



Tualatin United Methodist Church

Hilltop Highlights

January 2016—Happy New Year!

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,

In this New Year, Hope is our job..... let's bring it! I am not talking about "optimism" assuming things will get better soon. I am talking about radical, audacious, shout-out-loud HOPE.

The last few years, we have witnessed and lived through truly horrible events. It seems to have cast an understandable haze of dismay and despair on our nation and our world. But think about this.... Jesus of Nazareth was born into an era of Roman terror and occupation, a place where war, torture, hunger, disease were every day occurrences. Jesus didn't choose to be optimistic alone, or lose hope. He knew that the kingdom of God comes to earth with peace, joy, love, patience and compassion. He traveled the countryside to bring the message of God with acts of love and peace, with acts of healing, with baskets of food.

We have ENDLESS opportunities in front of us this year. Words that come out of our mouths, actions that we bring, work that we lead EVERYDAY to bring hope to a world crying out for signs of life.

For hope to be something that we can sink our teeth into, it has to be rooted in something real at the core of our lives. What have you seen, witnessed, experienced, lived that made hope come alive in you?

We have all seen dramatic things, like pulling someone out of harm's way in a flood, or running into a burning building to bring your neighbor out. And indeed we may find ourselves in this kind of event. Our instinct is to run and help especially in times of crisis. DO IT! But don't forget that there are endless everyday opportunities to bring hope and the kingdom of God to life. This year would be a great time for new things:

- volunteer at the food pantry
- gather blankets for a shelter
- read to children in your local elementary school
- learn about world religions and support them in your neighborhood
- speak up about God's love for everyone....don't keep silent

I could make a list several pages long, but reach out and do what your heart is calling you to do....So many opportunities and ways to embrace God's creation. Go for it! Be brave, daring and bold.

(continued on page 2)



INSIDE THIS ISSUE

FROM THE PASTOR	1-2
JOYS AND CONCERNS	2
HILLTOP GARDEN	2
MISSION UPDATE	3
MUSIC MINISTRY	4
SOUP SUPPER	5
WILL WORK FOR LUNCH	6
TUMW	7
MEN'S & WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP	7
CALENDAR	8

Hilltop Highlights

JOYS AND CONCERNS

- Alysia Hill's sister-in-law recently diagnosed with cancer
- James & Ofilia Boyd
- Mac Hanshew, joys for her quick recovery time
- Ned & Diane Miller, continued prayers
- Netha Thacker's mom who is adjusting to a new move
- All those traveling during this Holiday Season
- Larry Robbins and family upon the passing of his mother
- Tom Kroen and family upon the passing of his dad

FROM THE PASTOR

(continued from page 1)

Some of you have mentioned being overwhelmed by negative or vicious posts on the internet. You can speak up with a word of love and non-violence. I would be happy to offer some suggestions to you if you wish. Believe me, every word, every action, great or small, can change the world. We follow in Jesus' footsteps... the "prints" of peace.

"Whoever is joined to all of life has hope" (Ecc 9:4)

"There is hope for a tree. If it is cut down, it will sprout again, and its shoots will not fade away." (Job 14:7..... Ironic, yes)

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:12)

Let us be a blessing to others all year!
Rev. Amy

Portions of a Post that was shared in our Bible Study

"Today I'm thinking of my precious friend, Nelba. Her baby, Ana Grace, was taken by a gunman at Sandy Hook Elementary three years ago. Nelba is the woman who filled us with awe as she spoke the words: "Love Wins again and again" in the wake of her grief. As she continues using her grief as fuel to light up the world. With [The Ana Grace Project](#) she has found hope and love here, from this community, from you. Thank you for that.

