



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

# THE SPIRE

November 2017

## November 11 Thanksgiving Community Feast

On Saturday, November 11, 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., our BIG State Street Church doors will be open to feed over two hundred hungry people. The menu is a Thanksgiving delight: turkey, gravy, taters, rolls, pie – and all the festive trimmings.

Willamette University has partnered with our church for this event for many years, and it's always a time for wonderful fellowship. *Everyone* is welcome to enjoy the festivities. Notice goes out to our community with intent to bring in lots of hungry neighbors.

There will be music, lots of food, and lots of love. November 11 is also Veterans Day, so we will also be thanking our Armed Services personnel.

This year we're again asking for your help to donate food for the event; for example, instant mashed potatoes, instant stuffing, butter, jam, packaged gravy, coffee, milk, and punch. Your donation of canned food is also helpful – namely, corn, green beans, carrots, peas, and sweet potatoes. This is the first year that we're also asking for \$25 donations to help with the purchase of 24 frozen turkeys. It's easy to drop a check in an offering plate with a memo line that shows "For Turkey Purchase."

Sunday, November 5, is the day to bring in donations, and it's also the day to pick up a frozen turkey if you'd like to help us bake an unstuffed turkey. (It's not necessary to bring them cut up; however, it's appreciated if you can.) Cooked, unstuffed turkeys are "due" on Saturday, November 11, between 9 and 10 a.m. at our main building Dining Room. (Go through the Church Street doors that lead into our Dining Room.)

You'll be hearing more about this oh-soooooo-wonderful event in the days to come. If you have any questions, give Bob Johnson (503-302-6170) or Mary Ann Robinson (503-393-7377) a call.

Love and Blessings and Gobble, Gobble

### Worship Schedule Sundays

#### Sunday Worship

8:45 a.m. MICAH Worship Center (Praise Service)  
11:15 a.m. Sanctuary Service (Traditional Service)

#### November 5 - All Saints Day Sunday Communion - Consecration Sunday

Fulfilling our Potential  
Hebrews 12:1-3

#### November 12

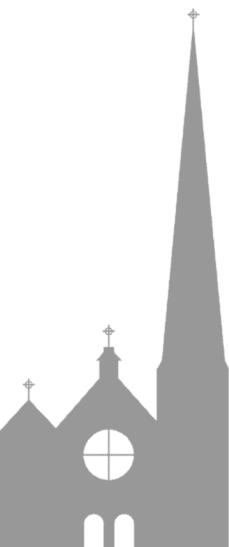
Expecting God at Any Moment  
Matthew 25:1-13

#### November 19 - Thanksgiving Sunday

A Transcending Peace  
Philippians 4:4-8

#### November 26

Open Your Eyes  
Ephesians 1:15-23



## Mark Your Calendars for Christmas Eve!

December 24 is a Sunday this year! There will be one morning service at 11:00 a.m. in the Sanctuary. This combined morning service will be the children's pageant. There will be three evening services: 7:00 p.m., 9:00 p.m., and 11:00 p.m. Please watch for details in the December *Spire*.

## SENIOR MINISTRIES



### Generations Monthly Potlucks

Third Wednesday of the Month

November 15

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

Dining Room - Main Building

Bring a dish to share and join our active age 50+ group for a speaker and potluck on Wednesday, November 15, 11:30 a.m.-1:00 p.m., in the Dining Room of the Main Building. Even if you're not a cook, please come! We will offer an opportunity to donate towards expenses. Coffee, cups, plates, napkins, and silverware will be provided, but please bring a serving utensil for your shared dish.

We are fortunate to have local author Ron Miner present a program on his book *Sketches of a Black Cat*, the stories of a night-flying WWII pilot and artist - his father Howard Miner. It's been said that his books are a unique and fascinating memoir of a WWII combat aviator, with original and previously unpublished sketches and photographs. It's a fascinating true story of the Navy's black-painted, night-flying Catalinas and the courageous men who flew them in to the darkness. Every reader will be grateful to Ron Miner for adapting his father's journals and seeing his material put into print. Ron will have books available just in time for holiday gift giving.

## Christmas Wreaths

Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas (Women Striving for Progress) is a group of farmworker women who create economic development and promote leadership among women in our community. They share, coexist with other women, and learn new skills. Members of Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas (MLP) strive to improve their living and working conditions. They recognize that women overcome exploitation and injustice when they organize and reclaim their rights. They believe there should be respect between workers. As a group of farmworker women, they work to strengthen pride and dignity and to advance their cause.

