

Florence United Methodist Church

Tide-ings 2021



April Newsletter

Florence United Methodist Church

333 Kingwood, Florence, OR 97439

Office: (541) 997-6025

Sunday Worship

Sunday Services: Video taped services at this time



florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org

Visit us at www.florenceunitedmethodist.org

Serving the People of God:

District Superintendent: Rev. John Tucker

Pastor: Reverend Dr. Karen Love Baisinger

Lay Leader: Patt Rollins

SPRC Chair: Patti Johnson

Finance Chair: Terry Woodward

Ministers: All Members

Newsletter Editor: Diane McCalmont

Pastor Karen:

revdrkarenlove@gmail.com

(541) 915-0335 cell (ok to text)

From Our Shared Heart...

It feels strange to start another round of our church year's liturgical holy days and still be in the global pandemic. It was Holy Week Second Time Suspended Worship, Easter Second Time, etc. Hopefully by Pentecost Sunday, God willing, we will be able to have some in-person worship happening again. IF it seems safe enough. Always, "Do No Harm" is our guiding principle in this pandemic.

Our "Reimagining Our Lives Together" team is working on logistics and plans for how we will begin to emerge from the isolation and shut-down of the pandemic as the vaccination roll-out continues. We have a lot to consider for the safety of all, to the best we can ensure that, and we have to get our plans approved by our District Superintendent.

One question I pray about and ponder in my own heart is: after the entombment of sorts that we have experienced this past year, how much Resurrection are we willing to receive? Jesus did not resurrect himself. It was an act of God. We too are called, as cells in the Body of Christ, to live a Resurrection Life. Jesus came out of that tomb, resurrected, and alive at a whole new level of BEing. Truly, he was the Lord of the Dance!

My prayer is that we too will emerge from this part of the "long, dark night of the soul" that our planet has been experiencing as transformed, as filled with God, as Jesus was. Even being just a tiny bit so would rock our world!

Pray with me this month for wisdom in discernment as we wait for God's resurrecting



power in our lives as a church. Watch for signs of Resurrection Life. Pray for us to be able to BE the Christ in this community and in our world.

In a year like we've had in 2020-2021, the tombs of death, economic loss, grief and unrest are obvious. Yet some tombs we need to emerge from are of our own making and we ask ourselves, "what holds us back from claiming our freedom to really LIVE and to dance our dances fully?" No matter what confines us, the Easter message is one that offers the courage for new starts.

Some of you may be familiar with the country western song from over a decade ago, "I Hope You Dance" by Lee Ann Womack. It is a wonderful commissioning/ blessing song... "If you get the chance to sit it out or to dance, I hope you'll dance." Can you just imagine Jesus saying these words to the still-confused-and-scared disciples during one of his post-resurrection appearances?! Even though Easter comes and we are called to live as "Easter people" with no fear of death, this is not always an easy thing for us to do, especially in times of great anxiety. But sometimes we have to just let the dance take us... to allow God's joy to *invade* our reality. This is why, as we move toward Pentecost in late May, I pray we can allow this season be one in which we "Dare to Dance Again." Dare to dance, even in the midst of fear and suffering. Dare to dance an Easter dance of the promise of resurrection. "Dare to Dance Again" will be the theme and focus of our worship services between Easter and Pentecost.

More than ever . . . now, more than ever . . . what the world needs now is for us to dance alive love, sweet love!

May each of you be blessed with Resurrection Life through the love of God and the indwelling Holy Spirit so that we can be the Body of Christ, dancing with the Lord of the Dance, for a suffering world!

