



## FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

# Messenger

## June 2021

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### WORSHIP IN JUNE

We are very excited to announce that throughout the month of June, we will be worshipping in-person at 10am on Sunday mornings in the church courtyard! This has been a long time coming, and we are thrilled to be coming together in person to raise our voices in praise to God. There will be chairs from the Fellowship Hall available, but you may be more comfortable if you bring your own camp chairs.

For those who aren't able to come in person, we will be offering a live stream of the service. We hope to have it available on both our Facebook page ([facebook.com/forestgroveumcoregon](https://www.facebook.com/forestgroveumcoregon)) and our YouTube channel ([youtube.com/channel/UCzgM5DQaY-TvI\\_kY9AZqW9g](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCzgM5DQaY-TvI_kY9AZqW9g)), but if we can only manage one, it will be the Facebook page. Services will also be posted later in the day to the church website ([umcforestgrove.org](http://umcforestgrove.org)).

In June we beginning the season of Ordinary Time. It's not called "ordinary" because it is plain or unremarkable; it's called "ordinary" because each Sunday is given a number, an ordinal. And in June we'll be starting the counting with the *Second* Sunday after Pentecost.

We'll be returning to the Gospel of Mark and to the stories of Jesus's early ministry. We'll hear how he responded when his family came trying to find him in the midst of a large crowd. We'll hear about how he shocked his disciples by commanding the wind and the waves to calm down during a treacherous storm. We'll hear how he healed a bleeding woman and brought a young girl back from the dead. And looking at the story of David being anointed as Israel's second king, we'll see how God doesn't choose by outside appearances; God looks into the heart.

June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021, The Second Sunday after Pentecost  
Mark 3:20-25

"Who Is My Mother?"

June 13<sup>th</sup>, The Third Sunday after Pentecost

1 Samuel 15:34-16:13, 2 Corinthians 5:6-17

"What Is in the Heart"

June 20<sup>th</sup>, The Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, **Father's Day**

Mark 4:35-41

"Who Then Is This?"

June 27<sup>th</sup>, The Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Mark 5:21-43

"Twelve Years"

**Outdoor Church Service**  
**Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup> At 10 a.m.**

**JUNE FOOD DROP**

**Sunday, June 6<sup>th</sup>**

**(Note Change to First Sunday)**

**10 a.m. To 12 p.m.**

Fellowship Hall, South Door,  
Before or After Church.

A Food Drop Table Will Be Set Up.

A Food Bin Is Available at The Bench  
By the South Door Of

Fellowship Hall During the Week.

**All or Any Food Accepted**

Special Request: Bisquick<sup>TM</sup> And Syrup

Submitted by: *Janet Hummel*

## THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Dear friends,

I'm writing this in the middle of May. We recently received a brand new set of COVID guidelines from Bishop Stanovsky and the conference COVID Team and have been working to adjust our local policies. Then, just a couple of days ago, the CDC announced that people who are fully vaccinated no longer need to wear masks or socially distance inside or outside, except for a few specific exceptions. The State of Oregon has move in line with CDC. As I've been around town, I've notices that most businesses are still requiring everyone to mask up and keep their distance.

So, as I'm writing this, we are still working at updating our local church's COVID policy in light of all of this new information. There are still a lot of things up in the air. However, I can make a few announcements about how the church is planning to open up.

First, I am *so* excited about welcoming you back to in-person worship in the church courtyard on Sunday mornings at 10 a.m. Unless you are ill, you are most welcome. You don't need to sign up ahead of time. You're encouraged to bring your own camp chairs, but there will be some chairs available for those who don't bring them. The current plan is for everyone to be masked. We will be singing. We will be celebrating communion on the first Sunday of the month. **So.... Excited!**

Second, Early Church will also be meeting in person in the church on Sundays at 8:30 a.m. beginning in June. The logistical details of this meeting are still in the works, but as a start, you should plan to bring a mask and meet in the Fellowship Hall.