The Christmas Wreath Project began in 1992, and is now a self-sustaining project. The project serves as MLP's primary fundraising activity and provides employment opportunities for over 10 women during the holiday season (October-December). The wreath project has made a substantial difference in the lives of farmworker women and their families. Since 1992 MLP has been able to provide part-time employment during the three-month holiday season to over 170 farmworker women. The holiday season is the time of the year with the least amount of farmwork available and a time when families struggle most to pay the rent and provide for their families.

The money that women earn through the wreath project goes towards their families' household expenses: rent, utilities, holiday expenses, warm clothing, and food. MLP currently makes and distributes 1,000 wreaths a year, each of which is sold for \$35. Thus far, the project has generated approximately 50% in profit and created 10+ jobs during the holiday season.

The Social Concerns Committee will be taking orders for Christmas wreaths on November 12, 19, and 26. The wreaths are beautiful and the cause is just.

## Meet Alyssa Baker

### Lead Pastor Keizer Clear Lake UMC

Alyssa Baker grew up in Albany with her parents and younger sister. She attended Western Oregon University where she graduated with a degree in Business and Psychology. While Alyssa was in college she attended Dallas UMC where she discerned her call to ministry.



After graduation from WOU, Alyssa attended Boston University School of Theology where she received her Masters of Divinity degree. In 2016-17, she spent a year as the pastoral intern at The Dalles First United Methodist Church in the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference. Alyssa joined the Open Door Churches this past July as the lead pastor of Keizer Clear Lake UMC and the leader of the Open Door Churches' Young Adult Group.

### 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.

## MUSIC MINISTRIES

### Legacy Organ Concert Celebrating 30 Years of Organists At Salem FUMC

On Sunday, November 26, at 4:00 p.m., Salem First United Methodist Church will present a concert of organ music featuring past and present FUMC organists. Performing on the program are Dr. Solveig Holmquist (1986-1996), John Ranney (1996-2016) and Zachary Duell (2016-present).

The concert will include works by Bach, Mendelssohn, and Ranney, as well as some of the congregation's old favorites. Donations will be accepted in support of the continued functioning of the historic Aeolian-Skinner organ, including the completion of needed maintenance and upkeep. Contact Zachary Duell for more information.

### Bob Bennett in Concert

Literate songs, friendly humor, precise fingerstyle guitar, warm vocals, and a healthy dash of genuine hopefulness: these are the tools Bob Bennett brings to work with him every time he steps on stage. And this is a man who dearly loves his job!

He's recorded over eleven critically acclaimed albums, and made thousands of concert appearances from living rooms up to large arenas. He will be performing in concert in the MICAH Worship Center on Sunday, December 3, at 3:00 p.m. The concert is FREE with an offering taken. For more information, contact Jennie Pitney.

### Interfaith Hospitality Network sends its thanks!

To our friends at First United Methodist Church,  
Thank you for your good work hosting and feeding the guests at Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network at the end of September. Your support is crucial to their success.

Blessings,  
Salem IHN Staff

# FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	2017 Budget	August	September	Total	75% of budget
Total Income	\$567,134.00	\$44,334.45	\$45,104.08	\$428,300.89	75.52%
Total Expenses	\$566,766.00	\$46,814.72	\$46,606.72	\$426,755.69	75.30%

## 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 September.

The finance committee met on October 10 to review year-to-date numbers and also take our first look at projections forward through year-end. We also voted to recommend the 2018 Open Churches' pastor salary package for Dan to the Administrative Council.

- Still good news that 3/4 of the way through the year, we continue being again ahead of budget. Just over \$1,500 after September expenses exceeded income by \$902.
- General giving continues to be very close to budget and combined building use income continues to be ahead of budget.
- We project being very close on our overall bottom line of the budget by year-end. Dan mentioned at Administrative Council, and I agree, that if we can be within a couple thousand dollars in a \$567,000 budget, we have a pretty good handle on our operating needs and cash flow.
- Our combined utilities are forecast to be several thousand higher than budgeted, but largely offset by higher than budgeted building use income.

Things to consider as we approach the end of the year.

