

Fremont United Methodist Church

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

Upon Hearing My Korean Brothers and Sisters Pray*

A cacophony of vowels and consonants
rising from the silence composing in emphatic union
a symphony of appeal and praise.

Like a mountain stream:
fed by trickles meeting with single purpose,
tumbling over stones and gracing their heads
while racing on with jubilant glee.

I dip my fingers into the cool, clear water.
It pulls me in, submerging me,
drenching me with that same grace.
I swim in the music of their fervent voicing,
the song of their love and passion
and am carried to a vast ocean,
a borderless basin of mystery
which sweeps me up in a
warm wash of a wind-and-water whirl
casting me heavenward,
then settling me gentle in the holy of holies
filled to the brim with speechless praise.

I've had another experience with prayer where I've been similarly moved. At the conclusion of each of our Sacramental Living sessions, we pray for the person seated on our left. Who sits where varies each week so one never knows who one will be praying for week to week. Because these are spoken, not silent, prayers, folks were a bit shy at first, yet always eloquent, even in their hesitations. As the weeks have progressed these prayers have become freer and robust and impassioned and insightful and affirming and comforting. Each week gifts of intercession on behalf of the one seated on our left, have been lifted to heaven: a prayer to God, a gift to our friend. These prayers have helped us claim and enact what we've been discovering and experiencing, and they have led us to deeper fellowship.

The disciples had asked Jesus to teach them to pray and he did. He gave them the architecture of prayer and he modeled praying. One of the great treasures in our scriptures is what we call The High Priestly Prayer—the prayer recorded in the 17th chapter of the Gospel of John. Jesus prayed this powerful prayer of intercession just before he was arrested. There's a compelling juxtaposition here. Jesus knew he was about to shift the cosmic equation. He was going to overthrow death itself and all that is death-dealing. His prayer precedes this great reversal and it anticipates the glory it will inaugurate.

Lord, teach *us* to pray. In this, our time, when we feel surrounded by death, may we remember who we are in Christ. The Lord *has* taught us to pray, *is* teaching us to pray, *is imploring* us to pray. And whether our prayers are spoken in a symphonic cacophony or as a softly-spoken supplication for a friend, they are a refrain of Jesus' great prayer and they carry the same power to embody love and refute all that is death.

*I in them, and You in Me that they may be perfected in unity, that the world
may know that You did send Me and did love them even as You did love me.*

John 17:23

Let us pray.

*Upon hearing the Korean contingent in an Academy for Spiritual formation worship service pray aloud and in their own language, each their own prayer, concluding in their own time.

WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL FORMATION



Invitation to Woodlawn MIC

Though Woodlawn United Methodist is no longer a brick and mortar church, that doesn't mean they have stopped their work in the community. The church has become a well-known community center in northeast neighborhood for the large number of people of color who call that area home, now known as Woodlawn Multicultural Impact Collective – Woodlawn MIC. The Woodlawn MIC was designed to amplify voices of color in the community and it involves people outside of the church. In October they hosted their first Open MIC night to showcase the poetry of people of color. Now, every first and third Sunday from 6-8pm, MIC hosts an open-mic focused on the voices of the community, and you are always invited to join! Come celebrate and share in the voices of the Woodlawn community, and support their efforts to amplify those voices!

Christena Cleveland Video

is available on the conference web site. Some of you who were not able to attend the forum on Feb 3 have asked if there would be a tape and Yes, there is! The link is <https://www.umi.org/faithjusticereconciliation>

Pie Birds at Sunday Service

Worship service on April 8 will feature The Pie Birds!

What is the Christian Imagination? And what has it to do with race?

We have a unique and timely opportunity to dive really deep into why it is we have racial tensions. And why is it, Christians are as troubled by racial prejudices as non-Christians?

There's a very important work on this subject titled *The Christian Imagination, Theology and the Origins of Race* by Willie James Jennings. Jennings won a 2015 Louisville Grawemeyer Award in Religion as a new theological voice because of this book.

Brett Stuvland, a former student of Dr. Jennings, is coming to Fremont to lead us into the revelatory history and Christian theology Jennings writes about. Jennings reveals how the Christian faith was an immediate partner to contriving racial identity (and stratification) and how it theologized justifications for this classification of humanity; how far back this theological framework goes and how it has threaded its way forward to our day.

This study will augment and amplify Christena Cleveland's workshop of February 3 (whom Brett also knows) and help us reflect further on her remarks and her own book: *Disunity in Christ*.

Study begins April 12 and meets every Thursday at 7:00 pm through June 7. Please don't let the duration put you off. This is going to be worth it!

