

**SPECIAL POINTS
OF INTEREST:**

- Sunday Worship Service 10 AM
- Choir Practice, UM Men's Breakfast, UMW Elizabeth Circle meets and UMW Lydia Circle meets suspended until further notice
- Monday, October 5, October 19 Join Pastor Aric for a book study this fall over Zoom. Every other Monday evening at 6pm we will gather and discuss Ibram X. Kendi's "How To Be An Antiracist".

**INSIDE
THIS ISSUE:**

Prayer Request	2
GoFundMe	3
Willowbrook Food Pantry	4
Together We Are Better	4
Birthdays & Anniversaries	5
Antiracist	5
Calendar	6
Contact Info	7



VOLUME VI, ISSUE X

OCTOBER 2020

Excuse Me, I Have Work To Do

I have had numerous moments of desperation this year. Moments in which words fail me and I am sunk by a sense of inadequacy. There are people who depend on me for strength and consolation and I honestly don't know how to give others hope when I have very little or none. There isn't any single source for these waves of misery. If it was just one thing it would be easier to manage, but from pandemics, to racism, to fascism, to fires it just keeps piling up, and though everyone's experience is unique I know many of you can relate.

Increasingly, when I can't do anything else I can garden. When I couldn't write this newsletter article earlier I took down a dead tree in our backyard. I broke it into sticks and logs of manageable size and I stacked them up. I gave thanks to the tree for its life, though it never gave much shade and I never got to eat a single cherry from its branches. All life is sacred. I promised the tree that its wood would not go to a dump, but would be used to nourish this soil in which it grew once it is mulch.

Nature is sometimes called indifferent and that indifference is sometimes thought of as cruel, but it can also

be a comfort. Nature goes on, no matter what the state of our personal lives, or the state of our social bonds. Mary Oliver has a beautiful poem which captures this sentiment:

I go down to the shore in the morning
and depending on the hour the waves
are rolling in or moving out,
and I say, oh, I am miserable,
what shall—
what should I do? And the sea says
in its lovely voice:
Excuse me, I have work to do.

Nature is about her work. Yes, there are still fires burning in parts of Oregon, and California and elsewhere. There are black scars across millions of acres of land in our state right now, but within those scars there is also intense work happening. Seeds are germinating. Microbes are turning all that dead matter into fuel for new life. Soon those scars will be like the Columbia Gorge is now, three years after it burned, vibrant with recovery.

I take solace in the steadfast labor of nature. My garden is a habitat

(Continued on page 2)

Excuse Me, I Have Work To Do (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

for many creatures. Their lives matter as much as mine, and they don't have time for my woes, because they are doing their own work. The more I think about their labors the more I realize that indifference is the wrong word entirely. Those microbes laboring in the soil aren't indifferent to me. They care how I treat the soil and I care about the results of their labor, which makes my garden beds rich and helps my vegetables flourish.

I am not separate from my garden and it is not separate from me. There are creatures that lost a home because I took that cherry tree down. What I do in my garden impacts the things that live here with me. Indeed, that's the reason I

took the tree out - it wasn't providing very good habitat, nor food for me, nor flowers for pollinators. I want to plant something better there. Something that will help more creatures thrive. My labor IS nature's labor. When the ocean said to Mary Oliver, "Excuse me, I have work to do." That wasn't a dismissal. That was an invitation.

This is the invitation God's Spirit is continually making to us regardless of our circumstances. While the world seems to be burning down around us, the Spirit which is fire whispers to the people of God, "excuse me, WE have work to do."

Submission by Reverend Aric Clark

Prayers Request

Prayers for Lynelle Eck and Jan Bartlett as they recover from their knee replacement surgery. Please help them get stronger and stronger everyday until they are completely healed.

Prayers Larry continues to get stronger and stronger as Marty gnaws on him and gets weaker and takes all the illness to his grave.

Prayers for Liz's nephew Chris Kelly. Please heal him and give him the ability to breathe excellently on his own.

Prayers for Dennis and Joyce Malloy. Please remove the challenges they are going through, give them strength and peace.

Prayers for Anne Poe's friends Sonja and Tim Patrillo. Please let them be cancer free.

Brian Trotter needs prayers, as well as all the families/people struggling with their income.

Prayers of Joy for the rain brought to the NW to help the firefighters and those working tirelessly to save people, animals, our land and more.

Rev. Aric said Anne Grubowski had taken a fall. Please add Prayers for Anne and Leonard.

PLEASE HELP STRUGGLING GOFUNDME CAMPAIGNS

I'm working with Pastor Aric to see how we can help residents in Southern Oregon recover from the wildfire. In the meantime there is a go fund me list for families that are unlikely to receive government assistance here: https://docs.google.com/document/d/11ugHQgi6s0XkcRy8i6Ak8C_jniaCeJmqguAq1cGnRac/mobilebasic?fbclid=IwAR09y7WBdyvD8gAPvjXhZLfigCB5h28v2cBhaVm_hESmQKx74iRDtfig8Nw

[d/11ugHQgi6s0XkcRy8i6Ak8C_jniaCeJmqguAq1cGnRac/mobilebasic?fbclid=IwAR09y7WBdyvD8gAPvjXhZLfigCB5h28v2cBhaVm_hESmQKx74iRDtfig8Nw](https://docs.google.com/document/d/11ugHQgi6s0XkcRy8i6Ak8C_jniaCeJmqguAq1cGnRac/mobilebasic?fbclid=IwAR09y7WBdyvD8gAPvjXhZLfigCB5h28v2cBhaVm_hESmQKx74iRDtfig8Nw)

The challenge given to me was to just pick a number and donate but there are also some pretty compelling stories.

Thanks!

