

SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

- Sunday Worship will be via Zoom during the cold weather months, with a few possible special events to be determined. We will have communion during each zoom service. 10 AM
- Sunday, February 14 Transfiguration Sunday
- Sunday, February 14 Valentine's Day
- Wednesday, February 17 Ash Wednesday
- Sunday, February 21 First Sunday of Lent

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FEBRUARY 2021

A Year of Pandemic

One year ago we were just beginning to hear about how serious this new disease COVID-19 appeared to be. It was still a month before lockdowns would take effect in Oregon and many other parts of the United States. We have spent most of the year since then practicing social distancing and accommodating to drastically different habits of life - including worshipping online for the majority of that time. A vaccine is now being distributed, but the disease is still raging and it will be months before we can cautiously begin to gather in public once more. Nevertheless I wanted to take this moment to reflect with you on some of the lessons we should draw from this pandemic.

Humanity is part of and still very much subject to the power of nature. The size and scope of human society and technology may tempt us to think that we are invulnerable, but the truth is quite the opposite. The complexity of global human society makes it fragile. With the damage we are doing to our atmosphere and to biodiversity we should expect worldwide crises like this pandemic to increase in frequency in the future.

There is no clear dividing line between natural disasters and human-caused disasters. Coronaviruses are

naturally occurring, but the way they spread and who they impact is partly a function of the actions of human governments and the behaviors of collections of human individuals. There have been 100million cases of COVID-19 worldwide so far. Over 25million of those cases occurred in the United States. With around 5% of the world population we account for fully 25% of all cases. This is not due to a natural accident. This is due to both mismanagement and misinformation.

In the context of complex cascading crises such as we face what people believe is true is not a matter of indifference. We have grown accustomed to saying that "everyone is allowed their own opinion", which seems a well-intentioned attempt at tolerance for differing perspectives, but what we have now is not a matter of differing perspectives, but of millions of people believing and acting upon blatant falsehoods. Some of these falsehoods have been propagated intentionally by bad-actors, and some of these have merely flourished in a media ecosystem that is highly polarized and designed to get advertising dollars, not communicate truthfully. This makes it very important that we be rigorous and skeptical in our

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A Year of Pandemic (continued)

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consumption of media, and we make efforts to only share verifiable information.

There is another way that natural disasters become human-caused disasters, which is that human political and social systems spread the impact of the disaster inequitably. In the United States, according to the CDC, if you are Black, Hispanic, or Native American you are almost twice as likely to contract COVID-19, four times as likely to be hospitalized, and three times as likely to die. This is due to many complex factors including the fact that BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and Persons of Color) individuals are more likely to work in jobs that are high contact, more likely to be poor and therefore less likely to have access to health care, and more likely to have underlying health conditions which worsen the disease. The bottom line is that large scale disasters are worse for the people who are already victims of oppression.

Perhaps the most important and hopefully lasting lesson of this pandemic is that *rapid change on a large scale is possible. Consider how many behavior changes you personally undertook this year. Many of those are echoed in every household in every community in every country around the world. Not every change worked equally well in every circumstance, and they didn't prevent us from experiencing one of the most tragic years in human memory, but overall it is amazing how fast and how radically people adapted to new circumstances. That is the kind of energy we are going to need to tackle some of the large challenges that lie ahead of us. We can adapt to a zero carbon future. We can adapt to living within the resource means of our local watershed. We can dismantle and make reparations for white supremacy. We can do all these things if we learn these lessons now.*

Submission by Reverend Aric Clark

Kudos

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>For</u>
Brian	Robert	Thanks for ground work at the church after winter storms.



Mt. Home's Lay Leader for 2021

When, at the end of last year, I was asked to be Mt. Home's Lay Leader for 2021, I learned that one of the ways I can fulfill that role is to provide our congregation with news and updates from the OR-ID Conference, and the "greater church".

So, I spent some time reading the January articles shared by the Conference and others. The message of the Western Jurisdiction's [Where Love Lives](#) campaign was present throughout. If you aren't already familiar with it, in brief, Where Love Lives is a nearly year-long effort which began in October. It represents "a recommitment to be a faithful, inviting, open, safe and loving place for all people".

