

Christ's Church

Methodist and Presbyterian United
Methodist and Presbyterian United



September 2014

Pastor's Postulations

*I'd like to be
Under the sea
In an octopus'
garden
In the shade
--The Beatles*



With Administrative Assistant Kim Clark's able and crafty assistance, your pastor is turning her sea-blue office into, well, a seascape, complete with fishing net for fishing-for-men-and-women, and seaweed, and starfish. But no one will drown here! And, so far, no octopi have appeared. If you'd like to meet with me, please be in touch. We will soon have a well-appointed office in which to plan or laugh or cry or pray. You are invited!

Pastor Becky

Worship News

Pg 2

Prayer Studio – NEW

The Worship Committee has worked on the room at the top of the stairs to reclaim and convert it into a prayer room, or “studio”, for contemplative worship and meditation. It holds two pews, a small altar, a kneeler, devotional pictures and an origami mobile of prayer cranes made by May Gustafson, along with reading materials to support your prayer life.



The Prayer Studio is open Sunday mornings prior to worship at Christ's Church.

(To use the room in morning, weekday office hours, contact Kim Clark at the office, 503-838-1724.)

In addition to greeting and visiting with each other before service, this room offers you a quiet option of space and time for prayer.

This space is a dedicated place for you to learn or to try new (or old) prayer techniques, to use materials that may be new to you, and a space to practice contemplative meditation. For instance, there is a finger labyrinth on the altar table you are welcome to use. Browse the materials in the bookcase. More additions are planned as time goes by. Let Linda Grund-Clampit, Linda Scheirman, Sherry Pittam, or Diane McBurnett know of your suggestions.

Christ's Church (CCMP)

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Welcome!
No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey . . . you are welcome here.



Presbyterians install their pastors in “called” positions, and The Presbytery of the Cascades plans to do just that for Becky and Christ's Church on Sunday afternoon, September 28, at 3pm. Choirs are considering ringing and singing, Presbytery Commissioners for this event have been recruited and are awaiting their assignments, people have volunteered to host a reception, and Becky has started thinking about the liturgy. Please come BACK to church that afternoon for a celebration of our new partnership. We hope to have some United Methodists here from Falls City, too, and from the District Office. We'll sing, hear the word preached (and maybe have a bit of liturgical movement...who knows!), and generally glorify and enjoy God!

This year, *Horizons* Bible Study is on:

***Reconciling Paul:
A Contemporary Study
of 2 Corinthians***

by Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty

This is the 2014–2015 *Horizons* Bible Study
Quilted Artwork

To see more of Jude Tarrant's religious quilts,
visit www.artiststainedglass.co.uk.



Everyone interested in better understanding the writings of Paul, particularly his more troubling writings regarding women and slaves, is warmly invited to participate in this year's monthly *Horizon's* study.

Paul's writings are some of the most influential in Christianity. Revisiting the struggles Paul faced and the authenticity and integrity of his theology is an essential task for churches today in the midst of great change.

Paul, like us, wrestled with and questioned his faith as he tried to live as authentically as possible in an ancient world that, like ours, was also in the midst of great change. What can we learn from visiting 2 Corinthians and considering Paul's theology and ideas as they relate to the context of our time?

Lesson One is on, "The Promise and the Problem of Paul". You might know some people, particularly women, who get really "ticked off" at Paul, particularly his writings regarding women and slavery. In this lesson, let's discover why!

Two contrasting theological positions exist in Paul's letters with reference to the position of women: subordination and shared partnership. The study author, Elizabeth Hinson-Hasty, suggests four different ways of dealing with these disparities while reading Paul's letters. WOW. This all sounds interesting!

We will start this study at Heron Pointe (in the small dining room) at 1PM, September 3rd. All are welcome – including men! The books are here and those who receive the *Horizons* magazine should have them already. I will bring some copies to church on Sundays. I'm looking forward to seeing you! Call me if you have any questions. – Jo Ann King, 503-838-6603.



