



Newsletter

November 7, 2024

**Join Us In-Person or
Livestream**

**OCUM Church starting at
10:00 a.m.**

A place where we *"Love Others and Value Everyone!"*



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To my friends at Oregon City UMC,

I pray God's grace be with you today and that your steps be guided in all hopefulness. I pray for you warmth and a whole sense of loving home for all your families in this cooling season. And I pray for you vision to look ahead into the coming year.

A week ago, we were all waiting expectantly for election day to arrive, to find out who our next leader would be. This week, election day has come and gone, and now we know. I will offer no celebrations or critiques in this letter (There is a time and a place for that, but not right here and now). I will simply acknowledge that there are different responses and reactions to the outcome of the election, and all have their varying degrees of emotional intensity.

What I will offer instead is a call to grace and awareness. In our community of faith we all have varying hopes, dreams, and understandings of how the world should work. Some things we agree on. Some things we don't. Yet we are all called to be in community together.

Paul wrote to the church in Ephesus, saying this:

...walk in a manner worthy of the calling to which you have been called, with all humility and gentleness, with patience, bearing with one another in love, making every effort to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace: there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is above all and through all and in all (Eph 4:1-6, NRSVue).

In this post-election time, please be aware of your siblings in Christ in this community of faith and in the community at large. If you are one who celebrates the outcome of the election, hold your Christ-siblings in gentleness and continue to seek after the heart of God with a Christ-like spirit, recognizing their emotional responses of pain, and even fear, are valid and real. If you are one who mourns the outcome of the election, hold your Christ-siblings in peace, recognizing even in a difference of worldview, the call of Christ is still on their heart to be a part of our faith community. Let us all seek after the unity of the Spirit as Paul instructed.

As it was shared with me recently, first, in the Christ-centered Church, it is not politics that sit on the throne, but God alone. And second, we "continue to do the good work, continue to build bridges not walls, continue to lead with compassion, continue the demanding work of liberation for all, continue to dismantle broken systems, large and small. [We] continue to set the best example for the children, continue to be a vessel of nourishing joy, continue right where [we] are, right where [we] live into [our] days. [We] do so in the name of the Creator who expects nothing less from each of us" (Venice Williams).

In faithful service,

Pastor Tom



Upcoming EVENTS

Veterans Day

Monday, November 11

Thank you Veterans for your service.

Care Team Meeting

Tuesday, November 12 @ 2:00pm

November Brunch Fellowship Postponed - Next Brunch

Fellowship will be December 22.

SPRT Meeting

Tuesday, November 19 @ 3:00pm

Thanksgiving Service & Pie Fellowship

Tuesday, November 26 @ 7:00pm

Thanksgiving Day

Thursday, November 28



DIFRANCO, KELLY	11/02
OLIVAS, MARIAN	11/05
WARD, PAUL	11/05
SYTSMA, JOHN	11/07
HULDEN, SANDRA	11/09
CRAVEN, RICHARD	11/20
HENRY, LYDIA	11/20
WATT, MARC	11/23
OLIVAS, RON	11/26

In Loving Memory



JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATION OF LIFE HONORING

John Ronfeld

March 25, 1947 – October 29, 2024

Saturday, November 16th, 2024

Military Honors – 10:00am

Mountain View Cemetery
500 Hilda Street, OC

Celebration of Life – 11:30am

OCUM Church
18955 S South End Road, OC
~ Lunch will be served ~





CHRISTMAS FAMILY PROJECT

PAJAMA DRIVE

that will run the month of November

We are collecting **NEW** pajamas from infant to XL adult for children & teens of all ages in foster care. Pajamas will be distributed to *Bloomin' Boutique*.

- Accepting donations of NEW pajamas THROUGH Sunday, December 1st.
- If you would prefer to donate money, please mark your check "PJ Drive" and members of Mission Possible will shop for you.





Oregon City United Methodist Church

Advent Craft Festival

Sunday, December 8th
2:00 – 4:00pm

Fun for the Whole Family

The Worship Center will be filled with craft stations so every member of the family (especially the kids!) can have fun Making a variety of Christmas crafts to take home and enjoy.



- Free Event
- Cookie Decorating
- Ornament Making
- Crafts for all ages

Cookie exchange

Please join us for a
Holiday Cookie Exchange
at
Oregon City United Methodist Church

After the service on December 22nd,
we will be having a Holiday Cookie
Exchange! There will be a variety of
homemade cookies to enjoy and
plenty to take home.

If you or your family have a favorite
Christmas cookie or treat you are
invited to bring some to share!

Sunday,
December 22nd
11:00am





For your Advent Calendar

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.

Hanging of the Greens

Sunday | December 1 | 11:00am

Help decorate our Worship Center and lobby for the holidays.

Advent Craft Festival

Sunday | December 8 | 2-4pm

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 Blue Christmas Service

Saturday | December 14 | 2:00pm | Heritage Room

Christmas, in all of its magic and celebration, holds within it a sorrow for many. Blue Christmas services take that sorrow, hurt, pain, or emptiness, and recognizes it. We hold it in sacred space lifting it to our God who comforts us.



Lessons & Carols Service

Sunday | December 15 | 10:00am

A Sunday morning service, which weaves beautiful carols of the season with scriptures relating to the Advent and Christmas Season.

Christmas Cookie Exchange & Brunch Fellowship!

Sunday | December 22 | 11:00am

There will be a variety of homemade cookies to enjoy and plenty to take home. If you or your family have a favorite Christmas cookie or treat you are invited to bring some to share!

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Tuesday | December 24 | 7:00pm

Join us for 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!

