



FOREST GROVE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Messenger

May 2022

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PREVIEW OF WORSHIP IN MAY

In May, we continue in celebrating the 7-week season of Easter. A week of weeks. And we'll be spending most of our time in the Book of Acts. It's volume 2 of Luke's gospel, telling the ongoing story of the early church. We'll hear about Jesus's call to Paul, to turn from persecutor to apostle. And we'll hear from stories of Peter and others as the church moved from a small collection of Jewish followers in Judea to a multiethnic, multilingual, international movement.

May 1st, the Third Sunday of Easter

Communion Sunday

Acts 9:1-20

"Still Breathing Threats and Murder"

May 8th, the Fourth Sunday of Easter, **Mother's Day**

Acts 9:36-43

"Saints and Widows"

May 15th, the Fifth Sunday of Easter

Acts 11:1-18

"Banquet of the Unclean"

May 22nd, The Sixth Sunday of Easter

Acts 16:9-15

"Being Convinced That God Had Called Us"

May 29th, Ascension Sunday

Guest preacher: **Elizabeth Swenson**

Submitted by: **Pastor David**

SPRING CLEANING

A team is spring cleaning the church and they have placed "free" items on a table in fellowship hall. There is also another table of old photographs that were found in a closet, that are free for the taking.

Please take a moment on Sunday to look through both tables and take what you can! There are lots of flower vases and some books! More items will be added every week or so.

Also, if you don't feel comfortable coming on Sunday, check with Noelle for office hours so you can come during the week. Any remaining items will be donated to the Veterans of Vietnam by mid-May.

Submitted by: **Janet Hummel**

FELLOWSHIP TIME

Fellowship time after the church service has resumed and Amy is providing a nice selection of treats to choose from along with your coffee and juice! So, plan on staying a few minutes after church to visit with your church family. Also, donations of cookies and other goodies will be appreciated.

Submitted by: **Janet Hummel**

MISSION STATEMENT

Know God.
Build Community.
Impact the World.

THE PASTOR'S PAGE

Dear friends,

I'm a bit nervous about writing this article. I already wrote an "emerging from COVID" article. It was last summer. And I wrote about all of the great new activities that we were going to be doing. We were planning a series of house meetings. I wrote that article in the middle of the month. And by the time it was published, Delta had emerged, and we had already had to cancel everything that we had planned. So, I'm a little nervous to write now about the new things we're hoping to do. We don't know what's going to happen next. But we can hope. And it is with a sense of hope that I write to you now.

For the last several months, the Council has been talking about priorities for this congregation going forward. And those conversations are still ongoing. But one thing that has clearly emerged is that we want to be in service to our community. We want to be able to host programs and ministries. We want to empower people to share their gifts with their neighbors.

One of the projects we have in the hopper is English classes. This is a distinct need in our community. We have partners at Hillsboro UMC who have experience with creating a program like this. And we have some great resources in our congregation. If you would be interested in helping with this ministry, please contact me or Melissa.

And, if you have an idea for some kind of community project you would like to work on, please let me know. We want to empower you to use your gifts in service to our community.

+ Pastor David

FROM THE ALTAR TO THE WORLD

In May we remember and celebrate our mothers. In light of that I'm writing about my mother. My mother, Garnet Lewis Pittman, was many things. She was an artist. She was a loving mother and supportive wife to my father. She was a teacher in her younger years and a farmer's wife in later years as well as being a mother to my brother Ron and me.

If you have been in my home, you have probably noticed the large and stunning charcoal crouching tiger on the wall. I have lived with that tiger as long as I can remember. I have a total of 7 of her pastel and charcoal pictures. Perhaps there are others hidden away in someone's attic.

Her artistry extended to her baking. Some of you may have seen pictures of my pies on Facebook. They are representative of art in the kitchen in the way she finished off the pie and I am able to reproduce the look they had.

As the farmer's wife she loved to milk cows by hand with her cheek against the flank of the animal. Barn time over milking was kind of a sacred time to my mom and dad. That was where they talked over everything that needed to be talked about and they did not encourage my brother and me to learn how to milk cows by hand as they did. In an emergency both of us could however.

My mother died too soon. I had been away to college in Corvallis and then to seminary in Berkeley. I lived in Springfield for a short while and got home as often as possible. Then I went to Costa Rica for two years.

I had just returned from Costa Rica and was living in Hillsboro. In order to marry my Costa Rican guy and get him to the states we had to be married in Costa Rica so I returned there in the Spring of 1968. When we went to the embassy to initiate my husband's visa, I learned that my mother had collapsed and died while out in the field with my dad and brother chasing animals on the loose.

