

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Sunday Service
11:00 AM
- Sunday, March 8
Daylight Saving
Time 2 a.m.
- Sunday, March 8 &
22 Choir Practice
9:00 AM
-

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MARCH 2020

Stardust to Stardust

Everything in creation is interrelated, bound by cycles of expansion and collapse, heating and cooling, life and death. Nothing created is outside these cycles. No matter how we might position ourselves in our heads and our mythology as somehow set apart from nature, we are inescapably woven into this seamless garment. We came from dust and to dust we will return.

For a little while now, several thousand years, a few human cultures (by no means all of them) have gotten the idea that humanity was meant to dominate and control nature. By behaving this way we have created elaborate structures that give the illusion of separation from nature, but it is only an illusion. All the impacts we make we eventually have to pay for just as every living thing must contribute to its ecosystem or become extinct. It's as though we saw the dirty dishes piling up and instead of washing them we keep going out and buying new dishes. It's a delaying tactic. The dirty dishes don't go away and there is a limit to how many sets of new dishes we can buy, or store in our kitchen.

Humanity has lived on this earth some 3 million years or more. Only the last 10,000 years (or less than 0.3% of our species jour-

ney) has included this extractive, destructive behavior we call civilization. In a way this is very good news. Humanity is not inherently destructive. God didn't make us to be violent or greedy. When humanity eventually finds a balance with our ecosystem again this period of ecocide will have been an aberration, a blip. Everything we have built came from the earth and will return to it. Our fields, our roads, our cities, and our buildings only appear temporarily free of the cycles of nature, an appearance we accept because of our relatively (on a geological scale) short life spans and recent (compared with the span of human history) alienation from traditional cultures that preserve a relationship with their ancestors.

One of the insights of faith is that if you zoom out far enough to see the shape of the whole story it isn't a tragedy at all. The astonishingly beautiful and intricate universe contains much more wonder and magic than sorrow. God's plan for creation is good, and includes a place for us, living in harmony with all of God's other beloved creatures. Recognizing our place in these natural cycles, accepting our interdependence, isn't macabre or despairing; it's true freedom.

You, like everything else around you, came from the heart of a star. You are stardust. One day the atoms and elements you are com-

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Stardust to Stardust

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posed of must decay, be digested and transformed, and made into something else. Whatever creature that is will also be a creature of stardust. You are a point on a continuum, an eddy in a stream, a wave on the ocean. It is a unity, which properly understood, awakens a transcendent celebration which carries on into eternity.

Submitted by Reverend Aric Clark

Willowbrook Food Pantry

“Celebration” was the word for the pantry in February. The Sherwood elementary schools – Archer Glen and Edy Ridge had their annual food drive. Willowbrook FP is the recipient of **7800 pounds of food!** Joyful tears by us, the delightful kids, thoughtful teachers and parents made a grateful project.

The fourth grade class of Edy Ridge were winners of the school wide contest. On Friday, they were bused to the pantry to weigh, sort, and runner of the 4610 pounds of food. We all had a wonderful time, duties with fun was done.

Then the next day, Journey Church had 15 volunteers to clean the refrigerators, shelves, recycle boxes, and sort and separate the vast donations. *Thank you, Journey Church volunteers for this gift to the pantry.*

We would love to have flour/Masa (corn flour) as our donation. (We don't usually have a choice of specialty donation, it is nice to have it.)
Love February!

Submission by Cherry Trotter

Planning Worship Dates for 2020

Planning Worship Dates for 2020

Trying to start the new year off with a bit of planning ahead. So I'm sharing some important worship related dates with those who need to know (for newsletters, and church calendars and other such reasons).

Firstly, the liturgical holidays:

Palm Sunday - April 5th (make sure to order palms!)

Good Friday - April 10th 6pm service at Sherwood

Easter - April 12th sunrise service at Mt. Home. 10am service at Sherwood.

Pentecost - May 31

Secondly, dates I am taking off:

Quick update. I have secured our guest preachers for the dates I will be away over the next few months.

Mar 29 - Deacon Ben Hartley

Apr 19 - Rev. Mickie Drummond

May 24 - probably Deacon Ben Hartley (to be confirmed)

Hope this helps everyone plan ahead a bit. Hope you're all having a wonderful new year!

Submission by Reverend Aric Clark

SAVE THE DATE

The annual Afternoon Tea on the Mountain will be held on Saturday May 30th. Opportunities available to decorate a table for 8 in whatever design you choose. You can make seating available at your table or buy the whole table. Tickets and details available in April. Contact Linda Woodbury if questions. Sherwoodburys@gmail.com

Men's Retreat of Newberg Church

Date: March 7th

Subject: The Opioids Crisis

Guest Speakers: Doctors will discuss issues regarding drug abuse.

A flyer is posted in the front Alcove of the Church .

Submitted by Robert Youngman

A Holiday to Remember

My daughter Helen has lived and worked in Oregon, USA for more than 20 years. My visit to her in August was memorable but, sadly, not altogether happy.

I was there at the time of the terrible shootings in El Paso and Ohio and, from the TV reports saw the fear, anguish and anger suffered. On the other hand I experienced great kindness and compassion. During my holiday I heard from home that a lifelong friend, Dawn, had died suddenly. A colleague of Helen's asked if we would like to join him, his wife and daughter at the Mountain Home United Methodist Church where they worship.

The small, modern Church was in a beautiful setting, the congregation, mostly elderly, were friendly and welcoming. Early in the service the Pastor asked if anyone had requests for prayers and individually prayed for the people and causes mentioned, including Dawn's family. At the front of the Church was a big pile of backpacks. These had been donated by Nike and Church members had filled them with the essentials that disadvantaged children would need for the new school term. (Oregon is supportive of immigrant families and their children were probably among the recipients).

