



Shalom

First Congregational
United Church of Christ
700 Marion Street NE, Salem, Oregon 97301
503-363-3660 www.uccsalem.org

Reverend Dr. Janet Parker, Senior Pastor
Reverend Emily Goodnow, Associate Pastor

Rick Bingham, Moderator
November 5, 2014

BLESSED TO BE OF SERVICE

Falling leaves, visions of turkey, soft rain: it must be time for Stewardship! Worship on November 2 provided an opportunity to hear about this year's "Blessed to be of Service" theme and the first draft of the budget for 2015. Wow! ALL that these monies support: an astonishing variety of spiritual and practical efforts for young and old inside and outside our building. Many completed cards describing blessings they have received and service they have rendered.

Next you'll hear of an opportunity for fellowship over "Pizza and Potables" with other church members/friends in one of a half-dozen homes around Salem. Come and munch and meet some of our new folks and explore more deeply why you and others are part of this church family. You'll also hear messages of encouragement for EVERYONE to pledge/give (even the most modest gifts are heartily welcomed) as this action is truly a Spiritual Exercise for all.

There's more, but circle November 23 on your calendar when during worship

you'll present your commitment, offer your time and talents, and provide canned/boxed foods to ensure others can celebrate the Giving of Thanks.
Dick Francois
for the Stewardship Committee

**Bring your family & friends
to shop the**

**All Church
Bazaar
& Art Sale**

**Friday, November 7
9 a.m. to 6 p.m.
and**

**Saturday, November 8
9 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Quilt Raffle @ 4 p.m.**

Lunch and pie served both days.

**Many one-of-a-kind items
and delicious goodies for sale.**



IN OUR PRAYERS

Prayers of thanksgiving for **Marcia Hauff's** healing and continued progress – she had her cast removed on Friday, and is now in a movable brace and will begin physical therapy... continued prayers of healing for **Vern Madison** who is experiencing extreme back pain, and of comfort and peace for **Connie and Vern** as they mourn the death of Connie's Brother-In-Law who passed away this past weekend ... prayers of comfort and gentle peace for **Paul, Antje, Holden, and Max Howard** as they grieve the unexpected death of Paul's brother, Mark Howard, who passed away a couple of weeks ago ... continued prayers of healing and grace for the **Harvey Family** as Elizabeth Harvey recovers from her heart attack, and as Rebecca Harvey has emergency back surgery this week; prayers for both women and for John Harvey and their family as they care for and support Rebecca and Elizabeth ... prayers of healing and courage for **Melvin Stewart** who is experiencing swelling at the site of his knee operation and may need another operation on it...Prayers of peace and comfort for **Jen and Stephen Sutton** whose family member, Deborah passed away from a stroke last week.

EMERGENCY WARMING SHELTER VOLUNTEER TRAINING

on Wednesday, Dec. 3, 6:30 p.m.

When it gets cold in Salem, those who live in tents and on the streets have nowhere to go to get warm – there are not enough beds in our shelters, and some homeless are unwilling to be at existing shelters because of past experiences they've had there, or because they have pets or family members who would not be welcome. Last year FCUCC partnered with Community Action Agency and other Salem organization to put together an Emergency Warming Shelter – but we did so last minute, and it was not without challenge.

This year, we're prepared. We have an impressive network of organizations that includes the downtown homelessness coalition, the City of Salem and Marion County Emergency Management, Community Action Agency, Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network, Salem Leadership Foundation, the Salvation Army, the Union Gospel Mission and Simonka Place, some downtown businesses, St. Mark Lutheran Church, and other downtown churches and community partners. If we get a cold weather event this winter (29 degrees or below predicted for 72 hours or more, and/or 1 inch or more of snow on the ground), we are well situated to care for those in our community who will need shelter. We would be open from 6pm – 7am for as long as conditions required, and would allow any person seeking warmth to shelter with us for the evening. FCUCC council has

voted to offer our building for a shelter again this year, and we are hopeful that other downtown congregations will join us in offering their buildings, ultimately setting up a network of buildings that could rotate weather events (for example, if we take a 3-day event in December and open our building as a shelter, then St. Mark would take an event in January, and First Christian Church would open for a February event).

