## **RELIGION BRIEFS**

#### Astoria First Presbyterian

The Astoria First Presbyterian Church has announced that Vintage Window Restoration in Albany has been awarded the bid to repair and restore the windows in its 1936 John Wicks-designed Fellowship Hall at 11th Street and Harrison Avenue.

Owner Chris Gustafson, grew up in Astoria and graduated from Clatsop Community College's historic preservation program in 2011. He also serves as an adjunct faculty member at the college, teaching window-restoration classes in the historic preservation program, and his projects have included window restorations for other historic

In 2013, the governing body at First Presbyterian formed the "Let's Get Dressed Up" committee to raise funds to paint the exterior of the 1903 Gothic-style sanctuary and to restore the Fellowship Hall windows. The sanctuary was painted last summer by local paint contractor, Scott Still. Members jokingly say they wish they had a dollar for each of the hundreds of compliments received on the building.

Fundraising efforts are now focused on the Fellowship Hall windows. The work will be performed in two phases, with the south and west facades beginning in July, and completion set for early fall. The second phase of the restoration the north and east facades is scheduled for 2016.

The more than 50 allwood windows have survived 86 years of weather, and are in varying stages of disrepair. Clerk of the Session Linda Oldenkamp said, while the hall is used by its members, it is more often utilized by community members and organizations and for wedding receptions. Equipped with a stage and



After repainting the siding of the First Presbyterian Church, the "Let's Get Dressed Up" campaign plans to raise money to replace approximately 50 windows in the adjacent Fellowship Hall, constructed in 1936.



The First Presbyterian Church has towered overlooked downtown Astoria from its hillside location on the corner of 11th Street and Grand Avenue for more than a century.

kitchen, the hall also houses the Astoria Conservatory of Music, and will soon become the home for the "Reach the Stars" program, low-cost dance classes for children. Oldenkamp said if the windows are preserved now, they can last another 80 years for community

To raise money for the restoration, grants and fundraisers are being explored. "This is a big project for our congregation," Oldenkamp said. "We are so pleased to be able to hire a graduate of CCC's historic preservation program."

The church has begun an 'Adopt a Window' campaign and we hope the community will support it by adopting a window or a portion of one," Oldenkamp said.

For information on the "Adopt a Window" campaign or its restoration, call 503-325-3981 or go to http://firstpresbyterianasto-

## **Astoria United**

Methodist The Astoria United Methodist Church, 1076 Franklin Ave., is holding a Mother's Day worship service at 11 a.m. Sunday; the Rev. Carol Prichard's sermon is "What's Love Got To Do With It." The liturgy is presented by Gloria Jones, and Bev Aspmo is the greeter. All are welcome.

Children and youth are invited to the sanctuary for crafts and snacks. Coffee and Mother's Day refreshments will be served after the service by Sue Hicks.

For information, call the church office at 503-325-5454 or go to at www.unitedmethodistastoria.org

#### **Unitarian Universalist**

The Pacific Unitarian Universalist Fellowship holds a service at 11 a.m. Sunday at the First Congregational Church, 820 Alameda Ave. Nancy Cook is presenting "Mother's Day, Momma's Day, and the Many Sources of Maternal Faith," and mothers will be honored with flowers and in

Cook teaches writing, literature and humanities at Clatsop Community College. She has been a member of the PUUF congregation for 11 years.

Peggy Coreson is the lay leader, Bree Heavenrich is greeter and Otis Heavenrich is helping with the children. The monthly potluck is after the service.

For information, call 503-338-6883 or go to www.pacu-

#### **Great Vow Zen**

CLATSKANIE -Great Vow Zen Monastery, located at 79640 Quincy-Mayger Road in Clatskanie, is holding "Hanging Loosely in Spaciousness: A Dzogchen Retreat," led by Keith Dowman, from 5 p.m. May 28 to 1 p.m. May 31.

Enjoy an immersion in the Dzogchen approach to the heart of meditation/nonmeditation. This retreat provides an opportunity to begin or continue with Dzogchen Trekcho/ Togal meditation in an expansive, peaceful country setting.

The cost is \$200 (\$150 for Zen Community of Oregon; a \$100 reduced rate available to those in need) plus donation.

For details, call 503-728-0654 or email registrar@ greatvow.org. Register online www.zendust.org/event/ keith-dowman-retreat

#### **Grace Episcopal**

Following the 10 a.m. service at Grace Episcopal Church, 1545 Franklin Ave., there is a reception for the new art exhibit hanging in the Parish Hall. The exhibit features photos by Solfrid Price, and it will hang until the Jean Barney Memorial Art Show opens June 13. Information about entering this show is on the Grace church website.

A Soup-Supper meal is served at 4 p.m. Sunday in the Parish Hall, free of charge. Those wishing to help should come at 3 p.m. to set up and at 4:30 p.m. to clean up.

A Taizé Prayer and Song service is offered at 7 p.m. Wednesday. The service, which takes place the second Wednesday of the month, consists of simple repeated chants, periods of silence, prayers individual and communal, and the lighting of candles. All are welcome.

For information, call the church at 503-325-4691 or go to www.graceastoria.org

#### Star of the Sea

St. Mary, Star of the Sea Catholic Church invites couples to rediscover their marriage by participating in Retrouvaille, or Rediscovery. This program, beginning with the weekend of June 12-14, offers the chance to rediscover one's self, spouse, and a loving relationship in marriage. Many marriages headed for divorce, or functioning at a low level, have been reinvigorated by the couple's attending the Retrouvaille Weekend. For confidential information about the program or to register, call 503-225-9191 or go to www.helpourmarriage.org

#### **Knappa Assembly** of God

KNAPPA — The men of the church at Knappa Assembly of God, 41767 Old Highway 30, are putting on a Mother's Day breakfast from 9:15 to 10:15 a.m. All mothers in the community are welcome. The worship service starts at 10:45 a.m.

For information, call 503-458-6676.

#### **Crossroads Community**

SVENSEN roads Community Church, a Friends Fellowship, at 40618 Old Highway 30 in Svensen, is holding a Free Family Film Friday at 6:45 p.m. tonight, featuring a full-length feature, old film favorite starting at 7. Free fresh popped popcorn, birthday cake, sodas, water and coffee will be available. All are welcome.

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