

Friday with Friends

A Newsletter of Klamath Falls Friends Church

1918 Oregon Ave.
Klamath Falls, LO 97601

Sunday's zoom link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85381127592?pwd=Z01JTHFXNVdzeTZqTUpwS1dmSFVxZz09>



This Sunday, June 16, after worship

Please stay to help us discern who we are and what we want to become

Your participation is important

Please also read the last article in today's newsletter

It gives our history --- Knowing our history helps us better gage the future



Peace and & Social Concerns

| A faithful life requires engagement with the world

This Sunday morning, June 16 at 9:00 AM

P&SC Agenda June

Landfill

Food Pantry

Peace Suppers

Disarm Hate pledge/legislation

Preventing Election Violence



Change of date for the county hearing on the proposed landfill. There is a hearing on the proposal for a landfill to be placed in Klamath Marsh in an area of the county designated for Farm Use. The Klamath Tribes have spent millions of dollars working to restore the environmentally important marsh. The hearing to change the designation (allow conditional use other than agricultural and exclusively farm use) of the area has been moved to August 27, 2024, 6-8 PM at the Klamath County Government Building. If the landfill is built in the area of the marsh, the leachate would negatively affect the Williamson River, Upper Klamath Lake, and the Klamath Marsh National Wildlife Refuge. The county commission is looking to make a final decision on the landfill and its placement in the marsh directly after this meeting.

There is a documentary, Cutdown: Infant Surgery without Anesthesia, that will be shown at the Klamath County Library, June 27th at 5:30. This is a documentary about children, particularly infants, having surgery without anesthesia and the lasting effects of this practice. It is a companion to the book Autobiography of a Sea Creature written by Wendy Williams and recently released. The author will be there to answer questions. The film is part of the National PTSD Awareness Month.

Tuesday, July 11 at 5:45 there will be a meeting of the pastoral oversight committee (delegates from the committees). The members are Maureen, Griffin, Mike, Jeanette and Tony. If you have suggestions or opinions about your pastors, please speak to one of them to have it placed on the agenda.

Food Bank dates for June are June 18 & June 25. Please donate toilet paper if possible and cleaning supplies.

Contact Linda Warner if you want to volunteer

The Food Bank is hoping for volunteers from each church to do the food sampling on pantry nights. Even if you are unable to be a regular volunteer, this could be something you could help with. Food sampling entails coming up with a cold or hot recipe that uses food we feature in the pantry. (OSU is a great source for recipes!) You'll need to prepare the dish at home and bring it to the pantry around 5 and dish up samples for pantry clients. Flavored water is always a refreshing and easy beverage. We have sample-size serving cups, napkins, etc. All you have to do is bring the food. Kate from Friends Church has been doing this for years, and now that four churches are managing the pantry, it would be great to share this responsibility. Please let Linda know if you're interested (541-281-5535)

An Open House for Interfaith Pantry has been scheduled for July 19, from 5:30 to 7. If you'd like to help with refreshments, please let Linda know (541-281-5535). We could also use help with cleaning the downstairs area on July 16th after pantry stocking.



MEETING MINUTES

Klamath Interfaith Food Pantry

Board Meeting Minutes

June 4, 2024

attached



July 7, 2024

After meeting for worship we will be discussing Living Buddha, Living Christ, chapters 7&8

Study Guide for Chapters 7&8

1. Is having roots in multiple traditions strengthening or does it leave you directionless? How does this affect you?
2. Who are your spiritual ancestors?
3. How do your blood ancestors who have passed on help you stay grounded?
4. What are the jewels of Christianity that mean the most to you?
5. Which of the Five Precepts of Buddhism have the most potential for healing the ills of our society (pg 91)?
6. In what ways can the Fourth Precept strengthen the testimony of integrity (pg 100)?
7. What can the Fifth Precept teach us about simplicity (pg 105)?
8. How do the concept of sanctification in western Christianity (<https://seminary.grace.edu/what-is-sanctification/>) and the concept of deification in eastern Christianity (pg 123) compare? Which fits your understanding?
9. How does the story of Mrs. Ly relate to Matthew 7:21? How can you connect deeply with the Spirit?
10. Thich Nhat Hanh talks about creating a mini-Pure Land here on Earth (pg 127-128). What would it mean for the Kingdom of God to be made real in the life of our church?
11. How does regularly getting centered-down affect your response to a crisis?

