



The Grapevine

CAROL'S COMMENTS

I have just returned from taking part in a Spiritual Pilgrimage to the Isle of Iona, a small island off the western coast of Scotland.

It is an amazing experience to walk paths that have been used by Christian pilgrims since the year 653 CE. While many of the buildings on the island date from the 1200's, and even more have been created or restored in the 20th century, it is still a humbling experience to stand where St. Columba and his followers stood. We experienced a tremendous storm while on the island, and, as the wind and rain beat against the shore, I could not help but wonder what life was like for those devout followers of Christ who had little heat or shelter during the long winter months.

I was deeply impressed with the rugged beauty of the landscape. The treeless hills of ancient rock push up from the earth covered with a thin, thin layer of top soil. Enough top soil for grazing sheep; not enough to grow apple or pear trees. Some visitors thought it too rugged to live there year round, yet in the small village on Iona, 135 hearty souls fend off the winter cold and live year round. They are a sturdy lot!

Staying at the MacLeod Center gave our group the opportunity to meet pilgrims from around the world. Despite the differences of denomination and geographical location, we were all Christ's followers joining together in worship morning and night. To sing God's praises together was a great privilege.

While it was deeply rewarding to experience a spiritual pilgrimage, it was equally good to return home. Wherever we are, we can join our hearts with others in singing God's praises.

Blessings to you,
Pastor Carol

WORSHIP SERVICE TIMES

MCCABE - 9:30 AM, SUNDAY

SCHOOL 8:45AM

SHERIDAN - 9:30

AMITY - 11:15 AM

AA - AMITY UMC, TUESDAYS 7 PM

CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT WWW.YRCUMC.ORG. THE PICTURES ARE BEAUTIFUL! IF YOU HAVE INFORMATION TO PUT ON THE SITE, SEND IT TO ANNE HARDIN BALLARD AT YRCUMC@YAHOO.COM.

PLEASE CALL THE PASTOR AT HOME TO LEAVE A MESSAGE:

PASTOR MARGARET: 503-474-1996

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PASTOR CAROL: 503-897-4509

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NEWS FROM SHERIDAN UMC

- We are now worshipping/praying in the parsonage, 224 N. Bridge St. on Sunday mornings at 9:30 am. If you have not been in worship for awhile, please join us soon. The atmosphere is cozy, and we continue to celebrate what God has done and is doing for us and through us. We have coffee/tea fellowship after worship, so we invite you to reconnect with your friends here. The parsonage now has a ramp to the front door to make your access easier. Communion is celebrated on the first Sunday of the month. The choir sings on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.
- We now have architect plans for the new church building. Please come and see them and add your input. The new building will look a little different from the old one but will use the old stained glass windows that survived the fire.
- Our Annual Charge Conference is scheduled for Sunday, October 25th, at 12:30 pm in Amity. It will start with a potluck lunch and move right into the meeting. We encourage everyone to attend and celebrate our mission in the world as we look forward to the coming year. Superintendent Rev. Kate Conolly will be there to lead the meeting.
- Pastor Carol has returned from her spiritual pilgrimage to Iona, Scotland. We are grateful for Don Graves, Ann Gage and Ruth Buntele who filled in for Pastor Carol on the Sundays when she was gone, and also to Billie Karlin for her able work as the liturgist during September. We look forward to hearing from Pastor Carol about her experiences and insights that she gained from her time at the community of Iona Abbey.
- United Methodist Women are back in full swing. In September, we sent out two more boxes to soldiers in Afghanistan. If you have addresses of soldiers who would like a care package, please get them to us as we will be sending out packages at our November meeting for Christmas. On Tuesday, October 13th, we will meet at the parsonage at 6:30 pm to put together birthing kits for Haiti. You can pick up a list of needed items for the kits at worship if you would like to help in this, or just show up at the meeting and help pack them. We invite any women to come and be a part of this mission group.

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Amity

- Oct. 8 - Marla Potapenko
- Oct. 11 - Leone Wood
- Oct. 15 - Jack Boughton
- Oct. 18 - Mina Hanson
- Oct. 28 - Jack Rowland

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- Oct. 4 - World Communion Sunday
- Oct. 8 - Amity Admin. Council Meeting
- Oct. 9 - Amity Men's Prayer Breakfast
- Oct. 9-10 - Amity Youth Retreat at Camp MacGruder
- Oct. 25 - Amity & Sheridan All-Church Conference and Potluck at Amity UMC
- Oct. 25 - Amity Youth event at Christ's Church - Monmouth