This month, we gladly welcome Jessica Bakken as United’s 32nd intern! We have been looking forward to resuming this important ministry for some time.

Because of this, I will share a piece written by Leanna Fuller who teaches at Pittsburgh Theological Seminary. It appeared in a recent issue of The Christian Century. She begins her article by telling a story of a student having difficulty with a particular topic in class. In this case, it was about dying and his brother had been murdered just a year earlier.

She goes on to say that there are a number of topics in seminary which can be challenging for different students. In this reality, she says that it is important for the school to help students deal with such issues while not shying away from them either.

Toward the end of her article, she says that such things are also true in churches. She writes, “Finding and maintaining the right balance between safety and challenge is important not only for the immediate context of the classroom, but for helping people learn to do ministry. Students at my seminary will be part of faith communities that are struggling to address issues of sexuality, racial tension, and environmental crisis. Faith communities that aren’t safe enough for people to be vulnerable will lack authenticity. Such communities may be free of open conflict, but they will probably also be free of real, deep intimacy. When faith communities are completely free of discomfort or challenge, they may become stagnant, and they will find it difficult to follow where God leads.”

Over the years, United has and continues to be a people where we love and support each other as well as discuss challenging issues about which we do not always agree. We do our best, with God’s grace, to listen to each other, support each other, and differ as we feel we must. I think this is one of the ways that our congregation expresses its health and vitality.

In addition, I think that this helps make United a wonderful internship congregation. In this environment, interns have the opportunity to express themselves, learn from the community, and explore how they can become the best pastoral leader they can be.

Thank you for being part of this endeavor and together, let’s welcome Intern Jessica warmly and energetically as she takes the coming year to grow, serve, share, lead, and learn!

In Christ,
Tom Dodd, pastor

TWO SERVICES RESUME & RALLY DAY ON SEPTEMBER 11

Our Two Service Schedule resumes on Sunday, September 11, with worship at 8:30 and 11:00 a.m. Please join us between services on September 11, 9:45-10:45 a.m., to kick off the start of our Sunday School year. This hour will be filled with fellowship, intergenerational activities, and an exploration of prayer. Information about the different Sunday School opportunities will be available at this time. If you have any questions please talk to Crystal Miller.
UNITED GETS READY FOR OUR NEXT INTERN

United Lutheran is excited to welcome our next intern, Jessica Bakken. She is from the mid-west and her first Sunday with us will be 9/4/16. She will begin her duties officially at ULC on Sunday, September 11th. Jessica has much experience in many areas and we are expecting a fun and interesting year as she spends time working with both Good Sam and our congregation.

The Intern Community invites everyone to the Intern Welcome Potluck, Sunday, September 11 at 5:30p.m., in the Fellowship Hall. Bring a dish or two to share and as per our usual custom, we have an opportunity to give gifts of cash and paper products to help her get started. There will also be a time to hear from Jessica and ask questions. Also feel free to say hello individually and give Jessica some of our good old Lutheran hospitality. She is a real people person and is excited about coming to Eugene. The Intern Committee will host this Potluck and would appreciate any help in clean up at the end of the evening.

Any questions? See Intern Committee members, Jeff Kruger, Corrie Gustafson, Eileen Peterson, Carolee Horning or Mark Raney.

God Bless our new intern, Jessica.

ULC MINISTRY FAIR IS ON SEPTEMBER 18

From FISH to Fair Trade to Easter Baskets for First Place Family Center, there is a lot happening at United. A Ministry Fair is an opportunity to learn more and get involved. Join us in the fellowship hall at 9:45 a.m. on Sunday, September 18, and see what United is doing and where you might fit in our various ministries. If you have questions about this event, please contact Denise Wendt or Sally Krueger.

YOUTH ACTIVITIES: WELCOME BACK!

September 11, 1:00 p.m.: All High School students are invited to the church for lunch, fellowship, and a planning session for the upcoming year.

