



LENT



Oregon City United Methodist Church NEWSLETTER

March 25, 2021

Dear friends and family of OCUMC:

In our last worship service, our Staff Parish Chair Melissa Quevedo read a letter from our District Superintendent, Wendy Woodworth. In case you missed it - here is the message:

Dear friends and members of Oregon City First UMC,

Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

For nearly eight years, you have been blessed with the gift of Rev. Mike Benischek as your pastor. He has served you with energy, joy, passion, and the desire to help you grow in vitality and mission to your community. Under his leadership, you have accomplished significant financial goals and your growth in mission and ministry is inspiring!

As you know, United Methodist clergy serve in an itinerant system under the authority of the bishop. This letter is to inform you that Bishop Elaine Stanovsky of the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area intends to appoint Rev. Mike Benischek as pastor of Meridian UMC in Meridian, Idaho effective July 1, 2021. This decision was reached after prayerful discernment by both the Cabinet and Mike and his family.

I know that this announcement was not anticipated nor invited by you. Please know that I hold you in prayer as you receive this news.

The Cabinet is in deep discernment about who can follow Mike as your pastor. I will be in consultation with your SPRC about this. Our hope and goal are to provide you with the pastoral leadership you need to continue your growth and mission in Oregon City. You are an important, significant congregation in our conference. We want you to move from strength to strength. I request that your prayers be added to those of the Cabinet as we move forward with this process.

Mike will be your pastor through June. I know you will find ways to show your appreciation to Mike and his family. I know you will find ways to celebrate Mike's new appointment, while also feeling the grief of this change in relationship. As hard as this is, I trust that the Holy Spirit is at work in powerful ways in this process and especially through your gracious spirit. I thank God for each of you and pray you will be Christ in the community and Christ to one another.

Grace and Peace, Wendy Woodworth

A Note from Pastor Mike: It is with sadness that this news is shared this past week. We understand that the greater church does its best to align churches and pastors for the greater good. Our pastors move around as the needs of churches change and shift. The Cabinet believes that these upcoming moves, while painful now, will show a greater fruit in the future. And while we are in grief of leaving a great church with great people, in a city that we have grown to love; we trust that we will find blessings in where we are being sent; and that YOU will find blessings in whoever may come to Oregon City.

Please keep Melissa and the SPRC in your prayers, along with the Cabinet, that the pulpit is filled with someone who can take OCUMC to greater heights of loving others and valuing everyone. The people of OCUMC have been kind and generous to us - and we know you will be kind and generous to the next pastor. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

And we're still around for a few more months - although we are out of town this week for Spring Break. It's our hope to see everyone before June 30th. As a reminder, God is Good, all the time. And all the time, God is good.

Pastor Mike



NORRIS, SARAH	04/04
SALTENBERGER, ANGELA	04/04
FLOREY, RICK	04/09
FINCK, JOSH	04/12
FOURIER, MARVIN	04/13
RICE, ZACH	04/19
PALMER, RILEY	04/20
SHAVER, YOLANDA	04/20
FINCK, COLE	04/21
SUTTON, VIVIAN	04/25
FOGLE, JANA	04/29



Thank you to everyone for the cards, prayers and support on the passing of my husband of 45 years. They are most appreciated.

Pam Crawford



In loving Memory

Wayne Streight
August 9, 1935 – March 22, 2021

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of Wayne Streight During this time; our thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.



HOPE Food Pantry



The Methodist HOPE Food Pantry is in need of someone to pick up Bakery items from the Oregon City Safeway store between 8:45 and 9:15 on Tuesday mornings and deliver them to the Food Pantry at Meggan's Corner. You would need to weigh the boxes after you bring them into the pantry. Please contact Sharon Thonstad or Ron Schlosser if this is something that you could do. Thank you for considering this opportunity to help feed the food insecure in our community.

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 2 possibilities which would allow those of us who can to share our resources and help provide for others.

- 1) Oregon City "lunch lady"** has been providing free lunches each day in front of her house for anyone in need. She is very near a bus stop. She has been doing this since April 2020 as she felt called to do so, but help would be appreciated. This is a very local project that could use our help.

The following donations are needed:

- Bread
- Fruit
- Paper Lunch Sacks
- Chunky Peanut Butter
- Jam (any kind other than grape)
- Chips
- Ziploc bags
- Cookies



2) Love Inc. Ministry Needs:

- Laundry Detergent
- Baby Wipes
- Toasters
- Crockpots
- New Socks
- All Purpose Cleaner
- Diapers 5/6
- Fry Pans
- Heavy Blankets

If you have items for the OC lunch lady or Love Inc. you can drop them off at the church office.

Palm Parade!

Join us on Sunday, March 28th
for a Palm Parade through Oregon City!

We will meet at the
Church at 10a.m., get our
palms, and drive to the
End of the Oregon Trail
Interpretive Center as we
wave our branches along
the way through our city.
We will close with a
prayer at the Museum.



Path To Easter

Our Worship Team did it again!



Sign up for a sanctuary walk-thru during Holy Week to experience vignettes and artwork depicting the week between Palm Sunday and Easter.

We ask that you register in advance; please call the church office at 503-656-3433 to choose your date and time, appointments available in 15 minute increments:

**SIGN UP
TODAY!**

Sunday, March 28 th	3:00pm – 6:00pm
Monday, March 29 th	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Tuesday, March 30 th	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Wednesday, March 31 st	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Thursday, April 1 st	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Friday, April 2 nd	4:00pm – 6:00pm
Saturday, April 3 rd	10:00am – Noon



Social distancing and face masks are required



Calling all artists!

For an Easter presentation, we are filling a wall with butterflies. Feel free and color in a butterfly, and get it to the church office **before March 27th**, you can send it in, or scan it and send it electronically.

