



THE SPIRE

APRIL 2024

LOVING EVERYONE + BUILDING COMMUNITY
SERVING SELFLESSLY + FOLLOWING CHRIST



SPRING

What a wondrous time is spring,
when all the trees are budding;
the birds begin to sing,
the flowers start their blooming.
That's how it is with God's love
once you've experienced it;
you want to sing,
it's fresh like spring,
you want to pass it on.

"Pass It On" by Kurt Kaiser vs 2
United Methodist Hymnal 572

This spring, please picture something. Imagine yourself in the congregation on Sunday morning, singing this song in worship. Imagine our Muffins & More team standing under this tree, sharing muffins and beverages with our neighbors including students from Lincoln Street Elementary School and Pacific University. Imagine bringing in spring and summer clothes for kids, for us to share in our Community Trading Post. Imagine new students passing this tree as they come for English as a Second Language or Citizenship Classes here at HUMC for the very first time. Imagine God's joy in watching this all unfold.

You make all of this happen. Thanks to each of you for the beauty, joy, love and life you bring to our congregation and community. Happy Spring!

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NOTES FROM THE PASTOR

THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 2024

by Rev. J. Rodriguez V.

WORSHIP

Sundays

10:00am

Sanctuary

Livestreamed on
YouTube

Spanish/English
Bilingual Worship
Sunday, April 7

Sunday morning bus
service available!
Contact the church
office at 503-640-1775
to request a ride.

Later this month, from April 23 to May 3, the General Conference of the United Methodist Church will take place in the city of Charlotte, North Carolina.

The General Conference is the highest legislative body of the United Methodist Church in the world. The General Conference meets every four years. The last meeting took place in Portland, Oregon in 2016. Due to the Covid 19 pandemic, the assembly did not meet in 2020 and after 8 years they will finally be able to meet this month in April of 2024.

Many interesting things have happened since then and there are new expectations about what will happen at this General Conference. After the Church has gone through a probationary period after the challenge of more than 7,500 congregations that left the denomination, much is subject to change. In the Methodist Church of the United States alone, this number represents more than a quarter of the United Methodist Churches in our country.

With these numbers it is certain that many things will change in our denomination, such as the reconfiguring of jurisdictions, agencies, the reduction of the number of bishops and the expansion of episcopal areas, etc.

The General Conference of the United Methodist Church: as a global event, it brings together leaders, clergy and laity of this denomination around the world. This conference addresses a wide range of topics, from ecclesiastical doctrine and politics to social and global issues.

The importance of the General Conference lies in its ability to shape the direction and policies of the United Methodist Church.

We ask for your prayers for the leadership of our churches and for our annual Oregon-Idaho Conference representatives that are serving as your delegates to this assembly.

Board Notes

Board Meeting Notes from 3/19/24 meeting (*edited for space and timing*).

Present: Jeanette, Pat, Judy, Ken, Jorge, Kristi, Allison, Fernando

Unable to attend: Nathan, Dave

1. Social Media Web page-Laura has created new website on platform that is affordable. FB-Pat S, Laura, and Jorge can update Instagram-investigate finding member who can navigate this tool. You Tube- keeping this current.
2. Child Care Needs -Talk with parents of children who participate. Ask same parents about interest in story time.
3. Safe sanctuary: Last training was in October. Need to check on getting trainer for further safe sanctuary trainings. All groups who use the building and provide child care must complete training.

4. Update on Finances:

Building Expenses-lights used throughout church use system that is not replaceable; proposal to convert lights in kitchen to LED system asap.

Rentals-another church is discussing with Jorge renting on Friday evenings from 7-10 pm. They would use fellowship hall, parlor, nursery. Still discussing policies that need to be followed.

Hillsboro Parent Preschool- Time to renew their contract. Need to ensure Safe Sanctuary policies are being followed. Need to check which rooms they are currently using (they appear to have supplies in a number of rooms downstairs) and determine rental rate for next school year. Kristi will discuss with HPP.

5. Collaboration with FG UMC - Lenten study of "The Chosen" continuing. Choirs have been doing combined events. Holy Week joint events.

