



**A Welcoming, Come-As-You-Are, Christ-Centered Community Church**

## **Agate Windows Newsletter**

*And I will make thy windows of agates . . . . Isaiah 54:12*

**August 2021**



### **Farewell, Jeannine . . .**

**THANK YOU** for the wonderful reception you held for me on Sunday, July 18. Thank you to everyone who made it possible with food, flowers, decorations, a beautiful cake and, of course, your presence, your kind words in cards, and the beautiful gift of a glass ball to remind me of Oregon. I will miss and remember all of you—always. I turn the rest of this space over to your new Administrative Assistant, Barbara Loza-Muriera, who will serve you very well.

**Peace and blessings . . . Jeannine**

### **Hello, Barbara . . .**

**There is something beautiful about finding yourself** in what feels like just the right spot. My husband and I found Yachats about three and a half years ago—just a tiny thumb sized photograph in AAA Via travel Magazine. “Gem of the Oregon Coast” it said. We drove here from Oakland, California, and found that it was, indeed, a gem. Moreover, it felt like a place we could call home. Now it *is* our home and we feel our roots growing with every day.

**After settling in up river,** I began searching out ways to become more connected to the Yachats community. It was during that period that I found myself drawn to Yachats Community Presbyterian Church. First, I attended a service; then I came to the YCPC Thanksgiving celebration (pre-pandemic, 2019); then I joined the choir. In getting to know the YCPC family, I found not only a warm, welcoming place, but a group of individuals providing much needed services to the people of Yachats. To me, YCPC is the heartbeat of our little town and I am grateful for the opportunity to be part of it’s mission to serve.

**Fast forward, here I find myself,** in the first days of taking on the role of YCPC Administrative Assistant, and I am feeling a little overwhelmed. While I am honored to be able to serve in this position, I am also humbled by how much I have to learn and I pray that I will be able to continue the good work established by Jeannine. Moreover, sitting by her side these weeks, she has impressed upon me that the most important part of this job is *not* perfection, but the love and integrity you bring to the work each and every day. Wise words to follow! I am consoled that she will be on speed-dial and still available to answer my no doubt many (many) questions—and to help me laugh at myself when I get *too* serious. I plan to laugh—a *lot*.

**~ Barbara Loza-Muriera**

## A Selection of Pictures from the July 18 Farewell Gathering









## Gladys's Girls of Leta's Legacy Quilters Return . . .

Yes! As of July 20, the Quilters are back every Tuesday. Here are a few pictures of their happy return.



## More Comments About Returning to Worship . . .

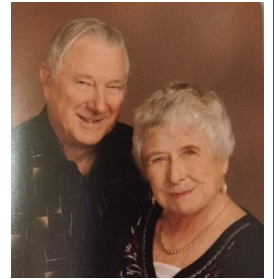


It has been great to be back in person worshiping in the church again. On top of receiving spiritual strength, seeing friends and being able to share smiles and some small talk, it has you feeling that our community is returning to a more natural state. People who I have been in contact with during the shutdown have become even more important to me as I now appreciate our church family and community members more after missing time with them for such a long time. Sharing time and worshiping with friends has become more important in my life.

**Steve Wertheimer**

The feeling of returning to in church worship was a good one. When we had occasion to be at the church during the shutdown, it felt like a very lonesome place. Seeing our friends was nice even if we were still physically separated. But I have to admit that it takes longer to get ready than just turning on the computer and being able to have a cup of coffee during worship.

**Sue and Jim Finlayson**



### “Closed” and “Open” Poems by Louis Maxfield

#### Worship in a Closed Church

It's difficult to care  
when I'm really not there.  
The TV screen is between us.  
The pastor says his prayer,  
but I'm really not there.  
Few seem to care.  
There is a gap. Somehow,  
the sharing of worship is split.  
I'm a bit reluctant to share  
when I'm really not there.  
I hear what they say,  
but I'm miles away.

