



FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Messenger August 2021

1726 Cedar St., Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434
e-mail: fgumcorg@gmail.com

Phone: 503-357-2689 FAX: 503-357-8410
website: www.umcforestgrove.org

WORSHIP IN AUGUST

In August, we plan to continue our pattern of worshipping outdoors together in the courtyard, where we can safely sing together. However, we are also preparing to have worship inside. With the current state of things, we cannot sing together inside, but there is a lot we can do. So, on the first Sunday of the month, we will be worshipping in the sanctuary. And we will have the sanctuary available for other days when the weather may make outdoor worship difficult.

For those who aren't able to come in person, we are offering a live stream of the service on our Facebook page ([facebook.com/forestgroveumcOregon](https://www.facebook.com/forestgroveumcOregon)). Services will also be posted later to the church website ([umcforestgrove.org](http://www.umcforestgrove.org)).

During August, as we continue to move through Ordinary Time, we're addressing several diverse texts. From the Gospel of John, we'll consider what it means that Jesus calls himself "bread from heaven." From Ephesians, we ask how it is that we can faithfully navigate our feelings of anger. We'll hear the story from 1st Kings about what Solomon wished for when God offered to give him anything he wanted. We will consider what it means to protect ourselves with the whole armor of God. And, turning to the Epistle of James, we will struggle with what it means not only to hear the word of God, but to actually do it.

August 1st, 2021, The Tenth Sunday after Pentecost
In the sanctuary

John 6:24-35
"Bread from Heaven"

August 8th, The Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
In the courtyard

Ephesians 4:25-5:2
"Imitators of God"

August 15th, The Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost
In the courtyard

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14
"A Discerning Mind"

August 22nd, The Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost
In the courtyard

Ephesians 6:10-20
"The Whole Armor of God"

August 29th, The Fourteenth Sunday after Pentecost
In the courtyard

James 1:17-27
"Doers of the Word"

Submitted by: *Pastor David*

FINANCE REPORT

I would like to start my report by saying how wonderful it is to worship in person again, the weather has been great for outdoor services.

The Investment committee met recently and made a decision to divest our investments between 2 different fund managers. Up to today we were only invested with the Calvert family of funds. We made the decision to move a small portion of our investments to the fund manager "Pimco". They have another group of socially responsible investments and have had similar results to the Calvert funds. We used the strategy of not having all of your eggs in one basket to guide us to make this decision.

Respectfully submitted: *Doug Scott*, Chair

QUILTING

Quilters: Remember how to hand quilt? If not, here is your chance to learn or bring back some little used skills! **Saturdays from 11 a.m. to 12:00 or 12:30 in room 9.** A quilt is ready on a rack to finish. All are welcome. Bring your own quilting needles and white thread. Some will be available for use.

Questions: *Janet Hummel*: 503.341.2182, cell/text

CHAIR YOGA

Chair Yoga: Saturdays at 10 a.m. in Room 8A. All are welcome to this easy way to ease into yoga. All Asanas (yoga poses) are completed on a chair or standing. No mat needed.

Questions: *Janet Hummel*: 503.341.2182, cell/text

THANKS

Thanks to all who helped make the parking lot sale a success! It was great working with and seeing everyone again. Because this is being written before the event, more will be shared in the September newsletter!

Submitted by: *Janet Hummel*

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

A NEW START

Dear friends,

It has been a year.... That is, it's been just over a year since I was appointed to Forest Grove UMC. But also, *it has been a year*. A year like no other, that has disrupted every part of our lives, down to the smallest detail.

When I came in July of 2020, there was no way to do those things that we would normally do during a pastoral transition. There was no way to have get-to-know-you gatherings. There was no way to do house visits. There was no way to have informal conversations after worship. There was no way, even, to see each other face to face. So, we were never able to establish the pastoral relationship that we would normally have built.

But now things are changing. We're not able to do everything we want to, but we're able to do a whole lot more than we could before. We can meet each other face to face.

So, I'd like to propose a new start. I'm imagining that for this last year, you've had an interim pastor named David King. But now, in this new year, you're welcoming your new pastor, also named David King. So now we're going to do some of the things that we would have done before, but we weren't able to.

The SPRC is working on planning a series of house meetings. Details will be coming out soon. I hope you'll sign up for one so we can get to know each other better.

We'll be worshipping inside in the sanctuary on Sunday August 1st. We'll have to sacrifice congregational singing to do it, but I hope those of you who have been waiting for indoor worship will make an effort to be there that day. We'll be celebrating communion and practicing a ritual for pastoral change.

And if you would like me to visit you at home or in the community, please don't hesitate to ask. You can reach me at daviddmking@gmail.com or 1-541-399-9020.

Blessings to you as we start this new year of ministry together.