I love Nelba, and I weep for her today. I also weep for the loved ones of Charlotte, Daniel, Olivia, Josephine, Dylan, Madeleine, Catherine, Chase, Jesse, James, Grace, Emilie, Jack, Noah, Caroline, Jessica, Avielle, Benjamin, Allison, Rachel, Dawn, Anne Marie, Lauren, Mary and Victoria. Twenty six unique, unrepeatable, irreplaceable children of God torn from their families' arms and lives. We were all robbed that day. In honor of them, I vow to continue to work for the safety of all of our children—and to spend today **being exceedingly, nonsensically kind.** ***I just don't know what will conquer unimaginable hate other than reckless, boundless love."***

Let's Be The Tenderness Revolution Today.

Wonderful Christmas Present for Hilltop Community Garden



Thanks to the hard work by many hands, we were blessed two weeks ago with a check for \$1000 from Tim Lanfri, Director of Community Garden Creators in Beaverton, a foundation he created to promote community gardening. Our proven success, thanks to the leadership of Timber Jim Serrill, our steering committee and policy support from TUMC Trustees, were reasons for this gift. The Foundation is in a shut-down mode and remaining funds were given to three outstanding gardens like ours.

Hilltop Highlights

MISSION UPDATE

OUR CONGREGATION HAS AGAIN STEPPED UP TO PROVIDE FOR OTHERS IN OUR COMMUNITY

Since September we have provided almost 200 lunch and breakfast packets for the children at Byrom Elementary. These **200 packets provided 400 meals for the kids in need.**

The Christmas Tree is overflowing with food and gifts for the families we are sponsoring over the Christmas Season. We will be delivering the baskets on

**Saturday, Dec 19th
Tuesday, Dec 22nd
Wednesday, Dec 23rd**

The schedule may vary some. **If you can help deliver contact Wes Tanac**
(marinerwes@aol.com) or 503-317-5508.

There are **11 baskets that need to be delivered**

The **Cookies-by-the-Dozen** Sale put on by TUMW to support Domestic Violence Center, Community Transitional School and Imagine No Malaria was fantastic! Cookies, fudge, and the beautiful centerpieces made by Loyce Martinazzi were incredible. **Thank you so much to all who baked cookies and the kids who helped to decorate them.** Our congregation will be able to donate **\$405** towards these missions.

Our **Civil War Food Challenge** between the Ducks, Beavers and Arts Team provided **700 pounds of food** for the Pantry and **25 coats** for the Community Transitional School.

Our congregation continues to reach out and I have faith that we will continue into the New Year looking for opportunities to help others. As we help others, be sure to take time to take care of yourselves and your family. Take a moment to enjoy the season, come to worship on a Sunday, read a book, or just sit and have a cup of coffee, then **take a deep breath, pray for peace in our world and relax and enjoy the Christmas season.**

***MERRY CHRISTMAS,
WES TANAC***

Hilltop Highlights

MUSIC MINISTRY

WHAT A PRIVILEGE AND PLEASURE!

Helping to produce this year's children's Christmas program was such a privilege and pleasure! Once in a while all the elements just come together so nicely in a program and this was one of those years.

For Rachel Elliott I think it was more than a year in the planning and preparation. My memory is that she told me after last year's children's program that she wanted to write a Christmas program for the kids. I was thrilled and encouraged her. I was even more thrilled after Rachel completed the first song and sang it for me. I knew we had a hit on our hands. Rachel is an awesome Bible scholar who can find the essence of the scripture and share it simply and clearly. She does the same with the melodies she writes; they are simple and fun to sing. And it is important to her to convey the deepest, simplest truth of God to our kids. How awesome is that! So, she is one God gifted woman for sure!

The other gifted person has been here at Tualatin UMC longer than I have. Merry McAdoo constantly looks for the best ways to help the kids learn, to help them be a true part of the church and to encourage every one of them. Merry makes sure every child is involved in the program in a way that is satisfying to the child, not stressful or boring. She looks for ways to make their involvement fun, but with an eye towards helping them learn how to be involved at the next level, whether that's narrating in the Christmas program or participating in worship from the pews after the program. And Merry does this year round as a member of the Sunday School teaching team.



