

# THE VIEWPOINT

The Monthly Newsletter of Riverside Community Church  
The United Church of Christ  
August 2014



Outdoor Worship and Baptisms

August 24 at 10 am at Toll Bridge Park

(approximately 15 miles south of Hood River  
just off of Hwy.35)

Potluck following the service ~ bring food to share, chairs  
and place settings.

## MESSAGE FROM THE MODERATOR



Dear Riverside Family and Friends,

As I sit here on this last day in July, I can't help but feel joyful over the *abundance of all Creation.*

The orchards and gardens of our beautiful valley are producing an abundance of food. The sunshine and the wind, the flowing waters and peaceful lakes all produce an abundance of opportunity for getting out into God's great gift and feeling His presence.

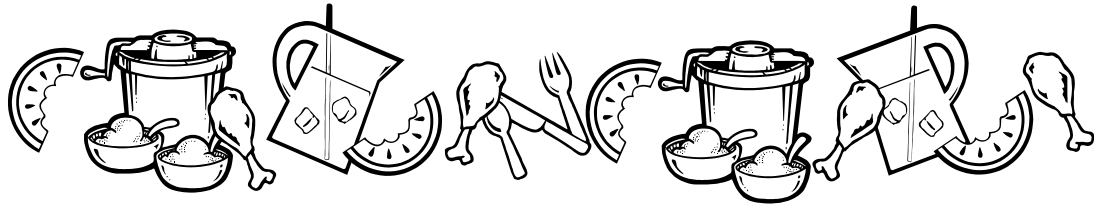
How *blessed* we all are to live and thrive in this place.

And while I feel this joy for my great luck in living in this valley, this state, this country, my heart aches for those in Gaza, Israel, Syria, Ukraine and parts of Africa. Don't these places also have an abundance of Creation? How heartbreaking that families cannot celebrate the abundance around them because of war and disease.

Like so many, I have no answers. But I do have prayers. I say Thank You to God for the glorious abundance of your Creation, and please, let your children everywhere share in it.

God in Your Grace, Hear our Prayers  
*Gean Rains*

# RIVERSIDE BULLETIN BOARD



**Worship time 10:30 am. First Sunday of the month is Communion Sunday. Children grades K-5<sup>th</sup> are invited to Sunday School in the Fireside Room after the Children's Time. Younger children may remain in worship or in the nursery with Mirian Castillo and Aundrea Braniff.**

**Church Office Hours** are 9 am – 2 pm Monday through Friday.

**Pockets of Plenty Offering** is August 10. Proceeds will help support One Community Health. Formerly known as La Clínica del Cariño Family Health Care Center, Inc., ONE COMMUNITY HEALTH is the new name of the Columbia Gorge's non-profit community and migrant health center: the mission to make affordable and high quality medical and dental care accessible to *everyone* in our community.

**Mission Board** meets August 13 at 4:30 pm.

**Local Missions Offering** is August 17.

**Down Manor Bible Study** on Mondays from 10 – 11 am. Everyone welcome!

**Cheers** meets on August 28 at 10 am.

**Council** Next meeting August 21, 5:30 pm at Gean Rain's house, 4450 Baldwin Creek Dr. Potluck prior to the meeting.

**Coffee Hour Hosts** are needed for **August 3 and 31**. Please sign up in the Pioneer Room or contact the church office if you can help.



For the Month of August

Connal Rea	August 1
Jo Herring	August 2
Olivia Newcomb	August 4
Tom St. John	August 8
Judy Nelson	August 11
Tim Foley	August 15
Addison Redmond	August 19
Wendy Foley	August 23
Virginia Sheppard	August 23
Zella Laraway	August 26
Caleb Trumbull	August 28

*Have we missed your birthday?  
Please let the church office know  
at [rcc@gorge.net](mailto:rcc@gorge.net).*



*It is a blessing to have others  
praying for us. It is also a blessing  
when we pray for others. Let us  
bring our prayers to God.*

Prayers of comfort for Elaine Johnson and family, and for all those that grieve...Pam Riedl...Brett Requa...Dorothy Culbertson ... Bill Cannon...Janet Wood... ..Sue Hukari... Bob Manning ...Hazel Bowe...Marge Jacobson and for all those in need of healing...safe travels to all those on summer journeys...for Betty Rea, now under hospice care...for our troubled world...for the peacemakers...