September 18, 1:00 p.m.: All Middle School students are invited to the church for lunch, fellowship, and a planning session for the upcoming year.

Questions? Talk to Crystal Miller.

HOSANNA CHOIR RETURNS!

Hosanna Choir returns to United! After a long absence, this choir for our children has begun anew.

Katie Bode is our new director and we are glad for her love of children, skills in working with all ages, and wonderful musical talents.

Hosanna choir will initially be focused on our younger children. Katie is in the process of contacting families to set up rehearsal times and presentation schedule. The choir will focus on songs of faith and will sing during Sunday worship times.

This promises to be a great opportunity for our children and a terrific gift to the congregation. A special gift to the Major Mission Gift is making this ministry possible!

Please stop Katie when you see her to ask about the choir.
JOIN THE FUN WITH OUR HANDCRAFT GROUP!

With the return of school and our Wednesday evening activities, the Handcraft Group will resume meeting at 6:15 p.m. in the fellowship hall on September 7. We gather to fellowship as we knit or crochet our individual projects. (Other handcrafts are welcome too!) Make an item, such as a prayer shawl, blanket, or hat, to give away, or bring another project. Questions? Talk to Gay Kramer-Dodd

A FORMER NUN TELLS HER STORY

United’s Book Group’s next book is the memoir, *An Unquenchable Thirst*, by Mary Johnson. The author was still in her late teens when she began training as a Missionary of Charity, the order started by Mother Theresa. She served as a nun with the order for 20 years, before leaving to find her own path.

This memoir gives the reader a look inside a way of life unfamiliar to most in the western world. It has been described by reviewers as “engaging, heartfelt, and entertaining,” (*L.A. Times*), “reads like a novel . . . an exacting account of a woman growing into her own soul,” (*More Magazine*), and “an inspiration that transcends any particular religious belief,” (*Denver Post*).

The book is available in paperback ($17). One paper copy and one audio edition are available at the Eugene Public Library.

The date of the meeting hasn’t been chosen as of press time, but is likely to be sometime in October.

ADULTS WILL FELLOWSHIP AT THE MAINS’

Tom and Kathy Mains are hosting a fellowship potluck gathering for adults from United in their beautiful yard in Alvadore on Sunday, September 25, 4:00 p.m. Bring a dish to share and plan to enjoy a lovely September day with friends from church.

FAMILY SERVICE OPPORTUNITY AT CHURCH!

All families are invited to join in a community service activity and lunch on September 25, 12:30 p.m., following the second service. We will be creating cards for home-bound members of our congregation and for other members of our community. We will also take some time to discuss ideas and interest for continued service activities throughout the year, and explore the idea of creating a monthly family night at United.

Please bring a lunch side dish to share; sandwiches will be provided. Please talk to Crystal Miller if you have any questions.

HELP PROVIDE SCHOOL KITS FOR LUTHERAN WORLD RELIEF

United is gathering school supplies to prepare 100 School Kits for the Lutheran World Relief Fall Ingathering. We need:

- 70-page spiral notebooks
- Pencil sharpeners
- 12” rulers
- 24-count boxes of crayons
- Blunt-end safety scissors

Please bring all donations to the church and we will be assembling the kits in early October. Questions? Talk to Crystal Miller.

LEAVE A LEGACY

Have you thought of including United in your will or living trust? Would you like to leave a lasting legacy to the church? Such bequests strengthen the ministry both now and into the future.

It can be as simple as including in your will:

“I leave ____% to United Lutheran Church, an Oregon non-profit corporation, 2230 Washington Street, Eugene, Oregon 97405.”

Feel free to contact the members of the Trust Fund Committee (Corrie Gustafson, Janet Gustafson, Jennifer Haliski, Peggy Johnson, and Eileen Peterson) if you have any questions.
EAT DINNER AT CHURCH ON WEDNESDAYS!

Mid-week meals are starting back up on Wednesday, September 7. Please join us every Wednesday evening from 5:30 to 6:15 for good food and conversation. The price for a delicious dinner, prepared by Diane Masson, is only $4.00! We look forward to seeing you there.