Love and blessings,

Pastor Karen



When you become fully vaccinated, if you are willing and able to volunteer for some on-site church building “spruce up” projects in advance of a “soft opening” for on-site worship, please let the office know. Leave a message on the office phone (541-997-6025) or email the church florenceumc@florenccenitedmethodist.org with your preferred contact information



Keeping in Our Prayers

Laura Merz; Hazel Vacura; Charles & Barbara Walker; Kathleen Yelle and family; Jasmin Crump; Vicki Hough (Peggy Wilson’s daughter); Larry Gallagher; Pat Balzell; Jonathan Yoder; Reverend Karen; Peggy Simington; Kathleen Wenzel; John & Lila Hyder; Kim Holden & family; Georgia Garrett; Laureli; Betty Cline; Ursula Sears; Jean Parr; Janice Bell; Gerry & Nancy Cedarleaf-Grey; Patrick McCalmont; April McCalmont.

We ask God’s blessing on these people and those in need, but not named.

Pray for our planet in this global pandemic and economic crisis for so many.

Soldiers everywhere in the world and those who wait for them to come home.

Note: On the last page of the UMW yearbook, as well as the inside back cover of the Church Directory, the Prayer Chain is listed. To receive the electronic prayer chain, contact rayfeay@hotmail.com.



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMWomen News

I had the opportunity of listening to the UMW Enrichment Event held March 6 on Zoom. For devotions, Sheryl Aydetott read passages from Leviticus, Exodus, and Deuteronomy that welcomed immigrants. A Legacy video was shown.

March 23 was a Day of Giving to ensure hope for women, children, and youth. I heard how other units met the challenge of Covid-19. Albany First United Methodist UMW raised \$33,265 during 2020...amazing! Eugene First held a parking lot library van book exchange.

Beverly Douglas presented several books, that led into the song 'We are Called'...to be light for the Kingdom...to walk humbly with God. There is a need for professional readers. Could that be you? Also there are openings on the Leadership team and a comment was made that since meeting by Zoom, travel would not be an issue. Reading certificates will be mailed. The book list is on the United Methodist Women website.

Jeanie Boese showed a slide show of the quilts made by women. Quilts are to be blessed locally, even if by Zoom. The local group may choose who to give them to. Send pictures to Jeanie Boese as soon as possible so that they can be added to the future slide show. Plans are being made for Mission U.

The guest speaker was Justin Carpenter. She was the youngest of nine children in her family. She works with undocumented and DACA students at the University of Oregon. DACA stands for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals. One in twelve have an undocumented parent which means that the parent can be deported. DACA students are not eligible for benefits, thus donations support DACA scholarships for the students. We were encouraged to support a Dreamer Scholarship Fund. Justin Carpenter's email address is justcarp@uoregon.edu, in case you would like more information.

Blessings...until we are able to meet...

Co-president Renee' Hansen

Adult Class Resumes Study of Paul



Our Adult Zoom “Sunday School” on Fridays (2:00 – 3:00 pm) will resume our biographical study of the apostle Paul following Easter, on April 16. Professor N. T. Wright uses Paul’s letters and Acts to give new life to the person of Paul.

During the first 6 sessions we covered prior to Lent, we looked at what we were able to learn of Paul’s early life and experiences that led him to make a radical shift in his view of the new Jewish sect which came to be called Christians as he moved from being a fierce persecutor of them to a vocal teacher within the movement. We left off our study as he was just beginning his years of missionary traveling, teaching and writing.

Come join the discussion we have through the Zoom app on your computer, tablet or phone. Contact the church office for an email with the link to the Zoom meeting and to the Amplify Media connection where you will be able to watch the short lecture by Professor Wright. We will begin with Lecture 7 on April 16.

Bert Schniepp



PFLAG Update

PFLAG-Florence will experiment with a Zoom hangout on April 13 at 6:30 p.m. The second Tuesday of the month was the group’s regular meeting time. If the Zoom proves viable, it will be continued monthly until a gathering place can be acquired. One enhancement of the website (www.pflagflorence.org) has been on-line giving link. We also have explained to members that Oregon Central Coast PFLAG (Newport) has Zoom support meetings the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. Check them out on their Facebook Page, where the link and password are published.

