



# The Chronicle

Ainsworth United Church of Christ – July/August 2017

## Youth Speak Out Against Gun Violence at General Synod

Guided in large part by the voices of youth, General Synod 2017 enthusiastically passed a resolution of witness Monday urging the recognition of gun violence as a public health emergency deserving of federal funding for scientific research.

"The youth voted to speak on this issue because it is, like it or not, an issue that impacts our daily lives," said Abby Martinage, a Youth@Synod participant from the Central Atlantic Conference. "Regardless of whether or not you support stronger gun control regulations, we hope you support the passage of this resolution."

Reid Young, a Youth@Synod participant from the Massachusetts Conference, said a girl at his high school claimed on social media she was going to carry out a mass shooting at his school. A classmate reported it, and police arrested her when they found four guns at her home, he said.

Two teenagers from the Illinois Conference had planned to share their experiences with gun violence in Chicago, but debate ended before they were able to speak. They were given time at the start of plenary Tuesday morning.

"It doesn't really hit home until somebody you've seen every day dies," said Makayla Purvis. "Three of my friends have passed away. Somebody I

talked to the day before, three days after that I heard his car got shot up. It's just a bad experience for me to go through. Being only 16-years-old, I haven't even really lived my life. To know that most of my friends are gone before we even make it to 20 – it's just a lot."

Kyle King talked about having to "duck and dodge bullets" when someone started shooting at a park where he and his friends were playing football. "It's really sad and messed up that we can't be safe, and we can't have fun at the park without someone coming and starting to shoot," he said.

Several adults also spoke out in favor of the resolution, which passed with 97% in favor.

David King, of the Massachusetts Conference, introduced himself as a church deacon and "a soldier who is carrying his guns on behalf of my country. And, I'm a life member of the NRA." "Let me emphatically state that this is not – is not – a resolution on gun control. Rather it is a resolution on gun violence," he said. "It is a resolution that calls on our government to provide funds to the appropriate agencies – the Centers for Disease Control and the National Institutes of Health – to carry out these studies. This resolution deserves the unanimous support of this body."

Hannah Robinson (Michigan Conference) reminded delegates that it was a Congressional bill in 1997 that barred the CDC from conducting any gun control-related research. The CDC estimates that gun violence is one of the top five causes of death for those under age 65. The CDC hasn't published a comprehensive study on reducing the damage from guns in 16 years as Congress has blocked this research. (*cont pg 5*)





I never quite understood “The Dog Days of Summer”, but I do hope that we all have a slower and somewhat quieter time this summer. Take time to enjoy, relax and get renewed.

That being said, ministry never stops and our presence is needed, not only at church, but in the community, standing in support of others who might be under attack. We saw what happened that horrible day at the Hollywood Max station when three men were stabbed, two fatally. We heard about threats on Good in the Hood organizers and event goers, saw the ugly letters and fliers. We know hate is out there, but thankfully so is love. You, Ainsworth United Church of Christ, are love embodied in a motely crowd gathering, giving serving, laughing, crying, eating and celebrating the gifts of the Holy Spirit and God’s love. You are needed; your witness to God’s extravagant love is needed.

Another piece that is taking time and effort in our congregation is the Jubilee Visioning plan. Our Jubilee team gathered all your input from worship, the listening sessions and the survey and organized it to see help develop a plan for living in to our new vision. This information comes from you, the direction comes from you. We, the team, just compiled and organized the feedback, then gave it body. The council received the draft and will work with us on the vision plan in July, then we will ask you for feedback. Then if we feel there is consensus to move forward, a bylaws team will work on developing proposed bylaws changes. God is doing a new thing, and we are a part of it. It is not easy to change, some of it is uncomfortable to consider for me too, but I believe we are called to listen to so many voices and be guided in new directions.