BIRTHDAYS
2 - Jon Brandt
3 - Gary Haliski
8 - Brent Hample
9 - Sue Bowers, Laura Jacek
10 - Julie Coffman
12 - Kathy Brandt
13 - Kathy Mains
15 - Austin Helikson
16 - Janet Gustafson
17 - David Gustafson, Gemma Rettmann
19 - Philip Bayles
20 - J. P. Gustafson, Jane Barta
22 - Gay Kramer-Dodd
28 - Daniel Krueger

ANNIVERSARIES
4 - Thea Petersen & Nate Bryce
9 - Sue & Dick Bowers
25 - Donna & Kevin Glass
29 - Julie & Ron Coffman

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES
1 - Erik Anstine
3 - Sandy Wilson
13 - Jon Brandt
20 - Eunice Kjaer
28 - Ginny Currens

EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD
CROP WALK IS SUNDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2:00 P.M.

Join others from area churches and organizations at Alton Baker Park on October 2, in walking to feed hungry people. 75% of the money raised will go to Church World Services, 25% stays locally with FOOD for Lane County. Kathy Mains will have information packets available for all interested walkers. See her between services at church on Sundays during September.

$12 can provide 200 micro-nutrient packets for malnourished children. $30 can drill one meter of a shallow borehole well, providing safe, clean water for a community. $110 can provide a family with emergency food packages in times of disaster.

Any questions? Contact Kathy Mains.

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UNITED VOICE SEPTEMBER 2016 – PAGE 4
In order to appreciate the impact of fossil fuels on the present condition of the oceans, which cover 70% of the earth’s surface, it is helpful to understand the chemistry of carbon.

As fossil fuels are burned carbon dioxide is emitted into the atmosphere. In recent years 365 million tons of carbon have been released. As the oceans absorb the carbon dioxide from the atmosphere, it is converted into carbonic acid, causing the pH of the water to decline and become acidic.

If the water and the carbon dioxide are in equilibrium roughly the same quantities are released as are absorbed. But with the changes in the atmosphere more carbon dioxide is being dissolved into the water than is being released making the ocean more acidic.

Every day each American is releasing 7 pounds of carbon into the atmosphere, our “carbon footprints.”

Oceans are 30% more acidic than they were in 1800. At this level there is a destructive effect on coral reefs, krill (the primary food of whales), and closer to home, the Pacific Coast oysters. The entire food chain is affected.

A more visible state of the ocean is the “Pacific Garbage Patch,” a phenomena in which 100 million tons of plastic, Styrofoam, and garbage is caught in a gigantic swirl off the Pacific coast. Each year plastic debris kills more than 100,000 sea turtles, sea birds, and marine mammals. What we know as garbage they see as food. Bag bans in four Oregon cities (including Eugene) may seem as a nuisance to consumers, but they can be life-savers as they will eliminate 304 million bags from the waste stream each year. A state-wide ban would eliminate 1 billion bags from Oregon’s waste stream each year.

MEMBER UPDATES

Contact the church office for the address and phone number changes for the following members.

Thomas & Emily Gustafson
New address

Bob & Peggy Johnson have canceled their landline phone. So please use their cell phones.

Elle & Molly McCall
New address.

ALEX BRINK IS GETTING MARRIED

Alex Brink is marrying his long-time sweetheart, Joani Jones, September 17, in Hillsboro, Oregon.

Congratulations and best wishes to the happy couple on their life together!

WELCOME TO THESE LITTLE ONES

Julia Marie Bryce was born on July 12, a healthy little girl joining her big sister, Ruby, and parents Thea Petersen and Nate Bryce. All are doing well!

Pastor Nathan (Intern #24) and Anne Mugaas welcomed their second son, Stanley Arvid Mugaas, on May 29, making Teddy a big brother. The entire family will be moving this month from Minot, North Dakota, to Elk River, Minnesota. Nathan will be the pastor of a new congregation, Elk River Lutheran Church, which is near the Twin Cities.

