

You are invited!

A Leave-Taking Breakfast

Sanctuary UCC

458 High Street—Storefront (& Online)

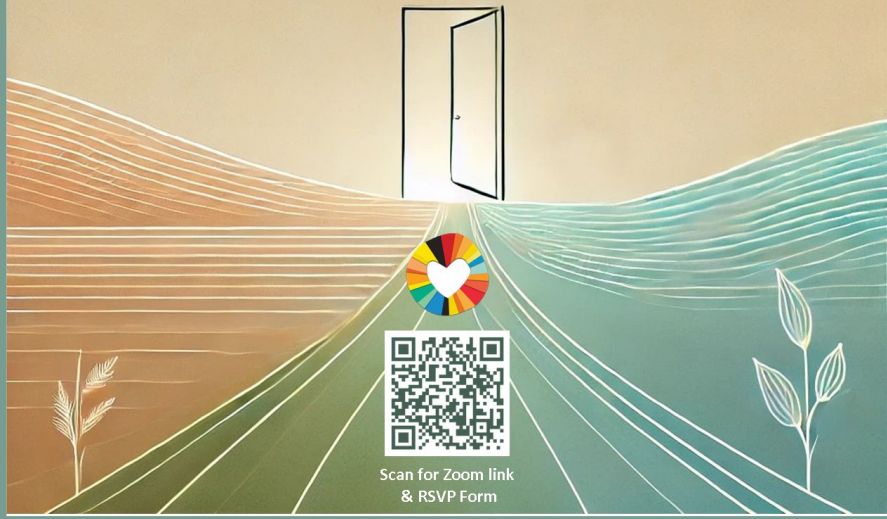
Saturday, November 16

10 am—12 noon

Together, we'll honor this sacred space—our home for ten years of faith, worship, the arts, and community outreach.

Together we'll cherish memories, lessons, and the vision we've shared. Together, we'll release this place with gratitude and hopeful hearts—and look ahead with love.

Every end is a new beginning waiting to unfold.



Scan for Zoom link
& RSVP Form

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Grace

Thank you, Maker and Breaker of Tables,
for inviting us—to partake in this sacred communion.

**Thank you for all of this food—for it feeds and is sacred—
and bless the hands that have prepared it.**

Even as we are spiritually nourished
and have our tummies filled today,
keep our hungers unsatisfied
and our thirsts unquenched
**so that we might do — and be — the Church,
always in remembrance of you. Amen.**

Called Together in Meditation

Breathe. Be still. Close your eyes. Listen.
If your mind wanders, simply return.

“May I Be Empty”

—Batya Levine

Call to Worship

God, whose creative glory we see in the rushing wind and the swirling waters,
**and whose love is revealed in the smile of a child,
will remain with us.**

God, whom we have discovered in the scriptures, and who has discovered us,
**and who comes clear to us in Jesus
and in the lives of the saints,
will remain with us.**

God, whom we encounter in the worship and service of faith communities,
**whose Spirit is within the pastoral caring
and the justice-seeking of this church,
will remain with us.**

God, gracefully known in the hard places of our earthly life’s journey,
**and who laughs and celebrates joyfully with us here,
will remain with us.**

God, who will be with us as this life ends,
**who is with us in time and beyond time,
will remain with us.**

God who has inspired this congregation to love and justice since 1872
will continue to love us and send us—
in what ever form we become
and what ever space we occupy.

Let us worship our loving and faithful God.

Scripture for this Day

Words of certainty from the apostle Paul:

Neither death, nor life...nor things present, nor things to come...nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord. (Romans 8:38–39)

Words of compassion from the psalmist:

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I fear no evil; for you are with me; your rod and your staff—they comfort me. (Psalm 23:4)

Words of adventure from Genesis:

Now the Lord said to Abram, “Go from your country and your kindred and your father’s house to the land that I will show you...I will bless you, and make your name great.” (Genesis 12:1–2)

Words of thanksgiving from a gospel writer:

Then one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God...He prostrated himself at Jesus’ feet and thanked him. (Luke 17:15–16)

The words of scripture are good words for us, words we can trust.

We thank God for God’s eternally relevant Word. Amen.

A Time of Remembrance and Thanksgiving

The vision and purpose of Sanctuary UCC has been a blessing.

What is one that you take with you?



Prayer of Thanksgiving for our Memories and this Space

Loving God,
We offer you this space that has been sacred and functional
and silly and special—to us and to so many.
We offer you these memories so dear to our hearts;
those that have been named, those that we keep deep within our
As you have blessed us in the listening and in the telling,
So you will bless us as we bring them to mind
and share them in the coming days.

We have come together with so many good and treasured memories,
but with grief as well —at saying farewell to this beloved space
and all it has symbolized for us.

Sanctuary, a new kinda church.

Sanctuary, a safe place.

Sanctuary, asking deep questions, having deep conversations,
making deep connections, developing deep convictions.

Sanctuary—together here with remembrance and grief and with great hope
for continuing our life of faith in partnership with others—Hillside Community
Church, Arts Collaborative Medford, the Civic Square and others yet to be
discovered .

For the life of this faith community which will continue on, Loving God,
We give you thanks.

Confession

*This is a time for you to name the hard stuff —disappointment, anger, fear, or
what might have been. Please turn to a neighbor and share for two minutes
each something about that which has been hard about this.*



Words of Assurance

God hears our deepest feelings of heart, mind, and spirit
and has heard you this morning.

We will continue to offer these feelings

as we let go of this space and grow into what it to come.

God will continue to listen to us.

God will go with us into what it to unfold. God is eternally to be trusted.

God's peace, which passes all knowledge and understanding,
will be our peace.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Holy Communion

*As you pass the blessing cup to your neighbor,
please share it with these words:*

The bread of life and the cup of hope, given for you.

Meditation

Let Us Break Bread

—Ron Brown

Song

At This Table

—Selah

At this table, everyone is welcome

At this table, everyone is seen

At this table, everybody matters

No one falls between

At this table, you can say whatever

At this table, you can speak your mind

At this table, everything's forgiven

There's enough for everyone

So come as you are

Remember that the door is always open

Yes, come as you are

The perfect gift that you could bring is your heart

So, come, come as you are

At this table, there will be no judgement

At this table, mercy has a seat

At this table, we're all sons and daughters

There's no place I'd rather be

So come as you are
Remember that the door is always open
Yes, come as you are
The perfect gift that you could bring is your heart
So, come, come as you are
Come as you are

At this table, everyone is welcome
At this table, everybody cares
At this table, everybody matters
So, come, pull up a chair

Blessing—Moving on in Faith

When the chosen people left the land of Egypt
for the uncertainty of the wilderness,
You, O God, went with them.
You inspired and directed Moses
and the people to the Promised Land.

You will be with us now as we move on.

When the prophets knew for certain that what had been
Was to be released so that they could serve your purpose
You, O God, showed the doubters a new way,
and revealed fresh opportunities to those who resisted.

Ever-faithful God, you will be with us as we move on

When Jesus realized that the trusted structures
and the traditional leaders could no longer serve your purpose,
when Jesus knew it was time for a change,
**You, O God, were at the heart of his ministry,
you sustained him all the way to the cross.**

We move on to fresh ways of worship,
We move on to serve.

We move on to work with new partners
to build up the body and the city and the people of God.

**With you, Great God, Loving Brother, and Guiding Spirit—
we move on to live out love and justice wherever we are.**

Passing of God's Peace

One: May the Peace of Christ be with you

All: **And also with you**



Loaves and Fishes
John August Swanson