In late June, I was at the United Church of Christ General Synod in Baltimore, Maryland. I invite you to check out the actions we accomplished. You can find this on [www.ucc.org](http://www.ucc.org) then click on news & events, then General Synod. General Synod is a big reunion of the UCC family from around the nation as well as global partners and missionaries. The worship, speakers and workshops are rich, the plenaries interesting and all can be inspiring as well as challenging. It will be the first Synod that I do not have any specific role, but will be meeting with people from our conference as well as around the denomination.

---Pastor Lynne

### **Membership Exploration Series**

If you are new to Ainsworth UCC or have not formally joined as a member, we invite you to attend this series of 3 classes where you meet other new folk, some members and learn much about Ainsworth UCC & our history. You will also learn about our denomination the United Church of Christ and what makes us unique. The series is tentatively scheduled for: Sundays, July 30th, August 6th, and Sunday, August 20th from 11:45-1:45pm. We also invite elected leaders and other member who are able to attend one of the sessions to meet the new folk and introduce yourselves. If you are able to attend, RSVP to Pastor Lynne. If you are interested, but one or more dates don’t work for you, please let her know. Also please advise Pastor Lynne if you need child care.

---Pastor Lynne

### **Our Beloved Community Forums**

5 to 7 pm, Sunday, 23<sup>rd</sup> July at Ainsworth UCC

Oregon reports more hate crimes (per capita) than anywhere else in the country. So, what do we do? Starting with the premise that the opposite of fear is friendship, and the opposite of “hate crime” is “building the beloved community,” join a diverse cross-section of our neighborhood on the 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of each month to make new friends. Each gathering will welcome a different community leader who will share their vision of “what they are for” here in Oregon, followed by a discussion amongst all. First gathering in late July will be led by Bobbin Singh, executive director of the Oregon Justice Resource Center, a non-profit working to promote civil rights and legal representation for communities for those underserved.

### **From the Mouth of the Singing Activist**

3 pm on July 23<sup>rd</sup>, at Ainsworth UCC

Drawing from literature, advocacy, story and glorious song, performer/teacher/activist and Fulbright scholar, Dr. Derrell Acon will engage and energize the audience by demonstrating the power and immediacy of performance to educate and empower. Event is free to all, but will have an offering.



| <b>July Sundays</b>         |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>J<br/>U<br/>L<br/>2</b>  | <p><b>Sermon:</b> <i>Rev. Chuck Currie</i><br/> <b>Scripture:</b> Matthew 10:40-42<br/> <b>Liturgist:</b> Pat Rumer<br/> <b>Acolytes:</b> AJ Brazille<br/>           Isaac Potter<br/> <b>Ushers:</b> Eldon Potter, Don Parks,<br/>           Adelina Taylor, Mabel Johnson</p>   |
| <b>J<br/>U<br/>L<br/>9</b>  | <p><b>Sermon:</b> "Cost and Joy of the<br/>           Beloved Community"<br/>           by Rev. Hector<br/> <b>Scripture:</b> Matthew 3:13-17<br/> <b>Liturgist:</b> Bernette Pleas<br/> <b>Acolytes:</b> tba<br/> <b>Ushers:</b> Nick Putnam, Bruce<br/>           Poinsette, Willard Valentine,<br/>           and Beverly Perttu</p> |
| <b>J<br/>U<br/>L<br/>16</b> | <p><b>Quarterly Congregational Meeting</b><br/> <b>Sermon:</b> "Gardening with God"<br/> <b>Scripture:</b> Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23<br/> <b>Liturgist:</b> Denise Millhollen<br/> <b>Acolytes:</b> Ben McHarris<br/>           Malcolm Bunyoli<br/> <b>Ushers:</b> Judi Pitre, Pearl Wilson<br/>           and Norma Godfrey</p>           |
| <b>J<br/>U<br/>L<br/>23</b> | <p><b>Sermon:</b> "Place of Blessing"<br/> <b>Scripture:</b> Genesis 28:10-19a<br/> <b>Liturgist:</b> Susan Madison<br/> <b>En español:</b><br/> <b>Ushers:</b> Carolyn Hinton,<br/>           Jean Scott, Nadia Gutierrez<br/>           &amp; Tim Loveless</p>  |
| <b>J<br/>U<br/>L<br/>30</b> | <p><b>Questions for the Journey , part 1</b><br/> <i>Pastor will answer your questions</i><br/> <b>Scripture:</b><br/> <b>Liturgist:</b> Joslyn Baker<br/> <b>Ushers:</b> Cody &amp; Jeffrey Bartow-<br/>           Tomalia</p>   |

