



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

THE SPIRE

May 2018

Becoming a Reconciling Church

Building an Inclusive Church

First United Methodist Church of Salem is a congregation that believes that God's love and grace extend to all. We welcome everyone into our church family!

In order to more fully welcome all, a group of members has been exploring the process to become a Reconciling Congregation.

As part of the exploration, FUMC hosted a training session for area United Methodist churches on Saturday, March 24, called "Building an Inclusive Church" that was very well received. The Welcoming Committee is also distributing an assessment survey to a sample of church attendees to learn how welcoming we are perceived to be.

We plan to update FUMC members periodically throughout this process. If you have questions, please contact Laura Metzger or Diana Dickey.

Sermon in Song

On Sunday, May 20, at the 11:15 traditional service, the Sanctuary Choir will present a beautiful cantata written by J.S. Bach for Pentecost Sunday, on May 20, 1714.

The Sanctuary Choir and soloists will be accompanied by organ, string orchestra, three trumpets, and timpani. This is a special, annual event and one you won't want to miss!

Please invite your family and friends, as well, and come celebrate Pentecost as they might have some 300 years ago in Weimar!

Memorial Day is Monday, May 28. Buildings and offices are closed in observance of the holiday.

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship

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

May 6 Communion Sunday

Psalm 98; John 15:9-17

May 13 Mission Bells at 11:15

Psalm 1; John 17:6-19

May 20 Pentecost Sunday at both services

"Sermon in Song" at 11:15
Psalm 104:24-35;
John 15:26-27, 16:4b-15;
Acts 2:1-21

May 27 Trinity Sunday Peace with Justice Sunday

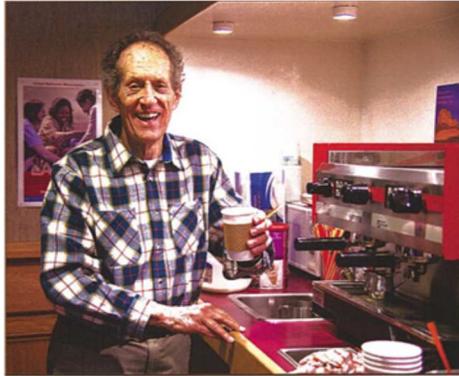
Psalm 29; John 3:1-17



Mission Café - Time Marches On

by Art Tidey

It seems like only yesterday when Esther and I came to this church. Actually it was the Sunday after 9/11. Scott Harkness, the pastor at the time, was scheduled to fly to Atlanta for a meeting. Every flight in America was grounded because of terrorist attacks on our country. Scott gave an emotional talk during the service.



We were involved with missionaries at other churches and we were interested in mission work here. Later we got involved in the formation of the group that became the Mission Work Team. The first steps were: (1) to specify the United Methodist missionaries we could support and (2) determine how we would finance them. Twelve people attended. At the time the church was two years behind in missionary support.

Charlie and Mardean King operated a vegetable table in the Dining Room and it became the source of future funds to support the missionaries. Charlie is the church handyman and was the person who gave birth to the idea. The church contributed the money and Charlie created the unique Mission Café in the swing-away cabinet now in service, and featured in national publications.

Mardean supplied pastries, but we needed to find a way to continue this effort. The word went out to church members. Dozens of women and a sprinkling of men volunteered and were split up into three groups. Many of those volunteers are active to this day. Thank you!

Currently the Mission Café supports three United Methodist missionaries: Terry and Evelyn Erbele in Alaska and Katherine Parker in Nepal. The missionaries visit our church and often talk at the services. Besides Esther and me, three original Mission members remain: Doris Bennett and Don and Shirley Knepp.

I plan to retire from the Mission Café. The current leader, Dennis Muchmore, will continue operating the Café and Ken Bierly is joining the team. It's been fun to work at the Mission Café; lots of things to remember. My favorite time was when we encouraged Café customers to sing their state song. It was hilarious. Thanks for supporting the Mission Café and UM missionaries. Keep up the good work!

Changes at Congregations Helping People

CHP takes a break until May 8: operating hours change

CHP will be closed from Monday, April 30, through Monday, May 7.