**God In Your Grace,  
Hear Our Prayers**

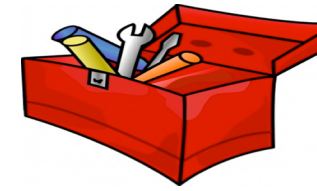


RIVERSIDE  
BOOK CLUB  
COMING THIS  
FALL!  
STAY TUNED  
FOR DETAILS...



## The Peace of Wild Things *Wendell Berry*

When despair for the world  
grows in me  
and I wake in the night at the  
least sound  
in fear of what my life and  
my children's lives may be,  
I go and lie down where the  
wood drake rests  
in his beauty on the water,  
and the great heron feeds.  
I come into  
the peace of wild things  
who do not tax their lives  
with forethought of grief.  
I come into the presence of  
still water.  
And I feel above me  
the day-blind stars  
waiting with their light.  
For a time  
I rest in the grace  
of the world, and am free.



## Kitchen Remodel

You may be hearing rumors of a kitchen remodel at Riverside. Well, yes, it just might happen!

Ever since I joined Riverside about 6 years ago there has been talk about needing to upgrade our kitchen. The talks have gotten more serious this year as we have been looking at ways Riverside could better serve the community. So many of our Christian teachings and traditions center on food, and so Food and Faith programs seem a natural extension as who we are as a Riverside family.

As our discussions progressed God sent us two gifts. First, Kathy Watson (owner and chef of Nora's Kitchen) stepped forward with a plan for how we could transform our existing space into a commercial kitchen. She has offered consulting services to the project and has introduced us to the contractors and supplies who built her two restaurant kitchens.

The second gift comes in the form of funding. Before his death, Scott Johnson called me and said he and Elaine would pay for the kitchen. For obvious reasons, they wanted the project to begin immediately. At their request a series of meetings took place before Scott died. Elaine wants this project to move forward and she humbly agreed that when completed this will be The Scott & Elaine Johnson Kitchen @ Riverside Church.

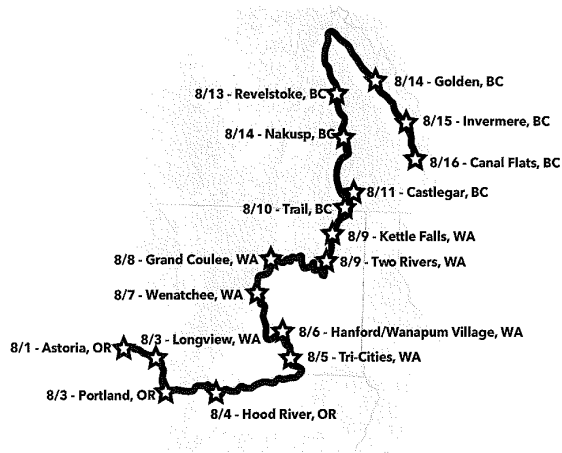
Where are we now? A team has been formed to look at the project design, costs and feasibility. In the coming weeks we will share our findings with you and seek your blessing. *Please know that no construction we start without you!*

***Thanks be to God from whom all blessings flow***, and thanks to Scott & Elaine, Kathy, and to those who have already stepped forward to help.

Gean

# COLUMBIA RIVER MULTI-FAITH PRAYER VIGIL

Hood River Waterfront Park  
Monday August 4th, 6:00 PM



*Vigils are being held throughout the month of August in 16 locations along the river.*

For more info contact:

Emily Long  
Water Quality Assistant  
Columbia Riverkeeper  
541.387.3030  
volunteer@columbiariverkeeper.org

Adam Wicks-Arshack  
917-684-4247  
adamwicksarshack@gmail.com

Bring a musical instrument, bring a prayer, poem or story of the river to share.  
A salmon dinner will be provided, please bring a potluck dish.



