



Messenger

March 2025

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WORSHIP IN MARCH

Submitted by Pastor David

During March this year, we make the transition into the liturgical season of Lent. “Lent” is a season of forty days, not counting Sundays, which begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on Holy Saturday. *Lent* comes from the Anglo-Saxon word *lencten*, which means ‘spring. (continued on page 2)

March 2, 2025, Transfiguration Sunday

Communion

Luke 9:28–43a

“It Is Good for Us to Be Here”

March 5, 2025, Ash Wednesday

Joint Service at Cornelius UMC, 7 pm

March 9, 2025, The First Sunday in Lent

Luke 4:1–13

“Practical Exams”

March 16, 2025, The Second Sunday in Lent

Genesis 15:1–12, 17–18

“A Smoking Fire Pot”

March 23, 2025, The Third Sunday in Lent

1 Corinthians 10:1–13

“If You Think You Are Standing”

March 30, 2025, The Fourth Sunday in Lent

Joint Service at Forest Grove UMC, 10 am

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WORSHIP IN FEBRUARY (CONTINUED)

The season is a preparation for celebrating Easter. Historically, Lent began as a period of fasting and preparation for baptism by converts and then became a time for penance by all Christians.” (*The United Methodist Book of Worship*, 320)

Early Christians observed with great devotion the days of our Lord’s passion and resurrection, and it became the custom of the Church that before the Easter celebration there should be a forty-day season of spiritual preparation. During this season converts to the faith were prepared for Holy Baptism. It was also a time when persons who had committed serious sins and had separated themselves from the community of faith were reconciled by penitence and forgiveness, and restored to participation in the life of the Church. In this way, the whole congregation was reminded of the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel of Jesus Christ and the need we all have to renew our faith.

I invite you, therefore, in the name of the Church, to observe a holy Lent: by self-examination and repentance; by prayer, fasting, and self-denial; and by reading and meditating on God’s Holy Word.” (*BOW*, 322)

We have the special opportunity this year to be accompanied in our Lenten devotions by our sisters and brothers in the United Methodist congregations in Cornelius and Hillsboro. Each of the special services of Lent—Ash Wednesday, Maundy Thursday, and Good Friday—will be hosted as a joint service by one of the three congregations. The first, Ash Wednesday, will be at Cornelius UMC, at 7pm on March 5th. Look for more details about the upcoming services in April.

In addition, at the suggestion of the lay leadership of all three congregations, we are planning to worship together anytime a month has a fifth Sunday. The first one happens to be on March 30th, and we will be hosting. Be sure to offer our neighbors your best hospitality as we seek to walk together the way of Christ.

Blessings, Pastor David+

YOUTH & FAMILY GROUP

Submitted by Emily Tabb, Youth and Family Director

Over President's Day weekend, five youth plus Emily, ventured into the mountains to attend Suttle Lake UM Camp's Winter Retreat. With almost 50 youth in attendance, this was the largest youth gathering in our Conference post-Covid! Two of our youth were on the planning team and helped plan and lead the retreat. The Camp Director has applied for a grant to host a total of 4 youth-led youth retreats next year throughout our Conference. Retreats are an incredible time to bond and dive deep into pertinent topics the youth pick and design a weekend around.

SEE PHOTOS ON PAGE 4!!!

THREE CHURCH CO-OP

What is this Three-Church Co-op that I have heard about? **What it is** is a small group of lay people from Cornelius UMC, Forest Grove UMC and Hillsboro UMC who have gotten together to discuss ways in which the three churches can work together to accomplish their individual missions. **What it is not** is a group trying to combine churches or close one or more of the churches. There are currently two representatives from each church, Betty Pritchard and Brian Hawkins are the representatives of FGUMC. If you are interested in being a part of this group, please let Betty or Brian know.

We have identified some ways that we can support one another.

- The Three Church Co-op is working to develop a combined calendar that will include events and programs from each of the churches. More information about how to get access to this calendar will be forthcoming.
- FGUMC is working to support the outreach missions of Cornelius and Hillsboro through our food bank donations.
- Another way that we are working together is by having combined services when there is a fifth Sunday in a month. The first of these takes place on March 30th. The three churches will worship at FGUMC during the regular 10 am hour. Please welcome those from the other churches who are in attendance.

The three churches will continue to support the Youth Program that is being led by Emily Tabb through communication and participation of youth and second adults.

As the Three Church Co-op continues meeting, we will continue to find more ways in which together we can support each church's mission. If you have any ideas, please share them with Betty or Brian.

TRUSTEES' CORNER

Submitted by Brian Hawkins, Trustee Chair

In the month of February, the Trustees did the following:

- Continued working on the sound system.
- Performed a radon test on the parsonage.
- Approved the Tabernaculo de Forest Grove to use the Garden Room Tuesday evenings and Sunday afternoons beginning in March.
- Worked on repairing the water heater for the Sacristy bathroom that began leaking. Thank you, **Robbie**, for noticing the leak and making us aware of the problem.
- Arranged with Rose City Organ to begin the process of repairing the regulator on the organ and tuning the instrument.

JOYS IN FEBRUARY

Submitted by Cricket O'Neill



Joys February 2:

- Rob is grateful that he was able to get the sound system working properly for the streaming. He thanked Cricket for helping him with that last week.
- Pastor David spoke for Virgil that he was happy that his cat, Trouble had a successful vet visit this last week.

Joys February 9:

- Emily is excited that she and the youth will be able to carpool with Tigard to go to Suttle Lake Camp next Saturday (see photos below).
- Patti said after some treatments her grandson, Daylin's blood disorder has been resolved and his last tests showed everything is normal.