| <b>August Sundays</b>       |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| <b>A<br/>U<br/>G<br/>6</b>  | <p><b>Questions for the Journey , part 2</b><br/> <i>Pastor will answer your questions</i><br/> <b>Liturgist:</b><br/> <b>Acolytes:</b> AJ Brazille<br/>           Isaac Potter<br/> <b>Ushers:</b> Eldon Potter, Don Parks,<br/>           Adelina Taylor, Mabel Johnson</p>                         |
| <b>A<br/>U<br/>G<br/>13</b> | <p><b>Sermon:</b> "When All Seems Lost"<br/> <b>Scripture:</b> Genesis 37:1-4, 12-28<br/> <b>Liturgist:</b><br/> <b>Acolytes:</b> Olivia Putnam<br/>           Rhian Taylor<br/> <b>Ushers:</b> Nick Putnam, Bruce<br/>           Poinsette, Willard Valentine,<br/>           and Beverly Perttu</p> |
| <b>A<br/>U<br/>G<br/>20</b> | <p><b>Sermon:</b> "Forgiveness"<br/> <b>Scripture:</b> Genesis 45:1-15<br/> <b>Liturgist:</b><br/> <b>Acolytes:</b> Ben McHarris<br/>           Malcolm Bunyoli<br/> <b>Ushers:</b> Judi Pitre, Pearl Wilson<br/>           and Norma Godfrey</p>   |
| <b>A<br/>U<br/>G<br/>27</b> | <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Church in the Park Sunday</b><br/> <b>Scripture:</b> "Be Transformed"<br/> <b>Liturgist:</b> Romans 12:1-8<br/> <b>En español:</b><br/> <b>Ushers:</b> Carolyn Hinton,<br/>           Jean Scott, Nadia Gutierrez<br/>           &amp; Tim Loveless</p>             |

#### Church in the Park Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> August

This year, Church in the Park will be held at Wilshire Park, located at 36th and NE Skidmore.

#### Ainsworth Directory Update

Our Ainsworth directory was updated, and released in late June 2017. If you would like a copy, see the church office, or contact them if want an electronic copy sent to you.



**When We Care**

Recently, it was announced that we, as a church, have created a Pastoral Care Team to help Pastors Lynne and Cecil care for us, the congregation. This is a good thing, for many of us need someone to care for us occasionally. With this team in place many more in our family will receive care in a timely fashion. We have in our church family those with disabilities and their Care Givers/Partners. I am a Care Partner, and am there pretty much 24/7. I give Kathy massages, help her get dressed, help/do some housework and cooking. I am always available to transport Kathy to any and all appointments, and sometimes accompany her to her appointments to help the doctor or therapist better understand what is happening in her life. Because I am there 24/7, I need respite breaks, from a few hours a week, to a full weekend or even a full week in some situations.

During these longer respite times Pastoral Care Givers can play an important role for me. Arranging with the Pastoral Care Giver to visit, talk and pray, with Kathy, when she must stay at home. Planned visitations during times of respite, gives me the peace of mind that Kathy is being looked after spiritually, is a great comfort and greatly valued by me.

*Larry Harmon, Husband, Care Partner*

**Susan Madison's First Novel...**

Ainsworth UCC member, Susan Sandstrom Madison, has self-published her first novel, Saint Jane. The story is about Jane Herrin and how her world is shattered when her husband and young son are killed in a car accident. She leaves her old life behind and buys a log cabin in a small rural town. In the cabin, she discovers the journals of the prior resident, a young veteran who took his own life. In this new setting, she begins to have mysterious visions. Are they the supernatural presence of her husband, her son, or maybe the soldier? Are they visitations from the divine or her own psyche unraveling?

