



# The Viewpoint

News from the Forest Grove United  
Church of Christ

September 2023

## Connecting the dots.

*“And all ate and were filled, and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.”*  
-Matthew 14:20-21

We enjoy playing stump the pastor here at FGUCC when folks have an opportunity to give me questions at the pulpit in an effort to see if they can stump me. I can think of a time in my ministry when I was stumped by a question from a 9-year-old! At a previous church I served, we offered connect the dots game-sheets that would form a picture of Jesus holding a lamb. One particularly precocious child, somewhat disappointed in the activity, approached me one day asking, “Excuse me Brendan, but could you please tell me what connect the dots has to do with the teachings of Christ?” I think if this child were at this church we might be skipping her a couple grades into Jeannine’s Bible class. I was stumped in that moment, but have an answer now!

Laura Frye and the worship team recently shared with me an acronym this church became familiar with in the past. The acronym is “D.O.T.” which stands for, “Do one thing!” We still find ourselves remembering the ways we were more participatory in our way of relating to each other before the quarantine. As September and another church calendar year approaches it can be helpful for us to remember that we are here to empower each other to participate in community life and how community life flourishes only when we all participate. Church and being community is a participatory activity which can be easy to forget in the years after quarantine and in an environment where we are acculturated to interact with institutions as consumers. For example, before quarantine, I am told that pulling off coffee hour was a collectively held responsibility. A variety of different people and/or teams would sign up to fulfill this activity. I am told by the worship team that we were in the habit of all bringing some food to share and in that we experienced abundance because of that habit of sharing! Right now, Terri Wyborny has practically single-handedly been making sure coffee hour happens. (Thank you Terri.) I am told that before the quarantine we might have after church discussion series that would be organized by ministry groups like the Nurture team. I’m taking this viewpoint letter as

an opportunity to remind us all that if you or your ministry group has an activity or event you'd like to offer to the community, or something you'd like to see happen at the church, the staff and I are here to help you get the word out to the community and we encourage you to take the initiative. D.O.T. (Do one thing) suggests that as members of the community we are all called to "do one thing," whether it's helping in worship, coffee hour, a simple weekly task, or even planning an event or activity like a discussion. We are all busy, but we can all do one thing! What is your one thing? What is the one thing you can offer to the whole? We recently heard the gospel of the feeding of the five thousand and talked about the miracle being that there was enough for everyone. When everyone just broke of a little piece of bread and passed it along, there was enough! This is like D.O.T. When we all commit to doing just one thing, we commit to a thriving and healthy culture of sharing and experience abundance in our shared life together as a community. This is how we "connect the dots," together and perhaps this is what connect the dots has to do with the teachings of Christ. So as September approaches think about what your "one thing," might be as beloved members of the body of Christ. Let's connect the dots.

Dot dot dot, Brendan

Pastor Brendan

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## Learning Community Registration is Open!

🔔 Attention all parents and guardians! 🔔

☀️ Registration for Learning Community 2023-2024 is now OPEN! ☀️

We are excited to announce that our Learning Community will kick off on Sunday, September 17th, from 10:15 to 11:15, during our regular worship time for ages pre-school-12<sup>th</sup> grade. 🙏

The FGUCC Youth & Children Ministries program is dedicated to providing a safe and nurturing space for all children and youth to embark on their own faith journey. 🌈 Here, they will be encouraged to ask questions, feel supported in their growth, and experience the immense love that surrounds them.

Our engaging curriculum will explore the incredible joy, unwavering justice, and boundless love that Jesus inspires in all of us. 🌀 We believe that by nurturing these values, our children and youth will become compassionate leaders who make a positive impact on the world.

Don't miss out on this incredible opportunity! 🎉 Register your child online to secure their spot in our Learning Community. It's quick and easy—just click on the link below:

🔗 Register here: <https://form.jotform.com/222266843493159>

We can't wait to welcome your child to our vibrant and inclusive community! If you have any questions or need further information, please don't hesitate to reach out to us.

# Notice of September 17 Congregational Meeting

To the Members of the Forest Grove United Church of Christ,

The Executive Board invites you to a special Congregational Meeting following worship on Sunday, September 17th, 2023, to allow meaningful discussion about a proposal (read below) and then conduct a congregational vote.



