

Cross Current

A Publication of College United Methodist Church
November/December 2017

Special Interest Items

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- White Elephant Returns
- Holiday Meals

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Meet Our Members – The Hill Family

by Joan Extrom



Many of you will recognize Bill Hill as the Colonel Sanders look-alike who sits towards the back of the sanctuary with his wife, Leta. The Hills have been attending our church for about a year, since they moved up from California to be close to their daughter, Jodi Nelson, who lives in Blodgett. Jodi is a long-time friend of Tina Collett, so we have Tina to thank for inviting Bill and Leta to our church.

Bill was born in San Diego, CA. His father worked for Mobil

Oil and his mother was a homemaker. Bill had three brothers and one sister. The family lived in Taft and then Mariposa, CA, where Bill graduated from high school. They attended a Pentecostal Church, where his father played the string bass during the service. One of Bill's prized possessions is his father's bass, which is now over 100 years old. He hopes to pass it on to a great-grandchild one day.

Leta was born in Taft, CA. Her father moved houses and tanks. Her mother was a homemaker, taking care of Leta, her sister, Ruth, and brother, Ritchie. The family worshipped at First Baptist Church. Leta attended Taft schools through high school, and later lived in Arroyo Grande, CA.

Leta had three daughters, Julie (Bakersfield, CA), Jill (Prescott, AZ), and Jodi (Blodgett), with her first husband. A year after he divorced her, she met Bill at a restaurant. He has two sons, Phillip (Seattle area) and David (Palm Springs, CA). Bill and Leta were married on March 14, 1970, at the First Baptist Church in Taft, and have been married 47 years. Leta showed me their wedding photo, which shows Bill and Leta with all 5 young children, everyone dressed up for the occasion.

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Leta worked at the University of California in the computer department, back when computers used punched cards. Bill worked first as a fireman, then for Baker Petrolite in their Oilfield Chemical Division. He was in charge of all the equipment.

Bill and Leta have an RV that has taken them many miles around the country. After Bill retired in 1999, they took a number of trips lasting several weeks each. One of their favorite spots was a reservoir near Albuquerque, and they always enjoy the beach. Bill also loved to golf and fish and work on the farm. Leta used to paint and now enjoys cooking.

More than anything, though, Bill and Leta's favorite thing to do is enjoy their family, which includes nine grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. As Leta says, "We know that the Lord has blessed our lives!"

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Veteran's Recognition, Saturday, November 18, 11:00 AM



2017 Quarter Offerings

**November
We Care**

**December
Hope NW
(formerly Teen Challenge)**



Hello College UMC Friends! Since you've helped the Scout Lodge in the past at the annual Veteran's Recognition, I thought I would throw out a solicitation again this year.

As in the past, we hope to have College UMC take over the kitchen, and serve the turkey dinner at the serving window. The menu will be the same: turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, rolls, veggie or salad, and pie for dessert.

We will serve from 11:30 - 1:00 pm. You may split shifts up in any fashion you wish . . . making sure that the kitchen help all get to enjoy their meals, too! I have a Bulletin insert ready for this Sunday, and will place more fliers in the Narthex.

Patrick and Peggy have already committed to working in the kitchen. Don and Kathy Harris will man the canned food drive. Any other takers? Many thanks!

Gail Mayer

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Serve Hot Chocolate & Christmas Cookies

We have been invited to again serve hot chocolate and Christmas cookies to the people attending the annual Philomath Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony on Wednesday, November 29, 6:00 pm. Last year we served around 500 cups of hot chocolate!!



The Ceremony will be next to the church in front of the Historical Society Museum. Join us as we reach out to the Philomath community. If you can donate cookies, please bring them to the church kitchen. You may also donate money toward the cookies if you do not wish to bake. If you plan to help serve, come early at 6:00 to help us pass out the hot chocolate. The ceremony begins at 6:30 pm. For questions call: **Jennifer Daniels 541-286-0213.**

LOST & FOUND

- Refreshes - purified drinking water
- Chapstick - Mango Sunrise
- Flag emblem patch
- Ball - orange and yellow
- 1 1/2" long "U" shaped metal ???



