

Florence United Methodist Church

***Tide-ings* 2020**



May Newsletter

Florence United Methodist Church

333 Kingwood, Florence, OR 97439

Office: (541) 997-6025

Sunday Worship

Sunday Services: 10:00 a.m.

Children's Sunday School 10:00 am

Adult Sunday School: 8:30 a.m.

florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org

Visit us at 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

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

From Our Shared Heart...

The Question We Are Not Asking



About 8 or 10 years ago, I came across a little sign I bought for my daughter Kara. It's been hanging by her front door ever since. "Who would you be if you knew that you could not fail?"

Right now we are in a time of suspension. With the COVID-19 global pandemic, we are now into our second month of sheltering in place. Our Bishop, Elaine Stanovsky, has just given us word that she is continuing the suspension of in-person worship in our churches until May 30, when she hopes we can safely and healthily gather for the celebration of Pentecost, the birthday of the Church, on May 31. There is a possibility that we may be able to worship in-person sooner than the end of May, should the governors of the states in her area lift restrictions on public gatherings, but there will definitely be no quick and easy return to "normalcy."

In this time of suspension, when we are forced to practice "social isolation" and stay home to stay safe, we are experimenting with virtual alternatives for in-person worship in our churches. How this pandemic will change the church remains to be seen.

We have an opportunity to push the re-start button in a new way when we emerge from this crisis. It is a

"liminal" moment, a doorway to new ways of being and doing church.

I ask you to take this question into your prayers and meditations over the next weeks ahead: "Who would we be if we knew that we could not fail?" That what we are called to be is "faithful," irregardless of whether or not we are "successful"? When we come out of our self-isolations, what kind of world will we have? What needs will we see? What will we now value more than ever? Or less than ever? Who do we choose to be as a church that is relevant to the community and world around us?

In this global "time out," let's pray that when we come out of our homes and back into community, we are being transformed by our experience and ready to live from the Resurrection. My prayer is that we see Christ everywhere, in every thing, in every body, and especially in our own selves.

Love and blessings,

Pastor Karen

EXTENSION OF WORSHIP SUSPENSION AND BUILDING CLOSURES

As bishop of the Greater Northwest Area of The United Methodist Church, I am extending the suspension of in-person worship in United Methodist Churches and other ministries and the closure of church facilities to all but essential services throughout the Alaska, Oregon-Idaho and Pacific Northwest Conferences through May 30, 2020, until and unless state government and health officials lift restrictions based upon their published criteria for re-opening. This date may be reconsidered as circumstances change.

May God bless you and keep you today and through the days ahead.



Bishop Elaine JW Stanovsky



Keeping in Our Prayers

Annie Van Horn; Ralph & Teresa Jackson; Katharine Schneider; Jim Waterman; John & Lila Hyder; Roger Johnson; Kim Holden & family; Jude Craddock; Georgia Garrett; Laureli; Betty Cline; Ursula Sears; Jean Parr; Janice Bell; Elinor Roth; Gerry & Nancy Cedarleaf-Grey; and Bonnie Kelly; Patrick McCalmont; April McCalmont.

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

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.



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMWomen News

Following the instructions from Bishop Elaine and Governor Kate that no gatherings are allowed during the COVID-19 pandemic, the annual Rummage and Plant Sale will not take place this year. You guessed that, right? Our head plant person, Nancy Rickard, says “Stay tuned. There may be opportunity for a drive by/pick-up sale in mid May.” If that occurs it will be advertised in Siuslaw News and help will be needed.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN are encouraged to stay connected by calling or emailing one another. Make this new-found time work as, in the UMW Purpose, we “develop a creative, supportive fellowship”. The time will come when we can be together again.

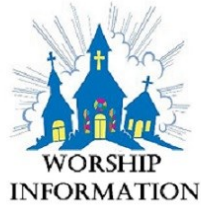
On a conference and district level, all Mission U meetings are cancelled. Looking ahead, the Crater Lake District UMW meeting is still on for September 26 in Lebanon, OR.

Jean Hefty



**Zoom Coffee Hour
April 19**

**You too can join in on coffee
time via Zoom! Watch for
email invites each week.**



Worship Updates

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 florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org. We'll be happy to put you on the list and send you a link.