CONGREGATIONAL  
MEETING

## Proposal:

The Executive Board recommends that the FGUCC contract an approved artist to adapt the stained-glass window, “Gethsemane,” to reflect a more historically accurate depiction of Jesus Christ. The window in question is located in the Sanctuary and the estimated cost of this action would be approximately \$1,500.

## Reasoning for this Proposal:

- Our congregation, and the United Church of Christ denomination as a whole, continues to grow in its acknowledgment of equity, including historical accuracy. We recognize that inhabitants of 1<sup>st</sup> century Palestine had Semitic features.
- As we look into our role within our local community, the current depiction of “white Jesus” creates a barrier to the inclusion of oft-disenfranchised individuals. In fact, there have been numerous instances where people who identify as “people of color” have entered our doors, expressed excitement about the work we do in our community, and then ask about the white depiction of Jesus Christ.
- We are working toward recognizing the damage caused by the Christian church, including the colonization of non-Anglo-Saxon individuals and the “superior” image of a white Jesus used in such damage, and creating healing opportunities to align ourselves with the love-based wisdom of the Christian tradition.
- In Matthew’s gospel, Jesus says, “Whatever you did to the least among you, you did to me.” In this passage, Christ expresses their oneness on Earth with oppressed peoples in their struggles for liberation. From this sacred wisdom we can therefore discern the living Christ as being more accurately portrayed as a person of color as long as systems and structures of white supremacy remain in place. Portraying Jesus as a person of color is therefore not only historically accurate but also more theologically accurate as well.

We look forward to hearing your perspectives. In a friendly reminder of our Healthy Communication workshop from last year, we are being transparent, offering an opportunity for dialogue, and handing this decision to the congregation. We ask we all come together open, curious, and honest about our personal perspectives, and in a loving and kind way. We may not all agree, but we do get to make this decision together. We will present the history of the window, the artwork, and again review the reasons for this recommendation from the executive board prior to discussion.

Thank you for your time. We’ll see you on Sunday September 17<sup>th</sup> after church worship service.

**Your Forest Grove UCC Executive Board**

## Update from Your Kitchen Capital Fund Team

The Kitchen committee is *thrilled* to announce that we have received pledges and cash gifts in excess of \$90,000. We are extremely grateful to have a congregation that is so dedicated and generous in their support of our kitchen upgrade, as well as our ‘food for the hungry’ through the Blessing Box program.



If you have been planning to contribute to this project, perhaps you might like to make a gift in memory, or in honor of a special person in your life. In any case, we would appreciate a pledge card from you as soon as possible. Who knows? *YOURS* could be the gift that pushes us over the top!

Pledges can be turned in to the church office, or returned by mail to: FGUCC, P.O. Box 265, Forest Grove, OR 97116. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to let us know. Thank you for your generous support!

—Your Kitchen Capital Fund Team

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## Women's Spirit Gathering



We had to change the date and venue for the Women's Spirit Group planning party. It is now **Friday, September 15th** at **6pm** at **Zesti Carts** ([2131 Yew Street, Forest Grove](#)). Check out the carts and menus [here](#). There is now a parking lot for customers of Zesti Carts behind the car dealership. Consider finding a friend to carpool with!

If you are unable to attend this event, please email your ideas to Sheila or Melissa before the gathering.

Also-in the past we have met on Wednesday nights for Women's Spirit. We are looking for the best night. **IF** you have participated in Women's Spirit in the past **OR** you would like to participate this year, **please email Sheila Harter** [sheilaharter@hotmail.com](mailto:sheilaharter@hotmail.com) **with the nights you COULD be available (generally) and also indicate your first choice.**

Thank you!

Sheila & Melissa

## Concert by the Lutheran Choral Association: Sunday, September 24, at 4:00 PM



The Lutheran Choral Association will resume its over 80 years of concerts, including one here at our church **September 17 at 4 PM**.

This large ecumenical choir has members from dozens of churches and several denominations and has sung since 1938. Our own Sue Thompson Armentrout directs the choir. Jesse Preis and Karl Jurisons are pianists.

There is no admission charge. An offering will be taken.

