



## OCUMC Newsletter

November 15, 2019

### Monday, November 18

8:30am – Preschool  
12:15pm – Preschool  
6:30pm – Piecemakers

### Tuesday, November 19

8:30am – Preschool  
12:15pm – Preschool  
6:30pm – Diggity Dogs

### Wednesday, November 20

8:30am – Preschool  
10:00am – Line Dancing  
12:15pm – Preschool  
1:00pm – H.O.P.E. Food Pantry  
6:00pm – Wed. Night Dinner  
6:30pm – Bible Study Class  
6:30pm – Choir Rehearsal

### Thursday, November 21

8:30am – Preschool  
12:15pm – Preschool  
7:00pm – Neighborhood Assoc.

### Friday, November 22

8:30am – Preschool

### Saturday, November 23

### Sunday, November 24

8:30am – SPRC Meeting  
8:45am – Higher Ground  
10:00am – Worship  
10:15am – Children's Sunday School

Dear friends and family of OCUMC:

A parable for our times: On a dangerous seacoast where shipwrecks often occur, there was once a crude little lifesaving station. The building was no more than a hut, and there was only one boat; but the few devoted members kept a constant watch over the sea. With no thought for themselves, they went out day and night, tirelessly searching for the lost. Some of these who were saved, and various others in the surrounding area, wanted to be associated with the station and gave their time, money and effort to support the work. New boats were bought and new crews trained. The little lifesaving station grew. Some of these new members of the lifesaving station were unhappy that the building was so crude and poorly equipped. They felt that a more comfortable place should be provided as the first refuge of those who were saved from the sea. They replaced the emergency cots with beds and put better furniture in the enlarged building. Now the lifesaving station became a popular gathering place for its members, and they decorated it beautifully and furnished it exquisitely because they used it as a sort of club. Fewer members were now interested in going to sea on lifesaving missions, so they hired lifeboat crews to do this work. The lifesaving motif still prevailed in this club's decoration, and there was a memorial lifeboat in the room where the club initiations were held. About this time a large ship was wrecked off the coast, and the hired crews brought in boatloads of cold, wet, half-drowned people. They were dirty and sick, and some of them were foreigners. The beautiful new club was in chaos. Immediately, the property committee hired someone to rig up a shower house outside the club, where victims of shipwrecks could be cleaned up before coming inside.

At the next meeting, there was a split in the club membership. Most of the members wanted to stop the club's lifesaving activities because they felt they were unpleasant and a hindrance to the normal social life of the club. A small number of members insisted upon lifesaving as their primary purpose and pointed out that they were still called a lifesaving station. The small group's members were voted down and told that if they wanted to save lives, they could begin their own lifesaving station down the coast. They did. As the years went by, however, the new station experienced the same changes that had occurred in the old station. It evolved into a club, and yet another lifesaving station was founded. History continued to repeat itself, and if you visit that seacoast today, you will find a number of exclusive clubs along that shore. Shipwrecks are frequent in those waters, but most of the passengers don't make it.

Thank you OCUMC, for being a church that cares about the poor. The lost. The widow and the orphan. The outcast.

See you in church this Sunday!

Pastor Mike

Is this an anti-rich sermon? Not at all. I like rich people. I want to be one of them someday. But I also don't want to forget my Christian Calling for love, compassion and mercy. To treat others without distinction. Not to judge a book by its cover. To be as nice to someone I don't know as to someone who can do something for me. A way for me to remember these simple truths is in something that I heard years before, and I don't remember where it came from. It goes like this: Love people, use things. Love people, use things. Too often, we do the opposite. We love things, and use people. If there was one thing that you take away from this worship service, it would be, love people, use things.

# Thanksgiving Service

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Tuesday, November 26

7:00 – 8:30pm

Prince of Life Lutheran Church

13896 S Meyers Rd, Oregon City, OR 97045

Bring your change to Worship!  
Children's change offering in November will benefit the children of our Christmas Families.

