



A monthly newsletter of The First United Methodist Church-Salem, OR

THE SPIRE

September 2017

Fall Education Kick-Off on September 10

On Sunday, September 10, we will hold a "Gathering at the Well" in the Dining Room starting at 10:00 a.m. Join us for food, friends, and an introduction to the fall education program. (Brochures listing all education opportunities for fall will be available at the program.) We hope to see everyone there, new faces as well as familiar ones.

It's Time for Choir

Fall is upon us and that can only mean one thing - TIME FOR CHOIR! Sanctuary Choir rehearsals will start back up on Wednesday, September 6, at 7:00 p.m. The beginning of a new program year is a GREAT time to consider joining the Choir. We have a wide range of abilities and experiences within the Choir and you WILL find a place - no audition or experience needed! And if it helps, bring a friend along with you! Please consider joining us this year - you won't regret it!

Ring with the Mission Bells

Mission Bells welcome to Ringers, Beginning Ringers, and Wannabe Ringers from teens to those nearing a century of experiences. MICAHA attendees are encouraged to join us since we ring for worship just once each month (usually on the 3rd Sunday) and for a few "special" events during the church year, including some in the MICAHA Worship Center. Mission Bells meet in the Sanctuary on Wednesdays from 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. If you have questions, please feel free to call Glenda at 503-580-5590 or just join us in the Sanctuary for our first meeting at 5:30 on September. 6.

All Church Retreat

September 29 - October 1

Plan to join the fun and fellowship at an all-church retreat at Camp Magruder on the beautiful Oregon coast. There will be opportunities to walk on the beach, hike in the woods, make crafts, play games, and gather around a campfire. Choose an adventure or just relax! Registration materials are available from the church office.

Registration deadline: August 31.

Worship Schedule Sundays

Sunday Worship

8:45 a.m. MICAHA Center
(Praise Service)

11:15 a.m. Sanctuary
(Traditional Service)

September 6 - Communion

A Living Faith:
Follow Christ
Matthew 16:21-28

September 10 Gathering at the Well

A Living Faith:
Sustain Vital Community
Matthew 18:15-20

September 17

A Living Faith:
Forgive from Your Heart
Matthew 18:21-35

September 24

A Living Faith:
Understand Grace
Matthew 20:1-16



Interfaith Hospitality Network Guests are Coming

Save the dates!! We will be hosting families in the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network during the weeks starting on September 24 and November 26.

Volunteer opportunities include preparing dinner for the families, acting as dinner host or coordinator, and being the overnight/breakfast host.

Look for the schedule and sign-up beginning September 3 in the MICAH Lobby or the Welcome Center in the Dining Room. If you already know when you want to volunteer, call Judy Allen at 503-581-6547 or Pam Olson at 503-588-7594. Thank you for your generous support of this valuable program.

SENIOR MINISTRIES

Generations Monthly Potlucks

Third Wednesday of the Month
September 20

11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sanctuary Building Dining Room

Bring a dish to share and join our active age 50+ group for a speaker and potluck each third Wednesday of the month. Watch the Sunday bulletin and weekly email for this month's program details. Even if you're not a cook, please come! We will offer an opportunity to donate toward expenses. Coffee, cups, plates, napkins, and silverware will be provided, but please bring a serving utensil for your shared dish.



Mark Your Calendar!

Union Gospel Mission's
Annual Harvest Dessert

Friday, October 13, 7:00-8:30 p.m.

Keizer Civic Center (930 Chemawa Road NE)

We are pleased that our church has again been asked to host a table for this amazingly joyful community event that brings many community supporters to hear about Union Gospel Mission's success in helping thousands of hungry, hurting, and homeless men, women, and children in need. UGM is able to meet the immediate physical needs of those who walk through their doors and, most importantly, UGM shares God's love, grace, and compassion with them.

Let Mary Ann Robinson (503-393-7377) know by Friday, October 6, if you'd like to help represent our church at this awesome opportunity to hear success stories about what God is doing at UGM to help feed the spiritual, physical, intellectual, and relational hungers of those in need in our community. The evening is fun and wonderfully organized, the desserts are fabulous, and a donation of \$25 is very much appreciated.

Youth Program Needs Your Donated Items

We have steadily been growing over the last year and currently our youth ministry serves over 60 youth from FUMC, Morningside and Clear Lake. To continue our great programs and events, the following items would be very helpful:

- Juice, Gatorade, or lemonade mixes
- Candy, granola bars, cracker packs, or bags of chips
- Plastic or cloth table cloths (all sizes)
- Pizza coupons
- Paper cups, plates, and napkins
- Neutral colored throw pillows, area rugs, and bean bag chairs
- Clorox wet wipes
- A ping pong table
- Wii with age-appropriate games

CHILDREN AND FAMILY MINISTRIES

God gives us comfort, peace, patience, and joy in Peru

This year the Open Door Churches: United Methodists of Salem–Keizer had over 30 children attend our “Passport to Peru” Vacation Bible School at Morningside UMC (with a second session, just completed at this writing, at Keizer Clear Lake UMC). During four days, with the leadership and guidance of over 20 volunteers, we enjoyed a week learning about Peru and focused on “when God gives us comfort, peace, patience, and joy!” The children embarked on their journey to learn about a different culture by being shown daily videos of a Peruvian child and songs led by Fred Cooper and Yajaira Hernandez.

