

The Messenger



Open Hearts. Open Minds. Open Doors
The People of the United Methodist Church
Monthly Publication
Canby United Methodist Church
February 2018
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From The Pastor's Desk.....

"To achieve something you have never achieved before you must become someone you have never been."

Les Brown

Walking along the beach of Lake Galilee, Jesus saw two brothers: Simon (later called Peter) and Andrew. They were fishing, throwing their nets into the lake. It was their regular work. Jesus said to them, "Come with me. I'll make a new kind of fisherman out of you. I'll show you how to catch men and women instead of perch and bass." They didn't ask questions, but simply dropped their nets and followed.

Matthew 4:19, The Message

During Lent this year, I will be focusing on the *Five Practices of a Fruitful Congregation*, based on the book by Bishop Robert Schnase. We have spent time in January focusing on who we are as followers of Christ, exiles in a strange place, bringers of a new kingdom, a new way of living. This study of the Five Practices will expand our thinking about what it means to live out the call of Christ on our lives. One of the Five Practices is "Passionate Worship."

Worship together is an important part of our Christian lives together. We

participate in liturgy in worship, but it is so much more than words repeated together or a script followed. As shared in an online article published by Liturgy Brisbane we are reminded that,

Liturgy is always an action, something we do; it is not simply a text in a book. Liturgy is a public action, a ritual action, and a symbolic action. We participate in the action of the liturgy by responding, singing, listening and joining in the gestures.

The tangible words and actions made by the Church in liturgy signify the mysterious Word of God who acts in our midst; in fact, the liturgy actually makes present God's action in the world since it is Christ who acts in the worship of the Church, Christ's body. It is in the proclamation of the word that God speaks to us; it is in the breaking of the bread that we recognize Christ.¹

I believe that we are enlivened and strengthened and deepened in our lives to such an extent in our communal worship and study (whether in Sunday worship or in small groups at home or public meeting areas) that we have what we need to live out the call of God to each Christ follower to be bringers of the kingdom in any and every situation we might find ourselves in the living of daily life.

¹ "What is Liturgy?" *Liturgy Brisbane*. Copyright 2018. Archdiocese of Brisbane. liturgybrisbane.net.au/liturgylines/what-is-liturgy-2/
Accessed 25-01-18.

Will you let the work of worship change you? Even if you have “been in church all your life” can you believe that God has a new thing for you this year? A new vision for our community of faith? A new place of healing or forgiveness? Jesus has not stopped calling and hopefully, we have not ceased responding.

Always refining our fishing skills together,
Pastor Karen

Pastoral Goals for 2018

1. We need to be newly **familiarized with God’s whole story**. Do we have more than a Sunday school education of the whole story of God? How can we be a part of a story we do not know?

Goal: To read and study the key stories of the Bible this year individually, in small groups, as a large group, online through Facebook posts, a blog, and brief, regular video posts on Youtube.

2. We need to **understand our role in this society as followers of Christ**.

Goal: To study and hear the text of I Peter, a letter written to the scattered exiled Christ followers in the first century.

Goal: To study the *Five Practices of Fruitful Congregations* and expand our living out of these practices.

3. We need **to know His story** and how we fit into it.

Goal: To write our stories of faith and share them in worship. To practice them with each other in small groups, and one to one.

4. We need **to share His story** and our stories with many others.

5. We need **to invite others to know and participate in God’s story**.

Goal: To invite friends to worship. To increase our congregational attendance 25-30 people.

Goal: To baptize 3 new believers this year and to welcome 5 new members into our congregation.

Please keep praying with these goals in mind.

Exploring the Story and Fruitful Practices February 2018

Preaching:

Feb 4, 2018

I Peter 4:1-11

Living for God

Feb 11, 2018

I Peter 4:12-19

The Cost of Following Christ

Feb 14

Ash Wednesday

Feb 18, 2018

First Sunday in Lent

Fruitful practices:

Radical Hospitality

Romans 12:9-21

“Disciple” is a Verb

Feb 25, 2018

Second Sunday in Lent

Fruitful practices:

Passionate Worship

John 4:21-24

**Worship: The Work of the People
Learning the Story**

Each week I invite you to read and reflect on a portion of God's Story. Read the scripture several times and discern your place in this part of God's story. How does this part of the story help you understand the whole story more fully?

Finish by Feb 4
Genesis 12:1-9, 15:1-21
God's Covenant with Abraham

Finish by Feb 11
Genesis 22:1-19
Abraham nearly sacrifices his son

Finish by Feb 18
Genesis 27:1-40
Jacob receives the blessing

Finish by Feb 25
Genesis 29:16-35, 30:1-24
Jacob's family

Watch for "Taking Action" prompts in the bulletin, posts on Facebook and the website for further resources, insights and shared reflections on these readings.

