

From: Riverside Community Church rcc@gorge.net
Subject: Celebrating our Interdependence
Date: July 5, 2017 at 2:20 PM
To: rcc@gorge.net

LC

It's the RCC July Viewpoint, with everything you need to know about our church family and our life in the community.

[View this email in your browser](#)

Riverside Community Church Viewpoint July 2017

Celebrating our *Interdependence*



Pastor's Reflection

How many breaths have you taken today?

I'll admit—I've never counted. Yet last week, while traveling across the open plains of North Dakota and Montana I had plenty of time to read, and was astonished to learn that the average human takes 23,040 breaths each day.

With more than 7.5 billion of us on the planet, that is a lot of breathing. And where does all of that oxygen come from? While some emerges from trees and other land plants, most comes to us from ocean plants. In fact, one out of every five breaths that you will take today is dependent on oxygen freely given by phytoplankton.

While fireworks fill the skies and celebrations of "independence" abound, I am reminded of a deeper story---the story of our connection to the precious and fragile web of life woven by our gracious God. As I breathe, I re-member that we are not isolated, self-made individuals. We are vulnerable creatures, not the Creator--dependent on the sacred gifts of God to fill our bellies, quench our thirst and sustain the beating of our hearts.

I give thanks for the web of connection in this community of faith and pray that your summer celebrations might be filled with joy, deep breaths, and

daily reminders of our holy *interdependence* on the gifts of God.

--Pastor Vicky Stifter



Earth Camp Starts Monday

Calling all Earth Camp counselors: We're meeting this Sunday July 9, Noon-1:30 pm after service. Please be there!

And just a reminder: our church and grounds will be buzzing all next week with Earth Camp, from Monday, July 10 to Friday, July 14, 9 am to noon each day.

Don't you wish you had a dress code like our Earth Camp kids? Here it is:

Monday: Green

Tuesday: Red and silly socks

Wednesday: Brown orcamo

Thursday: Blue

Friday: Rainbow or tie dye

Hardings Host July 20 "Sacred Sense of Place"

The next Sacred Sense of Place gathering is July 20 at the home of Keith and Karen Harding. After



Whole Lotta Marching Going on

Riversiders marched in the Gorge Pride Parade on June 10, and in both the Somos Uno and Indivisible groups in the July 4 parade.

About Pride, from Pastor Kelly Ryan, Bethel UCC: "The Columbia River Gorge celebrated its first annual Columbia Gorge Pride Parade Saturday, June 10 in Hood River. Open and Affirming sister churches Riverside Community Church in Hood River and Bethel Congregational Church in White Salmon represented a witness to God's inclusive love in the Gorge. Bethel and Riverside, although in different states, are only several miles from another and share a number of events throughout the year. This year, LGBTQ-welcoming churches in the area had some of the largest contingents!"

Wade Shares on July 30

Andy Wade will be our guest preacher on Sunday, July 30. After worship that

Neil and Ruth Harding. After sharing a potluck dinner, participants will head out for a wonder-filled time of looking, listening and learning about the natural world in which we live.

Space is limited, so please sign up soon in the Pioneer Room or by contacting Lorre in the church office (rcc@gorge.net).

Outside Service with a River View!

It's time again for our Annual Outdoor Worship Service, July 23 at 10:30 am, with Bethel UCC at the Port of Hood River picnic shelter near the History Museum in the Port Marina Park.

Please plan on bringing chairs, your place setting and a potluck dish to share.

Happy Birthday to our July Babies!

Marbe Cook July 3
Victor Pavlenko July 9
Vicky Stifter July 9
Tim Mayer July 23
Dorothy Mellenthin July 23
Matthew Micheal Fauth July 26
Donna McCoy July 26
Michelle Redmond July 26
Marilyn Murray July 28

day, Stephanie Harris will share her Peace Corp experiences in the Pioneer Room.

Pockets of Plenty Supports Fresh Start

Many thanks to those who gave during the June 18 Pockets of Plenty offering. We got a chance that morning to hear from Fresh Start graduate Maggie McCulloch. And our congregation gave \$481 to support this program that was born and raised inside Riverside.

God in your grace....hear our Prayers

Prayers of peace for Joan Ewing, Ina Glasgow, the O'Bannons and all who grieve the loss of loved ones...

Prayers of strength for Pam Riedl and all who love & care for those who are ill and dying....

Prayers of joy for Brian and Natalie O'Bannon and all who join together in marriage....

Prayers of safety for those traveling in these summer months....

Prayers of healing for those struggling with addictions and mental illness....

Prayers of thanksgiving for flowing waters, spawning salmon, giggling children, picnics & parades...

Save October dates for Camp Adams

Our all-church retreat will take place amidst the ancient trees of Camp Adams on Oct. 20-22. Those of all ages invited.

Getting to Know You: Our New Members

See those new faces on Sunday? Here's short bios of two of the new RCC members. Your mission, for every July Sunday: please seek these new members and welcome them to RCC.

Barb Dworschak is a social case worker involving medically fragile children, a job that keeps her traveling quite a bit. When she's home, it's in White Salmon where her husband, Kevin, is employed. They have two grown daughters living in Portland and she is excited about becoming a grandmother.

Barb enjoys going on long walks with her dog, Frank. She enjoys cooking, especially Italian.

She attends Riverside because of our good ministry, music and involvement in the community. She enjoys singing in the choir. Barb is a people person and is looking forward to becoming acquainted with our church family.

James Holloway is happy to return to Hood River after living in California for over 10 years. He is proud of his old farmhouse on Frankton Road which was partly renovated before his return. He has a fantastic kitchen, perfect for his profession as a chef. He has been employed in places such as the Columbia Gorge Hotel and Timberline Lodge. Some day he may be giving cooking classes from his home. He now enjoys being a professional substitute teacher.

James has three children, two daughters and a son, still living in California. He chose Riverside because he likes our ministry and also was a member of the UCC in California. He contributes his good voice to the choir and enjoys helping in the kitchen.

Photos Below: Barb Dworschak and James Holloway.





A Final Note: Wisdom for July

Why I Am Happy

Now has come, an easy time. I let it
roll. There is a lake somewhere
so blue and far nobody owns it.
A wind comes by and a willow listens
gracefully.

I hear all this, every summer. I laugh
and cry for every turn of the world,
its terribly cold, innocent spin.
That lake stays blue and free; it goes
on and on.
And I know where it is.

William Stafford

Copyright © 2017 Riverside Community Church, All rights reserved.
You are receiving this newsletter because you have requested it.

Our mailing address is:
Riverside Community Church
P.O. Box 656
317 State St.
Hood River, Or 97031

[Add us to your address book](#)

[Want to change how you receive these emails?](#)

You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#)

MailChimp