

*Florence United Methodist Church*

***Tide-ings* 2021**



## January Newsletter

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

Visit us at [www.florenceunitedmethodist.org](http://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](mailto:revdrkarenlove@gmail.com)**

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

## From Our Shared Heart...

Beloved Church,

I can practically feel it in the air! People everywhere are so ready for 2020 to be gone! What a year like none other in our lives, no matter who we are, where we live, what our life circumstances are . . . we are living in anticipation of coming out of lock-down and putting the pandemic behind us. We have all been affected, one way or another, and usually in many ways.

What comes to my mind as I hear pundits and thought-leaders, comedians and prognosticators, and extremists of both a pessimistic bent and an optimistic persuasion . . . is whoa, fasten your seatbelts even tighter in 2021! It absolutely won't be simply a matter of just "going back to normal" or the "way things were." There are many causes for concern, even grounds for alarm. But one thing we know for sure in the midst of this "global dark night of the soul" as some have termed it or our "dark night of the species," as theologian and evolutionary theologian Matthew Fox calls it . . . we are never going to be the same.

Life always shapes, tweaks, twists and hammers us . . . and if we don't listen up to the message of the Universe, of Life itself (aka the Divine), then the message gets louder for our benefit when we are shaking our heads and stopping our ears, or even when we have just gotten a little hard of hearing . . . maybe due to listening to too much rock music at too many decibels back in the day . . . or the hardening of our attitudes through resistance to rapid change . . . or the feeling we can hardly or cannot at all keep up as we age and the world is like a herd of lemmings at times or in ways rushing toward the edge



of the cliff. Words like geocide, ecocide, and matricide (killing Mother Earth) are thrown around in the consciousness-space we share through the news media, social media, and publication of dire scientific warnings.

What do we make of all this as a people of faith, as Beloved Community?

Join us for "How Not to Waste a Pandemic" during our four Sunday sermon series in January 2021 after the first Sunday on January 3, which is Epiphany of the Lord Sunday and a celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Communion to get the year off to a good start, on the right foot at least, spiritually speaking.

What have been the unexpected lessons, gifts, and serendipities of 2020 for you and yours? How have you been changed? How have you grown? What have been the losses? Where is the redemption of suffering that we so believe in and cherish as our bedrock foundation of life as "Easter people," living not from the Crucifixion, but from the Resurrection?

I would love to have your input and your shared witness during these 4 worship services as we look at the pandemic from a Christian perspective, and particularly through a Wesleyan Methodist lens. Please let me know if you have a testimony or witness, a reflection, a nugget of wisdom, a story to share. This is OUR story, our shared journey.

"See" you in cyberspace in the weeks ahead! Looking forward to hearing from you!

Love and blessings,

Pastor Karen



## *Keeping in Our Prayers*

Kathleen Yelle and family; Jasmin Crump; Vicki Hough (Peggy Wilson's daughter); Larry Gallagher; Pat Balzell; Kollette and Al Longworth; Jonathan Yoder; Reverend Karen; Peggy Simington; Shirley Ross; Kathleen & Jacob Wenzel; Jim Waterman; John & Lila Hyder; Kim Holden & family; Georgia Garrett; Laureli; Betty Cline; Ursula Sears; Jean Parr; Janice Bell; Gerry & Nancy Cedarleaf-Grey; Bonnie Kelly; 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 year-book, 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](mailto:rayfeay@hotmail.com).



### **Remote Worship Continues for the Time Being**

We've been posting worship videos on YouTube and making the link available on our Facebook page and via email to our interest list. If you haven't received an email message, let the church know by emailing us a message. We'll be happy to put you on the list and send you a link.

If you don't use the Internet, we can mail you a DVD of the service. Call Linda Yoder 541-590-0944 for copies. We're holding "virtual coffee hour" on Sundays at 10:45 a.m. via Zoom. If you're on our email list, you will get a link to the meeting.

Linda Yoder



Church Council will be held Sunday, January 17 at 11:30 a.m., following Virtual Coffee Hour. Committee reports, if applicable, are due to Linda Yoder [lindayoder@hotmail.com](mailto:lindayoder@hotmail.com) by Friday, January 15.



United  
Methodist  
Women  
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

## UMWomen News

The Florence unit of United Methodist Women is still intact even though the last actual meeting was back in March 2020. Officers for 2021 will remain the same with co-presidents Renee' Hansen and Judy Jones leading. In an act of faith in September, the unit turned in a mission pledge of \$1,100 to Crater Lake District United Methodist Women for 2021, which emphasizes the need for Florence individual members to pledge to our local unit. It is hoped there can be fundraising opportunities, perhaps in a new form. Please continue to stay connected through phone calls, notes and email.

