

Florence United Methodist Church

Tide-ings 2020



November Newsletter

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

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...

Over the past month, I have been on two different Zoom series for pastors focused on faith and politics. Even though talking about “sex, religion, and politics” has been considered taboo in polite company, since I became your pastor about 16 months ago, shortly after my arrival, we’ve already had to “take our gloves off,” so to speak, and talk frankly and openly about sex to appropriately process what we are called to take as our faithful response to the daunting challenges of ensuring inclusion of the LGBTQIA+ community in the United Methodist Church.

Now, it's that time-Election Day. Election season in a deeply divided culture and country. Divided families, divided communities, divided churches.

The easiest approach, of course, would be to say nothing. After all, we don't talk politics in church, right? There is the separation of Church and State that many of our ancestors helped create as they immigrated from religious oppression, coming here because of the religious freedom they held as a high value and priority in their new lives in a strange land. There are legalities constraining partisan politics in a tax-exempt 5013C organization.

As I sit with my responsibilities as your pastor in this deepening and widening socio-political crisis of our times, I feel deeply that I do have a commitment, because of my call, to deal with these challenges with as much directness, integrity, courage, and compassion as I can muster.



From our online resource Amplify Media, specializing in Christian education and spiritual formation resources based on the Wesleyan

tradition, I am watching three Zoom sessions on “Justice, Love and Humility: Pastoring a Divided Culture.” The sessions are: (1) How Did We Get Here? Exploring the Roots of Our Division; (2) Courage and Compassion: Preaching A Prophetic Message; and (3) Grace-filled Accountability: Holding Our Communities Together.

From Luther Seminary's Faith + Lead series, I've participated in four sessions by Zoom on “Finding Hope in a Divided Country: Election Edition,” led by Rev. Angela Denker. The sessions are (1) Surprise, (2) Warning, (3) Opportunity, and (4) Hope. She is a former sportswriter turned Lutheran pastor, writer, speaker—and wife and mom of two little boys—based in Minneapolis. Denker is a contributor to various publications, including The Washington Post, Sports Illustrated, Christian Century, and Living Lutheran. Her first book, *Red State Christians: Understanding the Voters Who Elected Donald Trump*, was released August 6, 2019 by Fortress Press.

My intention is to preach about faith and politics on the Sundays in November following the election and until the first Sunday of Advent on Thanksgiving weekend. I am committed to doing my best to be as non-partisan as I can, as well as support healthy dialogue and Christian conversation in our congregation.

In addition, I am offering three group sessions for “holy conversation” and Christian

conferencing by Zoom for those of you who are interested in participating to process and reflect on the outcome of the 2020 election. I have asked Rev. Bert Schniepp as well as Jim and Kathy Waterman to both watch the Amplify resources from our denomination and to help me with “anchoring” these sessions with pastoral presence. As most of you know, Bert is a retired UM Elder, and Jim was ordained in the American Baptist church. If you like, we can discuss my sermon from the previous Sunday as well as how the election consequences are unfolding. If you are interested in participating in these discussion sessions, please let me know by emailing me at revdrkarenlove@gmail.com. We will negotiate the best day and time for those pre-registering.

I am looking forward to sharing this time with you to talk about “what is” and how we can respond faithfully. Some of the challenges before us:

- **How can our church hold space for multiple views without holding space for harm?**
- **How can we disagree without becoming enemies?**
- **How do we transform our fears into opportunities for being light in the world?**

Be sure and vote!

Love and blessings,
Pastor Karen



Keeping in Our Prayers

Jasmin Crump; Vicki Hough
(Peggy Wilson's daughter);

Larry Gallagher; Pat Balzell; Laura Merz and family; Lloyd Baker and family; Kollette and Al Longworth; Jonathan Yoder; Kathy & Bruce Yelle; Reverend Karen; Donna Embree; Peggy Simington; Shirley Ross; Kathleen & Jacob Wenzel; Jim Waterman; John & Lila Hyder; Roger Johnson; 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 country in this election season, that our democracy would be strengthened and peace with justice prevail.

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.



Charge Conference

Our annual Charge Conference will be held via Zoom on Sunday, Nov. 15, at 11:30, following the virtual coffee hour at 10:45. The link for both is the same. You are welcome to join for either or both. Reports are being prepared, and input will be gathered in the first few days of November.



Adult Sunday School

We continue to offer Adult "Sunday" School on Friday afternoons at 2 p.m. on Zoom. We use Amplify Media to provide a discussion point (you watch the program on your time) and then we discuss it on Zoom on Friday. Rev. Bert Schniepp is the moderator. We announce the program via email earlier in the week, with links to Amplify and Zoom included.

Why am I a Methodist? (Why I 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: patti-andpatt@comcast.net or lindayoder@hotmail.com.