Please join us for a joyful event!

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## Sanctuary Choir Rehearsals begin September 7, 7PM

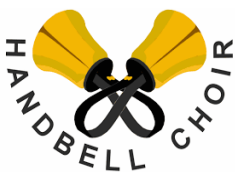
Choir rehearsals begin **Thursday, September 7** in the Choir Room from 7:00-8:15. All are welcome! If you have any questions, please call Laura Frye 503-550-1709 or Sue Armentrout 971-712-9724.



## Children's Choir is starting up again!

This fall the Children's Choir will begin rehearsals on **Sunday, September 24** after church. If your child is in 2 grade or older and is interested in making music with us, please contact Geneva Houx via email at [Geneva.houx@gmail.com](mailto:Geneva.houx@gmail.com). Rehearsals will be on Sundays after church beginning on September 24.

## Handbell Ringers!



We are planning to continue our handbell program this year with a series of small groups rather than a regularly meeting choir. This will allow ringers to participate in specific performances and not have to commit to a year's worth of rehearsals. If you are interested in ringing this year, please email or call Maggie Dickerson for more information at 503-360-5408, or

[maggiedickerson@gmail.com](mailto:maggiedickerson@gmail.com).

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## Opportunity to present special music during worship September 10-November 26

Would you like to share your musical talent with the congregation this fall? We are offering the opportunity to share a solo, duet, etc. during worship Sundays September-November. Please look for the sign-up sheet and instructions on the big round table in the narthex. If you have any questions, please talk to Elaine Foy or Sue Armentrout. Thank you! Your Worship Ministry

## Caring for Our Community Auction 2023



Mark your calendars! **Saturday, November 18, 4:30PM.** Our big event of the year is coming up! ***“Caring for Our Community Auction: A Winter Wonderland Ball.”***

The format will be similar to last year’s, with some fun twists. Online bidding for silent items will begin **Wednesday, November 15.** There is no charge for viewing and bidding on online items.

The party will begin at **4:30 on Saturday, November 18.** The silent auction will continue during the party, so you will have a chance to view items in person and bid on them on your phone. (Don’t worry – we’ll have people there to help you on your phone or our computers!) There will be no bidding papers with the items; it will all be done electronically. Food, no-host beer, wine and soft drinks will begin at 4:30, live music by our

own Castle Road will start at 5, the silent auction will close by 6 and the live auction will begin then. Tickets will be \$20 for the live party. Childcare will be available.

We always donate a portion of our proceeds directly to other deserving agencies. Our benevolence recipients this year will be Care Partners, New Narrative, GG’s House and Black Resilience Fund.

Our Fund-an-Item will be the “small wares” (pots and pans, etc.) for our yet-to-be done kitchen remodel. We want to outfit our new kitchen well!

How would you like to help out with the auction? Keep your eyes out for an email with a Sign-Up Genius to secure your favorite volunteer opportunity.

Please be thinking about items you'd like to donate. When you have items to donate, please hand them directly to Elena Parker, Bonnie McDowell, Deva Harris-Williams or Elaine Foy, along with a completed donation form. **We will be accepting donations from October 8 through November 5.** Please consider offering events and experiences. Be creative. Donate something that you would enjoy sharing with others. We love join-ins!

We are going to ask all committees and commissions to offer a join-in, preferably with childcare. Please talk to your committee members and run your ideas past Deva Harris-Williams, or let her help you create something fun and different.

Got wine you aren’t drinking? We’ll have a wine pull if we get enough bottles.

See you in the Winter Wonderland!

– Bonnie McDowell, Auction Coordinator  
[chiroqueen704@msn.com](mailto:chiroqueen704@msn.com)

## Remembering Ralph Brown.

Progress for treatment of Alzheimer's disease is headline news these days. Please consider participating in the 2023 Walk to End Alzheimer's at The Oregon Zoo, 4001 SW Canyon Road, Portland, on **Saturday, October 14, 7AM**. The route length is 1.5 miles. You can register online at:

[https://act.alz.org/site/TR?sid=23938&type=fr\\_informational&pg=informational&fr\\_id=16805](https://act.alz.org/site/TR?sid=23938&type=fr_informational&pg=informational&fr_id=16805). For more information contact Dana Kilgus at 503-416-0212 or [dakilgus@alz.org](mailto:dakilgus@alz.org).



