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**piv•ot** \ˈpi-vət\  
noun

**1** : a shaft or pin on which something turns\*  
**2 a** : a person, thing, or factor having a major or central role, function, or effect **b** : a key player or position\*

It is a space dedicated to the joys, struggles, and social reality of a marginalized community.

\*Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary



**pivot**  
pivotpdx.org

Have a coffee.  
Have a chat.  
Make a connection.  
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love PV," said Pettit, stressing that details are scarce save for the fact that construction has begun.

Status updates on the new CC Slaughters Puerto Vallarta can be viewed as work progresses at [ccslaughterspv.com](http://ccslaughterspv.com), as well as on Facebook by searching "Slaughters Puerto Vallarta."

**Bridgeport UCC's Rev. Susan Leo Announces Retirement**

The Reverend Susan Leo, longtime minister of Bridgeport United Church of Christ (621 NE 76th Ave.), announced that after more than a decade of running the church, she has decided to retire. Leo's final day will be Sunday, July 24.

Leo and spouse Diane Syrcle—the minister of music at Bridgeport UCC, as well as executive director of the Oregon Ballet Theatre—founded the church 13 years ago. Bridgeport UCC is an LGBTQ welcoming congregation, with an estimated 50 percent of the adults in the church identifying as gay, lesbian or bisexual.

Leo's departure, per a press release, has prompted Syrcle to leave her post as well.

"God called me to start this church, build it and bring it along for 13 years," Leo said in a statement. "Now I feel God calling me out and into the next phase of my life, and I must heed that call."

"When Susan and I met 15 years ago, the thought of being part of a church—let alone starting one—had not entered my mind or heart," Syrcle said in a statement. "The beauty of the experience is accompanied by each song and the harmony that Susan and I have co-created in this ministry. As she retires from day-to-day ministry it is healthy for us that I also leave my ministry at Bridgeport. It is bittersweet and yet my heart is filled with the words of songs of healing and love. We carry your hearts with ours."

A potluck party, set for July 24, will commemorate Leo and Syrcle's final day, following that Sunday's worship service. The church is working to create and implement an interim pastor until a new pastor can be appointed.

"I am looking forward to having time to

"God called me to start this church, build it and bring it along for 13 years. Now I feel God calling me out and into the next phase of my life, and I must heed that call."

-REV. SUSAN LEO

invest in all the things I love doing, as well as whatever it is that God has in store for me," continued Leo, "but I will miss Bridgeport more than words can say, and I will carry you and all of the congregation in my heart forever."

For more information about Bridgeport United Church of Christ, visit [bridgeportucc.org](http://bridgeportucc.org).

**Final Fundraising Tallies Updated, And More**

The results are finally trickling in for some of this spring's most popular annual fundraisers.

The **11th Annual Red Dress Party**—held Saturday, April 16—celebrated another sold-out soirée, with more than 1,200 attendees packing the warehouse space at 535 NW 10th Avenue under the "Red Hot" theme. Funds raised totaled \$45,000, with the event's beneficiaries—Pivot, Q Center and YWCA of Clark County's SafeChoice Program—each receiving \$15,000.



MARTY DAVIS

"A Class Act," the annual fundraiser to benefit the **Bill and Ann Shepherd Legal Scholarship Fund**, also drew another sold-out audience to delight in delectable desserts, and to take in the operatic sounds of Theresa Koon. Organizers report a fundraising total of just over \$7,700, which goes straight into the scholarship fund, to be disbursed via Equity Foundation.

In yet another sold-out event, the **Fourth Annual Soul Food & Gospel Show**—presented by Peacock Productions and held at Darcelle XV Showplace—raised \$2,300 for the Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund. The evening included hosts Maria Peters Lake and Poison Waters, a tasty dinner and performances by Miss Gay Oregon Adrienne Alexander, Imperial Princess Royale Cassie Nova, Darcelle XV and more.

If you missed the Soul Food & Gospel Show, you've another chance to support the Audria M. Edwards Scholarship Fund Sunday, June 5 at Darcelle XV Showplace.



Rev. Susan Leo

BRIDGEPORTUCC.ORG