



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

Tamara Smith, Moderator
March 25, 2015



Holy Week

HOLY WEEK SCHEDULE

March 29, Palm/Passion Sunday

8:15 a.m. Contemplative Prayer Group
10:15 a.m. Gather outside for palm
processional around the building.
10:30 a.m. Worship Service

April 2, Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Tenebrae Service
with Communion and
optional foot washing

Saturday, April 4

Come to help the Deacons decorate the
Sanctuary for Easter at 10 a.m.

April 5, Easter Sunday

9 a.m. Intergenerational
Worship Service with Communion
10:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt
11 a.m. An Easter Service of
Word and Sacrament
No Learning Hour.
Nursery open at both services.

SIHN & CHURCH BENEFIT CONCERT **"SONGS OF CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE** **...AND HOPE"** **Saturday, April 25 @ 7:30 a.m.**

Songs of Civil Disobedience ...and Hope is the title of an inspiring concert that will take place here at our church. The concert is being offered in lieu of our Dine, Dance, and Bid fundraiser this year. The band bringing timeless and heartfelt songs and the messages they carry is a local one who have taken to calling themselves, logically enough, "The Civil Disobedients". They are Marcia Christenson, Jana Loney, and Ryan Amend on guitar, keyboard and vocals and Ron Relaford, lead guitar and me, Steve Yant, on the bass. This will be the third and final time this concert will be performed here in Salem. It received a lot of buzz around town and was publicized and broadcast on KMUZ. The songs hearken back to the 60s when the Civil Rights struggle and the war in Vietnam dominated the news of the day and rested heavy on people's hearts and minds. There will be songs by Peter, Paul and Mary, by

Buffy Saint Marie and Joan Baez, by the Seekers, by Pete Seeger and Woody Guthrie, by the Byrds and Simon and Garfunkel. You will laugh and you will cry as you recall and relive the earnestness and innocence of these times which still is to be found in the music of this era. A suggested donation of \$10 will be accepted at the door and the proceeds after expenses will be split between the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network and the ongoing mission of our church.

Palm Sunday

Riding on a donkey of humility,
Jesus entered into Jerusalem -
A king without a battalion of guards
without horses, without military tanks,
without cannons and machine guns.

The children laid down the branches
of palm trees as carpet on the ground
Others lifted them up to hail him
while chorusing hosannas as he drove
by.

“Blessed is he who comes
in the name of the Lord.”

Today Jesus enters into
the gates of homes, churches and
other machineries of control and
down deep into every human heart.

Today let hosannas resound
Saying no to wars and weapons
no to hatred, revenge and death
But yes to the subtle claim
in the heart to let the love of Jesus
reign.— By Elizabeth Padillo Olesen

DRINK WATER FOR LIFE OFFERING COLLECTED SUNDAY!

As in past years, we will collect your offerings for "Drink Water for Life" on Palm/Passion Sunday, March 29. Have you saved up money during Lent that you would have used to buy specialty coffee and tea drinks or bottled water? Is your Starbucks card more flush than usual? Bring your savings, or what you would like to donate to the Drink Water for Life fund. This year we have highlighted the connections between climate change and clean water. For the past two years, we have been providing specially designated funds to reforest Haiti's tropical forests -- which allows our church to move towards being carbon neutral and the Haitians to have hardwood and fruit trees that provide income and buffer streams from excess sediment. You may donate cash or make checks out to First Congregational Church with "Drink Water for Life" in the memo line.

IN OUR PRAYERS...

Rebecca Ralston for comfort after the loss of first her father followed by her mother just over a week later...

Nancy Winner for healing and recovery from MRSA...continued prayers for recovery from knee replacement surgery for **Chris Sproul**...prayers for healing for **Russ Fowler** who is undergoing radiation treatments for prostate cancer...

THANK YOU

I just wanted to let you all know how much I appreciated your prayers, hugs, cards, concern, well wishes, positive energy, and condolences over this past month when both my parents passed away within just nine days of each other. It involved 2 back-to-back trips to Tennessee, both during ice storms. Needless to say, it's wonderful to be back home in rainy Oregon!! If you are interested, there is a link in the national church website about my father @ www.ucc.org. In the search box, type in: *theodore_braun_obituary_03122015* Thanks for your love and support- *Rebecca Ralston*

CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Amy Sackett on finishing her B.S. in Public Policy at Western Oregon University last week.

ONE GREAT HOUR OF SHARING

TO DATE, we raised \$982 for the OGHS special Lenten offering. If you haven't contributed yet; it's not too late to do so. Just mark the memo line of your check OGHS. Thank you for your generosity!