Are you interested in being baptized or having your children baptized with the waters of the Hood River?

Baptisms will be performed as part of the outdoor worship service at Toll Bridge Park on August 24.

On **Thursday, August 21 at noon** in the Ruth Wells Room we will explore the meaning of baptism in our faith tradition, as well as the actual process during the service. Please let Pastor Vicky know if you are interested.

Yes, a familiar face will once again be found at Riverside! Pastor Vicky will be back in her office on August 20. And all of God's children will say,

“Welcome  
Back  
Pastor  
Vicky!”





Dear Riversiders,

Where have you been?

“Where have you been?” is a common question I hear from people during the summer, as we all want to know what people have been out and about doing.

I’ve taken the teen group to Seattle for the Western Regional Youth Event, and I felt like I was out of town for a week during our Earth Camp! The kids made the camp so fun and in leaving behind our outdated “VBS” name, the week felt very fresh and stimulating.

I’m saving most of my out of town jaunts for August, and from what I’ve seen in years past, you probably are as well.

“Where have you been?” might also seem like a guilt trip if someone were to ask why we may not have seen you so often at Riverside during the summer. Well I hope you’ve learned that God is with you at the river, and on the hiking trail, in the mountains and by the ocean. I hope you can bring God’s peace to your picnic table, and around the campfires. I hope you can openly praise God in the flowers and the trees. I hope that under the stars you see God’s vision.

Sundays at Riverside are my set point for the week. Church is the place I remember why I am here and whose purpose I am serving. But in summer, and especially in August, God serves up a full palate of earthly pleasures.

Let’s catch up soon!

Elaine Thompson  
Director of Christian Nurture  
Riverside UCC

## CHRISTIAN NURTURE DATES TO REMEMBER!



**Teen Group** Time/place to be announced

Middlers “Random Friday Night”: **Friday, August 22<sup>nd</sup>** Koberg Beach.  
Time to be announced

**Christian Nurture Board** meets August 28 at 6 pm

Around the corner:

**Wednesday, Sept 10<sup>th</sup>**: 7pm Parents OWL Orientation at RCC

**Sunday, Sept 14<sup>th</sup>**: Child Sponsorship Celebration and Welcome Home Sunday at worship

**Saturday, Sept 20<sup>th</sup>**: Crop Walk

**Sept 26-28<sup>th</sup>** Central Pacific Conference annual meeting: Pendleton

**Sept 26-28<sup>th</sup>**: Middlers at SOLVE Oregon beach clean-up

**AND: Coming This Fall!**  
**Camp Adams All-Church Retreat: Nov 7-9<sup>th</sup>**

**RIVERSIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
**Council & Board/Committee Members**

Moderator	Gean Rains
Moderator Elect	
Treasurer	Phil & Sue Hukari
Secretary	Judie Holt-Mohar

**DIACONATE**

*Steering Committee:*  
 Alison Betzing  
 Pam Riedl  
 Janet & Leonard Wood  
 Rodger & Judy Schock  
 Elaine Johnson \*  
 Shirley Chrisman

**COUNCIL**

Steve Nybroten  
 Matt Rankin  
 Mariloy Fowler  
 Michelle Redmond  
 Mary Margaret Evans  
 Bob Olson

**CHRISTIAN NURTURE**

Karen Harding \*  
 Brenda Kaiser  
 Wendy Foley  
 Gretchen Newcomb  
 Kathryn McElwee  
 Molly Fauth

**BOARD OF CHRISTIAN WORLD MISSION**

Bob Olson, Michele Beaman, Keith Harding,  
 Kirby Neumann-Rea, Mariloy Fowler, Sandy  
 Spellecy \*, Susan DeBonis, Judith Poage, Joan Ewing