If any of the above belong to you, please claim them at the church office. Items will be donated or disposed of, as appropriate, after November 30.



College UMC is ramping up for a November visit to the Hope NW campus in Shedd, AND, a February 11 Worship Service with Hope NW as our special guests. The intent is for our guests to see a "sea" of black shirts in the pews in support of our outreach mission with Hope NW. Our guests will also be given a t-shirt.

Church t-shirts will be available after November 19th. The shirts will be used when we visit Hope NW, when Hope NW students visit the Church, attend our retreats...or just to wear to promote our outreach mission. Cost: \$20 – See Gail Mayer.



Holidays Meals at Neighbor to Neighbor



Soup Kitchen Thanksgiving dinner will be on Tuesday, November 21st and the Christmas dinner on Tuesday, December 19th. If the local grocery stores have specials on turkeys in the coming weeks and you end up with an extra one, the kitchen crew would be glad to take it off your hands.

We generally serve around 100 meals on these two special dinners.



Please Pray For:

- Sally Beattie
- Shari Beattie
- Lucile Berger
- Myrtle Bond
- Adeline Collins
- Jane Corbin
- Barbara Crouse
- Johanna Dorr
- Teri Greene
- Charlie Hall
- Julie Haymart
- Betty Johnson
- Patsy McPherson
- Brandon Nelson
- Bud & Ruth Post
- Roger Traylor
- Warren Witham

Hope NW
(formerly Teen Challenge)

One Another

Holiday Cookie Sale

Our annual holiday cookie sale will be held during **Coffee Hour on Sunday, December 3rd**. Tin containers and fancy boxes will be available for purchase. Fill your container up with as many goodies as you can!



Store-bought or homemade holiday cookies, bars and candy are needed. If you can donate a batch, let Linda Doig and Gail Mayer know.

The cookies and candy make great holiday gifts for the office, neighbors, family get-togethers, and pastor! This is the annual fundraiser for our Hope NW outreach mission. And just a reminder — we have some great bakers in our congregation!



Are you interested in getting together once a month here at College UMC to sew? We held our first event in October and the next one is set for January 3rd in the Social Hall (9:00 am until 4:00 pm). Come for all day or part of a day — you decide!

Bring your own machine and a project to work on. It's an opportunity to start or finish projects and learn from others.

For more information, contact Linda Doig.



White Elephant Gift Exchange Set

Time to scour your garage, attic or junk closet for just the “right” White Elephant Gift! We will celebrate during coffee hour on Sunday, December 10th beginning with a Fingerfood Potluck, followed by our hilariously fun **White Elephant Gift**

Exchange. Childcare will be available in the nursery.

Bring a fingerfood item and **one WRAPPED (no name tag please)** White Elephant gift per participant. Wonder if “Mr. Banjo Fish” will surface this year? For answers to your questions, see Dale/Linda Doig or Gail Mayer.

Put it on your calendar — it's loads of fun! And no one goes home empty handed.



Decorating the Church for Christmas

The Christmas tree will go up on Saturday, December 2nd and the other decorations will come out of their boxes. If you have time to come help make the Sanctuary and Narthex look festive, come on that Saturday morning around 10 o'clock and join in on the fun!



End of Year Giving — Your Finance Committee

As you consider choices for your end-of-the-year giving, please keep College UMC in mind. Due to several families moving away from the area, our year-to-date income from pledges, gifts, and room rentals has dropped below

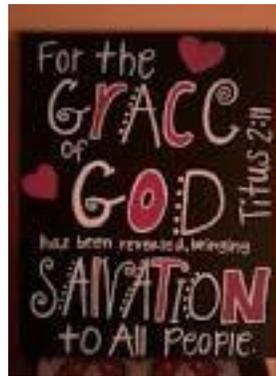
our expenses. Our ministry programs continue to be strong and deserve our support.

