



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

THE SPIRE

January 2018

Congregations Helping People and Staff Offices to Shift Locations

The Congregations Helping People offices, currently occupying Rooms 104 and 107, will be moving to Rooms 114 and 112 during the week of January 8. Tiffany Ottis, CHP director, will be working from Room 112. This office adjoins Room 114 and has windows between the two rooms that will allow Tiffany to closely observe activity in the CHP waiting room.

If your group currently uses Room 107 on a regular basis, you will be using Room 114 when the moves have been made; if your group currently meets in Room 114, you will be using Room 107. The furniture will be moved so Room 114 will have the table and chair set-up and Room 107 will have couches and chairs.

The Facilities Manager's office (Kathy Pressler) will move to Room 105. The finance office (Judy Allen) will relocate across the hall to Room 104.

Office	Current Room	New Room
CHP Director (Tiffany Ottis)	104	112
CHP Waiting Room	107	114
Finance Office (Judy Allen)	105	104
Facilities Office (Kathy Pressler)	112	105

Saturday of Service - January 20



Photo from archives

Join us for an afternoon of service on Saturday, January 20, Noon to 3:00 p.m., when we will be serving our community via various projects. This is a great way to meet other people and make a positive impact in our community.

All projects will be indoors and there will be something for all ages and stages. Lunch will be provided before we start our projects. Sign up now via the church website (<http://salemfirstumc.org/>) or on the bulletin insert on Sunday mornings. Questions? Call Melissa Berry at 503-316-0581 or email us at saturdaysofservice@gmail.com.

Worship Schedule Sundays

Sunday Worship

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

January 7

Communion Sunday

Renewal of Baptism

Mark 1:4-11

January 14

Human Relations Day

Jesus calls Philip and Andrew.

John 1:43-51

January 21

Peter, James, and John leave everything and follow Jesus.

Mark 1:14-20

January 28

Amazed at His authority

Mark 1:21-28



MISSIONS AND SOCIAL CONCERNS

Are You Ready to Start Again

The problem is finishing the year 2017 with a solid finish. Before you know it, it's January 2018 and we're challenged to do it all again.

Our three missionaries were helped along with \$3,500 to support their efforts in Alaska and Nepal. You made the difference by visiting the Mission Café because your donations are earmarked for missionary programs.

We celebrated a proud moment in Alaska when U.S. Senator Dan Sullivan took the floor in the Senate Building and honored missionary Evelyn Erbele for her work at First City Homeless Services in Ketchikan. The Erbeles have been serving people worldwide as missionaries of The United Methodist Church for decades.

The Mission Work Team is ready to make it happen again. You can do your part by visiting the Café on Sunday mornings, enjoying something good to eat, and donating for the cause of the three missionaries we support. We thank you.

Feeding the Physical Needs of Our Community

Let's make a resolution to increase our donations this calendar year to the food bank at Jason Lee Community Center to feed the hungry in our community. Let's challenge ourselves to add a little bit to our usual donation, maybe by adding a dime for every can, box, or jar of food on our pantry shelves (counting BEFORE donating any items to the food bank). Winter can be a bleak time for those who are food insecure.

Total contributions for Jason Lee Food Bank have been updated to include donations made via "The Square." Through the first of December we had collected the equivalent of 48,544 pounds of food during 2017. Thank you for your generosity!

Happy Birthday, Bob Jewell!

The Salem-Keizer United Methodist Church family is invited to a celebration of Bob Jewell's 90 years of life.

Join us on Saturday, January 6, at 10:30 a.m. at Morningside United Methodist Church (3674 12th Street SE). A sing-a-long of old time hymns will be followed by a soup and bread (plus fruit pie!) social.

Please join us for this warm family celebration.

What is the Interfaith Hospitality Network

Interfaith Hospitality Network is a network of Salem Churches that host homeless families with children. First United Methodist Church will host by providing food and overnight shelter in MICAH Sunday evening, January 14, through Sunday, January 21.

Volunteers are needed to: Set up beds and furniture, host for an evening or overnight, provide a meal one evening during the week for our guests, serve as dinner coordinator, or take down and store beds and furniture.

