



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

THE SPIRE

March 2020

Sunday Worship

Regular Worship Times

8:45 a.m.

MICAH (Praise Service)

11:15 a.m.

Sanctuary (Traditional Service)

Open Door Churches

Sermon Series:

Take a New Direction

March 1

First Sunday in Lent

Communion

Jesus in the Desert

Matthew 4:1-11

Rev. Dan Pitney

March 8

Second Sunday in Lent

See God in All Things

John 9:1-11

Rev. Dan Pitney

March 15

Third Sunday in Lent

Nic at Night

John 3:1-7

Rev. Wendy Woodworth

March 22

Fourth Sunday in Lent

Special Giving: UMCOR

Believing Even When

It's Hard

John 11:17-45

Rev. Alyssa Baker

March 29

Fifth Sunday in Lent

The First Woman Preacher

John 4:7-15, 39

Rev. Sandy Kimbrow

Claremont School of Theology Moving to the Willamette University Campus

We are deeply saddened to inform you that Claremont School of Theology (CST) will not be moving into our MICAH building. The cost to remodel our facilities to house the seminary was higher than CST expected. Working with Willamette University, the school has identified a suitable location on their campus that would meet CST's needs at less cost. This announcement came as a total surprise to us at a recent meeting with a Willamette University representative.

Our MICAH building was on schedule to be vacated by February 15 for the demolition with remodeling to begin on March 1. In October of last year, we provided formal notice to the Baha'i Faith Community that we would not be renewing their lease agreement when it expires in 2021. We gave other tenants notice and they have vacated the building. Last month we approved a church budget for 2020 that was based, in part, on expected rental income from CST.

An immediate concern for us is to find new tenants for the main floor of MICAH. The Baha'i Faith Community and the Oregon-Idaho United Methodist Archives will likely remain. We are beginning discussions to see if two organizations affiliated with CST (the Clinebell Counseling Center and the Center for Process Studies) are interested in renting our spaces without the need for any remodeling. If they become tenants, loss of income from CST should not have a negative financial impact on our church. If they decline our offer for rental space, we will immediately begin publicizing for new tenants.

We are grateful for all the hard work First UMC Staff and lay leadership have put into this project. We invite your continued prayers for God's guidance as this process continues. If you have questions about this development, please contact Robert Chandler (Administrative Council), Dennis Gallacher (Trustees), or Rev. Dan Pitney.

Daylight Saving Time—*Spring Ahead!*

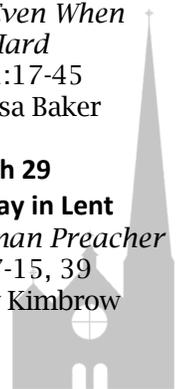
Move your clocks forward one hour, 2:00 a.m. March 8.

Getting Ready for Holy Week in April

April 5 is Palm Sunday

8:45 a.m. - Communion & Palms

11:15 a.m. - Children's Service with donkey
Matthew 21:1-11 — Rev. Dan Pitney preaching



Christian Education & Family Ministries

Sunday Schedule for Children

Children will gather again at 10:15 a.m. on Sunday, March 1, for choir; Godly Play resumes on Sunday, March 8. Email Christianedfumc@wvi.com for more information.

Friendship and Fellowship

(Young Adults at FUMC) Sunday, March 1 and 15

Meet with other young adults from 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 1 and 15 in Room 212.

Adult Christian Education Classes!

We have several adult classes meeting on Sundays during the 10:00 Christian Education hour.

Check out our website for more information.

Modern Christian Life

Sundays, 10:00 a.m., Room B8

March 8 through 22, we're reprising Pattie Sloan's class on Creation Care: "Jesus is Coming. Quick! Plant a Tree!"

Pattie will talk about special tree planting opportunities and how we can participate in expanding Salem's tree canopy.

She will also provide information on how United Methodists have an opportunity this year to work with families, schools, and environmental groups on the greening of Salem. **Contact Pattie Sloan at peach918@msn.com to sign up for these important environment caring events!**

Schedule of Events for 2020:

Saturday, April 4, at Geer Park, Northeast Salem
Saturday, May 2, Tree Care Event



Some recent winter youth retreat shenanigans at Suttle Lake Camp and Retreat Center. See page 4 for Youth News!

Save the Dates for Vacation Bible School

Mark your calendars for Vacation Bible School Monday through Thursday, August 17-20. Stay tuned for more information coming soon.

Visitor information & Get Acquainted Hour!

The first Sunday of each month, starting in March, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m., MICA Conference Room

Please join us for an informal get acquainted time with church members and other visitors at 10:00 a.m. on Sunday, March 1, in the MICA Conference Room. Learn about our church history and our ministries and outreach in the broader Salem community.

