



# FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

## Messenger November 2021

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### WORSHIP IN NOVEMBER

The month of November is a bit of liturgical whirlwind this year, with something special happening every Sunday. On November 7th, we celebrate All Saints Sunday. All Saints Day is actually on November 1st, but we typically transfer it to the next Sunday rather than having a mid-week service. On this day we lift up all of God's, all those who have followed in the ways of God. We don't mean just a holy few who lived truly exemplary lives. We mean all of God's family, and the ways that the stories all saints can illuminate the pathway to God. On this day we will memorialize those who have died within the last year.

The second Sunday in November, we'll be addressing the story of Hannah, mother to prophet Samuel, her story of faith, and the song that she sings for God. There are parallels between the songs of Hannah and Mary. We'll also be marking Disaster Preparedness and Response Sunday, along with other United Methodists across Oregon, Idaho, Washington, and Alaska, and learning how we can be involved in disaster ministry.

Then on the 21st we celebrate the last day of the liturgical year. Reign of Christ Sunday—sometimes called Christ the King—looks forward to the consumption of all creation in God's final triumph over evil. We consider the opening words of John the Revelator to seven churches in Asia Minor, modern-day Turkey.

Finally, on November 28, we begin a new liturgical year with the first Sunday of Advent. Advent is the four-week season of reflection and preparation for celebration of the coming of Christ Jesus at Christmas. This first Sunday, we hear the story of John the Baptist's birth being foretold.

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://facebook.com/forestgroveumcoregon)). Services will also be posted later to the church website ([umcforestgrove.org](http://umcforestgrove.org)). COVID conditions from week to week may prevent us from worshipping in person. Be sure to check the week ahead before coming to the church building.

**November 7<sup>th</sup>, 2021, All Saints Sunday**  
"The Communion of Saints"

**November 14<sup>th</sup>, The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost**  
Disaster Preparedness and Response Sunday  
1 Samuel 1:4-20  
"Hannah's Song"

**November 21<sup>st</sup>, Reign of Christ Sunday**  
Revelation 1:4b-8  
"Made Us to Be a Kingdom"

**November 28<sup>th</sup>, The First Sunday of Advent**  
Luke 1:5-25  
"Now My Eyes Have Seen You"  
Submitted by: *Pastor David*

### APPLIANCE DROP

Forest Grove Furniture / Appliance Drop, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Volunteers needed to take 3 single items remaining from our summer rummage sale to the Nov. 13<sup>th</sup> drop off. Volunteers must be Forest Grove residents with a utility bill. Please contact *Janet Hummel*, 503.341.2182. THANK YOU!

### CHRISTMAS BASKETS

We are planning to have five (5) Christmas families again this year. Like last year, a gift card will be the primary gift plus some small trinkets. Contribution's welcome.

Please make checks out to FGUMC Christmas Baskets. More information to come via e-mail or the bulletin.

Submitted by: *Janet Hummel*



**Daylight time  
ends Sunday,  
November 7<sup>th</sup>  
at 2:00 a.m.**

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Dear friends,

At the end of this month, we end one church year and begin another. With the passing of each church year, attention turns to a different gospel. This past year we have been journeying through the Gospel of Mark. Next, we turn our attention to the Gospel of Luke.

Luke is the first part of a two-volume work in the New Testament. Luke's gospel talks about the life of Jesus. The second volume, the Book of Acts, tells the story of the early church. Between the two, Luke-Acts makes up 28% of the New Testament.

For at least the first few months of this new liturgical year, we're going to be following Luke very closely. I've adjusted the assigned readings just a bit so that we can get a better sense of the flow of the gospel and hear some texts that we don't often hear.

Luke is my particular specialty as a scholar. I wrote my dissertation on wealth and poverty in Luke's gospel. And we will see, as we begin reading through, that Luke has a particular concern for the poor and marginalized. He sets the story within the context of Roman domination, as a few characters from margins are lifted up to start a new movement for God. "Gospel" means good news, and Luke's gospel is specifically good news for the poor. This theme is very strong in the Advent and Christmas season. Then at each stage of the narrative, it is reaffirmed.

Luke encourages us to consider our Christian discipleship from the ground up. It asks us to consider the basis of our faith. Is it in the signs of world power and influence? Or is it at the edges of power, in the subtle movement of God's Holy Spirit?

I look forward to exploring this gospel with you.

+ Pastor David

**Pastor David**

## FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

(From November, 2020)

The end of October and beginning of November has several interesting dates or events that may be of interest. Let's take a look at some of them.

Reformation Sunday is celebrated on the Sunday nearest October 31<sup>st</sup>. It commemorates the day that Martin Luther nailed demands on a church door sending a message to the Pope demanding changes that had to do with abuse of power. It was the event that led to the movement toward Protestantism.

