

# The Pilgrim

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For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope Jeremiah 29:11

When the prophet Jeremiah wrote the above words, he was offering a message of comfort and hope to the exiles who had been carted off to Babylon after the conquest of Jerusalem. To exiles who found themselves in a strange land, living under a foreign regime, he counseled steadfast faith. The God of their fathers and mothers, the God of the covenant, would not forget them, even though they were far from the land of promise. This God would actively work for their welfare and restore them to the land of promise. Even when they were in a heap of trouble, God would make a way out of no way.

In a much less dramatic way, interim periods in the life of a congregation can feel a bit like exile. Familiar patterns have been disrupted, the landscape has changed, and a foreigner occupies the pulpit! This is especially true when a long-serving pastor has retired. FCUCC's situation is a little different, in that change has perhaps begun to feel more like the norm than the exception. But in either case, change is unsettling. It can generate anxiety, grief, and even apathy, or withdrawal. When the furniture is always changing, it may not feel safe to sit down and stay awhile! Jeremiah understood these natural human feelings, but amazingly, he counseled the exiles in Babylon to do something completely counter-intuitive. He writes:

"Thus says the God of Israel to all the exiles whom I have sent...from Jerusalem to Babylon: Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat what they produce....seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the Lord on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare." Jer. 29:4-7

Jeremiah offers wisdom that we need for our interim time at First Congregational, Portland. He knows his people's pain and loss, and yet he counsels against the temptation to despair; instead he urges them to embrace life in their new circumstances, and to invest in their present, trusting that in God's time they will reap the dividends of a fruitful and blessed future.

I have been listening deeply to your stories, FCUCC. I have been listening to your grief and confusion, as well as to your questions, your dreams and your hopes. I am also learning about the rich legacy of this historic church, which has remained planted in our beautiful city for 167 years! During all those years, this church has known good times and lean times, peaceful times and stormy times. Through it all, the Word has been preached, babies have been baptized, people have gathered around Christ's table, service has been rendered to the community, and witness to kin-dom values of peace, justice, and radical hospitality has been offered. All this has continued here because God has remained faithful, and the people have continued to believe and invest in the living body of Christ who gather in the "church with the tower."

As your interim pastor, then, I write with a word of encouragement. God is not finished with you yet! Signs of vitality that I have seen recently include the dinner gatherings in homes this summer and fall, with more than 80 people participating! At least 45 of you came to my Getting to Know You gatherings this fall, and in a first ever Blessing of the Animals service, we were blessed by the presence of 16 dogs and two fish! The youth group is thriving under the leadership of Rev. Elizabeth and Annie Tartar and a new Confirmation class is getting underway, the first in years! Other initiatives like Outwork and Artreach are drawing the community through our doors and connecting us to broader cultural currents. And so, this is not a time to sit back or withdraw, friends. This is the time to lean forward and invest in your future! As we move into Stewardship Season, Advent and Christmas, I look forward to getting to know you all better and serving alongside you. For God knows the plans that God has for you, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope."

Blessings abound, Rev. Janet Interim Senior Minister

## 'TIS THE SEASON....STEWARDSHIP, THAT IS!

With Rev. Janet's haunting sermon question, "Why NOT me?" ringing in my ears, I had only a momentary pause before responding "yes" to her invitation to serve as Chair of this year's Stewardship Team! And what a great Team we have assembled! Joining me on your behalf are Frank Baldwin, Paris Hancock, Karen Horn, Janet Parker and Avena Ward.....with Elizabeth Durant and Al Horn serving as consultant/cheerleaders!

Each of us on the Team acknowledges the critical importance of renewing our financial, faith and time commitments to First Congregational UCC at the beginning of this transitional period of Interim leadership. Both the challenges we face and the opportunities for the immediate future of our congregation are profound!

With the seasonal rush of personal and congregational activities already underway, we are playing catch-up with our planning, but look forward

to sharing with you over the next few weeks our personal and collective responses to the question "What Shall We Bring?" in response to God's invitation to partnership in ministry.

Beginning on Sunday, October 28 through November and culminating with Stewardship or Pledge Sunday on December 2, we intend to explore both the theological foundations for our stewardship as well as the pressing financial realities of funding our ministry in Portland and beyond.

God has done, and continues to do, remarkable things through us and with us. With your renewed commitment to the life of our church family, I believe the future will be bright, indeed!

