

1726 Cedar Street  
Forest Grove OR 97116-2434  
email: [fgumcorg@gmail.com](mailto:fgumcorg@gmail.com)

Volume 2025, August Issue No.8  
[www.umcforestgrove.org](http://www.umcforestgrove.org)  
[facebook.com/forestgroveumcoregon](https://facebook.com/forestgroveumcoregon)

### MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RHETT

Thank you for reading this month's newsletter! I want to take a moment to express my heartfelt gratitude for the incredible welcome you've shown me and my family as I begin as your new pastor. From warm smiles and kind words to heartfelt prayers, gifts, and encouragement, I have felt nothing but God's love through each of you. It has truly been a joy to step into this new season of ministry alongside such a welcoming.

As we look to the days ahead, I am filled with hope and anticipation for what God will do in and through our church. The foundation already laid here is strong, built on faith, community, and love. I believe there are so many ways that we can continue to partner with God in service to others and continue to form our faith in Jesus Christ.

*(continued on page 2)*

#### Inside this issue

|                                |       |
|--------------------------------|-------|
| Message from Pastor Rhett..... | 1 - 2 |
| Trustees Corner .....          | 2     |
| Youth Activities.....          | 3     |
| Giving Opportunities .....     | 4     |
| Joys and Concerns .....        | 5     |
| Lay Leader's Report.....       | 6     |
| Serving in August.....         | 6     |
| Birthdays/Anniversaries.....   | 6     |
| August Calendar.....           | 7     |
| Meet and Listen Sessions ..... | 8     |
| Brownie Sundae.....            | 8     |

## MESSAGE FROM PASTOR RHETT (continued from page 1)

One of my greatest hopes is that we continue to serve in such a way that we not only welcome one another, but also passionately invite others to the journey. Several years ago, I was introduced to the term "neighboring." You will hear me talk about this term several times over the next couple of months. I encourage you to get really curious using this prompt: If my neighbors were telling the new neighbors about me, what would they say? Am I the neighbor that brings joy to others? Am I helpful? Am I the cranky neighbor? Do my neighbors think of me as the judgmental neighbor?

I'm eventually going to ask you to connect (or reconnect) with neighbors, but I want to give us some time to begin reconciling difficult relationships and/or working to redeem harsh behaviors. While we may not be neighbors, I already know your capacity to welcome, love, and encourage. Imagine such a witness that spreads throughout our community and neighborhoods.

I'm honored to walk alongside you as your pastor, and I'm excited for the future we will build together with God leading the way.

With love and gratitude,

*Pastor Rhett Ansley*

## TRUSTEES' CORNER

*Submitted by Brian Hawkins, Trustee Chair*

Trustees projects for July are:

- 1) Spreading bark dust around the planters of the church.
- 2) Getting the organ repaired and tuned.
- 3) Continuing work on the sound system.
- 4) Replacing the fluorescent lights in the Montessori classrooms with LEDs.



The Church Council met and agreed to withdraw funds to cover the cost of replacing the sound system mixer, the repair and tuning of the organ, and replacement of the lights in the Montessori classrooms. We also held a listening session with Pastor Rhett during which time we responded to some of the same questions he is asking during his regular listening sessions.



## YOUTH ACTIVITIES

Submitted by Emily Tabb

Last month we had a wonderful time at McMenamins Lodge where we ate outside then explored the lodge! We also had our first Youth Ministry Team meeting and planned for August and the upcoming school year. Here is what our cooperative youth ministry will look like with Cornelius and Hillsboro UMCs:

### Once a month:

- Friday evening youth gathering @ Forest Grove UMC
- Sunday afternoon youth gathering @ Hillsboro UMC
- Spill the Tea with Emily youth outing
- Game Night @ Hillsboro UMC 4th Friday of the month

### Other events:

- 5th Sunday worship gathering then Destination Unknown (ex. of past Destination Unknowns: corn maze, Portland outing, hike...)
- Quarterly gathering/retreats with other youth groups from the area (Winter Retreat, etc...)
- Support youth in their other activities: sporting events, plays, musical performances, etc...

### How can you be involved?

- Pray for our youth
- Donate non-perishable snacks
- Contribute financially toward camp/retreat scholarships



**FGUMC Youth Group**  
**Hallway photo at**  
**McMenamins' Grand**  
**Lodge Forest Grove, OR**

## FOOD BANKS, BLESSING BAGS, SAMARITAN GIVING, CLOTHING GIVING

SUBMITTED BY BETTY PRITCHARD

Currently, FGUMC supports giving through St. Anthony, Cornelius UMC and Hillsboro UMC. There is a continuing need for our support.

We have been doing great with food supplies and all churches are very appreciative., so lets keep it up!

As it is not really feasible for us to do clothing distribution or support for those who fear leaving their homes, we do support our clothing for babies and children through providing space to Growing Baby USA in Room 7A. Baby and children's clothes donations are always welcome

Other giving opportunities include:

- The **Blessing Bags** put together in Cornelius to provide basic needs to people in need.
- **Samaritan Giving** for collecting food and items needed by people who are afraid to leave their homes or go to areas where they may be detained and even deported. This group is delivering bags of food etc. for these people.
- **The Trading Post** at Hillsboro helps those in need with clothing and food.

