

MT. HOME UMC

SPECIAL
POINTS OF IN-
TEREST:

- Welcome Rev. Aric Clark
- WORSHIP TIME CHANGE STARTS JANUARY 8 11:15 A.M.
- Monday, January 9th 6:30 P.M. UMW Lydia and Elizabeth Circle meeting at a Davidson's
- Pledge cards are due

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Mountain Home

United Methodist Church

VOLUME III, ISSUE I

JANUARY 2017



REVEREND'S COLUMN

Friends of Mountain Home
UMC,

My name is Rev. Aric Clark. It is my honor to serve as your temporary pastor following Rev. Luckman's retirement. I am currently serving as pastor of Sherwood UMC and am acquainted with several Mountain Home members and know others by their sterling reputation. I am looking forward to supporting your ministry and leading worship over the coming months.

To provide you a piece of my story as we get acquainted, I was raised primarily in Monterey, California by a pair of vagabond thespians. I performed a lot of Shakespeare and traveled the country as part of a improvisational comedy repertory troupe.

I kept up my wandering ways through college where I spent each semester in a different country studying the religions of the world through first hand experience. I lived in Buddhist monasteries, Greek Orthodox monasteries, and was an apprentice to an Imam in Turkey for a time.

My religious explo-

rations eventually led me back to my ancestral roots in Reformed Christianity. I became an active volunteer, youth minister, and eventually seminarian before I was ordained in the Presbyterian Church (USA). My first call was in Colorado where I spent 6 years with my family, before we moved to the Portland area in 2014. Since then I've been honored to work as an MOD (Minister of Other Denomination) in the Cascadia district of the UMC.

In addition to my pastoral ministry, I am a writer and activist. I've published one book on spirituality, and edited and contributed to two others. I regularly publish articles in magazines and journals and of course online, and occasionally travel for speaking and teaching engagements related to my writing. I have been doing peacemaking work for almost twenty years, organizing to oppose war, to advocate for civil rights, and to educate people on a variety of social justice issues. I am currently the moderator of the Presbyterian Peace Fellowship which is a national

organization, and an active participant in Eco-Faith Recovery and Don't Shoot PDX on the local side.

My wife, Stacia Ann Anderson Clark, has been my companion through these adventures for 18 years now. She is the education manager for two Head Start early childhood education centers in the Oak Grove area. Together we have two sons, Avery (12) and Curran (9), whose curiosity about the world and creativity constantly amazes us.

I hear nothing but good things about Mountain Home UMC. I am excited to get to know its kind people, and to help to build its already significant capacity for the ministry of Jesus Christ.

Gratitude and Courage,

Rev. Aric Clark



From Pastor Peggy

To the beautiful people (that's all of you) at Mountain Home Church:

In August of this past year I wrote a blog (at vignettesofheart.wordpress.com) about my experience of coming to Mt. Home Church. What I wrote there is still true: summed up it says that my connection with you has been a wonderful gift in my life.

There is so much for which I would like to thank you. Worship together with awesome leaders, a joyful choir, sharing in UMW, the UMM's respect for "men's space", Bible studies together, book studies, coffee hours, special events, missions, dedicated Sunday School teachers, Annual Conference with Larry (whose enthusiasm makes it a good experience!), confirmation, being with the children, Linda's music leadership, pastoral visits, working with Ben our deacon, memorials, dedicated trustees, beautiful gardens,

you sharing your stories and lives with me, yes, and even meetings (where I loved seeing you at work in your ministry to each other and watch as you involved yourselves in the community and the world).

You have inspired and blessed me in so many ways, both professionally and personally. I treasure my memories, and until we can be together again as friends, I shall think of you in a spirit of deep gratitude. I thank you for the many gifts you as individuals and as a church have given me in these past two and a half years.

I am confidant that you will be blessed by Aric. He has so much to offer you. I know that you will welcome him as you welcomed me, as I move into retirement with a grateful heart.