Bill Cunitz, Chair Stewardship Team 2018

### **MODERATOR NOTE**

Sarah Vazquez



Friends and family,

The darkness of this fall season is contrasted in our congregation by a hopeful light that is growing among us as we contemplate our past ministry and assess our future mission. We are beginning conversations about our strengths and challenges and

will soon open ourselves to a new direction. In these conversations, we commit to:

- Listen generously
- Have a "can-do" attitude when problem-solving
- Be brave in the face of disagreements
- Be mindful of our judgments and reactions
- Be willing to question our cherished beliefs and patterns
- Be about what we do not know
- Only speak out of personal experience
- Consider the impact of our privilege before speaking
- Be courageous with our voice
- Encourage others to use their voice, making room for all to be heard.

We are grateful to Rev. Dr. Janet Parker for shedding light on our path as we take stock in our evolutionary

process. On September 23rd, we entered into a covenant with her as she holds the congregation during this sacred time of reflection.

Rev. Parker commits, with God's help, to be faithful in worship leadership, in pastoral care, in working with the Assistant Pastor and the church staff, and the governing and program bodies of this congregation, to strive to maintain the highest professional and ethical standards at all times, in keeping with the expectations and traditions of the United Church of Christ.

We the people of First Congregational United Church of Christ, with God's help, commit to be open to the changes and opportunities that God is offering us in this interim ministry and affirm Rev. Janet as our Interim Senior Minister, promising to labor with her in the ministry of the Gospel and to give her due honor and prayerful support.

May God richly bless our time together on this path of light.

# MUTUAL THEOLOGICAL ACCOMPANIMENT IN PERU



2017 Mutual Theological Accompaniment Retreat in Cuernavaca, Mexico

Interim Senior Minister Janet Parker will be traveling to Peru in November as part of a unique cross-cultural dialogue between pastors and lay leaders in Oregon, Mexico and Peru. Known as the Mutual Theological Accompaniment Project, this initiative was started in 2016 by the Oregon Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in collaboration with Catholic and Protestant theologians, pastors and lay leaders in Mexico. It

expanded in 2017 to include Peruvians, and a larger number of Oregonians, including some pastors from the UCC and other denominations. Rev. Janet began participating in the initiative last year. This year, Rev. Sara Rosenau of Waverly Heights UCC, former Assistant Minister of FCUCC, is also engaged in the program! Both Rev. Janet and Rev. Sara will be traveling to Lima, Peru for the culminating retreat for this year's cycle.

Participants engage in small groups with members from all three countries, which meet online and share theological reflection based around our experience of our ministries. We focus on questions of marginalization, empowerment, mutuality, vulnerability, friendship and liberation—where and how do we experience all of these things in our own lives and in the lives of people with whom we are in ministry? What can we learn from Christian brothers and sisters of very different cultural, religious, and national backgrounds about our shared humanity and our shared ministry in the Body of Christ? Participants include both Catholics and Protestants, lay and ordained people. Rev. Janet will be taking a week of vacation and a week of study leave for this trip, leaving Nov. 7 and returning November 23. During her absence, Rev. Elizabeth will preach on Nov. 11 and Conference Minister Molly Carlson will preach on Nov. 18. Rev. Janet will be sure to share her experience and learnings with the congregation upon her return! She deeply appreciates the congregation's support of her participation in this initiative.



2017 Mutual Theological Accompaniment Retreat in Cuernavaca, Mexico

# STRONG, SUSTAINABLE, CONNECTED CHURCH: CENTRAL PACIFIC CONFERENCE ANNUAL MEETING

First Congregational UCC was fortunate to have four delegates represent us at our wider church's annual meeting in Pendleton, Oregon on the weekend of September 28-30, 2018. Joining our new interim Senior Minister Rev. Janet Parker and Rev. Elizabeth Durant were Vice Moderator Anne Sullivan, Ann Laskey, Eileen Deerdock, Ariel Henry, and Member-in-Discernment Grant Helbley. The theme of this year's meeting was "Flight Patterns of the Spirit: Strong, Sustainable, Connected Church."



Following a shift in hosting style begun in 2016, the annual meeting format was participatory and invited a high level of dialogue among participants. Our delegates participated in lively small group discussions, voted on the annual budget and slate of officers, explored workshops on various topics from church software to healthy board practices to immigration justice. We enjoyed great food and fellowship with members from UCC churches across Oregon, Southwest Washington and Idaho.