Klamath Falls Friends: Where we came from

These are the facts about the meeting that Faith put together in 2018. But let's look at where we have been and how we began. I am excited about the upcoming Circle of Friends. So please read these, even though they are long. They are important.

LOOKING BACK... By Faith Marsali in 2018

Our story has roots in Sprague River Friends Church... *

After the year-long Modoc Indian War, the remaining Modocs were put in freight cars and sent to the Quapaw Agency in Oklahoma. They arrived hungry and in rags to this unfamiliar place. Quakers near the reservation became aware of their starving and many were determined to

help them. The Quakers and the Modocs became true friends. In time, they not only continued to help the Modocs, but also had church meetings together. They all became the members of the Wyandotte Quaker Meeting in Oklahoma Territory.

The earliest work of Friends on the reservation dates back to ten years before the turn of the 20th century when Levi Gilbert, a teacher in the government school at Yainax, helped in Sunday School and Christian endeavor work. Several years later, shortly after 1900, a number of Modocs were allowed to return to the Sprague River valley where many of their people still lived at a place called Yainax. This settlement finally moved to the present site of the town of Sprague River, a small village located forty-five miles northeast of Klamath Falls and nearly in the center of the fifty-mile-square Klamath Indian Reservation.

Many of the Modocs who returned to the Sprague River Valley were Christ-followers and had become Quakers. They wanted a meetinghouse where Native American and white folks could worship together.

As early as 1912 Samuel Clinton, a Quaker preacher in the group from Oklahoma, began Christian work at Yainax. Jennie Clinton was also a Quaker preacher in the group from Oklahoma. Although Jennie lived on Klamath Lake on the far western boundary of the reservation, she traveled with a team and buggy throughout the reservation and ministered to the people. Helping in the work with Sam Clinton in those early days were other Friends employed at Yainax in the Indian Service.

In June 1924, Sam Clinton attended the Oregon Yearly Meeting of Friends (Later to become Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends) and told them of his call to preach, even though he had only attended school as far as the third grade.

The Oregon Yearly Meeting was so impressed with Sam's testimony and the need of his people for a place of worship in Sprague River that their Yearly Meeting tent was taken to Sprague River and there a group of Yearly Meeting workers and local workers held tent worship meetings. In the fall of 1925, the Modocs and their white Friends began work on the meetinghouse. Logs were hauled to the government mill at the Piute Camp north of Beatty. There the lumber was sawed out and then hauled back to Sprague River to be used to construct a building on lots donated by Mrs. B.E. Wolford. Some of the logs were donated by the Native Americans and others were bought by the interested white people. Various individuals, including Herbert Hoover, helped by furnishing money for windows and other construction items. Native Americans and whites together did the construction. Their first meeting in their first Meetinghouse had a Native American pastor, and whites and Native Americans worshiped together.

2

A Friends pastor who came later in 1942 was Evert Tuning. He and his wife, Virena, and children were there for most of the next 25 years.

By the late 1960s, many of the Modocs had moved to the much larger town of Klamath Falls. The Tunings and two other families who were connected with the Sprague River meeting came to Klamath Falls with their children. Initially, these three families had no knowledge of each other's plans, and their hope of starting a Friends Church in Klamath Falls—one that would be welcoming to all. Evert Tuning was asked to be temporary pastor for a small Free Methodist

Church, located at 1918 Oregon Avenue, the current location of Klamath Falls Friends Church. In 1968 the Free Methodists offered to sell the building to the Northwest Yearly Meeting for \$10,000 and all members and attendees of that church joined together to become the Friends (Quaker) Church in Klamath Falls, Oregon.

We have very little documentation from the first 10 years of our existence as a Friends Church. I suppose it took a while to get organized. Since Quakers took over the group who were worshipping as Free Methodist, there had to be a learning curve in implementing Quaker faith and practice.

