

*Florence United Methodist Church*

***Tide-ings 2021***



**May 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,

What times we live in! Our church's "Reimagining Our Lives Together" team continues to work on planning our return to in-person worship. We will be using a "hybrid worship" process in which we have our in-person worship as safely as we can since the pandemic continues, and also keep providing an on-line worship option for those who cannot or choose not to return to in-person at this time. Our "soft target date" is Pentecost Sunday, May 23, but with the probable move of Lane County from "High Risk" to "Extreme High Risk," our priority continues to be "Do No Harm." We will be staying in touch with you about where we are in the re-opening process, what we feel we can safely offer, and what our District Superintendent approves as we move into May. Our Bishop notified us in a pastoral letter I forwarded to you earlier that we will be receiving updated guidance in the first week of May.

In the meantime, we have a wonderful opportunity to hear from Betsy Guinn, a good friend of mine from Eugene First United Methodist Church. I invited Betsy to meet with us by Zoom immediately following Zoom Coffee Fellowship at 11:30am on May 2. Betsy is an amazing Christian woman. I am in awe of her unstinting generosity of heart and



being on behalf of "the least of these." Having an opportunity to spend a little time with her before Mother's Day (5/9) will expand your understanding of

"mother" and give you a glimpse of the Heart of the Divine Mother aspect of God that she so deeply lives and exemplifies. In her mission and ministry work with the Cambodian people, she started a non-profit, OEDDO (Orphans, Elderly, and Disabled Development Organization). I hope you will join us on Zoom for this "Open House" for a truly inspiring, heart-opening witness.

Finally, Alan and I will be taking some time off in the next several months, both study leave in May and also our vacation time. Linda Yoder and I are working to keep the continuity thread going with our "Dare to Dance Again" worship series and our summer worship beginning in June.

Love and blessings,

Pastor Karen





## Keeping in Our Prayers

Carolyn Boyce; Ray Feay; Peggy Wilson; Carol Salisbury; Laura Merz; Hazel Vacura; Charles & Barbara Walker; Jasmin Crump; Vicki Hough (Peggy Wilson's daughter); Pat Balzell; Jonathan Yoder; Reverend Karen; Peggy Simington; Kathleen Wenzel; John & Lila Hyder; Kim Holden & family; Georgia Garrett; Laureli; Betty Cline; Ursula Sears; Jean Parr; Janice Bell; Gerry & Nancy Cedarleaf-Grey; 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 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](mailto:rayfeay@hotmail.com).



The next meeting of the Church Council is scheduled for Sunday, May 16, at 11:30 a.m. on Zoom, following the Virtual Coffee Hour. The link to all Church Zoom meetings is by email only. We do not publish a link to Zoom on our Facebook page or website.



United  
Methodist  
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

## UMWomen News

THIS is an alert that soon, in Renee' Hansen's yard, there will be potted plants available with donations going to United Methodist Women.

These come from Nancy's garden and include

Siberian iris, Kaffir lilies, rugosa roses, maple and dogwood trees, red-hot poker, geraniums, sago palms, and more. When you drive by the church, look across the street at 378 Kingwood, for plants at Renee's house.

THIS informs you that the quilt and blanket project continues, with options to create using needles (crochet, knit, quilt) or tying. Since Annual Conference is again taking place by Zoom, completed blankets can be distributed locally. Let Judy Jones know of your interest. Photos of finished items are desired for Crater Lake District annual meeting in September.

Although a ways off, be informed THAT the Assembly of United Methodist Women is scheduled for May 20-22, 2022 in Orlando, FL. In years past women from Florence have attended these events, held each quadrennium, with participants around the world reminding us we're part of a connectional church.

Thank you to those who responded with gifts to the Self Denial offering and to the Legacy Endowment Fund.

Jean Hefty

When you become fully vaccinated, if you are willing and able to volunteer for some on-site church building "spruce up" projects in advance of a "soft opening" for on-site worship, please let the office know. Leave a message on the office phone (541-997-6025) or email the church [florenceumc@florencenitedmethodist.org](mailto:florenceumc@florencenitedmethodist.org) with your preferred contact information and potential availability times. Work parties will be formed in April and May.



