Easter season is here. I’ve been looking at Easter season Bible texts. The “Road to Emmaus” grabs my attention. Two disciples are walking on the road to Emmaus, a village about seven miles from Jerusalem. They encounter a stranger; he walks with them. They don’t realize, at first, that this traveler is Jesus. He asks them what they’re talking about. They recount all the things that took place during the week before Passover: the story of Jesus, a prophet mighty in word and deed, put to death by the chief priests and leaders. They also tell of reports from the women of their group, tales of an empty tomb and of angels claiming Jesus is alive. Then the traveler, the unknown Jesus, leads them in Bible study. He shows them that the stories of God’s long-awaited chosen leader weave the whole Bible together. They get excited. Arriving in Emmaus, the disciples ask the traveler to stay with them. He joins them for a meal. When bread is blessed and broken, eyes are opened: the disciples recognize their companion as Jesus. But then he vanishes. Where is Jesus? They rush back to Jerusalem and share their story with other disciples who’ve been wondering and waiting to see what’s next.

I love the drama and mystery of this episode, and the open road. Part of the mystery: it is also a story about our walk on the road to United. That is, to United as it will be when God’s long-awaited chosen pastor is recognized and called. Eventually, she or he will be known in the breaking of bread. (No vanishing allowed!) But before then, much conversation needs to take place as we walk together on the road of discernment. We will begin to recognize our as-yet-unknown leader when we talk together to see what’s next.

May 5 and May 19. Put these on your calendar as days to gather for conversation and discernment. Between worship services, the Transition Team will lead us in discussion about what they’ve learned from us so far in March and April. We will also begin to talk specifically about the type of pastor we need for United. What gifts and skills are needed? What are the new pastor’s most important tasks? It’s hard to over-emphasize how crucial these conversations are to calling a new pastor. Now is the time to show up, make your voice heard, and listen carefully as we share needs, expectations, hopes, and dreams. Remember: Listen-Support-Differ-Discern. May God bless us on the Road to United.
LUNCHES FOR COMMUNITY COURT

Lunch Preparation for Community Court.

United will be providing lunches for the Community Court on the following dates this year:

- **May 10** - we will meet on **Thursday, May 9th** in United’s kitchen
- **June 28**
- **October 25**
- **December 6**

Lunches are prepared the day before (Thursday) and delivered on Friday mornings. Homemade cookies, brownies, or bars are most welcome! If anyone is interested in baking the day we prep the lunches (the day before we deliver) we would love to include a home baked goodie! Please contact Cara Haakanson if you are interested.

Mary Magdalene Circle will hold their Bible study at 5:30 p.m. on May 14th, at Susan Lunas’s house. Sue Bowers will lead the discussion.

Crystal’s baby boy was born at 12:35 a.m. on April 17th. He was 21.5 inches and 10 lbs, 7 oz.

We will be celebrating our latest addition to the United Lutheran family on **Sunday, May 5th**, after the 11 am service. All are welcome, including little ones! Cake and punch will be provided. Gifts are great, but not required! Please see Becci or Jennifer for more information.

Q. What is the primary source of the earth’s oxygen? .... Answer pg 6

UNITED’S BOOK GROUP

Please join us in reading *My Family and Other Animals* by Gerald Durrell. We’ll meet at United on **Sunday, May 19 at 12:30 pm in the community room**. Please let Jean know if you are unable to attend.

*My Family and Other Animals* is a delightful book and a welcome contrast to *The Lemon Tree*. Gerald Durrell is ten years old, living with his family in Corfu. Gerald is intrigued by insects, fish, animals of every kind living on the island, and at times he finds that their behavior makes a whole lot more sense than his mother’s and siblings’.

The last book chosen, which will be discussed in June, is *The Leavers* by Lisa Ko (no date is set yet). This book is about migration, deportation and contested citizenship - the story of a boy abandoned in the U.S. by his Chinese mother, and the devastating truth behind it. Another pertinent book for our times.

A CHANGE FOR YOUR DIRECTORY

John and Diane Masson
406 Naismith Blvd
Eugene, OR 97404

A Life of Praise

Despite becoming an invalid while in her teens, an 18th-century English poet who used the pen name Anna Steele wrote prolifically — often about praising God. The closing stanza of “Now I Resolve With All My Heart,” one of Steele’s 144 hymns, is a timeless prayer that’s fitting for the start of each new day.

O may I never faint nor tire,
Nor wandering leave his sacred ways;
Great God, accept my soul’s desire,
And give me strength to live thy praise.
Work Days!
Join us for our Spring work days on May 4th and May 25th from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. Both days will consist of a delicious lunch provided by our camp cook and projects like gardening, painting, clearing trails and more! All ages and skill levels are welcome to come help make camp look its best for our 60th summer. Please RSVP to the camp office at 541-998-6444 or office@lutherwoodoregon.org.

Weekly Volunteers:
Every Tuesday, volunteers come to camp to assist our Site and Facilities Manager with projects around camp. Camp Lutherwood is so grateful to those who already come out, but we are always looking for more willing hands! If you are interested in volunteering with Lutherwood, contact Tom at tom@lutherwoodoregon.org.

2019 Summer Staff Positions:
Camp Lutherwood Oregon is looking for young adults to join our summer staff. We are still in need of lifeguards and male counselors. If you or someone you know would be interested in joining the Lutherwood community, direct them to Charlotte at charlotte@lutherwoodoregon.org. You can also check out our website for applications and more information.

