



CHURCH WOMEN UNITED OF LANE COUNTY

Editor: Phyllis Hockley

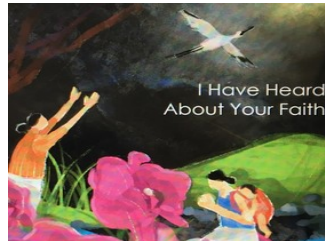
[cwulanecounty.org](http://cwulanecounty.org)

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**MARCH 2023**

March 4            Central Presbyterian Church  
 Saturday        555 E 15th Avenue, Eugene  
 9:00              Coffee and Fellowship  
 9:30              World Day of Prayer Celebration

April 14           Forum: Caring for our Earth



**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER  
CELEBRATION**

“I have heard about your faith,” from the first book of Ephesians, led an innovative group of women in Taiwan to create a lovely gift to us all. **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2023** was the result. It is a thoughtful, music-filled experience you won’t want to miss. Hear stories filled with intergenerational wisdom and tradition. Experience God’s profound love. Our friends from Taiwan remind us to urgently work to protect the environment. To demand a nuclear war-free homeland. These friends gently ask us to consider the political isolation of Taiwan in the international community. What is our role, now and in the future? United by God’s presence, sharing **WORLD DAY OF PRAYER** we promise to keep our neighbors across the Pacific in our hearts, today and always.

*On March 4, Church Women United of Lane County joins hundreds of thousands worldwide, celebrating this annual event. Gather with us at Central Presbyterian Church. Come in person or tune in on Zoom – your choice. See you there!*

**LOOKING FORWARD TO APRIL**

**NOTE**, it will be held on April 14 because the first Friday, April 7, is Good Friday and many churches have other activities scheduled for that day. Starting at 9 AM with fellowship (continental breakfast), the meeting begins at 9:30

Our youth will be speaking about caring for our earth from the viewpoint of young people. We hope you will join us on this journey led by the youth, who have the most to lose when we fail to care for our earth.

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**TUNE IN OVER ZOOM**  
 if you cannot meet in person:  
 Meeting ID: 882 3954 5095  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88239545095>  
 Attend over the phone,  
 alternately: Dial 1 (253) 215-8782 and enter the meeting ID shown above. You will not be asked for a password.  
 Call President Anne O'Brien at her cell if you have questions: (541) 554-2646

## A WORD FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Anne O'Brien

I had the pleasure of reciting 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians at each of my 3 children's weddings. I think it is a wonderful sentiment for us all at all times. I see so much love in our CWU sisters and so, I present it here for you.

1 Corinthians 13:1-13 The Way of Love

13:1 If I speak in the tongues of men and of angels, but have not love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal.

2 And if I have prophetic powers, and understand all mysteries and all knowledge, and if I have all faith, so as to remove mountains, but have not love, I am nothing. 3 If I give away all I have, and if I deliver up my body to be burned, but have not love, I gain nothing.

4 Love is patient and kind; love does not envy or boast; it is not arrogant or rude. 5 It does not insist on its own way; it is not irritable or resentful; 6 it does not rejoice at wrongdoing, but rejoices with the truth. 7 Love bears all things, believes all things, hopes all things, endures all things.

8 Love never ends. As for prophecies, they will pass away; as for tongues, they will cease; as for knowledge, it will pass away. 9 For we know in part and we prophesy in part, 10 but when the perfect comes, the partial will pass away. 11 When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways.

12 For now we see in a mirror dimly, but then face to face. Now I know in part; then I shall know fully, even as have been fully known.

13 So now faith, hope, and love abide, these three; but the greatest of these is love.

## A LOOK AT OUR FEBRUARY FORUM

Charlotte Maloney



**YOUTH AND ADULT ACTIVISTS OF DIVEST OREGON** Friday, February 3, we held another hybrid meeting, hosted by the congregation of First Christian Church of Springfield. The ladies of FCC provided an array of breakfast treats in a Valentine's theme space, enjoyed during fellowship. Anne O'Brien introduced Pastor Erin Curtis, who led us in prayer, which included our prayers for full recovery of Mary Roth from hip surgery as result of a fall the previous evening. Five attended by Zoom (including our speakers) and 21 were in-person.

We were inspired by the presentation of Jacob Glass, a high school senior and a co-founder of Climate Strike, a Portland youth group. He is also a fellow of Divest Oregon, of which Church Women United of Lane County is a member. Speaking via Zoom from a stairwell of his school, he described the actions his group has taken, which include testifying at Portland city council in support of several local decisions to address climate change. They have advocated for the city to enforce regulations on four companies in Portland that have disregarded them.

Jacob was articulate, passionate, and mature, especially in how he answered our questions.

After Jacob returned to class, Beth Genly, an adult volunteer of Divest Oregon, spoke to us via Zoom as well. She clearly explained HB 2601 and why we should each support it during the current legislative session. Her slides were helpful in understanding the reasoning behind the bill and what the bill would mandate.

