



# The Grapevine

## GOLDEN THREADS

*"The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced." Psalm 28:3*

This is a wonderful time of year. The too-hot summer is finally over, and our air-conditioned Oregon is reminding us of why we love to live here. There are still tomatoes in the garden and apples on the trees.

School is underway; the new teacher has become a friend, and we have a classmate to eat lunch with or play with at recess. Sunday School has begun for the children, with so many interesting things to think about as we study the Bible.

Things are buzzing at the church. On All Saints Day, we remember the people who were brave enough to start a church in the middle of a fescue field – and we give thanks for them. We celebrate Thanksgiving with our family and consider the blessings that God has granted us this year.

Then we begin the new Christian Year, celebrating Advent with stories and songs, decorations and surprises. It seems that the Christian faith is full of moments when we can put the past behind us and start all over again. God has indeed done great things for us--and we will rejoice again and again!

## CAROL'S COMMENTS

One of the things that I miss is having more time to read. Like many of you, when my schedule becomes busy, reading for fun is one of the things that drops away. Oh yes, I read commentaries and preaching articles from magazines, and they are very helpful in preparing sermons, but they do not always feed my soul.

This time of year as fall fades to winter, I search out a tattered copy of poems by my favorite poet, Wendell Berry. Berry has worked as a farmer in Vermont for over 40 years, mulling over words as he plowed his fields. He is a man who notices all God's creatures that inhabit the land and air. He knows the earth, he knows the success and failure of crops, and he knows as well the success and failure of lives. I hope you will enjoy his harvest offering.

May you find time in November to rest a little and read a little before turning to the holiday season. Blessings to you and your families for a happy Thanksgiving,

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**

## PLEASE CALL THE PASTOR AT HOME TO LEAVE A MESSAGE:

**PASTOR MARGARET: 503-474-1996  
CELL PHONE: 971-241-1285  
MAGOLDEN2@VERIZON.NET**

**PASTOR CAROL: 503-897-4509  
CAROLSWANSON99@GMAIL.COM**

## Wild Geese

*By Wendell Berry*

Horseback on Sunday morning,  
harvest over, we taste persimmon and wild grape,  
sharp sweet of summer's end.  
In time's maze over the fall fields,  
we name names that went west from here,  
names that rest on graves. We open a persimmon seed  
to find the tree that stands in promise,  
pale, in the seed's marrow.  
Geese appear high over us, pass, and the sky closes.  
Abandon, as in love or sleep, holds them to their way,  
clear, in the ancient faith: what we need is here.  
And we pray, not for new earth or heaven,  
but to be quiet in heart, and in eye clear.  
What we need is here.

(From *Collected Poems, 1957-1982*, North Point Press, 1987)

## AMITY ACTIVITIES

- Nov. 1 - All Saints' Sunday
- Nov. 6-7 - Amity UMW Candy Sale at Morningside UMC
- Nov. 12 - Amity Committees + Admin. Council meeting
- Nov. 13 - Amity Men's Prayer Breakfast
- Nov. 22 - Christ the King Sunday
- Nov. 23 – YRC Thanksgiving Eve Service at Amity UMC; 7:00pm.
- Nov. 24 - Thanksgiving Day
- Nov. 29 - First Sunday of Advent

## FOR YOUR CALENDAR

- Nov. 1 - All Saints Day, with candles and communion
- Nov. 22 – The Choir in worship at McCabe
- Nov. 25 – Thanksgiving service at Amity UMC, 7pm
- Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving Day
- Nov. 29 – The Choir in worship at Sheridan

## NEWS FROM SHERIDAN UMC

We have been having Sunday services in the parsonage for 2 months now, and it has been a blessing to have our own space once again. We even have heat--a real joy, since the days are growing colder now. Choir sings twice a month and is gearing up for Advent music and the Christmas Eve service. The plans for the new church building have been turned in to Sheridan City planners for approval and should be back soon (if they have not already approved by the time you read this).

We are looking forward to the Thanksgiving Eve service to be held in Amity on Wednesday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Circuit Choir will sing, and it will be a nice service to start us thinking of our blessings.

November 1<sup>st</sup> is All Saints Day and is on a Sunday this year!! In Sheridan, we will remember our saints with paper doves. We usually light candles in their memories, but given the close space in the parsonage, we have opted for a safer alternative.

Several of our ladies will have treated the trick-or-treaters again this year on October 31<sup>st</sup>. The parsonage is an ideal location for this; even baby strollers can get up the ramp with no problem. The ladies had such a good time doing this last year that they were up for a repeat performance.

Laity Sunday was celebrated in Sheridan with the listing and naming of our personal and congregational blessings in the past year. Even with the sadness of losing our church building last December, we find that God continues to bless us in many ways.

United Methodist Women have prepared seven birthing kits for Haiti and have about ten more waiting for the two flannel blankets that they need to be complete. In November we plan to send out care packages to folks in the military in Iraq and Afghanistan. If you have any addresses for military folks, please email them to [ghp@wbcable.net](mailto:ghp@wbcable.net) or mail them to the church at 224 N. Bridge St. Sheridan, OR 97378.

## NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS:

### Amity

- Nov. 1 - John Klein
- Nov. 1 – Judy Whitlow
- Nov. 9 - Jean Haffner
- Nov. 16 – Phillip Staats
- Nov. 23 - Randy McCain
- Nov. 24 - Margaret Golden
- Nov. 25 - Chris Williams
- Nov. 28 - Gayle Hennicke
- Nov. 30 - Kyle Rice

### McCabe

- Nov. 5 – Travis Jones
- Nov. 10 – Dale Johnson
- Nov. 22 – David Cone
- Nov. 24 - Margaret Golden
- Nov. 26 – Doug Ballard

### Sheridan

- Nov. 5 - Patricia Ruch
- Nov. 11 - Barbara Eberhart
- Nov. - Harold Trice
- Nov. - Gordon Jones
- Nov. - Margaret Golden
- Nov. - David Hall

## PRAYER LIST:

- Families: children, parents, grandparents
- Kate Conolly, our District Superintendent
- Bishop Hoshibata
- Time to Grow Major Funds Campaign, benefiting our camping program
- Our pastors, Carol and Margaret
- Faye Smith, as she recovers from surgery

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AT [WWW.YRCUMC.ORG](http://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](mailto:YRCUMC@YAHOO.COM).**