Beginning May 8, the Tuesday hours will be 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. The hours for the other days of the week will remain the same (Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.; closed on all Fridays).

CHP staff update

Congregations Helping People Program Director, Tiffany Ottis, has graced FUMC with many dedicated and fruitful years being a conduit for people who walked through our doors to get the help they sought!

Recently, Tiffany took a fulltime position with Catholic Community Services. We already miss her intellect, smile, and compassion!

Alan LaFleur, currently in training to be CHP's service coordinator in her stead, brings his own brand of intelligence, compassion, and dedication, and we welcome his work with the people coming in to seek help.

Alan is a seven year member of the Salem community who believes strongly in the mission of CHP.

YOUTH & FAMILY

Youth Group May Schedule

Open Door Youth Ministry will meet at Clearlake UMC during the month of May.

Join us on May 6 and May 20 from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.

There will be no youth group gatherings on May 13 (Mother's Day) or May 27 (Memorial Day week-end).



Childcare Profile

Hi, I'm Crystal. I am really excited to be here and be able to be a part of FUMC.

My daughter Stella and I are big Disney lovers and enjoy watching Disney movies and had our first trip to Disneyland together last year.

In our household we also have a dachshund named Liberty, a bunny named Snowball, and a hamster named Sparky.

In our free time we love to get outside and go hiking or visit the carousel in downtown Salem.



Some of our happy campers-to-be will be participating in one of the Oregon-Idaho Camps this coming summer.

Gocamping.org



Toddler playgroup

Infant/Toddler Play Group
Friday, May 25, 10:00 to 11:30am,
Taplin Hall, MICAH Building

The group is for caregivers of young children and for children from infants through age 5.

If you're a stay-at-home, working, teen, adoptive, foster, special needs, single or married..., being a parent brings us together!

Join us each month in our spacious rooms, filled with fun, developmentally appropriate toys. Please no older siblings. For questions and/or to RSVP, call Heather Hawkins at 503-602-8000.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Budget	March	Year to	25%
	2018	2018	Date	of Budget
Total Income	\$560,068.00		\$135,846.61	24.26%
Total Expenses	\$564,994.00		\$143,899.88	25.47%

Notes from the Finance Committee

Hello everyone! March was again a month where our income exceeded our expenses.

We were ahead \$828.90 for the month, leaving us year-to-date still only slightly negative \$2,634.64. This is less than ½ of 1% of our annual budget. We also finished the month with \$63,000 in our designated reserves, which exceeds our stated goal of \$50,000. Here are a couple specific comments but very few out of the ordinary variances to date.

It is a good thing to not have anything too exciting in the budget world...

1. Our general giving has trended up the first three months of the year. \$33,000, \$36,350, \$37,600.
2. Both building NW Natural line items should end up a combined \$5,000 under budget. The budget was approved prior to NW Natural changing our level pay amount.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please let me know.

Steve Horning, Finance Committee Chair

Thank you for your support for IHN

We asked, you answered! You have helped us reach our goal of purchasing new room dividers for our Interfaith Hospitality Network guests...just in time for us to host them at the end of April. That's worthy of a hearty cheer - hooray!

Thank you for stepping up to meet this critical need. Because of your generosity, our house-less neighbors will be safer and will be provided with more privacy and living space. And, the mighty Salem FUMC volunteers who set up and take down for IHN are appreciative, too. The new dividers are on wheels and weigh nothing compared to the old behemoth dividers.

"Do not neglect to show hospitality to strangers, for by doing that some have entertained angels without knowing it."

Because of your generosity, this scripture gets to be lived out. Once again, thank you for being willing to show gracious hospitality to the angels in our midst. God bless you!

United Methodist Women Circle meetings

The **Erbele Circle** will hold its May meeting on Monday, May 14, in the Carrier Room at Noon. Our host for the day will be Dolores Middleton; Emily Broussard will present the program.

Remember that May is Mother's Day month (celebrated Sunday, May 13). Give Mom a big hug and treat her to a delicious dinner. Or please feel welcome to bring her to our circle meeting and we can all celebrate together!!