The Thursday Study Group for 2014/2015 starts up again on the second Thursday, Sept. 11, at 7pm. The group meets at Elizabeth Weiss' home in Monmouth. Since this will be the first meeting of the year, several books will be reviewed in order for the group to select the book we will study this year. In addition, participants will share what they have been doing over the summer, so this is a great time to join in if you are interested. Call Sherry Pittam at 503-838- 2667 for more information, including directions, or to suggest a particular book for study this year.

Wright Lectures at Menucha

Practical Approaches to Emerging Ministries: Creating, Growing and Sustaining New Possibilities
October 12-14, 2014 at the Menucha Conference Center in Corbett, OR

- Gain new skills for taking the church out of the building and into the community
- Learn how to ask the right questions when starting or maintaining something new
- Consider the values today's church needs to express in order to engage the millennial generation
- Capture a vision for starting new worshiping communities
- Become part of a Holy Spirit movement that is transforming the church

Leaders are Presbyterian and United Methodist, and include pastors of another joint UMC/PCUSA congregation in Pittsburgh.

For more information, see <http://menucha.org/programs/wls>



Here is a beautiful link you may enjoy: *21 Videos Show The Drama Of Our World's Religious Sites*. Be sure to have some time available when exploring this link as each video truly is dramatic and lasts several minutes.

http://www.huffingtonpost.com/2014/08/17/drone-video-religious-sites_n_5659747.html?utm_hp_ref=mostpopular

**Presbytery
Cascades
Confluence 2014:
"More Healthy
Congregations and
Healing
Communities"**



September 13, 2014
First Presbyterian Church, Albany
9:00 am to 3:30 pm; \$15 includes lunch

PRESBYTERIANS GATHER CLOSER TO HOME -- All Presbyterians in our Central region of presbytery are invited to attend "Cascades Confluence," one of four simultaneous regional gatherings on Saturday, September 13. Our region's gathering will take place at United Presbyterian Church, Albany, from 9 am to 3:30 pm.

This new, experimental approach will feature a live streamed keynote address, "Picture a Healthy Congregation," by *Keynote speaker: Rich Carroll, mediator and pastor*. Then non-business gatherings will

offer worship, small-group sessions, learning, networking, celebrations of ministry, and community building. All Presbyterians (*and United Methodists, too!*), are invited to participate are invited to participate, especially those interested in developing skills and programs, deepening faith and relationships.

For more information on how to participate, click this [link](#).

If you don't use the web, see Pastor Becky for a registration form.
Phone: 541-926-5551 Email: upcalbany@gmail.com
Website: www.upcalbany.net

Or go to <http://www.cascadespresbytery.org/about/presbyter-y-meetings/cascades-confluence/> for details. If you're on the presbytery website home page, click on "Cascades Confluence" and all will be revealed!

Worship

Monthly Columnn:

On Prayer

By Linda Grund-Clampit

Some of you know that I'm in the midst of an experience called [The Academy for Spiritual Formation](#). A group of about 50 of us gather for a week every three months at Mercy Retreat Center in Burlingame, CA for a total of eight sessions. Each session we experience together two classes, worship, silent time, and covenant groups. I just returned from Session 5, which was the beginning of Year Two. During Year One we were to commit to personal spiritual disciplines. During Year Two we are to share something of what we have been learning with our home faith community. My Year Two project is to share with you all some things about prayer. I will continue to work with some others on developing our Prayer Studio in the church building, and I'm committing to sharing a brief article on prayer in the monthly newsletter. Below is the first one.

– Linda Grund-Clampit

"Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him"

Psalm 37:7

Prayer is about relationship: our relationship with God and God's relationship with us. Just like our human relationships, our relationship with God is multi-faceted and complex. But this relationship with God is different from our human relationships in that it can be more intimate, as well as more demanding. God knows us better than we know ourselves, and God calls us to be more than we think possible.

Prayer is first of all, then, just being aware of and present to God.

This practice is both extremely straightforward and, for us in our culture, extremely challenging. We all have doubt: Is there really Anyone out there? Our culture values money, human-based power and action; it adds references to God as decorative after-thoughts. The thought occurs to us that it may be foolish at best and even deluded to spend time sitting quietly waiting upon God.