Susan donated a print copy to the AUCC library for checkout, or you can check-out a digital copy through Multnomah County Library. Also, if you want a copy, ebook through [www.smashwords.com](http://www.smashwords.com) for \$3.99. Susan is also selling signed copies for \$15 (plus \$4 shipping if needed). Questions, contact Susan directly at [susan.s.madison@gmail.com](mailto:susan.s.madison@gmail.com) or (503) 258-7317.

**Youth and Guns (continued from front page)**

Michael Readinger, author of the resolution and president of the UCC's Council for Health and Human Services Ministries, said that "most of our 400 ministries across the country deal directly with the effects of gun violence." "It is estimated that 35,000 people in the US died at the hands of guns in 2016. If 35,000 people died of anything else, we would be studying it already," he said. "Passing this resolution will lead to the necessary research, aiding in the truthful dialogue we must have as a community of faith."

"Let us, the UCC, be the truth tellers and the prophetic voice for ending this epidemic," he said.

*--written by Tiffany Vail, UCC*

| <b>July Birthdays</b> |                    | <b>August Birthdays</b> |                              |
|-----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|------------------------------|
| 2                     | David Nichols      | 3                       | Scott Gunderson              |
| 3                     | Ben McHarris       | 6                       | Ben Puggarana                |
| 3                     | Dave Sutton        | 8                       | Christopher Busiel           |
| 4                     | Sharon Grant       | 9                       | Addison Loveless             |
| 5                     | Traci Hodgson      | 10                      | David Rozell                 |
| 5                     | Ines Campoverde    | 11                      | Xander McPherson             |
| 6                     | Rose Jackson       | 2                       | Adelina Taylor               |
| 6                     | Yolanda Clay       | 13                      | Rev. Teresa<br>Holloway-Nunn |
| 8                     | Frances Currie     | 13                      | Veronica Marshall            |
| 8                     | Katherine Currie   | 16                      | Liz Currie                   |
| 8                     | Annie Danielson    |                         |                              |
| 8                     | Tim Hill           |                         |                              |
| 9                     | Anita Chase        | 21                      | Donald Parks                 |
| 9                     | Donna Hazlitt      | 24                      | Jesse Godfrey                |
| 9                     | Nicole Marshall    | 26                      | Caleb Putnam                 |
| 12                    | Selina Davis       | 26                      | Chris Christison             |
| 13                    | Sue Sutton         | 27                      | Jeannie LaFrance             |
| 14                    | Rowan Borgerding   | 28                      | Joanne Busiel                |
| 14                    | Ruby Sutton        | 28                      | Kathleen Harmon              |
| 15                    | Gloria Clay        | 30                      | Violet Hahn-<br>Francini     |
| 16                    | Robert Montgomery  |                         |                              |
| 17                    | Margaret Baldwin   |                         |                              |
| 18                    | Vilma Renfro       |                         |                              |
| 18                    | Ron Taylor         |                         |                              |
| 18                    | Vicky Vasey        |                         |                              |
| 20                    | Marcus Welch       |                         |                              |
| 23                    | Merrick Osborne    |                         |                              |
| 23                    | Stella Holmes-Wood |                         |                              |
| 24                    | Lori Hays          |                         |                              |
| 27                    | Alice Vetter       |                         |                              |
| 27                    | Susan Hathaway     |                         |                              |
| 29                    | Peter Chimuku      |                         |                              |