The Pastor Aric Clark (like Eric but with an A) had been to the Mexican border ministering to families divided by the draconian immigration laws and had, on a bus journey, married a couple to give them legal status. Later on my visit I heard of the rounding up of working immigrant families in Tennessee and I was left with the heart-rending sight on TV of a little girl sobbing and saying "my Daddy's not a criminal".

I have lots of tails to share, if you would like to hear more do get in touch

With love, Bunty Dunford

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Submitted by Ron Knox

Larry Johnson on the Road Again



Larry Johnson headed out the door on Wednesday of the Oregon-Idaho Conference Center in order to get to Pendleton, Oregon, by the late afternoon to assist with flood relief.

“This would be the first time I know of, that we’ve responded in Oregon,” said Johnson, who is the Conference’s Emergency Response Teams coordinator.

He plans to be in Pendleton for a Multi-Agency Resource Center (MARC) gathering on Thursday to aid those who had to evacuate their homes due to flooding or suffered significant damage to their properties. He’ll be joined by the Oregon-Idaho Conference United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) coordinator Louise Kienzle, who happens to live in the area.

The flooding in eastern part of the state prompted the Oregon Voluntary Organizations Active in Disaster to put out a call. The American Red Cross, along with the Salvation Army, have responded.

Johnson is in the process of applying for an UMCOR solidarity grant, which would provide \$10,000 to support flood survivors as well as buy supplies for ERT teams.

Already he’s connected with the UMCOR West Depot in Salt Lake City, which has sent two pallets of flood bucket kits to the Hermiston-Pendleton UMC, via one of the Pendleton parishioners who has warehouse space at their local business to store the flood relief buckets.

“It is amazing that it works this well,” Johnson said.

At the MARC, Johnson will be notifying Pendleton of the resources the ERT can provide and will assess the need for ERTs from around the Conference to come and assist with restoration and relief efforts.

Johnson has also been in contact with Great Spirit Native American Fellowship in Portland and Rev. Allen Buck, who are interested in supporting the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, which has also been devastated by flooding.

Over the years the Conference has sent ERTs to other parts of the country – and world – to respond to natural disasters. Johnson said it’s a humbling experience to be responding in your own communities to such problems.

Those who cannot join an ERT team but want to support relief efforts can make donations to their church, noting either the Conference advance no. 260 for the disaster response fund or the Conference advance no. 261 for the Emergency Response Teams support fund. Visit www.umoi.org/disasterpreparedness to learn more information.

By [Kristen Caldwell](#) of Oregon-Idaho Conference

March 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1 Communion Sunday Trustees Meeting after service	2	3	4	5 Shared Table @ Sher- wood UMC 6 PM	6 World Day of Prayer	7 UM Men's Retreat New- berg Church
8 Service 11 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 -10:30 AM	9 UM Women Eliza- beth Circle 1:30 PM UM Women Lydia Circle 7:30 PM	10	11	12 Shared Table @ Sher- wood UMC 6 PM	13	14 UMC Men's Breakfast 9—10:30 AM
15 Service 11 AM Mission Moment Church Council after service	16	17 St. Patrick's Day	18	19 Shared Table @ Sher- wood UMC 6 PM	20	21
22 Service 11 AM Choir Rehearsal 9:30 -10:30 AM One Great Hour of Sharing	23	24	25	26 Shared Table @ Sher- wood UMC 6 PM Hosted by Mt. Home UMC	27	28
29 Service 11 PM	30 Newsletter Deadline	31	28	29		



Contact Info

Church's location and mailing address:
 23905 SW Wunderli Canyon Drive
 Sherwood, OR 97140
 Church phone number: (503)628-2064
 Email address: mthomeumc@gmail.com
<http://mthomeumc.org>
<https://www.facebook.com/Mtn.Home.Church>



Reverend Aric Clark contact information
 Phone: (503)810-2395
 E-mail: aricclark22@gmail.com
 Office hours by appointment
 Check out the updated website:



Organist/Music Director: Linda Walker
 Lay Leader: Laura Hartley
 Administrative Council Chair: Lynelle Eck
 Pastor Parish Relations Committer Chair: Georga Dorsey
 Deacon: Ben Hartley
 Trustees Chair: Thomas Ettelson
 Do you know someone who is unable to come to church or
 a shut-in?
 Contact our congregational care team:
 Chair Cheryl Barry

Newsletter Editor: Tom Ettelson t.ettelson@comcast.net

Event Calendar

Sunday Service at 11:00 AM
Every Thursday, Shared Table Sherwood UMC at 6:00 PM
Saturday, March 7 UM Men's Breakfast 9:00 to 10:30 AM
Saturday, March 7—Men's Retreat or Newberg Church Subject is Opioids Crisis. Guest speakers will be doctors to discuss issues regarding drug abuse.
Sunday, March 1 Trustees Meeting 9:15 AM
Friday, March 6 World Day of Prayer
Sunday, March 8 & 22 Choir Practice 9:00 AM
Monday, March 9 UMW Elizabeth Circle meets at 1:30 PM
Monday, March 9 UMW Lydia Circle meets at 7:00 PM
Sunday, March 15 Church Council

following Worship Service
Tuesday, March 17 St. Patrick's Day
Sunday, March 22 One Great Hour of Sharing
Thursday, March 26 Shared Table Sherwood UMC at 6:00 PM hosted by Mountain Home UMC