Linda Yoder

APRIL

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu



Free Lunch News

On March 26, FUMC completed and passed a virtual inspection of the kitchen by Lane County Environmental Health. Temperatures of sanitizer, refrigerator and freezers are as required. All safety precautions are in place. After some restocking, the kitchen is ready for return to service when an "all clear" is given.

Whereas grants from PeaceHealth Peace Harbor Community Foundation, Salvation Army and United Way of Lane County have exhausted, Free Lunch has been newly awarded a grant from Western Lane Community Foundation which may sustain the Subway voucher program through the summer. Hopefully, Free Lunch can return to making hot soup meals thereafter, even if initially only to-go out the door.

Paula Z



Trustees Report

Repairs to the Fellowship Hall are finally complete. Lane County Public Health Department conducted a virtual inspection of the Fellowship Hall on March 24, and passed (Thank you, Paula Z.).

Future tasks will involve preparing and maintaining our facilities for the eventual (safe) return to in-person worship and use. The Trustees will be seeking volunteers to help with cleaning, sanitizing, and spiffing up our beautiful church; please stay tuned!

Respectfully,
Scott Philben

Fri

Sat



At the March 21 meeting of the Church Council, Diane McCalmont agreed to serve and was elected Chair of the Council for the interim preceding a governance change. The move was to align Florence UMC with Methodist policy that separates a congregation's elected leadership from paid staff. The next meeting of the Church Council, scheduled for Sunday, May 16, will be convened by Diane.

**Florence United
Methodist Church
FINANCES**



February 1-28, 2021:

Receipts: \$ 6,268.56

Expenses: \$ 5,413.19

March income through the 23rd:
\$ 4,369.44

Provided by Kathy Yelle



Birthdays

2	Kathleen Van Balligooijen
6	Laureli Holden
8	Nancy Rickard
9	Renee' Hansen
10	April McCalmont
11	Gerry Cedarleaf-Grey
12	Joey Haines
12	Linda Reeves
16	Frank Van Horn
18	Kevin Brown
21	Lee Smith
25	Kathy Waterman

Anniversaries

3	Dick & Carol Johnson
14	Casey & Sabrina Hand
27	Bruce & May Hadley
30	Glen & Karen Baylis

If I've missed your birthday or anniversary, please send an email to Diane at quiltinggma5@yahoo.com, to let me know.



A Word From Your Lay Leader...

Spring is here! Patti's garden is full of blooming daffodils, crocus, camellias, azaleas, hyacinths, and the tulips are soon to be in full bloom as well. We love to enjoy our morning coffee while walking through the garden. A wonderful way to welcome the day. Sometimes it seems as if the whole garden changed overnight. It reminds me of the Advent season. A time of change, reflection and true anticipation. Spring always makes me aware of all the beauty of God's green earth. Everything seems so fresh, clean and bright. New Life. So nice to leave winter behind and move on to the joys of spring. Summer will be here before we know it.

If you have driven by the church lately, the calla lilies are just beautiful. Speaking of the church, the flower beds could use some weeding and edging. If anyone would like help spruce the yard up, just call Renee' Hansen at 541-997-5211.

The exterior of the church has been painted and the interior of the fellowship hall has light fixture replacements and a new paint job. Fresh flower beds would enhance the exterior upgrade of the Sanctuary. A welcoming sight....

With spring in mind, what about our Nurture Team! Beautiful cards being sent to those who could use a bright spot in their day, and thanks to Donna Embree, each contains a heartfelt personal note. What a sweetheart and a blessing to our congregation. And, what a wonderful way to bring in spring with the beautiful Spring Baskets left on doorsteps, by the Nurture Team lead, Kathy Waterman. These contributions lift so many hearts for those who could use a touch of God's goodness. We are so happy Jim and Kathy Waterman have moved to Florence, permanently.