Upcoming Board meeting dates, to be held in the Narthex. Church members are welcome to attend.

Sunday, May 5 12:00 - 2:00

Monday, July 1 6:30 - 8:30

Sunday, Sept 8 12:00 - 2:00

Sunday, Nov. 10 12:00 - 2:00

February 2024 Numbers:

Income: \$ 22,842.23 (includes a \$12,000 grant for Jorge's benefits)

Expenses: \$23,364.53

Saying Good-bye to Angie, Katie and Lucinda

On March 31st, the HUMC congregation said good-bye to three very special staff members, friends and colleagues. Due to our financial position, we can no longer fund the positions of our Communications Leader Angie Kiblinger, Childcare Leader and Volunteer Coordinator Katie Fiddler, and Childcare assistant Lucinda Morales. During the past several years, Angie has managed our online presence, published *The Spire* and other communications, coordinated deliveries of Advent and Lenten packages to our homebound members, written many grants, trained us for Safe Sanctuary, helped us navigate COVID policies, created and directed three summers of Camp Common Good, built a strong network with other local churches, and served as lay leader. Katie has been our volunteer coordinator for the past few years, finding volunteers for Sunday mornings, organizing large groups to help with food packing and distribution events, plus managing our childcare program. From the pre-COVID days of three nights of BlastOff per week and Sunday morning childcare, Katie has been a steady and calming presence for all the children and parents who know her. She is also a Safe Sanctuary trainer. Lucinda (Lulu) has been with HUMC for more than two years, and has contributed to the safe and welcoming space for our youth. Angie, Katie and Lucinda, we are so grateful for your talents and energy at HUMC. We wish you only wonderful things for the future. God Bless You!



ADORACIÓN

Domingo
10:00am
Santuario
Transmitido en vivo en
YouTube

Adoración bilingüe
español/inglés
7 de abril 10am

Estudio bíblico
español Martes 7pm

Contacto Pastor Jorge
971-217-3221

NOTAS DEL PASTOR: LA CONFERENCIA GENERAL DE LA IGLESIA METODISTA UNIDA 2024 DE REV. JORGE RODRÍGUEZ V.

En este mes de abril, del 23 al 3 de mayo, la Conferencia General de la Iglesia Metodista Unida tendrá lugar en la ciudad de Charlotte, North Carolina.

La Conferencia General es el órgano legislativo más alto de la Iglesia Metodista Unida en todo el mundo. Se reúne cada 4 años. La última reunión tuvo lugar en Portland, Oregón, en 2016, debido a la pandemia de Covid 19, la asamblea no se reunió en 2020 y después de 8 años finalmente podrán reunirse este abril.

Muchas cosas interesantes han sucedido desde entonces y hay nuevas expectativas sobre lo que sucederá en esta Conferencia General después de que la Iglesia haya pasado por un período de prueba después del desafío de más de 7.500 congregaciones, solo en la Iglesia Metodista de los Estados Unidos, este número representa más de una cuarta parte de la Iglesia Americana.

Con estos números es seguro que muchas cosas cambiarán en nuestra denominación, como el reacondicionamiento de jurisdicciones, agencias, la reducción del número de obispos y la expansión de las áreas episcopales, etc.

La Conferencia General de la Iglesia Metodista Unida: como evento global, reúne a líderes, clérigos y laicos de esta denominación en todo el mundo. Esta conferencia aborda una amplia gama de temas, desde la doctrina eclesiástica y la política hasta cuestiones sociales y globales.

La importancia de la Conferencia General radica en su capacidad para dar forma a la dirección y las políticas de la Iglesia Metodista Unida.

Le pedimos sus oraciones por el liderazgo de nuestras iglesias y por nuestra conferencia anual Oregon-Idaho que enviará para enviar a sus delegados a esta asamblea.

Annual Conference of the OR-ID UMC

Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth announced the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference will be held June 20 - 23 at the Tigard United Methodist Church. While most delegates will attend in person, an online option will also be available. The 2024 theme is "Being Well". In the fourth chapter (verses 4-17) of his Gospel, John shares the story of a Samaritan woman's encounter with Jesus at the well. In the ancient world, wells functioned as grocery stores do today, a communal space where towns folk and travelers alike would gather the precious and necessary resource of water. The chance meeting of Jesus and the Samaritan woman and their interaction brought refuge for her and those around her. Their encounter prompts a teaching moment for Jesus, which we can choose to learn from even today.

