

The Good Newsletter

OCTOBER 2011



No matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here!

LOUCC Launches New Website



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LOUCC launched its new website on September 28th. All of the content has been updated, and new links have been added.

One exciting change you

will notice is the addition of the LOUCC library catalog where you can click on a book and find out about its contents. Find the library link under Faith Formation.

On the homepage, you

will also see a revised calendar, which you can view by date, week, month or agenda.

Many thanks to Bill Deane, Chuck Erkenbeck, Jan Standlea, Jane Lovelady and Glen Williams for working on the site!

“...I learn something new about myself, about leadership, and about congregational life.”

Pastor's Corner: Leadership in the Church

At the end of September, I attended the fourth installment of First Parish Project, the two-year continuing education program that I started last summer. Sponsored by the Lilly Endowment, this program gathers young clergy from around the country for six one-week retreats over the course of two years. Each retreat focuses on a different aspect of pastoral leadership.

Last month's gathering focused on leadership of congregational systems, that is, learning how to examine, assess, and analyze a congregation as its own system. This approach to leadership stems from psychology and family systems theory, and is useful in seeing how patterns, roles, and ways of thinking can be handed on from one generation to the next in a church, just like they would be in a family.

Our facilitators, two Baptist clergy persons who regularly consult on leadership in systems, led us in exercises that helped us identify various thinking patterns and practices at work in our churches. They also offered examples of how changes can occur within an entire system by changing one small thinking pattern.

Learning to think in a systems approach is one

more tool in my toolbox, which is part of what this program is designed to do—give us tools for developing leadership in ourselves and in our congregations. Back in May, we spent a week learning how to do asset-assessment in our congregations. We practiced facilitating activities and workshops to help our congregations identify their strengths and gifts as a community.

At each retreat, I learn something new about myself, about leadership, and about congregational life. As I have said before, the real joy of the program for me is in the peer connections and chatting with other clergy who are in their first calls in smaller membership churches. While our denominations and geographic locations differ greatly, many of our challenges and rewards in ministry are the same. Sharing best practices, brainstorming ideas, and offering each other support is the biggest gift of the program.

One other gift will come in the spring 2012, when we will host a consultant from First Parish Project. Rev. Amy Spivey, the director of First Parish Project, will visit LOUCC, preach in worship, and lead us in some visioning activities as we listen to where and how

God is calling us in the future. I look forward to her presence and leadership with us.

Many thanks to all of you for your support as I participate in this program. Our next meeting will be in January, and I will share more learnings with you then!

Sharing our walk,

Jennie

Arts and Lecture Series Opens Second Season

The Arts and Lectures series this year will host five events, with two concerts interspersed between three other events emphasizing the environment, dance creation, and theology. The goal of the series is to explore the voice of the still-speaking God through music, the arts, and letters.

The kickoff lecture will be presented by Rabbi David Zaslow, head of the Havurah Shir Hadash congregation in Ashland, Oregon. Rabbi Zaslow will speak Sunday, October 23 at 3 PM on the subject of his most recent book, *Roots and Branches*, based on his research over the last two decades into the Jewish origins of Jesus and Christianity. Rabbi Zaslow's thesis is that re-Judaizing Jesus will not only strengthen both Christianity and Judaism, but will also reduce the millenniums-old anti-Semitism based on the de-Judaizing of Jesus in the second century. The event is in conjunction with LOUCC's partner, the Beit Haverim South Metro Jewish Congregation.

The second event will be a holiday concert unlike any seen at the Arts and Lectures Series. On December 4, The Fa La La La Follies will present "a musical mishmash of holiday mirth," composed for the Arts and Lectures Series. Start your holiday season with spirited Christmas and Hanukkah music performed by Sue and Martin Brother, their friends, and family. The Brothers are long-time local

actors, musicians, and writers who have performed around the country in productions ranging from New York to Los Angeles.

On Sunday, March 11, 2012, local filmmaker Matt Briggs will speak on solutions to stop global warming and then screen his award-winning feature length documentary film *Deep Green*. Shot in nine countries during the last three years, the film is based on six years of intensive environmental research in which Briggs spoke to leading authorities from around the world.

Dancer and educator Betsy Claassen will demonstrate and discuss the origins of transcendence in modern dance on Sunday, April 29, 2012. She will be dancing solo and with dancers from the LOUCC congregation, showcasing her liturgical dances for congregations.