But we all have also had moments of awareness of God's presence with us. For some of us this awareness may come in a beautiful natural setting, or listening to music, or holding a newborn baby. We can make this awareness part of our everyday lives and, as with all things, practice makes it easier. Some formal practices related to this aspect of prayer are Practicing the Presence of God and Centering Prayer. But it can be as simple as paying attention and staying awake. The fruits of such practice over time can be courage, conviction, discernment, and peace.

Douglas Steere, a Quaker who was very involved in ecumenical

efforts, says in his book Pg 5
Dimensions of Prayer: Cultivating a Relationship with God, "The first rule of prayer, then, is that you have to *want* mightily to pray and that if that want is mighty enough, you will be present, really present, where you are. It helps to have a place, the same place, to which you go each day. It helps to have a regular time when you will appear to await the Host who may visit your table. It helps to have a posture . . . in which you gather your physical frame for this act of prayer. It helps to read briefly in the Bible or in some devotional classic as a warm-up. All of this is self-evident. But there are those . . . for whom ideal conditions for prayer are simply absent. They, nevertheless, can be present where they are. Over a dishpan, darnning socks, holding the baby, or in a monotonous work routine, they are *present where they are* and are waiting for the Host's arrival. . . Being present where we are has only incidentally to do with time and place and posture. Each of us will know his or her weakness and not indulge in evasion or pretense but, within the limits of the means at his or her command, will provide the opportunity needed for communication with God."¹

¹Douglas V., Dimensions of Prayer: Cultivating a Relationship with God (Nashville, TN: Upper Room Books, 1997, paperback edition 2002), pp. 14-16

Tegucigalpa, Honduras is the site of the recent Mission trip shared by the Dallas United Methodist and Christ's Church.



The focus of work was twofold: to develop a deeper relationship with the sister church family at San Jose de la Vega for the Dallas UMC, and working to help build a church home for the congregation, combined with a UMC conference center, offices, and housing for mission teams.

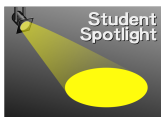
We spent 6-8 hours daily working with four local men to prepare support beams for the ceiling of the second floor. This meant bending rebar into rectangular (and not parallelogram) cages, cutting LOTS of wire to tie the rebar, tying the cages (in 6 places for each) to the long rebar to make a beam, building the wood frames around the rebar to hold the cement, and mixing and moving the cement mix to the frames. Our work also included hauling manyyyy wheelbarrows of sand and gravel from the top of the hill to the bottom to make the cement, and then lifting the cement mix up eight feet to the forms.

Lots of small wire pieces were produced in this process and as we started to clean up, we discovered the local workers wanted to recycle the bits of wire to provide money for some of their food. Well, that motivated us to not miss even the smallest piece. That task was helped along after we purchased a magnet to put on a stick to pick up the wire.

The local workers were very impressed.

Four amazingly committed men were in charge of the construction. The 4 men live on site 7 days a week, to protect the property. On the weekends they rotate so 2 can go home to their families – and they have done this for 2½ years. They were patient helping us understand the tasks needing completion and willingly shared the work with us, even though they were more skilled. The pastor and several of the congregation also came to help throughout the week. At the end of our time there they told us we had helped them complete at least three weeks worth of work in those five days.

Our team consisted of Don, Craig, Julie, Jim, Lola, and Kellie from Dallas, and Denvy and Gail from Monmouth. We returned to PDX about midnight, Aug 9th, a 'spent' but exhilarated group, convinced anew of how important it is for Christians around the world to connect, to know each other, to practice our faith together, and to better understand what loving Christ means in many different places, together.



Presbytery Supports Future Ministers

Noon to noon, Friday to Saturday: that was the recent CPM meeting. CPM is Commission on Preparation for Ministry, a commission of the Presbytery of the Cascades, which supervises and supports persons preparing to become ordained as teaching elders, ministers, in the Presbyterian denomination.

Our meeting was at the Shalom Prayer Center in Mt Angel. It was my [Denvy Saxowsky's] first meeting. I am very excited to have been appointed as the CPM liaison with Meagan whose husband is a Methodist minister from Spokane. Tim Cargal, from national, offered training on the role of the commission. Four persons hoping to become ordained ministers met with us either in person or by Skype as a part of their annual supervision.

