribute their hard labor to help better their community and feed their children. I, too, have dreamt of a better America—and am saddened that yet again we have failed to live out our biblical and national promises to care for the stranger among us. ▲

JERICHO TABLE IN JULY

APUCC loyal volunteers who served “the hungry” in July as part of Redmond’s Jericho Road project, were: David and Nancy Cook, Bill and Pris Hardin, and Liz Douville and Laurie Power. Coordinator Melanie Feilzer was on hand to keep the food service flowing. ▲

THE REV. TARA WILKINS TO LEAD WORSHIP SUNDAY, AUGUST 7TH

The Rev. Tara Wilkins, leader of the Community of Welcoming Congregations (CWC), an ecumenical group of congregations welcoming LGBTQQ members into their midst. During her years as Executive Director, Tara has grown the CWC into a powerful Pacific northwest group.

CWC has been instrumental in working for the freedom-to-marry and has created an interfaith movement demonstrating the power of diverse religions working together. CWC has helped LGBTQ persons find spiritual homes and even has saved lives.

We will again welcome Tara as a visiting pastor at APUCC along with her partner Brenda Koenig. During some of the formative years of our congregation, Tara’s visits served to inspire and encourage our small band of faith-filled pilgrims. ▲

“I prayed for twenty years but received no answer until I prayed with my legs.”

Frederick Douglass, 19th century

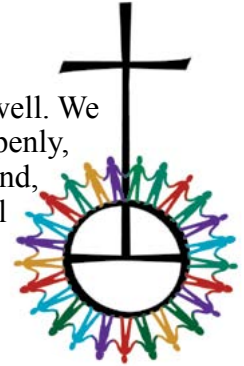
MODERATOR'S MUSINGS

The 2016 annual meeting of our Central Pacific Conference (CPC) UCC is September 23-25, 2016 at the Pendleton Convention Center in Pendleton, OR. I plan to attend and invite any of you who are interested to attend. I believe we are allowed four voting delegates, but anyone may attend as a visitor.

In September 2015, Pris, Susi, and I attended the annual meeting of the CPC of the United Church of Christ in Pendleton. Each of us benefitted from the opportunity to network, connect with old friends and make some new friends throughout the geographical conference.

The 2016 annual meeting promises to provide even more interactions among those attending. The current internet information (<http://cpcucc.org/wp14/small-tables-big-changes/>) describes the annual meeting as “Small Tables, Big Changes” and promises that we “will circle together in small groups, hold space

for each other and listen well. We will think deeply, share openly, and build relationships. And, we will trust that God will be ever-present, as we explore our church and our world with curiosity and hope.”



In addition there will be business meetings to conduct the affairs of the conference and elect leaders and committee members.

Check out the web page and circle the dates on your calendar. Let me or Pris know if you are interested in attending. We need to reserve rooms while they are still available.

The cost is not yet listed on the web site, but I think last year's registration fee was approximately \$100. For those willing to share a room with someone else, the cost of the room is also approximately \$100 per night for each of the two nights. ▲

STANDING WITH MUSLIM NEIGHBORS IN TEXAS

The interfaith community in Austin, Texas has created a sacred bond against anti-Muslim backlash. Twenty faith communities, a synagogue and several denominations of churches participate in [The Banner Project](#). In front of every participating congregation a large banner proclaims—*We Stand With Our Muslim Neighbors*. Almost every UCC congregation in the Austin area has joined.

Should Oregon adopt this project? ▲

TWO CPC MEETINGS AHEAD

First, the CPC's annual enclave from Sept. 23–25 at the Pendleton Convention Center has wide scope. The conference's business meeting is on the agenda along with small-group sharing among the churches of the CPC and their representatives and friends.

Second, consider the CPC women's retreat at Camp Adams from October 7–9. Cost: \$105. It will follow the welcomed theme—“Women: Take a Breath!” Information on both meetings will be available at church. ▲

ANNUAL PICNIC/BUSINESS MEETING SHIFTS APUC WORSHIP TO HARDIN'S.

On August 21st we will worship, feast and conduct the annual business meeting at Hardin's place just south of Terrebonne. Maps are available on the church web site and at worship on 8.7.16.

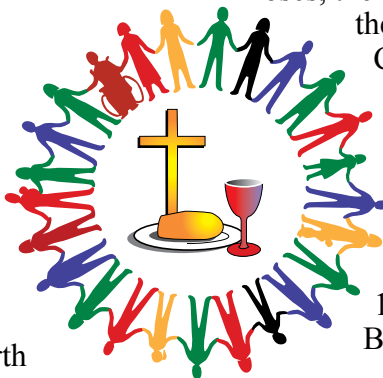
Gather at 10:45 at Hardin's “Barn” with your potluck dish in hand. (There will be no Bible Bookworms session.) The warming oven, refrigerator and freezer space will be ready to keep the food safe until after worship. Visitors and guests need not bring potluck contributions; there is always plenty of food to share. Beverages and table service will be provided. Call 541-504-4723 for details and verbal directions. Moderator Nancy Cook is building an agenda for the business meeting following the feast. Call 321-960-7728 with agenda items or plan to add them as the meeting begins. All are welcome at the business meeting but it is optional for visitors; don't let the prospect of a business meeting keep you away from sharing in the worship and potluck ▲

AUGUST 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

August 7th—11 a.m. Worship:
with guest leader the Rev. Tara Wilkins
10 a.m. Discussing “Why Did Jesus,
Moses, the Buddha and Mohammed Cross
the Road?” by Brian McLaren,
Chaps. 6–11
Nancy Cook leading.

August 21st—no bookstudy
see page 4
11 a.m.—Worship:
Nancy Cook
12:30 p.m.—Potluck and Annual
Business Meeting!

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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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