On Saturday we held a public action outside the Pendleton Convention Center, led by the Rev. Linda Jaramillo and Rev. Michael Ellick (in his role as a representative from Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon). Our demonstration urged the public to keep Oregon a Sanctuary State and vote "no" on Measure 105. At the Umatilla County Sherriff's Office, we hand-delivered a letter to the sheriff's deputy, urging him to reconsider his position on the

measure. We also passed two resolutions this year: one urging all congregations to oppose measure 105, and another urging congregations to support universal health care for all. Thank you to all our delegates for representing us in the wider church this year.





### BLESSINGS OF THE ANIMALS SERVICE A SUCCESS!

First Congregational UCC had its very first blessing of the animals service, in honor of St. Francis' Feast Day (October 4), on October 14. It was a smashing success. Sixteen dogs and two fish were blessed by Rev. Janet and retired minister and FCUCC member Gary Vaughan. No animals or people were harmed in the production of this service! Members enjoyed some extra sound effects from the dogs, which enhanced the experience of welcoming God's creation into our beautiful sanctuary.

Next year, we will work on getting the word out to more people, and hopefully welcome a more diverse variety of pets. We did have a pet-free section for people with allergies or who prefer to "see but not touch" animals. Huge thanks go to Andre Cordes for putting together the slide show and video for the service, which featured pets of congregation members, and to Steve Eggers and Chris Casey for managing the audio and video technologies during the service. Huge thanks also to animal wranglers Belinda Moos, Pam Shambow, Pam Fine, and to liturgist Janine Vaughan and Rev. Gary Vaughan.



### LIFE IN OUR CHURCH

### YOUTH ACTIVITIES

## SIERRA SERVICE PROJECT YOUTH REPORT BACK

Our youth group again participated in Sierra Service Project this summer, building home accessibility and improvement projects on the Spokane Reservation. Here's a brief report back from two of our participants. Thank you again for your support of our youth program!



Eli Gavilanes, Vanessa Hellums, Christina Hellums & Rev. Elizabeth

High school sophomore Vanessa Hellums writes: "This year we found ourselves with very unexpected challenges ranging from some miscommunication to swarms of yellow jackets at meal times. While these challenges were difficult to overcome sometimes, I personally had a blast this year at SSP. Our challenges did not keep us from doing what we came to do, help people and have fun doing it. My team was finishing up a shed for our homeowner Micky. We had finished the roof and sides, along with a lot of the painting. When we left all that needed to be done was the door, which was having trouble fitting in the doorway due to the heat. I have many enjoyable memories from those who I met at SSP and I want to thank you deeply for helping us get to SSP."

College senior Christina Hellums served as a counselor this year. She says: "Thank you for funding us to go to SSP this year. There were several more challenges than normal to conquer, but overall it was a good learning experience, especially about how to deal with swarms of bees. The construction we did was fun and furthered my education in construction a little more. I learned how to screed concrete, or smooth it out. My group worked well together and had the added bonus of having multiple dogs at our work site, one of which was pregnant and loved to be petted. Thank you!"



### Swimming, S'Mores & More at Annual Family Camp

First Congregational celebrated the end of summer with an awesome Family Camp at Waverly Cabin at Camp Adams in late August. Led by Rev. Elizabeth and Rev. Amanda Guthrie, our interim Children's Ministry Coordinator, we focused on the theme of "Opening Our Hearts." We enjoyed making arts and crafts, swimming (brr!) in Mill Creek, playing games, eating a tasty potluck, and of course, roasting marshmallows, making S'Mores, and singing way too many rounds of "The Cat Came Back" around the campfire. Annie Tarter led the youth on a night hike and they had their own cabin.



In the morning after breakfast we gathered under the pavilion for worship and communion. Rev. Amanda told a wonderful story, Rev. Frank Baldwin led singing on guitar, and Rev. Elizabeth reminded us how deeply we are beloved as we open our hearts to one another. Thank you to all our volunteers who made this year's family camp a joy to remember!





"Rev. Elizabeth and Rev. Amanda welcomed our children and youth on September 9th as we celebrated the start of a new school year."