Ideally their report on the past year's activities would excite us and we would give the nod for them to continue and offer them some suggestions to use for growth in the next year. The real world isn't ideal and decisions can be tough and may offer options other than ordination. Future leaders need our prayers and support as the universal church and particular denominations all depend on well-trained and nurtured leaders.

Peace, Justice, and Missions

A CALL FOR MORE THAN
JUDICIAL REMEDIES TO THE
KILLING OF AFRICAN AMERICAN
BOYS AND MEN

*By the Reverend Dr. J. Herbert
Nelson, II*

*The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.)
Office of Public Witness is the
voice of Presbyterian public policy
and advocates for the social
justice policies*

*"We must be clear that the issues
of this shooting are deeper than
anything one trial can resolve.
Yes, it is about the shattered
hopes of a family that has lost a
loved one, a lost which will
reverberate for generations. But
it is also deeply and truly about
the social sin of prejudice, bigotry,
and institutionalized racism,*

THE CHURCH RESPONDS TO EBOLA

The United Methodist Church and its partners are responding to the 2014 Ebola outbreak in West Africa. The deadly virus has claimed lives in Guinea, Sierra Leone, Liberia and Nigeria.

The church effort involves treatment, prevention, communication and public education...



Nurses in protective suits escort a man infected with the Ebola virus to a hospital in Monrovia. (Zoom Dosso/AFP/Getty

which is imbedded in our social structures, our justice system, and the laws by which we claim to offer freedom to each other..."

As Presbyterians, we must stop giving lip service to a new Church while failing to confront the vestiges of racism in our Church and Society...

Following is a link at one of our national Church websites to help us learn more about how the church is responding to institutionalized racism and violence – and how that informs our lives as Christians.

<http://officeofpublicwitness.blogspot.com/2014/08/j-herbert-nelson-on-killing-of-african.html>

Efforts to contain the Ebola outbreak have met difficulties due to widespread myths and misinformation about the deadly virus...

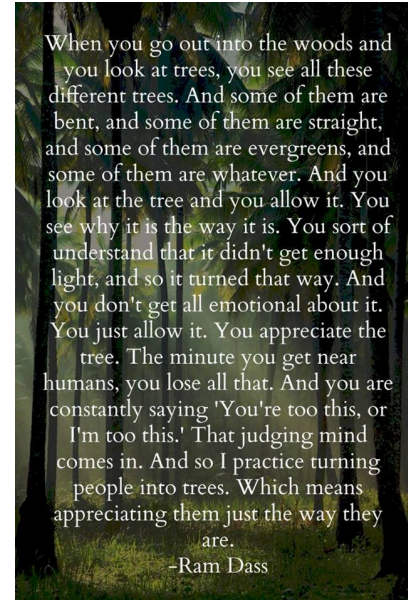
"In the Ebola crisis, communication precedes prevention and treatment," said the Rev. Larry Hollon, chief executive of United Methodist Communications. "The contagion cannot be contained without clear communication about the reality of the Ebola virus, sanitation, isolation of sick people, and proper handling of the deceased. This has to be communicated effectively and widely. In these circumstances, a clear message saves lives."

Find out what else the church is doing to combat the Ebola virus – and what we can be doing – at our national Church websites. Here is one link to check.

<http://www.umc.org/news-and->

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

– Amos 5:24



media/unity-methodist-communications-fights-ebola-with-technology

The number of people affected by the Ebola virus could rise to 20,000 within nine months, the World Health Organization said.

Sustainable Living Ministry

Overuse of Plastic Water Bottles

In 2013 the average American used 167 plastic water bottles but only recycled 23%. For 8 glasses of water daily, the cost of tap water for 8 glasses of water a day costs 49¢; for bottled water would cost \$1,400 per year. The 17 million barrels of oil used to make the bottles would fuel 1.3 million cars for a year or power 190,000 homes for a year. **Solution:** purchase and reuse permanent bottles and wash them after each use. See

<http://www.banthebottle.net>

All Are Welcome Here!

