

Messenger February 2023

1726 Cedar Street Forest Grove OR 97116-2434 email: fgumcorg@gmail.com Volume 2023, February Issue No. 2 www.umcforestgrove.org facebook.com/forestgroveumcoregon

WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY

submitted by Pastor David

In February, we find ourselves jumping around a bit through Matthew's story of Jesus. The first two Sundays come from Jesus's "Sermon on the Mount," outlining his moral teachings. Then we jump forward to his transfiguration on the mountain, echoing Moses's experience of God on the mountain several centuries before. Our special service on Ash Wednesday, marking the beginning of the season of Lent, finds us right back in the Sermon on the Mount. Finally, we move back a little in the story to Jesus's 40 days in the wilderness, after his baptism but before his public ministry.

On February 12th, Pastor Keren Rodriguez and I will be swapping pulpits for the day. I'm excited for you to hear about some of the exciting an innovative things Aloha UMC is doing in ministry. Let's look for ways that we can inspire one another and work together.

+ Pastor David

February 5, The Fifth Sunday after the Epiphany Matthew 5:13–20 "You Are"

February 12, The Sixth Sunday after the Epiphany Pulpit exchange with Aloha UMC Pra. Keren Rodriguez

February 19, Transfiguration Sunday Exodus 24:12–18, Matthew 17:1–9 "Cloud Covered the Mountain"

February 22, Ash Wednesday, 7pm Service with imposition of ashes Matthew 6:1–6, 16–21

February 26, The First Sunday in Lent Matthew 4:1–11 "Into the Wilderness"

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PASTOR'S MESSAGE

submitted by Pastor David

Lent is a season of special intention. Jesus spent 40 days in the wilderness preparing himself spiritually for his public ministry. We spend 40 days each year preparing ourselves spiritually. Christians often give special attention to spiritual disciplines during this season. It could be a program of prayer, bible study, meditation, fasting, service, or any other spiritual discipline. The season ends with the celebration of Holy Week, remembering the events leading up to Jesus's betrayal, arrest, trial, execution, burial, and ultimately, resurrection.

This year we'll be sharing Holy Week services with Hillsboro UMC. We'll be hosting Maundy Thursday Service here on April 6th at 7pm. It remembers Jesus's Last Supper with his disciples. Then mark Good Friday, the day of Jesus's crucifixion, at Hillsboro UMC on April 7th at 7pm.

Lenten Bible Study

This Lent we're invited to join in bible study with Hillsboro UMC. We'll be reading the Letter of James. Helping us with our study will be bible scholar Elsa Tamez, through her book *The Scandalous Message of James: Faith Without Works Is Dead*. The study will be Sundays at HUMC beginning February 26 and ending April 2 from 5 pm—6 pm.

English Classes

Beginning in April, we'll be hosting classes for adults learning English as a new language. Classes will be Monday and Wednesday nights, 6:30-8:00 pm, April 17—June 14, with in-person registration on Monday, April 10th at 6:30. Cost to students is \$20 for the course book.

We're looking for volunteer teachers. You don't need to know any language other than English, and you don't need to have prior teaching experience. We'll be using curriculum from Intercambio. What you do need is to be patient, enthusiastic, dedicated, friendly, and encouraging, with a desire to learn. I hope you'll join me in the exiting new ministry opportunity!

Volunteer Sunday a Success!!!

Thanks to everyone that volunteered on Volunteer Sunday, it was a fun time, with several committees filled!

Special Events: Coordinator: Sharon Adame with members: Margaret Hoerber, Janet Hummel,

Kiahla King, Betty Pritchard

Christmas Baskets: Coordinator: Janet Hummel

with members: Mary Jane Nordgren, Betty Pritchard, Doug Scott, Joy Scott

FEBRUARY VOLUNTEERS				
LITTLE FOOD PANTRY	FOOD BANK	KITCHEN ELVES	ALTAR FLOWERS Feb 19	
Mary Jane Nordgren	Mary Jane Nordgren	Cathy Hummel Janet Hummel	Sharon Adame	

Church Committees

A new year is upon us. We thank on-going members and welcome new members to the following committees / leaders.

Lay Leader: Chuck Pritchard
Lay Member to Annual Conference: Betty Prichard

Church Council (quarterly)

Janet Hummel (chair), Brian Hawkins, Doug Scott, Alisa Hampton, Chuck and Betty Pritchard, Liz Swenson

Trustees (monthly)

Brian Hawkins (chair), Gary Eddings, Mark McConnell, Margaret Hoerber, Kent Mueller (new)

Finance (monthly)

Doug Scott (chair), Alisa Hampton (treasurer), Dan Gustafson (financial secretary), Janet Hummel (deputy financial secretary), Brian Hawkins, Liz Swenson, Chuck and Betty Pritchard

Staff Parish Relations (SPRC) (as needed)

Liz Swenson (chair), Sharon Adame, Lynn Anderson, Doug Scott, Sandy Mueller (new)

Pastor David participates on all committees.