There will be snacks (of course) and something special for each mom! We hope to see you there. (For more information, please contact Emily Broussard at 503-304-4410.)

The **Mia Adjali Circle** will meet Monday, May 14, at 7:00 p.m. in the Carrier Room. This is our "bring your favorite book and talk about it" meeting.

Don't forget! This will be our last meeting until September. Newcomers are always welcome to join us and see what we are all about. There will be fellowship, fun, UMW books for browsing and checking out, as well as a delicious refreshments.

Congregation Helping People needs volunteers

Congregations Helping People (CHP) is in serious need of some new volunteers to help with client intake services. CHP welcomes clients four days per week at FUMC, and each day there are two 3-hour shifts for volunteers to fill (9:00 a.m. to Noon or Noon to 3:00 p.m., Monday through Thursday).

Volunteers greet all potential clients and using guidelines provided, determine their needs and help with the client applications. They compile the documents clients bring to verify their need for services and make a file for the service coordinator. No special experience is required to fill this important support position other than a desire to help those people who are experiencing difficulties meeting their daily needs.

Volunteers receive all of the training that they need to feel comfortable with the paperwork and the elementary computer data input required. These are positions where in a few hours per week someone can make a difference in the lives of members of our community.

Please call 503-391-4365 and speak to a volunteer or leave a message to have the staff call back to answer questions. Anyone interested can also send an email to staff@chpsalem.org with questions or a request for a return call.

Digging Deeper Adult Class

Digging Deeper will be finishing up the year with three individual sessions, times to be announced, in the middle of a longer post-Easter "series" on the poetry of joy.

In the first category, we'll look at Chuck Foster's recent essay about how his mind has changed during his long and fruitful career as a Christian educator. Then Arturo Fernandez will provide a provocative discussion on Puerto Rico as a 21st century parallel to the "Holy Land" at the time of Jesus. And we are inviting a conversation with FUMC trustees about the possibility of installing solar panels on one of our roofs.

Our multi-Sunday poetic focus will center on a collection by Christian Wiman called *Joy: 100 Poems*. Spiritual writer Kathleen Norris describes them as "epiphanies, large and small, that help give meaning to our lives," reminding us "that joy is deep and necessary."

Generations Potluck

May 16

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

Dining Room
Main Building





Open Door Churches

Open Door Churches: United Methodist Ministries of Salem-Keizer

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

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

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

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

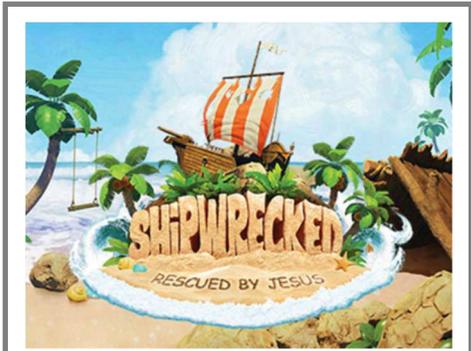
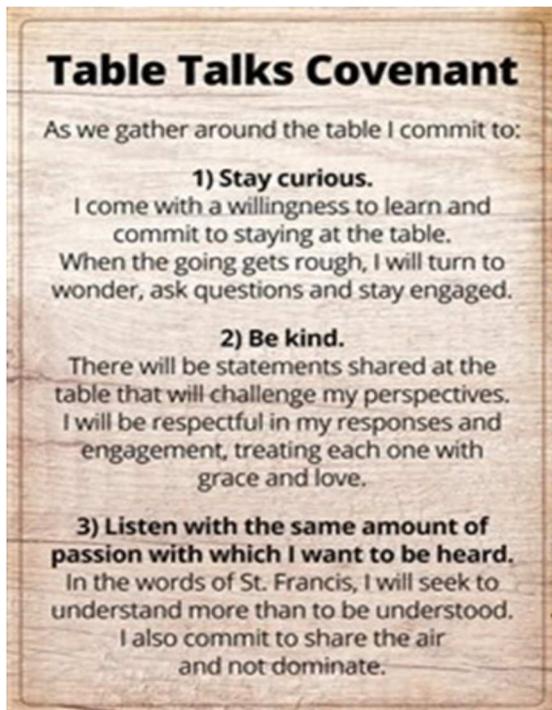
Trinity UMC
Rev. Sandra Kimbrow
skimbrow@aol.com
Worship: 9:00 a.m.