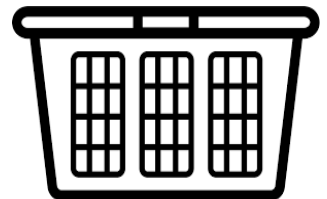


## The HOPE Pantry

This month the HOPE Pantry would really appreciate donations of purchased canned vegetables, like corn, green beans, peas, or canned protein items like Chili, tuna, etc. Without your contributions to HOPE we would not be able to take care of this growing group in our neighborhood. If you have any questions about HOPE or would like to volunteer, please contact Sharon Thonstad or Ron Schlosser.

## A HOME FOR HEROES

The Clayton Mohr Commons will welcome 24 chronically homeless and severely low-income veterans and their families in the coming weeks. The project was constructed by NW Housing Alternatives for the Housing Authority of Clackamas County using cost-efficient design and construction methods with our veterans in mind. Love Inc. is providing nonfood items and is asking for the following donations: Dish soap, Body soap, Toothpaste, Detergent, Razors, Linens, Kitchen items. A donation basket will be located in the Sanctuary.



## Wednesday Night Activities

November 20<sup>th</sup>

Fellowship Dinner @ 6:00pm,

*Cheesy Broccoli Rice, Chicken, Rolls, Salad & Dessert*

Choir Practice & Wednesday Night Study @ 6:30pm

## Los Romeritos Sale!

Sunday, November 24<sup>th</sup>

Great opportunity to do some Christmas shopping! Purchase beautiful craft items - purses, bags, scarves, beadwork and ornaments made by the women of Guatemala. All proceeds from the sale support Los Romeritos - a day shelter and educational program in Guatemala for some of the world's poorest children.

## Youth Group

**November 17<sup>th</sup>** – Main Street Scavenger Hunt!

After church meet at Coffee Rush downtown, bring money for drinks/food. After we fuel up on treats, we will set out on our scavenger hunt on Main Street. Plan to be picked up from Coffee Rush at 1pm.

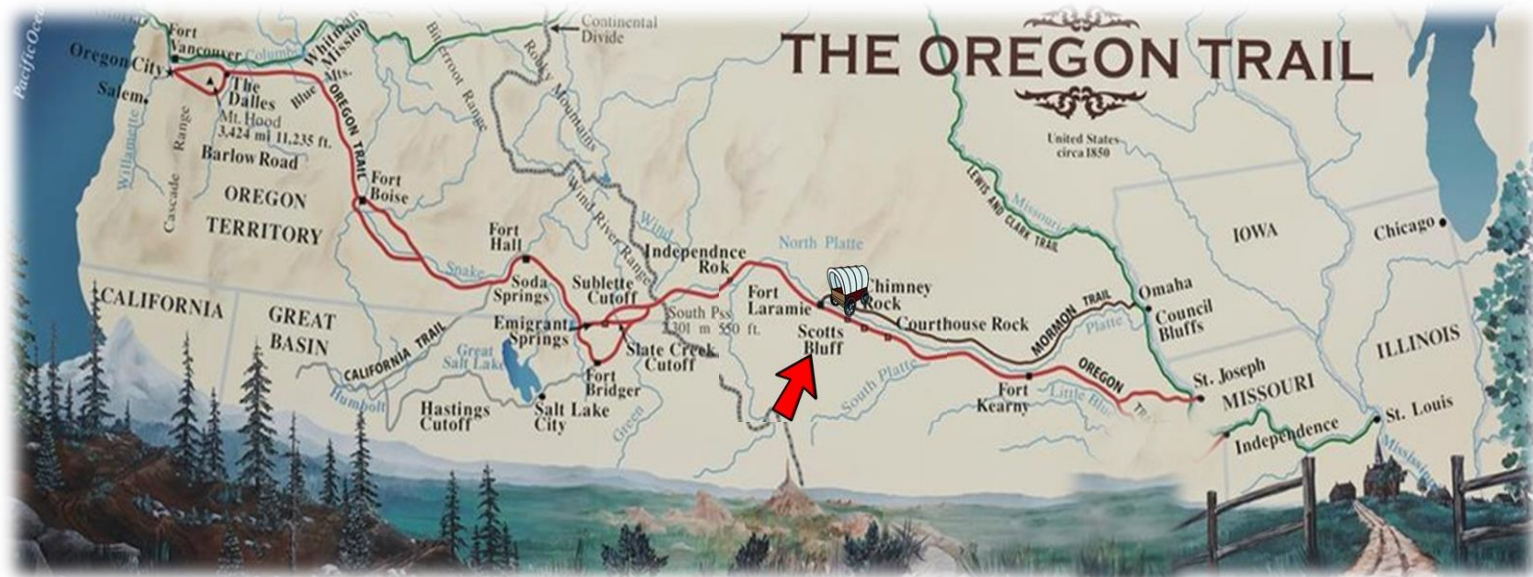
**November 24<sup>th</sup>** – Youth Group Thanksgiving