In 1976, Northwest Yearly Meeting transferred the sponsorship and membership of Sprague River Friends from Eugene Friends to Klamath Falls Friends Church. This was done to assist in the encouragement of the ongoing work at Sprague River Friends. (Ken and Jo Magee would remain closely tied to Sprague River, going out to encourage them often.) Evert Tuning, in his later years of pastoral ministry, became co-pastor with Nicholas Mauer. Nicholas took over all pastoral duties in 1977 along with his wife, Alice. They had three children: David, Ruthanne, and Jonathan.

Some of the early family's names were: Ken and Jo Magee and their children, Noel and Jeanne. Art and Pauline Everly, Ross and Evelyn McIntire, Theron and Helene Gordon, Barbara Dehlinger, Jan McClellan, Merrill and Peggy Reid, and their children, Darrin and Jeanette, Ruth and Howdy Walker, Lana Thurston.

The Women's Missionary Fellowship was active during this time. They prayed for and kept up communications with Friends missionaries in Bolivia.

Our weighty and precious Friends, Ken and Jo Magee, became official members in 1970 along with their two children, Jeanne and Noel. One cannot say enough to honor their faithful service to the Friends Church through the years. Their gentle servant leadership was an anchor for this meeting through times of difficulty, change, and challenge. Ken served as an elder for the entire time they were here. Jo Magee served as treasurer and brought her musical talents. They were kind and generous and walked their talk. In many ways, Ken was an unofficial pastor to many in this meeting. They both were gifted teachers. Ken was a physician in town for many years and after his retirement went on to do several mission trips through Medical Teams International. He was also the Medical Director for Klamath Hospice. It was during that time that he and Jo both became interested in recording life stories for people who had gone into Hospice care. As the years passed Ken and Jo moved to Salem to be near their children in November of 2013, and they transferred their membership to South Salem Friends Church in May of 2015. Ken and Jo were pillars of this meeting...They left a huge gap in our hearts and community and we treasure them and their service to Friends in Klamath Falls and at Sprague River Friends.

3

Ken Comfort was a summer intern through NWYM the early summer of 1980. Ken preached his first sermon here and went on to become a missionary and pastor.

Willard Kennon pastored from 1979 to 1981. Larry Ganshorn became pastor in 1981 to 1984 until Gregg Lamm arrived with his wife Teresa and son, Jesse. Ryan and Ian were born a few years later in Klamath Falls. The meeting grew substantially under Gregg's gregarious and

loving pastoral style. He was often seen in a local bakery mingling with people in the community. Some of the people who were part of the meeting during this time were: Bill and Cheryl Tamplen, Jennifer Reanier and her two children, Sasha, and Zach, Marvin and Cindy Prince, and their sons, Ian, Adam, and Megan, Rod and Linda Husain, Glen and Margi Spuller, Connie Gardner and her two children, Sherry Hoffman, and her two boys. Gladys and Bob Passolt, Frank and Jan Wright, Marge Narramore, Roberta Mc Gee, Eric and Sabrina Walters, and their three sons, Clayton, Thomas, and James, Sally Renne, the Faries family, the Silva family, John and Teresa Wilson, Bryan Stuart, Dave and Jo Anne Whitcomb, Aletha and Bud Samperi. Leslie and Dave Blanchard and their children Ben and Emily, Trena and Norm Grevam, Patty Erickson, Bryce and Annette Knabe, Jeff Natalie.

In 1985 plans were approved for an addition to the building. Upstairs bathrooms, pastor's office and lobby were included in the plan, with an outdoor handicap accessible ramp to replace the stairs into the building. (The ramp did not get completed until the mid-nineties.). Work began in the spring of 1986 with the help of Volunteers on Wheels, a group of semi-retired folks from NWYM who travel to help with construction projects. A Share Call was issued to other churches in the yearly meeting to raise money for the project.

In 1986, Klamath Falls Friends Church obtained their own incorporation.

In the mid-eighties the baby grand piano was donated to us. Larry Stacey was a talented pianist who filled this place with beautiful music many a Sunday! Jo Magee often played the organ. There was an adult choir and children's choir during this time.

