

# Welcome To CCUCC

*Our mission is to welcome all into a loving, progressive faith community, knowing our actions reflect our Christian values: to question and explore beliefs and assumptions, to strive for peace and justice, and to care actively for the earth, our community, and one another.*

## The 8 Points of Progressive Christianity

progressivechristianity.org (2003 Version)

By calling ourselves progressive Christians, we mean we are Christians who...

1. Have found an approach to God through the life and teachings of Jesus;
2. Recognize the faithfulness of other people who have other names for the way to God's realm, and acknowledge that their ways are true for them, as our ways are true for us;
3. Understand the sharing of bread and wine in Jesus' name to be a representation of an ancient vision of God's feast for all peoples;
4. Invite all people to participate in our community and worship life without insisting that they become like us in order to be acceptable (including but not limited to):
  - believers and agnostics,
  - conventional Christians and questioning skeptics,
  - women and men,
  - those of all sexual orientations and gender identities,
  - those of all races and cultures,
  - those of all classes and abilities,
  - those who hope for a better world and those who have lost hope,
  - without imposing on them the necessity of becoming like us;
5. Know that the way we behave toward one another and toward other people is the fullest expression of what we believe;
6. Find more grace in the search for meaning than in absolute certainty, in the questions than in the answers;
7. Form ourselves into communities dedicated to equipping one another for the work we feel called to do: striving for peace and justice among all people, protecting and restoring the integrity of all God's creation, and bringing hope to those Jesus called the least of his sisters and brothers;
8. Who recognize that being followers of Jesus is costly, and entails selfless love, conscientious resistance to evil, and renunciation of privilege.

*We acknowledge that we stand on land stolen from Native and Indigenous people. We are on Nimiipuu land and we recognize that they were the first people here.*

*We acknowledge that we benefit from the prosperity of the United States, which was built on the labor of enslaved people.*

## Community Congregational United Church of Christ

525 NE Campus Street  
Pullman, WA 99163

Phone: 509-332-6411

[pullmanucc.org](http://pullmanucc.org)

### STAFF SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

**Steve Van Kuiken** Greeters: Dennis Hatley & Megan Guido  
*Minister*

*steve@pullmanucc.org*  
Usher: Herb Hill

Office Hours: M-Th 9am-4pm Liturgist: Jann Hill

**Julie Tarlyn** Coffee Hour: Nancy Mack  
*Administrative Assistant*

*office@pullmanucc.org*  
Office Hours: M, T, Th, F 10am-1pm

**Kathy Spencer**

*Organ/Piano*  
*khspencer44@gmail.com*

**Megan Guido**

*Outreach Coordinator*  
*megan@pullmanucc.org*  
Office Hours: M/W 1-5pm; T/Th  
8:30am-1:30pm

**Samuel Leeper**

*Music Coordinator*

### 2022/23 Church Council

Moderator: Jann Hill

Moderator-Elect: Susan Poch

Treasurer: Carl Hauser

Clerk: Frances Clark

Finance and Stewardship Team: Sandy Evenson

Building and Grounds Team: Gary Schell

Faith Development Team: Bill Condon

Congregational Life Team: Charla Chaudhry

Congregational Care Team: Mary Carloye

Shared Ministry Team: Charlene Toews

Justice and Witness Team: Ginny Hauser

Outreach Team: Nancy Mack

### THIS WEEK AT CCUCC

#### Monday, October 10

Justice & Witness 6:30pm

#### Wednesday, October 12

Office closed

Outreach 12:30pm

#### Thursday, October 13

Reproductive Rights Panel 6:30pm



## Community Congregational United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming & Just Peace Church

October 9, 2022

10:30 am



*With Ruth and Naomi, two people lacking status, power and the resources to survive are bound into a union by one partner going against the counsel of the other. Two weak people do not create strength together. Ruth joins weakness to weakness, loss of hope to loss of hope...*

*The God of ancient Israel is the God of loyalty, devotion, kindness, in the Hebrew hesed. In God's alliance with ancient Israel there is no advantage for God. At the time of the Exodus, God clung to the weakest and most oppressed group around. God's people are called to show the same behavior toward one another that God showed them. The life of hesed is a characteristic of the people who claim to be God's people.*

—Johanna W.H. van Wijk-Bos



If you do not wish to keep this bulletin, please recycle it. Thanks.