Youth Group for high school and middle school youth is back to in-person meetings on Sundays at 6 p.m.. Gather in the courtyard.

The church office will be open starting in June. Hours will be 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday. Plan to wear a mask and sign in when you enter the building.

Any other groups, both internal and external, that would like to meet in the church building need prior authorization from our local COVID team and must also schedule their meetings with Noelle. A few groups have already completed this process and are meeting.

While we are not through this pandemic yet, and it's possible that emerging COVID variants may necessitate new waves of precautions, it seems that we really are turning a corner. I strongly encourage you all to get vaccinated as soon as you can. Vaccines are now available free of charge to anyone age 12 and above. Getting the vaccine not only protects you against the disease and offers you a new freedom in the world, it also helps to protect those folks who, for medical reasons, cannot receive the vaccine. As with any action, there are some risks, but the risks that follow inaction are so much greater.

Consider, if you find yourself outside in a lightning storm, you can choose to take no action and stay outside, or you can choose to take action and go inside. If you choose to go inside, there is a small risk that you will be injured by tripping up the stairs on the way into your house. But the risk of injury from staying outside in the lightning storm is so much greater! I encourage you, if you are feeling hesitant, to take the step. Melissa and I are fully vaccinated, and our kids have all gotten their first dose, just days after it was available. It's the safe choice. And getting vaccinated is one of the best things you can do right now to spread good in the world.

I am very excited to worship with you in person soon. I'm excited to meet some of you in person for the first time. I am excited to gather together the body of Christ.

Be well. Be safe.

*Pastor David*

A handwritten signature in purple ink that reads "+ Pastor David". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

## FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

**Y**ou will probably get this while it is still May or you may be reading it after a return from an outing on Memorial Day Weekend.

I decided to write about this day and quickly found out how little I knew. My family is not a military family (closest thing to it would be my brother serving in the National Guard when he was about 20 – he's now 84.)

Here's some of what I found. Memorial Day commemorates all men and women who have died while serving in the United States Military and dates back to the Civil War.

Memorial Day was previously known as Decoration Day which is the name I grew up with. Since there were not military in my family we might go to the cemetery and decorate graves of family members.

Raising of the flag is important and filled with meaning. I will be watching the Forest Grove Flag to see if what I'm about to write is followed. In raising of the U.S Flag it is done quickly to the top, slowly lowered to half-mast and then it is raised again to full height at noon. The lowering honors fallen soldiers and the raising represents the resolve of the living to carry on.

Many cities and towns have parades and picnics and other celebrations. Red poppies are sold and worn. There is a concert on the west lawn of the Capital in Washington D.C.

There are some "don'ts" we should know about.

- Don't say Happy Memorial Day
- Don't thank current troops
- Don't forget it exists
- Don't let politics keep you from rendering respect.

Of course, in these days of just about any holiday becoming cause for a 3-day weekend many people are on a camping trip or other holiday trip or at least have a picnic in the yard with family or neighbors.

Whatever you do, just remember to be respectful.

"Hello June," **Reverend Rhoda Pittman Fuentes**, Deacon.

## JUNE LAY LEADER REPORT

**D**ing- a- lings, that's what they call themselves. Officially the Forest Grove United Methodist Church Hand Bell Choir is a group of our church members who get together about once a week and try to make beautiful music by shaking their fists at one another, nine with their hands filled with hard metal objects and one armed with only a stick or if you wish to be formal, a baton. The bells cover a range of about five octaves, or 60 bells, ranging from tiny tinklers to wrist busters. The abilities of the players also range from neo-novices to an experienced member of The Bells of the Cascades. All this is done having fun and to create musical variety for our worship services. (The stick shaker invites a couple more church goers to join our merry band of Ding- a- lings.)