In 1990, the meetinghouse mortgage was paid off.

In 1991, Bob Marsalli was called as pastor. He brought his wife, Faith, and two daughters, Lydia and Sophia. Gregg Lamm went on to become the campus pastor at George Fox University. The Marsallis bought their own home in the Oregon Avenue neighborhood and the parsonage was lived in by several members of the Friends Church. The parsonage was located where the parking lot is today and it was condemned and demolished after a 6.2 earthquake in 1993. The entire lot was paved in 1996. We also own the lot on the other side of the Friends House and it has been used for overflow parking and today is also utilized by our food pantry clients.

Sabrina Walters was key in planning several very successful women's retreats up at the Box R Ranch off of Hwy 66. Sabrina has a beautiful voice and often sang during worship.

The downstairs basement remodel as we know it today was completed in 1995. Contractor, Mike Picard bid the project for \$36,764, plus \$2500 for unexpected expenses. It included, kitchen and appliances, two bathrooms, opening up the space downstairs from separate classrooms to a large multi-purpose room, and concrete steps from the sidewalk to the basement door. The painting and finishing work was done by Friends. There was \$18,000 in the

4

building fun available and \$20,000 was raised to complete the project! ...And it was accomplished!

In 1995 we had a consultant, Mary Glenn Hadley, come from Friends United Meeting to take us through a process called the "Revitalization Program." It was at this time we crafted our current mission statement: We are Christ Centered Friends who equip and encourage all people to respond to God's love and transforming Spirit." It was a time to pause and evaluate where we

were and set some goals for moving forward. We began several “Renovare” small groups, hosted in various homes. The Thursday book group that still meets has been meeting since that time beginning as one of these groups.

The Jewish and Islamic communities used our building for their services in the 90’s.

Bob Marsalli began a mediation center in town and mediators were trained to do mediation. We donated to this much needed service in our community.

Others who joined us during this era were Rob and Traci Shull and their children, Rand and Marcia Hale and their three children, Brynn, Robyn, and Tyler, Shari and Jake Bruun, Donna Nagy and her three children, Peter, Karen, and Will. Wedge and Wanda Watkins and their son, Gabe, Doug and Kathy Bakke, and their children, Duncan, and Rowena, Kurt and Norma Nehren Smith and their daughters, Melissa and Lura, Karen Oberst, Renee and Chris Hernandez, Sam and Beth Murphey, Mel Ivey, Tony Swan and Jeanette Rutherford and their two children, Grazia and Ronan, Ron and Joanne Smith. Phil and Barbara Dussel and their three boys, Joey Sam, and Danny, Greg Dunton, Deborah Dallman and their two children, Benjamin and Stevie.

Bob and Faith Marsalli began officially co-pastoring in 1998. In 2000, Bob resigned as pastor and Faith became the full time released pastor. Faith was recorded as a minister of the gospel in 2002 by this meeting in Northwest Yearly Meeting of Friends. Many Friends from Klamath Falls attended her recording celebration in Newberg.

We purchased the property adjacent to our meetinghouse in April of 2002 with no clear vision of how we were being led to use it. (We have included in our archives a time line of that discernment process and how it eventually became our food pantry and space for our Friends garden.)

Joanne Smith was a gifted pianist and she and Jo Magee played piano and organ duets together. Wedge Watkins (1997-2002) and Megan Prince (2002-2004) both worked with the youth for several years. Tyler Hale, Chris Hernandez, and Megan Prince all helped with leading worship music. We hired someone outside of our meeting, Mrs. Dodd, for a short time and then Barbara Dussel took over as our childcare person. She was much loved and gifted in caring for our little ones. We planned a “Simplify Your Life” yard sale fund raiser for a Quaker organization, Right Sharing of the World’s Resources and raised \$2500, enough to fund an entire project in Sierra Leone.

5

Beth Murphy was our fearless leader in getting us organized. It was a lot of work and a huge success and was key in building community within our meeting!

After September 11, 2001, we held weekly candlelight prayer vigils for a period of time...Several people longed to be a part of a peace church and joined with us, among them Maureen Somers and her son, Riley, and Nancy Thurston, Gabe and Sydne Gomez.