We all know someone who is dealing with Dementia and related diseases. Here are some ways to get information and support.

**Call Alzheimer's Association** for 24/7 support. 800-272-3900. There's ALWAYS someone to talk to, and they have a lot of information and many resources for support; and **OHSU** at <https://www.ohsu.edu/brain-institute>.




Please call me if I can be of any assistance or support: 503-887-0242.

Deva, your FGUCC Parish Nurse

## Covid Resurgence

We have a resurgence of Covid in our church family and our community. I want to remind people that vaccination is the best intervention to reduce the severity of illness and reduce your chances of getting Covid. This is a reminder about signs and symptoms, treatment and intervention options.

**IS IT ... COVID, THE FLU OR A COLD?**

 It's likely <b>COVID</b> if ...	 It's likely <b>THE FLU</b> if ...	 It's likely <b>A COLD</b> if ...
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Fever or chills*</li><li>▶ Sore throat and cough</li><li>▶ Shortness of breath</li><li>▶ Fatigue</li><li>▶ Muscle aches</li><li>▶ Headache</li><li>▶ Loss of taste or smell</li><li>▶ Runny or stuffy nose</li><li>▶ Nausea or vomiting</li><li>▶ Diarrhea</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Feels as if you got hit by a truck suddenly</li><li>▶ Fever and chills</li><li>▶ Muscle aches</li><li>▶ Sore throat and cough</li><li>▶ Runny or stuffy nose</li><li>▶ Headache</li><li>▶ Fatigue</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>▶ Comes on slowly over two to three days</li><li>▶ Runny or stuffy nose</li><li>▶ Sneezing</li><li>▶ Sore throat and cough</li><li>▶ Watery eyes</li><li>▶ Fever (rarely)</li><li>▶ Nasal mucus that starts clear but turns to white, yellow or green after two to three days</li></ul>

\*For adults over 65, a fever is considered one thermometer reading higher than 100 degrees Fahrenheit, multiple thermometer readings above 99 degrees or a rise in temperature greater than 2 degrees above normal body temperature.

## Ways to reduce your risk of illness or reduce seriousness of illness.

- ♥ Stay up to date on your Vaccinations including Boosters and Flu Vaccine. This can reduce your risk of Hospitalization by 94%!
- ♥ The CDC recommends waiting to get a Covid Booster 3 months after having Covid, allowing your natural immunity to reset itself.
- ♥ Have a supply of Rapid Tests on Hand.
- ♥ Wear a well-fitting mask in public.
- ♥ Exercise, and eat a good diet.

**If you are ill:** Test for Covid

**If positive:** Isolate for 5 days. If out in public, wear a mask for 5-10 days). Hydrate and Rest!

Let's try our best to stay healthy, check in on your friends and neighbors. Reach out if you need help when you are ill.

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## Best wishes to all of you celebrating birthdays in September!

5—Mary Mullen  
8—Bev Maughan  
11—Pete Truax  
13—Sandy Freeman  
13—Deva Harris  
16—Kaitlin Thursam  
17—Stephanie Lind  
20—Laura Frye  
21—Julian Garfias  
22—Val Donley  
24—Carl Heisler  
27—Russ Dondero  
30—Deena Barrett  
30—Steve Whisler



**Special Note:** Dear friends—About once a year we send out this message about birthdays. We'd love to include recognition of your birthday in the monthly newsletter "The Viewpoint." If you're interested, please let us know when your birthday is, and we'll be sure to include it in future issues of our monthly newsletter. Just send an email to Elena at [elena@fgucc.org](mailto:elena@fgucc.org). Thank you!

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## Religion Study Group Starting a New Book: The 1619 Project



Please join us as we begin another adventure into reading and discussing our new selection “The 1619 Project,” a New Origin Story that offers a profoundly revealing vision of the American past and present, created by Nichole Hannah Jones, winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the New York Times Magazine. Study of this book will begin on **Wednesday, September 20, 10AM** via Zoom. We plan to study one chapter a week, and estimate it will take about 20 sessions to complete. [NOTE: There is a handy study guide online.]

