



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

THE SPIRE

July 2018

Building an Inclusive Church

Summer Bible Study—*God and the Gay Christian* Sunday mornings, 10 a.m., June 24-July 29, Room 108

FUMC believes that God's love and grace extends to all! In an effort to be welcoming to all, we are exploring the process of becoming a Reconciling Congregation.

We invite you to a book and video study called *God and the Gay Christian*, exploring a well-written and popular book by Matthew Vines. This study examines Biblical passages relating to homosexuality. This is a discussion and people with a variety of opinions are welcomed without judgment. Please come explore this issue with us!

For more information about the class, contact Diana Dickey at dianadickey@hotmail.com. For information on the book, visit www.reformationproject.org

Opportunities to Serve

Kairos Community Lunch

We are hosting the Kairos Community Lunch at St. Mark Lutheran Church on Sunday, July 1. We need about six people to make sandwiches, stuff lunch bags, and help distribute them. If you'd like to volunteer or for more information, please contact Bill Sullivan at 503-931-8533 or email at wildbill62@msn.com.

Summer Saturday of Service

Mark your calendars for August 18, 9 a.m. 'til noon for our summer Saturday of Service. Watch for sign-ups in early August. We will have a light breakfast and then head out to serve our community. There will be no Backpack Buddies this month. The program will resume when school is back in session.

Worship Schedule

Sunday Worship

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

July 1 Communion Sunday

*The Next Adventure:
Truth or Dare*
Mark 5:21-43

July 8

*The Next Adventure:
Risky Business*
Mark 6:1-13

July 15

*Ephesians Series begins:
Wrapped in Love*
Ephesians 1:3-14

July 22

Infinite Grace
Ephesians 2:1-10

July 29

Rooted and Grounded
Ephesians 3:14-21



Adult Christian Education

Christian Education for Summer

Classes for children and youth are taking a break for the summer and will return in September. Many of the adult classes are taking a break for the summer as well.

There are two regular adult classes that meet during the summer and one special class, "Building An Inclusive Church - God and the Gay Christian," that began June 24 and ends on July 29. Bridges, the class offering for adults with developmental delays, also continues to meet throughout the summer.

9:30 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

- Bridges, Room 110
A drop-in time for adults with developmental delays.

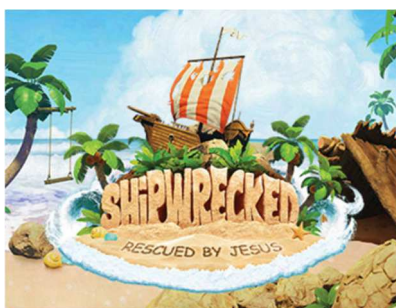
10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

- Adult Bible Study, Room 107
- Prayer of the Heart Meditation, Room 207
- Building An Inclusive Church - *God and the Gay Christian*, Room 108 (now through July 29)

Vacation Bible School July 9-12, 9 a.m.-12 p.m., Morningside UMC

All kids from age 4 to 5th grade graduates are invited to four days of venturing onto an uncharted island where we will learn about how Jesus carries us through all of life's storms such as loneliness, struggles, feeling powerless, and worrying. Each day as we sing, craft, snack, and use our imaginations, we'll see how Jesus is always there for us!

Registration forms are available from church office and on the Facebook event page. There will be a limit of 50 kids at each site so sign up soon!



Family Matters Evolving

Re-Thinking the Family Matters Group

A planning group met recently to discuss ideas for the FUMC Sunday morning group known as Family Matters. Originally set up for families with young children, some of us have been meeting together for 20 years or more. We are thinking of ways to keep the class interesting, helpful, and relevant to our lives now as Christians in a changing, stressful world.

Since most of us have aged out of the "young family" stage, we looked at refocusing our time together. We want to look at and discuss a wide range of issues. Some suggested topics are:

- "Are you an 'Accidental Saint' or Sinner?" - a look at an unusual approach to reaching out to traditionally "non-churched" people
- A discussion of the book *Evicted: Poverty and Profit in the American City*, by Matthew Desmond
- A review of the theology of End Times and its implications for the world.

Anyone is welcome, and suggestions for topics and people to lead them are always welcome. Look for more information to come! You can also email kaltst@q.com for more information.

