

Florence United Methodist Church

Tide-ings 2023



September Newsletter

Florence United Methodist Church
333 Kingwood, Florence, OR 97439

Office: (541) 997-6025

florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org

Visit us at www.florenceunitedmethodist.org



Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Serving the People of God:

District Superintendent: Rev. John Tucker

Pastor: Reverend Logan McLean Strike

Governing Board Chair: Kathy Yelle

Trustees Chair: Scott Philben

SPRC Chair: Jim Waterman

Finance Chair: Terry Woodward

Ministers: All Members

Newsletter Editor: Diane McCalmont

Pastor Logan:

cell: 406-839-1756

email: logan.m.strike@gmail.com

Logan's Lines



"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect." Romans 12:1-2

I always loved fall. Fall meant going back to school! Getting new clothes, new school supplies, new teachers. Even though leaves fall and weather grows colder, it has always felt like a season of newness.

Perhaps you feel that shift too—after the lazy days of summer, you're ready to get back into the swing of things. I would invite you to get involved more in the ministries at our church this fall, try something new! If you've never helped with Free Lunch, stop by for a bowl of soup or have a conversation with Vicki Philben about how to get involved. Perhaps you'd like to sing in the choir, join United Women in Faith, or bring your craft to prayer shawl ministry. Or maybe, you'd like to become more involved with the worship team on Sundays: serving as an usher, liturgist, or counter. We could always use someone to wash the dishes at coffee hour!

For every season in life, there's a new invitation from God. God asks us to give of ourselves in service of one another, for the sake of joining Christ in his mission of Love in this world. Where is God calling you in ministry today?

With you on the Way of Jesus,

Rev. Logan McLean Strike

Pastor Logan's Schedule:

Pastor Logan's office hours: Tuesdays and Fridays
You may reach her on her cell at: 406-839-1756
or by email at: logan.m.strike@gmail.com

Pastor Logan will be working most Saturdays at the hospital.



Keeping in Our Prayers

Kathy Waterman and family of her father; Jacob Wenzel and family of Kathleen Wenzel; Carolyn Munson; Lee & Trina Smith; Karen Baylis; Bert & Linda Schniepp; Betty Livingston; Judy Jones and family; Donna Embree and daughter, Barbara; Ray Feay; Aaron Gallegos; Sandy Woodward; Laura Merz; Hazel Vacura; Jonathan Yoder; John & Lila Hyder; Georgia Garrett; Ursula Sears; Patrick McCalmont; April McCalmont.

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

For healing blessings on families across our nation who have lost loved ones to gun violence.

For blessings and mercy on the people of Ukraine.

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: To receive the electronic prayer chain, contact kathywaterman10@gmail.com.

Choir at FUMC Resumes in September

Our choir is excited to get started again this fall! We will kick off our singing season with a potluck, TBD. If you want to lift your voice and sing with us, please email Amanda Sarles that you wish to be added to the choir list! Email Amanda at missamandalouise@hotmail.com.

All voices welcome to join!

Amanda Sarles





United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith News

Good news! On Wednesday September 6 the UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH will gather in the Tedd Powell Hall at 1:00 p.m. Hostess for the day is Hazel Vacura and devotions will come from Jean Hefty. Donna Embree will provide a book review. At "press time" the program is a mystery!

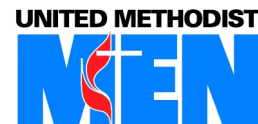
At this meeting a decision will be made on the unit pledge to Crater Lake District UWF for 2024. During a recent worship service, Special Mission Recognition pins were presented to Judy Jones, Vicki Philben and Scott Philben. All three recipients have freely given their time and abilities to keep programs going in our church and "we say thank you".

Crater Lake United Women in Faith annual meeting is scheduled for September 21 with more info available from Judy Jones. She can also provide details on the Soul Care Retreat at Suttle Lake Camp September 8-10.

Florence unit meetings are open to all women of our congregation and it would be a pleasure to welcome you.

