

# tidings

## Sundays at HCCUCC August 2015

Sunday worship services begin at 10:30.

### August 2 Communion Sunday

*Ephesians 4:1-16*  
*John 6:24-35*

### August 9

*Ephesians 4:25-5:2*

### August 16

*Ephesians 5:15-20*

### August 23

*John 6:56-59*  
*Ephesians 6:10-20*

### August 30

*Song of Songs 2:8-13*

*Tidings* is published monthly by Hillsdale Community Church, United Church of Christ. The printed version is produced on recycled paper. An electronic version is available at [www.hillsdaleucc.org](http://www.hillsdaleucc.org). Send a request to [tidings@hillsdaleucc.org](mailto:tidings@hillsdaleucc.org) to be added to our email list. *Tidings* is edited and designed by Tim Ditch.

## Edythe Connolly Turns 105!

**O**n Monday, August 10, Edythe Connolly turns 105 years old. Her assisted living facility is having a celebration for her on that day from 2:00 until 4:00 p.m. If you remember Edythe, please come to greet her, share provided refreshments, and visit. Come and go as you need to. Edythe has asked that her church people be included, so I hope some people will be able to come. She lives at West Hills Assisted Living, 5711 SW Multnomah Blvd., Portland. See you there!

—Margy Kleger and her son, Joel Tucker

## Bid Farewell to Pastor Jennifer

**A**fter the service on Sunday, August 23, there will be a farewell party to honor Pastor Jennifer and the Brownell family. It is tentatively expected to be a potluck luncheon. Please put this on your calendar and stay tuned for further details.

## Adopt a Patch!

**G**od has blessed us with lovely property, but it needs to be maintained. To accomplish this, we have divided the job up into patches. Each patch is numbered so a person or several people can sign up to work on one patch. Some people may want to hire the work done. This season, most of the patches will need to be weeded once or maybe a second time in the fall. Most of the plants are labeled, but sometimes labels disappear. Pat Stenaros can identify weeds

from native plants. Thank you for helping to beautify the grounds by signing up in the Narthex! Questions? Talk to coordinator Becky Meier.

## Traveling Women Continue Series

**N**ineteen of us enjoyed Becky Meier's presentation last month on her visit to Israel. The series continues on Sunday, August 9, with Nayan Fleenor's slide show: "From Roman Ruins to Alcazars and Cathedrals—A Journey in Spain." The program starts at 7:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall.

The final program of the series takes place on Sunday, September 20, and features Cathy Thomas' program, "Wonderful Days in Botswana."

## Continuing Need for Water in Haiti

**D**uring her spring break, Susan Smith (who has spoken at HCC about the water projects in Haiti) made a trip to Haiti to check on the progress of the projects. She visited three of the more recent water systems in the rural Central Plateau region. She also saw the need in the area of Wagouman high in the mountains toward the Dominican Republic. She said, "The road we were following was a boulder-strewn gully." Eventually they had to get out and walk. Two members of the community lead Susan along with the translator and the water systems engineer. After about a 15- to 20-minute walk over two hills, they came to a spring. Susan describes what they saw.

"The first 'sous' or spring we came to was brown with muddy water. The woman at the

spring was attempting to enlarge the hole into which the spring seeped from the rock above. She bailed and bailed, moved some mud aside, and bailed again for another 10 minutes. Her two children pushed the water she bailed down the hill to prevent it from draining back. Eventually we could see a small trickle of clean water into the hole, but it was clearly too small a spring to invest in capping. But she and her children used a small bowl to scoop water to pour into their buckets. At least that day, they would walk home with precious water to drink and use for cooking.

“Finally, after two more 10-minute hikes mostly downhill, our guides led us to the main spring in the region. It is the only perennial spring in the area, a spring that never dries up, even at the end of the dry season, which ironically coincided this year with Holy Week. The spring was not huge by any means, nothing like the rich springs of Natapo and Pedosant that I had visited earlier in the week. It was sufficient, however, to allow a full two-quart bowl of water to be filled, time after time.

“The water was clear, but it is not clean. The spring is located at the bottom of a 15-foot hole that has formed in a gully. At the bottom where the spring lies, the people can enter the spring area and secure water. Unfortunately, not just people enter that area. The people also bring their donkeys, bulls, cattle, goats, and pigs to drink, for their animals have nowhere and nothing else to drink.”

“This natural spring in Wagouman serves 14 communities, or about 4,000-4,500 people and their livestock. Some of the more distant women and children walk as much as four hours with donkeys or bulls carrying water buckets during the six-month dry season. They sometimes need to wait for hours to get their water and then return home. During the rainy season there are tiny springs closer to home.

