



OCUMC Newsletter

September 3, 2020

Dear friends and family of OCUMC:

To you, Lord, I call,
for fire has devoured the pastures in the wilderness
and flames have burned up all the trees of the field. - Joel 1:19

It was a week ago, and someone commented that 2020 couldn't possibly get worse. Don't test fate, right? We are in a Level 1 evacuation notice due to the wildfires to the east and south. Level 1 means "Be Ready". At the Benischek's, that means having the bags out and ready, along with a collection of items we wish to leave with. If it can be replaced, it stays. If it can't, it comes with. Some may think this is overkill and too soon, but please be mindful that news can change on a dime and it pays to follow the Boy Scout Motto, "Be Prepared".

Our sincerest thoughts and prayers are with the 3,000 battling the blazes, and first responders coordinating efforts and evacuation centers. Please send a prayer of strength and courage to them today.

If you know of anyone who needs a parking lot to stay in during these evacuation orders, please tell them that Oregon City UMC has a parking lot available to those fleeing the fires.

In the expectation that Oregon City will not have to evacuate, our backpack blessing for kids will go on this Sunday at the church. Follow us on Facebook for any updates or changes.

How does the book of Joel end? Not in fire, but in hope:

And it will come to pass in that day
That the mountains shall drip with new wine,
The hills shall flow with milk,
And all the brooks of Judah shall be flooded with water;
A fountain shall flow from the house of the Lord
And water the Valley..."

Stay safe,

Pastor Mike



SEPTEMBER

Birthdays

CRUIKSHANK, KENDRA	09/01
JOHNSTON, CAT	09/01
RONFELD, SUSAN	09/02
CRONRATH, RALEIGH	09/04
LARSON, CHRIS	09/10
MARPEV, JANICE	09/12
BEVENS, TRIGGER	09/17
MALLEN, LAUREN	09/17
SPRAGUE, CONNOR	09/17
MCGRAW, LAURA	09/20
OLIVAS, SHEENA	09/22
WERBER, BETH	09/25
QUEVEDO, ELIANA	09/26
ENZ, JONATHAN	09/27
WICKLIFFE, MARTHA	09/27
FLINT, SOPHIE	09/30

Backpack Blessing

September 13th

On September 13th we are **planning** a drive through backpack/electronics blessing to start you off on the right foot and get you prepared for the upcoming school year. This year it is available to all who are attending school, students and teachers, all ages are welcome. Just arrive at the church anytime between 10am and 11am to receive your blessing.

So that was the *plan* before the wild fires broke out. It seems that 2020 just keeps on throwing things in our paths. Please watch our Facebook page for updates as we may need to push it off to the following Sunday, September 20th. Feel free to text me if you have questions: Lesli Magee 541-390-1302

LAST WEEK TO SIGN UP: We also would like to pair each student and teacher up with someone in the congregation who will be a prayer buddy for that individual. This "prayer buddy" will keep the student or teacher in their prayers throughout the school year. We will have a quick and easy sign-up online and get everyone paired up that would like to participate. If you are a student or teacher, you get signed up and you are off and running. If you want to be involved on the other side and adopt a student or teacher to pray for you will have a bit more to do. This is not a secret pal program but sending an occasional "thinking of you" card and keeping that person in prayer will be what you are signing up to do. Here is the link to sign up:

<https://forms.gle/LpE3rcmW2obHK9mK7>

DON'T WORRY ABOUT
ANYTHING; INSTEAD,
PRAY ABOUT EVERYTHING.
TELL GOD WHAT YOU
NEED, AND THANK HIM FOR
ALL HE HAS DONE.





Father's Heart

September Backpack Drive



Father's Heart Street Ministry is collecting gently used and new backpacks this month. Durable **ADULT** sizes only. Backpacks are essential for those navigating homelessness. You need a secure way to keep your belongings with you to appointments, to job interviews, and wherever you travel by bus, bike or walking.

Mission Possibilities for YOU

While we are all striving to do our best in difficult times there are those around us who are struggling. Our Mission Team is promoting 3 possibilities which would allow those of us who can to share our resources and help provide for others.

Shoe Drive with Love, INC.

- Men's size 14 & 15
- Women's size 9.5
- Kid's shoe size 5 to 13.5
- Girl's size 11 and 12



Oregon City "lunch lady"

- Bread
- Chunky peanut butter
- Jam (raspberry or strawberry preferred)
- Individual chip bags (Costco)
- Apples, bananas or grapes
- Cookies
- Sandwich bags
- Brown lunch bags



Father's Heart street ministry in Oregon City

- Men's & Women's T-shirts
- Jeans (38x32, 30x32, 28x32)
- Shorts
- Walking shoes (new or gently used)
- Disposable masks or homemade fabric masks
- Socks and underwear must be new
- Bottled water is always a need
- All clothing items must be new or gently used and laundered
- They post specific needs on their facebook page as they come up



Here is how you can help. If you wish to purchase shoes, or have items needed by Father's Heart or the OC lunch lady you can bring items to the church. Donation hours are 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. Monday-Thursday. If you would prefer to donate financially please mark your donation with the mission you wish to support. The monies collected will be used to purchase needed items for the mission you select. If you have questions you can contact Jane Myers 503-656-0117 or Chris Larson 503-655-4080.

For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I needed clothes and you clothed me Matt 25:35-36a