The most crucial part of building an effective and safe shelter is gathering a network of trained volunteers. This is where you come in. **Please come to a training on December 3 at 6:30 p.m. in Talkington Hall** to learn from experts on how to communicate with shelter guests effectively, how to balance hospitality and safety, and how to de-escalate a conflict should one arise. Come if you live nearby and could get here in a weather event, come if you believe in caring for the homeless and poor in our community, come if you have questions about the shelter, come if you support this ministry of our church. Please come. Contact Pastor Emily or the Homelessness Task Force with questions.

Is not this the fast that I choose: to loose the bonds of injustice, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break every yoke? Is it not to share your bread with the hungry, and bring the homeless poor into your house; when you see the naked, to cover them, and not to hide yourself from your own kin?
Isaiah 58:6-7



LABYRINTH—WALKING MEDITATION on Sunday, November 9

Can't make a pilgrimage to Jerusalem or to Rome? Can't go to Spain to walk the Camino to Santiago de Compostela? You can walk a labyrinth instead, as devout Christians have done since the Middle Ages. On Sunday, November 9th, right here in Salem in our own Huntington Hall, a labyrinth will be available from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. and then again from 12:00 to 1:00 p.m. Judith Taussig will be available to answer questions and to provide some harp music conducive to walking meditation.

REIKI SHARE CIRCLE Tuesday, November 11th, 6:30 – 9:00 p.m. Talkington Hall

This is a time to experience & practice the art of Reiki. All are welcome, with or without Reiki experience or attunements. The word Reiki is made of two Japanese words, Rei which means “God’s Wisdom or the Higher Power” and Ki which is “life force energy”. Reiki is “spiritually guided life force energy.”

Reiki is a Japanese technique for stress reduction and relaxation that also promotes healing. It’s administered by the

gentle “laying on of hands” or by holding the hands slightly above the recipient’s fully clothed body. The practice of Reiki increases the flow of the “life force energy” which flows through all of us. When our “life force energy” is low, we are more likely to become sick or feel stress, when it is high we are more capable of being happy & healthy.

Reiki is a healing modality that can lead to a deeply spiritual path for those who are interested or for those who are called. *If you own a massage table & are able to bring it, please do.* We will be meeting at the same time on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. The circle will be facilitated by Jennifer Brodigan a Holy Fire Karuna® Reiki Master.

GAME NIGHT
Sat., November 15
Hosts Nancy Hull
and Chris Sproul
RSVP to
hullnancy2001@yahoo.com



Come and have fun!!! This is open to people of all ages. The first game session will start at 4:00. We will break for a potluck dinner at 6:00. A second game session will begin at 7:00, and ends around 9:00 pm. You can come for as much or as little of the evening as you wish.

If you are interested in attending, please RSVP directly to the host, and let them know what time you plan on coming: 4:00, 6:00 or 7:00 p.m.

SAINT MARK LUTHERAN
VISITING THEOLOGIAN PROGRAM
And the Walls Fell:
The Power of Music
November 13-15, 2014

Since the early 1970’s, Saint Mark Lutheran church has welcomed more than thirty distinguished theologians into the Congregation’s life of worship, learning and service. Teachers of church history, ethics, bible, culture, art, theology, liturgy and sacramental life have enriched its community’s deliberation on what it means to believe in the God of Israel and live accordingly. The ecumenical community, including students at Willamette U, Western Oregon U, and Mt. Angel Seminary have participated. By means of visiting teachers, Saint Mark Lutheran church hopes to encourage lively reflection and faithful action within the Congregation and all faith communities, inviting broad participation in the program for the sake of mutual appreciation, growth in common understanding and service.

This year, St. Mark welcomes renowned church musicians David & Susan Palo Cherwien. The theme is “And the Walls Fell: The Power of Music.” All events are free and open to the public. For more information, please contact Pastor Charles Mantey pastorcharles@stmarksalem.org or 503-588-0141. We have a brochure available in our own church office.

SALEM TRANSGENDER
AWARENESS WEEK Nov. 14-20, 2014
An educational and informative event.
All are welcome; reservations are re-

quired. Space is limited.