WEDDING BELLS: SAVE THE DATE!

My partner, Robyn Hartwig, and I have invited members of both of our congregations to join in celebrating our marriage on August 15, 2015. Some have been asking for a reminder of the date and time as they make summer plans. The service will take place next door, at St. Mark Lutheran Church (to accommodate the numbers anticipated to attend) at 1:00 p.m. A cake and punch reception will follow in our own Hun-

tington and Talkington Halls. We look forward to sharing our joyful day with many of you. It would be most helpful if RSVPs could be received from those planning to attend by early June. Anne-mieke has graciously agreed to take RSVPs via email to the church office: office@uccsalem.org.

Pastor Janet Parker

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 4 Noel Philips
- 4 Kalia Flocker
- 4 Elizabeth Beaver
- 5 Roberto Franco
- 9 Susie Francois
- 11 Karina Gonzalez
- 11 Albert Butsch
- 11 Jack Jenkins
- 12 Kary Flocker
- 13 Barbe Hosier
- 14 Bill Fujii
- 15 Eddy Binford-Ross
- 19 Vern Madison
- 19 Myron Wells
- 20 Nathan Butsch
- 22 Lauren Taber
- 23 Lyda Rice
- 24 MaryJane Williams
- 25 Peter Bergel
- 27 Cassie Gutterman-Johns
- 28 Bobby Brewer-Wallin
- 28 Molly Balmer
- 30 Steve Bearden
- 30 Warren Binford



EASTER NEEDS

Easter offers a few opportunities for expanding your own personal celebration. Some suggestions are :

- 1) Come Saturday morning, before Easter Sunday, to the church sanctuary

to help decorate for the Easter Sunday worship services. We will gather at 10:00 a.m. and be finished by noon. Rumor has it that donuts and hot cross buns will be available!

2) Easter Sunday morning bring flowers/leaves/stalks/anything from your yard to participate in the "Flowering of the Cross". The cross will be in the front of the sanctuary...bare and kind of creepy looking...until we each add our flowering to it before the start of each service (8:45-9:00 or 10:45-11:00). All are invited to join in the glory of Easter morning: young/old; short/tall. Ushers will be on hand to help as needed. Extra flowers/leaves will be made available should you forget, but please make a "note to self" to bring flowers and greens to share in one more way to celebrate the resurrection.

3) Friends are needed to help take Easter plants to members of our church family who are not able to come to one of the services. If you are able to help with this annual ministry of our church, please contact Susie François (503-362-5608 rkfrancois@aol.com)

She will have the list of names of those to whom we need to deliver this small piece of Easter joy. Plants can be delivered on either Easter Sunday or Easter Monday...and can be picked up in front of the sanctuary after the 11:00 service on Easter Sunday, or from 10:00-noon on Easter Monday.

BE AN EASTER BUNNY ASSISTANT

The Christian Education Committee needs generous Easter-lovers who'd like to help the Easter Egg Hunt by donating a bag (or a few!) of Easter candy to this joyful cause. Please drop it off at the church office, or bring it to church on Sunday. Michelle Laseter can also be contacted to gather candies. Please make sure the candies are individually wrapped. Bulk candy from Winco, Safeway, Fred Meyer... pick up a pound when you are shopping. Don't love candy? What about stickers, or small toys? What's your favorite egg treat? Bring it to share. Please deliver by noon on March 29th (Palm Sunday).

Thank you for helping make the Bunny's job easier and lighting up the faces of our kids.



GAME NIGHT

Saturday, April 10 at 5 p.m. at Chris Sproul's and Nancy Hull's home in West Salem until 9 p.m. Potluck dinner at 5:30 p.m. Please RSVP to hullnancy2001@yahoo.com or 503-364-2370

OUR CHURCH ONLINE

Website: Did you know that our church's directory is available on our website? Once you have created a user account on our site and have been approved as a registered user, you will be able to access the latest church directory. We are posting other information that is only of interest to people of our church community on

the member-only side of our website as well. We recommend that you create an account if you have not already done so. Just go to www.uccsaalem.org and click “sign-up” on the right hand side of the screen.



Facebook: Did you know that our church has its own Facebook page and that we post news, and photos, and videos regularly? Don't miss out! If you are on Facebook, please “like” us. Currently, we are at 205 “likes.” Let's see how fast we can make it to 250, or 300! The more people who like us on Facebook and *share* our FB posts, the more online traffic we'll get, the more people will find us!

SIHN UPDATE – Blankets Needed

The Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network is collecting blankets for the families who are in the network. If you have a blanket you would be willing to donate, please bring it to the church and mark it “SIHN”.