The Mallen's home, 5pm-7pm. Bring a side dish to share.

Please RSVP with what you plan to bring on our Facebook post.

If you have any questions about youth group or how you can get involved, please contact Leslie Magee, [LesliOCUMC@gmail.com](mailto:LesliOCUMC@gmail.com)





## “Help Get the Wallers to Oregon City” Mortgage Game

In July 2019, our church mortgage was \$85,335.

The Oregon Trail is 2,170 miles long.

We can move the Waller Family one mile for every \$40 raised.

Can we get them to arrive by Christmas 2020?

***WE NOW HAVE A MATCHING GRANT OF \$25,000.***

***Every dollar raised is doubled!***

**Current Balance: \$45,931**

**Miles Traveled: 985 Miles**

**Current Location: Torrington, Wyoming**

Fact: Torrington is the County seat of Goshen, Wyoming. Human population: 13,200. Cattle population: 177,000

As always, thank you for your support of OCUMC!





# Advent Devotional Book

This year, we are creating an Advent Devotional Book with submissions from our church family!

In 500 words or less, can you create a short devotional that answers one or more of the following sample questions:

- What was Christmas like for you growing up?
- Do you remember a special gift?
- What tradition was important for you?
- What does Christmas mean to you?
- Do you have a meaningful or funny Christmas story?

Pastor Mike will take your submissions, edit them, add a scripture to each (you are welcome to add one yourself) and have them ready by Advent. You can also add a picture if you would like. Devotionals will be handed out at church on the first Sunday of Advent, December 1st.

Please email or turn in your submissions on or by **Sunday, November 24th** so Pastor Mike has a week to create the devotional.

Thank you for sharing your faith, memories and Christmas spirit with your church family!







# Advent Festival

Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>  
2:00 p.m.



**Fun for the whole family!**

There is no charge for this craft extravaganza that celebrates the season of Advent. This activity is for the families of the Preschool, the Church, and the Neighborhood. You are welcome to bring friends. Our Worship Center will be filled with craft tables so every member of the family (especially the kids!) can have fun making a variety of Christmas crafts to take home and enjoy.

## A CHRISTMAS FAMILY EVENT

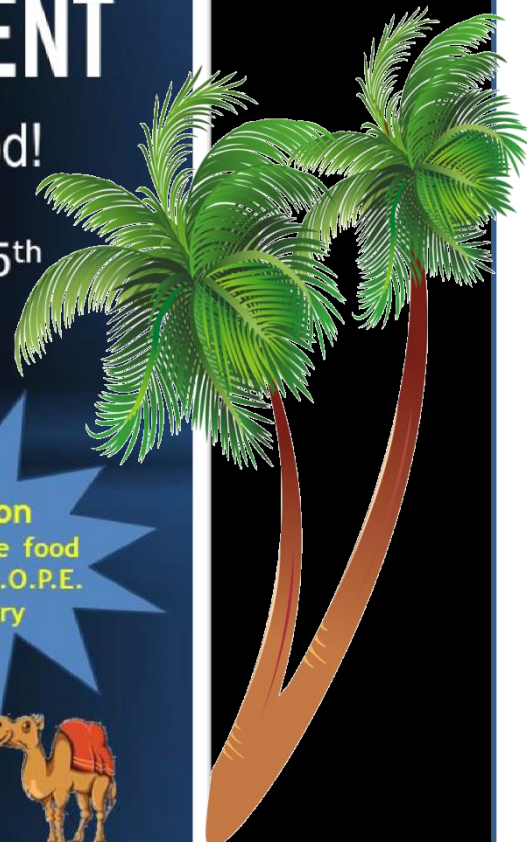
Lots of Games, Activities, Fun and Food!

