

*Florence United Methodist Church*



## December Newsletter

Florence United Methodist Church  
333 Kingwood, Florence, OR 97439

Office: (541) 997-6025

[florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org](mailto:florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org)

Visit us at [www.florenceunitedmethodist.org](http://www.florenceunitedmethodist.org)



### Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Serving the People of God:

District Superintendent: Rev. John Tucker

Pastor: Reverend Logan McLean Strike

Lay Leader: Patt Rollins

SPRC Chair: Patti Johnson

Finance Chair: Terry Woodward

Ministers: All Members

Newsletter Editor: Diane McCalmont

**Pastor Logan:**

cell: 406-839-1756

email: [logan.m.strike@gmail.com](mailto:logan.m.strike@gmail.com)





## *Keeping in Our Prayers*

Patt Rollins; Betty Livingston; family and friends of George Hesser, Betty Cline, Janice Bell, and Nancy Cedarleaf-Grey; Joey Munson; Judy Jones and family; Jean & Bob Hefty; Donna Embree and daughter, Barbara; Ray Feay; Aaron Gallegos; Sandy Woodward; Laura Merz; Hazel Vacura; Jasmin Crump; Jonathan Yoder; Peggy Simington; Kathleen Wenzel; John & Lila Hyder; Georgia Garrett; Ursula Sears; Jean Parr; Patrick McCalmont.

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

For healing blessings on families across our nation who have lost loved ones to gun violence.

For blessings and mercy on the people of Ukraine.

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:** To receive the electronic prayer chain, contact [kathywaterman10@gmail.com](mailto:kathywaterman10@gmail.com).



During December, there will be a basket available during worship for you to drop gifts/letters of thanks and farewell for Linda Yoder. Her last day is January 1.



### Office Hours

Regular business office hours are now Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The church also will be open from 1 to 2 p.m. on Saturdays for flower delivery and setup for Sundays.



United  
Women  
in Faith

### United Women in Faith News

Oh my, it's almost the end of 2022! For the last time this year members of UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH aka UNITED METHODIST WOMEN are

invited to come together on Wednesday, **December 7** in the Tedd Powell Fellowship Hall. Plan to arrive by **1:00p.m.** to share refreshments provided by the Executive Team. At this meeting officers for 2023 will be installed by Donna Embree who is retiring from multiple years of service to the unit.

While the official collection of non-edible items for Food Share is over, know that all year long toiletries, etc., along with food, can be placed in the barrel in the church entry.

An abundance of baked goods, candy, and jam prepared by a handful of women brought in a good sum of money in November, which will add joy at year's end when the unit "spends down the treasury". Total amount received was \$1,055! Bonus gifts will be considered to local and national groups that work with children, youth and women.

New members are welcomed. If you subscribe to the purpose you can be part of the group; church membership is not required. "The organized unit of United Women in Faith shall be a community of women whose Purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church."

Jean Hefty, Secretary

Christmas  Services

**Christmas Eve Candlelight Service  
at FUMC, 4:00 p.m.**

**Christmas Day Service with  
New Life Lutheran Church,  
10:30 a.m.**

**At New Life Lutheran Church**

**If you would like to help adorn  
the sanctuary with poinsettias,  
please bring them to the church  
on Thursday, Dec. 22, between  
9:30 a.m. and 1:30 p.m.**



## FREE LUNCH UPDATE PLEA FOR VOLUNTEERS



The Free Lunch program has been very busy. We usually serve between 35 and 50 bowls every Tuesday and Thursday. We are very grateful for the many organizations that assist. Free Lunch is not just for needy people. It is a *community* kitchen, not a soup kitchen, and everyone is invited. Come have lunch with us.

December is always a busy month, but we need another cook for the Methodists' day to serve, which is **December 20**. We also need someone to open and close up on Thursday, **December 22**, and Tuesday, **December 27**. To close, all that really needs to be done is to make sure everything is turned off, and lock the door. Help with cleanup is optional.

If you are able to volunteer, please contact Vicki Philben at 530-355-7771 or [devil2pay1863@gmail.com](mailto:devil2pay1863@gmail.com).



## Church Council Meeting

Friday, December 9  
3:00 p.m. via Zoom

## PFLAG News

PFLAG will meet again on the second Tuesday of the month, December 13, in the church fellowship hall at 6:30 p.m. We'll have another program from PFLAG Academy and discuss recent news events.



PFLAG-Florence, which was launched in 2011 by members of our church, invites you to join us when we meet (refreshments are always served) and to consider becoming a member, which gives you links to the national organization.

Linda Yoder



## Adult Class Advent Study Continues

The Adult Sunday School class in December will carry on with looking at “All I Want For Christmas” as we continue to identify gifts God has given us. Following the gifts of “Good News” and “New Understanding,” we will find gifts of “A Strong Foundation,” a “New Style of Living,” and “Gifts to Pass On To Others.”

We will not meet on Christmas Day or New Years Day, both of which fall on Sunday this year. In January we will begin a new series by one of our favorite speakers, Amy -Jill Levine, about Jesus’ “Signs and Wonders.”

We begin each week at 9:30 am in the Church Sanctuary, viewing a short video, and move to the side room following the video for our discussion until 10.30. All adults are welcome to join us.

Bert Schniepp

## Gift Certificates for the Holidays



Did you know that you can purchase gift certificates through the church? Yep, and the church gets a little kick-back on each one purchased (a rebate of 1-20%). You can choose gift certificates for national online stores like Target, Walmart, or Amazon (and many more), chain restaurants like Applebee’s and Outback, or even pay for part (or all!) of someone’s cruise!

And it is easy-peasy, as they say. Just ask Cindy Hughes if the company you want to purchase from is in our rebate program. There are literally hundreds of possibilities.

Decide which gift certificates you want, from which companies, and in what amount. Let Cindy know and she will print them out for you. Then just pay for them with a check made out to the church.

If you have any questions, please contact Cindy at [lucindagh@gmail.com](mailto:lucindagh@gmail.com) or 541-902-0197.

P.S. The only downside is that there are only a few Florence businesses on the list. They are: Burger King, Dominos, Pizza Hut, Safeway, Sears, Starbucks, and Subway.



## **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 19, 2022, Cindy Wobbe’s Annual Food Share “Pounding “at Grocery Outlet, netted 22,000 lbs of food! This October, Colin Morgan, Executive Director for Florence Food Share stated that 887 boxes were distributed to our community. Our church also has a Food Share Barrel in the foyer where members can place food for those in need. Patt Rawlins says that when our barrel is full it also warrants 70 to 80 pounds of food! Additionally, shopping at Safeway you can donate \$1.00, \$5.00, or \$10.00 for holiday meals which is also for our local community.

The Nurture Committee has a tradition of sponsoring 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 non-edible 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. Morgan also stated that items for holiday meals would be appreciated.

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 541-902-1364. Make sure you let Food Share know that the donation is from **Florence United Methodist Church**.

With Gratitude,  
Kathryn Waterman  
Nurture Committee

# DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
				<b>1</b> 8:30am UMMen 9:30am-1:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch 2:00-3:00pm Homeschooling Science C
<b>4</b> 9:30am Sunday School 11:00am Church Svce Coffee Fellowship after service	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b> 9:30am-1:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch 5:00pm SPRC mtg	<b>7</b> <b>1:00pm Women in Faith mtg</b>	<b>8</b> 8:30am UMMen 9:30am-1:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch 2:00-3:00pm Homeschooling Science C
<b>11</b> 9:30am Sunday School 11:00am Church Svce with Rev. Dr. Scott Allen	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b> 9:30am-1:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch <b>6:30pm PFLAG</b>	<b>14</b> <b>10:00am-Noon Prayer Shawl Ministry</b>	<b>15</b> 8:30am UMMen 9:30am-1:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch 2:00-3:00pm Homeschooling Science C
<b>18</b> 9:30am Sunday School 11:00am Church Svce	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b> 9:30am-1:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	<b>21</b> <b>5:30pm All-Church Potluck</b> <b>6:15-7:00pm Choir Practice</b>	<b>22</b> 8:30am UMMen 9:30am-1:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch 2:00-3:00pm Homeschooling Science C
<b>25 Christmas Day!</b>  <b>10:30am Christmas Service with and at New Life Lutheran Church</b>	<b>26</b> <b>5pm Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>27</b> 9:30am-1:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b> 8:30am UMMen 9:30am-1:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch 2:00-3:00pm Homeschooling Science C





	Fri	Sat
e Hrs chool lass	<b>2</b> 4:00-5:00pm Rocket Art Class	<b>3</b>
e Hrs chool lass	<b>9</b> 3:00pm Church Council Mtg via Zoom	<b>10</b>
e Hrs chool lass	<b>16</b> 4:00-6:00pm Advent party & Housewarming at the Parsonage	<b>17</b>
e Hrs chool lass	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b> 4:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service
e Hrs chool lass	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>

### Birthdays

- 2 Tom Pfeiffer
- 3 Peggy Hughes
- 6 Brad Anderson
- 11 Nicolai Ramsey
- 19 Jesse Holden
- 20 Georgia Garrett
- 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.

**Florence United Methodist Church**  
**FINANCES**



October 1-31, 2022:    Receipts: \$ 8,699.70  
   Expenses: \$ 7,655.73

November 2022 income through the 25th : \$ 5,683.60

Provided by Kathy Yelle, Treasurer



Our church service was graced with a group of fun and mischievous “saints” on October 30!

L to R: Carol, Peggy S, Rosie, Peggy W, Judy, Karen

Honorary “saints,” Barbara and Donna!





### **A Word for Our Lay Leader...**

As we begin the wondrous season of advent and the quickly approaching new year, I want to acknowledge Patt Rollins for her service as our Lay Leader over the past several years..

A global pandemic - what a challenging time to navigate keeping our faith family together! Week after week, Patt met congregants to record their greetings for the Sunday online services and made many, many phone calls to check in with us while we were homebound.

Prior to our reopening she worked hard with others to determine the right time to reopen and to make sure the air quality and environment within our buildings was as safe as possible. After our return, Patt met us with her smiling face and words of greeting and encouragement.

Throughout this time her monthly newsletter contribution was written from the heart. Her words were always relevant and a source of comfort and inspiration. She also took calls from many of us who had questions and concerns that needed to be shared and addressed.

Patt is a woman full of grace and compassion who shares fully of herself; I am thankful for her dedicated service to our "small but mighty church".

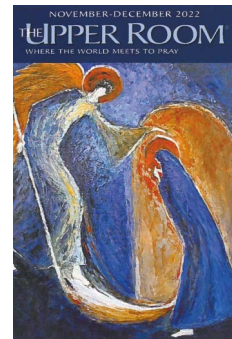
Patt, we keep you in our prayers for a speedy recovery from your recent surgery, look forward to your return to church and thank you for your service within this Body of Christ.

Wishing you peace,  
Kathy Yelle, Governing Board Chair - Elect

noteworthy

## Home Touch

If you're on the list to receive the most recent Home Touch devotionals and puzzles, you were able pick them up in the Narthex or they were mailed to you November 27. If you have not received them or you'd like to be added to the mailing list, contact [lindayoder@hotmail.com](mailto:lindayoder@hotmail.com) or text 541-590-0944.



## Online Contributions

Don't forget that you may make contributions to the church online via trusted ministry partner Vanco. Florence UMC already receives more than \$1,000 per month electronically, a number that has been steadily growing since the launch of the service in 2020. A link on our website takes you off our own site and onto Vanco's secure giving portal, providing transactional integrity. Email, write to, or call the church for instructions. [florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org](mailto:florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org), 333 Kingwood St., 541-997-6025

## 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](mailto:lindayoder@hotmail.com). We don't want anyone to miss out on a fabulous resource, especially one we use extensively for small groups.

## Changes in Online Worship

As we continue to experiment with recording methods, we invite your comments and suggestions. If you do not have an Internet connection, we continue to make DVDs available. Contact [lindayoder@hotmail.com](mailto:lindayoder@hotmail.com) or text 541-590-0944 to be placed on the DVD mailing list.

**Scenes from the  
FUMC Thanksgiving Potluck  
November 16, 2022**



## Bottle Drop for Campers

Florence UMC's account with the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) "Bottle Drop" has collected roughly **\$585** as of November 25.



The program allows everyone who has one of our tagged bags to contribute the value of their returnable deposit bottles and cans to the church, in support of camper-ships.

You fill a tagged bag and take it to the "drop" at Fred Meyer. OBRC counts the contents and credits the church.

If you would like a tagged bag mailed to you, email Linda Yoder at [lindayoder@hotmail.com](mailto:lindayoder@hotmail.com) or text a message to 541-590-0944. The bag will come with instructions.



The church directory will be updated in December for a January 1 release. Let us know if you need a new photograph or you have had, or know someone who has had, a change of address, telephone number or email. You can provide your own photos or have them taken at the office on Tuesdays or Thursdays during business hours 9:30-1:30, or on Saturdays 1-2 p.m. As publication time approaches, you can volunteer to help assemble the booklets.

Linda Yoder




## Away in a Manger

Away in a manger,  
no crib for a bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid  
down His sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky  
looked down where He lay,  
The little Lord Jesus  
asleep on the hay.

The cattle are lowing,  
the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus,  
no crying He makes.  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus,  
look down from the sky,  
And stay by my cradle  
till morning is nigh.

Be near me, Lord Jesus,  
I ask Thee to stay  
Close by me forever,  
and love me, I pray.  
Bless all the dear children  
in Thy tender care,  
And take us to heaven to  
live with Thee there.



**MERRY CHRISTMAS**

# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

---



**Florence United Methodist Church**

333 Kingwood St., Florence, OR 97439

Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.

Office Phone: (541) 997-6025

[florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org](mailto:florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org)

Online: [www.florenceunitedmethodist.org](http://www.florenceunitedmethodist.org)

**Directory Update**

Do we have your current address,  
phone number, and e-mail address?

Please forward them to:

[florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org](mailto:florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org)

If you do **not** wish to receive this  
Newsletter, please notify the church office.