The title “The 1619 Project” points back in history to the arrival of a British privateer ship, “White Lion,” sailing under Dutch jurisdiction, which put in at the Virginian Colony of Jamestown and deposited the first contingent of twenty or so captive Africans onto American soil. So much has happened in the following 400 years to influence the United States in both good and negative ways. It was thought to look at the U.S. experience from a new standpoint.

This is an opportunity for many folks to read and discuss together “The 1619 Project.” Pastor Brendan has high hopes that many will choose to join us in this venture, and there are several options to become involved:

- Join with the existing Wednesday Morning Book Group on Zoom.
- Get enough readers together to start an evening group.
- For Pacific Students, Pastor Brendan wishes to start a group at the College.
- You can read the book a chapter a week in your own time, and the Wednesday morning group will keep in touch with updates in The Viewpoint and weekly “This Week” e-Newsletter.
- Pastor Brendan plans to hold “Coming Together Meetings” after Sunday worship. Dates and times will be announced in future publications.

Books are available to purchase from the church office. The cost is \$20.50.

Please consider joining us in this venture.

Very sincerely, Valerie Ivey, Member of Wednesday Book Study Group since 2013.

## From the Blessing Box Crew



### Updates for the week ending August 31

The BB Crew continues to meet weekly on Thursdays from about 9:30AM until 2:00PM and prepare between 200-300 meals each week. We can always use extra hands. You don't have to come every week and you also don't have to volunteer for the entire time. If you only have a few hours, you can come by and pitch in at your convenience.

### Some of the meals made during the month of

**August include:** Breakfast: Pancakes & Sausage,

Biscuit with sausage, egg, cheese & potatoes; Sandwiches/other: Ham & Cheese, Turkey & Cheese, PB&J, pork, rice & bean burritos; Dinners: Bean & Turkey Soup, split pea and pork soup; Lentils, rice & veggies, Teriyaki, chicken & potato, Pork, potato & veggies, chicken and mashed potato, chicken with potato salad, Zucchini and Fish, Desserts: Chocolate bread pudding, Asian Pear crisp, brownies, pineapple delight, date nut bread and banana bread.

**Wish list includes:** Sugar, eggs, canned milk, ground beef, clear plastic storage bins (small & large), peanut butter, lunch meat, vanilla, and a heavy-duty rubber spatula,

**Sandwiches always welcome!** If you're interested in an effortless way to help the Blessing Box Crew, you can make a loaf of sandwiches for the Main Street Free Fridge. Please make sandwiches, individually pack, and label each package with the ingredients. You can then put sandwiches and/or other food in the Free Fridge any time of day. Thank you!

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## Joys, Concerns & Prayer Requests

**Sympathy**—Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to Charlene Murdock upon the death of her husband, Richard, on August 22. A memorial service has been planned for Saturday, September 30 from 4-6 at Spiesschaert's Farms in Forest Grove. Please keep Charlene and her family and friends in your prayers during this time.



**NEW**—Please remember Glaucus Donley as he is recovering from recent surgery.

**NEW**—Please remember Faith Brown as she is recovering from recent surgery.

**NEW**—Our hearts continue to go out with deep compassion and love to the people in Hawaii as they continue to deal with devastating loss from the wildfires on the Islands of Maui and Hawaii.

**NEW**—Prayers for Charla Gladden who is recovering from recent surgery for a broken arm.

**Continued remembrance**—Please keep Paul Minor in your prayers. He is home and continuing to navigate ongoing health issues.

**Continued remembrance**—Please keep Russ and Ann Dondero in your prayers as they both continue to navigate health issues. If you would like to send them cards, they recently moved to The Markham House, 10606 SW Capital Hwy, Portland, Oregon 97219.

**Continued remembrance**—Please keep Deva Harris Williams in your prayers as she continues to heal and recover from injuries due to her fall in early May.

**Continued remembrance**—Prayers for Bev Fletcher, Lorren’s wife, who is living at the EmpRes Hillsboro Health & Rehabilitation Center.

