

Florence United Methodist Church



January Newsletter

Florence United Methodist Church
333 Kingwood, Florence, OR 97439

Office: (541) 997-6025

florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org

Visit us at www.florenceunitedmethodist.org



Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Serving the People of God:

District Superintendent: Rev. John Tucker

Pastor: Reverend Logan McLean Strike

Lay Leader: Kathy Yelle

SPRC: Amanda Sarles, 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

Logan's Lines

A poem for you by Denise Levertov:

As swimmers dare
to lie face to the sky
and waters bear them,
as hawks rest upon air
and air sustains them,
so would I learn to attain
freefall, and float
into Creator Spirit's deep embrace,
knowing no effort earns
that all-surrounding grace.

Remember that amidst all the goal-setting and dreaming that comes with the new year, you are never not held by God's loving embrace.

Praying and journeying with you,

Pastor Logan



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● **Pastor Logan's Schedule:**

● Pastor Logan's office hours: Tuesdays & Fridays.
● You may reach her on her cell at: 406-839-1756
● or by email at: logan.m.strike@gmail.com

● Pastor Logan will be working Thursdays and Saturdays at the hospital.
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Keeping in Our Prayers

Patt Rollins; Betty Livingston; 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; 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.



Office Update

We want to invite anyone interested in serving as "office help" for Pastor Logan to contact Peggy or Cindy Hughes (541-902-0197).

Peggy and Cindy are hoping to have someone in the office for 2 hours on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Pastor Logan requests the hours to be between 10:30am and 12:30pm each of these days.

Peggy and Cindy will be working with Pastor Logan to determine the duties this position entails and then they will teach anyone willing to do it. We promise it won't be beyond anyone's capabilities! It could even be fun!!



United
Women
in Faith

United Women in Faith News

To start off 2023, the Florence United Women in Faith are scheduled to meet on Wednesday January 4 in the Tedd Powell Hall at 1:00 p.m. Hostess is Renee' Hansen with devotions to be provided by Judy Jones. The annual pledge service when we're invited to make a commitment of our financial giving is a key part of our time together with unit treasurer Sharon Gallagher in charge. Diane McCalmont will share a review of a favorite book and the new yearbook should be available.

So ladies, come one and all, and add some oomph to the meeting.

Jean Hefty, Secretary

Judy Jones honored Donna Embree for her many years of service as an officer.



2023 UWIF Officers: Sharon Gallagher, Treasurer; Yola Hesser, Social Action/Member Nurture and Outreach/Mission Resources ; Judy Jones, Co-President; Renee' Hansen, Co-President; Jean Hefty, Secretary



The church directory will be available in January. If you haven't picked up your copy by January 29, it will be mailed to you. Updates during 2023 will be noted in the newsletter.



**Caroling for
Free Lunch goes
Dec. 20**

PFLAG News

PFLAG will meet again on the second Tuesday of the month, January 10, 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. Like us or join our public Facebook Page.

Linda Yoder



Signs and Wonders for Adult Sunday School

The Adult Sunday School class will resume following a holiday recess, with a new video series featuring Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, and a 6 session study of some of the “Signs and Wonders” which Jesus performed during his time here in the flesh. We just finished celebrating the birth of the Christ, so now we will look at some of the activities that he did while among us.

We will begin with “On the Role of Caregivers,” a look at the story of a man whose friends took him into Jesus’ presence by lowering him on his bed through the roof of the house where Jesus was teaching. Among other sessions will be “Attending to Nature,” “The Importance of Women’s Bodies,” and “Taking Death Seriously.”

Our meeting time for the new year has changed to 9:00 am. We will gather in the church sanctuary to view the video and then move to a smaller room for discussion of the presentation. All adults are welcome to join us for any or all of the sessions as we meet each Sunday before Worship.

Bert Schniepp

UMM Breakfast Resumes



As we return to our usual weekly gathering following a short holiday recess, all men of the church are invited to join us for breakfast on Thursdays at 8:30 am at Fresh Harvest Café on Hwy 101, beginning on January 5.