Light refreshments will be provided, but please feel free to come early and order a latte on the house at the Mission Café (located in the Dining Room on the first floor of the Historic Building) before arriving. Childcare is available. Please call Rachel at the church office, 503-364-6709, if you have questions or to RSVP. We hope you will join us! This event will be held on the first Sunday of each month.

Interested in Becoming a Member of FUMC? Sunday, March 22, 10:00 a.m.

Are you interested in becoming a member of First United Methodist Church of Salem, or would you like more information about it?

Our membership class is an opportunity to learn more about the church and find your place in our vibrant, growing community. We will answer any questions you might have about joining the church, as well as share information about ministries and opportunities to be involved in the life of Salem FUMC.

The next member class will be held on Sunday, March 22, at 10:00 a.m. in the MICA Conference Room.

Please contact the office (503-364-6709) if you have questions or to register for the class, or email welcome@wvi.com.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT ■ ORGAN REPAIRS

2020 Financial Report From January

Hello from your Finance Committee!

As most of you are aware, we had a last minute change of heart by Claremont and they will not be utilizing our MICAH space as anticipated (see front page of this newsletter). Here are some facts that I know and a couple of comments.

	Budget		January		8.33%
	2020		2020		of Budget
Total Income	\$ 608,174.88		\$ 41,714.41		6.86%
Total Expenses	\$ 617,137.04		\$ 47,256.52		7.66%

*** *As noted last month, we finished 2019 \$20,000 ahead of budget, giving us a \$70,000 reserve balance. At this point we are still exploring options, but have a cushion thanks to your Finance Committee's fiscal conservativeness.*

*** *We are a generous congregation!*

- For January 2020, our expenses exceeded our income by \$10,300.
- This was mostly anticipated as we had budgeted additional rental income to begin mid-year, plus we have some pledgers who have not started their giving yet this year. We also budgeted slight savings in electricity to start later in the year with solar savings. General giving for January was below estimates.
- We have a couple additional lease option discussions currently being followed up on that could replace a significant portion of the Claremont change shortfall.
- We will have the current Claremont staff lease income through mid-year.
- There is a very low vacancy in commercial space available so we are confident we could market the space if needed and still have a few months before the budgeted revenue would have started.
- The General Account Budget and Trustees are working hand in hand to make the best decisions for our church. There's lots of teamwork going on.

That's about it for now. As things change in this ever moving scenario, know that your church leadership is working together. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me...or Dennis, Robert, or Dan.

Steve Horning, Finance Committee Chair

No Organ Music at 11:15 worship? Why Not?

The simple answer to those questions is that the organ is getting a tech update! The wiring and electronics in the organ console were (until their recent removal) original from when the organ was built in 1955.

Needless to say, 65 year-old wiring was not up to current code and organ electronics and pneumatics (that do everything from changing the sound of the music to making the keys work) are somewhat different now than when the organ was originally installed. That the wiring doesn't meet current code has also made it impossible to make some repairs that should be considered routine maintenance as parts wore out over time, so there's some deferred maintenance to be done as well.

We are very thankful to Organist Emeritus John Ranney who originally identified the outdated components, to former organist Zachary Duell who sent detailed written information to the Finance Committee to get the project rolling, and to current organist Jon Stuber for connecting with Bond Organ Builders to do the work and overseeing the project.

This project has been funded in large part by generous gifts from the estates of longtime Music Ministries supporters Charles and Charlotte Holmes and Robert Bain and should be completed in a few weeks. Until then we will be enjoying pieces from Jon Stuber's piano repertoire!

OPEN DOOR CHURCHES - United Methodists of Salem-Keizer

March Open Door Churches

Youth Group Schedule

This month the youth group will meet at Salem First UMC in the Youth Center at 680 State Street.

We have lots of fun things planned. Join us on Sundays from 12:30-2:00 p.m.

- March 1 - 12:30-2:00 p.m., FUMC
- March 8 - 12:30-2:00 p.m., FUMC
- March 15 - 12:30-2:00 p.m., FUMC
- March 22 - Service Project; location TBA
- March 29 - Live Action Clue in Portland

Thank you to everyone for supporting the annual youth auction in February!

Open Door Churches Young Adult Ministry

This group meets regularly on Wednesday evenings and has made many connections!

Please contact Pastor Alyssa for meeting times and locations, alysabaker08@gmail.com, or for other questions!

Thank you for your continued support of the Open Door Churches Young Adults. Please follow us on Instagram, Facebook, and other social media!