Dawn Gienger and Luis Hernandez led the children in endless games and experiences of the children in Peru, such as a marbles game and water relays while holding water on their head as the children of Peru do. Nancy Brik and Austin Gienger ensured that the children experienced what it was like living on a floating island and learned all about water and its use. Sue Reid and Adrian Ottis shared with the children about Incas life and wildlife in Peru as they created serapes, dance bells, head-dresses, spin drums, parrots, and llamas. Roberta Moore and Elisabeth Rich read and described our daily Bible verses and stories. Lynda Sloan, Aeson Pargas, and Alex Gilds treated everyone to plantain chips, tuna, potatoes, watermelon, cherries, ice cream, and endless Peruvian treats.



Llamas Finn and Sparky visit the VBS participants at Morningside UMC thanks to their owner, Pamela Watson

This could not have been done without team leaders who ensured the safety and enjoyment of all of our children. The leaders of our Llamas (pre-school and kindergarten) were Carlee Hunt, JooBee Crossler-Laird, and Lupe Hernandez. Our Parrots (grades 1 and 2) were under the leadership of Lauren Keller, Deb Freels, and Eugenia Hernandez. The Viscachas (grades 3–5) were joined by Braden Shribbs, Nancy Johnson, Rich Reid, and Pastor Wendy Woodworth. Our decorating team consisted of Margie Lowe, Paul Wagner, Lura Morris, Roberta Moore, and Amanda Rich. These are a few of our main leaders, but we are so grateful to everyone who donated supplies, time, and decorations and helped prepare crafts.

A special thanks to Pamela Watson who added the best gift, bringing two llamas for the children to learn about, pet, and feed. Pictures were taken of children with the llamas; if you are interested in receiving a copy of the picture please email missyajaira@gmail.com.

During the week the best part was seeing how our children were impacted by the videos, stories about the life of people in Peru. Our service project was raising money for Operation Kid-to-Kid, which provides sanitary water for Peruvian families. Our children raised over \$300 to provide clean water for Peruvian families.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	2017 Budget	June	July	Total	58.3% of budget
Total Income	\$567,134.00	\$45,076.70	\$45,514.38	\$338,862.36	59.75%
Total Expenses	\$566,766.00	\$47,216.20	\$48,065.28	\$285,868.97	58.92%

Notes from the Finance Committee

Hello everyone,

Here are a couple of observations relating to our church's income and expenses for the general account through July 31.

1. Total income and expenses were very similar for June and July.
2. That said, June was our first and now July is our second month where our expenses exceeded our income. July was \$2,550 under budget.
3. In July our General Giving came back up to an average month, but our use of the facilities income was down.
4. Our expenses are pretty straight forward because we have historical data to compare to. We are monitoring NW Natural as it is currently running higher than budgeted.

The good news, year to date through the end of July we are still ahead of budget by \$4,928.

If anyone has any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Steve Horning, Finance Committee Chair

Parents' Night Out at Morningside UMC

Parents' Night Out is scheduled to restart in October from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Morningside UMC on the second Friday of every month until May.

To run well and provide the safe, fun, and supportive environment for which PNO has a reputation, we need some people who are willing to step into an organizational role. This team will plan the activities and make sure the materials and volunteers needed are available each month. If you are interested, please contact Yajaira Hernandez at 503-364-5013 (Morningside UMC) or missyajaira@gmail.com. We would begin to meet in early September.

Open Door Churches: United Methodist Ministries of Salem-Keizer

Englewood UMC
The Rev. Sandra Kimbrow
 ewoodumc@comcast.net
 Worship: 11:15 a.m.

First UMC of Salem
The Rev. Dan Pitney
 dpitney@wvi.com
 Worship: 8:45 & 11:15 a.m.

Keizer Clear Lake UMC
The Rev. Alyssa Baker
 Office@kclumc.org
 Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Las Naciones UMC
The Rev. Jorge Rodriguez
 salemhispanicumc@gmail.com
 Worship: Noon.

Morningside UMC
The Rev. Wendy Woodworth
 pastorwendyumc@gmail.com
 Worship: 10:00 a.m.

Trinity UMC
The Rev. Sandra Kimbrow
 skimbrowp@aol.com
 Worship: 9:00 a.m.