Blessings,

Peggy



Pastor Peggy and Ed wish to thank the whole congregation of Mountain Home United Methodist Church for the kindness and grace toward us

From Ed Luckman

I have enjoyed my time in the little church up on the hill getting to know everyone, the opportunity to put your webpage together and being the unofficial photographer at the church. Blessings to all. Ed

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE
STARTS AT 11:15 AM

FIRST 11:00 A.M. SERVICE IS JANUARY 8

mthomeumc.org

Tom Ettleson is now the webmaster for the church. If you want something put on the website, please contact him.

A note about our transition

Friends,

We were sorry to cancel church on the first Sunday of 2017, both because we enjoy worship and fellowship with all of you, but also because we had planned to read a letter from our outgoing district superintendent about our pastoral appointment for the next 6 months, Rev. Aric Clark.

The members of the SPRC, along with deacon Ben, lay leader Gregg Jacot, and myself, had the pleasure of meeting with Aric this past Thursday. He brings wonderful gifts to our community, including the ability to help lead us through important conversations about our vision and hopes for our next pastor (to be appointed starting July 1). Lynelle Eck, who is now serving as chair of SPRC, and I will be meeting with Aric this week to begin talking about the series of conversations we will need to have over the next six months as we prepare to welcome a new pastor.

Because Aric is also serving the Sherwood UMC church right now, it is necessary for both congregations to alter their worship time for this interim six-month period. Aric met with the leadership at Sherwood Sunday morning and they have agreed to move their worship service

forward to 9:30am. We will need to move ours back to allow time for Aric to travel from Sherwood up the mountain. Starting next Sunday, January 8th, our worship service will begin at 11:15am. Also, the Administrative Council will meet after church next week, and Aric will be joining us.

The other important point to note is that Aric will only be serving with us in a quarter-time appointment (approximately 10 hours per week). This will mean that some of the tasks that have fallen on our pastor in the past will need to be picked up by us -- the lay persons of the congregation -- during these next six months. We will be sorting through what those things are exactly the coming few weeks, but I am confident that we can all work together in this interim time to keep the work of the church vibrant and moving forward.

It is a pleasure and privilege to serve with all of you.

Many blessings in this new year!

Laura Hartley
Administrative Council Chair



Much has been missed because of the weather on the mountain.
Please get your Pledge Cards in to Gregg as soon as possible.
Due this Sunday January 8

From our friend Carolynne

Dear Friends

Roger and I began attending this church on the First Sunday of Advent 2010. We were immediately drawn into fellowship with you when we were warmly greeted the minute we walked in the door. Leonard came over to shake our hands, many of you came to say hello. At the end of the service, we were included in the congregational circle as we sang. "Shalom, my friends," and were escorted downstairs to the Coffee Hour. Everyone spoke to us. On the way home, Roger said, "I want to join this church." Again, we were welcomed when we officially became members in the spring of 2011. That summer, we decided to sell our home and move to Friendsview and we asked for your prayers that this was the right thing to do. Within 10 days our home was sold and the move to Friendsview completed within a month of your praying for us.

The following year, we were asked to become your interim pastors for five months in between Anne's leaving and Steve's coming. Our only proviso was that after the interim time, we be allowed to remain at Mt. Home as members. It was such an honor to serve with you as interims for both of us.

Then came Roger's slow decline, our move into the manor and Roger's move into the Health Care unit. Once again, you were there for us. So many of you came to visit, sent cards and stayed with him to give me some rest. When he died, his greatest wish was fulfilled- to be memorialized and buried from Mt. Home. You showed up in full, prepared things to say, food for the reception, parked the cars and brought food to me for visiting family members.

You supported me in my job as chaplain at Providence Newberg, in my new relationship with Roy and through our marriage this past September. You knew and shared my pain as I said goodbye to my dearest love; and welcomed with joy my new love and husband, Roy.

This makes what I am about to say, even more difficult. You know how important weekly church attendance is for me and after trying to go to one or the other church every other week, I have decided to ask for a letter of transfer from Mt. Home to Roy's church, the Clarkes United Methodist in Mulino effective in January 2017. This has been the most difficult decision I have ever made. I have prayed and tried to discern different ways of staying as a member here, but the practicalities of doing that and maintaining membership in three churches (I must maintain membership at Christ Church to remain an Episcopal priest) just doesn't make sense.

