

*Florence United Methodist Church*

# *Tide-ings* 2023



## 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: 10:30 a.m.

Serving the People of God:

District Superintendent: Rev. John Tucker

Pastor: Reverend Logan McLean Strike

Governing Board Chair: Kathy Yelle

Trustees Chair: Scott Philben

SPRC Chair: Jim Waterman

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)

## Logan's Lines

*Longing for light, we wait in darkness. Longing for truth, we  
turn to you. Make us your own, your holy people, light for  
the world to see...*

*"Christ Be Our Light", music and text by Bernadette Farrell, 1957.*



Patty Evans told me a story about a rural church and of the people, so small, that its sanctuary's sole purpose was a gathering space for worship. As a result, the building had what you'd expect: a simple table and lectern, well-worn pews, and hymnals. Things like electricity were of less importance, if you can believe it! Instead, the people brought their own light. Each Sunday, the people would bring their candles and set them in the sconces. The light on any given Sunday was dependent on whether or not the people came, light in tow. If people were plenty, so was the light. If the people were few, the light shone, though dimly.

I love this imagery for the church. Separately, we each shine our light outside our walls, but it is of importance that we gather together on Sundays so that we might be a bright beacon for Florence—and for the world! The light of Christ shines through our lives and our collective ministry here. The light of Christ will be our theme and our anchor this advent season. Whenever you turn on your lights or light your candles to warm your home, think on the marvelous mystery of Christ coming to us—as light, as a vulnerable baby, as our peace and our hope. May God illumine your night in these days.

With you, candle in tow,

Rev. Logan McLean Strike

### **Pastor Logan's Schedule:**

Pastor Logan's office hours: Tuesdays and Fridays  
You may reach her on her cell at: 406-839-1756  
or by email at: [logan.m.strike@gmail.com](mailto:logan.m.strike@gmail.com)

Pastor Logan will be working most Saturdays at the hospital.



### *Keeping in Our Prayers*

Stephen and Terese Williams; family and friends of Tom Pfeiffer; Scott Philben; Carolyn Munson; Lee & Trina Smith; Karen Baylis; Bert & Linda Schniepp; Betty Livingston; Judy Jones and family; Donna Embree and daughter, Barbara; Ray Feay; Aaron Gallegos; Sandy Woodward; Laura Merz; Hazel Vacura; John & Lila Hyder; Georgia Garrett; Ursula Sears; Patrick McCalmont; April 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).



*Tom Pfeiffer - Service of Remembrance*

*Saturday, December 2, 2023*

*11:00 a.m.*

*Reception to follow*

**Cards may be sent to 2374 Onyx St, Eugene, OR 97403**



United  
Women  
in Faith

### United Women in Faith News

In celebration of an active year, **United Women in Faith** will gather in the Tedd Powell Hall on **Wednesday, December 6.**

The Executive Team is hosting and will be ready to serve at **1 p.m.** Renee' Hansen has the devotions. With the need to carry only a small balance in the treasury into the next year, decisions will be made for extra giving. Criteria used for "spending down the treasury" requires that projects benefit women, children and youth. Come, offer suggestions and spend!!

Last month members chose officers for 2024 with the following women comprising the Executive Team: Judy Jones, Renee' Hansen, Diane McCalmont, Sharon Gallagher, Yola Hesser, & Rosie Goodwin.

Jean Hefty, Secretary

#### **INVITATIONS:**

- ♥ Harmony UMC in Coos Bay is announcing their Advent Tea on December 2 starting at 2 p.m. Can you go?
- ♥ Sharon Gallagher is entertaining in her home in Greentrees on December 9 at 1 p.m. All women invited.

### UMM Breakfasts...



**The United Methodist men meet on Thursdays, 8:30am, Fresh Harvest Café on Hwy 101.**

**All men welcome and encouraged to come enjoy the time of breakfast and fellowship.**

Bert Schniepp

## White Elephant Exchange



**Monday, December 11, 2023**  
**6:30 – 8 p.m.**  
**Florence United Methodist Church**

## PFLAG to Hold Holiday White Elephant Party

PFLAG kicks off Christmas with its annual “White Elephant” gift exchange on **Monday, December 11, at 6:30 p.m.** in the Fellowship Hall. **This reflects a change in regular meeting dates to the second Monday (rather than Tuesday) of the month.**

A “White Elephant” exchange is a way to give and get a gift by drawing a number and selecting a wrapped present on a table or “taking” a gift from someone who’s already made a selection. We limit our “gifts” to an item under \$5, or something fun you find around the house and want to “unload.” Just wrap it up, bring it in, and take your turn choosing a wrapped item brought by someone else – or taking a gift won by and already unwrapped by another. Bring a friend. Our meetings are always free and there are always refreshments. If you don’t have a gift, don’t let that stop you from coming. We always have “extras.”