The food collection is changing from Fridays to the first Sunday of the month but keeping the same time, from 10 a.m. – 12 noon starting on June 6<sup>th</sup>. This is to get members back in to this time slot for the start of church, (happening soon). What happens to the food? Usually the next Wednesday, our little food munchkins take the donations over to the Solid Life Church center to be distributed the next day, Thursday, to those in need. And believe me, the line of cars stretch out and around the block. They need it. Don't forget, **The First Sunday of the Month, 10 a.m. - 12 noon.** The theme for June is **Bisquick™ and syrup.**

Submitted by: **Chuck Pritchard**, Lay Leader

## “NOT A TYPICAL DAY”

As some know and I have mentioned I volunteer as a chaplain at the Hillsboro hospital. Normally on the day once a week I volunteer I visit rooms of patients and try to access any spiritual care needs the patient might have. Sometimes there is conversation for several minutes and sometimes a request for prayer. Sometimes there is little conversation and not much need for spiritual care asked for. Pretty routine!



But once in an awhile I find myself in non-routine situations that gives me a greater awareness of fulfilling a ministry calling.

Just a couple of weeks ago I was requested to visit a patient and spouse needing important spiritual care. As I was entering the room I was presented with another unexpected opportunity to minister to the significant needs of another family. What happened in those two visits was not routine!

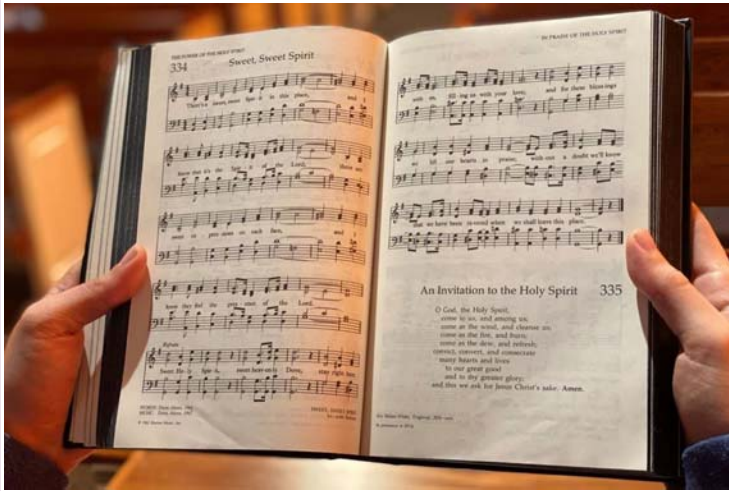
In the first patient's room I found the wife of a man who was unresponsive. She explained that he was diagnosed with leukemia and she was waiting for further word from the doctors. As I talked with her the specialist came in and confirmed the diagnosis, her husband had "acute leukemia" and hospice care was suggested. Even though the doctor was very reassuring it was a shock to her; she was being presented with the end-of-life likelihood for her husband. I spent quite a bit of time, compared to the routine 10 or 15-minute visits, talking with her, discussing hospice and my experience, and ministering to her spiritual needs. I eventually parted the room with a request for a prayer for her and her husband.

The second opportunity came about as I was entering the first room I was asked by a woman if I was there to see her mother (we wear an ID tag that clearly identifies us as a Chaplain), she was clearly distressed. I explained I was there to see the patient in the room next door, and I would be happy to see her and her mother after visiting with the other patient. After my visit in the first room, I entered the next-door room and found an elderly unresponsive patient and her daughter who was in distress. She did not know yet what her mothers' medical diagnosis was, but her mother was obviously extremely ill. As I spoke to the daughter I learned that she, over the last few years had several losses of loved ones and was still grieving those losses. I again spoke with her for several minutes talking about what grief recovery was and was not, and ministering to her spiritual needs. She too asked for a prayer as I left the room.

These two visits were quite different than the usual visit but once again demonstrated not to anticipate what God has in store for me. Similar to being fire/police Chaplain I found as I did with those experiences that God calls me to be in ministry in "typical" circumstances as well as non-routine situations. That God has need of people who step out in faith no matter what the day might hold, and I am excited to expect the unexpected!