Friday, November 14 7- p.m. Panel discussion. Moderated by Nicole Jones of T+ Gather Panel Guests: Jayce Marcus, Dr. Renee Stor, Snarfy Knutson & Celeste Kent

Saturday, November 15

Trans 101 & 201: Training for family, friends, allies, educators, law enforcement, health care and all interested persons.

10 a.m.-12 p.m. Trans 101
Cultural Proficiency Training
Presenter: Kris Rieck

1- 3 p.m. Trans 201
Cultural Proficiency Training
Presenter: Kris Rieck

Soup & Bread Lunch offered between
Trans 101 & 201 from Noon-1 p.m.

7-9 p.m. Transgressing Gender:
Performance by Peterson Toscano
All events held at Freedom Friends:
2425 13th St. SE, Salem. There is no
charge for these events, donations ac-
cepted. Seating is limited. Reservations
are required for Trans 101 and 201
trainings: to reserve seat/s, email
salemtransweek@gmail.com

TAIZÉ PRAYER SERVICE

Wednesday, November 26,
at 5:30 p.m. It will feature beautiful
and meditative centering music, scrip-
ture readings, silence, singing and
prayer. If you have not gifted yourself
with this chance for inner peace-
seeking in the past, this would be an
excellent time to do so. Please come to
the Mayflower Chapel (which will
be transformed to a beautiful chapel
with candles and a large cross) for a

contemplative and spiritually rich half
hour. There will be a special treat after
the service.



YOUTH GROUP ADVENTURES:

Sun., Nov. 9, Senior High Our Whole Lives, 2-6 p.m. Permission slip re-
quired for this comprehensive, values-
based sexuality education session with
Pastor Emily and Steve Bearden.
Whether you're an OWL alum, or this
is your first time, come for this fun,
educational, important conversation
about values, health, and sexuality!

**Sun., Nov. 16, Mid High Youth
Group, 11:45 – 2 p.m.** Come have
lunch together, walk the labyrinth,
catch up and check in, and play some
group-building games. This is also the
youth group meeting where you can
have input on mid-high events for the
winter and spring – come with ideas
and requests!

**Sun., Nov. 23, Senior High Youth
Group, 11:45-2 p.m.** A Senior-High
version of the above – lunch, labyrinth,
catch up and check in, games, and
planning out the winter and spring of
youth group. Come with ideas and
stories to share!

Sun., Dec. 7, Advent Fest! Come help
out with Advent Fest after worship.
Wear a festive Christmas sweater, help

little ones with their crafts, participate in the dessert contest. Youth are an essential part of this community event – please come!

Sat., Dec. 13, Caroling! 3 p.m.

Come bring Christmas Cheer to members of our church who might need a little extra joy this winter. Join us for this intergenerational event of traipsing around Salem together to sing to members and friends of our church, followed by a potluck chili dinner back at the church. Starts at 3 p.m. at the church.

Sun., Dec. 14, Paint Day in the Youth Room! 12 p.m.-2 p.m.

The Youth Room has bright new colors, but the walls are blank! Bobby Brewer-Wallin sketched the outlines of our designs in pencil on the wall, and now we get to paint them in! Come finish the project we started this summer, and make the youth room awesome. Wear clothes that can get painty!

WANTED: TEENS (AND ADULTS TOO) TO HELP RUN THE SOUND BOARD!

Do you have experience working the sound boards for your high school music or theater departments? Would you *like* to gain experience in that area? Interested, but not sure? We need you!!! We are looking for teens (and adults too) who are interested in being trained on how to use the sound board at church. We are hoping for a team of 5-6 people who will then take turns running the sound board for the Sunday services. The commitment for running the sound system would probably be one Sunday/month, which

means sitting in back by the board, and monitoring and adjusting it during the service. If you are interested, please call or text Rebecca Ralston @ 503-949-5401 within the next week, so we can set up a training session soon! Thank you! *Music Committee*

BOOK STUDY CONCLUDED

“When a man stands up for social justice, non-violence, and basic human rights—for women as much as for men—he is acting in the best traditions of our civilization. This makes him not only a better man, but a better human being.” – Jackson Katz

The book study of *The Macho Paradox: Why Some Men Hurt Women and How All Men Can Help* concluded this week. The book study consisted of three sessions in which participants engaged in whole group and same-gender group discussions about this very sensitive topic. Pastor Janet Parker led the women’s discussions, and Greg Kirby (Jane Kirby’s son), a recent graduate from the University of Oregon in gender studies, led the men’s discussions.