In mid-January Bishop Elaine JW Stanovsky shared a pastoral letter. Her message - "NOW IS THE TIME. THIS IS THE PLACE. WE ARE THE PEOPLE to overturn white privilege and supremacy in our hearts, our minds and in our communities and to build a beloved community of racial justice and equity." It is worth reading. [Church as Beloved Community](#)

In tandem, Rev. Wendy Woodworth, our Cascadia District Superintendent, recently wrote a short piece entitled *Pondering Biblical Justice*. In it she shared this insight from Rev. Dr. Jevon Caldwell-Gross who observes that when we hear the phrase "social justice", we sometimes see it as an extracurricular option. Change the language to "biblical justice," and it is easier to see it not as an option, but a foundational part of our lives, as faith that is based in our scriptures.

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I also wanted to pass along this article, [Cheerleading](#)

[Vaccines is the Wesleyan Way](#). Written by Arkansas UMC, it was shared on the OR ID Conference Facebook page with the rollout of COVID-19 vaccine in mind. It talks about how the concern for the sick and the poor, and helping to bring health to those who are ill is in our Wesleyan DNA. It echoes the joy I feel when people in vulnerable groups as well as people I know personally receive their first dose.

You may know that Wesley was an amateur physician and health crusader and developed over 800 remedies for 300 unique ailments.

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Finally, as I was writing this, I was also reminiscing about the first time I ever heard of a Methodist Church Conference. I was young – my age still in the single digits, and after church my mother was talking with someone whose husband was getting ready to attend Annual Conference. When we got home, I asked her what that was and she responded "It's where lots of Methodist Churches get together and talk about things." I really liked the idea of "lots of Methodist Churches" and, over the next day or so, had all kinds of fun imagining all the different churches that might attend.

What I had not learned yet, is that the United Methodist Church sees itself as a "connectional" church, and understands those connections to be the essence of the church.

So, in the spirit of that, and the "lots of Methodist churches" my mother told me about, I thought I

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Mt. Home's Lay Leader for 2021

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would, on occasion, share a bit of information about some other churches in the OR ID Conference.

Fort Klamath United Methodist Church, in the Wood River Valley of Oregon – about 17 miles (as the crow flies) from Crater Lake.



Built in 1912, the church was first served by circuit riders. In the back of the church building is still a space that was created for traveling pastors to sleep. Fort Klamath describes itself as a “small, rural church, with a relaxed and friendly service”. They have an active membership of about 12.

~ **Marcia Loney, Lay Leader**

Ash Wednesday - A Lamentation for COVID-19

Wednesday February 17th at 6pm

You are invited to participate in an online worship experience for the beginning of Lent 2021. On Ash Wednesday we will take time to remember all those who have died this past year of COVID-19. We will reflect on our mortality after a year of a global pandemic and we will embrace the truth of the ancient Christian liturgy: remember that we are dust, and to dust we must return.

Join us on zoom via email invitation. Bring a candle, matches, or another source of safe flame, as well as a small scrap of paper and a writing utensil.



Willowbrook Food Pantry

January 29, 2021

Willowbrook Food Pantry

The pantry served 1357 + 62 holiday families during 2020.

We served 1632 + 100 holiday families in 2019.

You can see there is 275 families less than 2019.



There are more food resources in our community, but we are grateful for the hungry families we all can serve.

Cherry

December 28, 2020

Willowbrook Food Pantry

Advent is a special time of anticipation and reflection of hope, love, joy, peace with Jesus Christ in the center. This was evident at the pantry. As we were low in the essential items, the volunteers were hopeful for the donations that would arrive in December 2020.

The pantry was given a gift (love & joy) from the Ridges Elementary School was 1690 lbs. of food. The Sherwood High School was 502 lbs. and the Figure Skating Club donated 1100. Total: 3292 lbs.! These kids were delightful. (Christ's peace)

We, Willowbrook Pantry, with grateful hearts for the service of the kids and all the donations!