From this story, we draw the theme for our 2024-25 conference year, "Being Well." This builds on the 2023-24 theme of "Go and Do Likewise." With it, we are not abandoning our call to do no harm and to do good. Instead, Being Well is our call to be as Christ would have us be in this time and space. Being well emotionally, physically, spiritually, and ecologically is a daily pursuit. When we intentionally include space to look inside and around to identify and amplify structures, policies, and behaviors that support being well and well-being, we are actively doing good and wisely dismantling harm. Delegates from HUMC are Ken Orwick and Pat Salas.

Native American Ministries Sunday

The official date set to celebrate Native American Ministries Sunday is April 14, 2024. Local churches are encouraged to celebrate. This Special Sunday is a denomination wide celebration designed to raise awareness and remind United Methodists of the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society. A gap in knowledge exists in The United Methodist Church, in congregations and other United Methodist entities, relative to comprehending concepts of Native American life, cultures, languages, spirit, values, contemporary issues, and such. We affirm the sacredness of indigenous people, their languages, cultures, and gifts to the church and the world. Churches are encouraged to donate through their local churches or give online. An offering is taken on this Special Sunday to support vital ministries and churches in Native American communities. The offering allows The United Methodist Church to partner with existing native ministries to develop new programs on behalf of Native Americans. Last year, your generosity delivered over \$243 thousand towards these ministries. Here locally, we support ministries like the Greater Northwest Circle of Indigenous Ministries and Great Spirit UMC in Portland.



In Memoriam

We recently lost two members of our HUMC family, Roark Berkey and Vern Schindler. Roark always sat in the Fireside Room for worship and joined us each week for our Zoom fellowship after online worship. Vern sat in the back pew and sang in the choir. They will be missed.



Roark Berkey



Vern Schindler

“The Chosen” Study Series Extended

Our Lenten study series has been such a success, we have decided to extend it to include the last two videos in the series, “The Chosen”.

Even if you missed earlier sessions, you are welcome to join us at any time. We meet on Sundays from 4pm - 6pm, alternating between Hillsboro UMC and Forest Grove UMC. We begin the evening with a shared soup supper, followed by the video and discussion. Each episode is based on listed scripture, and comes with a conversation starter and episode questions to follow up with. Then Personal Next Steps are offered for the following week. At HUMC the video will include Spanish subtitles.

Here is the schedule, alternating between Hillsboro and Forest Grove UMC from 4-6pm:

April 7 - HUMC

April 14 - FGUMC

A Note from Katie Fiddler

It has been a pleasure to work at HUMC the last 8 years or maybe its been 9 years already-- the time has flown! I have enjoyed working with and learning from so many people over the years, from Blast off to the Grocery Program, in the nursery to the trading post, from organizing events & training volunteers to helping with camp-- I have enjoyed it all so much! HUMC has been so inclusive to me and I've always felt I was more than "just a staff member". Thank you all for welcoming me with open arms, hosting my wedding shower, then my baby shower and allowing me to work alongside my sweet baby when needed! Not all work situations would provide half of the love or friendship I have felt and been shown these past years!

I am so very grateful I found the job listing and joined the HUMC family! I will miss everything and everyone but I intend to be back to visit!

See ya later,
Katie



A Note from Angie Kiblinger

It has been a privilege to serve you, the people of Hillsboro United Methodist Church over the past nine years on staff working in Communications. Thank you for reading *The Spire*, commenting on Facebook posts, participating in Safe Sanctuary trainings, responding to surveys, supporting my journey to become a Certified Lay Speaker, getting behind my crazy ideas like Camp Common Good, and writing cards and making deliveries to our members through COVID and continuing our outreach to some of our most vulnerable church family members who aren't able to be with us in worship. It has been an honor to represent HUMC when working with our community partners including other congregations, Lincoln Street Elementary, St. Vincent de Paul, Project Homeless Connect, Western Farm Workers Association, and many other local government and non profit organizations. Keep up the good work, keep communicating with one another and lead with love.