Joys February 16:

- Joy said Virgil's birthday is tomorrow, happy birthday Virgil!
- Joy also said that on Monday a friend took her to Costco and that somewhere between paying and getting into the car she lost her wallet. When she contacted Costco, someone had turned it in, amen!
- Cricket said that several months ago she was telling John how stressed she gets at the dentist. He told her to take one of her big stuffed animals, she told him she just needed something small, like a strawberry, to squeeze. She then held up a small plush strawberry and said that he gave that to her for Christmas and that it helps very much at the dentist.
- Sharon thanked everyone who brought such yummy looking foods for the potluck after church.
- Janet said it must be the week for things being returned as she lost an earring at a hotel and the found it and returned it to her.

YOUTH GROUP PHOTOS At Shuttle Lake Church Camp February 16



PRAYER REQUESTS IN FEBRUARY

Submitted by Cricket O'Neill



**FOR
PRAYER CONCERNS
PLEASE CONTACT
THE CHURCH OFFICE.**

CHURCH CORNER: L. Marvin and Mary Ann Mellbye

Marvin was born in Saskatchewan, Canada, on June 11, 1922. At aged eight, he moved with his family to Silverton, Oregon. Marv is a graduate of Silverton High School, class of 1940, but he joined the United States Army on December 8, 1939.

Serving in the 41st Division from 1940 to 1945, Marvin was in the 186th Infantry Anti-Tank Company in New Guinea and the Philippines. He attended officers' training school in Australia and received the rank of 2nd Lt. in the 33rd Division. He was awarded the Asiatic Pacific Theater Service Metal and Bronze Service Star for the New Guinea Campaign.

After WWII, he joined the Oregon National Guard and served as company commander at Forest Grove's National Guard 162nd Infantry 41st Division and as Headquarters officer until 1969. He then joined the 364th Civil Affairs area.

He attended University of Portland and Linfield College, where he received his B.S. in 1948 and his M.S. in 1954.

He was joined in marriage to Mary Ann Raue in March of 1948, in Everett, Washington. The couple then moved to Falls City where he taught and coached 1948-49. In August of 1949, they moved to Forest Grove where he taught and was head coach in football and track. He became an administrator in the Jr. High and High School for 35 years. He retired from the School District in 1984. Mary Ann often shared kid-duty with Shirley Gamble as they were starting their respective families at nearly the same time. Both shared a love for and deep interest in young people. Both were active in F.G. United Methodist Church. Marvin passed away on April 22, 2002. Mary Ann described as "Intelligent, gracious and warm," passed away only recently, both loving and staunch contributors to our community.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **March 6 - Food delivery** to Food Bank
- **March 2, 9, 16, 23 - Lenten Study - the Chosen** - 4 pm. Fellowship Hall / alternating with Hillboro

ON-GOING EVENTS

- **Youth Group** - 2nd and 4th Sundays
- **Tabernaculo de Forest Grove**—Tuesdays, 6:30—9:30 pm and Sundays, 3—6:30 pm in the Garden Room
- **Music Bridge** - Mondays, 1—2 pm. - Garden Room
- **Cuidado de Refugio** - Thursday, 7:30 pm - Library, Friday, 7:30 pm - Sanctuary
- **Growing Baby** - Monday - Friday, Room 7A
- **SA Group** - Thursdays, 7:00 pm - Room 8B
- **Choir Practice** - Thursdays, 7:00 pm - Sanctuary
- **Chair Yoga** - Saturday, 10:00 am - Room 8A

Lay Leader Report

Submitted by Chuck Pritchard, lay leader

It is the first of March and spring is in the air, the weather forecast is for lots of rain (but no snow) for a while, and we're all getting antsy to be out of the house. We are all looking forward to fulfilling our plans of the New Year. Some are leaving us, while others will be joining our pleasant little group and while we will be sad about losing good friends, we will be excited about gaining new ones. I, for one, enjoy the excitement.

We were able to collect almost 140 lb. of food and divided it up into five groups; the youth, the Little Pantry - a source of meals for local transients, and our three food banks - Cornelius UMC, Hillsboro UMC, and St. Antony's serving FG. ***Good job, you all! And thanks.***

The time is coming to end our search for beans on Sunday, March 2nd and our new search for PEANUT BUTTER (aye!) and cereal. (It is cold, takes a lot of space, and does not weigh very much but it is asked for. Oh well.) This collection ends on the first Sunday in April. Any size container of PB will be accepted but the one pound size is easier to give out. All canned and dried supplies are welcomed.

Chuck

Lenten Bible Study- THE CHOSEN

Please join your church family for a LENTEN Study based on "The Chosen". "The Chosen" is a popular streaming series based on all four gospels, but with personalities and back stories added. "The Chosen" (Season 3) continues through March.

Questions - please contact Betty Pritchard.

SERVING IN MARCH

Lay Leader	Chuck Pritchard
Altar Guild	Valerie Hawkins
Choir Director	Robbie Boles
Organist	Alisa Hampton
Coffee Coordinators and Bulletin Boards	Sharon Adame Amy Scott Cricket O'Neill

BIRTHDAYS

Fred Raycraft	3/02
Morris Haney	3/05
Adam Hampton	3/07
Richelle Pultz	3/08
Zachary Henriksen	3/09
Chuck Pritchard	3/10
Bobby Tabb	3/11
Micah Hampton	3/24
Kayleigh Tabb	3/24
Paula Gassman	3/29
Melissa King	3/30



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.

St. Patrick's Day Fellowship

Plan on attending the
St. Patrick's Day Fellowship time
March 16 - after service
Bring a St. Patrick's Day snack to share and
enjoy the festivities
WEAR GREEN !!!!!



Open Hearts.
Open Minds.
Open Doors.

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