Bert Schniepp

A Final Word from Your Lay Leader...



As our new church council starts their leadership in an updated form of governing, I want to welcome Kathy Yelle, as your new Council Chair/Lay Leader. Her leadership and forward thinking will be very refreshing to our church. She is a gem.

Also, wanted to tell you how honored I have been to be your lay leader for the past 3 years. It has been challenging to say the least. March of 2019, a virus known as COVID 19 became rampant. Shortly afterwards, WHO declared a world pandemic. A new word for most of us. Pandemic?

Our sanctuary and fellowship hall closed. Most of us felt this action would be short-lived, little did we know it was going to last for 18 months. It was a difficult time for all of us. Toilet paper and sanitary hand wipes were in short supply. We lived in a mask while in public. Under the strong leadership of our Bishop, our sanctuary remained closed. This wasn't a popular decision, but scientists were monitoring the spread of the virus.

What I am most proud of is no one in our congregation became ill with the virus as a result of close contact in a worship setting. We were blessed. We also created an on-line worship service. A little rough at times, but the effort was there.

And so much was accomplished during the closure. The Fellowship hall was updated, the church's exterior was painted, a new heat pump/air exchange system was installed, and our Free Lunch program continued. Subway vouchers were handed out to those in need, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. All credit goes to the laity of our "small but mighty church" in keeping our mission alive during a crazy pandemic. We are stronger because of it.

So, as 2023 is ushered in, I wish you good health and many blessings. Always remember our church mission is simple - to be the hands and feet of Christ. Our church needs you. So, I leave you with the words of John Wesley:

Do all the good you can,
By all the means you can
In all the ways you can.

Thank you for your support,

Patt Rollins

JANUARY

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
1 	2	3	4 1:00pm Women in Faith mtg	5 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm O 11:30am Free Lunch 2:00-3:00pm Homes Science C
8 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Church Svce Coffee Fellowship after svce "Farewell" for Linda Yoder	9	10 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch 6:30pm PFLAG	11 10:00am-Noon Prayer Shawl Ministry	12 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm O 11:30am Free Lunch 2:00-3:00pm Homes Science C
15 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Church Svce	16	17 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	18	19 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm O 11:30am Free Lunch 2:00-3:00pm Homes Science C
22 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Church Svce	23	24 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	25 5:30pm All-Church Potluck 6:15-7:00pm Choir Practice	26 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm O 11:30am Free Lunch 2:00-3:00pm Homes Science C 5:00pm Newsletter deadline
29 9:00am Sunday School 10:30am Church Svce	30	31 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch		



	Fri	Sat
Office Hrs School Class	6 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs	7
Office Hrs School Class	13 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs	14
Office Hrs School Class	20 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs	21
Office Hrs School Class	27 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 4:00-5:00pm Rocket Art Class	28

Birthdays

- 4 Tom Oshel
- 9 Bill Craig
- 12 Brooke Shafer
- 21 Joan Skarda
- 22 Caroline Mesman
- 26 Betty Livingston
- 27 May Hadley
- 29 Connie Riebhoff

Anniversaries

No January anniversaries

If I've missed your birthday or anniversary, please send an email to Diane at quiltngma5@yahoo.com, to let me know.

Florence United Methodist Church
FINANCES



November 1-30, 2022: Receipts: \$ 6,562.13
Expenses: \$ 7,524.25

December 2022 income through the 26th : \$16,943.58

Provided by Kathy Yelle, Treasurer



Trustees Report

A backyard fence has been installed at the parsonage, thanks to a group of donors from our church, and the gracious labor donated by a parishioner from Pastor Paul's church.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Philben
Chair-Board of Trustees

UM Staff Parish Relations Committee

SPRC 2022 YEAR END RECAP

The holidays are over, and by the time you read this, we will be in 2023. As I reflect on my three years in the role of SPRC chair, I would like to pass on my gratitude to those who helped me through it all. The start of this new role was more than challenging with conflict and a division within the church. Maybe it was Covid and the inability for everyone to be in church that seemed to heal some of the anger and hurt feelings and replace them with a mutual desire to be back together.