Thank you to all who regularly give your tithes and offerings.

Michael's Message

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all people.

Titus 2:11



I can't believe that our family has been in Philomath for four months already. We are really enjoying this community and the church family at College UMC, it's a great town. What's even more unbelievable is that Advent is just a few weeks away! That's significant for Christians because Advent helps us to look for the coming Christ. Christmas, on the other hand helps us celebrate the birth of Jesus, which happened 2,000 plus years ago. I am excited for this Advent because we will not look at the witness of the old testament prophets (which is the traditional way of looking at the promised coming) but instead we will survey the witness of the 4 gospel writers concerning Jesus.

Our guide will be a book written by a friend of mine, Magrey DeVega called, "Awaiting the Already." First of all I love the title, it really says it all. We're awaiting the arrival of the Christ child who has already come. And yet, we are still awaiting the arrival of Jesus a second time. Is this the purpose of the gospel writers- to point us towards that second time? I think it is.

Christmas comes on a Monday this year which means that our Christmas Eve will be worship packed. Sunday morning service at 10:30 and Christmas Eve candlelight service at 7:00pm that night. I can't wait for the Advent hymns and Christmas carols!

Make it a point to invite your friends and family to church this Christmas season. Also, think about those who you consider fellowship friends who haven't been here for awhile. I think the music and worship will be fantastic!

Many Blessings — Mike



Roof Donations Welcomed

Looking for a meaningful end-of-year tax donation? How about considering a donation to the *Church Roof Replacement Fund*?

We are babying the roof through the winter. However, we need to dig in and replace the roof next Spring. The cost has been estimated at \$55,000 and every dollar we can raise will help. Questions? Talk with Bill Mayer.



Fred Meyer Community Rewards

If you shop at Fred Meyer, please join the Community Rewards Program and indicate you wish to support College UMC. This is an extra benefit and does not reduce in any way the points you receive for your fuel or rewards shopping. To join the six families who are currently signed up for College UMC, you must have a Fred Meyer card and be able to go online. If you need more details, talk with Lois Palmermo. Invite friends and family to sign up — anyone can choose to donate to us. They need not attend our church to participate.

Youth Groups

High School
Sundays, 6-8:00 pm
College UMC

Middle School
Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30 pm
College UMC

Pizza Lunch @ PHS sponsored by PACE (Philomath Area Christian Entrepreneurs)

SALT (PHS), Mondays at lunch

U-TURN (PMS, Tuesdays at lunch

Youth Pastor: Mat Phelps 909.801.1060

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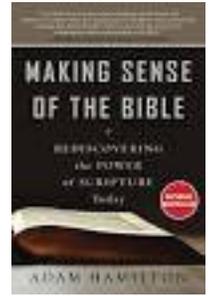


**College United
Methodist Church**

**Mike Gregor, Pastor
1123 Main Street
PO Box 670
Philomath, OR 97370**

Cruising Through the Bible by TomPlant

The Fireside Sunday School Class has seen an average of 12-15 participants in our challenging study of Adam Hamilton’s book, *“Making Sense of the Bible.”* We are nearly half way through the book now and have had 15-minute “cruises” through both the Old and New Testaments and considered how they came to be in our Bible. Now we will study the “Nature of Scripture” and then the Bible’s “challenging passages.” It’s not too late to join us if you are interested in learning more about the Bible.



Audio/Visual Support for Worship

Tom Plant has been preparing most of the Sunday worship materials for the video projector with help from Lori and Cyndi on Sunday mornings. It would be good to train two or three others how to prepare the computer services using our **Easy Worship** program. Training would take about one hour with Tom and then working with him on Sunday mornings for a couple weeks until you feel comfortable on your own.

Let Tom know if you might be interested in learning a new skill and helping out with the projection support of worship.