## Adult Class Continues Study of Paul



Our Adult Zoom “Sunday School” on Fridays (2:00 – 3:00 pm) has resumed our biographical study of the apostle Paul. Professor N. T. Wright uses Paul’s letters and Acts to give new life to the person of Paul.

During the first 6 sessions we covered prior to Lent, we looked at what we were able to learn of Paul’s early life and experiences that led him to make a radical shift in his view of the new Jewish sect which came to be called Christians as he moved from being a fierce persecutor of them to a vocal teacher within the movement. We left off our study as he was just beginning his years of missionary traveling, teaching and writing.

Come join the discussion we have through the Zoom app on your computer, tablet or phone. Contact the church office for an email with the link to the Zoom meeting and to the Amplify Media connection where you will be able to watch the short lecture by Professor Wright.

Bert Schniepp



## PFLAG Update

PFLAG-Florence will meet again on Zoom on May 11, having begun a Zoom hangout on April 13. We will continue to meet on Zoom on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:30, the group’s regular meeting time. Check the website [www.pflagflorenceoregon.org](http://www.pflagflorenceoregon.org) or Facebook page for a link, which is also blast-emailed to members and friends. Oregon Central Coast PFLAG (Newport) has Zoom support meetings the second and fourth Wednesday of the month at 6 p.m. Check them out on their Facebook Page, where the link and password are published.

Linda Yoder

# MAY

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu



## A Word From Your Lay Leader...

Happy Spring! After several days of beautiful sunshine, we are all energized with the beauty that surrounds us. The grass is a vivid green, tulips are blooming and in certain locations around Florence, the rhododendrons are in all of their glory. I love springtime, minus the allergies.

The weeds are as if they are on steroids. There are those who love to garden. For them, weeding is a time of connecting to the earth, a time of quietness and reflection. For folks like me, it isn't so much fun, but we understand the need for garden maintenance. So, we take the good with the bad.

As many of you know, the UMC has a General Conference every 4 years. Last year, it was scheduled for Minneapolis in June, but due to Covid, was cancelled. We know several very important discussions and legislative actions were to be on the agenda, regarding the schism of the UMC. The action is fueled by the discriminatory contents of the Book of Discipline refusing to ordain those LGBTQ individuals who experienced God's calling to serve His church. (What happened to John Wesley's teaching, Do No Harm?)

With General Conference cancelled, the PNW provided a Zoom platform for their conference business to take place. Budgets were approved and our Bishop spoke encouraging words to prepare us for Re-imagining what the church will be like after reopening. Although many committees paused their work during the Covid shutdown, one particular group continued to work on a respectful separation from the global United Methodist Church. They worked tirelessly to create a document known as "The Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation". This Protocol was presented by the Council of Bishops to the Judicial Council for its constitutionality approval. (The proposal must pass this gate before being allowed to be voted on during the next Annual Conference).

Fri

Sat



***Lay Leader, continued***

Here is the response to the Council of Bishops of the United Methodist Church published on April 18, 2021.

“Council of Bishops-United Methodist Church;

**Breaking News**

The Judicial Council today **declined to rule on the constitutionality of proposed legislation** called the Protocol of Reconciliation and Grace Through Separation. This is the proposed petition to split the UMC. This was in response to a request from the Council of Bishops”.

As before, those in power continue to “kick the can down the road”. It sounds as if this legislative action will once again be mired down in the weeds of “no action,” only lip service. Something has to give. We, as the LGBTQ community deserve a place at the table. It has long been denied. What does Jesus think? I know what I think! Change in the United Methodist Denomination is long over due.

Blessings.

Patt Rollins

***Birthdays***

|    |                   |
|----|-------------------|
| 4  | Jean Parr         |
| 8  | Lorenzo Ramsey    |
| 8  | Tom Gonser        |
| 9  | Patrick McCalmont |
| 13 | Laura Pirkey      |
| 16 | Donna Embree      |
| 16 | Keith Brown       |
| 16 | Griffin Ramsey    |
| 19 | Judy Jones        |
| 20 | Tessa Ramsey      |
| 24 | Trisha Holden     |
| 24 | Charles Walker    |
| 24 | Scott Philben     |
| 25 | George Hesser     |
| 25 | Mike Jones        |
| 25 | Bert Schniepp     |
| 25 | Peggy Simington   |
| 28 | Jonathan Holden   |
| 29 | Maida Lee         |

***Anniversaries***

|    |                              |
|----|------------------------------|
| 1  | Gerry & Nancy Cedarleaf-Grey |
| 15 | Alan & Karen Baisinger       |
| 19 | John & Lila Hyder            |

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.



