



The Viewpoint

News from the Forest Grove United
Church of Christ

July 2024

Prayer: A radical response to life!

“Devote yourselves to prayer, keeping alert in it with thanksgiving.”-Colossians 4:2

Beginning the day with prayer, a sacred pause, a mindful moment, and a time for setting intentions can be a powerful way to greet the day in that early morning time before the day hasn't happened to us yet. Ending the day with a similar moment for release and serenity can also support our serenity and our general sense of well-being. We might feel powerless but when we join our hearts together in prayer, I believe we discover and witness the power and presence of Spirit in that. The theologian Matthew Fox describes prayer as, “a radical response to life that includes our ‘Yes’ to life and our ‘No’ to forces that combat life.”

I want to encourage us to open our hearts to the possibility that our collectively praying for peace in a world that needs more peace has meaning, force, and transformative power. To create a context for collective prayer for peace and to support each other in including a little sacred pause in our day for prayer and meditation, I'm inviting us to show up on zoom for morning and evening prayers for peace from **July 14th-July 20th**. We will be using a daily prayer book called, “Praying with the Earth: A Prayerbook for Peace,” by J. Philip Newell. For each morning and evening of the week the author provides richly illustrated simple short liturgies that inspire us to live as those whose hearts yearn for peace and embody peace.

Each morning and evening zoom prayer will be a moment to gather in silence, and participate in a 5 minute prayer practice. This is a way for us to show up for each other during the week and support each other in watering the intention of welcoming peace within ourselves and peace in our world. Check the church announcements, bulletin and on-line platform to access the zoom link for the 7am and 9pm daily 5 minute zoom gatherings being offered from July 14th to the 20th. Let's support each other in centering in “the peace that passes all understanding,” and calling it forth for our world.

In the peace of Christ, Brendan

Zoom invitation to morning and evening zoom prayer

Join us for any of these zoom prayer moments by clicking this link at 7am or 9pm during the week of July 14th-20th.

Brendan Curran is inviting you to a scheduled Zoom meeting.

Topic: Praying with the Earth: A sacred pause for connection and peace.

Time: This is a recurring meeting Meet anytime

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82932210360?pwd=DJ6xLMIyQof9SWEhfWqkc7i2QSyUHS.1>

Summer Special Music Opportunity



Would you like to share your musical talent with the congregation this Summer? The Choirs and Band do not meet regularly during the Summer school break, so this means you or someone you invite can schedule a Sunday to share a solo, duet, etc. during worship from **Sunday, July 7 through Sunday, September 1.**

Vocal, instrument solos or ensembles are welcome. Flute, brass, piano, accordion, guitar, soprano, alto, tenor, bass, quartet, trio, duet, organ, violin, cello, recorders, bells – gospel, classical, Christian pop, hymns — let's have variety! Sign-up sheet is on the big round table in the narthex. If you have any questions, contact Sue Armentrout at 971-712-9724 or Laura Frye at 503-550-1709 or the FGUCC office at elena@fgucc.org or 503-357-9121. We look forward to hearing your music this summer! In Harmony, Worship Ministry

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Reunion Choir

This summer you will have the opportunity to sing in the Kumallya (Come-All-You) Choir on **Sunday, July 28.** What is Kumallya Choir? It means that if you would like to sing in this choir, you simply show up in the choir room at 9:00 AM on Sunday, July 28. You will be welcomed and greeted warmly and asked whether you like to sing lower or higher (alto, bass or soprano, tenor). Then you will sit by some folks with similar voices, given a piece of music and get ready to enjoy making beautiful music. After the group goes over the music selections and hymns a few times, we break for juice, coffee and muffins and then take our places in the choir loft. Kumallya Choir will sing as part of worship that morning. If you have any questions, contact Sue Armentrout at 971-712-9724 or Laura Frye at 503-550-1709 or the FGUCC office at elena@fgucc.org or 503-357-9121. ALL are welcome to sing!

Best wishes to all of you celebrating birthdays in July!

Bonnie McDowell—4
Zane Harter—4
Quinn Harter—4
Janet Hansen—9
Charla Gladden—10
Linda Terhorst—12
Mike Terhorst—14
Liam Horn—14
Mary Welch—15
Jeane Canon—16
Adrian Frye—27
BJ Bower—30



All are invited to attend the Grand opening of the Hillsboro House Shelter on Sunday, July 21.



This is an open house event, drop in between 1-3PM at 183 SE Sixth Ave, Hillsboro.

Come celebrate with us as we unveil the beautiful renovations that will provide a safe and welcoming environment for the families we serve. Enjoy light refreshments, a tour of the facility, and heartfelt words for those who made this project possible. Your presence will make this event even more meaningful, as we commemorate the power of community and compassion. Together, we are creating a brighter future for our neighbors in need. RSVP by July 17 so they

can plan food and beverages.

A message from your Auction Team

At our last auction, did you donate or buy a service? If you donated a service to a group, please initiate the invitation. If you bought a service, do not hesitate to contact the donor to arrange for that service. They are waiting for you – Don't be shy!

However it happens, make it happen! We want everyone to continue to enjoy donating and receiving of the wonderful talents that our church people have to offer.

If you need contact information, please let me know. I can help!