The book provided a backdrop for participants to engage in real discussion about the causes and possible solutions to the problem of sexual violence toward women. Equal numbers of men and women participated in often emotional and difficult discussions about cultural factors that contribute to our tolerance of abuse and violence toward women and girls. In addition to providing readers with the staggering statistics demonstrating the magnitude

of the problem, the author re-frames the issue of sexual violence against women from a women's to a men's issue and describes the crucial role that men must play if we are to achieve a real solution to this multifaceted societal problem. This re-framing of the issue forced men and women participants to re-examine society's decades long effort to address the issue as a "women's issue," by focusing primarily on what happens *to women*. The book's author points out that "focusing on what happens *to women* has helped obscure the role played *by men*—and the male culture—in the ongoing violence."

Participants recognized the need to continue the dialogue surrounding this critically important issue and suggested future workshops for both the adults and children of the congregation. If you are interested in this topic, or in helping plan future events, please contact Pastor Janet. —*Maria Cruse*

SHEPHERDING PROGRAM

Coming soon. The Deacons Committee is in the process of developing a Shepherding program...it's not about herding sheep...but rather to provide a program that assists new members as they settle into the life of the church community. The idea is to pair a couple of existing members with a new individual member or family to help answer questions, make a phone call to touch base occasionally, or share a cup of coffee, or help the new person connect with other members of the congregation. The Deacons Committee has

been gathering information within our committee about their personal experiences in other church settings. In those discussions, other ideas have developed. This is still a "work in progress" at this point. Stay tuned for more information. *Kathy Crummer*, Deacons Co-Chair

ADULT EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES Sundays at 9:15 a.m.

in the Adult Education Classroom

November 9, your Homelessness Taskforce starts a three-week series. The first theme is "Who Is My Neighbor?" Participants will read about three families who are struggling to survive on low wages. We will begin to understand the obstacles that they face every day.

November 16, the topic is "Making Ends Meet." We will try to balance a low-income family's budget. We will experience the nearly impossible financial decisions that low-income families must make.

November 23, the third and final topic in the series is "What Would You Choose?" We will experience the stresses and struggles of life below the poverty line. We will discuss the tough decisions that face a single mother struggling to care for her children. These sessions should help us be more effective in helping the homeless folks and other poor folks in our community. We hope you will plan to be there.

December 7 on Eco Faith Recovery led by Sue Koger. Several members of our congregation recently had the opportunity to get an introduction to the practices developed by Robyn Hartwig (Janet's fiancée) and *EcoFaith Recov-*

ery. Sue Koger will be leading a follow up to that; this will serve as an intro to the practices for those who haven't yet met them, and an opportunity for deepening for those who have.

SIMPLY IN SEASON

The theme for the October meeting of Simply in Season was "Money." We started with a Bible reflection from Proverbs 13/23: "The field of the poor may yield much food, but it is swept away by injustice." We discussed the idea that those of us who have choices in what we eat are among the powerful. Eating a variety of foods, eating meat more than a few times a year, purchasing nonessential items such as sugar, eating meals in restaurants are indicators of wealth in many parts of the world. In our culture, poverty is marked by limited opportunities to buy fresh fruits and vegetables and other nutritious foods. We discussed our responsibility to learn the stories behind our food and the people who grow it as a way of understanding whether our food choices contribute to a just society. We discussed whether searching for the lowest-priced foods is the best way to be good stewards of our money when often it's the farmer, farmworker, and farming community paying the price for the low price.

Did you know (assuming the apples and wheat for the bread are grown in the US and the coffee is grown overseas)...

The apple farmer only receives 20% of the cost.

The wheat farmer only receives 5% of the cost of bread.

The coffee farmer only receives 1 to 2 % of the cost.