**Continued Prayers**—Prayers of healing and comfort for all who have ongoing concerns, including Els Abma, Bob Browning, Paul and Stephanie Edwards, Lillian Gimre, Max Groszmann, Yvonne Stacey, and any other friends and family of our church, not named here.

**Continued remembrance**—Thank you for your ongoing prayers for Susan Shepard’s grandson, Logan, and son-in-law, Kathryn, and Jon Schuback. Logan seems to be making good progress with his walker and braces and is expected to be walking independently by age 4 (or sooner). He will probably always have a slightly different gait. His parents and all of us are very grateful for the prayers of our community.

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**Prayer Shawls**—Do you, or someone you know, need a prayer shawl? Please call or email Elena in the church office to make a request at 503-357-9121 or [elena@fgucc.org](mailto:elena@fgucc.org).

**Prayer Shawl Knitting**—Please join us for knitting this month via Zoom on **Wednesday, September 6 and 20, from 2-4PM**. The link to Zoom will be sent to everyone in the prayer shawl knitting group via email. If you’d like to participate, please call, or email Elena.

## Welcome!

The light of Christ in us sees the light of Christ in you! Following the teachings of Jesus, we heartily welcome everyone into God’s beloved community. Whatever your race, ethnicity, nationality, age, physical or mental ability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, spiritual understanding, socioeconomic or marital status — whoever you are and wherever you come from, we celebrate you and welcome you into the full life and ministry of our church, Forest Grove United Church of Christ!

### *Land Acknowledgement*

*At Forest Grove United Church of Christ, we honor the Atfalati Kalapuya people on whose traditional and ancestral homelands we stand. We acknowledge we are here because of the sacrifices forced upon them. In remembering the original people of this land we honor their legacy, their lives, and their descendants with the forming of relationships to each other and the living world. It is our aspiration, our responsibility, and our commitment to transforming any institutional legacy of violence that we may bear as a church into an expression of truth-telling, reconciliation, and restitution today.*

## The 2023 Annual Gathering of the Central Pacific Conference of the UCC: September 22-24, Salem, OR



All are invited to attend the **Be Still and Go: The 2023 Annual Gathering** of the Central Pacific Conference of the UCC! This year's Annual Gathering is at the First Congregational UCC, 700 Marion Street NE, Salem, OR 97301.

[Call Letter for the 2023 Annual Gathering of the CPCUCC](#)

Make your plans now to join us **in-person or virtually** as we gather for growth, connection, conference business, contemplation, and action!

In addition to conference business, this year's gathering will center around on what it means to be "**contemplatives in action**," with multiple opportunities for mindfulness, growth, and contemplative practice.

To register click on this link: [2023 Annual Gathering Webpage](#)

*Also, the planning team would like to engage youth in our annual gathering! Are there youth (6th -12th grade) in your church you might bring along to participate in Saturday programming?*

If so, please contact Paula Sohl: [paulasohl@gmail.com](mailto:paulasohl@gmail.com), or call 541-261-8033

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## Neighbors in Need Special Mission Offering 2023



In 2023, the Neighbors in Need "**BEHOLD!**" theme continues. This year's focus is on environmental justice. Plastics, electronics, and other non-compostable wastes are being shipped across, and even tossed into, our waterways, launched into space, as well as buried in landfills. As people of faith, we believe these egregious acts are sinful and unholy. We must be better stewards of our planet!

One-third of NIN funds support the [Council for American Indian Ministry](#) (CAIM). Two-thirds of this offering is used by the UCC's Justice and Witness Ministries (JWM) to provide funding grants to UCC churches and organizations leading justice initiatives, advocacy efforts, and direct service projects in their communities.

The Council for American Indian Ministry (CAIM) is the voice for American Indian people in the UCC. CAIM provides Christian

ministry and witness to American Indians and to the wider church. Justice issues that affect American Indian life are communicated to the whole UCC by CAIM.

Historically, the forebears of the UCC established churches and worked with Lakota, Dakota, Nakota, Mandan, Hidatsa, Arickara, and Hocak in North and South Dakota, Wisconsin and northern Nebraska. Today there are 20 UCC congregations on reservations and one urban, multi-tribal UCC congregation in Minneapolis, Minnesota. CAIM supports these local churches and their pastors. In addition, CAIM strives to be a resource for more than 1,000 individuals from dozens of other tribes and nations who are members of other UCC congregations and to strengthen their participation in the life of the church.