Thanks, Bonnie McDowell

chiroqueen704@msn.com



IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

New Prayer Concern—Prayers for recovery, health and wholeness for Carol Benner as she was recently hospitalized.

Sympathy—Our hearts go out in deepest sympathy to John Ball and his entire family upon the death of his beloved mom, Ruth, on Friday, June 14. Please keep the Ball family in your prayers, especially John’s dad, Jack.

Ongoing—We continue prayers for recovery, health and wholeness for Molly Siebert’s husband, Steven Siebert, following a stroke last month.

Ongoing—We pray for Dick Lane as he continues to recover from a fall last month.

Ongoing—Please remember Carlene Krueger as she continues to navigate health issues.

Ongoing—Please remember Susan Shepherd as she continues to recover from knee replacement surgery in April.

Ongoing—Please continue to remember Charla Gladden as she is still navigating ongoing health issues and is acclimating to living at the Bee Hive Assisted Living.

Ongoing—Please remember Patricia Spears who is recovering from long-haul Covid. Patricia is taking a break from teaching in our learning community for the remainder of the school year.

Continued remembrance—Continued prayers for healing and good health for Bev Fletcher, Lorren’s wife, who is living at the EmpRes Hillsboro Health & Rehabilitation Center.

Continued remembrance—Please keep Deva Harris Williams in your prayers as she is still continuing to deal with health issues stemming from her fall last spring 2023.

Continued remembrance—Please continue to remember Richard and Christine Kidd as Richard navigates 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, their address is: Elder Garden Care Home, 4 NE 202nd Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97230.

Continued Prayers—Prayers of healing and comfort for all who have ongoing concerns, including Els Abma, Carol Benner, Bob Browning, Paul and Stephanie Edwards, Charla Gladden, Max Groszmann, Jobina Lacock, Dick Lane, Yvonne Stacey, Barbara Strain, John and Mary Welch, and any other friends and family of our church, not named here.

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.

Prayer Shawl Knitting—Please join us for knitting this month via Zoom on **Wednesdays, July 3 and 17, from 2-4PM**. The link to the Zoom meeting will be sent to everyone in the prayer shawl knitting group via email. If you'd like to participate, please call, or email Elena.

BEST Team Recycling Information for July

NEW! Batteries: can now be recycled curbside in Forest Grove and other areas of Washington County. To learn more go to:
<https://www.washingtoncountyor.gov/swr/battery-recycling>.

Reminders: We can no longer recycle ink cartridges.

PLEASE NOTE: We do not accept fluorescent bulbs or tubes on First Sundays.



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 Eplers will use)

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.)

All fluorescent bulbs and tubes: can be taken to the Metro Central Hazardous Waste Facility on an individual basis. **We cannot take fluorescent bulbs or tubes on First Sunday.**

— Your FGUCC BEST Team

Fill the Barrel!



Elijah's Barrel continues to take a prominent spot in our FGUCC narthex. Donations always welcomed to support the Blessing Box include peanut butter (preferably healthy PB's such as Adams), jelly for PB&Js, mayonnaise, tuna, celery & carrots. Also, dish drops would be appreciated. Thank you!

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 also donate via PayPal on our church's website at www.fgucc.org. If you have questions or need more information, please contact Elena at 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 via PayPal. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to let us know.



Can & Bottle Collection Fundraiser



Thank you for your steady support of the Can & Bottle Collection for our FGUCC Youth Ministry. **To date we have raised \$5,099.** If you want to participate in this easy fundraiser, blue bags are available to pick up in the church office. Contact Elena at 503-357-9121 or elena@fgucc.org if you have questions.

To Keep Up on the Happenings of FGUCC

- Check out our webpage for up-to date information, classes, and activities at www.fgucc.org
- Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fgucc
- Subscribe to “This Week at FGUCC” (just send an email to elena@fgucc.org to indicate you'd like to subscribe)
- Link to Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/forestgroveucc/>

Forest Grove UCC Staff

Moderator

Pete Truax — pBTFG@aol.com

Pastor

Brendan Curran — brendan@fgucc.org

Phone: 503-523-6339

Learning Community Coordinator

Ella Tignor — ella@fgucc.org

Office Manager

Elena Parker — elena@fgucc.org

Sexton

John Davis — sexton2862@gmail.com

Parish Nurse

Deva Harris-Williams — fguccparishnurse@gmail.com

FGUCC Media & Tech Specialist (MTS)

Jesse Montez — jesse@fgucc.org

Stephen Ministry

Renee Mills — millsrenergy@yahoo.com

[Ken Prickett](mailto:qkenbettp@gmail.com) — qkenbettp@gmail.com

Director of Sanctuary Choir

Sue Armentrout — slt.arm@frontier.com

Laura Frye — lajanafrye@gmail.com

Service Music Musician

Joannah Ball Sechrist — joannahball@gmail.com

Director of Children's Choirs

Geneva Houx — geneva.houx@gmail.com

Contact Information

2032 College Way ♦ (Mail) P.O. Box 265

Forest Grove, OR 97116

Phone: (503) 357-9121

Office email: elena@fgucc.org

Website: www.fgucc.org ♦ Facebook: www.facebook.com/fgucc