YOUTH NEWS

Summer 2017 Mission Trip Updates

Our summer 2017 mission teams were the biggest and most exciting in a long time! We had 23 youth participate in two trips.

Seven youth went to Glide Memorial UMC and served with them in the San Francisco Pride Festival.

“It was life changing.
The best week of my life.”

“I learned so much and had so much fun.”

“I feel so much closer to the other girls in youth group now. We are a family.”

These are just some of the amazing things these seven high school ladies had to share about the trip to San Francisco.

Our second team of 17 youth traveled to Seattle to participate in LAST (Learning and Serving Together), a UMC mission program for youth led by Jeff Lowery. They were joined by a group of teens from Vancouver and together they served all over the city doing various projects. It was eye opening, a lot of hard work, and a ton of fun – and these were all middle schoolers! We are impressed!

Stay tuned for a Sunday soon when they will share pictures and stories with the congregation!

Follow and “Like” Us!

The youth ministry has been busy, busy as usual and we’ve got lots of photos, videos, and updates to prove it! To stay up to date with all our happenings, be sure to follow us on Facebook at “Salem/Keizer UMC youth” and on Instagram @salemfirstumcyouth, #SFUMCyouth, #600StateSt. This is the best way to stay connected to our activities!



Facebook



Instagram

Exciting Youth Ministry Dates on the Horizon!

September 1 & 2

LOCK-IN overnight party at FUMC
beginning at 8:00 p.m. on Friday and ending
Saturday at 9:00 a.m.

September 3

No Youth events

September 10

Fall Youth Group Kick-Off and Potluck
12:30—2:00 p.m.

September 17

Youth Group at the regular fall time
12:30—2:00 p.m.

September 24

FIELD TRIP to Tigard UMC for *Live Action Clue*
1:00—6:00 p.m.

October 28

Halloween Barn Dance
7:30—9:30 p.m.

Barn Dance Y’All! All youth are invited! October 28, 7:30—9:30 p.m.

The Youth Council has reserved a nice old barn just south of the Oregon Garden in Silverton for a Halloween SPOOKTACULAR Dance Party! This will be a super fun Open Door Churches collaborative event! In addition to the dance for youth, there will also be a party for younger kids and families from 5:30–7:00 p.m. Families are invited to dress up in costumes and come out to the barn for hot dogs, games, candy, and a barn full of fun!

Please let us know if you would like to be part of this fun event and join us in the planning! For

more information, contact

David Deckelmann at 503-508-5085
or salemumyouth@gmail.com.

MISSIONS AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

Nepalese Women Save the Day

Katherine Parker, our United Methodist missionary in Nepal, is supported by the Mission Café. Katherine embraces the concept of “resisting gender discrimination with the help of the local community.” She reports,

I witnessed an amazing event recently in a community in Rupandeli. As we finished an evaluation meeting with a mothers’ group in a small village, a health volunteer rushed in and asked to use our cell phone to call a local ambulance. A young woman had gone into labor, her husband was “off somewhere” and her mother-in-law was ignoring her.

Seeing the neglect to this mother-to-be, a United Methodist van was called in to transport her to a base hospital. I was shocked at the underweight condition of this young woman as she was brought to the vehicle along with several others from the local mothers’ group. On the short ride, the community women berated the mother-in-law for not providing better care for the pregnant woman.

About 15 minutes after we arrived the young mother delivered a healthy baby girl. Soon she was resting and had something to eat.

This sort of neglect is, sadly, not uncommon – especially when there is conflict between mother-in-law and daughter-in-law. What was positive was how quickly the community women got involved in a domestic issue and saved the day.

Thanks to Katherine Parker, the latest in a family of missionaries saving lives and helping people in faraway places. The Mission Café invites you to stop in on Sunday mornings, enjoy the selection of beverages and tasty treats, and remember that your donations go to supporting Katherine Parker and other UM missionaries.

VOLUNTEER

We are looking for a volunteer(s) to take over (or share) the responsibility of picking up food donations from our church and delivering them to the Jason Lee Food Bank every week. Please contact Leta Brewster at letabrewster@yahoo.com if you are interested in helping with this ministry.

Last Chance this Year to Help at the Kairos Community Lunch

Sunday, September 3, is your last chance for 2017 to literally “feed the hungers of our community” at the Kairos Community Lunch. FUMC will host the meal from 12:30 to 3:30 p.m. at St. Mark Lutheran Church. We need 10-12 volunteers to make the meal go smoothly. On July 23 an enthusiastic group from our church served 123 hungry members of our community!

If you are willing to volunteer heating the soup, setting the tables, and doing dishes, please contact coordinator Bill Sullivan at wild-bill62@msn.com or 503-931-8533. You can also leave your name at the church office and he will contact you. Bill says, “We always try to have a good time, so come join the fun and get a feeling of satisfaction from serving others.”

