



# FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Messenger March 2020

1726 Cedar St., Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434  
e-mail: [fgumcorg@gmail.com](mailto:fgumcorg@gmail.com)

Phone: 503-357-2689 FAX: 503-357-8410  
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### WORSHIP IN MARCH

Lent begins February 26<sup>th</sup>, on Ash Wednesday. Lent lasts 40 days and is, traditionally, a time to pursue mindfulness and to ponder our relationships with God.

For many Christians, Lent is a time of self-denial to help this focus. God bless you if you choose to give up something for Lent which will help you grow closer to God.

For some, Lent is a time to simply slow down and set healthful priorities; to take it easy and allow the Holy Spirit room to enter into our lives. The word "Lent" means "lengthen" and refers to the growing length of days as spring arrives.

Lent may be a time of hope, and so our worship leading up to Easter will focus on encouraging themes.

Submitted by: *Pastor Dan*

### ST. PATRICK'S DAY

St. Patrick's Day Pot Luck - Sunday, March 15<sup>th</sup> - Please plan to join your church family to celebrate St Patrick's day with a Methodist Pot Luck!

Bring your favorite dish to share and we will share some St Patrick's Day lore.

Should be FUN! **WEAR GREEN!**

Submitted by: *Janet Hummel*

### U. M. W. MEETING

United Methodist Women will meet Monday on March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 p.m. in the Library.

All are welcome to join us.

Submitted by: *Sue Brenner*, Pres., U.M.W.

### MOVING MEMBERS

*Merrill* and *Betty Ludlam* have moved to Jennings-McCall. 2221 OAK ST. APT 362, FOREST GROVE, OR 97116-2055

Submitted by: *Janet Hummel*

### DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME STARTS

**SUNDAY MARCH 8<sup>TH</sup>!**

**CAN SPRING BE FAR BEHIND?**



THE PASTOR'S PAGE

This month, I will touch on some United Methodist Church items of interest.

First: regarding rumors that our Church is poised to split: The source of this rumor was a report from a major news source that Church leaders have agreed to divide the United Methodist Church. This is not the case; that report was wrong. The General Conference, made up of delegates from around the world, will meet in May to discuss the denomination's future. Some decision regarding dividing or staying together could be made at that time. It is also possible that General Conference will fail to come up with a plan to solve this big disagreement about who may be ordained as clergy. Our regional Conferences will be meeting in June and will, together, process whatever General Conference decides. So please stay tuned and keep all of our delegates and representatives to these meetings in your prayers. In the meantime, we are encouraged by our Bishop and District Superintendent to stay focused on our local mission and ministry.

Second: If you haven't yet heard, you will be getting a new pastor in July because I am retiring. As of today, February 20, as I write to you, we have no word on who that next pastor will be. Your Staff/Parish Relations Committee has, previously, had conversation with Rev. Tim Overton-Harris to convey the congregation's preferred profile for the next pastor. Now Tim and the Appointive Cabinet at the Annual Conference level are meeting to prepare to make pastoral appointments that will be effective as of July 1. When the Bishop and Cabinet identify a suitable candidate to serve as your next pastor, our SPRC will be contacted to arrange for a confidential consultation with that person. This consultation is not a job interview; it is an introduction. When that contact is established, and assuming all goes well, the next step will be for an announcement to be made, at which time you will have the name of your new pastor.

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The other day I visited the portraits of all Forest Grove UMC pastors; this hangs in the library. To date, this congregation has had 63 pastors, including me. Your next pastor will be #64. I will still be 64 years old when I hang up my stole. In both cases, 64 is a very good number.

Blessings



Pastor Dan

## FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

I've been thinking about the word networking and when I looked for meanings it first appeared to me that the only way the word was used anymore was in reference to the computer world. I finally found that the good old-fashioned meaning was still legitimate! People and groups working together to solve common problems or give help and support to individuals or groups.

What prompted me to think of networking was my recent home bound condition (now in the past, I hope). Without a network of friends and family I would have been without groceries and also been pretty lonely. Thankfully, I had the network of people who cared and checked in, did some grocery shopping and other chores and helped me get through a difficult time.

Especially as we get older having a network of support is important. My family members, except for my niece who lives in the area, are far enough away in east Multnomah County and McMinnville that daily physical interaction is not a realistic hope.

Thanks to all the people who did come to my aid and those who offered, and may still be called on, for certain tasks. One dear friend has offered to vacuum. My niece gets that done from time to time, but I'll need to call on that old friend as well.