Thank you! *Susan Bearden*

SIHN HOST WEEK IS COMING UP

We are hosting SIHN families April 5-12. Please visit the sign-up table in the McDougale narthex on Sunday to see which volunteer opportunities have not yet been claimed by others. The Mission and Outreach members who staff the table are happy to answer your questions and help you find a way to support this meaningful ministry.

YOUTH WORK DAYS

Do you have ambitious plans for your yard? Or have some major spring cleaning to do? Our youth are here to help! Hire our youth to give you a hand as part of their fundraising for the Chiloquin mission trip this July. Interested? Contact Emma Brewer-Wallin (ebrewerw@gmail.com 503-989-9626) with info about the type of work you'd like done, how many youth you'd like (per our Safe Church policy, we must have at least two youth + one adult), how many hours you expect the project to take, and a couple of dates that would work for you. Cost is entirely up to you! Your donation will be divided among the youth who work to offset the family contribution.

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

SPRING LUNCH

Women's Fellowship is holding their spring luncheon on Wednesday, April 1st at 12:15. A variety of salads will be provided by the Women's Fellowship Circle groups. The program will be a presentation by Priscilla Strayer on the quilted triptych that hangs for much of the year in the chapel behind the choir loft. The triptych was designed by Rev. Stephen Haddan with Priscilla and others from the church actually completing the detailed work which was dedicated to the late Sue Cox. See it up close and learn all about its history, meaning, and creation. Priscilla has discovered some archival material which she will be sharing.

**MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR
ADULT LEARNING HOUR
IN APRIL AND MAY**

Tom and Amy Vandegrift will be presenting a program about the Peace Corps and their experiences during Adult Learning Hour on **April 12th at 9:00 a.m.** (note the earlier start time). Amy and Tom served in the U.S. Peace Corps in Lesotho. As a married couple, they were a rarity because only 5% of volunteers are married. They were both "old enough to know better" (in their 50s), but did it anyway. They look forward to sharing their story with you.

The Lost Way Steve Patterson, New Testament scholar, former member of our church, and George H. Atkinson Chair of Religious and Ethical Studies at Willamette University, leads Adult Learning Hour on **April 19 and 26 at 9:15 a.m.** The topic is his new book, *The Lost Way: How Two Forgotten Gospels Are Rewriting the Story of Christian Origins*. It's not necessary to read his book prior to attending. If you are free on Mondays at noon, consider joining the Monday Adult Study Book Group who are reading this book.

Resolution of Witness on Palestine Israel - Standing for Justice in the UCC Join Reverend Diane Dulin on Sunday, **May 3 at 9:15 a.m.** for Adult Learning Hour. This session is designed to introduce the content, purposes, rationales and anticipated outcomes of the Resolution of Witness on Palestine Israel that will be under consideration at General Synod 30 (June 26-20 in Cleveland, Ohio. This resolu-

tion is endorsed by multiple UCC Conferences including our own Central Pacific Conference. Why are delegates being asked to endorse boycott of certain products and divestment from certain companies? Why does this Resolution seek political advocacy regarding military funding to Israel, interfaith dialogue for our churches and leaders, and study of the *Kairos Palestine* document of the Christian Community of Palestine? Come and find out. Rev. Dulin is a UCC minister and serves as Director of Church Participation for Kairos USA.

MONDAY ADULT BOOK STUDY GROUP

Tying in nicely with the April 19 and 26 Adult Learning Hour program, the Monday Adult Book Study Group that meets at noon is reading "The Lost Way." The book explores the earliest Christian origins through the study of two forgotten gospels: the "Gospel of Thomas" and the "Book of Q". In a scholarly yet accessible book, Patterson introduces early wisdom traditions and communities of the Way. For more information, contact Don Lundberg lund3735@gmail.com 503-877-0596.

WND YOUNG ADULT GROUP

Are you around the age of 18-35? Do you like delicious food and good friends? Do you want a community of people to journey with, to have spiritual conversation with, to laugh with, maybe even to dance with? Cameron Crucial and Pastor Emily are starting a young adult group at church, and all 18-35 (ish) folks are invited! We're go-

ing to try a **Wednesday Night Dinner** (WND) model, of meeting once a month (ish) for food and fellowship and wherever the night takes us! Stay tuned for the date. If you have questions, email cameronmc@riseup.net. Have ideas for what you'd like to do, or how you'd like this group to go? We're all ears. Be in touch.