### **Blessing Bags**

Socks  
Toothbrushes  
Toothpaste  
Individual snacks

### **Samaritan Giving**

Bags of Garbanzo, black, pinto beans  
Elbow macaroni  
1 or 2 lb bags of rice  
Masa  
Cooking oil  
Canned tomato sauce  
Garlic  
Onions

Our regular food asking for next month are tomato sauce, boxed meals like hamburger helper.

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

SUBMITTED BY CRICKET O'NEILL

### Joys July 6

- Emily said she is going to visit her Grandma who is turning 94. She doesn't want anyone to celebrate her birthday, so her family is celebrating "everyone whose birthday is in July" in order to celebrate hers.
- Emily is also joyful that she and her family are going back east to spend time with her husband's family
- Doug said we are all thrilled to have Pastor Rhett and the Ansley family finally here with us

### Joys – July 13

- Bonnie shared a joy that her cousin Sean who has several broken ribs and punctured both lungs is healing like a miracle. There's still lots of recovery to do but he is doing so very well
- Margaret had the experience of knowing she is cared for and loved.
- Patty is so joyful that she has her daughter-in-law and two grandkids here this week.

### Joys – July 20

- Bonnie was excited that her plane trip headed to Uganda was leaving at 4 am this morning (Monday the 21st).
- Sharon expressed how grateful she was for flowers, for blooms that come back every year, a little different each year but just as beautiful
- MaryJane was happy to get to share with us a photo of Osprey at their nest and how grateful she was that a friend hers gave it to her



of

**Please contact the church office  
for Prayers and Concerns**

## Lay Leader Report

*Submitted by Chuck Pritchard, Lay Leader*

Have you been to one of several meet and listen session with the new pastor yet? If not, you better hurry and sign up, the spaces and times are going fast. Pastor Rhett would really like to get to know you and what you think; besides it is a time well spent with your fellow church members. The one I went to, we learned a lot about him as well as about our fellow attendees. Sign up soon!

Thank you for being so consistent with your donations to our food collection. Last month, we gave over 40 pounds each to the four groups we support and they were very thankful for our help. But, a new month has come and they need more help; The Little Pantry can use small easy open foods, St. Anthony would like boxed meals, like Hamburger Helper, to help stretch meals, and the UMC's, besides socks and men's pants, would like tomato sauces and cereals. We also received a request from one of the churches for laundry soap in 105 load size that they could be divided up for special needs of needy people. I am sorry to ask for so much, but we all give what we can.

The collection date in August is the 3<sup>rd</sup>. (The Spanish churches that are meeting here are also helping with our food drives, so if you happen to meet any one from their church, please tell them thanks for their help.)

**Please contact the church  
office for Prayers and  
Concerns**

### SERVING IN AUGUST

|                                             |                                              |
|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Lay Leader                                  | Chuck Pritchard                              |
| Altar Guild                                 | Valerie Hawkins                              |
| Choir Director                              | Robbie Boles                                 |
| Organist                                    | Alisa Hampton                                |
| Coffee<br>Coordinators<br>& Bulletin Boards | Sharon Adame<br>Amy Scott<br>Cricket O'Neill |

### BIRTHDAYS

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Sue Brenner             | 08/02 |
| Sadie Gunther           | 08/02 |
| Kaylah King             | 08/08 |
| Kiahla King             | 08/08 |
| Dan Gustafson           | 08/15 |
| Tom Rannells            | 08/16 |
| Jacquie Haney           | 08/16 |
| Donna Siddall           | 08/17 |
| Terri Jones             | 08/17 |
| Alwyn<br>Hites-Clabaugh | 08/18 |
| Chase Tabb              | 08/28 |
| John O'Neill            | 08/29 |

### ANNIVERSARIES

|                         |       |
|-------------------------|-------|
| Laurie & David<br>Bond  | 08/01 |
| David & Melissa<br>King | 08/14 |
|                         |       |