I urge you, if you are having trouble with certain daily living tasks, to humble yourself and not be overly reluctant to ask for the help you need. For those who are hale and hearty, I urge you to look around you and see if there are needs you can meet from time to time. We are a community that cares for one another. Sometimes the needs are spiritual and sometimes they are physical.

I also urge you to think about long term. This episode in my life has made me see that I may not be able to live in my nice home independently for the remainder of my life. What are my options for other living arrangements? Now is the time to start researching and thinking about so that decisions can be mine and not forced upon me by others. What about you?

Peace.

Reverend **Rhoda Pittman Fuentes**, Retired Deacon

## MONTHLY FINANCE UPDATE

The Finance committee will have met the 3<sup>rd</sup> week of February to finalize our budget for 2020. Giving's are down this year and we didn't have as large of a carryover from year to year like we did going into 2019. With the uncertainty of a salary for the new pastor and some other factors, we may have to take a larger draw from our investments in the June - July timeframe, than we normally do. This should not have a huge impact to our finances since we made great gains to the accounts in 2019. I will post again if that looks like a possibility.

Respectfully submitted by: **Doug Scott**, Finance Chair

# F. G. U. M. C. CALENDAR FOR MARCH 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday																																																																																					
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8:30 a.m. Early Church 10:00 a.m. Worship: Communion Sunday 11:15 a.m. Fellowship 11:15 p.m. Bell Choir Rehearsal	4:00 p.m. Chair Yoga: Room 8A	7:00 - 9:00 p.m. TVHM in Fellowship Hall	9:00 a.m. Guy Talk  10:00 a.m. Senior Fitness Class  7:00 p.m. Trustee Meeting	11:00 a.m.-11:50 a.m. Journeys program.  2:30 p.m.-3:15 p.m. Music Group, Montessori school  7:00-8:30 p.m. Chancel Choir Rehearsal  7:00-8:00 p.m. SA Group mtg. in Rm. 8B	Pastor's day off  10:00 a.m. Senior Fitness Class  11:00 a.m. Have February committee minutes in the office	Pastor's day off  7:00 p.m. Born Again Narcotics Anonymous Support Group																																																																																					
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## EARLY CHURCH NEW STUDY

Early Church meets every Sunday at 8:30 a.m. for worship, fellowship, study, and service. We have just completed an excellent study and discussion of Thomas Cahill's "The Gifts of the Jews". Beginning in Lent, we will move to a video based class on the Apostle Paul.

Paul is one of Christianity's most impactful, yet most debated and misunderstood figures. In "The Challenge of Paul," John Dominic Crossan gives us the benefit of his lifelong search for the Paul of history to create a new understanding that sheds new light on Paul and why he is more relevant than ever today.

Discussion schedule for March:

March 1<sup>st</sup>, Prologue: In Search of the Historical Paul

March 8<sup>th</sup>, An Appealing or Appalling Apostle

March 15<sup>th</sup>, How to Read a Pauline Letter

March 22<sup>nd</sup>, The Romanization of a Radical

March 29<sup>th</sup> Jewish Covenant vs Roman Empire

Everyone is always welcome to participate. As we are changing subjects, and we are beginning a season of reflection in Lent, this is an excellent time to attend.

Submitted by: *Pastor Dan*

## CHAPLAIN DEXTER DANIELSON

Having decided that God was not yet finished with me I have been volunteering as a Chaplain at Tuality Community Hospital. Hospital Chaplaincy is quite different than emergency responder Chaplaincy. Not as intense as Police/Fire Chaplaincy, with one evening a week and every sixth week on-call for after hours, I still find it rewarding for the remarkable opportunities for ministry.

At Tuality Hospital Chaplains receive requests to visit patients from basically three sources; the patient may request it, the patient's family or friends request it or on occasion the staff, nurses or doctor, may request it. The Chaplains also try to make at least an initial visit to each patient in the hospital staying longer than one or two days to give the information on the spiritual care available and how to ask for a Chaplain visit by simply asking the nurses to make the request. The Chaplains are comprised of two paid staff members and six primary volunteers, such as myself.



Each evening shift from two to three hours I am presented with varying spiritual needs with anywhere from five to eight patients and families I visit. Some are an initial visit and may not have much to request, others might have more. Some have made the request or had a request made for them and have a greater need for comfort and prayer. Some are follow-ups from previous visit(s) and appreciated each time we visit; we even have some that have many visits such as the patient who spent over four months in the hospital. Often the family is involved in these visits and welcomes the prayer and comfort for themselves as well.

And from time to time we are summoned to the family and/or patient who is near death or has died and had asked to provide prayer and comfort. Care team meetings with families making the decision to remove life support are generally handled by staff Chaplains, though occasionally in emergency on-call situations the volunteers are meeting with the family along with the medical staff. Each situation is unique and requires skillful and practiced handling by the Chaplain.