# Gathering of All Who Seek God's Presence

**Prelude** *Sicilienne Op. 78* Ginny Hauser, flute  
Garbiel Faure; arr. Roy Howat

**Welcome** Steve Van Kuiken  
God is with you.  
**And also with you.**

**\*Invitation to Worship:** (from Psalm 101) Jann Hill  
I will sing of loyalty and of justice;  
**To you, O God, I will sing.**  
I will study the way that is blameless.  
**I will walk with integrity of heart within my house.**  
Let us worship God.

**\*Hymn** *Morning Has Broken* (insert)

**Prayer for Wholeness**  
**Ever-present God, Beauty Taken for Granted, may we attune our senses to what is often overlooked. May we pay attention to each moment, notice that which is present, treat the commonplace as important, and respond to your invitation.**

*(Silent Prayer)*

**Assurance of Grace**

**Anthem** *Let Us Love One Another* CCUCC choir  
Arnold B. Sherman

## Connecting with Sacred Stories

**Silent Meditation**

**Ancient Witness** Ruth 1: 1-18 Jann Hill  
In the days when the judges ruled, there was a famine in the land, and a certain man of Bethlehem in Judah went to live in the country of Moab, he and his wife and two sons. The name of the man was Elimelech and the name of his wife Naomi, and the names of his two sons were Mahlon and Chilion; they were Ephrathites from Bethlehem in Judah. They went into the country of Moab and remained there. But Elimelech, the husband of Naomi, died, and she was left with her two sons. These took Moabite wives; the name of the one was Orpah and the name of the other Ruth. When they had lived there about ten years, both Mahlon and Chilion also died, so that the woman was left without her two sons and her husband.  
Then she started to return with her daughters-in-law from the country of Moab, for she had heard in the country of Moab that the Lord had considered his people and given them food. So she set out from the place where she had been living, she and her two daughters-in-law, and they

went on their way to go back to the land of Judah. But Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, "Go back each of you to your mother's house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband." Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. They said to her, "No, we will return with you to your people." But Naomi said, "Turn back, my daughters. Why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb that they may become your husbands? Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me." Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.  
So she said, "Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law." But Ruth said,

"Do not press me to leave you,  
to turn back from following you!  
Where you go, I will go;  
where you lodge, I will lodge;  
your people shall be my people  
and your God my God.  
Where you die, I will die,  
and there will I be buried.  
May the Lord do thus to me,  
and more as well,  
if even death parts me from you!"

When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

**Sermon** *A Story of Loyalty: 1. Clinging to the Afflicted* Steve Van Kuiken

**\*Hymn** *God Is My Shepard* #479

## Responding to Live Faithfully

**Prayers of the People & the Jesus Prayer**

**Our Mother and Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.  
Amen. †**

**Stewardship Moment** Stewardship & Finance Team

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Offertory** *There Is A Fountain* Kathy Spencer, piano  
arr. Dino Kartsonakis & Bill George

*For the month of October, the loose cash offering will go to support Pullman Child Welfare.*

## Sent with Love into the World

**\*Hymn** *If You But Trust in God to Guide You* #410

**\*Benediction/Passing of the Peace**

**\*Postlude**

\*Please stand if you are able.

† As an inclusive and open faith community, we attempt to convey gender inclusive images, terms, and language of God.

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## Announcements

The Council has decided we will continue wearing masks in worship for the time being.

Indigenous People's Day at WSU-October 10. Keynote Speaker: Lyman McGilvery. Activities start at 9am and go throughout the day. See weekly update for details.

**Jack's Food Drive**-Please join us for the month of October in collecting needed food items for our local food banks and our CCUCC Food Pantry. Items can be placed in the collection bin in the narthex. Please see the weekly update for a list of most needed items.

Game day football parking volunteers are still needed on 11/12 and 11/26 (Apple Cup) but the game times have not been announced. SignUp Genius will be updated as soon as the information is available. See the weekly update for more info and link to sign up.

**Vote Forward Letters Available for YOU!!!** You asked and they are here! Please stop by the church office and pick up a packet of letters to write. There is a clipboard in the box so you can list your name and how many packets you take home to write. **ALL** letters must be returned to church by Sunday, October 23rd. We will take a photo of letter writers and letters in front of the church. Let's celebrate our efforts by sending out 2000 letters. Be there!

Thank you to Nick and Katherine Lovrich for donating the beautiful banner that now hangs in Brewster Hall.

**Movie Nights at the Church**-Join us tonight & Nov 6 and Dec 4 for movie nights. Movies start at 5:15 in Brewster Hall. First movie is Just Mercy. See the weekly update or bulletin board for full details.

Join us for A Community Conversation on Reproductive Justice on Thursday, October 13th at 6:30pm at CCUCC. Speakers will be Paul Dillion from Planned Parenthood and Debbie McNeil from the Whitman County Democrats.