I hope all of you have received your vaccine. Rest assured the Re-Imagining Team is working hard to prepare for worship in our Sanctuary. Many challenges are being addressed as we strive to insure a safe worship environment is provided. Plans and protocols for reopening are being reviewed by Pastor Karen and our District Superintendent. Hard to believe it has been a year since we worshipped together and enjoyed visiting with one another in the fellowship hall. Virtual church has its place, but can't compare to the real thing. I don't know when hugs will be allowed, but I'm ready for one. How about you?

So, until we meet again for worship, wear your mask, wash your hands and GET YOUR VACCINE! We will be together soon.

Blessings.

Patt Rollins



**EcoGeneration will be having another
Recycling Take-back (plastics collection)**

Sunday, May 2, 2021

11:00 am-12 noon: Elderly and Disabled

12 noon-2:00 pm General Public

Our church helps sponsor this event.

Please continue to save your plastic!

Also...

The City of Florence will be doing a pilot program on home composting. They will be providing households with one of three different home composters and in return asking for feedback on how well they work and composting methods that seem to work well in our area.

The Green Mountain Landfill (Lane County's landfill) produces a lot of methane, a powerful greenhouse gas. There is a big push to get organics, in other words yard waste and food waste, out of the landfill. One of the ways to accomplish this is with home composting.

If this pilot program is successful, the City may expand the program. The final details have not been worked out, but it is hoped the project can be launched by Earth Day. Stay tuned!

Vicki Philben

Go Camping

At this point, most of the Camp Ministries locations have online leadership trainings scheduled in April. This is to prepare camp volunteer leaders for protocol and safety as camps are able to open back up.

Wallowa Lake Camp and Suttle Lake Camp have adult camps scheduled in June and August respectively.

Other camps may be scheduled as our Bishop and state governors allow.

Diane

Update...

Pat Balzell is now at Spruce Point (375 9th St.) in Room 202. She can have visitors, two at a time, in her room. Visitors must wear masks and social distance. Her phone number is 541-991-3477.

She misses everyone and would love to see people.

Rosie



Electronic Giving

We continue to offer on-line giving through our trusted church partner, Vanco, using its secure website. To assure security, the church's website www.florenceunitedmethodist.org is the only portal to online giving. If you have any questions, contact lindayoder@hotmail.com.

Linda Yoder

Directory Updates...

Although we had hoped to do regular on-line monthly updates of the Directory, we are considering a new format and a new focus for this project. In the meantime, we will post in the newsletter changes as we learn them. If you know of a member or friend of Florence UMC who has moved or changed phone number or address, let Nurture Chair Kathy Waterman know (phone: 661-472-0855, email kathywaterman10@gmail.com) and she will collect further information. If you yourself have a change in phone number, address, or email, simply call the church at 541-997-6015 (leave a message) or email florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org. If you need a print copy of the last directory (issued December 15, 2020), contact Linda Yoder (phone: 541-590-0944, email: lindayoder@hotmail.com).

Noteworthy News...

Home Touch

Home Touch materials continue to be available online and in hard copy. If you've received copies by mail in the past, this will continue unless you request to be taken off the list. If you do not receive these resources, but would like to have them, please contact lindayoder@hotmail.com or 541-590-0944.

Amplify Videos

If you haven't tried Amplify Media, the subscription for which the church has paid, and have forgotten the directions to do an initial log-in, you'll need to use the church access code, which is ZRGHYB. Questions? Contact lindayoder@hotmail.com. We don't want anyone to miss out on a fabulous resource, especially one we use extensively for Adult Sunday School.

Church Service DVDs Available

If you don't use the Internet, we can mail you a DVD of the service. Call Linda Yoder 541-590-0944 for copies.

APRIL NEWSLETTER



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Sunday Worship: virtual
Office Phone: (541) 997-6025
florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org
Online: www.florenceunitedmethodist.org
Directory Update
Do we have your current address,
phone number, and e-mail address?
Please forward them to:
florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org
If you do not wish to receive this
Newsletter please notify the church office.