I could write much more but I will stop here. Happy Mother's Day Mom. I love you and remember you every day.

Your deacon out in the world, *Reverend Rhoda Pittman Fuentes*

LAY LEADER REPORT FOR MAY 2022

Wow, you guys are amazing. First, we requested flour, sugar, and honey and you came through (106 lbs.). Then I passed on the information from the gal at Solid Life that they had needs for extra basic foods like **Sugar, Flour** and **Honey** and this congregation gave twice the amount (two hundred and twenty-three pounds!) this last month. And for this month, you have supplied a bountiful number of condiments and as well even more sugar, flour, and honey already by the fifteenth of April. I am looking forward to the First of May to find out what that total will be. Thank you.

There is always something that needs fixing or replacement around the place and the Church is no different. That is what the trustees do. Attending the trustees meeting early in April, I got to see and watch how they decide on what to fix first and how to use the property. There was a request to use the parking lot to store movie trailers (cool!) while filming but it would be over the **Easter Holiday**. Where would we park, with few curb places left due to the needs of the surrounding churches and private homes? There were many other considerations and projects also. (And on a limited budget.) My gratitude goes out the trustees for all their hard work and planning.

So let me **Ketchup** on the requests for this month. I **Mustard** say and I **Relish** the thought, that for the month of May, beginning on May 1st, 2022 the request is for condiments and staples like **Sugar, Flour** and **Honey**. Please keep up the good work and with many thanks.

FOOD DRIVE IN MAY

What: Sugar, Flour and Honey

When: The month of May

Why: Food Bank at Solid Life Church

Submitted by: *Chuck Pritchard*, Lay Leader

PASTOR DAVID'S DIGITAL OFFICE HOURS

Pastor David is available by Zoom or phone each week 1-3 p.m. on Mondays and 10 a.m.-12 p.m. on Thursdays. You can use the link bit.ly/pastordavidfg to access the Zoom room. For those joining from an app, the meeting ID is 945 9729 8239 and the passcode is 1726 (the church's street number). You can call Pastor David directly at 1-541-399-9020.

BASICS OF OUR FAITH

The United Methodist Church shares a great deal with other denominations. Explore what we believe about God, Jesus, the Holy Spirit, the Bible, and more. We also have a unique heritage and areas of emphasis. Learn what we mean when we talk about grace, how we serve people around the world, and ways we grow as disciples of Jesus Christ.

The United Methodist Church is a global denomination that opens hearts, opens minds and opens doors through active engagement with our world. The mission of The United Methodist Church is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world. John Wesley and the early Methodists placed primary emphasis on Christian living, on putting faith and love into action. This emphasis on what Wesley referred to as "practical divinity" has continued to be a hallmark of United Methodism today.



BIRTHDAYS

Merrill Ludlam	May 4 th
Lela Baskins	May 4 th
Donna Berget	May 13 th
Sarah Hampton	May 15 th
Karthik King	May 16 th
Chad Pritchard	May 17 th
Janet Hummel	May 18 th
Sarah Tunall	May 24 th
Dylan Gunther	May 25 th
Lynn Anderson	May 27 th

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

CRICKET O'NEILL

Our head of the Prayer Chain works hard for just the right words when someone makes a prayer request. Sometimes God simply gives them to her; other times she tries to put herself in the place of the requester, hoping to convey in words he or she would want used.

Cricket's other major contribution to FGUMC is her creating the coloring sessions we have so enjoyed during Fellowship Hour. The coloring pages are all from the internet, either copyright free or owned by the Catholic Church, whom she contacted for permission to use. She has about a thousand different coloring pages she organizes and prints, depending on the season and holiday.

Despite several chronic health problems, Cricket works hard to keep herself busy and a help to others. For her own comfort she crochets sets of bags and water bottle holders to hang on walkers, and is learning how to crochet other things. Her new business card will look like crocheted work and have ladybugs on it. Ladybugs are Cricket's reminder that God is in charge. "As long as I can laugh, then I know I'm okay."

Submitted by: *M.J.Nordgren*

SERVING IN MAY

Lay Leader	Chuck Pritchard
Altar Guild	Val Hawkins
Coffee Coordinator	Amy Scott
Nursery Supervisor	TBD
Kitchen Elves	M.J. Nordgren & Betty Pritchard
1 st	
8 th	
15 th	
22 nd	
29 th	

NOTE

We were going to attempt to return to the original method for assigning Elves', using a single week basis for each pair of persons.

The question now is, do we need Elves? Amy does such a good job, but could she use some help?

Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors

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