Contact Pam Olson at 503-851-2328 or Judy Allen at 503-581-6547 with questions or to volunteer.

Serving the Salem Community at Kairos Community Lunch

Volunteers from First Church will host a meal for the hungry of our community at St. Mark Lutheran Church (790 Marion Street NE) on Sunday, January 14.

Meet at St. Mark to set up tables and prepare the meal for 60-100 guests, clean dishes, put the tables away, and vacuum. We usually finish by 3:30 p.m. Please contact Bill Sullivan at wildbill62@msn.com or 503-931-8533 for complete details and to sign up.

ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

Adult Bible Study

The Adult Bible Class, led by Gary Onstot, meets at 10:00 a.m. in Room 107 every Sunday throughout the year. Please call 503-743-2872 if you have questions. The theme for the class for the first quarter of the year is "The Early Church proclaims faith in Christ and a faith to unite." The emphasis for January is "A Living Faith in God."

Early Birds

The Early Birds group will resume on Sunday, January 7, at 9:00 a.m. to begin a discussion of the work of "The Commission on a Way Forward," the 32 member commission "appointed by the Council of Bishops to assist the bishops in their charge from the 2016 General Conference to lead the church forward amid the present impasse related to LGBTQ and resulting questions about the unity of the church."

Early Birds meet in Room 214 at 9:00 a.m. on Sundays. For more information, please contact Holli Davenport at hdavenport@comcast.net.

Infant/Toddler Play Group

The group is for caregivers of children from infant through three years old. Being a parent brings us together!

Join us from 10:00 to 11:30 a.m. on Friday, January 26, (and the last Friday of each month) in our beautiful childhood room (Room 206, Main Building), filled with fun and developmentally appropriate toys. Please no older siblings. If you have questions and/or to RSVP, call Heather Hawkins at 503-602-800.

SENIOR MINISTRIES



Generations Monthly Potlucks

Third Wednesday of the Month
January 17
11:30 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.
Dining Room - Main Building

The first Generations gathering of 2018 will be on Wednesday, January 17, from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Dining Room. Bring a dish to share and join our active age 50+ group for food and fellowship. This month members will share their "Adventures of Living in Alaska."

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. Everyone is welcome, so feel free to bring a friend.

Globe Trekkers Lunch Group

Join this active Generation E (Encore for retired boomers) group for lunch, at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, January 19, as it explores a new restaurant each quarter.

This month's gathering will be at the Red Lobster at 521 Lancaster Drive in Salem. Please RSVP to Dorothy Garrett at globe-trekk3r@yahoo.com.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	2017 Budget	October	November	Total	91.66% of budget
Total Income	\$567,134.00	\$50,783.72	\$45,229.06	\$524,313.67	92.45%
Total Expenses	\$566,766.00	\$46,638.35	\$53,579.63	\$527,064.67	93.00%

Notes from the Finance Committee

Hello, Everyone!

A couple of quick comments about our church's finances through month eleven. Wow.... 2018 is right around the Christmas corner! As we celebrate the season and the birth of Jesus, I want to thank you all for being part of our generous congregation and church family. Together and individually we do make a difference.

Here are some notes from the church finance team:

1. Our general giving sits very close to budget for the year.
2. We have exceeded our annual budget for lease and rental income.
3. As mentioned in previous *Spire* notes, November is typically a month where our expenses do exceed our income, primarily because we pay our \$6,900 in property taxes on the MICAH building.
4. On that note, year-to-date through November our expenses now have slightly exceeded our income by \$2,751. That's a lot of money for you and me, but to put it in perspective, it is less than ½ of 1% of our annual budget.
5. Also as mentioned in previous months, utilities expense has exceeded our budget. The reason we are still so close on our budget this year is the rental income is nicely ahead of budget. We have paid (and will pay) 100% of our shared ministries (apportionments).

Your Finance Committee has started the process of putting together our 2018 budget and we look forward to sharing that soon.

