



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

A Central Oregon House Church

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## **PRIDE FESTIVAL A SUCCESS FOR APUCC**

For at least 5 years, All Peoples UCC has hosted a booth at the annual PRIDE Festival of Bend. Over the years, our display has developed a bit more flare and each year PRIDE has drawn a bigger crowd.

*(Right—The head that seems to be growing out of the prize planter belongs to David Cook. He helped erect the booth and then stayed to man the booth all day! Thanks, David.)*



*(Above—Many PRIDE participants dress in festive, wild outfits; people-watching was fun.*

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A new innovation last year was the institution of a quiz for visitors to the booth to take. In exchange for taking the quiz, participants could enter a drawing for one of two lovely planters arranged by our own Susi Sutton. This year, Susi fell ill so the prizes were less creative. Nevertheless, quiz takers entered into a drawing to win one of two planters.

In preparation for the quiz activity, Nancy Cook reviewed the quiz items from the previous year and added a few more. Then, she divided the total quiz questions into 5 short quizzes. That produced shorter quizzes—they were less intimidating and required a shorter time commitment from quiz takers.. That proved to be a wise choice. Eighteen visitors to the booth agreed to take a quiz. That created a larger pool of names from which to draw prize winners. Others attending the booth were Nancy Cook, Fran Davis, Evelyn Doherty, and Bill and Pris Hardin. Sincere thanks to each of them.

It was HOT! Weather in the mid-90's brought out visitors wearing fewer clothes. But attendance was good. And, PRIDE is always a visual delight.



*Above—Booth “sitters” from left: Nancy Cook, Fran Davis and Pris Hardin, kept cool as best they could with water, neck cooler and ... knitting?! (Evelyn Doherty not shown.)*

All told, our booth dispensed 50 UCC rainbow flags, many APUCC brochures and business cards. We drew names and awarded both potted-plant prizes at 5 p.m. Fortunately the winners were still around—as it turned out, they were each staffing other booths. Thanks to the devoted folks who prepared quizzes and signage and hauled equipment and to all who supported the effort. ▲ VIVA LGBTQ rights and enthusiasm. ▲

## EDITOR'S NOTE:

As this issue of the newsletter goes to press, national and local news outlets flood the media with stories that have direct bearing on APUCC's social concerns across the nation and closer to home. From environmental developments and cuts to social programs to matters with bearing on our own members, there is plenty of stress and distress to go around.

But our church, founded on hope and faith, serves as a guard against the despair that threatens our spirits. The well-spring of love that holds us together offers a precious source of renewal and support as we cope with trying times.

Last Monday's monthly pizza gathering was no exception. The group was smaller than usual—after all, it is June and many of our folks are busy with travel, hosting visitors and other commitments. But a small group facilitates sharing of events, concerns and ideas with everyone there.

Conversation was lively around stories of volunteer efforts, (some quite frustrating),

ideas for upcoming church activities, and concern for individual members of our church group.

We revisited the PRIDE Festival event, the challenges of working with volunteers when communications break down, and looked forward to future plans for APUCC.

The pizza gathering lifted spirits; a sense of being part of a team came through strongly. All People's blend of worship, Sunday morning discussions, monthly social and congregational volunteering inspires enthusiasm for being a part of the body of Christ.

As the summer gallops past, please give some thought to the annual congregational meeting on August 27th—one week AFTER the eclipse. Be thinking of how our journey as a congregation is progressing. What could we do better to serve each other's needs and those of our communities, near and far? ▲



## **THE DAPL PIPELINE IS BACK IN THE NEWS.**

Remember our support of the Standing Rock Sioux and their fierce battle against the Dakota Access Pipeline (DAPL) crossing their sacred lands and potentially polluting their water? The pipeline went through anyway and is now delivering thousands of gallons of crude oil daily.

Last week, a federal judge ruled that the Trump administration had not properly considered the hunting and fishing rights of the tribe. Although the pipeline is still permitted to operate, the court has ordered a new environmental review.