Submission by Cherry Trotter

Patricia Dupree Bequest

Earlier this past October the Patricia Dupree Trust gave Mtn Home United Methodist a bequest. Pat was born October 4, 1926 to the Joyce family. She grew up on Chapman Road with her brother, Richard Keith, and sister, Betty. Pat enjoyed the choir and youth group at the church. Her family as long time members participated in camp meetings and Homecomings. In 1945 Pat married and eventually moved to Fairfield, Ct and then to Manchester Depot, Vermont. She

adopted two children, Peter and Dorie. Later Pat ran a Bed and Breakfast. Pastor Aric wrote a very nice thank you card to the trust for her generous donation.



SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITY- LENTEN STUDY

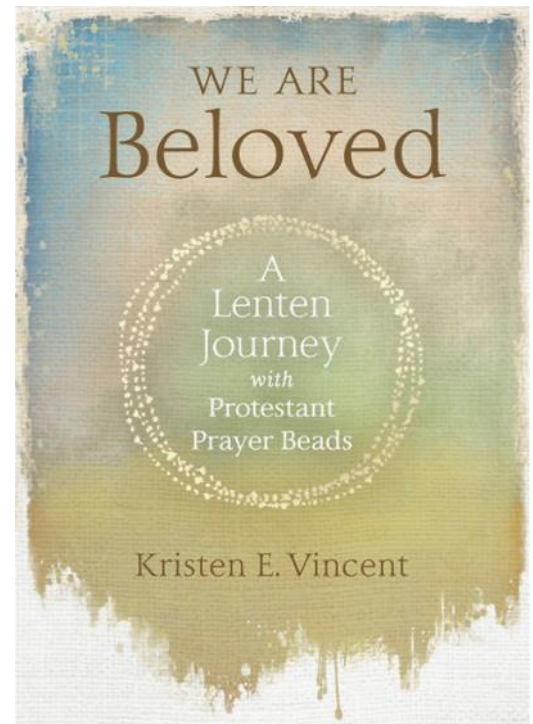
Wednesdays 6:00 - 6:40pm via zoom Feb 24, Mar 3, 10, 17, 24, 31

Would you like to join in a weekly discussion of the following book as we journey through Lent? The following book was listed as a Lenten resource in the recent Cokesbury Spring catalog.

Please let me know by February 7th if you would like to participate. Books are \$11.99. I'll order and deliver them to you. I can probably find beads to share too depending on what the optional activities suggest.

Linda Woodbury

sherwoodburys@gmail.com | 503-625-3051



We Are Beloved, A Lenten Journey with Protestant Prayer Beads

By Kristen E. Vincent \$11.99

Christians often have the head knowledge that we are beloved, but deep in our hearts do we truly believe it? When we encounter Jesus in scripture, we tend to hear Jesus' words with judgment, thinking we cannot be beloved because we will never measure up to God's standards. Author Kristen Vincent takes us on a journey alongside Jesus that helps break this false understanding and allows us to discover how deeply beloved we are.

This 6-week Lenten journey follows stories of Jesus' experience of God's love. The incarnate Son of God was made fully human, which means that Jesus had to fully mature in strength and wisdom to learn that he was beloved. Just as Jesus learned of his belovedness, we, too, can cultivate the wisdom and knowledge that we are deeply

loved.

Each week begins with a scripture passage, a weekly devotion, reflection questions, an optional prayer bead experience, and a listening meditation. A Leader's Guide for small-group study is also included.



Interrupting Hate in Public Spaces

The vast majority agree that we must ensure the safety of our communities. Yet we are living through a period when public vitriol is skyrocketing, tensions flare at a moment's notice and Oregon leads the nation in hate incidents per capita.

This three-hour workshop provides an opportunity to successfully address this crisis. Using tools and methodologies proven over decades from the foundational text: *Training Active Bystanders* by Dr. Ervin Staub, participants will leave confident of their ability to support and empower targets by:

- Identifying and tapping into skills, experiences and values they already have
- Identifying, understanding and overcoming what inhibits them from actively supporting targets
- Learning and practicing specific tactics for interrupting verbal hate in public, centering the experience of the target and empowering the target to create safety for themselves
- Learning specific tactics for protecting themselves from verbal abuse
- Understanding the risks inherent in any hostile situation
- Discerning what NOT to do to escalate the situation

Workshop Presenter Rabbi Debra Kolodny is a veteran of several social justice movements. They have been bringing a spiritual perspective, an activist passion and an intersectional lens to racial and economic justice, women's, peace, environmental and LGBTQ causes since 1981. They have taught this class throughout Oregon to over 1600 people since January 2017, and have taught in hundreds of venues on dozens of other topics for over 30 years. They currently serve as the Executive Director of Portland United Against Hate and as the Rabbi for Portland's UnShul.