### COMMUNITY CORE MINISTRY

# EVE'S CIRCLE: NEW LEADERSHIP AND FREE CHILDCARE

Did you know the first Ladies' Aid Society at First Congregational was organized in 1851 with 11 members? (Not-so-fun fact, that was 11 years before "lady members" of the church were allowed to vote at church meetings.)



Mary Laswell and Paula Adcock add to the 237 Soul Boxes

Things have changed – and they haven't – in 167 years. Eve's Circle, open to all female-identified people, still plays an active role in the church. The fourth Saturday morning of each month is devoted to exploration, service and connection with programs and outings coordinated by members. This year, Eve's Circle is led by Alice Forsythe and Jessica Denniston. As an added bonus, free child care is available during the meeting. Questions? Contact Jessica or Alice at eves@uccportland.org

September's meeting kicked off the year with a program about The Soul Box Project coordinated by Cheryl Clevenger and Nanci Tangeman. Eves folded and stuffed Soul Boxes and learned about the community art movement (see separate story). By the end of the meeting they had 267 Soul Boxes to contribute – including many they pre-folded at home.



Nanci Tangeman shows off the prizes

If a group of interesting women of all ages is your kind of crowd, join us for an upcoming meeting:

November 24 – Our annual Undies the Tree kickoff! Bring your out-of-town guests (or take a break from them) to put up the Christmas tree and decorate it with new children's underpants!

**December 22** – Tour the current exhibition at Portland Art Museum with our favorite docent, Elaine Molskness. (Meet at the museum at 10:30; RSVP required)

**January 26** – What does it mean to be UCC? (to be confirmed)

**Februay 23** – Cybersecurity: Preventing Identity Theft and Fraud with Jessica

March 23 - Annual Eves Read with Lou

April 27 – Eves welcome the kiddos!

**May** - Eve's Circle Retreat at Camp Adams (Date to be announced)

**June 22** – Program TBD – Step up with your ideas! Shall we go outside?

**July 27** – Conjuring program ideas for 2019 – 2020 year!

### HOSPITALITY CORE MINISTRY

# The Soul Box Project: Bringing Meaning to the Numbers

On an average day in the U.S., 100 people are killed or injured by gunfire. That's an average day. On Sunday, September 30, 160 people were shot. September 2 that number was 169. But it was more than just a meaningless number. The Soul Box Project is trying to make that number mean something. And at First Congregational, we've been helping.

The Soul Box Project raises awareness of the U.S. gunfire epidemic by counting and honoring victims, offering healing participation to those seeking solace, and providing dramatic visual support for all initiatives working for a safer, more civil society.



Eve's Circle contributes 267 Soul Boxes at September meeting.

Since August 12, we've joined with people across the country to fold Soul Boxes. We committed to contributing 100 Soul Boxes each week to the national total of over 23,000 Boxes. It's our congregation's way of holding space for the 100 people, on average, who are shot on Sunday. (Note: In reality, the average number of people shot every Sunday since August 12 is 147.)

We will be folding through November. After that, all the Soul Boxes contributed by our congregation will be included in a massive exhibition of 36,000 Boxes at the State Capitol Gallery on February 15, 2019. Information on how to accompany those Soul Boxes will be available closer to the date.

For now, thank you for your enthusiasm and acceptance of The Soul Box Project. Keep folding – and remembering.

Supplies and instructions are always available on the Pencil Table in the Fellowship Hall. More information at www.soulboxproject.org



Cheryl (pictured) and Ron Clevenger are the official "Soul Box wranglers" for the Project.





First Congregational UCC members (Al Horn, Left photo) and George Rogers and Lesley Sepetoski, Right photo) march at Multnomah Days Parade with Soul Boxes

### **BOXED CHALLENGE:**

### Hey, Cool Kids!

Eve's Circle has managed to fold/collect 267 Soul Boxes! Can you beat that? If you do, there's something great in it for your new youth group. We challenge you to gather the God Squad and fold 300 Soul Boxes by Thanksgiving. You won't regret it!

Supplies and instructions are always available on the Pencil Table in the Fellowship Hall. More information at www.soulboxproject.org (And we're perfectly happy to show you how to fold.)



Members of the congregation contribute Soul Boxes weekly, including these meticulously folded Boxes from Dorothy Coombs.

### CHURCH LIBRARY IN GOOD HANDS

Welcome, Paris Hancock, our new librarian! And thank you, Carol Lynch (and husband, Frank) for your years of service, nurturing our collection.

