



**Medford Congregational**  
**United Church of Christ**

1801 E. Jackson, Medford, OR  
541-772-9960

*Doing Justice ~ Living Kindness ~ Walking Humbly with*  
*(Vision Statement from Micah 6:8)*

**August 20, 2023**

***Welcome and Thank You***

***REV. TYLER CONNOLEY, CONFERENCE MINISTER***

***for visiting our church***  
***and leading our congregation in worship this***  
***Sunday.***

Rev. Tyler Connoley was called to be our Conference Minister in November of 2019. He came to the Central Pacific Conference after serving in the conference settings of the Southwest and the Missouri Mid-South. He lives in Portland and is a member of Waverly Heights UCC.

Tyler is fifth-generation clergy, so you could say church is in his DNA. He is also fifth generation North Westerner on his father's side, with ancestors who settled in Stay, Idaho, and later moved to the Medford area and other parts of Oregon. Tyler grew up in Zambia, where his parents were missionaries in the Wesleyan Church, and came to the United Church of Christ in 2004.

Tyler has spent most of his adult life serving in the church, first as a lay leader and then as an ordained minister, including five years as a chaplain. Tyler loves connecting people and helping them find their calling. He has years of experience in group and individual discernment processes, which he brings to local churches in times of transition and conflict. His gentle prophetic voice persistently calls us to relationships of love and responsibility.

A biblical theologian and storyteller, Tyler has a Master of Arts in Religion and a Master of Divinity, both from Earlham School of Religion. His undergraduate degree is in Business and Economics from Indiana Wesleyan University.

In addition to his ministry activities, Tyler is a small-business owner with his husband, Chef Rob Connoley.

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**Join us at 10:00 a.m. online or in person.**  
**You may join us online by going to our website**  
**or click on the links below.**  
***([medforducc.org/livestream](http://medforducc.org/livestream) or the [Medford UCC YouTube](#)).***

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## **The Week Ahead**

Go to [Medforducc.org](http://Medforducc.org) for our Website and click on **CALENDAR** to see what's going on in our facility on a daily basis, from month to month.

If your team or committee has meetings scheduled that should be on the Calendar, please contact the office: 541-772-8860

*Note: if there is not a link for a meeting or event that you would like to attend, please call the office and we'll connect you to the leader of that group.*

**KEY: Red- MCUCC Events; Green - Outside Groups; Gold - Zoom/ Other Location  
Pink ~~ Special Event or Announcement**

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**NOTICE:**

Pledge Fulfillment Statements are ready in the Office or on Sunday morning.

**NOTE: The links to Annual Reports will stay in the *Espire* this week. Slowly but surely they will be re-done to include the supporting pictures. Please take time to read what all these dedicated volunteers are doing for our church, our community, and our world.**

**Saturday, August 19-**

7:00-9:30 p.m., **Narcotics Anonymous Survivors Book Study** (Lidgate)

**Sunday, August 20 -**

**10:00 a.m., Worship with REV. TYLER CONNOLEY, Conference Minister**

**Sermon Title: "Be Still and Know"**

**Scriptures: Psalm 46 and John 15: 1-5**

**Refreshments and Discussion Session following the regular service.**

**Monday, August 21 -**

11:30-1:00 p.m., **Mindfulness Meditation** (Zoom, 1st Presbyterian)

5:30-7:00 p.m., **3 A's AI Anon** (Lidgate)

7:00-8:45 p.m., **LGBTQ+ A A** (Amistad Room)

**Tuesday, August 22 -**

6:30-8:30, **ACA 12-Step** (Amistad Rm)

**Wednesday, August 23 -**

8:00 a.m. - **SANDWICH MAKING**

1:00 p.m. - **Building & Grounds** (Zoom Meeting - Check with Teddie Hight if you're interested in helping, physically or financially, to maintain our grounds; anomolous donations last month helped with one-time cleanup, but the work doesn't end.

**Thursday, August 24 -**

4:00-6:00 p.m. - **SEARCH COMMITTEE** (Amistad) (check with Mark)

5:30-7:45 p.m. - **AA Candlelight Meeting** (Lidgate)

6:30-8:30 p.m. - **A A, Queers, Crackpots....** (Amistad)

**Saturday, August 26 -**

7:00-9:30 p.m., **N.A. Survivors Book Study** (Lidgate)

**Sunday, August 27- Worship with REV. DR. JOEL MAIORANO**

**Wednesday, August 30 - Choir Kick-off**

**Sunday, September 3 - Worship and Communion with REV. DR. JOEL MAIORANO**

**September 10th - "Fall Kickoff Potluck" - Sponsored by Congregational Care  
Hamburgers & Hotdogs; wonderful variety of salads provided by the  
congregation; and, cake and ice cream.**

**Watch for more details! Put this day on your calendar!**

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## **PLEDGE FULFILLMENT STATEMENTS**

At the February 2023 Annual Congregational Meeting a Motion was made, seconded, and passed that quarterly pledge fulfillment statements would be issued.