YOUTH & FAMILY

Summer Youth Group—July

Summer Youth Group will meet most Tuesdays in the summer from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. (unless otherwise noted below) and will include a variety of activities:

- July 3 No Youth Group
- July 9–12 VBS at Morningside UMC; 9–noon
- July 10 Scavenger Hunt
- July 17 Youth Group Hike
(earlier in the day) location TBA
- July 24 Laser Tag night at Pietro's
- July 31 Water Balloon Games at
Bush Park – meet at Cesie and
Tom's Scheuermann's house
(1089 High Street, Salem)



2018 Open Door Youth Mission Team

Director of Family Ministries Position at Salem First UMC

The **Director of Family Ministries** for Salem First United Methodist Church is a 25 hour-a-week position. There are three main areas which this position oversees:

Ministry to families with young children; Oversight and supervision of childcare and nursery program; Development and implementation of children's Christian education.

A Job Change for Our Youth Intern

This June marked the end of the second intern year for Christopher Frost.



Christopher leading games at a 2017 youth event.

Christopher has been a great asset to our youth ministry team, leading games at youth group, teaching Sunday School, and making time to build strong relationships with our youth. He has been a blessing to our youth and our congregation.

We learned recently of the good news that Christopher has been hired as the Youth and Family Director at Morningside UMC, which means that even though his role will change, he will still be a part of the Open Door Youth Ministry.

Thank you, Christopher, for your time as an intern and congratulations on the next part of your journey of ministry.

(Director of Family Ministry
Job announcement continued)

**NOW
HIRING**

This is a dynamic, growing, and rewarding position with an emphasis on inclusion and building a base of millennials and young families. Another key aspect is supervision of the Sunday School program for these families and children by providing developmentally appropriate and engaging ministries.

If you are interested in the full job description, please email your request to First United Methodist Church at salem1st@wvi.com.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

	Budget 2018	April 2018	May 2018	Year to Date	33.33% of Budget
Total Income	\$ 560,068.00	\$ 49,710.39	\$ 48,750.26	\$ 239,725.89	42.80%
Total Expenses	\$ 564,994.00	\$ 46,913.06	\$ 45,722.82	\$ 236,535.36	41.87%

Notes from the Finance Committee

We are so fortunate for our generous congregation and currently your Finance Committee's duty is monitoring our expenses and watching our revenue flow. Some thoughts:

Our year-to-date general giving as a congregation has for the first time this year passed our budget year-to-date. *Great news!* Here are some highlights:

- In May our income has exceeded our expenses by \$3,027 putting us \$3,200 ahead of budget year-to-date through May.
- Church building utility expense has come down - I believe because of longer daylight hours and warmer weather.
- Building rental income year-to-date continues to run above year-to-date budget.
- The pending staffing change will create some variance to the budget, but that is yet to be determined. Factors like how long position is open or if it will be exactly the same are unknown right now.
- With the recent water issues, (thanks to the staff for keeping us hydrated) we have signed up for a service so our staff doesn't have to buy and then haul bottled water.

Thank you all for your contributions and volunteering! If anyone has any questions about the budget, please feel free to contact me.

Steve Horning, Finance Committee Chair

Mission Café

Love to bake? We need your help! The Mission Café supports missionaries in Alaska and Nepal through your donations for coffee and goodies.

We are looking for donations of baked goods to serve on Sundays. If you have a heart for baking and missions, please contact Leta Brewster at leta-brewster@yahoo.com.

FUMC Welcomes New Members!

Amy Claussen
Chris Kirkwood
Don Kirkwood
Miriam Kirkwood
Teresa F. Miller
Rebecca Rohrbeck

Open Door Churches of Salem-Keizer—A New Way of Being in the World

Sarah Katreen Hoggatt, Communications, Open Door Churches

When you go from being single to being in a relationship, you quickly learn that decisions are no longer made the way they once were. Instead of one calendar to check, there are two. Instead of simply taking care of oneself, there is someone else to consider and care for who also wants to care for you. Such a relationship can be a huge adjustment that takes time, thought, and effort, but there is that voice in our hearts, the love and joy that keeps us coming back to work at it together and to find a new way of being ourselves in this world.

See, I am doing a new thing!
Now it springs up;
do you not perceive it?
I am making a way
in the wilderness
and streams in the wasteland.

-*Isaiah 43:19*

Open Door Churches: A New Way - In this way, we as Open Door Churches are in a relationship with each other and are finding new ways to be ourselves in this world. We are learning about the gifts we each bring to this community, are learning to work together on projects, ministries, and events. Friendships are being made and we are learning to care for people we didn't know before. This has brought a richness into our lives, a joy in the knowledge we are a wider community stretching across the miles of Salem-Keizer and that we are not in this alone.

New Decision Making - To guide our decision making as we navigate this still-new relationship, Open Door Churches has a board made up of representatives from each congregation that meets once a month throughout our six churches. It's a caring group of people who are listening deeply, imaging a new way of being, and learning from each other how to be Open Door Churches.