Politics, religion and all sorts of subjects you shouldn't discuss at the dinner table are available in the church library – not to mention memoirs and good, strong fiction. For the tiniest readers and story listeners there are shelves of children's books. Almost all the books are available for checkout on the honor system. Stop by and take a look. The church library is located right off the Fellowship Hall, next to the kitchen.

# PEACEMAKING CORE MINISTRY SHERIDAN TO NORCOR 7-DAY MARCH TO END DETENTION AND DEPORTATION

First Congregational was pleased to provide warm hospitality to marchers on a 7-day journey for immigration justice. Organized by the Interfaith Movement for Immigrant Justice (IMIrJ) and Rural Organizing Project (ROP), the marchers traveled from the federal prison in Sheridan, OR to NORCOR in The Dalles, raising their voices to advocate for immigrants all along the way.

On Thursday, October 4th, our church provided a warm and dry space to eat lunch (provided by Peace House) and hear from leaders. Rev. Janet greeted the marchers, offered a prayer, and accompanied them as they marched down to Senator Jeff Merkley's office. Rev. Elizabeth organized a dinner that evening provided by generous volunteers from the church (as well as community members), and the marchers slept in our Fellowship Hall, then shared a breakfast provided by Peace House in the morning. Many, many thanks to volunteers Bruce and Judy Bishop, Eileen Deerdock, Gary and Janine Vaughn, Jim McPartland, Kathy Sheibley, Linda McKim-Bell, Pam Fine, Paris Hancock, Ron and Cheryl Clevenger, and Sadie Durant.





### INTRODUCTION

For the ancient Greeks, poeisi ( $\pi$ 0í $\eta$ 0 $\eta$ ) was the word for poetry. One of Artistotle's

books, On Poetry, discusses its meaning. For the philosopher, poetry specifically references the creating of structure that carries meaning in a significant way, especially in writing, drama, lyric & epic poetry, and art. The action and doing related to poeisi are the work of a poet.

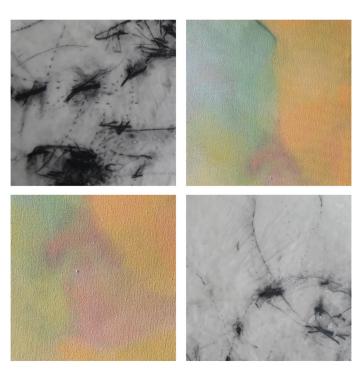
A while back I had a fascinating discovery: the word doer (Ποίηται - poetai) in "Be doers of the word, and not hearers only" (James 1:22) is from the same root as the Greek word for poetry. I found that to be amazing. So my new translation is: "Be poets of the word, and not hearers only." When we insert the word poet in the verse, we revive its ancient meaning and begin to see the importance of these creative artists in our midst, those who make and do things that are structured to carry meaning in significant ways. They teach and inspire us to explore our own poetic being.



### **DISRUPTIONS**

In August and September 2018, our exhibition of Carola Penn's paintings was called DISRUPTIONS. At the Curator's Event for this show, one of the participants referred to her work

as 'prophetic,' an indication that they realized the intention of her work was to raise consciousness -- to get us to look at what our economic, social and political decisions are doing to the earth, to our cities and to our people. Indeed, her show impelled us to disrupt our complacencies and consider more creative options. Her art is a kind of "poetry" in the ancient sense of the word, and her intention is structured to give a meaning that encourages a poetic response. A booklet introduced the artist and gave a brief interpretation of her work.



### STATT FINDEN - TAKING PLACE

In October and November, we have an exhibition of abstract art by Werner Ryschawy and Annegret Reichmann entitled STATT FNDEN in German, TAKING PLACE in English. The abstraction requires very different interpretive approaches; meaning emerges not only from contemplation of the finished pieces but also from understanding and consideration of the creative processes used in making the drawing and painting that we see. We are invited to consider seriously the means by which the forms emerge, the processes used to create, and the actions related to each work. The poetry of this art the resulting structure that carries meaning) expects us then to do our own work: to find meaning in the forms, to discover references, to realize the dynamics of related lines and shapes.

We are accustomed to doing this daily--often unconsciously--with sounds, sights, and actions of life around us; now we do it consciously with the poetry of the visual artist. And our poetic response might be to reconsider our relationship to more familiar lines and shapes that we experience throughout our daily lives. A booklet introduced each artist; an interview and an essay were included.

