

**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, May 9**  
Mother's day
- **Thursday, May 13**  
Ascension Day
- **Sunday, May 23**  
Pentecost, a day to wear red

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VOLUME VII, ISSUE V



MAY 2021

## A Far-Fetched Story

It took the resurrection for the disciples (and us) to believe that Jesus meant it when he said the whole job of every person is to love our neighbors as ourselves. Until the resurrection they were still trying to carve out exceptions. We get it, Jesus, "love our neighbors", but what about our Samaritan neighbors? What about our unclean neighbors? What about refugees? Sex workers? Roman Centurions? And so forth.

They couldn't believe Jesus because they knew that a bad experience can change a person's mind. Maybe Jesus would start to fear and hate if he wasn't so naive. If life just beat him up a little. That's what people say to me still today. They tell me I wouldn't love refugees if I had the bad experiences they have. I wouldn't want to house the houseless if I knew how bad they behaved. Love is naive.

That's what we think.

So Jesus got some experience. He was tried, tortured, mocked, and crucified. Throughout, he kept on loving anyway, no exceptions. Centurions? Father forgive them. Thieves? With me today in paradise.

But even this wasn't enough. The disciples (and us) still couldn't trust that loving neighbors means all neighbors because after all maybe Jesus changed his mind in his last gasp, as he finally felt forsaken by God and all his supporters. Maybe if Jesus had to do it again, if he knew how cruel we could be before he started, then he might go about his ministry differently.

So Jesus came back. And the disciples weren't overjoyed at first. They were confused and afraid. They locked the door to

*(Continued on page 2)*

"Motherhood is a choice you make every day to put someone else's happiness and well-being ahead of your own, to teach the hard lessons, to do the right thing even when you are not sure what the right thing is ... and to forgive yourself over and over again, for doing everything wrong." Donna Ball

## A Far-Fetched Story (continued)

*(Continued from page 1)*

the upper room. It's not good news when the person you betrayed and abandoned comes back with power. This was it, the disciples told themselves. Jesus would finally carve an exception to the love neighbors rule and the exception will be us, the ones who let him down so completely. And truly this is the exception which underlies every other exception. The reason we keep trying to figure out who it is we can safely hate. Is it Muslims? Is it queer people? Is it immigrants? We believe there has to be an exception to the rule of love because deep down we believe we are the exception. We're the unlovable one. The one God is gonna kick out of the feast. Everyone but me, that's what we tell ourselves when we're told that God loves everyone. But that's just too painful to bear so we project it on someone, anyone, else.

And Jesus gets into that locked room with those disciples and the first thing he says is, "Peace be with you,". Not "you let me down". Not "where were you when I needed you". Peace. Be. With. You. He repeats it twice because he knows they won't believe him the first time. His mission is unchanged. The rule is unchanged. Love everyone means everyone. All means

all.

And he breathes his Spirit upon them and sends them out to love strangers and enemies. And he tells them they have the power to loose and bind by forgiving sins or retaining them. It's not that he's giving them power. He's warning them about the power they've always had. The power of self-loathing, of repression, of guilt and shame. The power to doubt God when God tells us she loves us. To isolate ourselves with fear and hatred that we nurture first against ourselves and then turn outward against others. We have the power to retain sins, but we're only meant ever to loose them. To let them drift away like incense up to God and to know ourselves beloved. Beloved and therefore commissioned to love.

The least believable part of this tale is that the disciples finally trusted that resurrected Jesus. They went out and they loved without exception. They lived like him and then they died like him, at the hands of others who couldn't accept love. That's what we're told happened. But it's a little far-fetched if you ask me.

Submission by Reverend Aric Clark

“Mothers are like glue. Even when you can't see them, they're still holding the family together.”