Our membership year began in October. Dues are \$30 per year. Membership is not required to be active in the group. It’s simply PFLAG’s way of continuing to provide support and education in the community. We are not a lobbying group, but a 501(c)3 charitable organization. All donations, including dues, are tax-deductible.

You can send a check to PFLAG-Florence at P.O. Box 1074, Florence, OR 97439 or use the PayPal secure link at the bottom of the home page on our website, [www.pflagflorenceoregon.org](http://www.pflagflorenceoregon.org).

Linda Yoder



## Adult Sunday School for December

Come join us as we begin following "The Journey" through the Holy Land from Nazareth to Bethlehem with Mary and Joseph as they are traveling to fulfill a Roman census requirement during the Roman occupation of the Holy Land. Narrated by Adam Hamilton, we get to see the actual places where the events we read of occurred and learn how life in the small villages of Israel was lived by people of the first century. It was not only a life-changing journey for that family, but perhaps could be for you as well.

We begin each week with a short video presentation as we meet in the Sanctuary at 9:00 am each Sunday morning. We then adjourn to a smaller room for our discussion which we finish in plenty of time for 10:30 am Worship.

Bert Schniepp



## DECEMBER

Date	Liturgist	Usher/ Greeter	Counters	Flowers
3	Cindy Hughes	Caroline Mesman	Sharon G and Peggy H	Bruce & May Hadley
10	Sharon Gallagher	Peggy Simington	Diane M and Caroline M	
17	Jim Waterman	Patty Evans	Nancy R and Peggy S	Amanda Sarles
24	Kathy Waterman	Ray and Aaron	Susie B and Patty E	
31	Stephen Williams	Rosie Goodwin	Diane M and Caroline M	
December Coffee Hour: Bert & Linda Schniepp				

## 🎵 Choir Notes 🎵



Practices scheduled in December:

- Saturday, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup> no practice
- Saturday, Dec 9<sup>th</sup> 1:30 - 2:30 pm - Practice
- Saturday, Dec 16<sup>th</sup> 1:30 - 2:30 pm - Practice
- Saturday, Dec 23<sup>rd</sup> 1:30 - 2:30 pm - Practice (May adjust time to accommodate Christmas plans, etc.)
- Sunday, Dec 24<sup>th</sup> - Sing in evening church service - time TBD

Amanda Sarles  
Music Teacher  
Florence, Oregon  
missamandalouise@hotmail.com



# PALS




**PALS**

**1:00-3:00 p.m. Fridays  
Tedd Powell Fellowship Hall  
All women are welcome!**

**P... Prayer  
A... Action  
L... Love  
S... Sharing  
... and tea!**



# DECEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
<b>3 Advent 1</b> 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Church Svce with <b>Communion</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	<b>6</b> 1:00pm UWF mtg	<b>7</b> 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm Offi 11:30am Free Lunch
<b>10 Advent 2</b> 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Church Svce <b>Return of stewardship pledges</b>	<b>11</b> 6:30pm PFLAG White Elephant Exchange	<b>12</b> 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	<b>13</b> 10:00am-Noon Prayer Shawl Ministry	<b>14</b> 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm Offi 11:30am Free Lunch
<b>17 Advent 3</b> 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Lay Church Svce - <b>Rev. Jennifer Yocum to preach</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	<b>20</b> 5:30 All Church Potluck	<b>21</b> 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm Offi 11:30am Free Lunch
<b>24 Advent 4</b> 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Church Service 7:00pm Christmas Eve service (choir sings)	<b>25</b> 	<b>26</b> 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch <b>5:00pm Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm Offi 11:30am Free Lunch
<b>31</b> 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:30 am Shared service at New Life Lutheran Church				



	Fri	Sat
	<b>1</b> 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs <b>1pm PALS meet at Fritz's house</b>	<b>2</b> 11:00am Tom Pfeiffer Service
ce Hrs	<b>8</b> 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs <b>1pm PALS meet</b>	<b>9</b> 1:00pm UWF holi-day get-together 1:30pm Choir practice
ce Hrs	<b>15</b> 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs <b>1pm PALS meet</b>	<b>16</b> 1:30pm Choir practice
ce Hrs	<b>22</b> 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs <b>1pm PALS meet</b>	<b>23</b> 1:30pm Choir practice
ce Hrs	<b>29</b> 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs <b>1pm PALS meet</b>	<b>30</b>



### *Birthdays*

- 3 Peggy Hughes
- 11 Nicolai Ramsey
- 19 Jesse Holden
- 18 Ann Scharf
- 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 [quiltinggma5@yahoo.com](mailto:quiltinggma5@yahoo.com), to let me know.