Questions as to activities of the committee—please check with committee chair. Minutes to monthly and quarterly meetings are posted on the fellowship hall bulletin board.



Altar Flowers & Fellowship Time

A sign-up sheet to provide altar flowers or to provide refreshments for fellowship time is found in Fellowship Hall.

Altar Flowers: Volunteer to bring flowers for your special occasion or celebration or just to share in the beauty of flowers from your yard or garden, farmers market or florist.

Fellowship Time: Volunteer to bring cookies or cake or something for your special occasion. Amy will help!



Valentine Pot Luck

Plan on attending the Valentine Pot Luck February 12—after service Bring a dish to share and enjoy the festivities

WEAR RED OR PINK

And be prepared for a photo op!



On-going and Upcoming Events:

Chair Yoga and Meditation: Saturday at 10 AM Room 8A: Beginners welcome!



Together, we can save a life

Next Blood Drive

Friday, February 24 12:00 pm—5:00 pm Volunteers: Margaret Hoerber & Chuck and Betty Pritchard

MARK YOUR CALENDARS AND PLAN ON GIVING THAT DAY IF YOU CAN!!!!!

LAY LEADER REPORT

submitted by Chuck Pritchard

Who do you think of if I tell you they help in the office, help in the kitchen, help the homeless, help with and play in the choir, help with and play in the bell choir, help tear down the bells, polish the bells, move the bells, given some pretty good lay sermons, carried donations 2-3 blocks in the rain and snow, given people rides to and from Church, and say hi to people? You are right, Liz and Karl Swenson. So why do I bring them up? Because they are moving, I for one will be sad to see them go. (I have even asked them please to think about commuting the 38-45 miles through downtown Portland traffic to return to church, but - oh well.)

The food will go over to the distribution spot after we officially collect it on the first Sunday of February (2/5/23). This will be one of the last few runs for Karl and Liz so let's make them work hard by bringing in lots of bags of flour, sugar, and corn meal to say nothing of canned meals and soup, just to get the tonnage up.

But wait, I help them carry this stuff over too! Chuck Pritchard, L.L.

Birthday and Anniversary Check

A list of birthdays and anniversaries can be found on the bulletin board in fellowship hall. <u>Please review the</u> list. Make sure we are not missing anyone or any date!

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SERVING IN FEBRUARY				
Lay Leader	Chuck Pritchard			
Altar Guild	Valerie Hawkins			
Coffee Coordinator	Amy Scott			
BIRTHDAYS				
Mark McConnell	02/06			
Edythe Westlund	02/06			
Laurie Bond	02/09			
Betty Pritchard	02/19			
Virgil Foxley	02/17			
Cricket O'Neill	02/20			
Jan Schrock	02/22			
Leah Henriksen	02/24			



FOOD PANTRY NEEDS:

BRING THESE ITEMS AND ANY OTHER NONPERISHABLE FOOD FOR FEBRUARY:
SOUP (SOUPER BOWL!)
OTHER NON PERISHABLE FOOD



Forest Grove
United Methodist
Church is rooted in
loving God, loving our
neighbors, and sharing
God's abundance.
We welcome everyone
on the Christian way of
learning to live
generously.

MISSION STATEMENT: Know God. Build Community. Impact the World.

CHURCH CORNER: Karl Swenson

submitted by M.J. Nordgren

Quiet to the point of near invisibility if you are not looking for who just took care of so many problems or things that needed to be done, Karl, with a Ph.D. in chemistry and college teaching and research experience, is modest about his accomplishments and unassuming about credit or praise. Who helps our lay leader, Chuck Pritchard, with the canned goods we give for distribution to the hungry? Who helps carry and store whatever needs to be moved, such as bedding and furniture for Family Promise? Who helps his wife Liz with arrangements and transportation as she has headed Family Promise? Who brings treats and faithfully participates in the men's group and Early Church? Who had given us the makings of Christmas wreaths year after year? Who shares fresh produce from his garden? Who is always there, quietly and without fanfare, whenever help is needed?

We are happy for Karl and Liz finding a new home that will not require nearly the heavy work their home on Bald Peak has needed. But they will be so far away, we will miss them for reasons we are not even aware of until they are no longer with us to perform helpful tasks.

Open Hearts.
Open Minds.
Open Doors.

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Regular Church Office Hours will resume in January Rev. Dr. David King 1-541-399-9020 **Pastor Rhoda Fuentes** 503-357-3998 Deacon 503-357-2689 Noelle Voepel Admin Assistant 503-357-2689 Janet Hummel Messenger Publisher

Please remember to submit your articles by The 18th of each month to fgumcorg@gmail.com

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