That being said; I will stay on as a friend of Mt. Home and will join you during special dinners and other events in the years to come. You will always be part of my heart and my life. My home contact information is in the new directory and I am going to remain on the email and newsletter lists so that I can be kept abreast of all the goings on here at Mt. Home.

You will always be in my prayers. May God continue to bless you in the years to come,

With much love and affection,

Carolynne Fairweather

Trustee's News

Parking Adjustments Coming to Front Lot

Changes are coming to our main parking lot in front of the church. You may have noticed we've added two temporary handicap parking spaces on either side of the front door. It was brought to our attention more and more of our maturing congregation struggles with mobility issues from time to time. At this point,

the temporary handicap parking spaces provide parking near the entry for any one who may need it. We are not expecting our member to display a handicap sticker. Please just use these spaces if you have the need. We are looking into different signage that might better meet this need. So far we've found signage that would design-

nated the parking for "Senior Citizen". We would expect our members to use these spaces as they see fit. We will be allow everyone to self identify what "Senior Citizen" means to them. Please use these spaces as needed. If you currently don't need premium parking please use the spaces farther from the entrances. Thank You

Church Cleaning Review

We are three months into our relationship with Vanguard Cleaning Services. We have been working with Julio, our assigned person, to get the most out of his services. He has been very flexible with his time as our scheduled use of the building has varied over the fall months. Currently he is cleaning either on Thursday or Saturday evenings, usually arriving between 4:30 and 5:00. We are continuing to clarify the services specified in

the contract. Julio and David, the Vanguard manager have been very receptive to our requests. Again our services included things performed each visit such as vacuuming carpeted areas and sweeping or dust mopping and damp mopping resilient floors to remove spills and stains. Services which are performed each month include such things as cobweb removal and dusting high reach areas. One area that is not included in the ser-

vice is vacuuming the pews. If any one wants to help out in this area from time to time feel free to take on this task. Even with our cleaning service, we are still asking groups that host larger events such as men's breakfast and our special dinners to clean up after your activity ends. If you are interested in a complete list see Brian or Larry. If you also have questions or concerns talk to either Brian or Larry.

Exploring Ministry – Sign of Life in the Oregon-Idaho Conference

During the fall a small group of very enthusiastic people have met Sunday mornings to look at mission out-reaches happening in our conference. We saw how churches were reaching out to their communities. We found that churches around the conference are involved in coffee shop programs, food banks, community gardens, The

Weekend Backpack Program, Messy Church, gracious hospitality, mental health issues and homelessness, and ecumenically connecting with other churches to name a few. These ideas have lead us to begin to develop ideas we will be sharing with the congregation in January. Our hope is to use the talents and gifts of this congregation

to reach out to our local communities to show a caring Christian presence for many people in need of physical, emotional, or spiritual support. Don't be surprised if you approached about the possibility of using your talents in expanding our Christian mission. If you haven't been involved but would like more information contact Larry.

THE SAINTS WHO CAME BEFORE US

EDYS, AND NOW THE STRICKLERS, PART 3

Myrtle Strickler Peters was the daughter of Harry and Josephine (Edy) Strickler. She and her brothers Joe and John and sisters Laura (Downey), Lona (Baugh) and May came with their parents to the Mountain Home District on LeBeau Road in the early 1900s. They had come to Oregon with the Edys by train in 1902. Although the Edys stayed on the mountain, the Stricklers moved to Sheridan because there were too many trees and not enough cleared land here. However, after some consideration, they felt the mountain was the best place after all so they moved here in 1909.

Myrtle attended the Mt. Home Church Sunday School from 1909 to 1918, and she was a member of the Ladies Aide from 1915. In 1984 she was the only charter member of the Aide in the community and she said there were only one or two others left.

She said Rose Bryan, John and Carrie Schmeltzer, Hattie Davis, and the Aebischers were special to her, "perhaps because I was better acquainted with them."