## May 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
6	Linda Woodbury
11	Tess Hartley
14	Gregg Jacot
15	Aric Clark
19	Valery Sampson
21	Fred Robinson
23	Cathy Poff
25**	Valery & Mark Sampson
26	Brennan Sampson
29**	Robin & Marcia Loney

**“God could not be everywhere, and therefore he made mothers.”**

**Rudyard Kipling**

<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>	<u>For</u>
Tom	Brian	The drinking fountain is open for use by cyclist, weary travelers and one and all thanks to good weather and Brian turning the water back on for the season.
Tom	Brian	Few know, but those on the mountain with wells that periodic well water testing is required to keep tabs on the quality of drinking water. And that is what Brian has been doing for years, over a decade for us here at Mountain Home UMC. Thank you Brian.
Lynelle	Marcia	Kudo to Marcia for leading church service so Aric was able to take a day off

**“The mother memories that are closest to my heart are the small, gentle ones ... they have carried me through the years and given my life such a firm foundation that it does not rock beneath flood or tempest.” Margaret Sanger**

Below is a sampling of articles recently shared by the Oregon-Idaho Conference.

**“Leadership body invites church to vision work”** – This article reports that The Connectional Table, the denomination’s equivalent of a church council, is urging United Methodists around the globe to join in conversations about the denomination’s identity, vision and mission. With General Conference now delayed until 2022, the hope is to bring more people to the table and to include people not usually heard at General Conference or big denominational gatherings. You can read the article in its entirety [here](#).

**LINK:** <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/leadership-body-invites-church-to-vision-work?fbclid=IwAR2iU5hPHEKwflFuN2ws5Sqc2jpxZ2Vkp1SxNNZZAzfr5fwegST8MS81wNA>

**“Agencies set greenhouse gas emissions goal”** – This article describes how eleven general agencies of The United Methodist Church are pledging to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 across ministries, facilities, operations and investments. The initiative was announced on Earth Day. You can read more [here](#).

**LINK:** <https://www.umnews.org/en/news/agencies-set-greenhouse-gas-emissions-goal?fbclid=IwAR08rD9EBelqV7spuqb8PX8imLTx3FBkpfxPJJaEji0bepgGlln9gzC454-M>

**“Bishops call for dismantling systematic racism in aftermath of George Floyd verdict”** – This article shares the statement from the Council of Bishops in response to the recent George Floyd verdict. You can read it [here](#).

**LINK:** <https://www.unitedmethodistbishops.org/newsdetail/bishops-laud-verdict-in-george-floyd-case-15208044?fbclid=IwAR3VINAvKfqUCT8iyannvj2vnB8VZul6W7ZhLrOM16Q6MDDJFY6omaqvVdsY>

Also, the Cascadia District recently passed along this invitation from Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon...

*There is strength in knowledge and strength in numbers! Join with others from around Oregon at the first-ever virtual Interfaith Advocacy Day on May 25, 10 am to noon.*

*Virtually attend issue briefings and workshops on advocating for compassionate legislation on issues such as housing, hunger, health care, immigration, gun violence prevention, criminal justice reform and climate justice. Following the briefings, we will make our faith voice heard in virtual meetings with state legislators. Group leaders will provide talking points and make all necessary appointments for you. Together, we can build a just, inclusive and hope-filled future for all Oregonians.*

**Register:** <https://emoregon.org/event/iad/>

Finally, in keeping with my promise earlier this year to, on occasion, share a bit of information about other churches in the Oregon-Idaho Conference, here is Fruitland First United Methodist Church in Fruitland, ID (pop. 5264). Fruitland First has been a vital presence in the community since 1909. Their current membership is about 75 and ranges in age from toddlers to retirees. Their tagline is “The Heart of Fruitland”.



~ Marcia Loney, Lay Leader

# Fake and Fatal: Cal's Story

## Fake and Fatal: Cal's Story

Friends,

I have recently heard and read about the local and national fentanyl epidemic which is huge and very frightening. I believe each of us has a mandate to spread the word with anyone around you. Let me explain.