#### How do I feel when I return to church?

Worship is best if it's a shared experience.  
When worshipping at a distance,  
We are really not there. It's the difference  
Between seeing a show on TV  
And experiencing a show in person.  
We can watch together, Yet,  
We are still a distance apart.  
Worship should be a shared experience.  
Zoom is better than nothing,  
But the catharsis is missing or weak.  
So when we enter church with other  
worshippers,  
The experience becomes human.  
We are not separated by a TV screen

*I am so happy to get back in person because I can experience each person in ways I could not via ZOOM. I enjoyed our ZOOM sessions and looked forward to them each week and kept a bottle of wine and a special cookie for communion each week. I could hardly wait to see everyone's faces, home backgrounds and animals. However, I am now realizing that one very important aspect to our sharing was missing. I could not see the stress lines in your forehead and eyes and offer a hug for "whatever you were dealing with at the time!" This is a critical part of relationship and one of the important ways we minister to each other in Christian community. Often an "unspoken" pain is relieved a bit by the loving smile and hug of a friend. 15 months of isolation has taken its toll on many in our community and the larger community of Yachats. God's love is expressed through our touch and smile. Let's get back to sharing that awesome love! **Max Glenn***

## About Special Music at YCPC . . . Jim O'Brien

Remember the lyrics to “This Little Light of Mine”, one of the songs heard as special music this summer:

***This little light of mine  
I'm going to let it shine  
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.  
Hide it under a bushel?***

The great thing about working in any church, especially YCPC, there are lots of folks with talent to spare. Sometimes, though, they prefer to hide that talent under the “proverbial” bushel and not let it shine. Why? They're either a little shy, need a slight nudge or they don't want to call attention to themselves.

With a little encouragement and coaching, we were able to mount a pretty impressive special music program at YCPC for this summer to “let those lights shine.” The piano and organ both got a workout with duets, thanks to Betsy Maxfield and Betty Groth.

And the hand bells were rung twice with their usual resonance, brilliance and visual impact thanks to Sue Finlayson, Carol Summers, Shirley O'Brien, Betsy Maxfield, Betty Groth, Don Groth and Myron Eckhart.

We even had a flute obbligato for one of those bell performances, thanks to Krista Stewart. And a vocal duet attributed to Ron Raynes and his daughter on July 4.

Can't forget the trombone quartet, which included Gary Cleasby, Pat Chapman, Jim O'Brien and Eric Bigler. You'll be hearing them again. There will be a vocal quartet the last Sunday of August, organized by Myron Eckhart as well as vocal solos by Gretchen Armstrong and Peggy Lindsay throughout the rest of the summer.

So the song ends:

***Don't let Satan blow it out!  
I'm going to let it shine***

Yes, indeed! We let it shine. Thanks to everyone who participated.

Or to put it another way:

***Neither do you light a lamp, and put it  
under a measuring basket, but on a stand;  
and it shines to all who are in the house.  
(Mathew 5: 15)***

Octobonarian Trombone Quartet:

Left to right, Gary Cleasby, Pat Chapman, Jim O'Brien, Eric Bigler





## Donations Needed for YCPC Rummage Sale . . .

. . . to be held at YCPC Friday and Saturday, August 13 and 14, 9:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.



**Donations of the following happily received until Thursday, August 12:** gently used household items, tools, home décor (framed pictures and artwork, decorative vases, etc.), collectibles, sheet music, books, CD's, DVD's. **NO CLOTHING, please.**

**If you have questions or would like to help, please see Betsy Maxfield.**



American Red Cross

## Blood Drive Results

redcrossblood.org | 1-800-RED CROSS

Dear Sue:

Thank you for showing your support of the community by sponsoring an American Red Cross blood drive. The need for blood is constant and your efforts help ensure a safe and stable blood supply is available for people in need. Your blood drive results are below, and we encourage you to share this information with donors, volunteers, and members of your organization along with our heartfelt thanks. Examples of the types of people helped by blood donors can be found on our website at [redcrossblood.org](https://www.redcrossblood.org).

### Yachats Community

July 23, 2021

Collection Goal: <b>34 units</b>	Actual Units Collected: <b>34 units</b>	Percent of Goal: <b>100%</b>
Potential Impact: <b>102 lives</b>	Power Red Donors: <b>2</b>	First time donors: <b>0</b>
Actual Sign up: <b>38</b>	Actual Presenting Donors: <b>37</b>	Type O donors: <b>15</b>

Thank you for your support of the American Red Cross by always being so welcoming! Check out the number of O donors! 🙌

Please feel free to contact me with any questions or concerns. I look forward to working with you again on your next scheduled drive on September 24, 2021. I did enter in the donors that signed up on the paper schedule.

