



the First United Methodist Church of Portland

CIRCUIT RIDER

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FALL FESTIVAL



Sunday, October 26 | Noon In Collins Hall

Come to church dressed in costume (or pack your costume) for a Fall Festival with your church family. During Commons, following the morning worship service, a section of Collins Hall will be designated for games, treats, and prizes! Activities are primarily for children, Pre-Kindergarten through 6th grade, but the young at heart are welcome, too.

AND PANCAKE BRUNCH!

The Fall Festival will also include a pancake brunch! All proceeds go to Imagine No Malaria, the United Methodist Initiative that has already cut deaths due to malaria in half in Africa, and is working now to stop Ebola as well as malaria. Brunch will include a choice of whole-wheat pumpkin pancakes, regular pancakes or gluten & dairy-free pancakes all made from scratch, along with nitrate-free turkey bacon, seasonal fruit and beverages ... a healthy meal to promote health here and in Africa! Donations accepted.

WORSHIP AT FIRST CHURCH

First United Methodist Church of Portland declares that we will be an advocate for peace in our local communities and world. As a Reconciling Congregation, members of First United Methodist Church have pledged to welcome and support all who want to worship with us, regardless of race, gender, class or sexual orientation. Worship at 10:30 AM, Sundays.



COVER | Fall Festival & Pancake Brunch



**a message
from
our
Minister of
Discipleship
Rev. Jeremy
Smith**

Mystery Baskets of Yesterday and Today

Rev. Donna is serving at a United Methodist event in North Carolina this week, so you are stuck with me for this column.

This past Sunday, Harriet and Rich Ottaviano officially joined the church after a decade of attending part-time (they split their time between here and California, but now live here permanently). As part of the liturgy, we ask all our new members to introduce themselves and reflect on why they are joining. I was awestruck by part of what Rich said:

When I answer the question “why this church” I think of a few weeks ago when Pastor Donna preached about the TV show Chopped and the mystery baskets full of ingredients that we have to deal with. It struck me that in the 1990s, this church was faced with a pretty complicated and emotional set of mystery baskets. Your reaction to those ingredients was to become a Reconciling congregation, a giant step. The other one was a mystery basket of family homelessness, and you made the decision to step and start the model of the Goose Hollow Family Shelter. Those two steps tell me all I need to know about the heart of this church.

Rich and Harriet were convicted because of how First Church responded to a crisis in the church (by choosing to become Reconciling and welcoming to the LGBTQ community) and a crisis in the community (by choosing to serve families experiencing homelessness).

Today we not only house families 365 nights a year, we have Village Support Network teams that serve as case-workers for families moving into transitional or permanent housing. And this month our church is hosting a “Building an Inclusive Church” event for Oregon and Washington to help other churches discern how to become a more welcoming congregation to the LGBTQ community—perhaps even more Reconciling churches will come from this effort.

We have these opportunities today because of a few chefs in the 1990s who made something wonderful out of those mystery baskets that Rich talked about.

Each church in every generation in every part of the world is given a mystery basket of unique factors: troubles in the church and community, to be sure, but also mystery combinations of talents, passions, and resources. Which one of you will open that basket, discover what is inside, and instead of shrinking away in fear, choose to gather a team of chefs together and make something wonderful? Something that would transform the church and world?

I cannot wait to see what happens, to assist you along the way, and step back when the Holy Spirit blows things up and makes them bigger than we can possibly imagine.

Blessings and see you Sunday.
~Jeremy

gather

UMW Unit Gathering

The UMW Unit will meet Wednesday, November 5 at 10:00 AM in the Fireside Room. This will be our Pledge Service. Come celebrate and commit to supporting UMW's local, national, & global outreach. If you are unable to attend, please mail your pledge to our treasurer Shirley Blalock. The program will feature the Sunshine Division of the Portland Police Department. Since 1923, the Portland Police Bureau Sunshine Division has been providing food and clothing relief to Portland families and individuals in need. Whether due to the loss of a job, domestic crime, illness, or victims of fire or disaster, the Sunshine Division has built a legacy of mobilizing quickly and efficiently to assist distressed Portlanders. A salad bar will be served after the program. Donations will be appreciated. Dessert and beverage will be provided. Chair: Trudy Kayser, 503/292-7528

UMW's Reading Program - Book Chat

Read-Learn-Listen - Discuss and explore new insights. Book Chat gatherings are planned for the first Wednesday of each month following the Unit Meeting in the Fireside Room. Books are selected from the UMW Reading Program to expand understanding and participation in God's mission for humanity in this changing world. All are welcome. Chair: Sandra Howard 503/786-3566

Naomi Circle

Naomi Circle's October 23 meeting, "Souls and Saints," will offer a time to reflect on this autumn season of change and transition. Each person present will be invited to name saints they have known who have shaped their souls. Opportunities for remembrances, and for looking ahead toward pathways which deepen and enrich each moment and each day will be our goal. All are welcome; the meeting will begin at 2:00 PM, in the Terwilliger Plaza Clubroom. Chair: Colleen Foster, 503/808-7389.

Circle Of Friends

The Circle of Friends will meet on Wednesday, October 29 at noon in the Fireside Room. "The Saints of UMW and Your Life" is the theme of the program. Bring a sandwich for lunch. Dessert and beverage will be provided. Co-Chairs: Mary Covert 503/652-6480 and Trudy Kayser 503/292-7528

Planning Team

The Planning Team will meet Wednesday, October 29 at 9:30 AM in Room 110.