Although Myrtle was never a member of the church, she was very interested in its doings and felt Mt. Home was her home church. She said she "was a helper to the church."

Her son Burl, who did not marry until after her death, became a faithful church member with his wife Margarita and attended regularly until they sold the farm and moved to a retirement community.

Lona Strickler Baugh

Lona, one of the children of Harry and Josephine, attended Mt. Home Sunday school from about 1910 to 1916, and Carrie Schmeltzer was her teacher. She walked to Mt. Home Church from their home on LeBeau Rd. Laurel Ridge School was nearby, and the Strickler, George Baker, Aebischer and Spath children all attended there.

Lona remembered walking up the aisle in Sunday school to put her birthday pennies in the box, and then the pennies were used to buy Christmas treats for the children at the Christmas program.

In 1917 she started high school in Portland, and so from that time on, she spent only holidays at her parents' home. She married Warren Baugh in 1927 and lived most of the rest of her life in Portland.

Jeannine Schmeltzer,

Church Historian



Willowbrook Food Pantry

At Christmastime young kids, teens and adults want to help! I am always astonished (and tearful) how generous people are with their time and resources. During December there are sizeable food drives - which triples the amount of food in the pantry. In one day we stock the shelves with four deliveries plus the usual Oregon Food Bank of 1600

pounds of food! The pantry looked wonderful. In addition we were blessed with several volunteers included three teens. We served 132 families and 664 people in November. 79 Thanksgiving boxes were given serving 500 people.

Cherry Trotter

UMW

The UMW circles, Lydia and Elizabeth, will meet together for the January meeting. We have a 6:30 PM reservation for Jan. 9th at Davidson's, 12830 SW Pacific Hwy, Portland, OR 97223. Rides can be provided on request. If you wish to participate in the candle exchange bring one with one.

Much has been missed because of the weather on the mountain.

Please get your Pledge Cards in to Gregg as soon as possible.

Due this Sunday January 8

Christmas Card

An envelope with a Christmas card and gift inside was left on Pastor Peggy's desk on Christmas Eve. Unfortunately, neither she nor Ed can read the signature on the card. They would most gratefully appreciate a call or e-mail letting them know if you are the

person who put it there or if you know who did. Please, let them know who you are. Thank you to whoever put it there.

Please let us know who you are. peggytl@mac.com or [503-642-4650](tel:503-642-4650)

January 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Service 11:15 Epiphany Sunday 	2	3	4 Choir Practice @ 7 pm	5	6 Epiphany of the Lord	7 Men's Breakfast 9 am
8 Service 11:15 Ad Council Meeting PM	9 UMW @ Davidson 6:30 PM	10	11 Choir Practice @ 7 pm	12	13	14
15 Service 11:15 MLK Day	16	17	18 Choir Practice @ 7 pm	19	20 Inauguration Day	21
22 Service 11:15 Trustees Meeting	23	24	25 Choir Practice @ 7 pm	26	27	28
29 Service 11:15 Newsletter Deadline	30	31				



Contact Info

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Co-editor: Laura Hartley

Reverend Aric Clark contact information

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Office hours and home visits TBD

Check out the updated website:

mthomeumc.org

<https://www.facebook.com/Mtn.Home.Church/>

Ministers of Mt. Home UMC:

Everyone

Teaching Elder:

Pastor Aric Clark

Deacon:

Ben Harley

Music Director:

Linda Walker

Event Calendar

Sunday Service at 11:15 A.M.

Wednesday, Choir Practice 7-8:30 P.M.

Sunday, January 8 Worship 11:15 AM; Administrative Council meeting after church

**Monday, January 9th 6:30 P.M.
UMW Lydia and Elizabeth Circle
meeting at Davidson's, 12830 SW Pacific Hwy, Portland, OR 97223.**

Sunday, January 22 Trustees meet after church

Tom Ettleson is now the webmaster for the church. If you want something put on the website, please contact him.

We are just off SW Mountain Home Road and Wunderli Drive between SW Courtney Road and SW Seiffert Road.

