



FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Messenger April 2022

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APRIL WORSHIP

In April we turn from Lenten reflection to Easter joy. On Palm-Passion Sunday, we will hear Luke's version of the story of Jesus's last week in Jerusalem, from his triumphal entry into the city to his crucifixion and death.

Our Holy Week services will be shared with Hillsboro UMC. Maundy Thursday, at Hillsboro, commemorates Jesus's last supper with his disciples and the institution of Holy Communion. Good Friday, in our sanctuary, focuses on Jesus's passion and death. Both services will be bilingual English and Spanish.

As we celebrate Jesus's triumph over death through resurrection, you are encouraged to bring flowers from your yard for the floral cross. Bring them up front before the service starts to help create a representation of Easter joy.

April 3rd, The Fifth Sunday in Lent
Communion Sunday
John 12:1-8
"Anointing at Bethany"

April 10th, Palm-Passion Sunday
Luke 19:28-40; Luke 22:14-23:56

April 14th, Maundy Thursday, 7 p.m.
Joint service with Hillsboro UMC, at Hillsboro

April 15th, Good Friday, 7 p.m.
Joint service with Hillsboro UMC, at Forest Grove

April 17th, Easter Sunday
Luke 24:1-12
Floral Cross

April 24th, the Second Sunday of Easter
Guest Preacher: **Rev. Dexter Danielson**
Submitted by: **Pastor David**

FLOWERS FOR THE EASTER CROSS

Our tradition of the congregation bringing flowers to decorate the Easter Cross returns!

Please bring your blooms Easter morning.



MISSION STATEMENT

KNOW GOD.
BUILD COMMUNITY.
IMPACT THE WORLD.

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Dear friends,

We find ourselves in a period of the unknown regarding COVID. We give thanks that the Omicron wave is receding. COVID levels in Washington County are now as low as they have been since last summer, before the rise of the Delta Variant. State masking mandates have been lifted. According to the CDC, our county is currently at “low” COVID risk.

At the same time, there is some trepidation. Now that many precautions are being lifted, will we see an increase in COVID spread? What happens if another variant develops? Also, we know that our congregation is older, and therefore at higher risk from COVID. What is the responsible way forward?

We are moving ahead cautiously. Starting on March 20th, masks are optional for in-person worship. However, masks are still encouraged, especially for singing.

We are keeping a close eye on the COVID data for our area. If the risk increases, expect that we may return to increased precautions, including masking. And if, as we all pray it does, the risk from COVID continues to decrease, we will relax precautions based on public health guidance.

As we respond to current conditions, our COVID precautions may change, even from week to week. We'll keep you updated with the latest information on the front page of our church website: umcforestgrove.org. By Thursday of each week, there should be a solid announcement about what to expect on the following Sunday.

Thank you for grace and patience in this uncertain time. Please pray for us all as we seek an end to this pandemic.

Your servant in Christ.

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

Pastor David

MEMORIAL REMEMBRANCES

Memorial contributions are a beautiful way to remember members of our congregations who have passed away. In remembrance, contributions are often given to the church. The Forest Grove United Methodist Church Memorial binder lists prior members that have passed and is maintained in the narthex. The book honors our past members with a photo and information about their contribution to our church, frequently a copy of their funeral service program, who contributed to the memorial and what item was purchased with the memorial money.

Memorial contributions have been applied toward the Foundation Fund, new banners for the narthex and sanctuary, new implements to maintain the church yard, new music, and new hymnals, among other items.

If you would like to contribute to the church memorial honoring a prior member, please submit it to the church office with member's name.

Submitted by: *Janet Hummel*

BLESSED BE THEIR UKRAINIAN TIES

By Sam Hodges

March 24, 2022 | (UM News)



A woman reacts in a residential district damaged by shelling, as Russia's invasion of Ukraine continues, in Kyiv, Ukraine, March 18th, 2022. United Methodists with close ties to Ukraine have reacted with special feeling to the invasion, but also have found creative ways to help with relief efforts. Photo by Vladyslav Musiienko, REUTERS © 2022.

Key points:

- United Methodists with close ties to Ukraine include former missionaries to that country, as well as pastors with Ukrainian heritage, and local churches that have made mission trips to Ukraine.
- These United Methodists have been especially affected by news of the Russian invasion of Ukraine.
- They've also found creative ways to help Ukrainian friends and family members, and they've shared with The United Methodist Church their expertise in the region's complicated politics and history.

For United Methodists with close ties to Ukraine, the Russian invasion of that country is an ever-present, wrenching concern, keeping them tethered to news reports and social media, and costing them sleep. It's also an occasion to try to help, however far they may be from the war itself.