So many positive things happened with the time away, time to heal and forgive. And just look around at the physical upgrades to the church... the fellowship hall, the heating and purification system, painting, cleaning, and the list goes on.

And then, we gained a new leader. Someone who can guide us through the many changes that must happen to keep our little church viable.

But back to my thanks. To you the congregation, to senior SPRC members that were serving when I came on, Judy Jones, Karen Baylis, followed by Peggy Hughes, Jim Waterman, Amanda Sarles, and Karen Baylis (again!).
THANK YOU ALL!!!

As you are aware, the church voted at the "All Church Meeting", to move to Simple Governance in 2023. With this, SPRC will consist of Jim Waterman and Amanda Sarles, and they will serve you well.

Thank you, again, to you all. You make the church what it is... a special place that anyone is welcomed for worship and a pillar in the Florence community.

See you all in 2023,

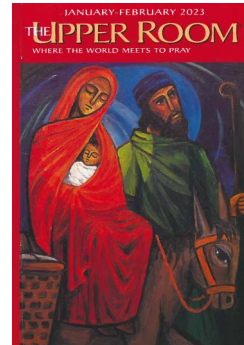
Patti

noteworthy

Upper Room for January and February

If you're on the list to receive the Upper Room, you were able to pick them up in the Narthex January 1. If you also normally receive monthly Home Touch devotionals and puzzles, they were packaged with the Upper Room. Those not picked up at church were mailed January 3. If you have not received them or you'd like to be added to the mailing list, email or call the church:

florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org, 541-997-6025.



Online Contributions

Don't forget that you may make contributions to the church online via trusted ministry partner Vanco. Florence UMC has received a growing number of regular online contributions since the launch of the service in 2020. 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.

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. 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 or text 541-590-0944 to be placed on the DVD mailing list.

Governing Board

"Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths." -Proverbs 3:5-6



As we enter the new year please consider your hopes and concerns for our community of faith so that we might share our thoughts together in a future congregational meeting.

I look forward to serving as your Governing Board Chair.

Kathy Yelle

Bottle Drop for Campers

Florence UMC's account with the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) "Bottle Drop" allows anyone who has one of our tagged blue bags to contribute the value of their returnable deposit bottles and cans to the church, in support of camper-ships.

As of November 30, we have collected \$531.20 through Bottle Drop!

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 or call the church:

florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org, or 541-997-6025. The bag will come with instructions.



Scenes from Christmas Eve Candlelight Service



Amanda Sarles and Sharon Belvill



Larry & Sharon Gallagher, Sharon Belvill



Pastor Logan



Matilda,
Eleanor,
Sylvia
Hand



← Amanda, Gary,
and Connor Sarles

Kathy Yelle →





Recipe Corner

Jalapeno Hash Brown Casserole

Great for a New Year's Day breakfast!

Ingredients

- 1 tbsp. butter
- 1/2 cup diced yellow onion
- 1/2 cup diced red bell pepper
- 2 tbsp. diced canned jalapenos
- 1/4 tsp. garlic powder
- 16 oz. Mexican blend shredded cheese, divided
- 4 oz. cream cheese
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 bag (30 oz.) frozen shredded hash brown potatoes
- Eggs, poached or fried, optional
- 2 tbsp. minced fresh cilantro

Directions

- Preheat oven to 250 degrees. Brush a 13x9-inch baking dish with vegetable oil.
- In a skillet over medium-high heat, melt the butter. Add onions, peppers, jalapenos, and garlic powder. Cook until softened, about 8-10 minutes.
- In a large bowl, combine sour cream, half the shredded cheese, cream cheese, and milk. Add sautéed vegetables and stir to combine. Add shredded potatoes and stir until the potatoes are evenly coated.
- Scrape potato mixture into prepared baking dish and top with remaining cheese. Bake 40-45 minutes, until the top is crisp and the cheese is bubbling. Just before serving, top each portion with an egg (if using) and garnish with cilantro.
- Refrigerate any leftovers.

Makes 8 servings

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Office Phone: (541) 997-6025
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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
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