In 2003 we hosted the American Friends Service Committee Eyes Wide Open display for a weekend in our parking lot. The display was a memorial and visual of the cost of war.

We hosted a series of Soup/Bread Peace Suppers: Some of the featured speakers:

Ralph Beebe, on the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict, and Conscientious Objection to War. Colin Saxton- Right Sharing of the World Resources, Speakers regarding peace work in Burundi and Rwanda, Stephanie Van Dyke- regarding the medical clinic she began in Uganda.

Others joined along with Friends Mary and Eric Stephens and their two daughters, Casey and Amelia, Eric was a gifted musician and played piano during worship.

Monna Alwine arrived and became our peace and social concerns committee clerk. She brought the idea of Quaker Bakers. We set up a table of goodies to sell out in front of the then Donna Nagy owned, Daily Bagel, on Third Thursdays. We raised money for Peace work in Burundi and Rwanda and other peace and justice causes.

The Friends' House play structure was built in 2005 at the recommendation and leading of Tony Swan. The materials were donated and Friends completed the work. It was a labor of love and gift to our children!

Kate Murphey and Annette Henderson joined with us bringing their love for peace and justice issues. Jill and Brian Sebastian arrived and Jill brought her creative graphic arts background designing our Quaker Spice logo. A group gathered together in the basement to make Quaker Spice canvas bags. Her logo is on our Friends Church Food pantry sign and the bulletin, bookmarks, Facebook page, etc... During this time Friends volunteered at the Methodist Church PALM(Prepare A Loving Meal) dinners by purchasing, preparing, and serving the meals. Many of our young adults helped with this project. The main attendees are homeless folks, and people from the surrounding area.

Matt and Jessamyn Schnackenberg and their daughter, Maud started attending. Jessamyn relieved Jo Magee from her long help position (25 plus years!) of meeting treasurer.

Around 2006, Caryl Menkhus was invited to do a Godly Play workshop. We trained storytellers and door people and began purchasing the Godly Play stories. Maureen Somers, Doug Bakke, Ken Magee, and Victoria Korsons were among our star story tellers. We had an active Godly Play circle for a number of years. (We have recently laid aside the GP stories to match the needs of our volunteers and the children who have heard the stories for several years now. We are using a new curriculum and continue to be challenged to find willing volunteers to carrying on this important part of our life together.)

6

We have sought to be a neighborhood church and to be aware of the needs around our Quaker meetinghouse. Here are some of the community outreaches we have and continue to be involved in:

☑ We have had an onsite food pantry through the Oregon Food Bank since 2010.

☑ We have hosted a neighborhood garden camp for children in partnership with the OSU Extension Service since 2009. Our Quaker volunteers have planted and watered the garden throughout the garden season. We give our produce to those who come to the food pantry, our neighbors, and the gospel mission.

☑ We host community cooking classes in partnership with the OSU Extension Service.

☑ Southern Oregon Regional Brokerage is a non-profit, serving adults with developmental disabilities. They meet in our building once a month and has been doing so for five years.

☑ We host a listening circle at the Klamath County Library every two months to encourage folks to learn how to listen more deeply to others around "hot button" issues.

☑ We were the 2 nd church in Klamath Falls to become Blue Zones Project approved!

☑ When Fairview Elementary School was in our neighborhood we built bridges with the Principal and staff and donated 3% of our church donations to the school. They called it the Friends Fund and used it for special events and to help children who needed

financial assistance with instrument rentals and school supplies, medical bills, etc...

☒ Many of us have supported Elizabeth Todd and her work in Ramallah at the Friends School, her involvement in Ramallah Friends Meeting and teaching English to Palestinian young adults.

☒ We have supported the bio-sand water filters through Friendly Water for the World.

☒ We have hosted the GFU Players a half a dozen times in recent years as they come and share a unique worship experience through drama, movement, and song.

For those of you interested our Quaker discernment process, here are the Presiding Clerks who have served us through the years:

Theron Gordon 1986-1990

Margi Spuller 1990-1995

Ken Magee 1995-1999

Doug Bakke 1999-2004

Jeanette Rutherford 2004-to the present!