Oregon/Idaho Conference UMW Annual Meeting

The Oregon/Idaho Conference of the UMW will meet October 25 at First United Methodist Church in Eugene. This year's meeting theme is "Faith and Finance: Making it Work." It will include a lively panel discussion. Carpooling is available. Please call Trudy Kayser 503/292-7528

learn

★ Christianity in a Changing World

is an adult class studying Catherine Keller's, **On the Mystery**. "Creative, witty, and wise, it traces an adventure of the spirit for thinking folk, one that doesn't duck difficult questions but finds new ways through them."

9:00 AM/Room 202

★ The Gathering

is a community of parents of school-age children. We meet at the same time as the children's choirs and youth Sunday school: 9:30 AM on Sunday mornings in Room 204. Rev. Jeremy leads us each week in a time of conversation and study.

★ Making Sense of the Bible

is a video series featuring Rev. Adam Hamilton. The class will run through November 2 at 9:00 AM in Room 110.

change



November 2 Time Change

On Saturday, November 1, set your clocks backward one hour just before you go to bed!

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First Church Travelers

On Tuesday, November 18, join First Church Travelers on a tour of Portland State University, our downtown neighbor. The campus is located on a 50-acre campus near the Portland Park Blocks along with the new Life Sciences complex on the waterfront. Central to the tour will be breakthrough research within the College of Engineering along with new innovations in the teaching of science found in the new integrated facilities at the waterfront campus. We will gather at First Church at 8:30 AM and use MAX-Streetcar transportation with a return around 4:30 PM. Register with the church office before November 9. The cost is \$20.00 per person.

First Church All-Church Conference

Our All-Church Conference will be Wednesday, November 19 at 7:00 PM in the Chapel. The gathering will be convened by Rev. Dan Wilson-Fey. Retired Elders and clergy with a Charge Conference relationship at Portland First UMC, be sure and have your reports in the church office by Monday, November 10.

Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF

Saturday, October 25, beginning at 4:00 PM, the whole family is invited to come dressed in your Halloween costumes and take part Trick or Treat for UNICEF. Give your children the opportunity to help kids around the world. Bring a festive snack to share with the group, following our trick-or-treating. The event will begin and end at the Greenberg's home. 3930 SE Grant St, Portland OR 97214 For more information about the event, contact Megan mjones@fumcpdx.org. To learn more about UNICEF, visit their website unicefusa.org/mission/usa/trick-or-treat

Third Grade Bible Retreat

On Saturday, November 1, all third grade students are invited to attend the Third Grade Bible Retreat. Join Megan and Rev Jeremy for a great afternoon of Bible education, games, and food, followed by a fun outing.

The event will begin at 2:00 PM in Room 133. Students will participate in a special presentation of Bibles during the morning worship service on Sunday, November 2.



Prayers of Celebration

Paul Nickell and Wave Mead were married on Friday, October 10 ...

Prayers of Sympathy

For Kayla Carruth and family, on the recent passing of her mother ...

For Darin Honn and family, on the recent death of his father ...

Prayers of Concern

George Rives, who is hospitalized following serious fall ...

Betty Cobb-Colgan, who is recovering from surgery at home ...



Apples and Pears

On Sunday, October 19 Planet Church will have a table in the Commons in Collins Hall to purchase local, sustainably-grown apples and pears. Planet Church is contributing the proceeds from this sale to the Oregon Food Bank.



GOING DEEPER METHODISM 101

Going Deeper begins again in October! This "Methodism 101" goes deeper into United Methodist views on the Bible, sources of authority, and our pursuit of personal and social holiness. This small group meets for three weeks with a shared meal and conversation, led by our clergy and the Newcomer's Team:

- Thursday, October 23
- Thursday, October 30
- Thursday, November 6

Each session begins at 6:00 PM in Room 110. Questions? jsmith@fumcpdx.org



Goodbye to Christine Meyer

The Staff-Parish Relations Committee has received notice that our Church Administrator, Christine Meyer, has accepted a new position as a church administrator in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to be closer to family, beginning at the end of the month. Although we are saddened to have Christine leaving this position, we wish her the best in her new endeavors. Christine has been with us for eight years and you will have an opportunity to thank her and wish her well at a farewell reception on Sunday, October 26. Cards and money gifts for Christine can be sent to the church office with the memo "For Christine" or put in a basket at the farewell on October 26.



BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE CHURCH

The Basics of the Reconciling Process

Saturday, October 25, 2014

9:00 AM to 3:00 PM | FUMC

- LGBTQ 101 (Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity)
- Steps in Building an Inclusive Church
- Graceful Engagement (Engaging in Conflict Well)
- The Ministry of a Reconciling Process Coach

This workshop is free and a light lunch will be provided.

Taize

Worship at First Church

Sunday, October 26

5:00 PM ■ Chapel

Songs of Worship

Scripture

Reflection

Fellowship



Join members of First Church and other UMC communities around Portland to support a major Imagine No Malaria event. Join us on Sunday, November 2, for game night at Moda Center for the Portland Trailblazers vs. the Golden State Warriors. Tickets are available for a discounted rate of \$32 each. Tickets at this rate can only be purchased at the First Church office. It will be a great night of fun and excitement. It will be a great night of changing the world ... together!



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*First Church
Man Retreat*

NOVEMBER 7 & 8

Alton L. Collins Retreat Center

Registration deadline: October 29



*First Church Women
of Spirit Retreat*

NOVEMBER 14 & 15

Camp Cascade

Registration deadline: November 5