



Tualatin United Methodist Church

Hilltop Highlights

September 2017

Tualatin United Methodist Church

20200 SW Martinazzi Ave.
Tualatin, OR 97062-9369
503-692-1820
www.tualatinumc.org

Sunday Worship
10:00 am.

Sunday School
Sunday School available
during the worship hour

Nursery
available during worship
Infants to 4 years old

Church Office Hours
Monday to Thursday
9:00 am. - 3:00 pm.

FROM THE PASTOR

by Rev. Amy Overton-Harris

Dear Friends,

I Just watched the eclipse with my son Petter. We found the most fascinating part was looking at the shadows change as the eclipse moved through. We watched the shadow image of a tree's leaves on a large board. The shadow image went from straight with distinct edges (like you would see on a usual day) to the images changing to a convex pattern then straight again and then on to a concave pattern. So the pattern was roughly..... I) I (I

It was a very strange sensation, at least for my eyes! At times, the image seemed very blurry without any defined edge, at least not the defined edges I am accustomed to seeing. It made my eyes hurt and I found myself rubbing them to try to straighten it out. Perceptions are interesting to say the least.

I feel as though we are in a surreal place right now in the world and in our own country. Things that I deeply treasure in this life are inside out and upside down at the moment. It is painful and heartbreaking. Watching people vehemently spew hatred and viciousness and murder toward one another hurts to the core. I would love to rub my eyes and straighten everything out. The reality is, what is happening isn't "just now" taking place. Perceptions sometimes blind our eyes to what is happening in life. Throughout history people have wrestled with war, famine, disease, violence, gender and race domination, poverty, slavery. Jesus experienced all of these things in his lifetime. As Jesus lived in the shadow of these realities every day, he stood up to the Roman Empire and chose to heal, to teach, to love, to listen, to respect, to feed, to house, to save. And it cost him his life.

Sometimes when it is too painful, we wish for a magic solution. Frankly no magic will work. Rubbing your eyes to clear the blur won't make it go away. Even if some of us perceived a sense of well-being in recent years, the comfort blinded us to the pain and reality all around. I would love to have "defined edges" accompany me daily. Not possible. To me right now everything seems blurry, unpredictable and painful. For some of our brothers and sisters, the pain is and has been constant. Following Jesus' example is the key.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

FROM THE PASTOR	1-2
FOR YOUR PRAYERS	2
SUNDAY SCHOOL	3
BACKPACK BUDDIES	4
WHIRLED PEACE	4
HILLTOP GARDEN	5
UMW, BOOK GROUPS	6
SCRIP ORDERING	7
CALENDAR	8

For Your Prayers

- Renee Dubarko's niece is continuing to heal after the car accident.
- Kids and Teachers going back to school.
- Sharona off to college.
- Melissa Brown working on her Master's Degree in School Counseling.
- Mike Meriweather and Penny Christianson—concerns for Mike's health.
- Sam Richardson's mom—continued recovery from car accident.
- Jeff & Lindsay McClay and big brother Kellen are expecting a new baby.
- Norm Parker is in Canada.
- Shanni & Adi Shnayder have moved here and will start their junior year at Tualatin High School.
- Barbara Robb would love to hear from you: 5325 Boise St. SE, Turner, OR 97392, 503.743.1210.
- Malachi Seib begins his second year at the Naval Academy in Annapolis.

Did we miss a prayer joy or concern for you??? Let us know and we can send out an email on your behalf!



Every day, we make choices. Here are a few things we can choose:

Love not hate
Listen not tell
Stand up for the Earth not just on it
Build People Up, not tear down
Embrace Global Diversity not self righteousness
Respect not humiliate

Heal, teach, love, listen, respect, feed, house, save..... let's do it together.

Blessings,
Rev. Amy

Along with my 5th grade classmates at Horace Mann Elementary School (Binghamton, New York) I memorized this poem and it inspires me to this day.

Statue of Liberty National Monument

This poem by Emma Lazarus is graven on a tablet within the pedestal on which the statue stands.