One way we can support a just society is to buy local, seasonal and fairly traded food whenever possible, as this benefits the farmer directly. We considered what role the church can play in seeing that access to fresh, local food is not limited to the middle class and wealthy. *Dell Ford*, Group Leader

SALEM INTERFAITH HOSPITALITY NETWORK (SIHN)

We are excited to tell you that our next week with the SIHN families will be Christmas week (Dec 21-28). The Youth's Mission Project the month of December will be preparing and hosting a Christmas party for the families, which will include tree trimming, art project and caroling, plus goodies. In preparation for that event, do you have a Christmas ornament you would like to donate to the tree trimming? We will have a basket to collect ornaments starting the first Sunday of Advent. Volunteer sign up opportunities for the week families are here will begin Sunday, the 16th of November.

Mission & Outreach Committee

LGBTQ Get Together

LGBTQ group meets Friday, Dec.12 @ 6 p.m. for dinner at Table Five-08 Restaurant, 508 State Street in Salem. Please call Bev @ 503-302-3566, so she can make reservations for the group. Afterwards, plan to attend the Confluence Choir Concert at the church @ 7:30 p.m.



INSTA-PAGEANT to be performed during worship on Dec. 21 Calling all angels and shepherds, wise people and singers – we’re

doing a pageant! In an effort to balance the joy of a pageant, and the busy-ness of our FCUCC families’ lives, we’re doing a quick, 3-rehearsal pageant to be shared during worship on Dec. 21. This pageant will be rehearsed during Learning Hour on December 7 and 14, and before worship on December 21. We have roles for all children who would like to be involved – please try to get your young disciples to worship each of these three days, so we can rehearse and put together the pageant of all pageants! And prepare to be wowed and spirit-filled on the 21st for our interactive, intergenerational worship service that includes beautiful music, a pageant of fun and joy, and our whole church family together as we anticipate the birth of the Christ Child!



FAMILY BUILDING BLOCKS GIVING TREE
Help make Christmas *merry and bright* for Salem families who need a little extra help to get presents under the tree

this holiday season. Tags are on the tree in the McDougle Narthex. Bring un-wrapped gift(s), with the tag firmly attached back to church by Sunday, December 7. Family Building Blocks will pick up the gifts on December 8.

POINSETTIA ORDER FORM

Please fill out this form if you wish to order a poinsettia to grace the sanctuary during Advent. Place the form (with payment attached) in the offering plate or put it in the file on the office counter. They are \$10 each and may be taken home after the Christmas Eve Candlelight Service.

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of poinsettias: ____

In honor of:

In memory of :

Check/Cash enclosed in the amount of \$ _____

CHURCH EXCHANGE BOARD NEWS

There are several new services being offered on the Exchange Board that include custom sewing and house cleaning/yard work. Also offered are babysitting services, hair cutting services, computer support and firewood. Please check out the board during coffee hour. If you need a service or a product, please feel free to fill out a card and place it on the board. We ask that you remove your card once you have received the product or service requested or if you no longer able to offer your services. *Trustees*

Weekly Recurring Events

Sundays

8:30 a.m. **Contemplative Prayer Group**, Conference Room

9:15 a.m. **Adult Learning Hour**, Adult Education Classroom

10:30 a.m. **Worship Service & Children's Learning Hour**

11:45 a.m. **Fellowship Time**, Talkington Hall

Mondays

12 noon **Adult Book Study meets in Parlor**

The group is reading: *A People's History of Christianity* written by Diana Butler Bass. Don Lundberg facilitates. Join us!

7 p.m. **Bell Choir rehearsal**, Huntington Hall Stage--until 8:30 p.m.

Tuesdays

3:30 p.m. **Meet up with Pastor Emily at the Ike Box** until 5 p.m.

Wednesdays

5:30 p.m. **Contemplative Prayer Group**— meets on the main floor

This group does not meet on fourth Wednesdays when we offer a Taizé Prayer Service.

Thursdays

7:15 p.m. **Chancel Choir rehearsal** — (not on Nov. 6! See calendar.)

Monthly Recurring Events

Third Mondays at 6:30 p.m. **Woman Spirit** bevnjenny@comcast.net for more info.

4th Wednesdays at 5:30 p.m. **Taizé Prayer Service** in the Mayflower Chapel (Not in December)

1st Saturdays at 8:05 a.m. **Men's Breakfast** at McGrath's Restaurant (downtown location)

You are invited to join any group at any time. All are welcome!