CHURCH CALENDAR

REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

SUNDAY

- 9:20am Fellowship (FC Multipurpose Room)
- 9:20am Morning Worship Service (FC Sanctuary)
- 10:00am Prayer & Meditation (CCMP Prayer Studio)
- 11:00am Morning Worship Service (CCMP Sanctuary)
- 12:10pm Fellowship (CCMP Upper Room)

TUESDAY

- 7:00pm Boy Scouts (CCMP Basement Hall)
- 7:00pm Committees (CCMP Board Room)
- 7:00pm FC Board (FC Multipurpose Room)

WEDNESDAYS

- 8:00am Lectionary Study (Independence Grill)
- 5:30pm Bell Choir Practice (CCMP Sanctuary)
- 6:30pm Choir Practice (CCMP Sanctuary)
- 7:00pm Committee Meetings (CCMP Board Room)

THURSDAYS

- 7:00pm Book Study (Monmouth at Elizabeth Weiss')

MONTHLY EVENTS

- Sept. 1 Church Office Closed for Labor Day (9:00am to 12:00pm, CCMP)
- Sept. 2 Peace, Justice, and Mission Team Meeting (7:00pm, CCMP) 1st Tuesday
- Sept. 3 Horizons Study Group (1:00pm, Heron Pointe Small Dining) 1st Wednesdays
- Sept. 3 Pot Luck & Slide Presentation (5:30pm, CCMP)
Recent Mission Trip to Honduras presentation by Denvy & Gail Saxowsky
- Sept. 3 Stewardship Team Meeting (7:30, CCMP Board Room)
- Sept. 7 Communion (9:20, FC; 11am CCMP) 1st Sundays
- Sept. 9 Board Meeting, CCMP (7pm, CCMP Board Room) 3rd Tuesdays
- Sept. 11 Thursday Book Study (7:00pm, Monmouth at Elizabeth Weiss')
- Sept. 13 Central Regional Gathering (9am to 3:30pm, United Presbyterian Church, Albany)
- Sept. 23 James2 Dinner (5:00pm, FC Multipurpose Room) 4th Tuesdays
- Sept. 24 Board meetings, Falls City (7:00pm, FC) Last Wednesdays
- Sept. 25 Lunch Bunch (12:00pm, FC) 4th Thursdays
- Sept. 26 "Fifth Sunday Outreach" (2:00pm, Helping our Communities where we find needs)
- Sept. 28 Installation of Pastor Becky followed by reception at Christ's Church (3:30pm, CCMP)
- Oct. 12 Guatemala Delegation fundraiser (WOU)



September Birthdays

- 12 Sue Badgett
- 20 Mo Jaffer
- 13 Walter Moser
- 19 Drew Moser
- 15 Jo Yeager

We also want to post
YOUR Birthday here!



September Anniversaries

And we want to post
Your Anniversary here!

Please give your dates to the office, the editor, or even put a note into the offering plate, so your birthdays and anniversaries can be posted – and we can all celebrate YOU!

Stewardship & Finance Report

Financial Corner

Budgeted income year-to-date	\$67,392.49
Actual Income year-to-date	\$74,990.67
Budgeted Expenses year-to-date	\$83,629.93
Actual Expense year-to-date	\$72,545.61

Community & Church Notes



The CCMP Stewardship Team Invites You to a Work Party at the Manse!

On Saturday, September 20th, we'll gather at the Manse (Parsonage) to help clean up Becky's backyard. We're counting on clear but not too warm weather by then. Bring your gloves, shovels, clippers and pruners at 10 a.m. We'll plan to work until noon and then have some pizza. The work may go on depending on how it is going and who wants to stay after that. If you have a truck for hauling away yard debris, all the better!



World Communion Sunday October 5, we join with Christians around the world in celebrating the Eucharist, the Feast of Thanksgiving, and the Lord's Supper. In addition, we receive an offering for Peacemaking and Global Witness (PCUSA) and for Peace with Justice (UMC). A quarter of the offering remains with us for use with local peacemaking and justice projects.



Join Us! Become a Member!