THE YOUTH GROUP NEEDS YOUR HELP! For this year's Earth Day celebration, they will be participating in a recycled materials craft booth at Riverfront Park making masks and other fun *thingamabobbers*. They are in need of plastic milk jugs, egg cartons, and toilet paper rolls to get the project going. If you have any of these items, you may drop them off in the appropriately labeled bin at the church. If you are interested in learning more, or if you want to join (we're looking for another adult to help out!) you may contact Cameron Cruscial 503-383-9537 or cameronmc@riseup.net.



Sunday, March 29

Mid-High, 12-2 p.m., Game Day! Bring your favorite game and teach us how to play! We'll also check in and see how everyone's doing while we stuff Easter Eggs for the little ones.

Senior High, 2-5 p.m., Our Whole Lives! Topics: Sexual Development, Gender Identity, and Sexual Orientation. Come to this comprehensive, values-based sexuality education program, whether you've come to every session or whether this is your first! Leaders are Kris Rieck, Steve Bearden, and Pastor Emily.

Sunday, April 5

We need youth to help hide Easter Eggs! If you're coming to the 9 a.m. intergenerational service, slip out after the sermon to help hide the eggs for our little ones. See Maria Cruse and Susan Hall for details.

Saturday, April 11

Earth Day in Salem! 10 a.m.-1p.m. Combined Youth Groups meet at Riverfront Park to join in Salem's Earth Day Celebration, put on by the City of Salem and Straub Environmental Center. We'll have a booth there to make recycled art projects and to help people make masks for the parade later in the day. Cameron's organizing this one - see him for questions.

Sunday, April 19

Senior High, 12-2 p.m., Big Questions Come have a conversation about some of the Big Stuff we wonder about, starting with fate and destiny. Who's in charge of our lives? What role does God play in it all? How do free will and faith fit together? And we'll go from there. Bring your questions - we'll go wherever the conversation leads us. And, there will be snacks! Leaders are Cameron and Pastor Emily

Mid High, 2-5 p.m., Our Whole Lives!
Topics: Love-making, safer sex,
STD's, responsible behavior, concep-
tion and pregnancy. Leaders are Steve
Bearden & Pastor Emily.

Stay tuned for more Youth Group
activities in April and May, and save
the date **May 17**, 2-5 p.m. for Senior
High OWL.

LEADERS NEEDED

FOR ALL CHURCH CAMP

Leaders are needed for All Church
Camp, Labor Day weekend, Septem-
ber 4-6, Friday evening through Sun-
day lunch. For 10+ years, campers of
all ages have gathered at Camp Adams,
some for the day, others for one or two
nights of fun, fellowship, food and
Sunday worship in the Cascade foot-
hills.

But it can't happen without leaders to
plan and facilitate the event. At least
two volunteers are needed to provide
leadership for this year's camp. Last
year's leaders, Maya Close and
Mesheal Heyman are willing to assist
but cannot take the lead this year.

Initial planning happens in the spring.
Then the focus is on publicity and reg-
istration until mid-August, with a burst
of activity in the week leading up to
and including camp. Maya and
Mesheal have extensive notes from
previous years and systems to help
make preparations flow smoothly. For
questions or to sign up to volunteer,
please call Maya Close 503 585 2348
or e-mail mayajim_close1891@q.com.

SPRING ALL CHURCH POTLUCK
Sunday, April 12 immediately follow-
ing worship. Bring your favorite dish
to share with your church friends &
family at this Community Committee
sponsored event.

Weekly Recurring Events at church

SUNDAYS

8:30 a.m.

Contemplative Prayer Group,
Conference Room

9:15 a.m.

Adult Learning Hour,
Adult Education Classroom.
See article for dates.

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 the Parlor. See article.

7 p.m. **Bell Choir rehearsal** Hunt. Hall

WEDNESDAYS

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

5:30 p.m. **Taizé Prayer Service**
(weekly during the season of Lent)

THURSDAYS

7:15 p.m. **Chancel Choir rehearsal
with Ray Elliott, director.**

New voices are always welcome. Join!