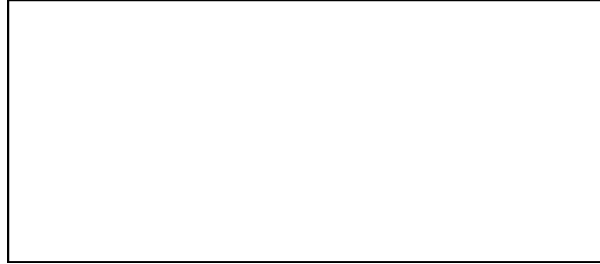


CALENDAR

Wednesday, November 5	6:15 p.m.	Mission & Outreach mtg., Parlor
	7:15 p.m.	Choir rehearsal on Wednesday this week!
Friday, November 7	9:00 a.m.	All Church Bazaar & Art Sale till 6 p.m.
Saturday, November 8	9:00 a.m.	All Church Bazaar & Art Sale till 4 p.m.
Sunday, November 9	9:15 a.m.	Labyrinth in Huntington Hall till 10:15 a.m.
	noon	Labyrinth in Huntington Hall until 1 p.m.
	2:00 p.m.	Senior High Youth Group OWL training
Tuesday, November 11	6:30 p.m.	Trustees meeting, Conf. Rm.
Wednesday, November 12	7:00 p.m.	Council meeting, Parlor
Saturday, November 15	4:00 p.m.	Game night at Chris Sproul & Nancy Hull's
Sunday, November 16	11:45 a.m.	Mid High Youth Group until 2 p.m.
	12 midnight	<i>Shalom</i> deadline
Monday, November 17	6:30 p.m.	Woman Spirit meets at Bev & Jenny's <u>bevjenny@comcast.net</u> for more info
	6:30 p.m.	Community Committee mtg. Conf. Rm.
Tuesday, November 18	5:30 p.m.	Deacons meeting, Nursery
Wednesday, November 19	7:00 p.m.	Christian Education board mtg. Nursery
Thursday, November 20	6:00 p.m.	Music Committee mtg. Choir Room
Sunday, November 23	10:30 a.m.	In-Gathering Sunday
	11:45 a.m.	Senior High Youth Group until 2 p.m.
Wednesday, November 26	5:30 p.m.	Taizé Prayer Service
Thurs., Nov. 27 and Fri., Nov. 28		Thanksgiving — Building Closed
Sunday, November 30		First Sunday of Advent —<i>Shalom</i> deadline
Tuesday, December 2	6:30 p.m.	Welcoming Committee mtg., Conf. Rm.
Wednesday, December 3	6:15 p.m.	Mission and Outreach Committee mtg.
	6:30 p.m.	Emergency Warming Shelter Training
	7:00 p.m.	Peace and Justice Committee mtg.
Sunday, December 7	11:45 a.m.	Advent Fest — Second Sunday of Advent
Tuesday, December 9	6:30 p.m.	Trustees meeting, Conf. Rm.
Wednesday, December 10	7:00 p.m.	Council meeting, Parlor
Friday, December 12	6:00 p.m.	LBGTQ dinner at Table Five-08 Restaurant
	7:30 p.m.	Confluence Chorus Concert <i>Winter Wonder</i>
Saturday, December 13	3:00 p.m.	Caroling with Chili Potluck to follow
Sunday, December 14		Third Sunday of Advent — <i>Shalom</i> deadline
Monday, December 15	6:30 p.m.	Community Committee mtg. ,Conf. Rm.
Tuesday, December 16	5:30 p.m.	Deacons meeting, Nursery
Wednesday, December 17	7:00 p.m.	Christian Education board mtg. Nursery
Sunday, December 21	10:30 a.m.	Christmas Pageant; Fourth Sunday of Advent

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Salem, OR 97301-3829

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Advent Fest 2014
Sunday, December 7, immediately following worship

- * Sandwich buffet and cookie dessert
(Prizes for most festive sandwich and cookie platters.)
- * Story time with Lyndsey Houser
- * Advent wreath decorating with fresh greens
- * Card making—Cookie decorating—Crafts galore
- * An exchange of *something* Christmassy. (Category to be announced.)
 - * Ugly Christmas sweater contest
 - * Fair trade shopping with One Fair World

*Everyone, put this joy-and-cheer-filled afternoon
of Christmas fun on your calendars!*