Years ago I worked with Jon Epstein. Jon and his wife Jennifer were very excited to have their 18-year-old son Cal home after his first semester at University of Hawaii. Their typical routine of checking on him after he went to bed found him unresponsive. They were unable to revive him; he died because he made a bad choice. Cal bought some pills thinking they were Oxycodone or Percocet or Xanax, when in fact they were fentanyl, which is very deadly. Cal is not the only young person to have died; there have been many; deaths due to fentanyl have caused an epidemic.

Epsteins have made an informative and frank video telling Cal's story; it is a video which is critical to watch and to share with friends and family. It is located on YouTube and is called

"Fake & Fatal" and is 7.5 minutes long. Jon & Jennifer will also be contributors to a Beaverton School District video conversation which is being livestreamed into the community Thursday, April 29 at 7:00pm. I'm certain it will be repeated. so if you miss it tonight, there will be other times to listen to it.

Please share the video. Please share it with your children. Please share it with your friends. Please share it with everyone. I do not want anyone to regret that they had never had this discussion.

Again, YouTube, "Fake and Fatal"

If you have questions, please contact me.

Thank you,

Submission by Lynelle Eck

[Fake and Fatal: Cal's Story - YouTube](#)

## ANNUAL MOUNTAIN HOME AFTERNOON TEA ON THE MOUNTAIN

With regret the annual Mountain Home Afternoon Tea on the Mountain must be delayed again. Hopefully we can recommence this fun event in the future. Until then, keep calm, have a cup of tea, and carry on. Much love, Linda Woodbury



“Acceptance, tolerance, bravery, compassion. These are the things my mother taught me.” Lady Gaga

### Willowbrook Food Pantry

April 28, 2021

Last Saturday we served 19 families with 76 people. The number validates the food pantry and yet discouraging for the families. We've heard and seen on the news astonishing numbers who are food insecure - one broadcaster said 1 in 5 people are hungry! This is a ministry that so important every day.

Submission by Cherry Trotter

# Methodist History: The Founding Mothers of Mother's Day

A United Methodist Communications video

[Watch on YouTube](#)

Statistics say that \$20.7 billion will be spent on moms in honor of the U.S. holiday that falls on the second Sunday in May: Mother's Day.

All that cash and commercialism goes against everything the women who originated the idea wanted. In this video, meet the Methodist mother and daughter team who worked to create a day to honor a mother's love and to emphasize how important a mother's role is in building a peaceful world.

Harriet Olson, Chief Executive, United Methodist Women: "When Ann Jarvis was working to establish Mother's Day as a national event, and when her daughter picked up the mantle from her, they were not thinking about greeting cards and flowers."

Instead the Methodist women who invented the idea in America wanted to honor mothers in a deeper way.

Harriet Olson, Chief Executive, United Methodist Women: "They were thinking about the work of women and the significant testimony that women could give about the need for peace."

Ann Reeves Jarvis organized women's clubs in the 1860s to serve suffering mothers and children.

Harriet Olson: "Women came together with their sisters in their locations to respond to the needs that they could see. For Ann, she was in a coal mining part of what is now West Virginia. And she could see the needs of women and children. And she could see the effect of the economy of her day on the people that she cared for

most directly."

Donna Miller, Archivist, Historic St. George's United Methodist Church: "She started mothers clubs. And she talked to them about hydration for fevered babies, about sanitation and nutrition. And then the Civil War came along and they put a field hospital right outside Grafton."

Ann recruited nurses for military hospitals, and after the war formed friendship clubs to promote reconciliation.

Harriet Olson: "Ann Jarvis was convinced that mothers, women, but especially mothers, had to work for peace because they could see the ravages of war in their husbands and in their sons, in a way that was so focused and so clear that their voices would be powerful. And that's what's at the genesis of the current Mother's Day."

Faith was always foremost. When she was older, Ann Jarvis and her daughter Anna became members of Philadelphia's St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church.