**Pledge Fulfillment or Donation Statements, January through August 9, 2023,** are available at church. Statements not picked up will be mailed.

Questions concerning statements should be directed to the Office, **541-772-8860**. **Sandy Davie, Financial Secretary**, will update name, address, and pledge information.

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## **HAWAII WILDFIRE**

**Rev. Caren Caldwell is sharing a letter she received from Rev. Josh Baird, Team Leader of Global H.O.P.E. It is concerning the Hawaii wildfires and the UCC response, as well as how we individuals can help.**

**(NOTE: I am reprinting only parts of the letter here. PJE)**

On August 8th, the people of Hawaii woke to high winds from Hurricane Dora blowing across their islands. Little did anyone know that within hours those winds would turn deadly, fanning wildfires among the islands leaving behind smoldering buildings and lost lives. [As of 8/18 the death toll is 111 and a thousand people are still missing.]

The United Church of Christ holds all who are affected in prayer. Through Wider Church Ministries, the UCC also has issued a special appeal to provide essential items and long-term support to those impacted by the fires.

The island of Maui was hardest hit, where the fires quickly consumed the historic city of Lahaina. Located on northwestern Maui, the once whaling center is home to 13,000 people and attracts 2 million tourists yearly. What is left now is more than 2,170 charred acres and the ruins of more than 2,200 homes, businesses, schools, and churches. . . .

Already local congregations are providing resources including clothing, food, and shelter. The Hawaii Conference is active, and the UCC Global H.O.P.E. team is working

with Hawaii Conference Disaster Coordinator Danny Tengan, in consultation with . . . other leaders, to assess the situation and walk alongside them.

**You can help as well.** Your donation to the Hawaii wildfires appeal helps the UCC increase support to immediate relief efforts and enables us to be present for the journey ahead, assuring long-term aid for persons who require assistance with their recovery.

**NOTE:** You can donate locally to MCUCC and we will send a total collection amount from the church to the UCC. Note on your check that you intend it for Hawaii Wildfire Recovery.

If you have questions regarding donation, you can contact [giving@ucc.org](mailto:giving@ucc.org)

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## LOVE IN ACTION SANDWICH MAKING PROGRAM

Submitted by Mary Jo Bergstrom

Every Wednesday morning at 8:00 in Lidgate Kitchen, you will find the sandwich team making 80-100 sandwiches. The sandwiches are taken down to First Presbyterian Church, where they are added to the sack lunches that are given to the hungry folks who gather there each day, Monday - Thursday. Other foods that are in the lunch sacks are a pudding cup, a cup of applesauce, peanut-butter, crackers, and a cookie. Clients are also given a bottle of water.

Because **Marlene Olson** wrote a grant, we have money with which to purchase cheese, peanut butter and jam, all of which we buy at Costco or Food-4-Less. We also purchase the sandwich-wrapping papers. First Presbyterian brings us bread and pressed ham.

We have been doing this for at least 4 years. Those on the team are **Susan Boman, Jolene Poppe, Mary Webster,** and **Mary Jo Bergstrom**. When someone is unable to be there on a Wednesday, we have had subs .... **Mike Mace, Sandra Chotia** (Susan's daughter), **Bud Bergstrom,** and **Shane Vidaurri**. Since our church is in a residential area, we feel good about helping a church that is downtown in an area where the folks who need these lunches gather.

**If other members of our congregation would like to be on the "sub" list, please let us know. Contact any member of the team, call the Office 541-772-8860, or show up on Wednesday morning to see if they can start using you. Bless you early birds!**

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## **BUILDING & GROUNDS Standing Committee 2023 Annual Report**

**Submitted by Teddie Hight, Chair**

**Committee Members: Don  
Hughes, Jenny Stout, Bob  
Wolcott  
Council Liaison: Edgar Hee**

**Click on the link to read the  
2023 Building and Grounds  
Annual Report**

**[Buildings and Grounds Annual](#)**

**[Report 2023](#)**



## **CONGREGATIONAL CARE MINISTRY TEAM 2023 Annual Report**

**Submitted by Jill Wolcott and Mary Webster, co-chairs**

**Team Leaders: Susan Boman, Lynne Bonetti, Teddie Hight,  
Marianne Key, Marsha Lovitt, Marlene Olson, Linda Rue, Mary  
Webster and Jill Wolcott**

The Congregational Care Ministry Team is divided into nine teams, each with a leader who cares for church members by acting as a liaison between team leader and our pastor. This Ministry Team has been active in our church for many years. **Please click on the link** to read about the precious and helpful services these dedicated volunteers provide for our entire congregation, especially during this transition period when we are without a pastor.