Register For This Workshop Today!!
Sunday March 14th from 1pm to 4pm via ZOOM

Recommended donation of \$25 per participant

Register by Email: officesherwoodumc@gmail.com

It is capped at 24 people on Zoom to ensure the quality of the experience for participants.

Submission by Reverend Aric Clark

Prayers Request



My mother in law has been hospitalized since Monday(1/18). She went in for a cardiac day procedure and had to be put on a ventilator. She is still on it and her heart is struggling. I ask for prayers of comfort, healing and peace. For the medical team as they care for her and her 3 sons and families. Her name is Ann Sampson.

- Requested by Valery Sampson

Let's pray for Valery and her family as well. Praying for strength, peace and comfort.

Prayers for our Country. Prayers for President Joe Biden and Vice President Kamala Harris. Prayers for our Governor Kate Brown and all of our Government. May everyone get successful vaccinations, hope, joy, peace and love. Prayers all the hatred, violence, destruction and wrong doing is eliminated.

Continued prayers for Wendy Ettelson's brother Scott. Pray his anxiety and pain are under control. Prayers for Wendy that she can provide Scott comfort in his final days.

Continued prayers for Linda and Lois Boleen. Prayers of joy for Linda celebrating another birthday this week. (Not really a celebration in lockdown. However, thankfully she is still here.) Denise Nikolai talked with Linda on Jan.20th and found Lois is being moved again. She

needs more assistance then she can get at the Adult Home in Tigard. She will be moved to a facility in Wilsonville. An address will be sent once the details are available. May Linda and Lois gain strength, get healthy and find a way to visit and see one another again.

- requested by Cheryl Barry

Please continue to be in prayer for Larry and Maggie as the next part of their myeloma journey begins. Beginning Thursday January 14 stem cell transplant process begins. From beginning to end the process will take about a month. About 15 days will be spent in the hospital. Recovery then will take another three months to build back the immune system. Prayer for the medical staff who will care for Larry during this process. Prayer for comfort and peace for Larry and Maggie. As of January 18th the Stem Cell process was going well. Prayers the plan goes better than expected.

-Requested by Jan Bartlett

Please continue to pray for peace, comfort and God's will for Anne and Leonard Grubowski. " Trust the past to the mercy of God, the present to His love, and the future to His providence."

Augustine

-requested by Barbara Monson

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Prayers Request

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Prayer request for Alma and Andrew Cox's jobs and for Andrews Aunt Nancy Jenkins who is in the hospital with life threatening issues.

- Requested by Andrew

Please continue to pray for Lorraine Mason as she has a lot of grown up things to deal with. God please provide peace, direction, support and all the necessary pieces needed to get through these challenges. Keep her safe, give her strength and love.

Prayer's for Lorraine's friend Erica and her 13 yr. old daughter Gabriella. Their home is in Eugene. However, residential care is in Portland as well as Doernbecher Hospital. Gabriella has an eating disorder. Last week she was moved into a residential facility to get help. She refused to eat and they would not make her. Since she lost weight she was moved into the hospital where she is being fed with a feeding tube. Eugene and has to travel to Doernbecher in Portland. Was in residential treatment for a week. Praying Erica is given the strength and support she needs/ Praying the medical team and others can get Gabriella interested in eating. Let her be as determined to eat as she is in getting other things accomplished.

-Requested by Cheryl Barry

Prays for healing for Anne Poe's daughter Julie Wagner.

Prayers for Anna Bella Busse who is going into the hospital with heart issues. She is a friend of Anne's.

Prayers for Bonnie Matlock who until recently was living on her own and driving. Now she is in rehabilitation and is going to be moved to an assisted living facility. She suffers with dementia and she is diabetic.