Jean Hefty, Secretary

UMM Breakfast ...



... meets on Thursdays, 8:30am, Fresh Harvest Café on Hwy 101.

All men welcome and encouraged to come enjoy the time of breakfast and fellowship.

Bert Schniepp



Sept 12 PFLAG meeting connects with National Rep

PFLAG-National's outreach representative will meet with PFLAG-Florence members and friends via Zoom at our regular meeting Tues., Sept. 12 at 6:30 p.m., in the small meeting room off the sanctuary, rather than the Fellowship Hall.

There will be a sign, but we'll enter the sanctuary by the side door. Light refreshments will be available.

Eddie Funkhouser, who became PFLAG's West Coast representative in 2022, is excited to connect with our chapter, and we're happy the technology allows us to do so. PFLAG's Northwest Council also conducts regular Zoom meetings every fourth Wednesday as a way for individual chapters in Oregon and Washington to share concerns and events.

Although originally scheduled for September, our speaker from Siuslaw Outreach Services will instead present at the October 10 meeting.

PFLAG-Florence, launched in 2011 by members of Florence UMC, invites you to consider becoming a member, which gives you links to the national organization. Dues are just \$30 annually. You can send a check to PFLAG-Florence at P.O. Box 1074, Florence, OR 97439 or use the PayPal secure link from our website www.pflagflorenceoregon.org.

Linda Yoder

Adult Sunday School Resumes Sept. 10

Beginning September 10, the Adult Sunday School class will resume meeting at 9:00am in the sanctuary each Sunday. We will begin a 6-week study of the Gospel of Mark, with a beginning presentation on video by Amy-Jill Levine, a professor of New Testament at Vanderbilt University Divinity School. She always enlightens as she brings a less-frequently voiced Jewish understanding to our beloved Scriptures. As a beginning, you can begin reading Mark's Gospel in preparation for each week's class.

As has been our pattern for the last few months, we will continue our pattern of beginning with a short video presentation followed by discussion as we meet in the Sanctuary at 9:00 am. We finish our discussion in plenty of time for 10:30 am Worship.

Bert Schniepp



**Siuslaw School District has two Budget Committee positions
open for the school board budget process**

Positions 2 and 4 are open for appointment by the school board.

The Budget Committee includes the Board of Directors and seven volunteer citizens who are appointed to serve 3-year terms. Committee members must be registered voters living within the boundaries of the Siuslaw School District and cannot be employees, officers, or agents of the district. Budget meetings will take place in April and May 2024.

If you are interested, apply by September 11, 2023. Please complete an application and return to 97i@siuslaw.k12.or.us or the Siuslaw School District Office, 2111 Oak Street, Florence, OR 97439, by September 11, 2023, no later than 5 p.m. Information and application can be found on the district website under [School Board](#).

The school board will consider applications at the September 13, 2023 school board meeting.

Thank you.

Amanda Sarles
Music Teacher
Florence, Oregon
missamandalouise@hotmail.com

PALS



PALS

**1:00-3:00 p.m. Fridays
Tedd Powell Fellowship Hall
All women are welcome!**

**P... Prayer
A... Action
L... Love
S... Sharing
...and tea!**



Update on Teacher/Staff Bags

I want to thank every person who donated financially to the Teacher and Staff Bags for the 2023- 24 School Year.

Additionally, I want to thank all who were able to assist on August 29th to assemble the 280 bags!

I cannot tell you how thankful I am for the businesses who have given product and monetary support for this 'Small but Mighty Endeavor'. Safeway's Manager, Mica Diaz, asked me to send a proposal and she would forward to corporate. Lo and Behold, she called with a \$420.00 gift card! Grocery Outlet's owner, Lisa, always gives us shopping carts and tells us to go for it...that receipt totaled \$331.00! Angela, the Store Supervisor at Fred Meyer, also steps up every year, no questions asked.