As always, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Steve Horning, Finance Committee Chairman

Open Door Churches: United Methodist Ministries of Salem-Keizer

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

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

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

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

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

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



YOUTH NEWS

Open Door Youth

The new year is a great time to try something new. As we begin to look toward our winter season of programming we will gather for our winter kick-off potluck. All youth group families are invited to join us on Sunday, January 7, from 12:30-2:00 p.m. at Morningside UMC (3674 12th St SE), a new location for us. We will gather at Morningside because that is where we will be holding youth group in the month of January.

Please bring a dish to share and hear our plans for our next season of youth group and how you can be a part of it. One of the big events coming soon will be the Youth Auction on February 10. Tickets will be available soon and proceeds will go toward our growing youth group's programming plans, including our 2018 mission trip. Hope to see you soon.

~Pastor Jeff



Open Door Youth shop for the Giving Tree



Follow and "Like" Us!



The youth ministry has been 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!

January 7

Winter Kick-Off

Morningside UMC (3674 12th St SE)

January 13-15

Suttle Lake Winter Retreat

No regular Youth Group this week

January 21

Youth Group

12:30-2:00 p.m. Morningside UMC

January 28

Youth Group

12:30-2:00 p.m. Morningside UMC

Save the date!

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 the youth lunch coordinator for details and a list of open dates. Sheetal Luscomb at shitalluscomb@hotmail.com We welcome donations of these items: 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.

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

UMW Circle Meetings

Ruth Erbele Circle

We are now in a new year! The Erbele Circle will hold its first meeting of the new year on Monday, January 8, at Noon in the Carrier Room. We hope to see you there. We will share our blessings from last year and our hopes for the new one! For more information, please contact Emily Broussard at 503-304-4410.

Mia Adjali Circle

The Mia Adjali Circle will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, January 8, in the Carrier Room. There you will always find fellowship, interesting programs, books to read, and refreshments to nourish ourselves. Everyone is invited; the door is always open, please come in.

UMW Happenings

I want to thank everyone who came, rolled up their sleeves, and went to work at the United Methodist Women's table at the Alternative Christmas Market. I also want to thank you for the outpouring of handmade items and donations that filled our tables to overflowing. We made \$503 in sales of merchandise and approximately \$130 on the sale of nuts.

I want to thank Linda, Ken, and Erin for all their hard work and the long hours it takes to put together the Alternative Christmas Market. Plans for next year are already in the works; it will be the 30th year anniversary of the Alternative Christmas Market.

Mark your calendars for Saturday, February 24, for the Every Member Enrichment Event. Salem First United Methodist Church will be hosting this district event this year, so watch for more information.

Now for United Methodist Women units who receive this *Spire* either by mail or online, you should be filling out your "Criteria for a Healthy, Vital Unit" document. Please send yours to Barbara Alexander, District Mission Coordinator for Education & Interpretation, by February 17. This document may be found on the United Methodist Women website (<https://www.umoi.org/umw>). If anyone has any questions please email me at barba@wvi.com or call 503-930-9267.

~Barbara Alexander

Someone New At Church

In January Salem First will gain another new member - a different kind of member who doesn't get Sundays off from work. I am getting a dog guide on New Year's Day.

I've had a number of people ask me about the proper etiquette with a working dog, so I wanted to address this issue. A service dog, when working (if their harness is on, they are working) should never be petted and should be ignored as much as possible. If the dog is not working, their handler should always be asked before you pet their dog. Some people will allow it, some never allow others to interact with their dog.

My dog and I will have a lot of work to do learning about each other, so please try to ignore him/her as we figure out our new life as a pair.

~Marja Byers

Welcome New Members

On Sunday, December 10, we welcomed thirteen new members to First Church. They are:

Jane Farewell
Judy Hough
Judy Michael
Stephen Rohrbeck
Bengerman Sawyer
Monique Sawyers
Gary and Pattie Sloan
Gary and Michelle Weaver
Chris, Jill, and Erin Worley

Welcome to the First UMC family!



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 **Fran Eriksen**
Ray Lewallen

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 **Mora Carpenter**

Business Administrator **Judy Allen**

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).

2018 Spire deadlines:
February issue—January 19
March issue—February 16

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*.