- Requested by Anne Poe

Prayers for Peggy and Ed Luckman's granddaughter Mercy Haub.

Lives in Shoreline just north of Seattle - goes to Seattle for treatment Mercy's age: Sweet 16

Type of cancer: One of the many forms of Lymphoma Treatments: Chemo every two weeks

Treatment Status - just had her 5th of 8 treatments

Dealing with COVID during treatments - The whole family has been under very strict isolation because the treatment involves knocking her white cells down so she is very susceptible to any infection. Also, because of covid only one adult can now go with her, which is very hard on the second parent. The first three treatments both parents were able to be with her which was helpful for

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Prayers Request

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them - she has been so sick after the treatments that 24 hour care makes it hard to get enough sleep. Several days of this in a row is really hard for the parent.

Here is a picture of our girl a couple of years ago at her confirmation.

-Requested by Lynelle Eck



If you have any prayer requests this week please let me know.

Wishing you all the best. Stay healthy and well!

Blessings,

Cheryl Barry

Administrative Assistant

Sherwood United Methodist Church

officesherwoodumc@gmail.com

(503) 625-7115 (Church)

(503) 880-1097 (Cell)

www.sherwoodumc.com

What Do We Do About Conspiracy Theories?

Sunday, February 28th, 1pm

What are conspiracy theories? Where do they come from? Why do people believe them? How do we prevent ourselves from being suckered into believing them? How do we help people recover from being fooled? These are questions we will try to answer, as well as covering some of the most popular recent conspiracy theories in an afternoon workshop with Pastor Aric Clark.

Register by email: officesherwoodumc@gmail.com

Submission by Reverend Aric Clark



February 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
Black History Month						
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Worship w/ Communion via Zoom at 10am Trustees Meeting via Zoom 11:15 am						
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
Worship w/ Communion via Zoom at 10am Transfiguration Sunday Valentine's Day			Ash Wednesday Service 6 PM			
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Worship w/ Communion via Zoom at 10am Church Council Meeting via Zoom			LENTE N STUDY at 6:00 to 6:40pm via Zoom			
28	29					
Worship w/ Communion via Zoom at 10am What Do We Do About Conspiracy Theories? 1:00 PM						

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:



Substitute pianist: Cindy Souza
Lay Leader: Marcia Loney
Administrative Council Chair: Lynelle Eck
Pastor Parish Relations Committer Chair:
Georga Dorsey / Alice Hendricks
Activities Chair: Diane Peters
Finance Chair – Brian McKennett
Trustees Chair: Thomas Ettelson

Do you know someone who is unable to come to church or a shut-in?

Contact our congregational care team:

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

Event Calendar

Sunday Worship will be via Zoom during the cold weather months, with a few possible special events to be determined. We will have communion during each zoom service at 10:00 AM

Sunday, February 7 Trustees Meeting via Zoom at 11:15 AM

Sunday, February 14 Transfiguration Sunday

Sunday, February 14 Valentine's Day

Wednesday, February 17 Ash Wednesday Service via Zoom at 6 PM

Sunday, February 21 First Sunday of Lent

Sunday, February 21 Church Council via Zoom Meeting following service

Wednesdays, February 24, March 3,

10, 17, 24, 31 **SMALL GROUP OPPORTUNITY- LENTEN STUDY** at 6:00 to 6:40pm via Zoom, Register by email: sherwood-burys@gmail.com

Sunday, March 14 **Interrupting Hate in Public Spaces** at 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM via Zoom, Register by email: officesherwoodumc@gmail.com

Sunday, February 28th **What Do We Do About Conspiracy Theories?** at 1:00 PM, Register by email: officesherwoodumc@gmail.com

Choir Practice , **UMW Elizabeth Circle, UMW Lydia Circle, and UM Men's Breakfast** suspended until further notice

Send prayer requests to Cheryl for inclusion in our weekly dispatch:
officesherwoodumc@gmail.com

Downloaded free clipart in this newsletter from

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

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

[Free High Quality Cliparts - Cliparts Zone](#)



MOUNTAIN HOME
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH