

Florence United Methodist Church

Tide-ings 2021



September Newsletter

Florence United Methodist Church
333 Kingwood, Florence, OR 97439

Office: (541) 997-6025

Sunday Worship
Sunday Services: online
subject to change



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:

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From Our Shared Heart...



Got hope?

In these times in which we live, with “the extinction of predictability,” as futurist and climate activist Alex Steffen writes, where do we get even a wee bit of hope to help anchor us, ground us, and yes, even lift us. How do we turn our eyes from the “troubles we see” to the inspiration of God’s love and care for us. As the contemporary praise song goes, how do we trade our sorrows for the joy of the Lord? We grieve the end of an era, we grieve the planet we once lived on that is no more due to the loss of the climate and environment that we’ve lived our lives accustomed to up to this point.

Our hope in the midst of accelerating and dramatic change is in that which never changes, the Divine. During these pandemic times, in the loss of so much that nurtured and sustained us in our exterior worlds, especially in -person worship and gatherings, our hope is in our connection with God within us, as close to us as our own heartbeat.

This is the time to seek God more than ever, to spend time “practicing the Presence,” resting in the arms of Divine Love. This is the time to reach out to each other in the ways that we can, being grateful for the technology that allows us to be with each other even from a distance, through a

phone call, a Zoom gathering, or a hand-written note. More than ever, this is the time to check in with each other, make sure others are ok, reach out for support when we ourselves are overly-stressed or dealing with particularly challenging health conditions or other burdens.

This is the time to frame what is happening to us, around us, within us, as part of our walk with Christ, part of our discipleship.

This is the time. Now. This is the only time our life can be lived . . . now. This is the time to focus on what we do have, the blessings that have been and continue to be showered upon us.

We can do this! This too shall pass. Let us not waste our precious lives but rather find our joy, our peace. Let’s be the love, toward ourselves, toward all those whose lives we can touch.

God is with us. God is for us. God will see us through.

Blessed be the names of God!

Love and blessings,
Pastor Karen



Keeping in Our Prayers

Carolyn Munson; Barbara Walker and family of Charles Walker; Sandy Woodward; Bert Schniepp; Ray Feay; Peggy Wilson; Tim & Carol Salisbury; Laura Merz; Hazel Vacura; Jasmin Crump; Pat Balzell; Jonathan Yoder; Reverend Karen; Peggy Simington; Kathleen Wenzel; John & Lila Hyder; Georgia Garrett; 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.



Baptism of Ava Johnson

Sunday, July 11, 2021

*Mom and Dad:
Megan and Andrew
Johnson*

*Sets of grandparents
from Ashland and
Eugene attended, as
well.*



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH · HOPE · LOVE IN ACTION

UMWomen News

United Methodist Women are “hanging in there”! It was disappointing to cancel the potluck picnic last month but cautions around the pandemic won the day. With hopeful anticipation we’re aiming for our UMW members to get together in October, specifically on the 6th. That is switching to Wednesday to avoid any activity relating to the free lunch program.

The Crater Lake District United Methodist Women Annual Meeting is set to meet virtually on September 25. To participate you will need to register for the meeting by sending your name, your unit name and your email address to Kirsten Allam, 5235 Mallard Circle SW, Albany, OR 97321 or to her email: k.allam@comcast.net. You will not receive a link to the Zoom meeting unless you are registered.

Be thinking of creative ways to raise funds to go toward our mission budget.

Jean Hefty



UMM Meets Again for Breakfast

The UMM fellowship group is again meeting. Watch for information about location of meetings. All men of the church are welcome to join us to praise God and enjoy each other’s fellowship.

Notes from the August 26 UMM gathering:

1. It was decided to contribute to the “teacher/school staff” appreciation project
2. We decided that we will not meet the following week (Sept. 2)
3. We will meet on Sept. 9, 8:00 am at Fresh Harvest Café
4. Additional meeting times/places will be determined at that time

Bert Schniepp

PFLAG

Watch the PFLAG Facebook page for September Meeting News



PFLAG-Florence meets virtually and will meet again via Zoom on Tuesday, September 14, at 6:30, Check us out on Facebook or www.pflagflorenceoregon.org for information and a link to the meeting.

We are expecting to have a group viewing of "Pray Away" on the church sanctuary's big screen some time in September. The film, which was released on Netflix in August, deals with the highly charged topic of Conversion Therapy, which is now banned in many states, including Oregon. The event will be free and open to the public.

Linda Yoder

Adult Class Resumes September 10



With the current resurgence of COVID-19, we have decided to continue with our Adult Sunday School Class via Zoom on-line (rather than in person), beginning on Friday, Sept. 10. At least for this current month, we will be following the schedule from the past year, with the adult Zoom "Sunday School" on Fridays (2:00 – 3:00 pm). We will be continuing the biographical study of the apostle Paul with Professor N. T. Wright as he uses Paul's letters and Acts to give new life to the person of Paul. The material is on Amplify Media. We will begin with Session 11.

All are welcome to join in this class and discussion. An email link to the Amplify session (usually a scripture reading and a separate short lecture video) and to the Zoom session is sent the week before, if the church office knows that you are interested. Please let the office know of your interest if you have not attended an earlier session, and listen to the presentation on Amplify prior to the Zoom session.

Bert Schniepp



A Word from your Lay Leader...

Those of you who follow me on Facebook probably have seen this quote. "I think it's weird how some days I feel remarkably healthy and other days I feel like a busted can of biscuits." Well, today I'm feeling like a busted can of biscuits.

A few minutes ago I received a prompt on my phone indicating that our Governor has issued a mask mandate for outdoor gatherings beginning Friday, August 27. I'm sure the mandate was issued with a ton of research, collaboration, and constant updating, all while listening to our state health care worker's alert that not only is the hospital system in crisis, it's close to collapse. Most of us felt that after the vaccine arrived, we were somewhat out of the woods. Well, not true, and it is getting worse. As I am writing this, only 57% of Oregonians were fully vaccinated with 63% having received one dose (USA Facts.org). We have vaccines available, we just need folks to get the shot. **Just get the shot!** Oh, yes, I've heard the argument, "it won't keep you from getting the virus", but what I can tell you is if you do get it, your chance of being hospitalized will be significantly reduced.

Enough about the craziness in our world. I'm tired of feeling like a "busted can of biscuits." Let's talk about some wonderful ministries in our church. Our Nurture Team will be filling Teacher Appreciation Bags for not only teachers, but also, support personnel. This year we will extend our bags to the Mapleton School District. A group of folks will be meeting on Monday, August 30 at 10:00am in the front yard of the church, to fill the bags. Yes, they will be asked to mask up and socially distance. This is one of our signature missions. We love our teachers and support personnel. Also, our Free Lunch Program, a longtime mission outreach, continues to minister to those in need of a meal. Subway meal tickets are still being distributed on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We are always in need of volunteers. Email Paula Z or Linda Yoder if you are interested.

As most of you are aware, our giving has lagged the past several months. If you haven't sent in your tithe, please do so. You can give on line: actually just log on to our Facebook Page and tap the "Give" button. Really easy.

In closing, here's a quote I very much love. Take the words to heart. God is good. "The One who raises the sun each morning and lifts the moon at night, ushers us too, through cycles of rising, falling, and raising again. Though we stumble, God lifts us up. Though we doubt, God remains. Though we get weary, God revives". (Unknown)

Blessings to you,

Patt Rollins

Nurture Committee



It is that time of year when our 'Small but Mighty Church' provides gift bags for the teachers of the Siuslaw School District as a small back to school treat. This year a decision was made to include all staff and the Mapleton School District.

This addition means that we are making a little under 250 bags! Having been a teacher and a retired high school administrator, I am thrilled we are including the staff as they are the backbone of every school. This last year and half has been extremely difficult for our educators and staff as they have created a whole new paradigm for instruction during the pandemic.

So far we have secured donations from ***Grocery Outlet, Peace Health, River Roasters, Fred Meyer, Bi-Mart, The Shippin' Shack and Lovejoy's!*** Additionally, each bag will contain a card of encouragement from FUMC and on the back a list of the businesses will be included. The above businesses jumped on board and didn't hesitate to contribute to this time honored tradition developed by our church. As I type this note for the newsletter, our garage and cars are full of goodies for the educators and staff of our local schools!

Thank you to those who were able to assemble and deliver the bags, on August 30. Furthermore, we appreciate those who donated monetarily for this event.

***"Praise be to the Lord, for he showed me the wonders of his love!"
Psalm 31:21 (NIV)***

*With Gratitude,
Kathryn Waterman
Nurture Chair*

SEPTEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
**Please note that Service options are subject to change to and from in-person or online, determined by the guidelines set forth during this pandemic*			1	2
5 10:00 Service Included in video service: information from Safe Shelters for Siuslaw	6	7	8	9 8:00 UMMen—Fresh Harvest
12 10:00 Service	13	14 6:30 PFLAG	15	16 8:00 UMMen
20 10:00 Service	21	22	23	24 8:00 UMMen
27 10:00 Service	28	29	30	



Fri	Sat
3	4
10 Adult Sunday School via Zoom 2:00	11
18 10:00-Noon compost Talk & Demo Adult Sunday School via Zoom 2:00	19
25 Crater Lake District UMW Annual Meeting Adult Sunday School via Zoom 2:00	26 Noon-Newsletter Deadline

Birthdays

- 1 Teresa Jackson
- 2 Ramona Spencer
- 6 Susan Patrick
- 7 Linda Yoder
- 12 Aaron Gallegos
- 12 Bob Orr
- 15 Cindy Glover
- 17 Ursula Sears
- 19 Dean Spencer
- 20 Kathy Bones
- 22 Ken Wright
- 24 Sharon Belvill
- 26 Debbie Jones
- 27 Myrle Riffe-Helkenn
- 28 Nancy Cedarleaf-Grey
- 29 Barbara Walker
- 29 Jim Waterman

Anniversaries

- 9 Mike & Shirley Ross
- 10 Chuck & Sylvia Selden
- 10 Tim & Carol Salisbury
- 29 Peggy & Cindy Hughes

If I've missed your birthday or anniversary, please send an email to Diane at quiltingma5@yahoo.com, to let me know.



Trustees Report

The Trustees are working with the Free Lunch (FL) program to obtain estimates for upgrades to the kitchen in the Fellowship Hall.

These much-needed upgrades will be partially funded through grants already received by FL along with some residual funds from the Sanctuary furnace project, but additional contributions toward this project will be welcomed.

More information and details will be available over the next few weeks.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Philben

Show Your Support!

Every day there are news articles about the stress that healthcare workers are under during this stage of the pandemic. They need our prayers and our support.

Peace Health recently posted this on their Facebook page:

"Our caregivers and physicians so appreciated your messages of love and support when we launched "Blessing the Front Line" earlier in the pandemic. Please take a moment to send another prayer or note of encouragement, which we'll share widely. You may post them here (on Facebook), send them to PeaceHealth Sacred Heart Medical Center at RiverBend, c/o "Blessing the Front Line," 3333 RiverBend Drive, Springfield, OR 97477, or email blessingthefrontlines@peacehealth.org. Many thanks!"

Take a couple minutes and fire off an email or send a note. Let's overwhelm our caregivers with responses from our "little but mighty" church.

Lucinda Hughes



Free Lunch News



FREE LUNCH is fast approaching having served 3,000 Subway voucher meals. Whereas we had hoped to reopen the kitchen by October 1 to serve a hot meal, an earliest reopening has now been pushed back until January. We intend to continue the Subway voucher through at least December 31, 2021, supported now by private donations as the grant awards are exhausting.

During this ongoing kitchen closure, the FUMC Finance Committee is considering how to best utilize grant funds received to make the much-needed repairs to the church kitchen. We need to restore it to a safe, sanitary, and healthy environment. We are receiving estimates for new countertops, a garbage disposal, painting, and cleaning.

Don Gardner has decided not to take the Program Director position. Linda Yoder is the current point of contact for the FREE LUNCH program, amongst her many other duties. I will continue to monitor the program during this transition. Brenda Gilmer took over record-keeping from long serving Sandy Steckclair on March 17, 2021. Sandy received a Lovejoy's gift certificate in thanks. Both Don and Sandy served the Free Lunch program faithfully for many years.

We are now in need of more volunteers to cover handing lunch tickets out the door of our fellowship hall from 10:45 a.m. - Noon each Tuesday and Thursday so that there is no disruption in the program (now 27 years!). All together, we just need to cover about twenty shifts to last to year's end. There is a calendar next to the sign-in clipboard just inside the front door. Please feel free to stop by, see how its done and add your name to unspoken for Tuesdays or Thursdays. We are working at filling in the calendar now for September, October, November and December. It's very easy and safe. We are masked and gloved. They are masked. There is no contact with the individuals who just pick up the ticket off the table from outside the room. It only needs one person per shift but couples and significant others are welcome. Please contact Judy Jones at 541-991-2033 to help the program deliver tickets if you are able to take a shift.

Peggy and Lucinda Williams are reproducing their famous FREE LUNCH Soup Recipe Book. If you'd like a copy, please place an order with them.