Free Lunch News

Thanks to everyone for their ongoing support of this vital program. Free Lunch has now served 1,555 Subway meals through October 22. A grant application to Western Lane Community Foundation is in the works to continue the program into next year.

Paula Z



We are delighted that Florence UMC is now an official sponsor of the upcoming plastics collections by EcoGeneration in Lane County. The first event in Florence is November 1 at the FEC.

Recycling Take Backs

Sunday November 1, 2020

Florence Events Center

11:00AM to 12:00PM Seniors

12:00PM to 2:00PM General Public



- ⇒ Items Must be Stamped #2, #4, #5
- ⇒ Items Must be Clean and Dry
- ⇒ Please Remove all Labels



Plastics Community Collection



Additional Recycling Accepted

- ⇒ Personal Care Packaging
- ⇒ Health & Nutrition Packaging
- ⇒ Disposable Razors
- ⇒ Cigarette Butts
- ⇒ #1 Bottles/Jugs

AND A WHOLE LOT MORE



For a complete list of our programs and preparation instructions please visit

<https://www.ecogeneration.org/recycling-programs>



United
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UMWomen News

One of United Methodist Women's *Channels of Undesignated Giving* is the **World Thank Offering**, which is usually gathered during the season of

Thanksgiving. Throughout the year, in response to God's abundance and blessings, members can set aside a monetary gift, putting it in a special container, a box, or bag. The funds collected are sent by the local unit treasurer to the district treasurer and are used in the total program of mission carried on through the Women's Division. This year members are encouraged to send their special offering, and unmet pledge, to the treasurer, Kathleen Wenzel. If you have coins, kindly convert them to cash or a check. Whether the budgeted giving items can be dispersed by year's end will be determined by funds available. *If needed, next month an executive phone tree will contact unit members to act, even vote, on any business.* Thank you, all!

Jean Hefty

Florence Emergency Cold Weather Shelter



The emergency Cold Weather Shelter has been wondering what to do. With COVID-19, it is not safe to have a dozen or more people sleeping in the Presbyterian Church fellowship hall. Fortunately, Lane County has agreed to loan the Emergency Shelter 21 small, portable cabins. Each cabin, or pod, has a bed and built-in shelves. The plan is to set these up on the Presbyterian church property and leave them there until spring. However, they will only be occupied during cold weather. When the Emergency Shelter is open, volunteers also provide a hot dinner and breakfast, usually cooked in the Presbyterian church kitchen. The Shelter could still use donations for porta-potties, a wash station, fencing, and PPE. Donations can be sent to Florence Emergency Shelter, PO Box 659, Florence, OR 97439.

Vicki Philben



A Word From Your Lay Leader...

Wow, it is Fall already. Mornings are a little cooler and leaves along the Siuslaw are beginning to provide some beautiful fall colors. Just one look around and we see the beauty of God's incredible earth. How blessed we are....and Thanksgiving will be here soon.

It seems like forever since the dreaded Covid-19 turned our daily lives upside down. We are forever thinking, when will this be over? When will we will be able to worship together in our small, but mighty church. Yes, it will be so wonderful to see our church family again. One thing I do know is if we wear a mask, wash our hands frequently, practice social distancing, and avoid large gatherings, we can mitigate the spread of this crazy virus and return to some sense of normalcy, sooner rather than later.

As we continue our *YouTube* Sunday service, it has been my contribution to video folks in the church who are willing to provide a virtual greeting. So beginning next week, we are planning to not only provide a greeting but also ask folks to think about answering the question: "**What was my first impression of our small but mighty church?**" I'm sure we are going to hear some interesting stories. Stay tuned.

Hope to see you all on our Fellowship hour Zoom call, each Sunday morning at 10:45 am. As most of you, I so wish we were back in our own Fellowship Hall enjoying fellowship time with our church family. As of today, Zoom is the vehicle we can use to see everyone and get caught up on life's occurrences.

Blessings to all,

Patt Rollins

NOVEMBER

Sun

Mon

Tue

Wed

Thu

In-person services will continue to be on hold through November. Watch for other communications about services, meetings, etc.



One More Advent Devotional Opportunity

There is still some space left for Advent devotionals for our congregation's Advent Devotional booklet, so **until Nov. 13** you may still get a devotional included.

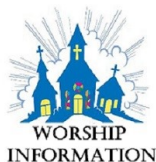
The format can be quite simple. Refer to a scripture you find applicable to Advent (the Advent Gospel lessons for this year are from the beginning of Mark (13:24 –27; 1:1-8), Luke (1:26-38), and John's (1:6-8; 19-28) Gospels), write some thoughts that come to mind as you read it, and end with a short prayer. You might also use a poem, story, or drawing, either original or with attribution from another source, which you find special for the Advent season. Remember the theme of preparing for Christ's coming to us and to our world.