Kelly Freuler

Kellyfreuler@gmail.com

PLEASE HELP STRUGGLING GOFUNDME CAMPAIGNS (Southern Oregon Almeda wildfire)

THANK YOU SO MUCH TO EVERYONE DONATING!

All of these GoFundMe pages are struggling to receive donations, while others are surpassing their goals. Please don't overlook these families, many of them have nothing left. It breaks my heart to come across so many pages that have nothing or very little donated. I understand it can be time consuming to search for low-funded pages, so hopefully this document makes things a little easier! I will update this doc as often as I can! Pages with the lowest funds will be kept at the top of the list.

Please help me out by sending me GoFundMe pages that are struggling! You can send these via Instagram (@izzy_rodriguez) or Twitter (@issabel__)

https://docs.google.com/document/d/11ugHQgi6s0XkcRy8i6Ak8C_jniaCeJmqguAq1cGnRac/mobilebasic?fbclid=IwAR09y7WBdyvD8gAPvjXhZLfigCB5h28v2cBhaVm_hESmQKx74iRDtfig8Nw

Sunday Oct 4 - Outdoor Worship at Mt. Home UMC 10am

Monday Oct 5 - Book Study with Pastor 7pm

Sunday Oct 11 - Outdoor Worship at Sherwood UMC 10am

Sunday Oct 18 - Zoom Worship w/ Communion 10am

Monday Oct 19 - Book Study with Pastor 7pm

Together We Are Better

The artistic design for our Reconciling Welcoming Statement has been approved by Church Council and now graces the church website. Thanks to Kahlia for another beautiful job and for being as easy as pie to work with.

Take care,
Marcia Loney

MOUNTAIN HOME UNITED METHODIST CHURCH celebrates the *God-given diversity* of the human family

IN IT WE FIND
OUR STRENGTH

WE WELCOME

ALL Ages

ALL Abilities

ALL Races & Cultures

ALL Sexual Orientations

ALL Gender Identities

ALL Faith Backgrounds

TOGETHER WE ARE BETTER



Willowbrook Food Pantry

We served 111 family with 465 people in August. The numbers are climbing toward the people we expected during the pandemic.

Thank God the local people had another outlet for food. Willowbrook is there when they need us.

God Bless Mt. Home!

Submission by Cherry Trotter

How To Be An Antiracist

Join Pastor Aric for a book study this fall over Zoom. Every other Monday evening at 6pm we will gather and discuss Ibram X. Kendi's "How To Be An Antiracist". This is a New York Times Bestseller and an excellent guide through one of the most important issues of our era.

Please register for the book study by sending an email to officesherwood-umc@gmail.com so that Aric can send you the details.

Order the book here: <https://www.ibramxkendi.com/how-to-be-an-antiracist-1>

Read the introduction and chapters 1 & 2 to be ready for the first session.

The dates of the study will be:

- Oct 5th
- Oct 19th
- Nov 2nd
- Nov 16th
- Nov 30th
- Dec 14th
- Dec 28th

Submission by Reverend Aric Clark

October Birthdays & Anniversaries



*Unclouded may your birthday be, and round you day by day.
May God enfold His wings of love and bless you on your way.*



Date	Name
	Ron Knox Birthday
	Jim & Diane Peters Anniversary
	Ed Luckman Birthday
20	Tom & Wendy Ettelson Anniversary
	Ann Grubowski Birthday

October 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
				1	2	3

4 Outdoor Worship Mt. Home UMC 10am Trustees Meeting Zoom 12PM	5 Book Study with Pastor 7pm	6	7	8	9	10
11 Outdoor Worship Sherwood UMC 10am	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Zoom Worship w/ Communion 10am Church Council via Zoom 11:15 AM	19 Book Study with Pastor 7pm	20	21	22	23	24
25 Outdoor Worship Sherwood UMC 10am	26	27	29 Newsletter Deadline	30	31	



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:



Music Director/Organist:
 Substitute pianist: Cindy Souza
 Lay Leader:
 Administrative Council Chair: Lynelle Eck
 Pastor Parish Relations Committer Chair: Georga Dorsey
 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 Oct 4 - Outdoor Worship at Mt. Home UMC 10am

Monday Oct 5 - Book Study with Pastor 7pm

Sunday Oct 11 - Outdoor Worship at Sherwood UMC 10am

Sunday Oct 18 - Zoom Worship w/ Communion 10am

Monday Oct 19 - Book Study with Pastor 7pm

Sunday Oct 25 - Outdoor Worship at Sherwood UMC 10am

Choir Practice suspended until further notice

UMW Elizabeth Circle meets suspended until further notice

UMW Lydia Circle meets suspended until further notice

UM Men's Breakfast suspended until further notice

Sunday, October 4 World Communion Sunday

Sunday, October 4 Trustees Meeting TBD

Monday, October 5, October 19
 Join Pastor Aric for a book study this fall over Zoom. Every other Monday evening at 6pm we will gather and discuss Ibram X. Kendi's "How To Be An Antiracist".

Sunday, October 18 Laity Sunday

Sunday, October 18 Church Council via Zoom Meeting 11:15AM

Send prayer requests to Cheryl for inclusion in our weekly dispatch:

officesherwoodumc@gmail.com

Download free clipart from <https://www.clipart.email/clipart/religious-fathers-day-clipart-251827.html>

<http://clipart-library.com/mailbox-cliparts.html>

DID YOU KNOW THAT SAYING THE LORD'S PRAYER TAKES EXACTLY AS LONG AS THE CDC RECOMMENDS YOU WASH YOUR HANDS?



*Love your neighbor. Love your God.
 Wash and Pray.*



MOUNTAIN HOME
 UNITED METHODIST CHURCH