The Arts and Lectures Series will end on May 20, 2012 with "Girls Night Out", a concert by soprano Kerry Walters accompanied by pianist Denise Parr-Scanlin. The two will perform the music of Clara Schumann and Cécile Chaminade, two fine composers whose music has been overlooked because of their gender. The performers will provide an afternoon of lieder and French melodies.

All events in the Arts and Lectures Series will occur at 3 PM on Sunday afternoon on the dates indicated. Doors open at 2 PM. A free-will offering will be accepted at the door. Suggested donation for



Rabbi David Zaslow

each event is \$10. For more information visit the website at loucc.org.



BIRTHDAYS

10/4	Joanna Thompson
10/10	Jim Gaudino
10/11	Linda Boddy
10/18	Alex Crowder
10/21	Carol Silva
10/23	Rich Fowlks
10/23	Bee Neufeld
10/26	Bill Jaursch
10/31	Karen York



ANNIVERSARIES

10/16	Frank & Liz Woodman
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Mission's Menu
October

Pasta & Sauce

Fellowship Opportunity

Why celebrate Thanksgiving alone or prepare a big meal for two or three of you? As we have done on several years in the past, we are willing to sponsor a Thanksgiving Celebration at the church if enough people are interested. It will start at 4:30 or 5:00 pm on Thursday, November 24. Nancy MacLean has volunteered to cook a turkey and make gravy. Anyone who comes should bring his or her favorite Thanksgiving side dish to share. Everyone helps with the setup

and cleanup, so it's not too much stress on any one person. It's a wonderful time to become better acquainted and to celebrate with your church family. It has been a really fun time in the past. A sign-up sheet for those who are interested will be posted on the bulletin board in the narthex. We hope to have a big family gathering with great food and lots of laughter and joy. Sign up if you want to be a part of it.



NOTHING BUT NETS potluck with Beit Haverim - a slam dunk! Thank you to all who came to Tualatin Community Park on a recent rainy Sunday to get to know and share a meal with some of our friends from Beit Haverim. Our two congregations gathered \$640 to donate to Nothing But Nets, which will provide 64 mosquito nets for those in need! 100% of the money raised for this program will be spent on nets, which save lives each and every day by preventing malaria. Thank you! We hope to have more gatherings with our Beit Haverim friends in the future.

Stewardship Corner

Date	Income	Budget	Attendance 2011	Attendance 2010
September 4	\$5,743	\$3,325	53	63
September 11	\$2,955	\$3,325	n/a	66
September 18	\$925	\$3,325	45	58
September 25	\$434	\$3,325	66	76

Financial Summary as of August 31, 2011

	Budget	Actual	Difference
YTD Income	\$115,272	\$106,101	(\$9,171)
YTD Expense	\$128,816	\$118,606	\$10,210
Difference		(\$12,506)	

October Worship

2011-2012 Committees

2nd	Theme: World Communion Sunday Text: 1 Corinthians 11:17-26 Reader: Amelia Bellows Scripture: Jan Standlea Ushers: Care Team Counters: Marilyn Launder, Kathi Rise
9th	Theme: Celebrating our Abilities Speaker: Nan Deane Reader: Dawn Hayami Scripture: Carol Bellows Ushers: Ralph Holcomb, Pat Crane Judy Baker, Scott Peterson Counters: Marilyn Launder, Kathi Rise
16th	Theme: The Power of Music Speaker: Susan Peck Reader: Lizzie Bellows Scripture: Jane Lovelady Ushers: Bee Neufeld, Ildi Klein Jan Standlea, Leslie Crowder Counters: Marilyn Launder, Kathi Rise
23rd	Theme: Being Church Text: 1 Thessalonians 2:1-8, Matthew 22:34-46 Reader: Hilary Martin Himan Scripture: Tory MacPherson Ushers: Quent Neufeld, Nancy Engeman Nancy Delbrueck, John Sather Counters: Marilyn Launder, Kathi Rise
30th	Theme: Mission 1 Speakers: Mission Team Reader: Ildi Klein Scripture: Jim Crane Ushers: Ken Gisch, Sandy Johnson Carole Heath, Roy Schreiber Counters: Marilyn Launder, Kathi Rise
Other October Responsibilities: <p style="text-align: center;">Coffee Hour: Green Team Mission Menu Items: Pasta & Sauce</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Good Newsletter deadline—October 18</p>	