Food Bank Report

September is the traditional opening of the school year. Therefore, the popular staple of peanut butter seems an appropriate contribution to the food bank this month. Other highly requested staples are tuna and macaroni & cheese. Thank you for your generosity!

So far this year we have contributed 19,410 pounds to the food bank at Jason Lee Community Center. Can we beat the 70,000 pounds we contributed last year?

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UMW Circle Meetings

At its September meeting, the **Mia Adjali Circle** will host several members of Newberg UMC. Newberg UMW president Lois Walton will lead the program about Newberg UMC's volunteer work with the United Methodist Committee on Relief, including their nine day volunteer trip to UMCOR facilities in Salt Lake City. She will also bring samples of the school and layette kits they assembled for UMCOR.

The circle meeting will be Monday, September 11 at 7:00 p.m. in the Carrier Room. Everyone who is interested in the program is welcome. There will be refreshments, of course. See you there!

September is fast approaching and before we know it autumn will be upon us. The **Ruth Erbele Circle**, after not meeting for three summer months, will have its first meeting on Monday, September 11 at Noon in the Carrier Room. Come and join us because you are certainly welcome. For more information, please contact Emily Broussard at 503-304-4410.

“Mission u” Report

by Barbara Alexander

I attended “Mission u” in July and had a great time. One of the studies I took was “Living as a Covenant Community,” a study of the different covenants found in the Bible. Covenants start right with the Creation Story in Genesis and are found all the way to the last pages of Revelation. It was very interesting what they reveal about God's character and his love for us and to understand how God works with us, in us, and through us. I found it very thought provoking and uplifting in God's great, great love for us, no matter what we do or how thoughtless we sometimes can be.

The other study I took was “Missionary Conferences of the United States.” I think I'll tell you about that one next month.

Cascadia District UMW Annual Meeting

On Saturday, September 30, Forest Grove UMC will host the Cascadia District UMW Annual Meeting. The meeting will start at about 9:30 a.m. and end by 3:00 p.m. All are invited to learn more about the workings of your district UMW and its officers as well as to enjoy fellowship, good food, and the installation of new officers.

Forest Grove UMC is located at 1726 Cedar Street in Forest Grove. If you have questions, please contact Barbara Alexander at 503-930-9267 or barba@wvi.com.

Memorial Crosses

The cross wall is located by room 114 in the main building. It offers a way of remembering a loved one who has passed away or someone you would like to honor. You may provide a cross that reflects the person you are honoring (or we can find one for you) and we will hang it for you and make a sign for it.

This is a lasting way to remember a church or family member for years to come. Contact Jane Murch at 503-510-4830 for more information.

Staffing Update

A reminder that this month Jeff Lowery officially takes over as the Open Door Churches and FUMC Youth Director! Welcome Jeff!

Christopher Frost will continue as our Middle School Intern and Christy LaFleur will take on a new role as the High School Sunday School leader. We will have two classes running now in the youth center at 10:00 a.m., a group for middle school students led by Christopher and Christy's high school group.



First United Methodist Church
600 State Street
Salem, OR 97301

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Location..... Corner of Church and State Streets
Phone..... 503-364-6709
Fax..... 503-364-7268
Prayer Line..... 503-362-8149
Email..... **Church:** salem1st@wvi.com
Dan Pitney: dpitney@wvi.com

Web page..... www.salemfirstumc.org
Office hours..... Monday through Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Friday 9:00 a.m. to Noon

FUMC STAFF

Lay Leaders	Ray Lewallen Wendy Herrett
Pastor	The Rev. Dan Pitney
Director of Youth Ministries	The Rev. Jeff Lowery
Director of Preschool Family Ministries.....	Heather Hawkins
Director of Music Ministries	Dr. Kerry Burtis
Mission Bells Director	Glenda Serex
Praise Band/Crossfire Director	Jennie Pitney
Organist	Zachary Duell
Rejoice! Kids' Choir Directors.....	Amanda Rich Brenda Bateman
Director of Volunteer Ministries	Leta Brewster
Facilities Manager	Kathy Pressler
Childcare Coordinator	TBD
Business Administrators	Judy Allen Kathy Pressler
Office Manager	Katie Carpenter
Stephen Ministry Coordinator	Fran Eriksen
Campus Custodian	Swept Cleaning Service
Newsletter Design	Rebecca Cozart

Spire deadlines

Please submit your articles by **NOON of the deadline date**. Articles received after the deadline will be held for the next issue. (if appropriate).

2017 Spire deadlines:

October issue—September 15
November issue—October 20

E-mail articles for *The Spire* to the church office, salem1st@wvi.com

Please include the word “*SPIRE*” and the subject of your article in the subject line. Be sure to include a phone number with your article. Articles longer than 300 words *may be edited to fit*.