For more details, the Divest Oregon website: <https://www.divestoregon.org/>

**TAKE ACTION NOW  
ADVOCATING FOR GUN SAFETY CAN'T WAIT  
Nancy Vrijmoet**



Join Oregon Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America volunteers statewide. Support these legislative initiatives – House Bills (HB), Senate Bills (SB):

- HB 2005 & HB 2874: Prohibit ghost guns
- HB 2006: Raise the age to 21 for purchase of a semiautomatic rifle
- HB 2007 & SB 686: Allow local governments to prohibit guns in their buildings
- HB 2676: Reduce barriers to crime victims compensation
- HB 2757: Establish permanent funding for 988 crisis line
- SB 551: Require K-12 schools to send home information on secure storage of firearms
- BUDGET: Renew funding, \$15 million for community violence intervention and \$5 million for Healing Hurt People program.

Advocate in person or online

Go to <https://momsdemandaction.org/events/>  
Find the following event at that site:

March 2, 12:30-3:30 p.m. in Salem: Join volunteers throughout the state at Legislative Advocacy Day. Commit to take ten actions in celebration of ten years of Oregon Moms Demand Action. Volunteer to push for gun violence prevention! Follow progress of these bills

Go to <https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov>

Phone. Email. Send letters.

Look up your legislators here.

Quick & easy look-up: <https://gov.oregonlive.com/legislators/>

Full info look-up (includes legislator's mailing address & phone number): <https://geo.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/lookup/index.html?appid=fd070b56c975456ea2a25f7e3f4289d1>

Spread the word

Encourage your friends to text READY to 644-33 to join Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America. Stay informed of all upcoming opportunities.

**UPDATE ON GUN SAFETY MEASURE 114  
Lift Every Voice Oregon**

The Oregon Supreme Court recently declined to intervene with the lower court's ruling led by Harney County's Judge Robert Raschio, that the gun safety legislation Measure 114 was unconstitutional. His ruling contends that Measure 114 may save lives but it violates Second Amendment rights. Incidentally, Harney County, an area where proliferation of firearms is among the greatest in the state, has the highest suicide rate in Oregon.

The Oregon Court of Appeals, joined by Oregon Attorney General Ellen Rosenblum, recently set a national precedent with a ruling that struck down the "Second Amendment Sanctuary" ordinance. This ruling makes it clear that common sense gun safety legislation applies throughout the state of Oregon.

We can expect many more obstacles to the implementation of Measure 114. It is very important for Oregon voters to pay attention and get involved. Write your legislators now. Let them know that they need to support Measure 114 and other gun safety bills.

**UPDATES ON LOCAL ISSUES**  
**Charlotte Maloney**

**IMPLEMENTING MEASURE 111:  
SB 704 AND HB 2558**

What would SB 704 do? Per press release from Senator Manning: "...create a Governance Board with the directive to develop and oversee the implementation of a new universal health care option in Oregon. The Governance Board's plan should streamline claims for health care providers and ensure more people are covered, saving doctors and hospitals money and making it easier to maintain operations in underserved areas and for underserved communities. Senate Bill 704 establishes this Governance Board with the goal of finalizing the plan by fall 2025 and launching the health care option by 2027."

The house sponsors of HB 2558 are holding on acting on it until SB 704 moves through the senate committees. Then the house bill will be amended to conform to wording of changes that result from the senate hearings and votes.

All Church Women United of Lane County members on the email list have received messages about SB 704. It had a hearing February 13. So many people signed up to testify that the second part of the hearing was held February 15. To read the bill as introduced:

<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/MeasureDocument/SB704/Introduced>

To read the amendments offered so far:  
<https://olis.oregonlegislature.gov/liz/2023R1/Downloads/ProposedAmendment/22574>

Look for updates in future issues of The Vine. Members on the email list will receive requests to submit written and in-person testimony as the session continues. All members are asked to write their state representative and senator in support of these bills.

**HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION ACTIONS**

Eugene Displacement Prevention Assistance Proposal was removed from the agenda for City Council by the City Manager. Those on our email list have received sample wording to ask city manager, council members, and the mayor to return it to the agenda, since this has been under discussion for 3 years. In response to these emails, the Alliance was told by the Mayor, "We are scheduling the hearing as soon as possible."

The Eugene Tenants Alliance could use more signatures on their petition to the city for the full package of Displacement Prevention Assistance Phase 2. If you haven't signed, you can here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSevffFSCVA-qbq6wXYsHt8Sz90 VwMoFx-5D9bVoovzi4nr6Q/viewform> If clicking on the link doesn't work, copy the link and paste in your browser.

The \$10 cap on application screening fees was struck down by Lane County judge, following a lawsuit filled by landlords and property management company. It's being appealed by the city.

**BILLS IN THE 2023 OREGON LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

The Eugene Tenant Alliance asks that we write our representatives and senators to ask their support for all three bills. A sample letter will be sent to the email list. Call Charlotte Maloney (541.953.0148) for details if you wish to send a message via USPS. Advocates are reporting that Landlords are heavily organized and have nearly matched tenants on quantity of written testimony for bills that have already had hearings. There seems to be willingness right now from the majority to move along tenant protections. The Senate Side is focusing on consumer protections, and the House side seems to be focusing on working on the supply side of the housing crisis.