Recently, the abysmal spill record of the Energy Transfer company, owners of the DAPL, came to light. Energy Transfer and its subsidiary Sunoco have filed 69 accidents over the past two years to the National Response Center, the federal contact point for oil spills and industrial accidents. That's 2.8 accidents every month.

An additional foot note—the day after that announcement, Energy Transfer stock fell to under \$20 on the stock market ... the lowest price ever for that big oil company. ▲

## **REDMOND IS NOW A “HOSPITALITY CITY”**

Following a recent vote in the City of Bend, the Redmond City Council vote unanimously to approve a proclamation declaring Redmond to be a Welcoming City.

That endorses the city wish to welcome immigrants and people of other cultures. Aside from Portland, Redmond is the only Oregon city where immigrants can take the oath of citizenship. In spite of short notice, three APUCCers showed up at the council meeting to support the vote. ▲

## **SENATE HEALTH CARE BILL**

The U.S. Senate's machinations over health care legislation have been secret, long and aimed mainly at cutting federal support to Medicaid budgets, the elderly and the needy while passing tax perks to their wealthy donors. The Congressional Budget Office's (CBO) projections of the long term fiscal impact of the proposed (at the time of publication) bill show millions of Americans losing health insurance. The huge cuts to Medicaid and the ensuing loss of jobs in the health sector, the closing of many rural

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hospitals and related medical services will leave many Americans with few sources of medical aide.

Our Christian faith (and indeed, the beliefs of other religions) should deem this bill to be immoral. The proposed bill should be deemed immoral. Christ's scriptural charge to free the captives, heal the sick and feed the hungry leads us in the opposite direction of the proposed legislation.

Who will pick up the bills for the many nursing homes and extended care facilities that Medicaid will no longer fund? Who will extend coverage to those with existing medical conditions? Who will help those with catastrophic medical events?

A message from National UCC offices:—  
“We are left with a picture of the parable of the Good Samaritan in reverse—powerful decision makers passing by millions of our country's most vulnerable people: children, senior citizens in nursing homes, people living with disabilities, working families—and leaving them by the side of the road.”

The CBO's analysis revealed a complete assault on the elderly, and the disadvantaged.

Past President Barack Obama said: “The Senate bill, unveiled today, is not a health care bill. It's a massive transfer of wealth from middle-class and poor families to the richest people in America. It hands enormous tax cuts to the rich and to the drug and insurance industries, paid for by cutting health care for everybody else. Those with private insurance will experience higher premiums and higher deductibles, with lower tax credits to help working families cover the costs, even as their plans might no longer cover pregnancy, mental health care, or expensive prescriptions. Discrimination based on pre-existing conditions could become the norm again. Millions of families will lose coverage entirely.

“Simply put, if there's a chance you might get sick, get old, or start a family—this bill will do you harm.”

Pearl S. Buck, Nobelist novelist wrote:

Our society must make it right and possible for old people not to fear the young or be deserted by them, for the test of a civilization is the way that it cares for its helpless members. ▲

## **EROSION OF JOHNSON LAW?**

Ever since President Lyndon B. Johnson signed a law, forbidding use of taxpayer dollars for private religious schools, parochial schools and their sponsoring churches have had their eyes on tax-payer monies to help fund their schools, hospitals and other enterprises that serve the public.

This week the Supreme Court of the U.S.(SCOTUS) ruled that a Lutheran parochial playschool school could receive tax dollars to pave it's school playground. That seems innocent enough on the surface. The surface of the playground, that is. Who would wish injury to children at recess? In the ruling, SCOTUS stipulated that no taxpayer monies would be allowed to support the teaching of religion.

The irony of the ruling is that SCOTUS explained its rationale using the very argument that is proposed to *defend* the case against the Trump ban on permitting immigrants from six predominantly Muslim countries to enter the U.S.

