



October 2017 Newsletter

Fremont United Methodist Church

We seek to share the joy of God's love so that all might live with dignity and purpose.

For Kings and All in High Positions

The Apostle Paul lived in a political arena not so unlike our own. He was a citizen of a strong and stable government—Rome. Rome had brought peace to the better part of the known world and it conducted its oversight in what was, for that time, a rather civil and enlightened way. However, just under the surface of this stable order was a lot of seething resentments and unrest. Citizens of conquered countries resented Rome's governance. Provinces were rife with political factions and suppressed ideologies.

In this stew of discontent, Paul instructs the young minister, Timothy, and his congregation to "entreat, pray, petition and give thanksgivings on behalf of all people, for kings and all who are in high positions, that we may lead and quiet life in godliness and Timothy 2:1,2)

On October 8th:
At noon, a free concert and pizza lunch:
Join us for the sounds of local band FIR.
At 1 pm: Charge Conference.

Paul wasn't Timothy and his they couldn't with the emperor,

dismissing the legitimacy of their discontent. But he was telling them to channel their concerns in a constructive way. They were to pray. Whether they liked or agreed with their leaders or not, they were to pray for them.

in order a tranquil all dignity." (I

telling folks that disagree nor was he

Paul's words to Timothy were words that called the Christians of his day to action. In that day the action at their disposal was prayer. And a mighty potent activity it was, too.

Paul's words reach forward to us and call us to action as well. In our day, we too should be praying regularly and fervently for our President, for all elected leaders of our land, for candidates seeking office regardless of political affiliation. But, we should also make use of all the other avenues of civic responsibility available to us.

We have the privilege as citizens to voice our opinions and offer our counsel to those who hold office. Let us be faithful to communicate with them. And, also, to participate in civic events and gatherings that we believe will forward the value of reasonable dialogue and respectful discourse.

Let us not become weary or discouraged, but let us hold fast to the power of prayer and voice.

WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL FORMATION



What Does the Bible Say About Sexuality?

Pastor Q will lead a four-week study focusing on the texts that have historically informed our religious mores regarding sexual identity. The purpose of the study is to provide us some framework (and perhaps a fresh perspective) as we watch and respond to the deliberations the United Methodist Church is undertaking to try to resolve the church's long-standing conflict over inclusion. Join her at 6:30 pm on Oct 8, 15, 22 and 29, in the Bob Nelson Room.

New Approach to Adult Education

The Education Team will experiment with a new approach to adult spiritual formation. We've held a pre-worship adult Sunday school session for years and we might return to that but we'd like to offer an alternative---moving to a book-club type of model. Claudia Roberts will be announcing a book for interested folks to read in advance of a once-a-month conversation. So watch for details as to the title and meeting times.

What's all this about Baptism?

Most of us are baptized as infants which some of us confirm when we come of age. We make affirmations when we are baptized or when we baptize our children and we reflect in those moments on the meaning of those affirmations. But then what? Do we recognize that those affirmations are really vow we make as to how we are going to live--or how we hope our children will live? How deeply do we reflect on those promises? How integrated are they in our daily lives? What difference does our making these promises really make in our relationship to God? We're offering an invitation to any and all who feel called to explore these questions to sign up for a special engagement we're calling Sacramental Living. If you're intrigued and want to know more, please enter your name in the sign-up sheet in the narthex. We'll organize a Tell Me More session.

SERVICE & MISSION



Northeast Emergency Food Bank

Thank you to Kathy Elliot and Robert Greaves, Susan Helms-Peyer, Donna Leslie, Molly Shibley and Wiki Smith who helped provide one week's worth of food to 70 families at the end of a long month. Next up for October 28th are Tracy Bardell, Laurel and Nathan Cambell, Marilyn Mauch, Scott Overton, Diane Rheos and Beth Skillern. Jeff Michel is now working on the 2018 schedule. So if you are interested in learning more about the food pantry and how you could help, e-mail Jeff.

Portland Backpack invites you to a family packing event

Please join us to pack food sacks for kids at risk of hunger here in our community, on Sunday, October 29th after worship. Our Backpack program provides a sack of food each weekend for 330 children. Packing food sacks is a great volunteer activity for children!

We will create Care Cards for the children we serve, learn a little about hunger in our community, and pack food sacks - and let children know that we care.

Save this date: Racial Equity Workshop, November 4th

On November 4, we will be holding a second Racial-Equity Workshop at Fremont for Fremont folks. This is a chance for those who could not attend the first session we held at First AME Zion; and those of you who have heard accounts of how wonderful this event was, now have a chance to experience it first-hand. Cynthia MacLeod will lead us through an overview of how it

is that we're where we are regarding race in our society and the hope that lies before us. Details to come.

Come to the 'Map Your Neighborhood' Training

When a big disaster strikes, neighbors helping neighbors will be essential for survival as the emergency response network will be overwhelmed. The Irvington Community Association (ICA) is hosting a free *Map Your Neighborhood* workshop at Fremont United Methodist Church on Sunday November 5th from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm. Learn how to organize with your neighbors to prepare to help each other.

Sign up at: prepare@irvingtonpdx.org

FUN & FELLOWSHIP



Brewpub Discussion: Change is Afoot!

We're changing the day and changing the venue to try something new! Save the date: *Thursday* October 5th. We're looking for a quieter venue for better discussion. Pastor Q will choose a current events topic for us. We'll gather at 6:30 for dinner, start the discussion by 7:00 and finish by 8:00.

Dinner and discussion: Let's Brew It!