Thoughts from Our District Superintendent

#MeToo — This is the one thing I think is the most relevant and peaceful to come out of 2017. For maybe the first time in our nation's history and in the history of human culture the issue of power and sex has come to the fore. For me personally, as a middle-class white male, it has forced me to realize how I have treated women in the past and how I have taken for granted my privilege and my perceived right to behave in certain ways. I have had to evaluate how I speak, sit, stand, listen, react, assume, engage, etc.

not only with women but with all people. I find I have a lot to regret in how I have functioned in the past and know that those tapes will replay again and again, necessitating deeper reflection and confession and intentional work on doing things differently. I know my confession — my repentance — needs to be more than words and outer changes. It has to be at the very core of my being and for this to happen **I need to listen, learn, practice, and confess again and again**, and try harder every time I fall short of being the best person I can be. God desires for me, for us all, to treat everyone with dignity, respect, and compassion. I must remind myself that the privilege — the power and authority — I have isn't mine by right; it is granted to me by a future and society that is less than what God dreams it could be.

In my estimation the church and communities of faith are the best places for people to begin to form new understandings and to gain clarity about what the new way of living together will be and should be. I am not all sure why the General Church has not spoken out more about this whole topic, but we must start talking and acting now. This moment in history is too critical to our social and cultural evolution to miss or take on in a less than fully engaged way.

Jesus said, "I give you a new commandment: Love each other." (John 13:34 CEB) And again, throughout our Bible and almost universally in faith traditions past, present, and over the entire globe we are told: **"Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you."** (Luke 6:31 CEB)

I hope as the new year goes on I will be able to share with you events, resources, and ideas for how to make this change happen in your church and in your life. Pray that we will learn how to treat one another with respect and dignity everyone deserves.

Peace,
Rev. Tim Overton-Harris, District Superintendent

SPRC

I am starting my first year as the SPRC Chair and look forward to working with the committee and Pastor Karen to address church needs.

As always, if you have a concern that you would like SPRC to consider, please talk with me or any member of the committee.

Our first meeting will be held Sunday, February 4th after church.

SPRC welcomes Judy Cooley, Deanna Johnson and Gary Burgin as new members of our group in 2018. Those who are continuing in service on this committee include Bob Cambra, Ron Parsons, Gerri Ballas, and Audrey Oldenkamp, Chair.

Audrey Oldenkamp, Chair

Finance

First, let's celebrate one more time that 2017 blessed us with overall financial support that allowed us to pay 100% of the apportionment. Pastor Karen had the joy of delivering the final check in early

January. We have not been able to pay in full for over a decade. We did this without using additional contingency funds and did our routine \$1,000 rollover to January income. We do live month to month and your prayers and faithful support are critical.

Everyone should have received your 2017 giving statement. If you have any questions please contact the church office. Our required 2017 reporting to the Conference has been completed. Our Treasurer, Renee, is amazing and I encourage you to recognize how much she helps make the Finance teams job go so well.

Income for January was again positive. We are sending \$1,000 toward our 2018 apportionments. Thanks to everyone for the faithful support of our ministry. Estimated income from our stewardship campaign indicates less expected income for 2018 as well as recognizing increasing use from building use. Our 2018 approved budget indicate expenses that are about even with 2017 even though our apportionments are down by about \$3,000. We also supplement our income with \$9,000 annually from investment returns on the Pastoral Housing Investment account which we have because of the sale of the parsonage many years ago.

Next month I will highlight the Endowment Fund in more detail. Let me just say that we have transferred about \$1,800 of cash from uninvested endowment proceeds to the trustees designated account to be used for maintenance. The trustees are working on a few projects that may require supplemental funding. More to come on

these. Please consider the Endowment fund in your estate planning, as this is a way to have a long term impact on the ministry of CUMC.

I also will detail the pastoral housing investment fund next month. Let me say though that we could not do what we are doing without the annual transfer of funds to the general account. Even with these annual withdrawals this investment has very positive performance.

I deposited another \$90 in recycling money in January. Keep them coming.

Mark Oldenkamp, Chair



The CUMC UMW

We met on Saturday, January 13th, in the Fellowship Hall at 1:00 PM. Present were: Sharon Perez, Deanna Johnson, Julie Chapin, Jan Whitcomb, Geni Pittelkau, Bess Milhauser, Bill (Julie's nephew) and Leta Bunnell (Shirley Wright was ill). We had a short business meeting to catch up on our reports and make plans.