Thank you!!

Best,

Eloisa

**Eloisa Cruz | Account Manager**  
**American Red Cross**

## August

### Birthdays

- 6 Fran Morse
- 12 Mary Deriberprey
- 13 Dick Culbertson
- 15 DJ Novgrod
- 23 Sheryl Young
- 24 Shirley O'Brien
- 24 Lois Tubens
- 30 Carol Korgan



### Anniversaries

- 12 Jim & Shirley O'Brien
- 16 Nan & Greg Scott
- 17 Carl Miller & Karl Christianson
- 19 Betsy and Louis Maxfield



**Friendship Groups.** For those of you who are new and for those that may have forgotten about the Friendship Groups, here is a reminder from Pam Luderitz who coordinates the groups.

*The groups are usually 6 to 8 people who meet once a month or more, as each group decides. (At the end of four months, Pam rotates people so you always meet different people.)*

*Each group decides what it wants to do. We have had lunch, dinner, brunch or snacks at people's homes. We have gone out to dinner. We have gone to plays, concerts, talks or movies. We have enjoyed movies in different homes. We have gone to the Valley for wine tasting.*

*The only limit is your imagination!!*

*I look forward to a slow return to normal and hope that you will join in the fun.*

If you are interested in joining a group starting in September, please call Pam at 541-547-3493 or e-mail her at [lude0524@gmail.com](mailto:lude0524@gmail.com).



## Many Thanks to Jill McLean . . . .

### . . . for the flower arrangements in the big planters along the alley.

As you may know, it was decided to close the alley between 6th and 7th Streets to traffic and put lovely planters at either end.

The plants and floral arrangements in the first set of planters—on the 6th Street side—were selected and planted by Jill McLean. Jill is the Housekeeper for YCPC. The cost of the plants and flowers was covered by YCPC, but the design and arrangement are a gift from Jill.

**Thank you, Jill.**



## Sign-Up Sheets Are Now Available for

### Worship Assistants, Greeter, Ushers and Flowers!!!



Currently, the Sign-Up sheets are in the narthex/lobby on the table in the picture.

## Questionnaire from Pam Luderitz, Coordinator of Mission/Outreach/Membership

You should have received a Questionnaire in the mail from Pam Luderitz regarding YCPC and where we stand with members, friends, visitors and the community.

Please complete the Questionnaire and return it to YCPC by September 12--either by U. S. Mail (P. O. Box 285) or by dropping it off at the church.

Copies of the Questionnaire are also available in the narthex on the same table as the Sign-Up Sheets for Worship Assistant, Greeter, etc.

**Questions? See Pam Luderitz.**

# August 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	2 11:00-1:00 Pantry	3 9:30 Leta's Legacy Quilters	4 11:00 – 12:00 Glass Bottle Project 11:00 – 1:00 Pantry 2:00 Quartet Rehearsal	5 2:00 Bell Choir Rehearsal	6 11:00-1:00 Pantry	7
8 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	2 11:00-1:00 Pantry	10 9:30 Leta's Legacy Quilters 12:00-2:00-HIV Harm Reduction West Parking Lost	11 11:00 – 12:00 Glass Bottle Project 11:00 – 1:00 Pantry 2:00 Quartet Rehearsal	12	13 9:00 – 3:00 Rummage Sale 11:00-1:00 Pantry	14 9:00 – 3:00 Rummage Sale
15 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	16 11:00-1:00 Pantry	17 9:30 Leta's Legacy Quilters	18 11:00 – 12:00 Glass Bottle Project 11:00 – 1:00 Pantry	19	20 11:00-1:00 Pantry 10:30 Book Group	21
22 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	23 11:00-1:00 Pantry	24 9:30 Leta's Legacy Quilters	25 11:00 Yachats Arts Guild 11:00 – 12:00 Glass Bottle Project 11:00 – 1:00 Pantry	26	27 11:00-1:00 Pantry	28
29 10:00 Worship 11:00 Fellowship	30 11:00-1:00 Pantry	31 9:30 Leta's Legacy Quilters				