OPEN DOOR CHURCHES CELEBRATION

Join us as we celebrate the ministry of Open Door Churches as a community! We'll share with our District Superintendent, Tim Overton-Harris, how we as United Methodists of Salem-Keizer are making a difference serving together as one church! Each local church will celebrate important parts of their local ministries as well as our accomplishments together. All are invited!

Sunday, March 8, 2020 2-4 p.m.

Morningside United Methodist Church
3674 12th St. SE | Salem, OR 97302



Open Door Churches is a cooperative ministry of six United Methodist faith communities in Salem and Keizer.

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

Iglesia Metodista Unida Las Naciones
Rev. Arturo Fernandez (Interim)
salemhispanicumc@gmail.com
Worship: 12:30 p.m.

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

Trinity UMC - Rev. Sandra Kimbrow
skimbrowp@gmail.com
Worship: 9:00 a.m.

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

West Salem UMC
503-363-3035

Open Door Churches
Youth Director, Rev. Jeff Lowery
revjlow@yahoo.com

(Youth group meets on Sundays at rotating locations: First UMC, Morningside UMC, and Keizer Clear Lake UMC.)



United Methodist Women

March UMW Meetings

The FUMC UMW Executive Team will meet on Tuesday, March 3, in room 114, at 1:30 p.m.



The **Ruth Erbele Circle** meets at Noon on Monday, March 9, in the Carrier Room. Barbara Alexander will provide the program and Dolores Middleton will serve as hostess and provide refreshments. All are welcome to attend!

The **Katherine Parker Circle** will meet in the Carrier Room on Monday, March 9, from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Doris Bennett will offer the program. All women are welcome; the doors are open.

Nuts!

March will be the last month that nuts will be sold after Sunday services. They will be available on March 8 and 22.

Nuts can still be bought by emailing Barbara Alexander at barba@wvi.com, or by leaving a message in the church office, 503-364-6709.

You can also see her on other Sundays and let her know that you would like some nuts; you will most likely be able to pick them up after the 11:15 service the same day.

We're sorry for the inconvenience this may cause some people and as always, thank you for your support!

Generations Potluck & Program

Generations Potluck & Program

Wednesday, March 18, Noon, FUMC Dining Room

Join Generations to hear from Alise from the Alzheimers Association. She will share research-based information about **Alzheimer's and dementias**—what are typical age-related changes vs. what is not normal? Learn 10 common warning signs.

Bring a dish to share (and a serving utensil) for the potluck; beverages and table service will be provided. Everyone is welcome to attend.

This active 50+ group gathers monthly!

Music Dept. News

Lenten Organ Concert

“Beside the Streams of Babylon: Psalm 137”



LENTEN ORGAN CONCERT
FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, SALEM
600 STATE STREET
3 PM, SUNDAY, MARCH 22, 2020
Suggested Donation \$10

Beside the Streams of Babylon: Psalm 137

CHRISTOPHER WICKS, organist and composer
KIMBERLY TAYLOR, harpist
AIMEE LARSEN-AMEND, soprano
ALLISON KNOTTS, mezzo-soprano
STEPHANIE BARTH, violin
KATHERINE COUCH PARKS, cello

Please join us for a concert featuring music inspired by Psalm 137, composed by Bach, Reincken, and Silverton composer Christopher Wicks.

Instrumentalists and vocalists include: Christopher Wicks, organist; Kimberly Taylor, harpist; Aimée Larsen-Amend, soprano; Allison Knotts, mezzo-soprano; Stephanie Barth, violin; Katherine Parks, cello.

The concert will be held in the FUMC Sanctuary on Sunday, March 22, at 3:00 p.m. A \$10 donation is suggested.

Zachary Duell in Concert!

May Dudley Memorial Organ Concert

Sunday, April 5, 4:00 p.m.

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church
1444 Liberty Street SE, Salem

Volunteer and Donation Opportunities AND Thank You!

Family Promise Hosting In March First United Methodist Church of Salem Thank you to all who help — you make a difference!

Thank you to all of the enthusiastic volunteers who have helped with our Family Promise hosting in January! We appreciate your assistance providing our guests a safe, warm, and welcoming place to spend the night and they have appreciated the delicious dinners, breakfasts and hospitality that you have provided.

Our next hosting is coming up soon, March 29 through April 5, and we are asking for your help. We are taking signups for this hosting and have many opportunities for you to help — as evening host or coordinator, dinner host, or overnight and/or breakfast host as well as with set-up and take-down.

The primary responsibility of **evening host** and **evening coordinator** is to spend some time with our guests. You will eat dinner with the families and perhaps play games with the children, help with homework, or visit with the adults. Your role is to be a friendly, listening presence and to make sure the evening goes smoothly.