+ Pastor David

Rev. Dr. David D. M. King

Your servant in Christ

FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

(Repeat from one year ago)

I've felt disturbed by all the reports of the last week or so of violence, riots, federal meddling and so forth in Portland. The reasons for protesting are legitimate in my mind for there are serious issues that need to be addressed, but the protesting seems to be out of hand.

When I think back to the protesting of the 1960s which brought about the Civil Rights Act of 1964 and the marches from Selma to Montgomery in March of 1965 there are differences. There was violence there as well. There were people that were injured, the protests ultimately helped to move along the whole civil rights movement of the era.

As I did a little reading some of the factors that made a difference (in my mind anyway) between today in Portland and then in the South include central leaders such as Martin Luther King Jr, John Lewis and others. There was training for participants, and there was the value of non-violent protesting to bring about change fueled by such leaders as Mahatma Gandhi and others.

My sense of what is happening today is, there is not effective central leadership and there is neither an over-all plan nor training. It's more a "just come along guys. Let's go mix things up in Portland tonight."

I may be wrong on all of this. I haven't been there in either the 1960 marches or in Portland today. Such issues of racial and social injustice are real as are issues of inappropriate police tactics and meddling of federal power that is not wanted by Portland leadership nor properly identified.

Our prayers must be for all – participants, betterment of the issues and leadership that is responsible and up front about who they are and what they are about.

From peaceful Gray Street in Cornelius,

Submitted by: Reverend *Rhoda Pittman Fuentes*, Retired Deacon

LAY LEADER LOGIN FOR AUGUST 2021

I've attended before and I will attend again; the meeting of the trustees is always interesting. The trustees have the responsibility of maintaining the church and all the property. This sounds easy enough for an official description but it is amazing what this group really has to do. For example, a tree has same branches coming down. Does the whole tree have to come down? Yes, because it is diseased and a danger. Can we take it down? Check with the City and the neighbors. Ok, can we take the tree out ourselves, or do we need a tree service? Once down, it needs to be cut up and the wood distributed. The unwanted wood scrapes have to be eliminated, the grounds need to be cleaned up and made safe for kids and dogs. Are we going to replace the tree, if so what kind of tree? Is the placement right or will we have troubles in the future? Where do we get the money to do this? Is it budgeted? And this is only a tree! What about a shed, a cracked pavement, a window, the parking lot, painting inside and/or out, or a broken pew? These people really work hard to maintain our Church and grounds.

For August, we have been requested to donate tins of tuna fish and boxes of mac-and- cheese. It is amazing how quick a lunch or easy a dinner can come from those little cans and boxes. Again, collection is the first Sunday of the month, the first of August. You can drop it off inside when you come to our first inside church service in a long time!

Submitted by: *Chuck Pritchard*, Lay Leader

Report From Annual Conference

I enjoyed being your delegate to Annual Conference this year even though it was all on Zoom! Here are the highlights for me. I have a detailed report in the office if you want further information and I am available for questions.

We have sung many Jim Strathdee songs during worship but I had never heard him sing and during our session voting on a new Lay Leader for the OR/ID Conference worship service, he sang his newest song, "We Are Drops of Water", based on the teaching of Mahatma Gandhi. It was very moving.

The Memorial Service for ministers and spouses who passed away during the past year was conducted by Laura Jaquith-Bartlett and Dan Wilson-Faye. It was absolutely beautiful.

Of course, there was business to attend to! Many resolutions and action requests were voted upon. During the voting they used music that had been sent in from various churches. It was noted that many of the pieces here presented by churches in the Cascadia District (our district) and many were new compositions. Most of the resolutions passed but several did not and were sent back for revisions. Most of the resolutions concerned Social Justice and ways we can empower all people and provide justice for all.

It was a shame we could not have the Ordination Ceremony in our courtyard but thanks go out to Portland 1st for allowing it to take place there in the cool!

Thank you for allowing me to be your delegate. Chuck and I have been to annual conference several times for *United Methodist Volunteers in Mission*, but this was my first time as a delegate. I hope I can be allowed to be a delegate next year when, hopefully, we will meet in person.

Respectfully Submitted: **Betty Pritchard**

PEACE WITH JUSTICE PROGRAM

The United Methodist Church **Peace with Justice Program** aims to make shalom visible and active in people's lives and communities. The Old Testament speaks of God's sovereignty in terms of the "covenant of peace" with Israel, which binds that people of God's shalom (Isaiah 54:10; Ezekiel 37:20).

In the covenant of shalom, there is no contradiction between justice and peace or between peace and security or between love and justice (Jeremiah 29:7). In Isaiah's prophecy, when "the spirit is poured upon us from on high," we will know that these laws of God are one and indivisible: "Then justice will dwell in the wilderness, and the effect of righteousness will be peace, and the result of righteousness, quietness and trust forever. My people will abide in a peaceful habitation, in secure dwellings, and in quiet resting places" (Isaiah 32:16-18, NRSV).