Both of these women are brilliant in their areas of ministry. Rachel coached and encouraged the young guitarists and ukulele players so they were able to play during the program with confidence. Merry planned carefully for each narrator and knew ahead of time how to include any children who showed up the morning of the program without previous rehearsal. All of us loved the idea of little Lily "flitting" back and forth as an angel and convinced her mom it would be perfect - and it was. In fact, every child was perfect! And beautiful! And precious! Reminding us once again of the miracle of birth and life and love that comes to every family through our children.

In our hearts may we all kneel at the manger and celebrate the love in our lives! Blessings, Melinda

THANK YOU Melinda Beyers, Lorie Beyers, Rachel Elliot, Merry McAdoo, James Wescott, all the kids that participated, all the helpers that worked on costumes and stage decorations... what a wonderful gift of Christmas to share with your TUMC family!!

FELLOWSHIP & STEWARDSHIP

Soup Supper January 10th after worship

Proceeds to benefit Tualatin Schoolhouse Food Pantry



November



December



January

No potluck in Nov, Dec, or Jan.
Stay tuned for the annual
Chocolate & Chili cook-off
in February 2016

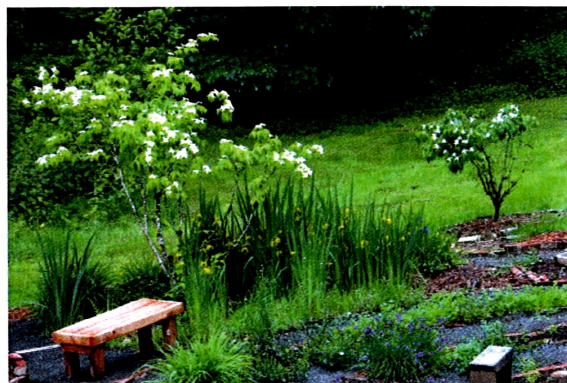
VOLUNTEER AT ALTON L. COLLINS RETREAT CENTER

will work for lunch



a series of volunteer
work days at the
Alton L. Collins
Retreat Center

Choose a date (or more than one!) and come out for the day or even just the morning or afternoon. We'll match your interests with a work project, such as trail maintenance, gardening, light carpentry, painting, clean-up, or office projects, AND we'll feed you one of our deservedly famous Collins lunches.



2016 dates to choose from:

Thursday, January 14

Wednesday, February 17

Saturday, March 5

Tuesday, April 12

Friday, May 13

Monday, June 13

Tuesday, July 26

Friday, August 5

Saturday, September 17

Thursday, October 13

Monday, November 7

Register online so we can match you up with a project
and prepare a delicious meal for you!

collinsretreatcenter.org/events.html

Alton L. Collins Retreat Center

A Ministry of The United Methodist Church & The Episcopal Diocese of Oregon

32867 SE Highway 211, Eagle Creek, OR 97022

alrc@rconnects.com 503-637-6411

Contact us to book a retreat for your church or other organization

Hilltop Highlights

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

TUMW WINTER-GET-TOGETHER

**Please join us on Monday, January 11th at 6:00 pm. at the home of Gloria & Tom Kreher
6323 SW Prosperity Road, Tualatin OR 97062.**

**This will be a potluck so be sure to bring a main dish, salad or dessert to share
AND remember your white elephant gift for the gift exchange.**

Also, we will reveal our Secret Pals and select new ones for the upcoming year.

PLEASE COME JOIN US!

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP



Current Book Study: "Healing the Heart of Democracy"

The TUMC Men's Group continues meeting each Wednesday at 10 am. to learn and support each other and contribute to worthy causes. Recently we have started a program to supply food packages to the needy in our area.

We welcome others to join this great group!

WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP

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

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

Our current book study: **"A Fighting Chance"** by Elizabeth Warren

CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1—HAPPY NEW YEAR!!