**THANK YOU** Congregational Care Team Leaders.

**Pictured above** from left to right are **Marianne Key, Susan Boman, Marsha Lovitt, Linda Rue, David Brown, Mary Webster, Jill Wilcott peeking behind Marlene Olson.**

[Congregational Care Team Annual Report](#)



## **SPIRITUAL PRACTICES MINISTRY TEAM 2023 Annual Report**

**Members: Dolores Scheelen, Rob Hight, Susan Binette, Jenny Stout and Vickie Nordeen**

**Dolores Scheelen, Rob Hight and Susan Binette** have officially retired from the committee, Their outstanding work and many

hours of Committee work are acknowledged and commended to the Church Council.

**Continuing Team Members: Vickie Nordeen and Jenny Stout remain.**

**Please click on the link to view full report.**

[Spiritual Practice](#)

## **Justice and Peace Ministry Team 2023 Annual Report**

**Annual Report Submitted by Diane and Peter Ware, Co-Chairs**

The Justice and Peace Ministry Team is a long-standing and extremely active group of congregants. Everyone is welcome to attend meetings and encouraged to participate in any of their programs and projects. If you have a new idea, they will listen. It's a great place to find well-informed friends who are eager to support local and global issues.

**Pictured, left around circle: Teddie Hight, Lynn Bonetti, Pam Allister, Rick Bonetti, Rich Rohde, Bill Craig, Patty Jensen, Estelle Voeller,, Peter Ware, Diane Ware, Janet Henderson, Caren Caldwell.**

**Please click on the link to read the full report.**

### [Justice and Peace](#)



## **Creation Justice Ministry Team 2023 Annual Report**

**Submitted by Team Co-facilitators:  
Caren Caldwell and Diane Ware  
Members: Pam Allister, Susan Boman,  
David Brown, Caren Caldwell, Linda  
Hammer-Brown, Estelle Voeller, Diane Ware**



**Team Mission:** Offering information, education, and encouragement for members and friends to engage in advocacy and actions for the regeneration of the climate.

**NOTE: This is the last Sunday to turn in your Climate Hope cards,** urging stronger protections for water, air, health and environment. Please put signed cards in the basket in Lidgate for mailing. Much gratitude for the 30 people who have participated so far.

**For the love of Creation, Give Us Climate Justice!**

For information contact Estelle Voeller [evoeller@charter.net](mailto:evoeller@charter.net) or call 541-512-1013..

Please click on the link to read the full report.

[Creation Justice Ministry ...](#)

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## It's August! It's HOT!

**It is not just Covid now; it's also the temperature AND the smoke from wildfires!**  
**Please stay cool; hydrate; wear a mask outside; protect your pets and yourself.**  
**Never leave a pet or a person in a car; even with windows open, a car heats up to unsafe temperatures! Think ahead! Be careful!**

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**Too Many Cases of COVID . . .  
AGAIN**

**Masks are coming out for public gatherings.**

- **Cough or sneeze into your shoulder or elbow,**

- **Wash your hands with soap and water often;**
- **Use hand sanitizer**

**Covid, Influenza, and RSV (respiratory syncytial virus)  
Contagious and dangerous.**

**If you have symptoms, PLEASE get tested.**

**<https://jacksoncountyor.org/hhs/Public-Health/Welcome>**



## **PASTOR SEARCH COMMITTEE UPDATE**

**Submitted by Mark Angle-Hobson, Chair**

**Purpose:** The Pastor Search Committee was formed by the Church Council to complete the Church Profile, solicit and interview candidates for the pastor position, and recommend the top

candidate to the Church Council for presentation to the church for a congregational vote and call.

**Team Members:** Mark Angle-Hobson, Chair, Pam Coye, Patty Jensen, Len Nordeen, Violet Rene, Sherry Straus, Peter Ware, Peter Ware, Jill Wolcott.

**Please click on the link to read the full report.**

**[Pastor Search Committee Annual Report](#)**

### **CHURCH CALENDAR**

**Here is the color key  
for the online calendar**

**Church Events:**

**Red = In  
Person/Happening**

**[DONATE](#)**

You can make a re-occurring gift, a one-time gift or a designated gift (identify the designation in the comments). Just click on the 'Donate' button above!

**Orange** = Remote/Zoom

**Blue** = Not Happening

### Outside

#### Groups/People:

**Black** = Not Happening

**OR Remote**

**Green** = In person  
happening

[View Our Events](#)

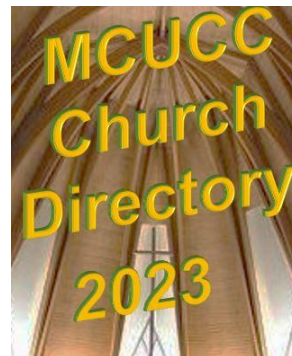


## MCUCC DIRECTORY

If you would like a copy of the Church Directory, please contact the office at **541-772-8860**.