From: UM News: Your official source of comprehensive information and news about The United Methodist Church.

FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

It's Spring! Flowers are blooming. Grass is growing TOO MUCH! It feels good to get outside and feel the warmth on your shoulders. My Facebook has stories of Spring break excursions to the beach and other out of door's places. What have you done? Where have you gone? I've been at home most of the time with a hacking cough that I think must be allergy even though I don't remember having allergic responses to Springtime before.

For us as Christians Spring also means the highlight of the year is before us. EASTER! I'm looking forward to the events of Easter and Holy Week and hoping this cough lessens enough that I don't feel like I need to stay away. It's not that I have something contagious. The cough is not something that is pretty to be around. That's why you haven't seen me in worship much. I'm reluctant to expose the congregation to all that racket. Getting up and leaving is disruptive to the flow of worship. I'm always present for Early Church. I can leave my computer and go somewhere else in the house if necessary. I can even mute myself!

Speaking of Early Church, we are starting a new book by Diana Butler Bass called "Freeing Jesus." "Rediscovering Jesus as Friend, Teacher, Savior, Lord, Way and Presence". You are always welcome to join us. Zoom access is e-mailed along with other Sunday morning activities. The time is 8:30 am.

Wandering thoughts from your Deacon,

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

LAY LEADER REPORT FOR APRIL 2022

One hundred and six pounds and almost all of it sugar. That is not bad, especially for the size of the congregation on that first Sunday of the month. It just shows how sweet we really are. This month, the request is for **Sugar, Flour and Honey**, so bring it on, either into the church or to the drop-off outside (it is checked frequently).

While dropping the donations off, the leader of the program told me about where she gets the donations. They come from the Food Bank, Freddy's, etc. They supply a variety of food but almost no staples. So, she was very thankful for the sugar and hopes for the flour and all, this month. Then she quietly requested more **Sugar, Flour and Honey**, if we could. So, let's add our gifts of **Sugar, Flour and Honey** again for May and see if we could help with the needs. Sorry I keep talking about food for the less fortunate, but I thought you would like to know and help.

For First Sunday April 3rd, 2022, the request is for **Sugar, Flour and Honey**. Then, in May, we will have a repeat collection (by popular demand), for **Sugar, Flour and Honey**.

See you in church!

FOOD DRIVE IN APRIL

What: Sugar, Flour and Honey

When: The month of April

Why: Food Bank at Solid Life Church

Submitted by: *Chuck Pritchard*, Lay Leader

CHURCH CORNER

JOHN O'NEILL

Our fine young man has found his life taken over by music. He composes, writes lyrics, records bits and pieces, accompanies himself singing, mixing, mastering, and producing. John has had little formal music training, but plays by ear, mostly the keyboard, although he can also play bass and a little bit of guitar. The electronics and software help him edit to create the sounds he enjoys. He works mostly in electronic rock and alternative, which John describes as a growing genre that combines other genres such as classical, traditional rock, rap, etc.

Walking a lot and often has helped John hone his creativity. The music becomes part of his exercise, and thoughts develop in deep and surprising ways as he ponders life in our confusing and conflicted world. He is becoming something of a philosopher. For example, a recent post of John's on Facebook said: "Lead by example is not a standard. It's a fact; a simple mechanism of life. So even when someone isn't leading a child to good choices through example, whatever example is present is leading the child."

Helping out at home with Grandma, Sharon Adame, and Mom, Cricket O'Neill, John has come to help out also at church, especially with Cricket's coloring projects when the congregation can gather in person to take colored pencils in hand to relax and create.

Submitted by: *M.J. Nordgren*

SERVING IN APRIL

Lay Leader	Chuck Pritchard
Altar Guild	Val Hawkins
Coffee Coordinator	Amy Scott
Nursery Supervisor	TBD
Kitchen Elves	TBD
3 rd	
10 th	
17 th	Easter Sunday
24 th	

BIRTHDAYS

Angela Gunther	April 7 th
Ruth Reese	April 7 th
Ed Davie	April 11 th
Logan Anderson	April 12 th
Rea Hampton	April 12 th
Matthew Hampton	April 13 th
Sherry Hayes	April 16 th
Doug Scott	April 18 th
Frank Colcord	April 19 th
Marion Gustafson	April 26 th
Dr. David King	April 29 th

ANNIVERSARIES

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

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Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:

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

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

Rev. Dr. David King	1-541-399-9020	Pastor
Rhoda Fuentes	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 remember to send your articles to me
by the 18th of each month!

e-mail: edavie@frontier.com