**SB 611**

Would increase amount residential landlord owes tenant for landlord-cause termination of tenancy. Limits annual rent increases. Declares emergency, effective upon passing. Not yet scheduled for hearing.

**SB 684**

Would limit cap of screening fees to \$10 statewide. Not yet scheduled for hearing.

**SB 799**

Changes minimum notice for evictions from 72 hours to 10 days. Has had first hearing.



**WHAT CAN YOU  
OFFER?  
Nancy Vrijmoet**

What is this world needing from you today? If you can't grow food to feed every hungry soul, can you chip in a little to make a difference? How about locally? Are you ready? Friends from Church Women United of Lane County suggest that you

- *Learn more now*
- *Make a plan*
- *Act*

But how? Here's a start. Mail your yearly contribution to Church Women United today. Then, you can be assured that every month, from September through June, another vibrant opportunity to learn, plan, and act will come your way. For instance, in just two months, updates from Divest Oregon and *Juliana V. United States* brought us ideas for making this world better. We can write letters, testify, make phone calls. Above all, we collectively commit to listen to the children. They say actions to mitigate climate change can't wait.

Send your contribution to Treasurer Nancy Vrijmoet at 42091 McKenzie Highway, Springfield, Oregon 97478. No amount is too small! You make the choice. But do throw in an extra \$10, if possible, to cover 2023's increased printing charges for *The Vine*, even if you prefer the online version. One more way to pull a little extra, to help us all.

Plant seeds today to grow a better tomorrow. Remember, standing with others makes your small voice large. And may you find seedlings of hope to make you smile around each corner, now that March is upon us. Happy Spring!



**LIGHT  
Cynthia Kokis**

Light is a word that can express both the visual, the physical, and the spiritual. Candles, torches, bonfires, and lightning light the blackness. They enable the eye to see in the dark. The moon full erases the night's challenges. The new moon causes humans to use lights.

Light is also about physical realities. A light package. A light weight . . . boxer? Intellect? A light step? A light touch? This leaves behind the visual.

Leaving the literal and sensual, light has many other powers. Light the darkness of a heart and mind overcome with the blackness of anger, greed, jealousy, lust, fear. Face the world with a light heart. Lighten each others' burdens. Share hope, time, tears, space, ideas, laughter. Lighten up is the suggestion. Lighten the footprints of humankind on the Earth itself. Curb activities and change beliefs that darken and destroy life.

Light-hearted souls are wise. The light within relieves the weight of physical realities. The light shines despite the pains every soul confronts. The body's lustre wanes. The steps shuffle. The dancer uses a walker. The eyes dim. The ears strain.

Despite all this, there are souls everywhere who have the power to enlighten the darkness.

**CWULC Donation to  
Menstrual Supplies Fund**

Our check for \$252 was delivered to the coordinator, Sarah, who will maximize the purchases and distribute to several programs for unhoused people.

**Ongoing  
fundraising for Native Families  
at SSD and 4J**

Our treasurer, Nancy Vrijmoet, is accepting checks on an on-going basis to pay for gift cards for the school program coordinators to give struggling families. Please and Thank you!

## NATURE NOTES CELEBRATES CREATION AS COMPANION TO THE INTERIOR LIFE

Creation—God’s precious gem—continues to refresh us with beauty and nourishment of every kind.

Now you can celebrate Creation in [Nature Notes](#), the latest collection of stories by Mary Sharon Moore. In 20 engaging stories and reflections she shows us how Creation truly is companion to the interior life and a source of worship.

Travel with her on the McKenzie River Trail, to the top of Spencer Butte, and savor her experiences with backyard birds and nearby Nature.

Mary Sharon will read a story from her collection at Tsunami Books on Sunday, March 12, at 7:00 p.m. Call her at 541.687.2046 for details, and to reserve your seat. The event is free, and hosted by McKenzie River Trust.

Three of Mary Sharon’s stories have been selected by McKenzie River Trust for their [Winter Writers Series 2022-2023](#). Three other stories are included in Passages, the 2022 Anthology of the Cottage Grove Harpies.

Read sample pages of Nature Notes on the Store page at [marysharonmoore.com](http://marysharonmoore.com), where you also can purchase direct from the author.

## UPCOMING

Hey Fossil Free Friends,

It is so important to celebrate our victories and we just had a big one! We appreciate your support in helping transition Eugene off polluting fossil fuels and hope you will join us for pizza, karaoke, raffle prizes, and more. :

When: Thursday, March 2, 6-9 PM

Where: Wildcraft Ciderworks

Hosted by: Breach Collective and Fossil Free Eugene

We hope you can make it and thank you again for engaging for a fossil-free future!

P.s. Save the date for the [Public Interest Environmental Law Conference](#) from Thursday, March 2, 2023, to Sunday, March 5, 2023. Fossil Free Eugene will be presenting a panel and we will be tabling so volunteers will be needed. Stay tuned for more info!

Best,

Aya Cockram

Coalition Coordinator

Fossil Free Eugene