Congratulations and best wishes to both families in their lives together.

Member DIRECTORY

Contact the church office for the address and phone number changes for the following members.

Thomas & Emily Gustafson
New address

Bob & Peggy Johnson have canceled their landline phone. So please use their cell phones.

Elle & Molly McCall
New address.
FROM PASTOR DEBBIE MCALLISTER
Email received June 23, 2016
Dear Brothers and Sisters at United,

I love the cross that you gave me for ordination and am filled with joyful memories each time I wear it. Ordination was an incredible day with people coming to join me from almost every piece of this journey (at least those in California.) It has taken a village to get me to the next chapter, that of an ordained pastor, and you were a tremendous piece of that journey.

Thank you for being there for me during my year with you at United (2012-13), as well as the cross that will continue to be a beautiful and constant way to remember you.

My friends, may your internship program continue to bless you. Pastor Debbie McAllister
[Calvary Lutheran Church, Mi Wuk Village, CA]

FROM EUGENE MISSION
June 27, 2016

We are so grateful for your beautiful donation of $250, especially in light of the recent devastating kitchen fire. Your heart for giving, along with the hearts of so many of our friends, makes it possible for us to feed, clothe, shelter, and to be used by God to help “get well” approximately 700 homeless guests each day who come through our doors.

Your gift allows us to offer both our Life Change participants and general guests many healing programs as well as the message of Hope and Love which leads to restoration and wellness in their hearts, and a peace that surpasses all understanding.

We thank God for your support which is so freely given. May your cup overflow with peace. Thank you so much for this generous gift!

In His service, Jack Tripp, Director

FROM FISH OF EUGENE-SPRINGFIELD
July 27, 2016

Thank you for your generous gift of $250. Your generosity will make life better for individuals and families who have great needs. On behalf of our wonderful volunteers, I thank you.

Del Hawkins, Coordinator

HAVE FUN AT LUTHERWOOD’S ANNUAL HARVEST FESTIVAL!

Camp Lutherwood Oregon’s fun fall fundraiser, the Harvest Festival, returns for its third year on Saturday, October 1, from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. Live and Silent Auctions plus plenty of festive fun surround the delicious farm-to-table meal (served at 5:00 p.m.) Tickets are $50 each and may be purchased online at lutherwoodoregon.org, by phone, 541-998-6444, or by mail, 22960 Hwy. 36, Cheshire OR 97419.

CHURCH WOMEN UNITED THIS MONTH

All women are invited to learn more about climate issues at the September gathering of Church Women United on Friday, September 2, 9:00 a.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Church, 1685 W. 13th Ave., Eugene. The topic is “Environmental Care: Fossil Free,” with Deb McGee and Patty Hine as the speakers. The Tuesday Breakfast at Brails, 7:30 a.m. on September 6, will continue the discussion, 1983 Willamette St.

In October the focus will be on Oregon Ballot Measures 97 (corporate tax) and 98 (funding career & technical education in high schools.)

“Consider the lilies of the field: They Google not, neither do they Twitter.”

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UNITED LUTHERAN CHURCH  
2230 WASHINGTON ST  
EUGENE OR 97405  
RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED  

Especially for:

September 4  
Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Psalm 1; Philemon 1-21; Luke 14:25-33

September 11  
Exodus 32:7-14; Psalm 51:1-10; 1 Timothy 1:12-17; Luke 16:1-13

September 18  
Amos 8:4-7; Psalm 113; 1 Timothy 2:1-7; Luke 16:1-13

September 25  
Amos 6:1a, 4-7; Psalm 146; 1 Timothy 6:6-19; Luke 16:19-31

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Intern: Jessica Bakken  
Congregational Ministry Assistant: Crystal Miller  
Secretary: Linda Anderson  
Mid-Week Meal Cook: Diane Masson  
Hosanna Choir Director: Katie Bode  