# *Go Camping*

**A Message from Camp & Retreat Ministries**

**April 15, 2021**

For several months now, our sites have been working on plans to offer safe, enriching and fun experiences this summer. While camp will look different than in previous years (group size restrictions, adjustments to food service, more health screening information, and wearing masks), we will create Sacred Spaces of Christian hospitality and learning for all. Our staff at Camp Magruder, Suttle Lake Camp, and Sawtooth Camp are excited to share this life-changing ministry. We encourage you to **sign up for our weekly e-news at [gocamping.org](http://gocamping.org)**, where we will share program information, session updates and costs, and when we will open registration.

We hope to see you this summer!

Blessings,

Todd Bartlett, Executive Director, Camp and Retreat Ministries

## *Directory Updates...*

Maida Lee  
3760 Hwy 101, Space 53  
Florence, OR 97439  
Phone: 541-590-5251

Carolyn Boyce  
Sweet Bye N Bye  
2480 Coral Ave NE  
Salem, OR 97305

Although we had hoped to do regular on-line monthly updates of the Directory, we are considering a new format and a new focus for this project. In the meantime, if you know of a member or friend of Florence UMC who has moved or changed phone number or address, let Nurture Chair Kathy Waterman know (phone: 661-472-0855, email [kathywaterman10@gmail.com](mailto:kathywaterman10@gmail.com)) and she will collect further information.





**EcoGeneration will be having another  
Recycling Take-back (plastics collection)**

**Sunday, May 2, 2021**

**11:00 am-12 noon: Elderly and Disabled**

**12 noon-2:00 pm General Public**

Our church helps sponsor this event.  
Please continue to save your plastic!



### **Free Lunch News**

In keeping with the mission to help in their community, the Siuslaw High School students' Community 101 class voted to award Free Lunch an Oregon Community Foundation Grant (\$750) to help continue the Subway voucher program until the end of the year, if needed.

Paula Z

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



March 1-31, 2021:      Receipts: \$ 4,675.05  
                                 Expenses: \$ 8,285.71

April income through the 26th: \$ 5,419.30

Please note that in addition to the figure listed above for March Revenue - we also received \$5,000 from LPL Financial as a result of the sale of some stocks. (We had a record gain in our stocks of over \$5,000 during 2020.) This money was put into our Savings account for the "Furnace Fund".

Provided by Kathy Yelle



**For Safety's Sake**

After discussions with multiple Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning (HVAC) contractors, the Trustees recommended, the Finance Committee

approved, and the Church Council voted to pursue replacement of the furnace in the sanctuary.

Of primary concern was the age of the existing system, followed closely by the issue of air circulation and filtration, something especially important in a post-Covid environment. The safety of the air in a small, closed worship space was a prime concern, and the Trustees investigated a number of HVAC solutions.

The path to installing a new system now involves an additional assessment of two stand-alone solutions or a combination of both, and the church council, aware that the Trustees have studied the situation most closely, authorized them at a special meeting April 25 to select the configuration they perceived to be the best, and to proceed with securing a date to commence work on the system. The church council wanted to make certain that the new system is in place prior to the resumption of in-person worship, hence the vote to approve the work at the discretion of the Trustees.

Funding for the improvements have been made possible by individual contributions, an unrestricted grant, and a windfall profit realized on securities given to the church three years ago. The church also is pursuing a grant from the Crater Lake District.

## ***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. Similarly, The Upper Room devotionals are mailed every other month, and the May-June edition should have arrived. 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 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 Adult Sunday School.

### **Church Service DVDs Available**

If you don't use the Internet, we can mail you a DVD of the service. Call Linda Yoder 541-590-0944 for copies.



### **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](http://www.florenceunitedmethodist.org), is the only portal to online giving.

If you have any questions, contact [lindayoder@hotmail.com](mailto:lindayoder@hotmail.com).

Linda Yoder

# MAY NEWSLETTER

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Sunday Worship: virtual  
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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.