If you don't use the Internet, we can physically 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.

We continue to use audio and video greetings in our worship services. For instructions on how send a video greeting, contact Linda Yoder at 541-590-0944 or email lindayoder@hotmail.com. There are several ways we can capture your video. If you don't use the Internet, you can simply call the church at 541-997-6025 and leave a message on the church answering machine. We'll record it and include it with an existing photo of you.

Linda Yoder

PFLAG

PFLAG will not meet May 12, but we'll be sending links to selected videos dealing with LGBTQIA topics. The link will be posted on Facebook and our website and sent through an email blast. If you're not on the email list – and want to be – send a note to lindayoder@hotmail.com.



MAY

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

Nothing scheduled through the month of May. Continue to watch for emails and about meetings, etc.

F.Y.I.

Things worth knowing

Matching Grant

As you know, Florence United Methodist Church received a \$1,000 grant from the Crater Lake District – with a challenge to match – to assist families in the Florence who are struggling during this time. The church coordinated with the Siuslaw School District to distribute this fund to those it identified in need. Because our church is so generous, we exceeded the match, and the excess was used for the Compassionate Care Fund, which provides motel vouchers and Safeway gift cards to those in need. But, because the need is so great, the Compassionate Care Fund is depleted and stands at a negative ledger balance. Designated gifts would be appreciated.

Electronic Giving

Several individuals have signed up for ACH transfer, a process for members and friends to designate a fixed contribution to be automatically deducted monthly from their own bank account and sent to ours. We are awaiting approval from Vanco for an electronic portal to permit donors to give on-line via credit or debit cards. Vanco is the recommended service used by many Methodist churches.

Church Council

The Church Council meeting for May will be accomplished via the Internet. Financials and other documents will be distributed by email. If it is deemed necessary, a meeting will be conducted on Zoom.

Church Directory

The Nurture Committee is working to provide the church directory electronically. For reasons of safety, it will not be available from the website and may not include pictures. When the document is ready, you will receive an email with information about how you can request it. If you receive the newsletter by mail, you may request a hard copy by leaving a message at the church office at 541-997-6025.

Fri	Sat
d other communications	



Compassionate care

Compassionate Care Fund

The church is enormously grateful for the outpouring of support during this very trying time. Please prayerfully consider a special gift to the Compassionate Care Fund. This is entirely local to our church and covers special discretionary expenditures for those in need. At the end of April, the fund was running a negative balance of nearly \$300. The Fund is not a line item in the profit/loss statement, but its account is reflected in the balance sheet, which means that monies expended to help people come out of the general revenues of the church; these are offset when contributions are specifically designated for the Compassionate Care Fund.

Linda Yoder

Birthdays

4	Jean Parr
8	Lorenzo Ramsey
8	Tom Gonser
9	Patrick McCalmont
9	Bruce Yelle
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

A word from your Lay Leader....



It is always good to hear your voice when checking in with you. Although we talk about many things, we always wind up talking about how much we miss our little church...and each other.

For many of us, to miss Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday service, is unheard of...., but this year we did. We had no choice, but it just wasn't the same on YouTube. No hugs or handshakes. No Fellowship Hour. I miss my church family.

Yes, this current state of social distancing will pass and we will get back to some level of normalcy. Hopefully sometime soon, we will see the return of Sunday Service, Free Lunch Program, Covenant Group, the Prayer Shawl Group and UMW. Will you have changed as a result of this historical event that has affected our entire world? It has changed me. Our neighborhood is not the same. Our little town of Yachats is very quiet with most business totally closed. We are able to do some "distance" visiting as we go on our daily walk through town. I'm realizing we are all in the same sea of uncertainty. Church Services cancelled, businesses closed, schools cancelled, graduations cancelled, sports events cancelled, separation from family members and it goes on and on.

It seems overwhelming, BUT this I know!! **Hope has not been cancelled.** In the scripture hope is the confident expectation of what God has promised and its strength is in His faithfulness. I have faith in a God that always delivers. **Great is His faithfulness.** We will be together again and will worship together on Sunday morning. Until then, I hope you will join us on YouTube for our Sunday morning service and hang around for the Fellowship Hour via Zoom.