The **dinner host** provides dinner for up to sixteen guests plus the evening volunteers. We will call and let you know exactly how many to expect and any special dietary needs. The evening host and coordinator will be there to help with the set-up, serving, and clean-up after dinner.

The **overnight host(s)** spends the night at the church. Your primary responsibility is to be a presence, being available to guests if a need arises. Most of our overnight hosts have also served as **breakfast hosts** (set out the provided breakfast foods, make the coffee, etc.), but if that does not work into your schedule, we will find someone to help you in the morning as well.

The set-up and take-down crews work on Sunday mornings before and/or after the MICAHA service, moving mattresses upstairs, setting up partitions for family sleeping areas, and bringing out the toys and furniture. Everything is done in reverse on the following Sunday.

If you would like to be a part of this program of advocacy for homeless families with children, please contact the church office at 503-364-6709, and leave a message for Judy Allen, or Paula Sullivan. You may also sign up in the Dining Room or MICAHA Lobby on Sunday mornings.

Reaching Out and Caring for Others Saturdays of Service: *You* Make a Difference!

Do you wonder if taking a few hours to work in and for our community makes the world a better place? Consider this; during January's Saturday of Service...

- 560 bag lunches were prepared for Hoover Elementary students through Backpack Buddies.
- 70 cards were hand-made for people who need a lift.
- 35 bags were packed with sheets, blankets, and a pillow for individuals at Family Promise.
- The Family Promise animal shelter, toy room, guest room, and kitchen were cleaned.
- All the toys, chairs, and furniture in two Head Start rooms at Family Building Blocks were sanitized.
- 60 people (including our awesome soup chefs) made this possible. Hip, hip hooray! *Thank you* to all the volunteers.

Mark your calendars now for the next Saturday of Service on April 18. Come join us. Make new friends. Make a difference.

Contributions to the Jason Lee Food Bank

The total amount of food collected for the Jason Lee Food Bank in January was 3,301 pounds. In January 2019, we collected 2,547 pounds. What a great start to 2020!

You may make a donation to the food bank on any Sunday. Bring your food donations to the stations at MICAHA or in the Dining Room or make a financial donation during the morning offering or via The Square and note that it's for the "food bank."

Please help make sure families have the food and nutrition they need for a healthy start to the year! Thank you, thank you!

SAVE THE DATES FOR FAMILY PROMISE

First UMC of Salem will also be hosting for Family Promise twice this fall – September 13-20 and November 15-22.

Volunteers will be needed for these dates and new volunteers are always welcome!!

**Recurring
Weekly Events**



Salem First United Methodist Church

March 2020

(* indicates off-site)

For more details or updates,
please check our Facebook page:
Salem First United Methodist Church
And our web calendar at:
www.salemfirstumc.org

Sunday Worship

8:45 a.m.
MICAH Service
(Contemporary)

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

Sunday Classes

10 a.m.

Adults:

- Adult Bible Study
- Prayer of the Heart
- Digging Deeper
- Modern Christian Life
- Raising Up Family

Children:

Ages 3 to 5th grades

Youth:

Ages 6th to 12th grades

For more information about events, activities, and classes, check out our Christian Education Connection booklet!

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Communion Sunday	2	3 1:30 p.m. UMW Exec. Team	4 5 p.m. Bridges 5:15 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	5 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group @ Taproot 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	6	7
8 Daylight Saving Time Begins	9 Noon Erbele Circle 6:30 p.m. Parker Circle	10	11 5 p.m. Bridges 5:15 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	12 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group @ Taproot 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	13	14 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. Kids Night Out
15	16 5:30 p.m. MICAH Worship Team 6:30 p.m. Sanctuary Worship Team	17 5:30 p.m. Trustees	18 NOON Generations Potluck 5 p.m. Bridges 5:15 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	19 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group @ Taproot 6:30 p.m. Praise Band 7:00 p.m. Ad Council	20 <i>SPIRE NEWSLETTER DEADLINE FOR APRIL PUBLICATION</i>	21
22 10:00 a.m. New Member Class 3:00 p.m. Organ Concert	23	24	25 5 p.m. Bridges 5:15 p.m. Bells 7:00 p.m. Choir	26 *7:30 a.m. Men's Group @ Taproot 6:30 p.m. Praise Band	27	28
29 Family Promise Hosting March 29 through April 5	30	31	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px;"> <p>Coming in April: Holy Week activities for all Open Door UM Churches:</p> <p>⇒ Maundy Thursday at Keizer Clear Lake UMC, Thursday, April 18, 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>⇒ Good Friday Service at Salem First UMC on Friday, April 10, 7:00 p.m.;</p> </div>			