A **\$5.00** donation is not required but helps defray the cost of printing. If you are happy with a black and white copy, please let us know.

Check out your picture and contact information in the Directory. If you don't like your picture (or if it doesn't look like you anymore!) email a new one, along with confirmation of your contact phone number & email address, to [office@medforducc.org](mailto:office@medforducc.org).



### A Note from Mark

#### Interested in Choir for the 2023-24 season?

**Bud and Mary Jo Bergstrom** have graciously offered to host a back-to-choir get together at their home on **Wednesday, August 30**. All interested in being part of the 2023-24 choir season are invited. We will

practice around their piano from 4:30-5:15 p.m. and then have a time of care, connection and conversation afterward.

Bud and Mary Jo are going to provide KFC chicken, and each attendee should bring something to go with that: salads, beans, etc.... and cookies. .Bud and Mary Jo will have wine, water, and iced tea. Significant others are also invited. Please **RSVP** to [anglehobson1@gmail.com](mailto:anglehobson1@gmail.com) so Mark can have an accurate count for the Bergstroms.



## TECHNOLOGY TEAM

### 2023 ANNUAL REPORT

**Submitted by: Christopher Angle-Hobson**

**Team Members: Kara Hatifield, Lori Lundine, and Estelle Voeller**

**Purpose:** The purpose of the technology team is to integrate and use technology to allow for ease of access to service, promote the mission of the church, and help the church continue to move forward into the digital age. Focal points include streaming worship service, updating the webpage, and using social media to share what our church is doing,

**Please click on the link to read the full report.**

[Tech Team Annual Report](#)



## LOVE IN ACTION

**Thanks for donating your bottles and  
cans.**

Bring your bottles and cans to MCUCC to help fund the  
**Wednesday Sandwich Program**  
Bottle drop-off location is in Lidgate Kitchen.

**Susan Boman, Mike Mace, Doug McGeary, and Bob Wolcott**, for years have donated their time to pick up our bottles and cans from the church and take them to the Bottle Drop Redemption Center.

This past year **a total refund of \$435 was sent to the church to help our homeless project**. These bottles and cans help pay for items needed to make the sandwiches we produce each week and take to First Presbyterian Church to supplement the Downtown Bag Lunch Program.

This team is looking for a few more volunteers willing to collect the cans and bottles from the dishwasher room in Lidgate Kitchen and take them to the **Bottle Drop Redemption Center, 1179 Stowe Avenue, Medford**. At the present time, each team member does a pick up twice a month. The more volunteers, the fewer times each person has to make a trip.

New volunteers for the team are **enthusiastically** welcomed!

Please contact Susan Boman at [bomansm67@gmail.com](mailto:bomansm67@gmail.com) or call her at 541-324-1999, if you are willing to help.

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## Church Library Update

Our church library looks wonderful after the update by **Marsha Lovitt** and **Linda Rue**, members of the Congregational Care Team. Many thanks to them for the hard work.

Shelves have been cleaned out, topics organized, categorized, and labeled. Things not pertinent to our church have been removed and donated elsewhere. Marsha took several bags of books to the Downtown Library for their fundraising, house-cleaning, 10-cent book sales events.

There is a fiction section that is available on a "no check-out" policy. The rest of the books need to be signed out. A clipboard is available. There are many great topics, from Creation Justice, Peace and Justice, Care Giving, Religious, and many other areas of interest.

**CHECK OUT THE NEW FACE AND CONTENTS OF OUR CORNER LIBRARY!**

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## West Medford Food Pantry

The Pantry currently needs:

### **August - PASTA and MAC 'N CHEESE**

The Pantry also needs:

Paper, plastic or reusable grocery bags

Donations of Unopened Toiletries - NO SOAP

Toilet Paper, Paper Towels

When you go to the store, pick up something for those who need food!

Drop it in the box at LIDGATE HALL!

### **More ways to give...**

The First Presbyterian Church is also collecting socks and underwear for the people who come to the Brown Bag Cafe and for those who come to the West Medford Food Pantry!

*Make it a habit.*

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### **MCUCC COUNCIL MEMBERS**

Chris Angle-Hobson

Susan Boman

Pegi Ellerman, Moderator

Edgar Hee

Marlene Olson

Rich Rohde

Jim Talley



## MEDFORD CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

**Address:**

1801 E. Jackson Street  
Medford, OR 97504

**Office Phone:**

541-772-8860

**Office Hours:**

Monday-Friday | 10 am -1 pm

<https://medforducc.org>



[contact us](#)