CLPUD recently included a timely poem in their billing and it is what follows:

***WISH***, by Erika S. Fine

The months go by, the fourth, the fifth,  
And normalcy's become a myth.  
I want to hug, I want to hold,  
I want this deadly scourge controlled.  
I want to walk amidst a crowd.  
I want to lift this morbid shroud.  
I sit, sequestered in my home,  
And yearn to mingle, travel, roam.  
My energy is out of whack ---  
I want my normal problems back.

Jean Hefty

Tom and Stephanie Gonser passed by this church sign (Bethany Church) going through Cheshire on their way back from Eugene one day. A sign of the times... "Prayer - the Best Wireless Connection".



## Adult Sunday School to Study Paul



Our Adult Zoom “Sunday School” on Fridays, (2:00 – 3:00 pm) will begin a biography of the apostle Paul on Friday, January 8. Professor N. T. Wright will use Paul’s letters and Acts to give new life to the person of Paul, who many feel is the person most responsible for the multitudes of faithful followers of Jesus Christ today.

We will be covering the first 6 sessions before taking a break during Lent, and then finish this series after Easter. Each session consists of 2 videos: a short (less than a minute) reading of the scripture on which that lecture is based and then a lecture, less than 20 minutes long. You can watch these for each session when you choose the week prior to our gathering, and they will be the basis for the class discussion on Zoom. The recorded sessions with Prof. Wright are on the Amplify Media resource from Cokesbury that you can access through the Church’s web link. Please let the church office know if you are interested so the Zoom link can be emailed to you each week.

Bert Schniepp

## *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](mailto:lindayoder@hotmail.com) or 541-590-0944.

### **Amplify Videos**

If you’ve still not tried the free video service from Amplify Media, and have forgotten the directions to do an initial log-in, email Linda Yoder [lindayoder@hotmail.com](mailto:lindayoder@hotmail.com) for instructions. We don’t want anyone to miss out on a fabulous resource, especially one we use extensively for Adult Sunday School.

# JANUARY

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu



Open Hearts,  
Open Minds,  
Open Doors...

The people of the  
United Methodist  
Church

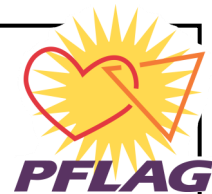
## Why am I a Methodist? Or Why did I join THIS church?

If you'd like to give a "testimony," please get hold of Patt Rollins or Linda Yoder. This doesn't have to be a video production. A few sentences will suffice, and they can be written or audio-recorded. Your choice. We'd like to offer one or two of them during the "Greeting" part of our on-line service. We can run your statement with your directory photo (unless you have another one you'd rather use). Contact: [pattandpatt@comcast.net](mailto:pattandpatt@comcast.net) or [lindayoder@hotmail.com](mailto:lindayoder@hotmail.com).

### PFLAG Update

We've "re-upped" our members for 2021 as a gift from us while we are unable to meet in person. In response, several people have given generously to our local chapter to keep us afloat. We're still working out the kinks in a new "chatroom." Stay tuned.

Linda Yoder



Fri

Sat



**Electronic Giving**

We continue to offer on-line giving through our trusted church partner, Vanco, using its secure website. Our only portal to Vanco is on the church's website [www.florenceunitedmethodist.org](http://www.florenceunitedmethodist.org).

To use the service, you must set up a "customer profile," much as you do for any on-line shopping site. Giving options include credit/debit card or withdrawals from checking/savings accounts. In addition to "general fund" giving, the site allows you to choose other options, including UMC special Sundays gifts. Free Lunch, Compassionate Care, and the Wesley Center at the U of O are also on the list.

Linda Yoder

*Birthdays*

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

*Anniversaries*

None

**If I've missed your birthday or anniversary, please send an email to Diane at [quiltngma5@yahoo.com](mailto:quiltngma5@yahoo.com), to let me know.**



## A Word From Your Lay Leader...

So, I'm writing my note to you on Monday, December 21, 2020. For many it is the Winter Solstice and for others it is simply the first day of winter. It has been stormy, windy and very dreary in our little village of Yachats.

As many of you know, my heart is so encouraged by the most recent distribution of a vaccine that will be of great assistance in curbing the spread of Covid 19. My hope is many of you will be receiving it by mid-January. Let's be optimistic. Remember that we will need to continue to wear our masks and social distance until our health professional give us the green light.

As we celebrate winter solstice, we also celebrate the birth of the Christ child. An event that changed our world..."For unto you is born in the City of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord". (Luke 2:11) For many of us, our lives are changed daily through our faith journey in following the teaching of a man called Jesus, the Son of God. We celebrate His birthday.

This time of year can present challenging winter weather here on the Oregon Coast but with winter comes spring, and with spring comes new life. Spring will be here soon.