“Because many people and animals get water from the same hole, it is not clean. Until a few years ago, it was usually children who got so sick that they died from dirty water, but cholera has come to Haiti and so now adults die too, with 400 people from Wagouman having died from cholera in the last three years in addition to the usual 80 children each year.”

The Peasant Movement of Papay (MPP) is the Haitian peasant organization that builds the clean water systems with the funds we provide. Let’s help fund a spring cap and reservoir at Wagouman. The cost is less than \$10 per life. The money will be sent through the Pure Water Fund at First Congregational Church in Salem.

## All-Church Picnic Is Coming

Save Sunday afternoon, September 13 after worship, for the All-Church Picnic on the church patio (or in Fellowship Hall if the weather doesn’t cooperate.) There will be a potluck picnic feast with fun for all. Jessica Denniston will be coordinating activities for the children, so bring your children or grandchildren.

## From the Pastor

by Jennifer Brownell



As I get ready to take my leave on September 6, I’m marking “lasts” — last sermon preparation, last visit to each shut-in, and now last *Tidings* article to you. These lasts feel a bit more poignant than they might otherwise, as I have no definite “what next” in mind. Although, if you think about it, “what next” is never as definite as we wish it were.

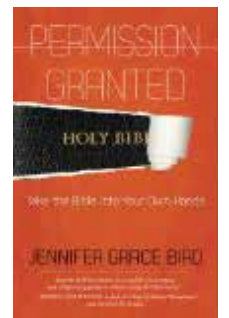
And yet, one of the best things I have learned from you all in the past eight years is the power and persistence of the faithful human spirit. I have witnessed to, and prayed for, so many of you as you have undergone illness, deaths, broken or difficult relationships, legal troubles, work issues...and many more trials. And generally, I am amazed at the way that you course-correct and keep moving. You have continued to be generous, faithful, humorous, and loving people even when your “what next” was not at all what you planned. And I am confident that you will continue in the same spirit in the weeks and months ahead. I am sad to be leaving, of that there is no doubt. But I am really looking forward to an extended time to rest and regroup before moving on to another call. So as I go, I am encouraged. I am not certain of the “what next,” but I have seen you weather your “what nexts” with such grace. I will take that grace with me always.

In the Light,  
Jennifer

## Book Author to Make Appearance

Millions of people around the world look to the Bible as a source of encouragement and faith formation, a reminder that God is love and is in control, and a guide to living one’s life the way God desires. But this treasured book has also been misused and manipulated by many, placed on a pedestal of untouchability, and protected from questioning and honest engagement. In her book *Permission Granted: Take the Bible into your Own Hands*, author Jennifer Bird encourages people of faith to explore the texts on their own, freed from long-held myths and misconceptions; experience the Bible anew; and appreciate this holy book for what it is—not what we think it should be. With the sensitivity of one who has discovered this freedom herself, Bird invites readers to engage what the Bible really says about twelve key issues, including sin, sex, and the role of women.

The event will take place Wednesday, August 12, from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. at Annie Blooms Books, 7834 SW Capitol Hwy.



# August 2015

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
2 9:00a Adult Study Group MH 9:00a Children's Activities DN 10:30a Worship Service SA 10:45a Children's Sunday School R1	3	4 7:30a Men's Breakfast GT	5 10:00a Loaves and Fishes MC 6:30p Open Co-ed AA Meeting R3	6 9:00a Walking Group UL	7	1/8
9 9:00a Adult Study Group MH 9:00a Children's Activities DN 10:30a Worship Service SA 10:45a Children's Sunday School R1 7:00p Traveling Women Slideshow FH	10 6:30p Transition Projects/Hoyt St Meal BC Post-Sabbath Bible Study (PSBS) MH	11 7:30a Men's Breakfast GT	12 1:00p Memoir Writing Group 6:30p Open Co-ed AA Meeting R3	13 9:00a Walking Group UL	14	15
16 9:00a Adult Study Group MH 9:00a Children's Activities DN 10:30a Worship Service SA 10:45a Children's Sunday School R1	17	18 7:30a Men's Breakfast GT 9:00a Field Trip to Visit Terry UL	19 12:00p Tidings Deadline 6:30p Open Co-ed AA Meeting, R3	20 9:00a Walking Group UL	21	22
23 9:00a Adult Study Group MH 9:00a Children's Activities DN 10:30a Worship Service SA 10:45a Children's Sunday School R1 11:45a Farewell Party for the Brownells FH	24 6:30p Post-Sabbath Bible Study (PSBS) MH	25 7:30a Men's Breakfast GT	26 6:30p Open Co-ed AA Meeting, R3	27 9:00a Walking Group UL	28	29
30 9:00a Adult Study Group MH 9:00a Children's Activities DN 10:30a Worship Service FH 10:45a Children's Sunday School R1	31	September 1 7:30a Men's Breakfast GT 10:30a Bible Study MH	2 6:30p Open Co-ed AA Meeting R3	3 9:00a Walking Group UL 7:00p Choir Rehearsal CR	4	5