And if you find yourself a little bored, grab the church directory and call someone who you have been thinking about. You will be blessed.

Thinking of you,

Patt Rollins



SPRC Update

Due of this very unusual time, the SPRC has been in communication through email and by phone to discuss business and to stay in touch.

Business included:

A week of vacation for Pastor Karen, which started Thursday 4/16 and ended on Thursday 4/23. This date was chosen because District Superintendent, John Tucker, was providing the worship service for all of the churches in his district. Pastor Karen was "back in the pulpit" Sunday, 4/26 with a beautiful Earth Day tribute.

Other exciting news from SPRC is, with help from Rosie Goodwin who put us in touch with an individual interested in sharing her gift of music, we have had the opportunity to interview and audition a pianist for our church. We still have to complete the process of a background check and a few other details, but are very anxious to have a pianist filling our sanctuary and our hearts with the joy of music from our own piano and choir. There are still contacts to be made and other requirements to be completed before it is a "done deal" but we are very optimistic. I hope this will be a good learning experience for all of us. We need everyone's input, and ideas to make our church successful. Sometimes, it will be the input from our congregation that leads to a prayer being answered.

Patti Johnson

Go Camping



Virtual Day Camp Program - Camp Without Boundaries

At United Methodist Camps, our campers are always at the heart of what we do. We know that recent events have caused significant change in the lives of campers everywhere and we are here to support in the best way we know how. We would like to present Virtual Day Camp, the next best thing to being at camp!

Each day, campers can log in and follow a day camp session, exploring topics such as Spiritual Development, Nature Exploration, STEM, Music, Art, Social/Emotional Learning, Exercise, and more.

Virtual Day Camp is a free gift to you from the UMCrm community.

If you'd like to show your appreciation, consider :

- making a gift to your favorite camp
- making a gift to the UMCrm Association at <http://umcrm.camp/contact/> donate
- leave us a "warm fuzzy" in the Comments section

Content Offerings:

Faith Formation *(for families)*

Our Faith Formation content is designed to enrich your family's connection with God.

This section contains topics such as:

- * Morning Watch
- * Bible Study
- * Praise Music
- * Vespers
- * Camp Graces

STEAM Adventures *(for kids)*

Our STEAM content is designed to explore science, technology, mathematics, arts, and engineering. This section contains topics such as:

- * STEM Experiments
- * Art
- * Music
- * Nature

Whole Person Wellness *(for adults)*

Our Whole Person Wellness section is designed to enrich the health of your body, mind, and spirit. This section contains topics such as:

- * Social/Emotional Learning
- * Mental Health
- * Exercise
- * Life Skills
- * Global Citizenship
- * Laughter is the Best Medicine

To find out more information, see what it's all about, or make a donation, visit <https://virtualdaycamp.wixsite.com/umcrm>.



Sacred Earth Initiative

Tip of the Month:

Am I Clean Yet?

How much water do you need to get your body clean?

Many people spend 10 minutes or more in the shower.

Heating hot water for a 10-minute shower can generate as much as 4 pounds of CO₂. By staying in the shower for 5 minutes instead of 10 and ensuring you have a low-flow shower head, you can have a pleasurable shower and save several hundred pounds of CO₂. A bath can use up to twice the amount of hot water you use in a five-minute shower.

Use an efficient shower to get clean and use a bath or occasional long shower for relaxation.

Free Lunch News



A big THANK YOU to all the donors to Free Lunch making it possible to continue serving a hot meal to those in need. As of 4/25, Free Lunch has purchased (300) and served (240) Subway meals. We have been awarded a United Way Emergency Covid-19 Grant and Salvation Army emergency funding. There are no plans to resume Free Lunch in the fellowship hall at this time.

Paula Zeigelasch

Florence United Methodist Church

FINANCES



Mar. 1-30, 2020: Receipts: \$ 8,157.00 Expenses: \$ 10,030.75

April income through the 24th: \$ 9,288.00

Provided by Kathy Yelle

MAY NEWSLETTER



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333 Kingwood St., Florence, OR 97439
Sunday Worship: 10:00 am
Office Phone: (541) 997-6025
florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org
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
Newsletter please notify the church office.