Names that were used for “Elders” through the years: Elders, Ministry and Oversight, and presently, Committee for Ministry and Care. These are the people who nurture the spiritual life of the meeting and serve as accountability and support for the pastor.

During my time in Klamath Falls, we have grieved as a faith community the loss of several dear people: Merrill Reid, Roberta McGee, Gladys and Bob Passolt, Bess King, Christian Crowell, David Tamplen, Jena Pike, Eric Stephens, Zach Reanier, Gabe Watkins, , and Jan Wright.

We have seen marriages fall apart and experienced the grief that comes to a community when a covenant is broken. Yet, we have sought to hold the Christ light for one another in these times of sadness and loss.

In 2012, we encountered a budget crisis. Our projected income fell so low that we doubted whether employing a full-time pastor was possible as we looked ahead. This was a time of great growth for our meeting. It was discerned that in order to move forward we would need to introduce yearly pledges as part of our budget discernment. This is something we had never done. Yet amazingly, we limped through that first uncertain year, and then another, and to this

7

day our donations continue to exceed our yearly pledges. In the past several years we have discerned and approved budgets that fall short of our pledged income. It has been a journey of faith and stretching for our community as we trust there will be enough resources to cover what God is leading us to do.

In addition to many of the names already mentioned here in this story, here are some of the names of those who have worshipped regularly with us over most recently: Kathleen Adams, Carol Briggs, Caitlin Budd, Deborah Collins and Jim Yahne, JW and Jan Cope, (who recently moved to St. George, Utah) Stewart Decker, Nick Depew Susanne and James Dyer Herfurth, Doug and Phyllis Fay, John and Judy Fleming, Lisa and Jim Gerhardt, Patrick and Michelle and their children, Lenin, Hazel, and Riese, Terri Horn, Marle Jandreau, Calandra Kallstrom, Bernadette Kero, Art and Jean Knight, Bill and Cherril Landwehr, Margo McCullough, Mike and Rachael Moore, and their children Spencer and Hope, Julianne Murray, Molly O’Shaughnessy, (who recently moved with her husband Burt, to Ohio) Cindy Quick, Katie and Ryan Schroeder, Marshall and Cindy Staunton, and their daughters, Courtney and Mckenzie, Dallas and Katie

Swanson, Robert Vanderschraaf, Linda Warner, and her granddaughter, Kodi, Dawn Wood, and Carol Whorton.

I am sure I have neglected at least a few names in this list! If so, I apologize...But it seems important to include as many names as possible. You who worship with us today are the people who are writing the story now that will one day be told of us!

We have seen people leave for many reasons, some because of relocation to another part of the country or world, some who were looking for something else that we couldn't offer. There are some who only travelled with us for a very short time but impacted us significantly by their presence, the Joshi family is one example.

We came to the end of a long chapter of our life together when on June 30 , 2018, our affiliation with Northwest Yearly Meeting ended. After nearly five years of listening to God and each other through much discernment we found we were no longer in unity with the NWYM Faith and Practice statement on human sexuality. This, along with the sense the Quaker discernment process was not being honored, our long-standing relationship with our umbrella organization concluded. The splitting of our yearly meeting has caused great sorrow and disappointment over the reality that we were not able "to agree to agree to disagree" around doctrinal issues. But we do have hope that one day in the future Christ-centered Friends in the Northwest will merge paths once again.

As this relationship ended we have joined with the new work of Sierra Cascades Yearly Meeting of Friends. We participated in our first yearly meeting in May of 2018 in Canby, Oregon. We celebrated the transfers of recorded ministers at this event and felt a great sense of God's blessing on this new gathering. We hold great hope for our future!

We have been an imperfect, sincere, and caring community that God has worked some amazing things through. We are people, so we have done people things, sometimes hurting one another, misunderstanding each other, and even neglecting one another. But in spite of our imperfections we have journeyed together and seen God's faithfulness to us in ways too numerous to name here.

*The Sprague River Friends closed its doors last year and was purchased by a community church and is currently holding services.