Concert and Pizza lunch: October 8th, in the fellowship hall

Join us for a free all-ages concert on Sunday October 8th, at noon! We are opening our hall doors to our broader community for a rock 'n' roll concert featuring the local musical creations of 'FIR'. The band has been practicing their own favorite original music, composed of melodic rock with a tingle of country, plus some old children's favorites like Puff the Magic Dragon. Save the date for a simultaneous pizza lunch after our regular Sunday service. Questions? Contact Jean Root.

An Invitation to Join Us for Tea

We hope you will join us for Fremont UMC's "annual" tea, a Fun-raiser event but also, more importantly, an opportunity for our members and our friends and families to enjoy the formality of an "English tea" in the relaxed environment of spirited fellowship. The Tea is on Saturday, October 14th, at 3 pm in the fellowship hall. Cost is \$15 (payable at the door, or by check to the office or offering with "Auction" on the memo line) per adult, with children under-12 free. We invite you to bring children or grandchildren, and young friends and neighbors.

We want to encourage a big turnout for the beautiful multi-course tea ritual and the accompanying display of handmade quilts crafted or held by FUMC family and friends. If you have already signed up, consider bringing a friend or neighbor or extended family member; if you have not signed up, also consider bringing others, but for certain get yourself registered.

If you have any quilts you are willing to display, Suzanne is waiting for your call. Please, share these examples of creativity and love with the rest of us! Don't miss out on this lovely and fun opportunity to enjoy yourself and to show off FUMC hospitality to people you care about. Be at the Tea on October 14 and help us "Turn Up the Fun!"

Fremont hosts a fundraiser concert for Monday Musical Club, on October 15th

Fremont Methodist will be the site of a fundraising concert sponsored by the Monday Musical Club, called "The Sampler." It will be held on Sunday, October 15, at 2 p.m. It is open to the public with a free-will offering taken. The money raised will be used for scholarships for talented music students.

The Sampler will feature a variety of music & performers with refreshments after. Our concert will begin with Slow Jam, 8 musicians from Lake Oswego, featuring a variety of instruments playing pop music. The concert will end with 28 Lake Oswego high school choir students performing pop music. In between, we will have classical music on piano, Ashokan Farewell played on flute by Janet Orjala, and a Stephen Foster number sung by alto Kathleen Lindquist. Fremonters are encouraged to come and support this worthy and enjoyable event.

United Methodist Women of Fremont

The Fremont UMW will meet at the home of Suzanne Waardenar, at 10 am on Wednesday, October 18th. The program will be given by Trina Leschber.

Portland Backpack fundraiser at the Public House

Join us at The Oregon Public House on Monday, October 23rd.

Come at any time from 11:30am to 10:00pm to eat a great meal. Portland Backpack is the Charity of the Day, and will receive a % of all proceeds -the higher the day's receipts, the greater the % we receive!

For extra fun, come upstairs to the Village Ballroom for a beer tasting event from 4 to 8pm. Sample a few beers and find the perfect match for your specific tastes. Taste tickets will be sold at the door. Donations will also be accepted to support Portland Backpack. Invite your friends to join you!

Reading Group

The next Fremont book discussion will take place on Monday, November 13 at 7 pm at the home of Les and Suzanne Wardenaar. The book is *Underground Railroad* by Colson Whitehead. Amazon says: "Winner of the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award, the #1 New York Times bestseller from Colson Whitehead, a magnificent tour de force chronicling a young slave's adventures as she makes a desperate bid for freedom in the antebellum South."

OTHER THINGS OF NOTE

Annual Charge Conference, October 8th

Our annual Charge Conference is at 1 pm at Wilshire UMC, 3917 NE Shaver St. This is not just a pro forma meeting but a gathering with our inner Northeast sisters & brothers to worship together and remind ourselves of the gifts of our connection—the work we do together in the world. Yes, there's important business but it's so much more. Your attendance is an act of hospitality and a gesture of respect for our sister congregations. Thank you for making time.

"I am the vine; you are the branches..." – Thus begins a verse from the book of John, Chapter 15 that's been selected as the theme for this year's Stewardship Campaign. It's a beautifully simple image, one that reminds us that as Christ's branches, our vital life-source and therefore our capacity to "bear fruit" flows to us through Him.

You'll be receiving a letter the last week of October giving details about the campaign that runs for three Sundays concluding November 12. As you marvel at the wonder of another summer quietly and gently transitioning into a stunning autumn - a time of harvest - we encourage you to be thinking about the many ways in which your life has been blessed this year and what part you'll play in assuring that FUMC continues to bear fruit in 2018.

Robert Greaves & Paul Karr
Stewardship Co-Chairs

Our Worship Team will have a meeting on Sunday, October 15 following worship.

Giving Counts. . . A word from Finance

Fremont has received a generous gift of four burial plots at Skyline Memorial Gardens. If you are interested in acquiring one or more of the plots, please contact the church office. Finance Committee will meet on Thursday, October 19, at 7pm.

FREMONT UMC MINISTRY TEAM

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| Ministers | All the People |
| Pastor | Linda Quanstrom |
| Director of Music | Lynn Rognsvog |
| Children & Youth Program Director | Tanner Morton |
| Music Assistant | Janet Orjala |
| Childcare | Béatrice Kanyandekwe |
| Administrative Assistant | Meg Hall |
| Bookkeeper | Alan Silver |
| Custodian | Patricia Bailey |

Office Hours: 11:00am - 5:00pm Monday through Thursday
Monday is the pastor's scheduled day off.