The General Conference assigned the General Board of Church and Society to implement the program and called the church to "strengthen its capacity to act as a public policy advocate" in communities and nations throughout the world.

Peace with Justice Sunday,

is one of the official church wide Special Sundays when the Peace with Justice Special Offering is collected. The Oregon – Idaho Conference keep half of the offering to fund local grants and other activities that are focused education and advocacy while a portion goes to the GBCS Peace with Justice Program to fund U.S. and global work in social action and public policy education and advocacy. For more information on Peace with Justice Sunday, visit:

www.umcgiving.org



UNDERSTANDING THE UMC BUDGET

The United Methodist Church budget supports seven general apportioned funds. Local church giving to these funds provides for the global mission and witness of our church.

[Understanding the UMC Budget](#)

General Apportioned Funds

- 1) Africa University Fund - Supports education efforts on the continent of Africa
- 2) Black College Fund - Supports 11 historically Black church-affiliated schools
- 3) Episcopal Fund - Supports active and retired bishops in their episcopal leadership for the denomination
- 4) General Administration Fund - Supports General Conference, the Judicial Council, Archives and History and the church's finance agency
- 5) Interdenominational Cooperation Fund - Supports the church's ecumenical work
- 6) Ministerial Education Fund - Supports United Methodist seminaries and clergy development
- 7) World Service Fund - Supports the diversity of mission through the work of church agencies and the Connectional Table

HAVE YOU MOVED?

Please be sure that the church office has your new address as soon as possible. Thank you.

Submitted by: *Noelle Voepel*
Church Administrative Assistant

BIRTHDAYS

Sue Brenner	August 2 nd
Sadie Gunther	August 2 nd
Carole Heun	August 5 th
Muriel Elsey	August 7 th
Kaylah King	August 8 th
Kiahla King	August 8 th
J. Perry Heun	August 11 th
Dale Heun	August 13 th
Dan Gustafson	August 15 th
Tom Rannells	August 16 th
Jacque Haney	August 16 th
Terri Jones	August 17 th
Donna Siddall	August 17 th
Alwyn Hites-Clabaugh	August 18 th
Ben Pritchard	August 21 st
Noah Wilson-Fey	August 22 nd
Hannah Gasparini	August 26 th
Dick Brenner	August 27 th
Chase Tabb	August 28 th
John O'Neill	August 29 th
David Rose	August 30 th

ANNIVERSARIES

Dave & Laurie Bond	August 1 st
Ken & Martha Tunall	August 14 th
Melissa & David King	August 14 th
Dale & Carole Heun	August 18 th
Frank & Ella Collins-Colcord	August 31 st

CHURCH CORNER

LIZ SWENSON

Diminutive but mighty, Liz is a dedicated giver and server, as seen by her many roles within FGUMC. Currently serving as chair of SPRC, she is also a soprano in the choir and a hand-bell ringer. She helps husband Karl with the monthly food drive and drives for the unofficial team that assures a ride to church for our non-driving members. She was invaluable as assistant administrator from about 2007 to 2016.

With a Master's degree in Computer Science, Liz worked about 15 years for AT&T in Columbus, OH, and Denver, CO, as a software engineer before she and Karl moved to Bald Peak in 2002. The couple had met when Liz was taking classes at Oregon State. Karl was a teaching assistant in chemistry, who was not only helpful, but kind. One day after turning in her grade, Karl called to make a date. They have been married more than 30 years, and Liz says she is still not sure she has found out everything there is to know about her incredible husband.

John Wesley's observation that actually working with the poor dispels the illusion that poverty is due to laziness has deep meaning for Liz. From 2003 through 2015, she was our Family Promise coordinator. "Sitting at table and talking with these homeless people as though with family was when I felt closest to God. Closest to doing His will."

Submitted by: *M.J. Nordgren*

SERVING IN AUGUST

Lay Leader	Chuck Pritchard
Altar Guild	Valerie Hawkins
Coffee Coordinator	Amy Scott
Nursery Supervisor	TBD
Kitchen Elves	Ella Collins & Betty Pritchard
	1 st
	8 th
	15 th
	22 rd
	29 th

MISSION STATEMENT

Know God.
Build Community.
Impact the World.

OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS

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FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
1726 Cedar Street, Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434

Rev. Dr. David King	1-541-399-9020	Pastor
Rev. Rhoda Markus	503-357-3998	Deacon
Noelle Voepel	503-357-2689	Administrative Assistant
Church Office Hours, Monday through Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.		
Ed Davie	503-357-3185	Messenger Publisher
Please send your articles to me by the 18 th of each month! e-mail: edavie@frontier.com		