One pleasure I have is when I can take the time, with the patient's permission, to sit and talk with them for a while and learn more about them and their family.

I receive satisfaction from my time with the patients and families and have made it a practice to pray for each of them before I begin my rounds. Hospital Chaplaincy is a distinctive form of ministry that brings new challenges and rewards and I thank God for the opportunities.

Submitted by: *Rev. Dexter Danielson (Ret.)*

## UPDATE ON MARCELLE DANIELSON

Because many of you at the Forest Grove Church ask about Marcelle, Nancy and I thought we should give an update on her health. We (Nancy, I and Mom) have decided to start her on hospice care. Outward, physically, you would not find her greatly different than when you saw her on her birthday, but recent blood tests have revealed some ongoing concerns for her health.

Most concerning is the significant rise in her white blood cell counts due to her Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia (CLL). This was to be expected especially after her decision (with our concurrence) late last summer to discontinue the chemo pill that she was taking to mitigate the disease. This was the lowest dose of chemo therapy that could be given her and more aggressive chemo would have much greater and possibly non-survivable side effects, but even this low dose caused side effects that caused her great discomfort and distress and was not curative, meaning she would have needed to be taking it continuously. Along with the CLL are the effects of age particularly her lowering kidney function.

We were in a quandary of what to do, return to specialist with little hope of answers that did not require drastic medical interventions, something she definitely did not want, or just continue with doctors consults as best they could do, or wait for things to naturally progress. Needing help, we contacted her insurance and were referred to Hospice care. We found that with Hospice a large part of what is done is comfort care and that a large part of the Hospice care is a team approach to that care, not necessarily meaning being near death nor involving extensive medical curative procedures. We have met with several members of her team which includes nurses, social worker, doctors and chaplains who offer support for her comfort with medications, medical supplies and emotional and mental health support. We have 24 hour on-call nurse support as well as regular visits, weekly to every two weeks by the team members, all with doctor back-up. This is all without having to leave the house and happens with home visits and is paid by Medicare.

This approach to her health care has relieved all of us of a great concern for how to proceed. We still covet and thank you for your prayers for her as we go through this season of her life.

Submitted by: *Dexter Danielson*

### In Loving Memory Laurel F. "Mac" McClelland November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1924 - January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020

Laurel Francis "Mac" McClelland was born November 1<sup>st</sup>, 1924 in Dighton, Kansas, the son of the late Samuel McClelland and Stella Mae (Smith) McClelland. He was raised and received his education in the Dighton community, having been a graduate of the Dighton High School Class of 1942.

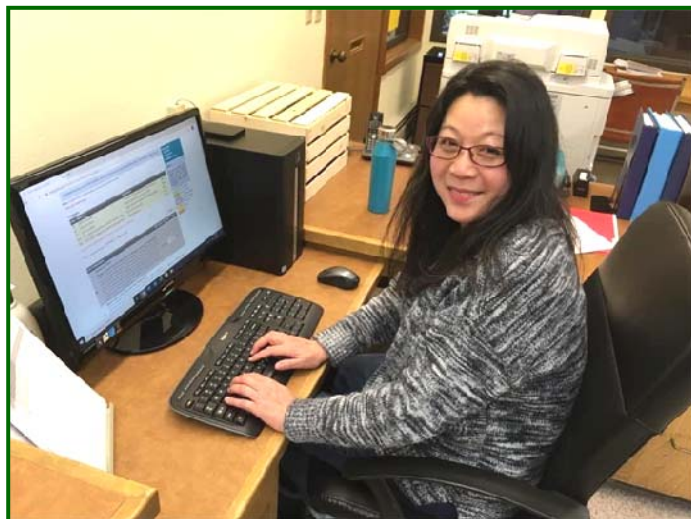
He was a Veteran of World War II, having joined the United States Army on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 1943 in Fort Leavenworth, Kansas. Mac served for three years in the 44<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division, until receiving his honorable discharge on March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1945 at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, at the rank of Private First Class. He had received several citations, including the Purple Heart Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, the American Theater Ribbon, the EAMET Ribbon and the Victory Ribbon.

Mac was united in marriage to Patricia "Pat" Whaley on July 24<sup>th</sup>, 1945 in Scott City, Kansas. Following Mac's discharge from the Army, they moved to Callaway, Nebraska, where they resided for one year, until May of 1947, when they moved to Oregon, settling in the Forest Grove community. From 1987 to 2004, they resided in Surprise, Arizona. They returned to the Forest Grove community in 2004, where he had resided since.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Pat, on June 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2015 in Forest Grove, after celebrating over sixty-nine years of marriage together.