The New Colossus *by Emma Lazarus*

*Not like the brazen giant of Greek fame,
With conquering limbs astride from land to land;
Here at our sea-washed, sunset gates shall stand
A mighty woman with a torch, whose flame
Is the imprisoned lightning, and her name
Mother of Exiles. From her beacon-hand
Glows world-wide welcome; her mild eyes command
The air-bridged harbor that twin cities frame.
"Keep ancient lands, your storied pomp!" cries she
With silent lips. "Give me your tired, your poor,
Your huddled masses yearning to breathe free,
The wretched refuse of your teeming shore.
Send these, the homeless, tempest-tost to me,
I lift my lamp beside the golden door!"*

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

HOORAY!!!! TIME FOR SUNDAY SCHOOL!
STARTING SUNDAY September 10!
PINWHEELS FOR PEACE September 17!

Our Kids and Youth Need YOU!!!

Rev. Amy has put together some curriculum that is
flexible and user friendly for teachers.

You are welcome to use own ideas for Sunday School lessons too!!
Our Craft/Supply Room is wide open for you!!

Some of our topics this fall are

John 21:1-8	Catching Fish
Gal 5:22	Fruit of the Spirit
Matt 7:24-27	Build on a Rock
1 Thess 5:16-18	Say "Thanks"

Volunteer to help with a Sunday (or maybe a few!)!
Bring a friend to do it with you!!
We can't do it without YOU!!!

Kids and Youth go downstairs during the worship hour.
Class time is about **40 minutes** long
Rev. Amy is happy to prep everything you need, just ask.

Childcare will be available for age 5 and under
if you want to volunteer call or email the church office
admin@tualatinumc.org (503-692-1820)

You will be blessed by this ministry without a doubt!!!

Back Pack Buddy program supports families in need at Byrom Elementary School. Last year our congregation supplied breakfast packs and lunch packs for children in need of healthy food over the weekends and holidays.

Items that are needed:

- Oatmeal packets
- Fruit Cups
- Healthy Soups, Macaroni & Cheese, Tuna
- Granola Bars, Power Bars, Trail Mix, Raisins

We will be collecting items the first three Sundays in September and filling the packets on Sunday, September 17th.

Backpack 
BUDDIES

Because hunger doesn't end on Friday.



This year on September 17th during Sunday School we will celebrate

International Day of Peace

by planting pinwheels and praying for

Whirled Peace!

Hilltop Community Garden



Pickers Are Needed!

Tomatoes and beans are coming on in full force and need to be picked! Join the team Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8:30 a.m.



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UMW, BOOK AND BIBLE DISCUSSIONS

Women's Fellowship

Come join us mid-week for a time of recharging and regrouping.

We meet on Wednesday mornings at 10am in the church library.

Our current book study:

**"Of Mess and Moxie, Wrangling Delight
Out of This Wild and Glorious Life"**

by Jen Hatmaker



Men's Fellowship

The Men's Group is alive and well with 12 to 15 men gathering **each Wednesday at 10am** to share our faith, support each other and give to the community.

We invite you to join us as we begin a new book, "The Road to Character" by David Brook.

UMW in September

Lydia Circle

Wednesday, September 13, 11:30 a.m. in Koch Hall.
Bring your lunch, a beverage will be provided.

Elizabeth Circle

Monday, September 25, 7 p.m. in the library.
Join us for a cup of tea.

The program for both Circles is Social Justice and TUMW Pledge Program, Call to Prayer & Self-Denial.

A big **Thank You** to Ellie & Larry McClure for a great summer get together at their home. A good time was had by all!



Back to School Supplies

Thank you to all for being the hands and feet of Jesus as we served 66 children, grades Kindergarten—High School, providing nearly \$1,800 in school supplies.

The remaining supplies were taken to Montevilla UMC where they will be distributed through their food pantry.

Scrip Ordering

September 10

October 15

Each vendor donates money to TUMC when the Scrip gift cards are purchased through our church.

A few examples:

		Vendor Donation to our church:
Old Navy/Gap	\$25 card =	\$3.00
Sears/Lands End	\$50 card =	\$2.50
Columbia	\$50 card =	\$6.00
Macy's	\$25 card =	\$2.50
Fred Meyer, New Seasons	\$50 card =	\$2.00

Check and cash orders may be turned in during office hours (Monday-Thursday, 9 a.m.—3 p.m.) and Sunday mornings before worship. Credit card orders will be on the Sunday morning of the order date.

Use SCRIP for your back to school shopping!