All Hallows' Eve, falls on October 31<sup>st</sup> each year and is the day before All Hallows' Day also known as All Saints' Day. In secular meaning All Hallows' Eve becomes Halloween and today's emphasis on ghosts and other eerie stuff is a reflection of the original meaning of it being the time when the veil between the world of the living and the world of the dead was thin. It allowed the souls of the dead to come back to earth and walk among the living. Its roots are Celtic and grew out of the Druid religion of Ireland.

Religiously All Saints' Day in American culture is often celebrated with some kind of symbolic act of remembrance of those who have died. In our church the custom has been to light candles for those of the congregation that died during the preceding year and also to honor and light candles for names that people in the congregation call out. Of course, we cannot have that kind of celebration this year within the church building. I would encourage you to think about some way of celebrating your ancestors in your home. We can learn some things about that from our Hispanic neighbors and friends. Talk about your ancestors, light candles. Dig out some pictures. Get into the spirit of the "Day of the Dead."

You may be aware that over the years the Hispanic community in Forest Grove has created a place where some of their traditions can be displayed. Most important is the Family Altar where pictures of the deceased are displayed as well as some of their belongings such as tools or art or items of adornment – sometimes food is even left on the altar for the spirits that come in the night.

One of the interesting traditions, originating with the Mayans, that I had the pleasure of seeing was in one area of Guatemala, where flying giant kites to honor the dead was a colorful event. The kites are seen as mediators between the living and the dead.

Submitted by: *Rev. Rhoda Pittman Fuentes*, Retired Deacon

## LAY LEADER NOTES FOR NOVEMBER, 2021

Halloween, or as it was once known, All Hallowed Eve, was the night before All Saints (Hallowed) Day, the day we are to reflect on the good that our forebears have gifted us with. Isn't it amazing how ideas that are important for one time period change with time?

Last month we were to bring chili and soup and I would thank you for that and everything you did bring in and donate. For the first Sunday of November, it's peanut butter and jelly, but this month I would ask you to think about what your kitchen will need for the holidays and bring those food items too. Oh, I don't mean everything, but I do mean a couple of things because we are getting ready for Christmas baskets along with our other charities. We will be giving gift cards for Christmas Baskets again this year so any monetary donations would be greatly appreciated. (No food will be given in the Christmas Baskets. Food donated will go to the food bank or our new community box) Do not forget, this year has been a difficult time for all.

We're hoping and praying for a Merry Christmas and a Happy, Prosperous New Year for all.

Happy Thanksgiving, *Chuck*

**FOOD DROP OFF FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN NOVEMBER, THE 7<sup>TH</sup>  
PEANUT BUTTER AND JAM OR JELLY, CANNED PUMPKIN, AND SWEET POTATOES, ETC.**

## CHURCH CORNER

### JOY SCOTT

An Oregon native, Joy was raised in Hillsboro until 5<sup>th</sup> grade, when her family moved to Scoggins Valley “before the lake.” She babysat for or went to school with many of Doug’s relatives long before she met Doug. He did turn out to be her first date at FG High School, though. And then 42 years later, when she had raised her daughter Tonya and son James in Banks, her name came up on Doug’s Facebook. They got together online and then again as friends. Their friendship grew into love and wedding here in FGUMC.

Somewhat shy, Joy had built her confidence when she’d bought a 42’ houseboat on Lake Havasu in Arizona. With her brother as cook and both running the boat, Joy ran the houseboat as a restaurant for two years. When Tonya asked Joy to give day care to her two little ones until the youngest grandchild went into first grade, Joy immediately said yes. She also worked at Walmart until her back surgery. Doug found that he, too, could retire. For her recent birthday, he surprised her with a flight to San Francisco for a long weekend. Such fun!

“I want to say thanks to Doug, I now have God in my life like I have never had before.”

Submitted by: *M. J. Nordgren*

## MISSION STATEMENT

Know God.  
Build Community.  
Impact the World.

## 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

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

## SERVING IN NOVEMBER

Lay Leader	<b>Chuck Pritchard</b>
Altar Guild	<b>Valerie Hawkins</b>
Coffee Coordinator	<b>Amy Scott</b>
Nursery Supervisor	<b>TBD</b>
Kitchen Elves	<b>Janet Hummel &amp; Sue Brenner</b>
	7 <sup>th</sup>
	14 <sup>th</sup>
	21 <sup>st</sup>
	28 <sup>th</sup>

## BIRTHDAYS

Addison Hummel	November 2 <sup>nd</sup>
Tom Stewart	November 3 <sup>rd</sup>
Amy Scott	November 6 <sup>th</sup>
Alicia McConnell	November 10 <sup>th</sup>
Debbie Gamble	November 13 <sup>th</sup>
Martha Tunall	November 15 <sup>th</sup>
Chanté (Gustafson) Tipton	November 17 <sup>th</sup>
Dan Wilson-Fey	November 23 <sup>rd</sup>

## ANNIVERSARIES

Dick & Sue Brenner	November 12 <sup>th</sup>
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## OPEN HEARTS. OPEN MINDS. OPEN DOORS

Volume 2021, November, Issue No. 11.

*Messenger* monthly.

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

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