Calendar

Wednesday, March 25	9:30 a.m. Bazaar Crafts, Nursery 5:30 p.m. Taizé Prayer Service
Sunday, March 29	11:45 a.m. Emergency Bag Lunch Assembly 12 noon Mid High Youth Group games 2:00 p.m. Senior High Youth Group OWL
Wednesday, April 1	10:30 a.m. Women's Fellowship Board meeting 12:15 a.m. Women's Fellowship Luncheon 7:00 p.m. Peace & Justice Board meeting
Maundy Thursday, April 2	7:00 p.m. Maundy Thursday service
Easter Sunday, April 5	9 a.m. Worship Service 10:15 a.m. Easter Egg Hunt 11 a.m. Worship Service
Easter Sunday, April 5	5:00 p.m. Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network families arrive for a week's stay midnight Shalom deadline
Tuesday, April 7	6:30 p.m. Welcoming Committee meeting
Wednesday, April 8	9:30 a.m. Bazaar Crafts, Nursery 7:00 p.m. Council meeting
Sunday, April 12	11:45 a.m. All Church Potluck Lunch <i>Bring your favorite dish to share with your church friends & family at this Community Committee sponsored event.</i>
Tuesday, April 14	6:30 p.m. Trustees meeting 6:30 p.m. Reiki Share Circle
Wednesday, April 15	1:30 p.m. Women's Fellowship Circles meet: Day Circle @ Dell Ford's Former Evening Circle @ Lyda Rice's 6:30 p.m. Community Committee meeting 7:00 p.m. Christian Education Board meeting
Saturday, April 18	9:00 a.m. Active Hope Workshop
Sunday, April 19	10:30 a.m. Worship Service—Rev. Noel Phillips will preach
Tuesday, April 21	5:30 p.m. Deacons meeting, Nursery
Wednesday, April 22	9:30 a.m. Bazaar Crafts, Nursery 5:30 p.m. Taizé Prayer Service
Saturday, April 25	SIHN concert midnight Shalom deadline

Active Hope

How to face the mess we're in
without going crazy.

Saturday, April 18, 2015, 9 am to 4 pm

Sponsored by First Congregational United Church of Christ, Salem, OR

Take time out for a day of respite, healing, creativity, and fun.

Active Hope is an empowering, creative stance for meeting the many challenges

we face: With our planet and economies in crisis, our political process in chaos, and our cultural story in transition, many of us may feel hopeless, cynical, or despairing. This workshop, based on the work of eco-philosopher Joanna Macy, explores new ways in which we can face these issues, find inspiration, and embody our gifts for the healing of our world. Through the use of deep dialogue, group ritual, music, and our own wild imaginings, we will explore together the ground of gratitude, honor our pain for the world, and grow our deepened sense of interconnectedness and empowerment as we face, together, the peril and beauty of our changing world.

Location: 1st Congregational UCC, 700 Marion St. NE, Salem, OR 97301

Donation based on a Gift Economy. Bring your own lunch, or add \$10 for sandwich bar.

More information and **required registration** at <http://www.barbaraford.net/>



Workshop Leader Barbara Ford is an activist, therapist, facilitator, singer, and artist with over 30 years of experience working with individuals and groups to explore the convergence of spirit, creativity, and living an engaged life.

"An inspiring guide in the 'Work that Reconnects,' Barbara combines a contagious vitality and a firm faith in the power of the human spirit. It is a joy for me to watch how she enlivens groups with her humor, intellect, and creativity." – Joanna Macy

BIG QUESTIONS OVER LUNCH AT WILLAMETTE UNIVERSITY

Steve Green (Fred H. Paulus Professor of Law and Director of the Center for Religion, Law, and Democracy) will discuss, "How America Became a Christian Nation – From Myth to National Creed" at the Big Questions Over Lunch session on April 7, in the Alumni Lounge (Putnam University Center), 11:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m. You are invited to bring lunch or arrive early to purchase it at the Cat Cavern Café.

Professor Green will discuss the origins of the idea that America had a religious founding, placing that idea within the context of a national myth of origins. His presentation is based on his forthcoming book, *Inventing a Christian America: The Myth of the Religious Founding*.

For more information, call 503-370-6213 or see www.willamette.edu/dept/chaplain/events/index.html.

Easter Flowers



Every Easter Sunday, our sanctuary is a glorious shout of color, as we celebrate the resurrection with a display of seasonal flowers. We use a few traditional Easter lilies as well as other flowering plants.

Please use the form below to place your order. It's a wonderful way to take Easter home with you when our celebrations are over (after the 11 a.m. service) and to honor those you love. Or if you would like, your plants can be shared with others not able to attend Easter services.

I would like to place

_____ Easter lily/lilies

_____ Flowering plant/s

In honor of:

and/or in memory of:

Cost per item \$10

Your name:

I will take home my plant(s) after the 11 a.m. worship service

I will donate my plant(s) to others

Make check out to
First Congregational Church
and please mark memo line:
Easter flowers

**Please put this order form in the offering plate along with your payment OR drop it off at the office or send it in, by Wednesday, April 1.
Thank you!**

Deacons

First Congregational Church
700 Marion Street NE
Salem, OR 97301-3829

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