\* *Council Representative*

**WALTON MUSIC TRUST REPRESENTATIVES**

Janet & Leonard Wood

**PASTORAL RELATIONS**

Mary Margaret Evans \*  
 Terry Mallon  
 Tim Foley  
 Evelyn Charity  
 Mariloy Fowler  
 Michael McElwee

**BUILDING & MAINTENANCE**

Steve Nybroten, Leonard Wood, Joan Ewing, Bob Olson  
 Perry Platt

**BOARD OF MUSIC**

Eileen Utroske  
 Paul Thompson  
 Lorene Murray \*  
 Allan Henderson  
 Ellen Mallon  
 Susan Baldwin  
 Helmut Riedl  
 Dick O'Bannon

**ENDOWMENT COMMITTEE**

Allen Henderson, Jerry Mohar,  
 Jo Herring \*, Gail Lyon, Gary Rains

**PERSONNEL**

Kim Vogel  
 Michelle Redmond \*  
 Mariloy Fowler

**2014 SOFTBALL RECAP**



The 2014 season was a strange one, with folks' busy lives taking them everywhere but the softball field. Captain Kirby had conflicts with all the games except the last one. As a result, we played an incomplete schedule, but what games happened were fun and – most importantly – without injuries! We played the juggernaut Alliance Church twice, and while we lost both games, we scored in double digits both games.- The final game was an enjoyable one, with Sam and Matthew Fauth providing the cheering section for the combined RCC/Valley Christian team. (Valley Christian misread the schedule and four teammates were there to go with our six. Thank God for scheduling errors!)

Taking part this season were Riverside members Eric and Molly Fauth, Alison Betzing, Ellen Mallon, Jack Trumbull, Doug and Michelle Beaman, Connal Rea, Delaney Rea, and Kirby Neumann-Rea, and Riverside friends Adam Lapierre and Ben Mitchell. Thanks, too, to Valley Christian's Bruce, Ron, John and Bob for the last game boost.

Watch this space in about 8 months for further word on Church Softball 2015: men and women invited to play!

**July 2014**  
**Special Offering Totals**

<b>Pockets of Plenty</b>	<b>\$255</b>
<i>Peace Village</i>	
<b>FISH</b>	<b>\$198.59</b>

**Thank you**  
**for your Generosity!**

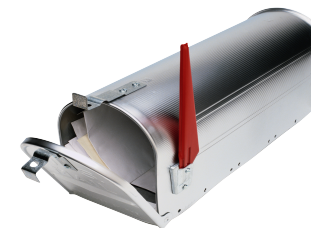


*Don't*  
*Forget*  
*Your*  
*Pledge*  
*This*  
*Summer!*

# AUGUST 2014

Riverside Community Church  
 United Church of Christ  
 Hood River, OR 97031  
 Pastor Vicky A. Stifter

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 *Guest Preacher Rev. Jean Doane Communion	4	5	6	7	8	9
10 Guest Preacher Rev. Vic Pavlenko POP Offering Special Music "Hardshell Harmony"	11	12	13 Mission Board 4:30 pm	14	15	16
17 Guest Preacher Rev. Gary Young	18	19	20	21 Baptism Mtg @ Noon Council Mtg @ 5:30 pm	22 Middlers @ Koberg Beach	23
24 Outdoor Worship @ Tollbridge Park	25	26	27	28 Cheers 10 am	29	30
31 Diaconate Mtg @ Noon				Christian Nurture Board 6 pm		



*The Viewpoint*  
 is published monthly by Riverside Community Church,  
 317 State St., P.O. Box 656, Hood River, OR 97031, 541-386-1412.  
 Editor: Lorre Chester-Rea - email address: [rcc@gorge.net](mailto:rcc@gorge.net). Editor reserves  
 the right to edit for space and content.  
 All errors, typos and omissions are sincerely regretted.  
 Visit our website at: [www.riversideucc.com](http://www.riversideucc.com)  
 Also visit: [ucc.org](http://ucc.org) and [cpc.org](http://cpc.org)  
 For more information on  
 The United Church of Christ