The details? Grants for playground improvement are offered by the State of

Missouri to all schools, municipalities., etc., public or private. Therefore, refusal of the Lutheran school's grant application would be solely on the basis of religion. That would be discrimination *against* a religion. Watch this. It calls for continued vigilance. ▲

## **COMBINING UCC CONFERENCES BACK EAST!**

The Connecticut, Massachusetts and Rhode Island Conferences voted to move toward coming together, to create a stronger voice speaking for justice. <[http://www.ucc.org/news\\_in\\_historic\\_vote\\_three\\_ucc\\_conferences\\_move\\_toward\\_union\\_06192017](http://www.ucc.org/news_in_historic_vote_three_ucc_conferences_move_toward_union_06192017)> ▲

## **JERICHO TABLE—July Volunteers**

Serving the hungry at

Church of God Seventh Day,  
205 NW 4th Street, Redmond.

Arrive by 4:30 p.m.; finish around 6 p.m.

July 3—No meal served (July 4th holiday)

July 10—Two volunteers needed.

July 17—Two volunteers needed.

July 24—Two volunteers needed.

July 31—Bill and Pris Hardin

Next Sunday, please, volunteer to serve.

## “ZOOM” IN APUCC’S FUTURE?

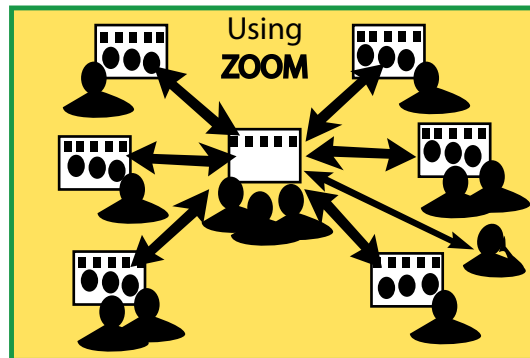
Our Central Pacific Conference (CPC) of the UCC has invested in a contract to use a computer conferencing software called Zoom. Zoom enables groups to see and talk together from remote locations... like when winter weather prevents APUCC from getting together... or when someone is travelling and cannot join the rest of us. Participants can join a meeting via ZOOM’s “visual /audio” or by ZOOM’s phone option.

Last week, the planning committee for September’s annual Pendleton CPC conference used Zoom to participate in a “master class” led by Tenneson, the dynamic leader who presented last fall’s Pendleton meeting. Tenneson was home in Utah and the rest of us were in Oregon and Washington.

The latest upgrade to ZOOM enables small group “break-out” sessions. From a general session of about 18 people, we divided into small groups, discussed our topics, and then rejoined the main session to report.

David Cook and Pris Hardin have each participated in ZOOM conferences as part of our committee work in the CPC. The Central Pacific Conference ZOOM contract allows

individual churches to use the program at no charge. It might have great potential for APUCC. Think about it. ▲



## AN INTERACTIVE ZOOM DAY

And, here’s another “techy” way to do church. At First Congregational UCC Corvallis next Sunday imagine this: “Come and celebrate the Spirit of diversity, justice, and action with us as we explore ways to live into Pentecost. Worship starts at 10 a.m! There will be four interactive video stations including a conversation station (room) for adults and older youth.”

Why should the UCC be the last to start using technology? It is happening now! ▲

## JULY WORSHIP PLANS

All Peoples UCC meets to worship the first and third Sundays of each month at 11 a.m. Study and discussion group meets from 10 to 10:45 a.m. Refreshments begin at 9:45 a.m..

### 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; turn right and enter the first room on the left



## WORSHIP SCHEDULE

July 2nd—11 a.m. Worship—Becca Tatum and Barbara Callaghan, visiting pastor!  
10 a.m. Discussion: practicing Gratitude.  
Kathi Bumblis leading.

“One can never pay in gratitude; one can only pay “in kind” somewhere else in life.” —Anne Morrow Lindberg

July 16th—11 a.m. Worship—Laurie Power  
10 a.m. Discussion: coping with terrorism. Nancy Cook 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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