Paula Z

Go Camping gocamping.org

From the August 25 edition of Go Camping E-News:

Tips for Instilling Faith in Children

"This week's S'MORE newsletter from the national camp & retreat network features a link to a useful article for camp professionals, local church leaders, and parents:

Many people feel unprepared to help kids learn about God. It can help to remember that a theology degree isn't required and that actions speak louder than words. Check out these tips from United Methodist Children's Ministry leaders for how to make faith real in the lives of the kids you care about. These are great reminders for us in Camp & Retreat Ministries and share-worthy for camper families! [Read the article here.](#)"

Or type this into your browser:

<https://www.umcrm.wildapricot.org/page-1696683?target=blank>

S'MORE is the United Methodist Camp and Retreat weekly publication. If you would like to subscribe to S'MORE, go to:

<https://umcrm.wildapricot.org/page-1696683?target=blank>

Diane

Florence United Methodist Church FINANCES



July 1-31, 2021: Receipts: \$ 5,558.94
 Expenses: \$ 5,335.60
August income through the 25th: \$3,184.00

In last month's newsletter, it was reported that income for June was \$13,336.03. However, only \$8,100.00 of that was actual income, as the rest was due to the cancellation of the SBA PPP loan received in 2020.

Provided by Kathy Yelle



OSU EXTENSION SERVICE LANE COUNTY AND FLORENCE FOODSHARE COMMUNITY GARDEN

Compost Demonstration and Soil pH Testing

For beginning to experienced composters.

What: Compost Demonstration covering, hot and cold composting, vermicomposting, and Bokashi. And soil pH testing - soil samples will be collected and brought to the Lane County Extension office to complete the testing (see information below on soil testing).

Where: Florence Foodshare Community Garden,
2190 Spruce Street, Florence, OR

When: Saturday September 18th from 10 am to Noon



Photo by Lynn Kechum

Masks will be required to attend this event and please respect social distancing.

Lane County OSU Extension Service is offering Soil pH testing. A pH test will tell you how acidic or basic your soil is. Most plants prefer neutral soils, but some plants grow best in more acidic soils (blueberries, rhododendrons, azaleas, etc.). Soil nutrients are also affected by the soil pH.

Details:

Bring 3/4 cup of dry soil for each sample

You will be asked to fill out a form with your contact information.

Master Gardener Volunteers will contact you with the results

Cost is \$2 for each sample, cash only please

Bring your soil samples for testing on Saturday, September 18 from 10:00 - Noon



EESC photo archive

For Instructions and video tutorial for collecting soil samples and to learn more about soil pH: <https://beav.es/3tv>

Lane County Master Gardener Plant Clinic
996 Jefferson St., Eugene OR

Phone: 541-344-0265

Email: lanemg@oregonstate.edu



Empathetic Kids Start with You! Be a Roots of Empathy Instructor



Roots of Empathy supports development of empathy in children and reduces rates of aggression. This fall, the program will be in elementary classrooms across Lane County.

A volunteer instructor makes regular visits to an elementary classroom during the 2021-22 school year; some of those visits feature a tiny teacher – a local baby – and parent. Some or all visits may be virtual.

Instructors are trained by Roots of Empathy staff. There is ongoing support for instructors through mentorship, and there are opportunities for continuing education.

What does it take to be an instructor?

- A love for working with primary grade kids and babies!
- Availability for the following trainings:
Virtual: 8am-12pm, Sept. 28-30, Oct. 5
In Eugene: 9am-5pm, Oct. 6
- A commitment for the 2021-22 school year
- Access to electronic means of communication



Interested in finding out more about what it looks like to be a Roots of Empathy Instructor? Contact Sara Loveless, Lane County Roots of Empathy Coordinator, at saraL@90by30.com or visit rootsofempathy.org

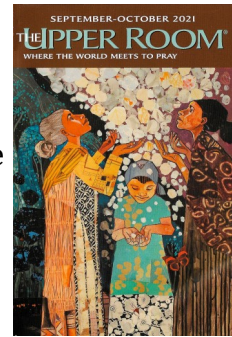


Lane County Roots of Empathy is a strategy being implemented by 90by30, a community-campus partnership dedicated to reducing child abuse in Lane County 90 percent by 2030. Visit 90by30.com for more information.

Noteworthy News...

Home Touch & Upper Room

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 September-October edition should have arrived. If you do not receive these resources, but would like to have them, please contact lindayoder@hotmail.com or 541-590-0944. (jpg available)



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 is the only portal to online giving. If you have any questions, contact lindayoder@hotmail.com.

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.

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Sunday Worship: online
Subject to change
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.