| Sunday  | Monday                                   | Tuesday   | Wednesday   | Thursday | Friday | Saturday                                 |
|---|--|---|---|----------|--------|--|
| <b>Abbreviations</b><br>CP Cambric Parlor<br>MH Michel Hall<br>S Sanctuary  |  | <h1>July 2017</h1>  |   |          |        |  |
|   |  |   |   |          |        | 1  |
| 2<br>10 am Worship  | 3  | 4<br>Independence Day<br>(office closed)  | 5   | 6        | 7      | 8  |
| 9<br>10 am Worship<br><br>11:45 am<br>Mental Health<br>Ministry (CP)  | 10<br>7 pm<br>Lesbian Choir<br>Rehearsal | 11<br>10 am<br>Bible Study<br>(CP)<br><br>6:30 pm<br>Church Council<br><br>7 pm<br>Women's<br>Support Group | 12  | 13       | 14     | 15<br>10 am<br>Care Team<br>Meeting (CP) |
| 16<br>10 am Worship<br><br>11:30 am<br>Congregational<br>Meeting  | 17<br>7 pm<br>Lesbian Choir<br>Rehearsal | 18<br>10 am<br>Bible Study<br><br>7 pm Women's<br>Support Group   | 19<br>10:30 am<br>Staff Meeting<br><br>6 pm<br>Aging and<br>Spirituality (CP) | 20       | 21     | 22                                       |
| 23<br>10 am Worship<br><br>3 pm<br>From the<br>Mouth of the<br>Singing Activist<br>(S)<br><br>5-7pm The<br>Beloved<br>Community<br>(MH) | 24                                       | 25<br>10 am<br>Bible Study<br><br>11:15 am<br>MWOA (CP)<br><br>7 pm Women's<br>Support Group                | 26  | 27       | 28     | 29                                       |
| 30<br>10 am Worship<br><br>11:45 am<br>Membership<br>Exploration<br>(CP)  | 31                                       |   |   |          |        |  |

| Sunday  | Monday                               | Tuesday   | Wednesday  | Thursday  | Friday    | Saturday   |
|---|--------------------------------------|---|--|-----------|-----------|--|
| <b>Abbreviations</b><br>CP Cambric Parlor<br>MH Michel Hall<br>S Sanctuary  |                                      | <h1>August 2017</h1>  |  |           |           |  |
|   |                                      | <b>1</b><br>10 am Bible Study (CP)<br><br>7 pm Women's Support Group  | <b>2</b><br>6:30 pm Lesbian Choir Rehearsal (MH) | <b>3</b>  | <b>4</b>  | <b>5</b>   |
| <b>6</b><br>10 am Worship<br><br>11:45 am Membership Exploration (CP)       | <b>7</b>                             | <b>8</b><br>10 am Bible Study (CP)<br><br>7 pm Women's Support Group  | <b>9</b><br>6:30 pm Lesbian Choir Rehearsal (MH) | <b>10</b> | <b>11</b> | <b>12</b>  |
| <b>13</b><br>10 am Worship<br><br>11:45 am Mental Health Gathering (CP)     | <b>14</b><br>7 pm Lesbian Choir (MH) | <b>15</b><br>10 am Bible Study (CP)<br><br>7 pm Women's Support Group | <b>16</b><br>6 pm Aging and Spirituality (CP)    | <b>17</b> | <b>18</b> | <b>19</b>  |
| <b>20</b><br>10 am Worship<br><br>11:45 am Membership Exploration (CP)      | <b>21</b><br>7 pm Lesbian Choir (MH) | <b>22</b><br>10 am Bible Study<br><br>7 pm Women's Support Group      | <b>23</b><br>6 pm Aging and Spirituality (CP)    | <b>24</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>26</b><br>10 am Calvert-Kubrom Baptism & Blessing |
| <b>27</b><br>10 am Worship<br><br><b>Church in the Park (Wilshire Park)</b> | <b>28</b>                            | <b>29</b><br>10 am Bible Study<br><br>7 pm Women's Support Group      | <b>30</b>  | <b>31</b> |           |  |

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Cynthia Butts

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**The Chronicle** is a publication of Ainsworth United Church of Christ, a  
multiracial, multicultural, open & affirming congregation.

**Mark your Calendars.  
Next Submission Deadline:**

**Monday, August 22**

**Submission is easy!**

**e-mail to Clinton at: [crockey629@gmail.com](mailto:crockey629@gmail.com)**

*Please include your name and phone number on all submissions.*

**Remember to support Ainsworth in your will. Consider a  
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**Jul 15**