Our business donors for this year are: ***Peace Health, Grocery Outlet, River Roasters, Abby's Legendary Pizza, A &W, The Shippin' Shack, The Chicken Coop, Safeway, Fred Meyer, H2O Florence, Mo's Seafood and Chowder, Florence Dental Clinic, FTS Computer Repair, Mari's Kitchen, Artefacts, Uncommon Collective, Chad E. Clement Dentistry, and the Waterfront Depot!***


Special thanks to Peggy Simington for delivering the Mapleton bags to the Mapleton School District and to Nancy Rhodes for securing Chad E, Clement Dentistry as a new business partner! Currently, our nation is experiencing a teacher shortage. It makes my heart glad to think we can bring some small joy to our local teacher and staff educators with our gift bags!

*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
3 10:30am Church Svce	4	5 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	6 1:00pm UWF mtg	7 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm Offi 11:30am Free Lunch
10 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Church Svce After service: Governing Board meeting	11	12 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch 6:30pm PFLAG	13 10:00am-Noon Prayer Shawl Ministry	14 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm Offi 11:30am Free Lunch
17 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Church Svce	18	19 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	20 5:30 All Church Potluck	21 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm Offi 11:30am Free Lunch Crater Lake UWF Ann Mtg
24 9:00am Adult Sunday School 10:30am Church Svce	25	26 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	27	28 8:30am UMMen 10:30am-12:30pm Offi 11:30am Free Lunch
		 Pastor Logan away at Gathering of Elders		



	Fri	Sat
	1 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 1pm PALS meet	2
ce Hrs	8 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 1pm PALS meet	9 UWF Soul Care Retreat thru Sunday
ce Hrs	15 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 1pm PALS meet	16
ce Hrs nual	22 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 1pm PALS meet	23
ce Hrs	29 10:30am-12:30pm Office Hrs 1pm PALS meet	30

Birthdays

- 1 Teresa Jackson
- 2 Ramona Spencer
- 6 Susan Patrick
- 7 Linda Yoder
- 12 Aaron Gallegos
- 15 Cindy Glover
- 17 Ursula Sears
- 19 Dean Spencer
- 20 Kathy Bones
- 22 Ken Wright
- 26 Debbie Jones
- 27 Myrle Riffe-Helkenn
- 29 Jim Waterman

Anniversaries

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

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



Florence United Methodist Church
FINANCES

July 1-31, 2023: Receipts: \$ 6,418.07
 Expenses: \$ 16,564.68*

August income through the 27th : \$ 4,090.09

*July Expenses include \$11,605.78 to pay off the Banner Bank "Parsonage Loan" in full.

Provided by Kathy Yelle, Acting Treasurer

Food for Thought

As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God. My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God? (Psalm 42: 1-2)



The passage from Psalm 42 above was the inspiration for a praise song that we sang at today's lay-led service. What a joy and delight it was to hear everyone's voices as we sang along and (yes!) even clapped hands as we praised our God and our Redeemer.

"My soul thirsts for God, the living God. When can I go and meet with God?" As a panting deer is refreshed by a drink of water, so are we refreshed every Sunday at our 'small but mighty church' where we go and meet with God as a community of faith. Thanks be to the living God for refreshing our thirsty souls!

- Kathy Yelle, Governing Board Chair

Governing Board Updates



Highlights:

The Governing Board met on August 8, 2023; three items were put forward for discussion and vote.

1) The Governing Board reconsidered its June 4, 2023, decision to resume full payment of apportionments. After further discussion and consideration the Board members voted unanimously to honor the prior Administrative Council's May 2021 decision by continuing to reduce the church's apportionment payments to global church ministries in protest of the adoption of the "Traditional Plan" during the 2019 Annual Conference with its exclusionary and punitive language related to the ordination of Gay clergy.

2) Scott Philben reports that our insurance company representative indicates that the church would not be covered in case of an accident related to individuals parking overnight or camping on church property. The Governing Board voted to approve the purchase of signs to be posted in the parking lot and back lot stating "No overnight parking or camping".