# AUGUST



| Sunday                                                                                                                                                      | Monday                                                                                                          | Tuesday                                                                                                                                                      | Wednesday                                                                         | Thursday                                                                                                                                                | Friday                                                                                                                                                | Saturday                                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                                             |                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                         | 1<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br><b>7:00pm Meet &amp; Listen Session @ Val &amp; Brian Hawkins</b><br>7:30pm Ciudadado de Refugio in Sanctuary      | 2<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>10:00am Chair Yoga - Rm. 8A                                                                                                |
| 3<br><b>Food Drive Collection</b><br>9:00am Worship Service<br>10:15am Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall<br>3:00pm Tabernaculo de FG in Garden Rm.         | 4<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>1:00pm Music Bridge in Garden Rm                                             | 5<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>6:30pm Tabernaculo de FG in Garden Rm                                                                                     | 6<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br><b>7:00pm Trustees Mtg. in Garden Rm.</b>      | 7<br>Food Delivery<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>7:00pm SA Group - Rm. 8B<br>7:30pm Ciudadado de Refugio in Library                                  | 8<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>7:30pm Ciudadado de Refugio in Sanctuary                                                                           | 9<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>10:00am Chair Yoga - Rm. 8A                                                                                                |
| 10<br>9:00am Worship Service<br>10:15am Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall<br>3:00pm Tabernaculo de FG in Garden Rm.                                        | 11<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>1:00pm Music Bridge in Garden Rm                                            | 12<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>6:30pm Tabernaculo de FG in Garden Rm<br><b>7:00pm Meet &amp; Listen Session @ Mary Jane Nordgren</b>                    | 13<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br><b>Youth Beach Retreat (6th - 12th grade)</b> | 14<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br><b>Youth Beach Retreat (6th - 12th grade)</b><br>7:00pm SA Group - Rm. 8B<br>7:30pm Ciudadado de Refugio in Library | 15<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br><b>7:00pm Meet &amp; Listen Session @ Chuck &amp; Betty Pritchard</b><br>7:30pm Ciudadado de Refugio in Sanctuary | 16<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br><b>8:00am Tabernaculo de FG Wedding &amp; Reception in Sanctuary &amp; Fellowship Hall</b><br>10:00am Chair Yoga - Rm. 8A |
| 17<br>9:00am Worship Service<br>10:15am Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall<br>3:00pm Tabernaculo de FG in Garden Rm.                                        | 18<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>1:00pm Music Bridge in Garden Rm                                            | 19<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>6:30pm Tabernaculo de FG in Garden Rm                                                                                    | 20<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A                                                  | 21<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>7:00pm SA Group - Rm. 8B<br>7:30pm Ciudadado de Refugio in Library                                                  | 22<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br><b>12:00pm Red Cross Blood Drive in Fellowship Hall</b><br>7:30pm Ciudadado de Refugio in Sanctuary               | 23<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>10:00am Chair Yoga - Rm. 8A                                                                                               |
| 24<br>9:00am Worship Service<br>10:15am Fellowship Time in Fellowship Hall<br>11:30am Youth Lunch/Service Project<br>3:00pm Tabernaculo de FG in Garden Rm. | 25<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>1:00pm Music Bridge in Garden Rm<br><b>Adelante Mujeres Set-up for mtg.</b> | 26<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br><b>7:00am Adelante Mujeres Staff Development in Fellowship Hall / Courtyard</b><br>6:30pm Tabernaculo de FG in Garden Rm | 27<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A                                                  | 28<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>7:00pm SA Group - Rm. 8B<br>7:30pm Ciudadado de Refugio in Library                                                  | 29<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>7:30pm Ciudadado de Refugio in Sanctuary                                                                          | 30<br>Growing Baby USA in Rm. 7A<br>10:00am Chair Yoga - Rm. 8A                                                                                               |
| 31<br>9:00am Worship Service<br>10:15am Fellowship Time — <b>BROWNIE SUNDAY</b><br>3:00pm Tabernaculo de FG in Garden Rm.                                   |                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                              |                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                               |

## MEET AND LISTEN SESSIONS CONTINUE IN AUGUST

with **Rev. Rhett Ansley**

**Meet and Listen Sessions**— You should have received an invitation to join a Meet and Listen Session to meet Pastor Ansley. Please choose the place, date and time that suits you best and let the host and/or hostess know you would like to be in that group. Please let them know as soon as possible so they can make arrangements.

The last three sessions are:

|                              |                    |              |
|------------------------------|--------------------|--------------|
| <b>Friday, Aug 1, 7 pm</b>   | Val and Brian      | 971-404-4152 |
| <b>Tuesday, Aug 12, 7 pm</b> | Mary Jane Nordgren | 503-310-0649 |
| <b>Friday, Aug 15, 7 pm</b>  | Chuck and Betty    | 503-200-4830 |



### Brownie Sundae coming Sunday, August 31!!!

Bring your favorite brownies to share during fellowship time; toppings and ice cream will be provided to make an **AWESOME** brownie sundae!

**Open Hearts.  
Open Minds.  
Open Doors.**

Forest Grove United Methodist Church  
1726 Cedar Street  
Forest Grove OR 97116-2434

Phone: 503-357-2689  
e-mail: fgumcorg@gmail.com

**Volume 2025, August Issue No. 8**  
**Messenger monthly**  
**Periodicals Postage (USPS 970920) paid at**  
**Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434**

**POSTMASTER:** Send address changes to:  
Forest Grove United Methodist Church  
1726 Cedar Street, Forest Grove, OR 97116-2434

| Church Office Hours:<br>Monday—Thursday<br>9 am—1 pm                                       |              |                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Rev. Rhett Ansley                                                                          | 503-357-2689 | Pastor                 |
| Noelle Voepel                                                                              | 503-357-2689 | Admin.<br>Assistant    |
| Janet Hummel                                                                               | 503-357-2689 | Messenger<br>Publisher |
| Please remember to submit your articles by<br>The 24th of each month to fgumcorg@gmail.com |              |                        |