11:30 am. - 1:30 pm. AA Steppers

7-9:00 pm. Spanish AA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

No Activities

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3

10:00 am. Worship—Guest Preacher: Rev. Dr. Penny Christianson

NO Sunday School

7:00-9:00 pm. New Me Al-Anon and Who Me AA

MONDAY, JANUARY 4

10:00 am. Book/Bible Discussion

TUESDAY, JANUARY 5

No Activities

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 6

10:00 am. Men's Fellowship: "Healing the Heart of Democracy"

10:00 am. Women's Fellowship:

"A Fighting Chance" by Elizabeth Warren

4:45-7:30 pm. Weight Watchers in Koch Hall

THURSDAY, JANUARY 7

5:30 pm. Handbells

6:30 pm. Chancel Choir

7:45 pm. Praise

9:00-10:00 pm. Tualatin NA meeting

FRIDAY, JANUARY 8

11:30 am. - 1:30 pm. AA Steppers

7-9:00 pm. Spanish AA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9

No Activities

SUNDAY, JANUARY 10

9:30 am. SCRIP Orders

SCRIP: Donations from our area vendors
totaled \$342.96 this past December!

Thank you for purchasing Scrip cards to shop with!

10:00 am. Worship—Guest Speaker: Jason Roach

11:15 am. Soup Supper

7:00-9:00 pm. New Me Al-Anon and Who Me AA

MONDAY, JANUARY 11

10:00 am. Book/Bible Discussion

TUESDAY, JANUARY 12

7:00 pm. Trustees

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13

10:00 am. Men's Fellowship: "Healing the Heart of Democracy"

10:00 am. Women's Fellowship:

"A Fighting Chance" by Elizabeth Warren

4:45-7:30 pm. Weight Watchers in Koch Hall

THURSDAY, JANUARY 14

5:30 pm. Handbells

6:30 pm. Chancel Choir

7:45 pm. Praise

9:00-10:00 pm. Tualatin NA meeting

FRIDAY, JANUARY 15

11:30 am. - 1:30 pm. AA Steppers

7-9:00 pm. Spanish AA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 16

No Activities

SUNDAY, JANUARY 17

10:00 am. Worship—Sunday School

7:00-9:00 pm. New Me Al-Anon and Who Me AA

MONDAY, JANUARY 18—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

Church Office Closed

10:00 am. Book/Bible Discussion

TUESDAY, JANUARY 19

No Activities

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 20

9:30 am. Piano Tuning by Ingrid

10:00 am. Men's Fellowship: "Healing the Heart of Democracy"

10:00 am. Women's Fellowship:

"A Fighting Chance" by Elizabeth Warren

4:45-7:30 pm. Weight Watchers in Koch Hall

THURSDAY, JANUARY 21

5:30 pm. Handbells

6:30 pm. Chancel Choir

7:45 pm. Praise

9:00-10:00 pm. Tualatin NA meeting

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22

11:30 am. - 1:30 pm. AA Steppers

7-9:00 pm. Spanish AA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 23

No Activities

SUNDAY, JANUARY 24

10:00 am. Worship—Guest Speaker: Emilie Kroen—Sunday School

7:00-9:00 pm. New Me Al-Anon and Who Me AA

MONDAY, JANUARY 25

10:00 am. Book/Bible Discussion

TUESDAY, JANUARY 26

No Activities

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 27

10:00 am. Men's Fellowship: "Healing the Heart of Democracy"

10:00 am. Women's Fellowship:

"A Fighting Chance" by Elizabeth Warren

4:45-7:30 pm. Weight Watchers in Koch Hall

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28

9:30 am. Newsletter Team

5:30 pm. Handbells

6:30 pm. Chancel Choir

7:45 pm. Praise

9:00-10:00 pm. Tualatin NA meeting

FRIDAY, JANUARY 29

11:30 am. - 1:30 pm. AA Steppers

7-9:00 pm. Spanish AA

SATURDAY, JANUARY 30

No Activities

SUNDAY, JANUARY 31

10:00 am. Worship—Sunday School

7:00-9:00 pm. New Me Al-Anon and Who Me AA