Donna Miller: "Anna became a Sunday school teacher here at St. George's. But she's best known for the efforts she made to get Mother's Day recognized as a national observance. She and John Wanamaker, who was a famous retailer here, are the ones that got Woodrow Wilson to sign the petition."

Ann Jarvis died in 1905, before an official holiday was in place. But her daughter Anna (who was never a mother herself) stayed true to the purpose of the celebration. She envisioned Mother's Day as a time to write a personal letter to your

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"Moms do it all. They are counselors, teachers, bakers, managers and cheerleaders, and they do it without breaking a sweat!"

## Methodist History: The Founding Mothers of Mother's Day

*(Continued from page 7)*

mother, a time to send her an inexpensive carnation (a flower in which the petals hold tight like a mother's love) and a time to visit or attend church together. She later became an outspoken critic when the special day turned too commercial.

Donna Miller: "She was really aggravated at people that turned that observation into a commercial outlet. So she had to say to Hallmark. She had a lot to say to the Salvation Army that started selling carnations. When she made carnations the symbol of Mother's Day they sold for pennies. But the price soon went up to \$1.50, \$2.00 apiece because people found they could make money off of it. And her comments about Hallmark are just wonderful. She said, 'How lazy can you be to buy somebody else's sentiments for your mother? One day out of the year sit down and tell your mother what you really think of her.'" And she was just furious. I like that kind of spunk She would have been a really interesting person to know. And I like telling the kids about her because the history of the church isn't a history of ministers. It's the people that make up the church. And I think they're such a wonderful example of that. And besides making kids think about their mothers is always a good thing to do."

Tag:

In May 1908, Anna Jarvis organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at Andrews Methodist Episcopal Church in Grafton, West Virginia. There was also a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia later that same day.

There is now an [International Mother's Day Shrine](#) in Grafton at the site of Andrews Method-

ist Episcopal Church. The building is among the [heritage landmarks](#) of The United Methodist Church. Listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places since 1970, and a National Historical Landmark since 1992, the shrine seeks to "preserve, promote and develop through education, the Spirit of Motherhood, as exemplified by the lives of Ann Maria Reeves Jarvis and Anna Jarvis, and the institution of Mother's Day that they established."

*This video was produced by United Methodist Communications in Nashville, Tennessee.*

*Media contact is [Joe Iovino](#).*



*This video was first posted on March 15, 2015.*

[Methodist History: The Founding Mothers of Mother's Day | The United Methodist Church \(umc.org\)](#)

"Mothers hold their children's hands for a short while, but their hearts forever." Kahlia Gibran



# May 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
2 Worship w/ Communion via Zoom 10am Trustees Meeting via Zoom 11:15 am	3	4	5	6 	7	8 1
9 Worship w/ Communion via Zoom 10am Mother's Day	10	11	12	13 	14	15
16 Worship w/ Communion via Zoom 10am Ascension Sunday Church Council Meeting via Zoom	17	18	19	20	21	22
23 Worship w/ Communion via Zoom 10am Pentecost Reimagining Meeting 11:00AM via Zoom	24	26	26	27	28	29
30 Worship w/ Communion via Zoom 10am Trinity / Peace with Justice Sunday	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](mailto: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](mailto: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](mailto: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, May 2 Trustees Meeting via Zoom at 11:15 AM**

**Thursday, May 6 National Prayer Day**

**Sunday, May 9 Mother's Day**

**Sunday, May 9 Festival of the Christian Home**

**Sunday, May 16 Ascension Sunday**

**Sunday, May 16 Church Council via Zoom Meeting following service**

**Sunday, May 23 Pentecost; let's wear red to Worship Service**

**Sunday, May 23 Reimagining meeting after church at 11:00AM ZOOM**

**Sunday, May 23 Heritage Sunday**

**Sunday, May 30 Trinity Sunday / Peace with Justice Sunday**

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

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

[officesherwoodumc@gmail.com](mailto: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>

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