

Florence United Methodist Church

Tide-ings 2021



December Newsletter

Florence United Methodist Church
333 Kingwood, Florence, OR 97439

Office: (541) 997-6025

Sunday Worship:
Sunday Services: 10:30 am



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's Advent . . . once again. Ancient traditions, new experiences in Advent 2021. The new experience is that we are in the second winter of this global COVID-19 pandemic and the US stock market is at the lowest point of the year because of the emergence of a new variant of the coronavirus in South Africa. We don't know yet how this winter and this Advent season will unfold.

But irregardless of what is going on in the outer world, the inner world of our own faith community, of our own celebration of the old, old story that transforms our story . . . we begin our journey to Bethlehem for Christmas 2021.

Our plans this year are humble. Simple. Pared down from years past. But faithful. Expectant. Grateful, no matter what is coming. Because there have always been unfortunate, unwanted, unexpected events that have plagued our world since the first arrival of the Christ Child in the manger in Bethlehem over 2000 years ago.

But nonetheless, we persist, we persevere, we trust. We know how the story ends. God wins. Love triumphs. Life is eternal. Because of God's goodness and good will, we wait in this season of Advent. We trust. We know there will be the sound of rejoicing soon.

Love and blessings,

Pastor Karen



Keeping in Our Prayers

Donna Embree and her daughter, Barbara; Teresa Roscoe and her son's wife and daughter; Carolyn Munson; Ray Feay; Sandy Woodward; Tim & Carol Salisbury; Laura Merz; Hazel Vacura; Jasmin Crump; Pat Balzell; Jonathan Yoder; Reverend Karen; Peggy Simington; Kathleen Wenzel; John & Lila Hyder; Georgia Garrett; Betty Cline; Ursula Sears; Jean Parr; Janice Bell; Gerry & Nancy Cedarleaf-Grey; The McCalmont family: Patrick, Diane, & April.

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.



Opportunities for you to sign up to serve in the areas of providing church flowers, cleaning the sanctuary, ushering, and liturgist are available again beginning. The sign-up clipboards will not be passed around but will be available by the front-door entry.





United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMWomen News

It appears that UNITED METHODIST WOMEN can finally get together in the Tedd Powell Hall on Wednesday December 1. It will be a Hallelujah moment! Meeting time is 1:00 p.m. and a mask is necessary.

If you missed giving to the World Thank Offering last month, donations will be accepted. It's the end of the year and decisions will be made to spend down the treasury, a feel good kind of task.

Jean Hefty will share a devotional thought and the Exec Board, as hostesses, will provide seasonal refreshments for members to take home. Come share in the celebration of being women, united again.

After voting twenty months ago on who the recipients would be, special membership pins were presented to Diane McCalmont and Brooke Shafer during the worship time on Nov. 21. With appreciation, their contributions within the community and life of the church family were recognized.

Jean Hefty



Choir Rehearsal ???!

For the first time since February 2020, the choir may assemble. We hope to meet on Thursday, December 16, at 4:30 p.m. to practice and record (video and audio) for the Christmas Eve service. We will use health protocols pursuant to the threat level at the time. Stay tuned.





Adult Sunday School Moves Back to In Person Adult Sunday School Meets Joseph

As you read this, Advent has begun. The Adult Sunday School class will be spending Advent's 4 weeks (the Sundays between Thanksgiving and Christmas) with Adam Hamilton in a study he calls "Faithful" about Joseph, the earthly father of Jesus.

Most years at this time of year we hear much of Mary, shepherds, wise men, and the animals around the baby's manger. But it seems seldom do we hear much of Joseph, although he undoubtedly had much to do in parenting Jesus as he grew from the babe in the manger to beginning his earthly ministry.

Come join us to spend a bit of time thinking about just how Joseph may have been helping to raise the Son of God to become the Savior we follow today. We meet at 9:15 am in the Sanctuary each Sunday morning where we watch a video presentation and discuss the thoughts and inspirations that it brings forth to us. All adults are welcome any Sunday.

Bert Schniepp

PFLAG

PFLAG-Florence expects to meet virtually in December via Zoom meeting on Tuesday, December 14 at 6:30. Check us out on Facebook or www.pflagflorenceoregon.org for information.



We're also accepting new membership applications. Just email pflagflo@gmail.com.

Linda Yoder



***Reverse Advent Calendar -
Get Your Boxes Ready!***

***"And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in
the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the
Father through him."
Colossians 3:17***

On Saturday, November 20, I was able to go to Cindy Wobbe's Annual Food Share "Pounding" at Grocery Outlet. It was quite an operation, and I had the privilege of donating turkeys, potatoes, apples, and bread. All in all our donation netted 101 pounds for Food Share. Our church also has a Food Share barrel in the foyer where members can place food for those in need. Patt Rollins says that when our barrel is full it also warrants 70 to 80 pounds of food! Wow!

Last year, the Nurture Committee sponsored a ***Reverse Advent Calendar***. Advent starts after Thanksgiving and most Advent calendars are made to open a window and receive something; however, with our ***Reverse Advent Calendar***, an item of food or a necessity is placed into a box each day of Advent for Food Share. At the end of Advent, we will have a wonderful selection of boxes filled with not only food, but love for Food Share. Feel free to decorate your boxes if you so desire. I know we had fun doing our box last year.

Here is a list of items especially needed for Food Share: peanut butter, canned meat (tuna, chili), canned fruit, canned vegetables, sugar, potatoes, oatmeal, mac-in-cheese, flour, canned soup, canned tomatoes, coffee, milk, eggs, dog food, and diapers.

We would like you to deliver your boxes to Food Share before Christmas. If you need someone to deliver your box for you, please call me, Kathryn Waterman at 661-472-0855 or Bert Schniepp at 661-319-3891. Make sure you let Food Share know that the donation is from ***Florence United Methodist Church!***

With Gratitude,

Kathryn Waterman,
Nurture Committee



United Methodist Men

Our United Methodist Men's fellowship group continues to meet each Thursday morning at 8:00 am at Fresh Harvest Restaurant on Hwy 101.

All men of the church are welcome to join us to praise God and enjoy fellowship together.

Bert Schniepp

Gift Certificate Program

Even though the promotional period with increased rebates has ended, it's not too late to purchase gift certificates that give a kickback to the church.

Here's how it works:

- ⇒ Contact Cindy Hughes to check if the gift certificates you want to purchase are available
- ⇒ She will order the certificates, print them out, and have them to you the next Sunday.
- ⇒ Give Cindy a check (made payable to the church).

The church earns 2-10% on each certificate you purchase. Those little amounts can add up quickly and really help with our expenses.

If you have any questions, give Cindy a call at (541) 902-0197 or email her at: lucindagh@gmail.com.



DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
			1 UMWomen 1:00pm in the Tedd Powell Hall	2 8:00am UMMen
5 Adult Sun School 9:15am Church Service 10:30am	6	7	8	9 8:00am UMMen
12 Adult Sun School 9:15am Church Service 10:30am	13	14 6:30pm PFLAG via Zoom	15 10:00am UMW Executive Board meeting	16 8:00am UMMen 4:30pm Christmas Choir rehearsal and video taping
19 Adult Sun School 9:15am Church Service 10:30am	20	21	22 4:00pm Blue Christ- mas Service, New Life Lutheran Church	23 8:00am UMMen
26 No Adult Sunday School Church Service 10:30am	27 5:00pm-Newsletter Deadline	28	29	30 8:00am UMMen



Fri	Sat
3	4
10	11
17	18
24 2:00pm Christmas Eve Family Service at FUMC	25
31 New Year's Eve	

Birthdays

- 2 Tom Pfeiffer
- 3 Peggy Hughes
- 6 Brad Anderson
- 11 Nicolai Ramsey
- 19 Jesse Holden
- 20 Georgia Garrett
- 21 Janice Bell
- 23 Mike Bones
- 26 Eileen Beck
- 30 Jacob Wenzel
- 31 Annie Van Horn
- 31 John Hyder

Anniversaries

- 4 Mike & Kathy Bones
- 21 Jim & Kathy Waterman
- 23 Terry & Kathleen Van Balligooijen



If I've missed your birthday or anniversary, please send an email to Diane at quiltingma5@yahoo.com, to let me know.



Trustees Report

The international/national/local supply chain issues are affecting our ongoing kitchen remodel in the Fellowship Hall.

New cupboards and cabinets have been installed. During the tear out of the old cabinets, it was discovered that the plumbing in the kitchen had fallen into severe disrepair and so has been updated. The water heater that somehow lasted almost 40 years was also replaced. Did I mention that the sinks were rusting out as well? New sinks and faucets are on hand, but we are still waiting for the custom countertops to be fabricated (materials not available) before the sinks and (new) garbage disposal can be installed.

At this point in time, we don't know when we will be able to open the kitchen again. Thanks for your patience...

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Philben
Chair-Board of Trustees

Florence United Methodist Church

FINANCES



October 1-31, 2021: Receipts: \$ 5,008.47
 Expenses: \$ 7,322.93
November income through the 22nd: \$ 3,027.12

Provided by Kathy Yelle



Sunday School For All Ages!

Beginning as soon as the Fellowship Hall is completed, we are planning to open Sunday School classes for everyone! Here's the plan:

All classes will meet at 9:15am for a dedicated hour of study, activities, and games.

The youngest class at this time will be 8 to 11 yr. olds. (these are approximate ages and a new class will be formed if younger children begin coming)

We have one volunteer teacher at this time who has committed to 1-2 classes a month. (Thank you Judy Jones!) More teachers are needed, so I ask that you search your "calling" and if the Lord would have you help out here, please let me know.

The youth class will be for 12 yr. olds to teens. Kathy Bones has agreed to teach this class full time. (Yay, Kathy!)

The adult class will be for all others and will be led by our faithful leader, Rev. Bert Schniepp. (We so appreciate you Bert!) The style of this class is friendly for all adults no matter your Bible knowledge or experience. A short video clip is usually presented at the class beginning and volunteer discussion led by Bert afterwards. We hope you'll give this class a try.

Worship Services will follow Sunday School at 10:30am as usual, and there will be no children's church.

If you want to bring children who do not fit these age-groups, please let me know. I'm confident God will show us the way to extend our plan!

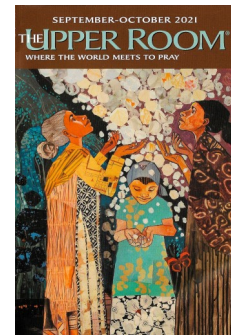
Please call me or stop me in church with your questions, suggestions, or willingness to help out. I'm excited and I hope you are too!!

Peggy Hughes, Chairman Christian Education
541-902-0197

Noteworthy News...

Home Touch & Upper Room

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. Similarly, if you receive only an online copy, but would like to have a printed version, please contact lindayoder@hotmail.com or 541-590-0944.



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.

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 small groups.



Go Camping

gocamping.org

From the November 24, 2021 Go Camping E-Newsletter:

Gratitude Poll

A recent Gratitude Poll asks this question: Which gratitude practice speaks to you?

1. Don't be picky: appreciate everything
2. Find gratitude in your challenges
3. Practice mindfulness
4. Keep a gratitude journal
5. Volunteer
6. Express yourself
7. Spend time with loved ones
8. Improve your happiness in other areas of your life

It's amazing how many of these practices are already incorporated into camp & retreat ministries. Oddly, though, the list doesn't include one of the most significant gratitude practices: giving financial gifts that support the people and programs that have blessed your life. If you count camps and retreats as one of your blessings, we urge you to practice gratitude by (making a donation to Camp & Retreat Ministries).

Donate online at gocamping.org, or send a check by mail to:

Camp & retreat Ministries
1505 SW 18th Ave.
Portland, OR 97201



A Prayer for Christmas Eve

Loving Father, help us remember the birth of Jesus, that we may share in the song of the angels, the gladness of the shepherds, and worship of the wise men. Close the door of hate and open the door of love all over the world. Let kindness come with every gift and good desires with every greeting. Deliver us from evil by the blessing which Christ brings, and teach us to be merry with clear hearts. May the Christmas morning make us happy to be thy children, and Christmas evening bring us to our beds with grateful thoughts, forgiving and forgiven, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

—Robert Louis Stevenson



Recipe Corner

Christmas Pinwheel Cookies

(Makes 2 doz.)

Ingredients:

2 1/4 cup all-purpose flour
1 tsp. baking powder
1/2 tsp. kosher salt
2 sticks butter, softened
1 cup granulated sugar
1 large egg
3/4 tsp. almond extract
Red food coloring
Sprinkles (red, green, white)



Directions:

1. In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, and salt. In a large bowl using a hand mixer (or in the bowl of a stand mixer, fitted with a paddle attachment), beat butter and sugar together. Add egg and beat until incorporated, then add extract. Add dry ingredients and beat until just combined.
2. Divide dough in half, keeping one half in mixing bowl. Add red food coloring and mix until desired color is reached. Shape each dough into a square that is roughly 1/2" thick. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate until firm, about 30 minutes.
3. Place red dough between two sheets of parchment paper and roll into a rectangle that's about 1/4" thick. Repeat with white dough. Take top sheet of parchment paper off of each dough. Place red dough on top of white dough, dough sides facing each other. Gently press on top of dough to help seal together.
4. Remove top parchment paper and trim sides to match up evenly. Starting on a long side, use the bottom parchment paper to help roll dough tightly in to a log. Roll log on the counter a few times to help seal the edge. Wrap in plastic wrap and refrigerate until firm, at least 1 hour and up to overnight.
5. Preheat oven to 350°. Line 2 large baking sheets with parchment paper. Place sprinkles on a medium plate. Using a sharp knife, slice cookies 1/2" thick and roll edges in sprinkles. Place on baking sheets 2" apart.
6. Bake until edges are set and just starting to turn golden, 10 minutes.

DECEMBER NEWSLETTER



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Sunday Worship: 10:30 am
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.