The CHOSEN



HUMC CALENDAR

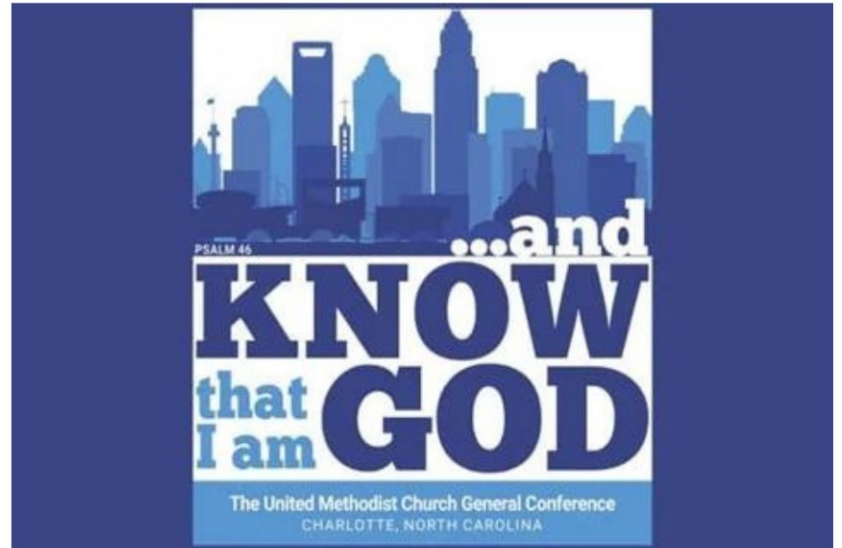
APRIL 2024

Have questions about any of our programs? Contact the church office at 503-640-1775 or office@hillsboroumc.org

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 8:30am Lunch Bunch	2 10am Women of Faith 4:30pm Contemplative Practices 7pm Spanish Bible Study	3 1pm Muffins & More 2-5pm Trading Post 6pm Choir	4 9:30am Ladies Bible Study	5 1pm Ice Cream Treaters	6
7	8 8:30am Lunch Bunch	9 10am Women of Faith 4:30pm Contemplative Practices 7pm Spanish Bible Study	10 1pm Muffins & More 2-5pm Trading Post 6pm Choir 6:30pm ESL Registration	11 9:30am Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm ESL Registration	12	13
14 10am Worship Native American Ministries Sunday 4pm-6pm "The Chosen" Study @ FGUMC	15 8:30am Lunch Bunch May Spire Deadline	16 10am Women of Faith 4:30pm Contemplative Practices 7pm Spanish Bible Study	17 1pm Muffins & More 2-5pm Trading Post 6pm Choir 6:30pm ESL	18 9:30am Ladies Bible Study 6:30pm ESL	19	20
21 10am Worship	22 8:30am Lunch Bunch	23 10am Women of Faith 4:30pm Contemplative Practices 7pm Spanish Bible Study	24 1pm Muffins & More 2-5pm Trading Post 6pm Choir 6:30pm ESL	25 9:30am Ladies Bible Study 2pm Cornell Estates Fellowship 6:30pm ESL	26 6pm Game Night	27
28 10am Worship	29 8:30am Lunch Bunch	30 10am Women of Faith 4:30pm Contemplative Practices 7pm Spanish Bible Study	<p style="text-align: center;">General Conference of the United Methodist Church April 23 - May 3 Charlotte, NC</p>			

Upcoming Events

- Sunday, April 14, 10:00am** Native American Ministries Sunday
- April 23-May 4** General Conference of the United Methodist Church
- Thursday, April 25, 2:00pm** Fellowship at Cornell Estates
- Sunday, May 5, 12:00pm** Board Meeting



You receive "The Spire", the monthly newsletter of the Hillsboro United Methodist Church as a member, friend or guest of the congregation. If you no longer wish to receive this publication by mail or wish to make other changes to your contact preferences, please contact the church office at office@hillsboroumc.org or 503-640-1775.

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PERIODICAL

Hillsboro, OR 97124
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