Officers

Moderator: Bill Deane
 Moderator-Elect: Sharon Davis
 Treasurer: Jim Crane
 Financial Secretary: John Sather
 Clerk: Jan Standlea

Trustees

Dawn Hayami: Chair Jim Crane
 Ken Gisch Monica Honegger, Property
 Cindy Ellison, Property Kurt Munson

Worship & The Arts

Penny Holcomb: Chair Mary Cox
 Ralph Holcomb Bee Neufeld
 Kathi Rise Pam Brown

Social Justice & Mission

Amy Clark: Chair Leslie Crowder
 Loren Northrup Bruce Ellison
 Joan Gornbein Harmony George Jaursch
 Jane Lovelady Julia Munson
 Sandy Johnson

Faith Development

Jan Indermill: Chair Jessica Honegger
 Cathy Peterson Jan Standlea

Congregational Care

Rev. Jennie Ott: Chair Pat Crane
 Nan Deane Carol Heath
 Nancy McLean Suzanne Gwynn
 Nancy Engeman

Green Team

Sally Weersing: Chair Ken Gisch
 Monica Honegger Barbara Kelley
 John Sather Chuck Erkenbeck
 Carol Bellows Frank Groznik

Property

Monica Honegger Cindy Ellison
 Kurt Munson Clayton Crowhurst
 Scott Peterson

Pastor Parish Relations

Pat Crane Ralph Holcomb
 Jane Lovelady

Personnel

Nancy Delbrueck Quent Neufeld

LOUCC Delegates

John Sather Ralph Holcomb
 John Binkley Sherrie Binkley
 Hilary Himan (Alternate)
 Penny Holcomb (Alternate)

Moderator's Corner

Summer is on the way out, and soon the spectacular colors of fall will be upon us. Fall often brings with it the need to cozy up around the fireplace with a favorite book, or even the daily newspaper, while we watch the liquid sunshine fall outside our windows. It's also a time for our congregation to come together for our annual Congregational Meeting. This year it will be held after worship on Sunday, October 30th. No need to bring a pumpkin to carve for the trick or treaters the next night, but it will be a time to come together as a group to learn about the upcoming budget proposals for 2012. Everyone connected with one of our hard-working committees has been coming up with their plans for next year, and you will get the opportunity to hear about what they have been working on during the

meeting. I hope you will mark your calendars for October 30th.

On another note, our new heating system for the Fellowship Hall, the Weidman Room, the nursery, and the two bathrooms is now installed and working just in time for the cooler temperatures of fall and winter. I'd like to thank all of you for your generous contributions that made this possible. I'd also like to thank the many people who had a hand in the project, from the needs assessment, into the planning phase and finally the approval to get started. It was a learning process for many of us, and the church will reap the benefits of lower energy bills for many years to come.

As many of you have seen by now, LOUCC has a new website! The look of the site is fresh and all of the information about our church has been updated

along the way. The design of the site was created so it will be easy to update as needed. Eventually there will be a spot on the site for pictures people take throughout the year of the events in the life of our busy church. Ellen Yarnell of Yarnell Design created the site for us and she was wonderful to work with. Of course a huge heap of thanks goes out to Jennie, Chuck, Jane, Jan and Glen for everything they contributed. Without all of them, it would still be just an idea waiting to happen.

Once again, thank you for all of your individual contributions you make to our amazing community here at LOUCC. They are many, and every one of them is very much appreciated!

Blessings –

Bill Deane
Moderator

Save the Date
October 30th
Congregational Meeting

Mission 1

Mission:1 – November 1 – 11, 2011...ONE UNITED CHURCH on a shared mission for 11 powerful days to feed the hungry and confront food-related in justice.

In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will collect more than 1 MILLION ITEMS OF HEALTHY FOOD for local food banks.

In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will make an extra-special push to gather online contributions of more than \$111,111 FOR NEIGHBORS IN NEED, offerings that will be shared for hunger-action purposes with agencies of justice and compassion throughout the United States; and \$111,111 FOR EAST

AFRICA FAMINE RELIEF that will be shared through the UCC's disaster relief ministries.