- The stewardship campaign has started, which is the largest driver for our budget's income.
- We will be paying our property taxes next month, which historically has made November expenses exceed income.
- On the flip side, in December, we have the Christmas offering which helps that month's income typically exceed expenses.
- We are expecting a decrease in our shared ministries/apportionments for 2018.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

*Steve Horning—Finance Committee Chair*

## 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**  
pastorwendymumc@gmail.com  
Worship: 10:00 a.m.

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



# YOUTH NEWS

## Open Door Youth

Our Open Door Youth Group season is off to a great start. We've seen lots of new and familiar faces at our youth group meetings and we've had spirited discussions about our topic of the month, faith and science. At a recent youth group we had nearly 25 youth from our Open Door Churches and most of them were middle schoolers. With that many younger youth, the session could have turned into chaos, but upon reflection it was one of the best youth group meetings I have ever attended. The primary reason it was such a great day was the fantastic adults that give of their time to nurture the faith of our youth.

As we enter the month of November and the approach of Thanksgiving, I become more mindful of those things for which I am thankful. This year I am thankful for the work of our youth council, who help clarify the vision of our programming. I give thanks for the many parents and volunteers who help to plan events like the Halloween Barn Dance and provide meals for our youth group meetings (and thanks to Sheetal for organizing the meal calendar). I am thankful for Christopher Frost, Yajaira Hernandez (Morningside), Kelly Mason (Clear Lake), and Christy LaFleur, our regular adult staff and volunteers who give so much of their time to shepherd the youth of our community. I couldn't do the work I do without their efforts and feel deeply blessed to work alongside each and every one of them.

~Pastor Jeff



**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! If you are not on the email list and would like to be, contact Jeff at directoroflast@gmail.com to be included.

## Exciting Youth Ministry Dates on the Horizon!

### November 5

Youth Group at FUMC  
12:30-2:00 p.m.

### November 12

Youth Group at Keizer Clear Lake UMC  
(7920 Wheatland Road, Keizer)  
12:30-2:00 p.m.

### November 19

Youth Group at FUMC  
12:30-2:00 p.m.

### November 26

No Youth Group

### December 2-3

Alternative Christmas Market

### January 13-15

Shuttle Lake Winter Retreat

### February 10

Open Door Youth Auction

## Ways to Help Our Youth

If you would like to contribute to the Open Door Youth Ministry here are a few of our current needs.

Lunch providers: We start most youth group meetings with lunch. We are looking for volunteers to provide those lunches for our approximately 25 youth and adult leaders. If you are interested, please contact lunch coordinator Sheetal Luscomb at shitalluscomb@hotmail.com for details and a list of open dates.

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  
and bean bag chairs



## MISSIONS AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

### Give the World a Gift Alternative Christmas Market

**Saturday, December 2, 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.  
Sunday, December 3, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**

We all look for ways to find meaning in Christmas, the season of giving. The Alternative Christmas Market is one of the best ways to begin this blessed time of the year. The Market offers ways to make a real difference in our community and in our world.

Shop for handmade and fairly traded gifts at One Fair World, check out the Sassy Stitchers crafted items to benefit H.O.M.E., pick up a poinsettia and help fund the Nellie Thompson /Dorothy Patch scholarship program. Donate to local programs such as Shelly's House, Jason Lee Food Bank, Salem Habitat for Humanity, Congregations Helping People, Bridges, and Interfaith Hospitality Network. Think globally and donate to Heifer International, UMCOR, Bread for the World, UNICEF, or Rwanda Women in Action. Pick up your pre-ordered Christmas wreath from Mujeres Luchadoras Progresistas (see page two for details). Stop by the youth booth to purchase delicious Christmas treats and help fund youth activities. UMW will be selling handcrafted items and nuts to benefit all their good work at home and around the world. The Giving Tree offers tags from Family Building Blocks and the Salem Keizer Family Literacy Program.

Come to the Alternative Christmas Market and bring your friends and family to begin your Christmas season by experiencing the joy of giving!