These can be emailed to florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org or "snail-mailed" to the church sometime by mid-November. This will give time to produce the booklet for all to use, and give you plenty of time to find inspiration! If you have any questions or would like more scripture references, please feel free to contact Bert Schniepp (alberts568@aol.com).

Fri

Sat

ch for emails and



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

Birthdays

- 2 Colleen Fulmer
- 3 Alex Goss
- 4 Sandy Woodward
- 5 Jon Reeves
- 8 Bob Hefty
- 14 Eleanor Hand
- 24 Fritz Keller
- 26 Carol Salisbury
- 29 Betty Cline
- 30 Peggy Wilson

Anniversaries

- 11 Rick & Bonnie Kelley
- 26 Tom & Stephanie Gonser

If I've missed your birthday or anniversary, please send an email to Diane at quiltinggma5@yahoo.com, to let me know.



Sacred Earth Tip of the Month:

Adjusting your temperature can make a difference for your energy bills and the environment.

- When you are home and awake, set your thermostat as low as is comfortable.
- When you are asleep or out of the house, lower your thermostat 10-15 degrees for eight hours and save 10% on your heating bill.
- If you have a heat pump, maintain a moderate setting or use a programmable thermostat especially designed for the use of heat pumps.

Keep a warm comfy throw available to snuggle up in and have lots of cocoa in the cupboard. (made that one up!)

Patti Johnson

Revised Directory Coming

A revised directory will be available on-line in early November. A paper version will be mailed to those listed in the directory without an email address. If you are aware of a correction, please let us know. Contact lindayoder@hotmail.com or 541-590-0944.

Florence United Methodist Church **FINANCES**



September 1-30, 2020: Receipts: \$ 5,199.76
 Expenses: \$ 5,778.89

October income through the 25th: \$ 6,315.00

Provided by Kathy Yelle

Nurture News



Can you remember what you were doing a year ago at this time? Recently, with our new normal of Covid-19 protocols, it is almost difficult to remember what day of the week it is. So when my daughter-in-law's birthday came around on October 14th, I was blown away to remember that I had been with Miley in Southern India, celebrating her birthday on a mission trip a year ago. Frankly it seems a lot longer than a year ago! Nevertheless, the memories came flooding back, with a little help from Facebook memories. ...LOL!



On that trip we worked with a team of doctors and nurses, and other professionals, from Developing Workers, a Christian organization, to assess children's medical, social, and emotional well-being who were being sponsored by One Child Matters, India. I was with Miley, who is the CEO of Brave Global, and her team. We were providing an educational component that would be identifying children who were at risk and leaving them with booklets for male and female children. The identified children would be in support groups led by Indian nationals over the course of months, after we left. So I had never been on a mission trip before and it was amazing, difficult, hard work, and rewarding...

However, when I bake bread and give a neighbor some bread, I feel happy that I can share. So reaching out to our neighbors with food, prayer, support and love is just as special as going on a mission trip...If you have a friend or neighbor who needs support send me a note via kathywaterman10@gmail.com, and I will make sure the Nurture Committee sends them a card....

God's Mercies.

Kathryn Waterman



Recipe Corner

Gallegos Family Turkey Stuffing

(For 12 to 16 pound turkey)

Ingredients:

- 8 oz Box Saltine crackers (process into fine crumbs)
- 1 1/2 Cups raisins
- 1 1/2 Cups Longhorn cheddar cheese (mild), cubed into about 1/4" cubes.
- 1 11 oz Can Green Giant Niblets Corn (drained)
- 2 Eggs beaten with 2 to 3 tablespoons of milk
- 1 1/2 Cups diced celery
- 1 Cup diced onion
- 1/4 Cup parsley minced
- 1 1/2 to 2 Cups Best Foods Mayonnaise

Directions:

- ⇒ Sauté celery, onion and parsley lightly until onion is translucent.
- ⇒ In large mixing bowl mix all ingredients with mayonnaise until it holds together.
- ⇒ Stuff turkey.
- ⇒ Bake according to the "Stuffed Bird" directions on the bird wrapper.
- ⇒ If you do not want to use all the mayonnaise, add 1/2 mayonnaise and 1/2 cream. I use 1/2 & 1/2.
- ⇒ Stuffing tastes best if cooked in bird. Use both body and neck cavities of turkey.

Enjoy!

Aaron Gallegos



United
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Women

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Our Own Florence United Methodist Women's Scholarship Recipient

Gertrude Boyd Crane was an Ordained Elder in our Conference, a theologian and professor at Pacific University, known by her students as a teacher, counselor, and one who helped out financially at critical times in her students' lives.