In 11 days, the United Church of Christ will offer more than 11,111 LETTERS TO CONGRESS asking our government to reform U.S. foreign assistance in a way that more effectively benefits hungry and poor people worldwide.

LOUCC's Social Justice & Missions Committee is planning now so that we may all learn about food-related policy issues, advocate and raise money on behalf of the hungry, and share bread – and tuna, peanut butter, vegetables, and cereal – with our neighbors in need at home and

abroad in order to more fully realize our UCC motto and Jesus' prayer, "That they may all be 1."

In lieu of our Gifts Worth Giving Market this year, we will be joining with UCC congregations around the nation to fight the injustice of hunger. Please stay tuned as we share ways that we, as a committed UCC congregation, can help out and be involved. Please contact members of the Missions Committee with any questions. (Amy Clark, Leslie Crowder, Loren Northup, Bruce Ellison, Harmony George-Jaursch, Jane Lovelady, Julia Munson, and Sandy Johnson)

Songs of Faith & Freedom

October 22, 2011 at 7:00 pm

At

Hillsdale Community Church

United Church of Christ

[6948 S.W. Capitol Highway](http://www.6948swcapitolhighway.com)

[Portland, OR 97219](http://www.portland.or.us)

A choir concert to benefit

Community of Welcoming

Congregations

Directed by Susan Peck and

Tim Ditch



Depave Thank you!

Thank you so much for so much! Even though the work was hard and the rains came, over twenty people pitched in to pull up asphalt from our parking lot. Getting the job done in less than two hours was an amazing achievement. Although construction of the rain garden will disrupt our parking lot during the month of October, your Green Team promises things will get better. With over 600 native plants scheduled for planting, the garden will be a place to celebrate come next spring's Earth Day.

Mark Your Calendar!

November 1 Book Discussion

In recognizing November as “Jewish Book Month,” Jewish communities around the country – including Portland – are hosting book discussions next month to discuss the historical novel *By Fire, By Water*, written by acclaimed author Mitchell James Kaplan. Our friends at Beit Haverim have invited us to join them in a single-evening discussion of this book on Tuesday, November 1 at 7PM. Participants will meet in LOUCC’s Weidman Room.

This novel takes place during the Spanish Inquisition, and tells the story of the courtier who persuaded Queen Isabella to

fund Christopher Columbus’s voyage of discovery in 1492. The main characters are a man from a converso family (a Jewish family that converted to Christianity) and a Jewish girl. It is a passionate love story set in an intense and disturbing period of history.

In addition to being chosen as the “Official Read of the Year” by Jewish congregations around the country, *By Fire, By Water* has received these awards:

- ◆ 2011 Independent Publishers Book Award (IPPY), Gold Medal / Historical Fiction;
- ◆ ForeWord Magazine Book Of The Year

Award (BOTYA), Bronze Medal / Historical Fiction;

- ◆ New York Book Festival, Honorable Mention / Fiction – 2011; and
- ◆ Eric Hoffer Award, Honorable Mention / General Fiction.

You will find *By Fire, By Water* at local libraries, bookstores, and Amazon.com. Please join our extended community in reading and discussing this fascinating novel on Tuesday, November 1 at 7PM in the Weidman Room. For more information, contact Penny Holcomb at 503.957.1922 or Penny@HearthstoneCCC.com.

Let's Make a Joyful Noise!

Central Pacific Conference UCC

Fall Gathering

October 14-15, 2011

First Congregational UCC, Portland

The fall gathering will focus on music and its role in our worship and faith lives. Among many workshops, Susan Peck and Alan Claassen will lead one on songs of protest and change. If you are interested in attending, please contact Glen Williams at 503-635-4348 or

office@loucc.org.