2019 Summer Camp Nurse:
One of the ways we ensure people enjoy camp is by keeping them safe and healthy, but we cannot do that without our camp nurse! If you or someone you know is a nurse looking for a summer position, please contact Charlotte at charlotte@lutherwoodoregon.org and check out our website for applications and more information.

Bottle Drop
Camp Lutherwood Oregon is now a non-profit on the Bottle Drop. In order to give back with your bottles and cans either designate your bottle drop money to “Camp Lutherwood Oregon” when you drop off your bottles at any bottle drop location, or designate them online. If you do not have a bottle drop account but want to donate, contact our office at 541-998-6444 and we can give you a non-profit blue bag to fill and drop off at any bottle drop location!

Harvest Festival 2019
Save the date for Camp Lutherwood Oregon’s biggest fundraiser of the year on Sunday, September 29, 2019. You won’t want to miss our 6th annual event and celebration of 60 years of ministry at camp. Tickets on sale beginning July 1.

7-Pointed Star
This star represents Isaiah’s list of the gifts of the Spirit to be revealed in the Branch of Jesse — that is, Christ: “The Spirit of the LORD will rest on him — the Spirit of wisdom and of understanding, the Spirit of counsel and of might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD — and he will delight in the fear of the LORD” (Isaiah 11:2-3, NIV). Some baptism and confirmation liturgies pray for God to “stir up in” the newly baptized or confirmed “the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in [God’s] presence.”
BIRTHDAYS
1 - Jim Krueger
4 - Jenna Krueger
13 - Hope Whittaker
14 - Corrie Irene Gustafson
   Bob Schmidt
15 - Greyson Neckels
16 - Sandra Wilson
19 - Richard Westcott
22 - Alan McCullough
23 - Erik Anstine
25 - Thomas Dodd
26 - Agnes Schlichting
27 - Don Wirtala
   Annalee Gustafson
   Pamela Krause

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES
1 - James Krueger
   Karen Wiant
   Karl Van Orsdel
4 - John Gustafson
5 - David Hample
9 - Tom Dodd
10 - Julia Coffman
11 - John Barnum
15 - Doris Helikson
   Sydney Simmons
   Cade Wisecaver
21 - Lisa Sitton
23 - Jenna Krueger
   Gloria Knudsen
26 - Agnes Schlichting
   Jordan Pickrel
27 - Michelle Dodd
29 - Matthew Dodd

Special dates
• National Day of Prayer, May 2, 2019
• Mother’s Day, May 12, 2019
• Armed Forces Day, May 18, 2019
• Victoria Day (Canada), May 20, 2019
• Memorial Day, May 27, 2019
• Ascension, May 30, 2019
FISH
In MAY donate PROTEIN RICH TUNA, SARDINES, AND SALMON. Large cans and small are all welcome and help FISH meet the needs of all those asking for help to put food on their tables - whether it is a single individual or a family of 12. Thank you. Bring your donations with you to worship with you on Sunday morning.

Echoes of Easter
The Resurrection wasn’t a “one-off”; it was a spark that lit a flame that continues burning even today, especially where people minister in the Risen One’s name. One such outreach, Camp Noah, serves children traumatized by disaster. Nationwide, volunteers offer week-long experiences of kindness, love, listening and safety to kids who’ve recently survived a tornado, flood, hurricane, wildfire or shooting. Kids often open up for the first time to share their “storm stories” and begin a journey of healing.

Leaders at Camp Noah attest to God’s power to bring joy out of sorrow, trust out of fear and life out of death. A boy who initially was aloof dances with another camper at the closing worship; kids who arrived with uncertain expressions leave with smiles and regained confidence. Mental health counselors are part of camp teams, and referrals are made to continue care afterward.

Resurrection often happens in steps, not overnight. But wherever “ordinary” daily ministry takes place in Christ’s name, extraordinary echoes of the first Easter are evident.

—Heidi Mann

A. Algae
So you’re eating less meat, setting your home thermostat lower, driving less by walking, taking the bus or carpooling, using a refillable water bottle, changing to LED light bulbs. What else can you do to lower your carbon footprint? Probably you have never thought about soil’s relationship to CO₂ in the air.

What’s in a handful of soil? 25% air, 25% water, 45% minerals, and 5% organic matter, both living and decaying. One teaspoon of healthy soil contains 100 million to 1 billion individual bacteria. Other living things in the soil include fungi, algae, insects, worms and plant roots.

The world’s soils contain 1500 billion tons of carbon. This storing of carbon in the soil is called sequestration. If we increase the quantity of carbon contained in soils by 0.4% each year, we can halt the annual increase in CO₂ in the atmosphere. Not only will this help combat climate change, it will increase food security.

Healthy soil is the key to feeding 9 billion people by 2050.

Here is what an individual can do to keep carbon in the soil:

1. Try not to have any bare earth. Use mulch ground covers.
2. Let your grass grow longer and use a mulching mower.
3. Work your soil less. Tilling disturbs the organisms in the soil that help sequester carbon.
4. Plant perennials so you don’t need to disturb the soil each spring.

And finally, try not to disturb or destroy the living things in the soil. Think about and honor the soil every time you walk on it.
Especially for:

May 2019

May 5 Acts 9:1-6 [7-20]; Psalm 30; Revelation 5:11-14; John 21:1-19
May 12 Acts 9:36-43; Psalm 23; Revelation 7:9-17; John 10:22-30