**A Night IN  
Bethlehem**

Oregon City United Methodist Church  
18955 South End Road, OC

Sunday, December 15<sup>th</sup>  
5:00 - 7:00pm  
*An indoor event*

**Admission**  
Non-perishable food  
item for the H.O.P.E.  
Food Pantry







## Christmas Family Project

We realize that it is only October, but Christmas is really around the corner and we need to begin thinking about our Christmas Family Project for 2019. Once again we are partnering with Love, Inc. in a similar way as we did last year. They are sponsoring a Christmas Store where around twenty families, many being single parents, can come to the Christmas to shop for their children's Christmas gifts, while the kids are enjoying a party atmosphere of snacks, games etc. These families have met qualifications to merit this opportunity by taking parenting type classes showing their desire to make a better life for their families.

As we did last year we have taken on the task of making ahead small boxes of gifts and gift cards for the children to present to their parents. This was very successful last year.

We are also helping with gifts that may be on the wish lists of some of the families. This is where our Christmas tree in the Narthex comes back into view. There will be ornaments with gift card suggestions, cash donation amounts, or a specific toy or gift from a wish list. You will be able to choose just how you want to participate. You may rather just put a donation in the collection plate, marked "Christmas Family Project" and that will be credited to your giving record. If you put your name on the cash amount you select from the tree, your giving will also be recorded. We appreciate any type of giving because having a sufficient amount of cash to work with makes our job easier. Some of you prefer to allow your children to pick ornaments with gift ideas and then shop with them. It can be a "teaching moment".

You will see the tree greet you again around the first of November. All items (cash, gift cards, ornament gifts etc.) need to be in **by Sunday December 1st** in order for us to get all the gift boxes filled and other items purchased to complete the project to be delivered to Love, Inc. in time for their party on Dec. 13th. So that gives us only a month to do our shopping and support the families in time for the holidays. We want to thank you in advance for your care and concern for others as we love others and value everyone. It is our hope that your participation will bless you and fill you with a wonderful spirit of giving to start your holiday season. If you have any questions, contact Jane Meyers or Dawn Engel and look for our old friend the "tree in the lobby" soon.



## *For your Advent Calendar*

### *Hanging of the Greens*

Sunday, December 1, 11am.

Help decorate our Worship Center and lobby for the holidays.

### *Advent Mailboxes*

Save the postage! Put your church family holiday greetings in the mailbox located in the Worship Center starting in December. Put the cards in the box labeled with the first initial of the last name. Don't forget to check for your cards!

### *Advent Festival*

Sunday, December 8, 2-4pm.

Fun for the whole family! The Worship Center will be filled with Christmas crafts for you to make and take home.

### *Night-in-Bethlehem*

Sunday, December 15, 5-7pm.

The church will be transformed into the town of Bethlehem for the evening. Each person will receive a small bag of coins in which to spend in Bethlehem at the various booths. Enjoy yummy goodies, games and activities for the whole family. There is no cost to attend but canned food donations to the H.O.P.E. food pantry are welcomed and encouraged!

### *Festive Holiday Attire Contest*

Sunday, December 22, 10am.

We invite you to wear your most Festive Holiday Sweater/Attire to church Sunday morning for a Festive Holiday Contest!

### *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service*

Tuesday, December 24, 7pm.

Join us for one of our annual Christmas Eve Candlelight service as we celebrate the birth of our Savior. Bring the whole family and invite a friend to this very special service you won't want to miss!