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

*"For everything we know about God's Word is summed up in a single sentence: Love others as you love yourself. That's an act of Freedom." Galatians 5:14 The Message*

On Saturday, November 18, 2023, Cindy Wobbe's Annual Food Share "Pounding" at Grocery Outlet, netted **17,803 lbs** of food! Our local Food Share supports 800 families throughout the area. Our church has a Food Share barrel in the foyer where members can place food, and other items for those in need. Patt Rollins says that when our barrel is full it warrants 70 to 80 pounds of food! Jim dropped me off at Grocery Outlet and I was able to contribute 79 pounds on the 18<sup>th</sup> to Food Share. He was telling me to hurry up in my boot, because he had to get to choir practice...Geez!

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 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've had fun doing our boxes the last few years. Last year, I added gloves and some small toys as well.

Here is a list of items especially needed for Food Share: peanut butter, canned meat (tuna, chili), canned fruit, Ramen, canned vegetables, sugar, potatoes, oatmeal, mac-n-cheese, flour, canned soup, coffee, milk, eggs, dog food, cheese, and diapers. Additionally, 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 to Food Share, 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, and ask them to tell you how much your donation weighs.**

With Gratitude,  
Kathryn Waterman, Nurture



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

October 1-31, 2023: Receipts: \$ 19,541.70  
Expenses: \$ 5,957.60

November income through the 27th : \$ 4,959.95

Provided by Kathy Yelle, Acting Treasurer

**Food for Thought**



*"When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, 'Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about.' Luke 2:15*

Let us journey together this Advent season in eager anticipation and wonder to 'see this thing that has happened which the Lord has told us about'. God's own son has been born and it is he who has declared, "... I am the light of the world. Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness, but will have the light of life" (John 8:12).

Wishing you hope, peace, love and joy during this wonderful season.

Kathy Yelle, Governing Board Chair

# Trunk or Treat a Success!!

Thank you church, for supporting this new community outreach event!!!  
Thank you to those who opened your trunk and passed out treats. A special thank you to our United Women of Faith for their generous donation. It was so much fun to get together, pass out treats, and participate in a community event. I look forward to seeing this become an annual get-together for us all!







## Free Lunch



Dear Friends,

On behalf of the Free Lunch program, I would like to thank you for your generous donations. We will put the money to good use, providing a hot meal as well as shower, laundry, and gas vouchers for those in need. It's good to know Free Lunch has such strong support from the congregation.

In this rainy weather, many people have requested laundry vouchers so they can dry their clothes and bedding. A lady was at Free Lunch last week, whose apartment had caught fire and she lost almost everything. She requested a laundry voucher so she could wash the smoke from her clothes. These are small things, but perhaps they make someone's life a little less difficult.

Thank you for your kind hearts,

Vicki Philben

noteworthy

### Online Contributions

Don't forget that you may make contributions to the church online via trusted ministry partner Vanco. A link on our website takes you to Vanco's secure giving portal, providing transactional integrity. Email, write to, or call the church for instructions.

333 Kingwood St., 541-997-6025, [florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org](mailto:florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org)

### Amplify Videos

If you haven't tried Amplify Media, the subscription for which the church has paid, you'll need to use the church access code, which is ZRGHYB. Questions? Contact Peggy Hughes at [auntpeg0929@gmail.com](mailto:auntpeg0929@gmail.com). We don't want anyone to miss out on a fabulous resource, especially one we use extensively for small groups.



## **Recipe Corner**

### **Sweet Potato Casserole**

Submitted by Rosie Goodwin

#### **Ingredients:**

- 3 cups mashed sweet potatoes (or 2 30 oz. cans); drain well
- 1/2 cup butter
- 1/2 cup brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 1/2 tsp vanilla
- 1/3 cup milk

Mix the above well with electric mixer or mash well. Put into a 9 x 13 pan. Then mix together the following:

- 1/3 cup butter (softened)
- 1/2 cup flour
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup chopped nuts

Mix well, then spread on top of potato mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 30 - 45 minutes.

#### **ENJOY!**

\*\* Do you have a favorite recipe that everybody loves? Send it to me and I may put it into a newsletter. I don't always have room, but will put them in when I have an extra page. Email to [quiltinggma5@yahoo.com](mailto:quiltinggma5@yahoo.com).



# DECEMBER NEWSLETTER

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