I would like to wrap up 2020 with one of my favorite **Apache blessings** for you:

*May the sun bring you  
new energy by day,  
May the moon softly restore  
you by night.  
May the rain wash away  
your worries,  
May the breeze blow new  
strength into your being,  
May you walk gently through  
the world and know it's  
beauty all the days  
of your life.*

*Happy New Year,*

*Patt Rollins*



## Free Lunch News



Free Lunch has served 1,883 Subway voucher meals through 12/24. We will end 2020 with a credit balance of around \$700 at Subway.

Shout out to United Methodist Women members Jean Hefty, Peggy Wilson, Sharon Gallagher, Linda Schniepp and Rosie Goodwin for baking over 100 homemade cookies for Free Lunch to distribute on Christmas Eve. Recipients were most grateful. Free Lunch clients were then directed to the Elk's for a free Christmas day meal where arrangements were made to keep meals warming in the oven for them for those without kitchens.

Paula Z



Free Lunch's Don Gardner has been commandeered to pitch in on the Florence Emergency Cold Weather Shelter set-up. He was able to organize a donated backhoe and tractor assistance in coordination with Glenn Stewart of Helping Hands. FUMC's Compassionate Care Fund donated (10) waterproof tarps to Helping Hands in answer to their request for help.

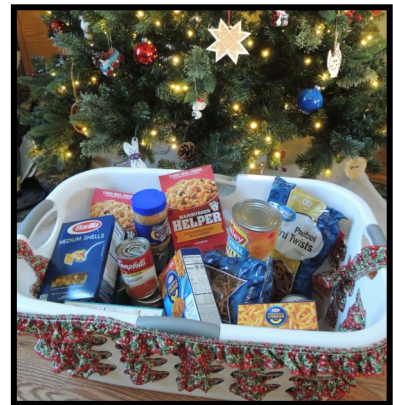
FUMC's Compassionate Care fund has also donated ride books to transport those in need up to the Cold Weather Shelter by way of Rhody Express since the FECWS does not have a bus this year. Rhody Express has agreed to post the shelter flag on their bus.

Paula Z.



Here's two of the Reverse Advent Calendar food boxes, collected through Advent.

Off they go to Food Share!





## Sacred Earth Initiative

### TIP OF THE MONTH...

Waste Wise Lane County

([www.facebook.com/WasteWiseLaneCounty](http://www.facebook.com/WasteWiseLaneCounty))

has provided a website of tips; this one, we thought would be timely to share, for the holiday season.

We hope you had a wonderful Christmas and look forward to sharing tips with you in 2021.

-The Sacred Earth Team

These items should **NOT** be placed in your recycling bin, **BUT CAN BE RECYCLED/REUSED AT THESE LOCATIONS.**



Ribbons & bows, foil or plastic coated gift wrap & gift bags

MECCA (Materials Exchange Center for Community Arts),  
449 Willamette St., Eugene, OR



Christmas lights

Next Step Recycling  
245 Jackson St., Eugene, OR



Electronics



Plastic bags

Return to participating grocery stores



Styrofoam blocks

St. Vincent de Paul & Glenwood Transfer Station



Recycling Questions?  
Download the new WasteWise Lane County app  
or visit, [www.lanecountyor.gov/wastewise](http://www.lanecountyor.gov/wastewise)

Happy Holidays



### Trustees Report

Repairs to the electrical line feeding the Fellowship Hall are still pending.

A reminder to anyone/everyone that accesses our buildings: Be sure to check all doors and lights before you leave. Thank you!

Scott Philben

# Go Camping

## The Future of Camp & Retreat Ministry...is You!

In short, in order to have a future, we need YOU! What can you do today to ensure the future of camp & retreat ministry tomorrow?

You put the **GO** in **Go Camping**! Thank you.

**Donating online to Camp & Retreat Ministry is easy and safe**, and you can designate which site or program you'd like your gift(s) to support.

- ◆ Make a Secure Online Donation: <https://www.gocamping.org/donate>
- ◆ Make a donation by mail: **Camp & Retreat Ministries**
- ◆ **1505 SW 18th Ave**
- ◆ **Portland, OR 97201**
- ◆ Donate by Shopping through **iGive.com**

Food Share can use your bags. Currently, they are filling sacks and bags and bringing food orders out to cars in the parking lot.



## Florence United Methodist Church

### FINANCES



November 1-30, 2020:     Receipts: \$ 5,211.09  
   Expenses: \$ 6,013.16

December income through the 27th: \$ 11,918.97

\* Dec Income includes \$5,000 grant from the State of Oregon

Provided by Kathy Yelle

# JANUARY NEWSLETTER

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**Florence United Methodist Church**  
333 Kingwood St., Florence, OR 97439

**Sunday Worship: virtual**

**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.**