**BC**=Bud Clark Commons (655 NW Hoyt St)  
 **CH**=Chapel, Room 4, Education Wing  
 **CR**=Choir Room  
 **DN**=Downstairs  
 **FH**=Fellowship Hall  
 **GT**=Golden Touch (SW Barbur at 19th)  
**MH**=Mt Hood Room  
**MR**=Maple Room  
**MC**=Multnomah Center (7688 SW Capitol Hwy)  
**R1**=Room 1, Education Wing  
**R3**=Room 3, Education Wing  
**SA**=Sanctuary  
**UL**=Upper Parking Lot

## Celebration Sunday: Wanted?

The Fellowship Committee is aware that many have missed Celebration Sunday and wish it could return. We are looking for volunteers who are willing to host a fellowship time using the Fellowship Hall after worship. In order to prevent “burn-out” for volunteers, we are suggesting we start with an event during the summer and then once a quarter.

One volunteer could coordinate the celebrations for the whole year (four events) or four volunteers could take one event each. Because of our limited budget, refreshments (other than coffee and tea) will need to be provided on a donation basis much like the weekly treats after worship. Please contact any of these Fellowship Committee members to let us know if you would be willing to organize these fellowship opportunities: Anita Moss, Ruth Rusnak, Marteena Sander, Patty Todd.

## Church Worker Seeks Housing

Hello, my name is Shanya Luther. I am a graduate of Pacific School of Religion and have served several UCC churches as their youth pastor. I was also a global missions intern in

southern Africa and am the daughter and granddaughter of UCC pastors. Currently I am the founder and director of a social service agency serving a variety of clients including individuals who experience developmental disabilities and neurological variations.

My house is on the market and expected to sell very soon. After that, I need to find a living situation for about a year and a half; at which time I anticipate going back overseas to do some kind of aid/relief work again. Ideally I’d like to find someone who can offer a room in exchange for having a responsible adult living with them for health, safety, and companionship. I imagine someone who is aging, but wants to stay in their own home, or possibly someone who travels a great deal and would like to have a person take care of their home/pets while they’re gone. I could offer some rent, although my goal is to save as much as possible to support me overseas.

My office is in Cedar Hills, so I’m hoping to stay somewhere in SW Portland or Beaverton. I also have a well-behaved, quiet dog who has been with me for over 10 years.

If you or someone you know would be interested in talking more about this arrangement, I would be delighted to set up a phone call or in-person meeting. Thank you for sharing this with anyone you feel might be interested.

Many blessings, Shanya Luther 503-332-8783

<b>tidings</b>	August 2015	<b>Hillsdale Community Church</b> UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
	6948 SW Capitol Hwy • Portland, OR 97219 503-246-5474 • www.hillsdaleucc.org	
Pastor <b>Rev. Jennifer Brownell</b> (jennifer@hillsdaleucc.org)		Director of Music/Administrator <b>Tim Ditch</b> (tim@hillsdaleucc.org)
Office Assistant <b>Kathy Schneller</b> (kathy@hillsdaleucc.org)		Child Care Providers <b>Sam Hinerfeld, Julia Miller</b>
<b>2015 Consistory Members:</b> Carl Wamser, President (503-504-4296 - wamserc@pdx.edu); Rebecca Holt, Vice-President, Share Christ's Word, Personnel (503-866-0340 - rebeccah@ldark.edu); Bob Brandon, Past President, Pastor Relations, Capital Campaign (503-313-0056 - Bob.Brandon@ltic.com); Drake Mitchell, Treasurer (240-672-1738 - drakem@pdx.edu); Nayan Fleenor, Make a Difference (503-645-6132 - nayan@mindspring.com); Ruthanne Rusnak, Fellowship (503-701-2462 - xiiicatsold@yahoo.com); Cathy Thomas, Worship (503-246-9509 - elefun@aol.com)		
<p>In Christ, we the members of Hillsdale Community Church United Church of Christ, declare ourselves to be an open and affirming congregation. We cherish and embrace individuals and families of all kinds. Believing that God’s unbounded love and grace are offered to all and meant to be shared and celebrated by all, we seek to be a congregation that includes all persons, embracing differences of age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, mental and physical ability, as well as racial, ethnic, or social-economic background. We welcome all to share in the life and leadership, ministry, and fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, and blessings of participation in our congregation. We commit to be a community of faith and spirit that works toward openness and understanding, offering justice, healing, and wholeness of life for all people. We believe that through our diversity, all can grow and practice a unity of faith that transcends our differences.</p>		