**Most UCC churches collect the offering on October 1, 2023** as part of World Communion Sunday, but contributions can be made at any time.

To explore for more in-depth information about the Strengthen the Church all-church offering, you can go to the website at this link: <https://www.ucc.org/neighbors-in-need-special-mission-offering/>

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## Can & Bottle Collection Fundraiser

Thank you for your steady support of the Can & Bottle Collection for our FGUCC Youth Ministry. Yay for us – **to date we have raised \$4,003**. If you want to participate in this easy fundraiser, blue bags are available to pick up in the church office. For any additional information please contact Elena at 503-357-9121 or [elena@fgucc.org](mailto:elena@fgucc.org).



## Pledges and Contributions

Thank you all for continuing to keep your pledges current. You can sign up for electronic giving with Vanco, which is a very simple option and setup, and fees are very low (let us know if you'd like more information). You can use PayPal on our church's website at [www.fgucc.org](http://www.fgucc.org). If you have questions or need more information, please contact Elena at [elena@fgucc.org](mailto:elena@fgucc.org) or (503) 357-9121. Thank you for your generosity and support!

## You can Donate to FGUCC via QRCode

If you would like to make a donation to FGUCC, you can scan this QRCode which will take you directly to our FGUCC PayPal donation page. There you will have the option of paying with either a debit or credit card or PayPal. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to let us know.



# BEST Team First Sunday for September 3

**At this time, we only accept the following items on First Sunday:**

- ✓ Clear #1 plastics
- ✓ Air pillows
- ✓ PakTech handles for carrying 4-6 pack cans
- ✓ Candle wax (the Prickett Family uses)
- ✓ Ink cartridges



**Cell Phones:** We will accept cell phones at any time. (Please place phones in the marked box on the shelf above coat rack in the narthex.)

## Update on battery and CFL bulb recycling from the BEST Team



Recycling batteries is very confusing. We'll try to simplify it. You can recycle your own batteries, or **you can bring all of them to church on First Sunday and we'll sort and dispose of them properly for you.** If you bring them to us, please contribute to the recycling fees.

All batteries and fluorescent bulbs and tubes can be taken to the Metro Central Hazardous Waste Facility on an individual basis.

**Alkaline (AAA, AA, A, C, D, 9 volt):** Are safe to go in the trash. Best if they're in a bag or box together, with 9 volts taped on the terminal end. Can be recycled at Batteries Plus\* for \$1.50 a pound (they extract the aluminum from them).

**Lithium** (like alkaline, but last longer): Can be recycled at Batteries Plus\* for \$.50 a pound.

Button Cell: Can be recycled at Batteries Plus\* for \$.50 a pound (some are safe to throw in the trash).

**Lithium-ion (rechargeable, in cell phones, tablets, laptops, electric cars, electric bikes, electric yard tools):** Can be recycled at Batteries Plus\* for \$.50 a pound. Can also be recycled free at Ace Hardware in Forest Grove, Home Depot (up to 11#) and Lowe's (up to 11#).

**Lead acid (commonly used in cars, wheelchairs, trolling motors and RV cycles):** Can be recycled at Batteries Plus\* for \$.50 a pound. Can also be recycled free at the Forest Grove Transfer Station and Computer Drive Connection in Cornelius.

**CFL bulbs:** Can be recycled at Batteries Plus\* for \$.99 each or at Home Depot and Lowe's for free (no tubes).

\*Batteries Plus will recycle 5# of batteries free with a purchase.

— Your FGUCC BEST Team

# **Forest Grove UCC Staff**

## **Moderator**

Deena Barrett — [momforrent2001@yahoo.com](mailto:momforrent2001@yahoo.com)

## **Pastor**

Brendan Curran — [brendan@fgucc.org](mailto:brendan@fgucc.org)

Phone: 503-523-6339

## **Learning Community Coordinator**

OPEN POSITION

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## **Parish Nurse**

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## **FGUCC Media & Tech Specialist (MTS)**

OPEN POSITION

## **Stephen Ministry**

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