October 2011

LOUCC, Beit Haverim, Other Users

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
25	26	27	28	29	30	1
						2pm - Cleaning Time @ All 6:30pm - PDAC Meeting @ 7pm - Saturday Night (AA)
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
10:30am - Worship Service 2:30pm - BH Religious	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 11:45am - Women's AA 12pm - Bible Study 8:30pm - Cleaning Time @	5pm - Green Team @ John 6:30pm - DDT-Don't Drink 12pm - Choir Practice	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 12pm - Overeaters 7:30pm - Choir Practice	7:30am - Weight Watchers 9am - Bodhi Tree Chinese 6:08pm - Women's 608 7:30pm - Worship	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 9am - Yom Kippur @ All	2pm - Cleaning Time @ All 7pm - Saturday Night (AA)
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
10:30am - Worship Service 12pm - Faith Development 2:30pm - BH Religious	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 11:45am - Women's AA 12pm - Bible Study 7pm - Missions Committee 8:30pm - Cleaning Time @	4pm - Conaregational Care 6:30pm - DDT-Don't Drink 7pm - Trustee Meeting	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 12pm - Overeaters 7:30pm - Choir Practice	7:30am - Weight Watchers 9am - Bodhi Tree Chinese 6:08pm - Women's 608	CPC Fall Gathering @ First Congregational Portland 6:15am - Great Events (AA) 12pm - Overeaters 4pm - Beit Haverim Service	9am - OA Gathering 2pm - Cleaning Time @ All 7pm - Saturday Night (AA)
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
10:30am - Worship Service 12pm - Confirmation Class 2:30pm - BH Religious	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 11:45am - Women's AA 12pm - Bible Study 8:30pm - Cleaning Time @	6:30pm - DDT-Don't Drink 7pm - Council Meeting @	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 12pm - Overeaters 7:30pm - Choir Practice	7:30am - Weight Watchers 9am - Bodhi Tree Chinese 6:08pm - Women's 608 7pm - LOTSM Board	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 12pm - Overeaters 4pm - Beit Haverim Service	2pm - Cleaning Time @ All 7pm - Saturday Night (AA)
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
10:30am - Worship Service 2:30pm - BH Religious 3pm - Arts & Lectures	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 11:45am - Women's AA 12pm - Bible Study 8:30pm - Cleaning Time @	Good Newsletter Dealine 6:30pm - DDT-Don't Drink	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 12pm - Overeaters 7:30pm - Choir Practice	7:30am - Weight Watchers 9am - Bodhi Tree Chinese 6:08pm - Women's 608	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 12pm - Overeaters 4pm - Beit Haverim Service	2pm - Cleaning Time @ All 7pm - Saturday Night (AA)
30	31	1	2	3	4	5
10:30am - Worship Service 12pm - Fall Conaregational 2:30pm - BH Religious	6:15am - Great Events (AA) 11:45am - Women's AA 12pm - Bible Study 8:30pm - Cleaning Time @					



LAKE OSWEGO UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1111 Country Club Rd.
Lake Oswego, OR 97034
Phone: 503-635-4348

“Never place a period where God has placed a comma” -Gracie Allen

Mission Statement

In Christ, we are called together, as a community of unconditional love, to provide spiritual nourishment, to share God's love through active service within and beyond our church community, and to be responsive to the needs of our ever-changing world.

Open & Affirming Statement

We are called to love our brothers and sisters as God loves us, freely and without reservation. Our unconditional love is inclusive of all God's people. We denounce acts of discrimination and violence against any person.

We celebrate the family in all its diverse forms, and affirm all loving and committed relationships.

We welcome all people into our community of faith, whatever age, gender, gender expression, race, sexual orientation, religion, ethnic background, socio-economic status, or physical or mental abilities. Each person is invited and encouraged to participate in all aspects of our church's life and ministry.

Church Staff

Pastor: Rev. Jennie Ott	pastor@loucc.org
Music Director: Susan Peck	susan@loucc.org
Office Administrator: Glen Williams	office@loucc.org

Vision

We seek to be an inspiring community, making a difference in people's lives by engaging in missions of compassion and justice, while we honor diversity and act as a progressive Christian voice.

Community – We are a compassionate community striving to accept people wherever they are on life's journey. We believe that the way we treat others is an expression of our beliefs. Community is formed through missions of compassion and justice.

Progressive – We are a community of progressive Christians where spirituality is expressed in a variety of forms. We have a thirst for knowledge where we value the questions as much as the answers. We value the movement of God's Spirit in our community and listen with anticipation to the still speaking God.

Diversity – We honor diversity within our community, respectful that there is more than one path to God. We value being an Open and Affirming congregation.

Justice For The Environment – The whole Earth is our broader community. We are continually learning how to be responsible members of this community. We are committed to fostering our spiritual connection to the Earth.