Pastors and Congregations - One of the biggest tasks the board has undertaken is to imagine and put into action a new kind of relationship between pastors and congregations. Instead of having one pastor per church as we've had before, now each congregation has five people to serve, lead, and with whom to do ministry. To further develop this new way of being and serving, Alyssa, Dan, Sandy, and Wendy are going to all be preaching this summer during a special sermon series on Ephesians so we can all get to know each of them better. It's a new way of doing church, an out-of-the-box way of doing things that is very much needed in a time and culture that no longer plays by the same rules.

Updates! - It's an exciting time for us! No longer limited to how things have been done before, we can dream up with God something entirely new and incredible. We can be a community that sticks by one another, encouraging our gifts and questions as we learn to walk this new road together and reach out to the wider communities around us. To help us do that, here is what the board is working on right now:

- **Worship and Community Picnic** - We're gathering on *Sunday, September 9*, at Riverfront Park for worship outdoors and a community picnic afterwards.
- **Intercultural competency, communications, and community** - We want to know how we can be a community that celebrates diversity and comes together with the gifts of our commonalities *and* differences. The board now has representatives from Las Naciones! Las Naciones has been growing and is almost ready to charter as a new United Methodist Church congregation!

Let's dream together what Open Door Churches can do and become!



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
skimbrowp@aol.com
Worship: 9:00 a.m.

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

Open Door Young Adults Are Planning a Retreat—*Pastor Alyssa*

It has been a great joy to lead the young adult group this year. As the young adult pastor I have had the pleasure of seeing relationships formed and community built as they explore questions of faith.

This summer the young adults would like to go on a 2-day retreat to the coast in August to continue forming their connections with one another and grow in their faith. To provide this opportunity to the young adult community, we are looking for your support. Would you be willing to invest in the young adults financially? Do you know of or have a place where 10 young adults could stay? Or would you be willing to provide them with meals for the retreat? Please prayerfully consider supporting the young adult group.

If you are able to support the young adult group, please contact me at alyssabaker08@gmail.com. Thank you for your continued support of the Open Door Church Young Adults.

Open Door Churches Worship & Celebration Sunday, September 9 Riverfront Park

Although it's a few months off, the excitement is building for our Open Door Churches Worship & Celebration at Riverfront Park! Please SAVE THE DATE and plan to attend.

Are you interested in being a part of the planning team? Call the church office at 503-364-6709 to get your name on a volunteer list.

UMW Mission Giving Makes Mission Happen — *Adapted from Response magazine, February 2018* (Part one - part two of this article continues in the August Spire newsletter.)

United Methodist Women Mission Giving and special offerings make mission happen! Mission Giving is UMW members' second- and third-mile gifts beyond their tithes and offerings in their local churches. In the United States, Mission Giving provides vital support for UMW-related national mission institutions and other U.S. ministries as well as spiritual growth programs, membership, nurture, and opportunities for leadership development, mission, education, and service advocacy.

Internationally, UMW supports some 150 programs carried out by up to 116 organizations in more than 110 countries annually. Mission Giving also provides scholarships to more than 73 students enrolled in institutions of higher education in 18 countries.

Recurring Weekly Events

Sunday Worship

8:45 a.m.
MICAH Service

11:15 a.m.
Sanctuary Service

Sunday Classes

Summer break for many classes after June 3

- 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:

Summer break for Sanctuary Choir and Mission Bells

Thursdays:
6 p.m.
Praise Band



Salem First United Methodist Church



July

(*indicates off-site for youth activities - see youth page)

For more details or updates, please check our Facebook pages:
Salem First United Methodist Church

And our web calendar at:
www.salemfirstumc.org



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion 12:30 Volunteer at Kairo's Lunch at St. Mark Lutheran	2	3 No Youth Group	4 Offices and Buildings Closed 	5 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group Weekly at Taproot (downtown restaurant)	6	7
8	9 5:30 p.m. MICAH Team 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Worship Team	10 *6:30 p.m. Youth Group 7 p.m. Finance	11 5 p.m. Bridges	12 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group	13	14
 ➔ VBS - 9-Noon at Morningside UMC (9-12) ➔						
15	16 *12 p.m. Erbele Circle 5:30 p.m. Comm. Team	17 5:30 p.m. Trustees *6:30 p.m. Youth Group	18 5 p.m. Bridges	19 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group 7 p.m. Ad Council	20 SPIRE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	21
22	23 6 p.m. Open Door Board Meeting	24 5:30 p.m. Youth Council Meeting *6:30 p.m. Youth Group	25 5 p.m. Bridges	26 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group	27	28
29	30	31 *6:30 p.m. Youth Group				



First United Methodist Church
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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 deadline
 August issue — July 20
 September issue — August 17

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*.