Submitted by: *Chaplain Dexter Danielson*

## SWEET HOLY SPIRIT



The refrain, “Sweet Holy Spirit, Sweet heavenly Dove,” was inspired by **Matthew 3:16-17**, Akers said. The scripture, about Jesus’ baptism, reads, “he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove, and lighting upon him; And lo a voice from heaven, saying, This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased.” (KJV)

### An instant hit

“Sweet, Sweet Spirit” was added to the “The United Methodist Hymnal” in 1989, immediately becoming a favorite, according to **Dr. C. Michael Hawn**, University Distinguished Professor Emeritus of Church Music at Perkins School of Theology, Southern Methodist University.

“For many congregations, it became a staple during the greeting time in worship,” he notes. “Because it is easily memorized, the song is often played and sung as parishioners shake hands and embrace others gathered for worship.”

The hymn is also popular during Pentecost, Hawn points out.

From: <https://www.umc.org/en/content/united-methodist-hymns>

## BIRTHDAYS

Jody McCaughey	June 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Rebekah Connell	June 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Cindy McConnell	June 7 <sup>th</sup>
Tim Gunther	June 7 <sup>th</sup>
Elaine McConnell	June 9 <sup>th</sup>
Emma Englin	June 14 <sup>th</sup>
Margaret Hoerber	June 14 <sup>th</sup>
Alisa Hampton	June 18 <sup>th</sup>
Taylor Haney	June 21 <sup>st</sup>

## ANNIVERSARIES

Don & Paula Gassman	June 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Tim & Angela Gunther	June 6 <sup>th</sup>
Tom & Joanne Rannells	June 8 <sup>th</sup>
Bobby & Emily Tabb	June 12 <sup>th</sup>
Jerry & Margaret Hoerber	June 13 <sup>th</sup>
Tom & Jan Stewart	June 14 <sup>th</sup>
Fred & Linda Raycraft	June 19 <sup>th</sup>
David & Lucinda Hites-Clabaugh	June 21 <sup>st</sup>
Morris & Jacquie Haney	June 21 <sup>st</sup>
Dave & Patti Rose	June 26 <sup>th</sup>

## 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

### MICAH J. HAMPTON

Micah has lived in F.G. his whole life. He will be graduating from FGHS this spring and hopes, if there is a personal element to the ceremony, that his mother, Alisa will hand him his diploma as she did for his three older siblings as former Chairperson of the School Board. COVID restrictions have made his senior year strange.

Video game programming has been a fun endeavor with a friend. They have been making small games as a hobby since the 7th grade. His favorite school class has been mechatronics, which introduced him to circuitry and engineering and oversaw his creating his own 3-D printer. Micah hopes to continue his work in technology in college.

The saxophone intrigues Micah. He has been playing for 8 years, 6 of them in the school band. He has played "Pomp and Circumstance" again and again for graduations. He is also an adventurous chef, making lasagna, soufflé and bread, the process often riddled with entertaining mistakes or twists. Pickle ball, a net game played with ping pong paddles on a tennis half-court, is fun and challenging.

Micah has visited Canada and Japan and hopes to travel more throughout the world. Because he has so enjoyed French in school, he is looking at a program in France where he would help French students who wish to learn English. We wish Micah the best as he graduates.

Submitted by: *M.J. Nordgren*

## SERVING IN JUNE

Lay Leader	<b>Chuck Pritchard</b>
Altar Guild	<b>Val Hawkins</b>
Coffee Coordinator	<b>Amy Scott</b>
Nursery Supervisor	<b>TBD</b>
Kitchen Elves 6 <sup>th</sup> 13 <sup>th</sup> 20 <sup>st</sup> 27 <sup>th</sup>	<b>Nancy Bond &amp; Sharon Adame</b>

## MISSION STATEMENT

Know God.  
Build Community.  
Impact the World.

## OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS

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