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

STAFF SUNDAY VOLUNTEERS

Steve Van Kuiken
Minister
Greeters: Dennis Hatley & Megan Guido

steve@pullmanucc.org
Office Hours: M-Th 9am-4pm
Liturgist: Gary Schell

Julie Tarlyn Coffee Hour: Marion Yonge

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, December 26

Office closed

Wednesday, December 28

Office closed



Community Congregational United Church of Christ

An Open and Affirming & Just Peace Church

December 25, 2022

10:30 am



And by his bruises we are healed.
—Isaiah 53:5



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

Gathering of All Who Seek God's Presence

Prelude Sing We Now of Christmas Ginny Hauser, flute

arr. Kristin Campbell

Welcome

Steve Van Kuiken

God is with you. And also with you.

*Invitation to Worship:

Nancy Mack

The Lord will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child. She shall bear a son, and she shall call him Immanuel.

(Isaiah 7:14)

*Hymn

Angels We Have Heard on High

#125

Prayer for Wholeness

Ever-present One: You are not distant from us in some faraway heaven; You come close to us as in a child born of simple parents and cradled in a bed of straw. Teach us to cherish and nurture life in this fragile world, in the manner of Jesus the Christ, whose birth we celebrate today.

(Silent Prayer)

Assurance of Grace

Anthem

Who Would Send A Baby?

CCUCC choir

Mary Kay Beall arr. John Carter

Connecting with Sacred Stories

Silent Meditation

Ancient Witness

Isaiah 53: 1-6

Nancy Mack

Who has believed what we have heard? And to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed? For he grew up before him like a young plant and like a root out of dry ground; he had no form or majesty that we should look at him, nothing in his appearance that we should desire him. He was despised and rejected by others; a man of suffering and acquainted with infirmity,

and as one from whom others hide their faces he was despised, and we held him of no account. Surely he has borne our infirmities and carried our diseases. yet we accounted him stricken, struck down by God, and afflicted. But he was wounded for our transgressions, crushed for our iniquities; upon him was the punishment that made us whole, and by his bruises we are healed. All we like sheep have gone astray; we have all turned to our own way, and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

Sermon Unexpected Encounters: A God Who Cries Steve Van Kuiken What Child Is This

Responding to Live Faithfully

Prayers of the People & the Jesus Prayer

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother of us all,

Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom

sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever.

Amen †

-The Lord's Prayer Adapted in A New Zealand Prayer Book

Invitation to the Offering

Offertory

*Hymn

A Lute Carol Robert Herrick & Mary Caldwell

Sam Leeper, vocals Ginny Hauser, flute

For the month of December, the loose cash offering will go to support Whitman County Humane Society.

Sent with I ove into the World

*Hvmn *Joy to the World!* #132

*Benediction/Passing of the Peace

*Postlude

#148

*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.

Share Your Photos- If you have received a photo from former CCUCC friends or family recently, label them and put them on the bulletin board next to the elevator. Include of of your family too.

Movie Nights at the Church-Join us for our next movie night on January 8th. Movies start at 5:15 in Brewster Hall. January's movie is Fences. See the weekly update or bulletin board for full details.

There will be a training for Family Promise volunteers on January 29th in Brewster Hall following our Sunday Service. It will include a potluck.

Do you have questions about LGBTQ+ and identity issues and have never gotten them answered? Now is your opportunity to do so. Please submit your questions in writing and place them in the rainbow colored box in the narthex. Holly Greystone will incorporate your queries into her presentation on February 2, 2023.

Update: Plastic Film Recycling: Until we resume plastic film collection here at CCUCC, you can drop off your plastic film at Safeway. Use the plastic bag recycling bins at the store entrances; smaller and more frequent drop offs are preferred. Safeway partners with Trex, the company that uses the store's plastic film to be recycled into composite products like the bench located outside the church's entryway. Trex partners with stores throughout the U.S., including Winco and Albertsons. Important reminder: all plastic film must be clean, dry, and free of food residue; labels should be removed or cut off.