If you would like to become a member of the United Methodist Church in Falls City or of Christ's Church, Methodist and Presbyterian United in Monmouth, or would like to serve on one of our committees, please talk with Pastor Becky



The Polk Community Free Clinic continues to offer medical services to those who are in need at Trinity Lutheran Church in Dallas. The next medical clinic day will be Saturday, Sept. 27. (The clinic day for Sept 6th has been closed due to the Labor Day holiday.) Some people who now have insurance coverage but are unable to get an appointment with a medical provider are still eligible to use the Free Clinic. People can call the Clinic office with their questions at: 503-831-0551.

The Ella Curran Food Bank moved in August to new quarters at 870 N. Main St., the north end of the mini-mall, in Independence. Volunteers from the Latter Day Saints, Faith Lutheran, the Rotary Club, the Lions, and Food Bank volunteers worked almost two weeks to move everything and set up the new space. Many thanks to everyone involved.



September and November are historically the months with the lowest amount of donations and thus, the greatest amount of food shortages. Donations needed include basic canned goods (vegetables, chili, soup, tuna, canned meats, etc.). Regrettably, home canned or frozen food cannot be accepted. Donations of cash are also helpful to be able to provide fresh fruit and vegetables. Remember food stamps cannot be used to pay for basic supplies like all types of soaps, toothbrushes & toothpaste, school supplies, and many things people often take for granted. All donations and your continuing support are appreciated.



Western Compass is seeking help with planning a big Guatemala Delegation fundraiser on October 12th! Do you have connections with area businesses that might donate some catered food or items for the silent auction on that date? We need your help! Contact Katie at Westerncompass10@gmail.com or 503.816.9549.

We are in need of more people to be part of the **Communications Team** (audio/video team or slide projectionists) on Sunday mornings. Training is provided. Call Sherry Pittam (503.838.2667) or Linda Grund-Clampit (503.838.2339) if you are interested.



Monthly Book Review:**Pg 10****Dimensions of Prayer: Cultivating a Relationship with God** by Douglas V. Steere

This small book is clearly and simply written, grounded in the reality of our days, yet profound and profoundly helpful. Douglas Steere's insights and advice come out of a lifelong acquaintance with prayer traditions from many times and places, and a lived life of prayer.



Four chapters, *Prayer and the Human Situation*, *To Pray Is to Change*, *The Power of Prayer*, and *The Dialogue of Prayer and Action*, are composed of small sections which are easy to read in a few moments and to ponder all the rest of the day. In his introduction, Steere describes this book as a workbook on prayer for those already within the Christian community. In the foreword, E. Glenn Hinson, recommends this book as one in which [Steere] "has helped us answer those perplexing but utterly essential questions we often fear to voice: Why we pray, what prayer is, how to pray, and what prayer does to us and to our activity in the world. This is a book for beginners, which all of us are when it comes to knowing God, but it is one who will nurture those who have searched all their lives."

I recommend it, too! It is in the bookcase in the Prayer Studio for your use!

Linda Grund-Clampit



From the Editor: As your new newsletter editor, I want to acknowledge you are putting a lot of faith in me. However, I know an editor does not "do" the newsletter – the content comes from you and does not depend on one person alone. (Whew!) This newsletter is a group effort, with the goal of providing all of us needed and helpful information. So, send me information, suggestions, & ideas you think are important to include, and suggestions for ways to make this newsletter more meaningful for you. Send information to me at jrbrown@me.com, give articles to Kim or the office newsletter box, or call me at 503-949-8653. Remember, this publication is sent out the first week of the month, so send information to me by the end of the third week in order for it to be included. I'm counting on you!

- Joy

Do you ever wonder how your personal religious beliefs compare to others? Where you might be across a religious spectrum? BeliefNet has analyzed beliefs across the board and may have some answers for you.

Quiz What's your Spiritual Type?

"What's your religion?" It used to be such a simple question to answer. But now you might be "spiritual but not religious"--or raised in one faith but practicing another. Maybe you're a Methodist but think of yourself more as an evangelical, or a seeker who is anti-religion--or born again. The old categories don't seem to work because the religious landscape has changed so much.

Here is a quiz meant to help you learn about your self and see how your spiritual and religious views compare with others: <http://www.beliefnet.com/section/quiz/index.asp?sectionID=&surveyID=27> It takes about 10 minutes for completion of the quiz. Afterward, you might want to visit the BeliefNet website message boards to meet others with similar scores.