In her will, she created a scholarship fund for women in the Oregon-Idaho Conference who are taking post-graduate studies toward a profession in the Church. Since 1978 United Methodist Women have awarded almost 100 scholarships to outstanding women, many of whom are serving the Church here in the Oregon-Idaho Conference today.

At the annual meeting of the Oregon-Idaho UMW on October 17 (conducted on Zoom) it was announced that this year's recipient of the Gertrude Boyd Crane scholarship is Florence's own Tia Leonard-Durrant.

Tia shared that she is going to school at Claremont School of Theology working toward getting her Master's of Divinity degree and then will continue to work toward Ordination in the United Methodist Church. She would love to someday be part of church revitalization or maybe even planting a church. She knows she is passionate about figuring out how to help people connect with their communities. What exactly that looks like remains to be seen. Right now Tia is taking Hebrew Bible in Context, Religious Education, and Spiritual Practice Formation with Hebrew Bible in Context being her favorite. Tia is very grateful to have received this scholarship because in addition to the financial help, she knows she has the ongoing care and support of the United Methodist Women of the Oregon-Idaho Conference.

Because of the Coronavirus pandemic, Tia is taking all of her classes online and working from her home here in Florence that she shares with her wife Erin Leonard-Durant and their two dogs. It is ironic that Tia wants to someday help people connect with their communities and yet hasn't been able to become fully involved in the life of the Florence community because of the Covid-19 restrictions.

Congratulations to you Tia for earning this scholarship! The love, prayers, and support of the FUMC congregation are with you. We hope you can feel these things even if we can't be together in person during these challenging days.

Love, Hazel Vacura

A Thanksgiving Alphabet

Oh give thanks unto the Lord.
For **A**merica with its plenty and freedom;
For the **B**ible, **B**aseball, and other **B**ooks;
For **C**hrist, the **C**hurch, and **C**hildren who spend
money as if it does *not* grow on trees;
For **D**ads who provide, protect and prepare us for life;
For **E**aster, **E**yes that see, and **E**ars that hear;
For **F**aith, **F**ood, **F**riends, **F**amily and even **F**ootball;
For the **G**ood times of the past and the present;
For the **H**earth of body and the **H**appiness of spirit;
For **I**mmortality, and **I**ce cream;
For **J**esus, **J**oggers, and **J**ingle bells;
For the **K**indness of nurses, doctors, mailmen, clerks,
teachers, and policemen;
For **L**ife with a good night's sleep, a comfortable pair of
shoes, a glass of cold water, and a daily newspaper;
For **M**others with their tender loving care;
For **N**eighbors who return everything they borrow;
For the **O**utdoors with its beauty and splendor;
For **P**eace, **P**arents, **P**icnics, and **P**opcorn;
For **Q**uiet times to rest and relax and reflect;
For **R**ainbows, the **R**ight word at the **R**ight time;
For **S**enior citizens with their wit and wisdom and for
Single persons with their labor and love;
For **T**eeth to chew and **T**oes to dance;
For the **U**nexpected joys, like a letter from a child away
at college, or a visit from an old friend;
For **V**egetable gardens, **V**ictorious teams, **V**acations;
For tone-deaf **W**orshippers who sing just the same;
For all the **X**tra things we forgot;
For **Y**outh who don't know it all and want to learn;
For **Z**oos and **Z**ippers and **Z**est for living.
For the Lord's blessings endure forever.



Thanksgiving Card by
Creative Communica-
tions for the Parish,
Compiled by Walter
Schoedel and Larry W.
Neeb, 1989

Submitted by
Jean Hefty

Go Camping

Here's a great way to go Christmas caroling this year, despite COVID-19...

2020 Online Great Hymns of the Faith--Christmas Edition!

Site: Alton L. Collins Retreat Center

Date: 12/10/20

Cost: \$0

This unique program has been inspiring and entertaining participants for over 11 years now, but this is the first year (due to the constraints of the coronavirus pandemic) that we've done it online! If you're wondering how you're going to get to "go" Christmas caroling this year, then this free program is perfect for you. We'll not only sing Christmas carols together, but we'll also get to hear stories and insights about the music, poetry, and theology of our heritage of congregational song--all mixed together with a healthy dose of amusing anecdotes and historical trivia. The founder and leader of the series is the Rev. Laura Jaquith Bartlett, an ardent lover of all things hymn-related.

If you're not sure how to navigate a virtual Zoom gathering, there are step by step instructions at gocamping.org. Go to the page that describes this camp event and there is a link towards the bottom that says "*Click here for tips on making the most of the Zoom Great Hymns event*".

I'm "going", how about you?

Diane

Register at gocamping.org

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER



Florence United Methodist Church
333 Kingwood St., Florence, OR 97439
Sunday Worship: virtual
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.