Iglesia Metodista
Unida Las Naciones
Rev. Jorge Rodriguez
salemhispanicumc@gmail.com
Worship: Noon

Table Talks: Conversation on the Way Forward Tuesday, May 22, 6:30-9pm at MICAH

The Table Talks for the Salem area of Cascadia District will be at MICAH on Tuesday, May 22. We encourage everyone who can to attend. Let's spend some time listening to each other.

You can find out about other dates and locations within the Cascadia District of The United Methodist Church, and event information and registration here:
<http://greaternw.org/table-talks/>



Open Door Churches Vacation Bible School 2018! Save the Dates!!!

- June 25-28 at Clearlake
- July 9-12 at Morningside
- Las Naciones date TBD

We are excited to announce that Open Door Churches will be hosting VBS three times this summer! The theme this year will be "Shipwrecked."

If you would like to help with VBS at any of these locations please contact Pastor Alyssa at Keizer Clear Lake United Methodist Church, 503-393-2402.



First United Methodist Church of Salem



MAY 2018

For more details or updates:
 Salem First United Methodist Church
 on Facebook AND check out our website at
salemfirstumc.org

8:45 a.m.
 MICAH Service

11:15 a.m.
 Sanctuary Service

Sunday Classes

- Various classes are available for all ages.
- Bridges, a time for adults with developmental delays, meets at 9:30 a.m. every Sunday and at 5 p.m. every Wednesday evening for activities such as art & crafts & movies.

MUSIC

REHEARSALS

Wednesdays
 5:30 p.m. Mission Bells
 7 p.m. Sanctuary Choir

Thursdays
 6 p.m. Praise Band

Sundays
 as scheduled...
 CrossFire
 Youth Band

*indicates off-site

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
April 29-May 6 IHN hosting at FUMC		1 1:30pm UMW Exec. Meeting 7pm Women's Book Study	2 5 p.m. Bridges	3 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group	4	5
6 <i>Communion</i> 12:30pm volunteer to serve Kairos Lunch at St. Mark Lutheran	7 5:30 p.m. MICAH Team meeting 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Team meeting	8 7 p.m. Finance 7pm Christian Ed 7pm Book Study	9 5 p.m. Bridges	10 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group	11 NOON Social Concerns	12
13 Mothers Day <i>Bell Sunday</i> No youth group	14 Noon Erbele Circle 7 p.m. Mia Adjali Circle	15 5:30 p.m. Trustees 6:30 p.m. Youth Council Meeting 7pm Book Study	16 Noon Generations Potluck 5 p.m. Bridges	17 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group 7 p.m. Ad Council	18 <i>THE SPIRE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE</i>	19
20 Wear Red for both worship services! Pentecost Sermon in Song at 11:15 Service	21 10am Stephen Ministry	22 6:30pm Table Talks at MICAH 7pm Book Study	23 5 p.m. Bridges	24 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group 7 p.m. SPRC	25 10 a.m. Infant & Toddler playgroup	26
27 Trinity Sunday No youth group	28 Memorial Day Buildings and Offices Closed	29 7pm Book Study	30 5 p.m. Bridges	31 OPEN DOORS YOUTH GROUP: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May 6 - at Clear Lake UMC, 12:30-2 p.m. • May 13 - No Youth Group • May 20 - at Clear Lake UMC, 12:30 - 2 p.m. • May 27 - No Youth 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	Fran Eriksen and 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 and 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	Adam Somodi

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:
 June issue—May 18
 July issue—June 15

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*.

A heartfelt thank you to Rebecca Cozart for the newsletter redesign and all her volunteer work getting The Spire formatted each month! She has moved on to other work, and we will miss her creative eye!!