Geni Pittelkau and Julie Chapin brought some delicious snacks! Joining us were Louis McCloud and Judy Schulenberg from Wilsonville.

Our goal for the day was to sew "School Bags" for UMCOR. We brought the

directions, the sewing machines, the iron and ironing board, the cutting boards, scissors, thread and lots of material. The directions were very specific so it took us a while to get through our first prototype! By the end of our time together (4:00 PM), we had 8 bags in various stages of completion. They were all be finished by Wednesday, January 25th! Thanks to Judy from Wilsonville!!

For our February meeting we will be dealing with Race and Religion. The General Commission on Religion and Race is the agency of The United Methodist Church with the explicit responsibility to challenge and equip the church at all levels to be in ministry with all people and to respond to those forces that would have us exclude, discriminate against, devalue, and disempower any of God's children, but especially those vulnerable because of their race, culture, or language. Sounds awesome, doesn't it?

Come and join us the 2nd Saturday of February, at the church at 1:00 PM.

In Christ, Sharon Perez

Dates To Remember:

February 8 - Wesleyan Circle will meet at Julie Chapin's at 1:00 pm.

February 10 - UMW will meet at 1:00 p.m. at church. The program will be Social Justice. A movie will be shown about Martin Luther King. Sharon Perez & Deanna Johnson will furnish refreshments.

The Care Team

We would like to introduce a new member to The Care Team, Deanna Johnson! Deanna and I plan to do visiting every Saturday. This past Saturday we visited Nadine Beck. She was at the Wilsonville recuperating from a lung flu. Did you know that she is one of our long term members, having joined our Church, along with her husband in 1948! She is 97 years old and has knitted over 300 sweaters for children in need. Today, Jan. 22, she is moving back to the Wilsonville Spring Ridge Court Assisted Living (next door to where Jan Whitcomb lives). She'd love to see anyone from the church!

Altogether, The Care Team sent out 53 cards, made 18 visits and 6 calls. Again, if you'd like to join the Care Team, let me know by calling me at 503-758-7593. We love our Church family!

Sharon Perez
Gerri Ballas
Deanna Johnson
Peggy Yeats
Phyllis Stuart-Meyer

Bits & Pieces

Greeters for February

Feb. 4 Ken & Deanna Johnson
Feb. 11 Judy Zettergren
Sheila Brown
Feb. 18 Del & Gail Hildreth
Feb. 25 Tim & Kristie VandeKamp

Coffee Hour for February

Feb. 4 Sheila Brown
Feb. 11 Marilyn Gatica
Bob Cambra
Gerri Ballas
Feb. 18 Nori Zieg
Shirley Wright
Peggy Yeats
Feb. 25 Ron & Shelly Parsons
Ken & Deanna Johnson

February Birthdays



8th Sheila Brown
11th Gordon Leigh
12th Bjorn Laitinen
16th Mary Ann Brown
21st Joe Perez
24th Alice Messer

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Website: www.canby.com/canbyumc
Pastor – Karen Shimer
Admin. Asst.—Marilyn Gatica
Organist/Accompanists – Wes & Trena Nutter,
Stephanie Cook
Custodian – Roy Morales

February 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4 GR: K. & D. Johnson CH: S. Brown	5	6 Tea at Cutsforth's, 2-3 pm	7	8 Wesleyans @ J. Chapin's, 1 pm	9	10 UMW Gen. Mtg. 1pm
11 GR: J. Zettergren, S. Brown CH: M. Gatica, B. Cambra, G. Ballas	12 Trustees 1 pm	13 Tea at Cutsforth's, 2-3 pm	14 	15 Care Comm. 10 am	16	17
18 GR: D. & G. Hildreth CH: N. Zieg, S. Wright, P. Yeats	19 	20 Tea at Cutsforth's, 2-3 pm	21	22	23	24
25 GR: T. & K. VandeKamp CH: R. & S. Parsons, K. & D. Johnson	26	27 Tea at Cutsforth's, 2-3 pm Newsletter Deadline	28			

Canby F.O.T.S. AA Meetings, M-F, 5:30 pm
 Co-Dependency Group Meeting, Wednesdays, 7 pm
 Prayer Meeting @ Amy Ackerman's, Tues. 1 pm
 Quilters, 1st & 3rd Thursdays, 1 pm
 Iglesia Apostolica, Sun. 1 pm, Fri. 7 pm

Stepping Up Al-Anon Meetings, Wednesdays, 1-3 pm
 Girl Scouts, 1st & 3rd Tuesdays, 5:30-6:45 pm
 Boy Scouts, Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 pm
 Zumba, M-Th., 10-11 am, Wed. Evening 6:30 pm