3) There was a discussion on sanctuary safety during worship service centering on increasing safety by locking the side door prior to worship and the main door after worship has started. Pastor Logan stated that our church should be both welcoming and safe. She will begin locking the side entrance to church prior to the service but requested additional time to speak with other pastors regarding what they do to maintain a safe environment. The discussion will be resumed in a follow-up Board meeting scheduled for September 10, 2023 at 12:00 p.m.

For more complete information regarding the August 8, 2023, Governing Board Meeting please refer to the meeting minute notes sent out from the office via email. A paper copy of the meeting minutes has also been posted outside Pastor Logan's office and in the Fellowship Hall.

Respectfully,
Kathy Yelle, Governing Board Chair

Free Lunch News

Free Lunch Says Thanks to Three Rivers Foundation



Even after 25 years, Free Lunch is continuing to provide a fresh-cooked lunch to anyone who wants to come.

In January of last year, the Free Lunch program conducted a voluntary, anonymous survey of our guests. Our core mission, providing a lunch, got very high marks. People said they felt welcomed and liked the food. One of the questions on the survey was, "If Free Lunch could provide other services besides a lunch, what would be most helpful?" Overwhelmingly, our guests indicated that shower, laundry, and gas vouchers would be the most appreciated.

We initiated a voucher program with help from the Methodist United Women in Faith, and there seemed to be a real need for these services. We were able to continue providing the vouchers with help from a grant from the Three Rivers Foundation. Many thanks to Three Rivers Foundation for their generosity which enabled us to expand our program and provide this service. The voucher recipients almost always express their gratitude as well.

Thanks,
Vicki Philben

P.S. Many thanks to Aaron Gallagos for the lovely new table centerpieces in the Fellowship Hall. Perfect for the start of Autumn!



Hot Dog & Ice Cream Social August 6



United Women in Faith honoring three from our Congregation with Special Recognition pins August 6



Scott & Vicki Philben



Judy Jones



Online Contributions

Don't forget that you may make contributions to the church online via trusted ministry partner Vanco. Florence UMC has received a growing number of regular online contributions since the launch of the service in 2020. A link on our website takes you to Vanco's secure giving portal, providing transactional integrity. Email, write to, or call the church for instructions. 333 Kingwood St., 541-997-6025, florenceumc@florenceunitedmethodist.org

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 Peggy Hughes at auntpeg0929@gmail.com. We don't want anyone to miss out on a fabulous resource, especially one we use extensively for small groups.

Bottle Drop for Campers



Florence UMC's account with the Oregon Beverage Recycling Cooperative (OBRC) "Bottle Drop" allows anyone who has one of our tagged blue bags to contribute the value of their returnable deposit bottles and cans to the church, in support of camper - ships.

You fill a tagged bag and take it to the "drop" at Fred Meyer. OBRC counts the contents and credits the church. If you need someone to pick up your filled bag and take it to Fred Meyer, call Diane McCalmont at 541-997-1854.



Recipe Corner

Harvest Festival Soup

Another recipe from Free Lunch Soup Recipes
Contributed by Carolyn Feist

Ingredients:

- 1/2 cup diced onion
- 1– 1/2 quarts water
- 1 (28 oz) can diced tomatoes or 5 fresh skinned and diced
- 1 can green beans or 1/2 lb chopped fresh green beans
- 1 small zucchini
- 2 diced raw potatoes
- 1 cup each: diced leeks, shredded cabbage, diced celery
- 2 cloves minced garlic
- 2 Tblsp salt, 2 tsp fine herbs, pepper to taste
- 5 oz small pasta
- 1 (15 oz) can white or garbanzo beans

Directions:

Saute' onion in 2 Tblsp olive oil until soft. Add water and vegetables except the white/garbanzo beans. Add garlic and seasonings. Bring to boil, reduce heat, simmer covered 30 minutes. Add pasta and white/garbanzo beans. Cook uncovered until pasta is tender.

Yield: 12 cups of soup

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER



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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.