### Food Bank Report

Unfortunately, our 2017 giving to the Food Bank is woefully behind that of last year. It is hard to be thankful and count your blessings, when your belly is hungry and you are bombarded with ads of Thanksgiving tables groaning with holiday foods. *Please be extra generous this month! Many blessings upon all our loyal supporters!*

### November IHN Hosting

FUMC will host families in the Salem Interfaith Hospitality Network starting on November 26. There are a variety of volunteer positions to fill as we act as hosts, including preparing dinner for the families, acting as dinner host or coordinator, and being the overnight/breakfast host. Look for the schedule and sign-up in the MICAH Lobby or the Hospitality Center in the Dining Room. Call Judy Allen at 503-581-6547 or Pam Olson at 503-588-7594.

Thank you for your generous support of this valuable program.

### MISSION CAFÉ

#### Celebrating in Nepal

Good things are happening in Nepal thanks to our enthusiastic missionary Catherine Parker. Color photographs at the Mission Café include:

A Nepalese woman displays cabbages from seedlings she planted. Fresh garden vegetables for her family to eat and to sell are a staple.

Young girls and women distribute food. Compact fireplaces use 50% less wood for heating and relieve pressure on forests. Special care is given the new water system for the village.

Women help minority groups. Sanitation improvement is a must for village. Love For Learning school benefits all.

When you visit the Mission Café with contributions you're helping change this part of the world. Come and see these images on display in the Dining Room.

The Mission Café is unique in all the land and is open Sunday mornings. See you soon.

# UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

## UMW Sunday

Many thanks to all the ladies of all ages who participated in United Methodist Women's Sunday on October 22. Two past UMW presidents assisted: Dorothy Garrett, greeter at the 11:15 service, and Deanna Fitzpatrick, liturgist at the 8:45 service and hymn leader at the 11:15 service. Thanks for the wonderful worship services led by all of you!

~Susan Forkner, UMW liaison for planning

## UMW at the Alternative Christmas Market

Crafters, are you out there? Time is a-flying and December 2 and 3 will soon be upon us. We would love any donations of hand crafted items you may have to share with us. (Please help us by pricing your donation.) You may leave items at the church office for Barbara Alexander, labeled "Alternative Christmas Market." Thank you in advance.

## UMW Circle Meetings

### Mia Adjali Circle

The Mia Adjali Circle will meet on Monday, November 13, at 7:00 p.m. in the Carrier Room with friends, friendships, a program, and of course refreshments will be served.

Our program will feature First UMC members who attended the Leadership Institute, at the Church of the Resurrection in Leawood, Kansas. They will share some of the highlights of what they learned at the multi-day intensive training which was attended by 1,800 clergy, staff, and lay leaders from across the country. All are invited to come.

### Ruth Erbele Circle

The Erbele Circle will hold its fall meeting Monday, November 13, in the Carrier Room at Noon. Please feel free to join us in this Thanksgiving month. If you would like, please share a Thanksgiving poem or short story with us. Hope to see you there. For more information, please contact Emily Broussard at 503-304-4410.

## Living with God, Earth And Each Other

### "Living with God, Earth and Each Other"

- that was the theme for the Cascadia District United Methodist Women Annual Meeting, held on Saturday, September 30, at Forest Grove UMC. I was glad to see some other people from Salem (Joan Zelmer, Connie Borg, and Sue Forkner) in attendance at this special event. The day included budget, standing rules, elections, a treasury report, browsing for books, lunch, and of course our main focus was how we, as individuals and local units, can live up to what God has entrusted us: our allegiance to God, the earth, and to all our sisters and brothers. Our key note speaker was Coyote Marie, a Cherokee woman, sharing with us from her wealth of experience and knowledge.

I was elected for one more year to be your Education and Interpretation District Officer. I am your local E&I officer as well. We will explore this next month.

May everyone have a blessed Thanksgiving.

~Barbara Alexander

### FUMC of Salem UMW Recognized for Legacy Fund Donations

At the Cascadia District UMW Annual Meeting the Salem FUMC UMW unit was recognized for "the many ways you've made possible for the future through your donation to the Legacy Fund of United Methodist Women."

Congratulations, Ladies!



First United Methodist Church  
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Salem, OR 97301

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**Fax**..... 503-364-7268

**Prayer Line**..... 503-362-8149

**Email**..... **Church:** salem1st@wvi.com

**Dan Pitney:** dpitney@wvi.com

**Web page**..... [www.salemfirstumc.org](http://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

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

#### *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:**

December issue—November 10  
January 2018 issue—December 8

E-mail articles for *The Spire* to the church office, [salem1st@wvi.com](mailto: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*.