#### **ARTIST IN RESIDENCE**

As part of this exhibition, Werner Ryschawy served as our Artist in Residence for three weeks in September prior to the show. Coming from near Essen, Germany, he set up a temporary studio in our Chapel adjacent to the main gallery in Fellowship Hall. He worshiped with us and became acquainted with many members and gallery visitors. John and Patty Bentley, members of the Bethel Congregational Church in Beaverton, hosted him for his first 10 days, and Margret Oethinger from our congregation hosted him for the second 10 days. He gave a brief interview during the reception and was actively involved with gallery visitors throughout his stay.

### LIFE'S LINES

During the month of December, church members and friends are invited to submit a personally meaningful short quotation, line of poetry, scripture verse or inspirational saying. These are written lines that help us express life's meaning and purpose. The quotations will be displayed along with a collection of calligraphic work by Kathrin Cawein. This calligraphy was given to our church in 1997 shortly after Ms. Cawein died at 100 years of age. The collection includes selected biblical passages related to the Nativity, Ministry and Death/Resurrection, all references to the life's lines that help us interpret the meaning of Jesus.

Sheldon Hurst, Curator

### THANK YOU DONNA!



First Congregational UCC has been blessed to have the expert service of long-time member Donna Clatworthy as our Wedding Coordinator for many years. Her keen attention to detail, calm and confident demeanor, and knowledgeable presence made all the difference for the couples who have chosen to tie the knot in our historic building. We are so grateful for the world-class service that Donna has brought to this position, and the professional way that she has represented our church in coordinating with wedding parties, vendors, visitors and guests. Thank you, Donna, for all that you have done over the years...we are so blessed by your service!

### CALENDAR OF ONSITE EVENTS

### **Oregonians United Against Profiling**

Tuesday, November 6 | 6pm-10pm | Main Level No on Measure 105 and 106. Join in with friends for food and fun as we watch election results roll in. Wine and tamales will be served!

#### **Portland Book Festival**

Saturday, November 10 | 9am-6pm | Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall

Literary Arts announces the Portland Book Festival presented by Bank of America will return on Saturday, November 10 to the Portland Art Museum and neighboring partner venues. This one-day event features local and national authors presenting onstage events, pop-up readings, and workshops. Enjoy activities for readers of all ages, an extensive book fair, local food trucks, entry to the Portland Art Museum and more. Gather with your community and celebrate our shared passion for books.

# Tilman Ruff - "Before They End Us" The new global movement to end nuclear weapons & protect planetary health

Tuesday, November 13 | 6pm-10pm | Sanctuary
Tilman Ruff is Co-President of International
Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War
(IPPNW, Nobel Peace Prize 1985); and founding
international and Australian Chair of the
International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (ICAN), awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2017
"for its work to draw attention to the catastrophic
humanitarian consequences of any use of nuclear
weapons and for its ground-breaking efforts to achieve
a treaty-based prohibition of such weapons."

### **Annual Pie Sale**

Sunday, November 18 | 11:30am-1pm | Fellowship Hall

Help support our youth summer service trip with this tasty fundraiser, just in time for your holiday table! Middle and high school youth help sell and serve pies during coffee hour in our Fellowship Hall...\$3/slice or \$10/pie

### **Cookie Baking**

Saturday, December 8 | 10am-12pm Join us in the church kitchen as we bake and decorate holiday cookies! Mmmm...frosting, sprinkles, and fun!

### **New Member Breakfast**

Scheduled for December 9 | 8:45am-10:00am | Library Have you thought about becoming a member of First Congregational UCC in Portland? Have you been attending for a while, but haven't taken the plunge? Or are you new and intrigued by what you are seeing here? We would love to host you for a breakfast gathering and explore membership at First Congregational UCC. Come and learn more about the history and life of the church and what it means to be part of the UCC. We want to get to know you better too!

Please RSVP to edurant@uccportland.org

### **Advent Spiral**

Sunday, December 9 | 10:30am-11:30am Join us during Sunday worship in the downstairs classroom for this magical tradition. We'll light candles and walk our homemade advent spiral. Afterwards we'll plan our posada play.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Rev. Dr. Janet Parker, Interim Senior Minister Rev. Elizabeth Durant, Assistant Minister

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