Submitted by: *The Family*



*Noelle Voepel* is our wonderful Administrative Assistant and Bookkeeper.

New office hours now are 8:30 a. m. to 1:30 p. m. Monday through Thursday.

### GENERAL CONFERENCE

Who makes decisions for The United Methodist Church if there is no one person in charge? Good question. The only body that can set official policy and speak for the denomination is the General Conference.

The General Conference is an international body of nearly 1,000 delegates that generally meets every four years. The delegates are elected by annual conferences (at annual conference sessions) to attend General Conference. They represent all annual conferences around the world. Half of the delegates are laity (non-clergy members), half are clergy. (Read about the **2019 Special Session** and **General Conference 2020**.)

Bishops attend the General Conference but cannot vote. Different bishops serve as presiding officers during the conference. Other bishops cannot speak unless permission is specifically granted by the delegates.

During General Conference, delegates discuss and vote on petitions and resolutions proposed by individuals, agencies, annual conferences, and other groups within the denomination. These actions result in a revision of the Book of Discipline, the denomination's book of law, and Book of Resolutions, policies

### BIRTHDAYS

Fred Raycraft	March 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Morris Haney	March 5 <sup>th</sup>
Adam Hampton	March 7 <sup>th</sup>
Patty Davie	March 8 <sup>th</sup>
Richelle Pultz	March 8 <sup>th</sup>
Zackary Henriksen	March 9 <sup>th</sup>
Chuck Pritchard	March 10 <sup>th</sup>
Bobby Tabb	March 11 <sup>th</sup>
Micah Hampton	March 24 <sup>th</sup>
Kayleigh Tabb	March 24 <sup>th</sup>
Pat Styles	March 28 <sup>th</sup>

### ANNIVERSARIES

Adam & Alisa Hampton	March 6 <sup>th</sup>
Lester & Erma Heisler	March 7 <sup>th</sup>
Ed & Patty Davie	March 28 <sup>th</sup>

of the denomination on current social issues.

It is at General Conference where delegates wrestle with today's issues in light of scriptural teachings and the church's understanding of that teaching. Here is where the church's official stands and church policies are made regarding such issues as human sexuality, abortion, war and peace, as well as determination of ministries and funding.

General Conferences are generally held in years divisible by 4, such as 2012, 2016, etc., with the exception of special sessions.

Submitted by: *UMC.com*

### 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

## CHURCH CORNER

### REMEMBER WHO THIS IS?

Born and raised on a farm in Nebraska, after high school Pat went to Washington, D.C., to work for the F.B.I. She came back to Nebraska planning to attend college in the fall, but that summer worked driving a pickup truck being loaded with harvested grain. There in the golden fields she met a handsome young man home from WWII on hospital leave. She and Mac were married three weeks later.

“It stuck, that marriage,” she grins, “at least for these 65 years.”

Their daughter Karen was born in Nebraska. When Mac had completed his service, the young family joined Pat’s extended family who had earlier settled in Forest Grove. For years, Pat worked as a secretary in the FG high school. Kerry and Kandis were born in F.G.

Both Pat and Mac work quietly behind the scenes with the Food Bank donations, Meals on Wheels, and as greeters among many other unseen chores. Pat enjoys belonging to Wesleyans and dearly loves to cook!

Submitted by: *M.J. Nordgren*

## SERVING IN MARCH

Lay Leader	<b>John Hayes</b>
Altar Guild	<b>Margaret Hoerber</b>
Coffee Coordinator	<b>Amy Scott</b>
Nursery Supervisor	<b>TBD</b>
Kitchen Elves	<b>Sharon Adame &amp; Margaret Hoerber</b>

## MISSION STATEMENT

Know God.  
Build Community.  
Impact the World.

## Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

Volume 2020, **March**, Issue No. 3.

*Messenger* monthly.

Periodicals Postage (USPS 970920) paid at Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

**FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

1726 Cedar Street, Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434

<b>Daniel Thompson-Aue</b>	1-971-716-2905	Pastor
<b>Rhoda Fuentes</b>	503-357-3998	Deacon
<b>Noelle Voepel</b>	503-357-2689	Administrative Assistant
Church Office Hours, Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.		
<b>Patty Davie</b>	503-357-3185	Messenger Editor

Please remember to get your articles to me by the 18<sup>th</sup> of each month!

e-mails: [plc2fd@frontier.com](mailto:plc2fd@frontier.com), [edavie@frontier.com](mailto:edavie@frontier.com)