Bishop's Table Talk for the Way Forward

Bishop Elaine Stanovsky invites United Methodists to deep, worshipful conversations across the Greater NW Area on the topic of human sexuality in a church divided. The United Methodist is in some danger of splitting because we don't agree about human sexuality and we don't know how to live together with our differences.

We are searching to find a way forward that allows us to continue life-changing and life-saving ministries together at the same time that it allows space for people to minister according to their deepest held faith commitments.

We don't expect everyone to agree when they arrive, or when they leave, but we do hope that if you come you will feel genuinely heard, and that you will gain understanding and respect for other people in the church. And at the end of the day, you'll be able to say, "God is with us. God's at work in these conversations. We belong at one table that's prepared for us where we are fed by Jesus."

Portland First UMC will be hosting one such Bishop's Table Talk on Sunday, April 15, 2:30-5:30.

SERVICE & MISSION



IT'S NOT TOO EARLY to set aside items for the Fremont Basement Sale, June 1st and 2nd!

We'll be accepting donations of clean, useable clothing, furniture, household & kitchen items, books, toys, tools,

games, sports equipment, vintage & collectible items, antiques, garden tools and miscellaneous.

We have limited storage space prior to the sale (the official collection of sale items begins the last week of May), BUT if you or someone you know is moving, downsizing, remodeling, redecorating, relocating or deep cleaning between now and then and wants/needs to get stuff out of the way NOW, please contact Paul Karr and we'll find a way to accommodate the "stuff" until the sale.

The Basement Sale, Auction and Christmas Tree Sale are important sources of income for Fremont's annual operating budget as well as uplifting, community-building experiences for our congregation and neighborhood. We urge you to participate in this upcoming event by donating and volunteering.

Paul Karr & Janet Orjala,
Basement Sale Co-Chairs

Step Up to Some Fun!!!

Fremont's annual auction--to raise both fun and money--is on the horizon. It will be in full view on Sunday, June 10, when we celebrate in the Fellowship Hall with silent bidding, final event sign-ups, and an array good food and snacks, and some great fellowship. As in the past, the fun-raiser actually will begin week early--the fun-raiser actually begins on Sunday, June 3 when the collection of events will first be available in the Narthex for your review and action.

We could really use your help this year. Can you host an event? Sponsor an event at someone else's house or a public venue? Supply a treasure or work of baking art for the silent auction? Agree to help solicit auction events or items? Volunteer to help with the tracking or accounting? Contact the Wardenaars to offer your assistance. A successful fun-raiser depends on everyone's participation. Will you "Step Up?"

Non-partisan Voter Forum

Multnomah County and City of Portland candidates will be on hand for a Candidate Forum for Voters on April 10 and 24. Co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters and the Interfaith Alliance on Poverty. For details see the Fremont web site (fremontumc.org) or the narthex bulletin board.

NE Emergency Food Program

Many thanks to Laurel and Nathan Campbell, Trina and Allan Leschber, Eric Pottmeyer and Diane Rheos (and a community boy scout troop) for their help with 87 families at the food pantry in March. On deck for April 28th are Janet and Bill Edwards, Kathy and Robert Greaves, Marilyn Karr and Les Wardenaar. We could use some new faces if this sounds fun and interesting to you. It only takes about 4 hours on a Saturday a couple times a year. Come try it once to meet some new people in the community who need our help at the end of the month. Contact Jeff Michel for more details.



FUN & FELLOWSHIP

Fremont United Methodist Women

Our next United Methodist Women gathering will take place on Wednesday, April 18th at the home of Edie Stoaks at 10 a.m. The program will be given by Janet Orjala



Special Thanks

To John Shapland, Kris Forzley, Jill Chan, Diane Rheos, Beth Skillern, Marilyn Mauch, Allan & Trina Leschber for their help in painting our downstairs hallway!

To all of you who have served this congregation in some way, great or small, we thank you.

If you know someone you would like to see recognized in this Thank You box next month, email office@fremontumc.org!

and Linda Jones on their trip to Morocco earlier this year. All church women are invited to attend.

Need a Fremont UMC Logo T-Shirt?

Here's your chance to get a great looking Fremont UMC shirt and support the Holy Land Trip. The team is selling shirts with the Fremont Logo in a wide range of colors, sizes, and styles designed for men, women and children. They are priced at \$20 for short sleeves and \$22 for long sleeves. All profits go toward the Holy Land Trip. Stop by our display table in the narthex on Sunday, April 8 or April 15 to see a sample shirt and fill out the order form. The form may also be downloaded from the FUMC website under the Upcoming Events page. Fill it out and return to a Holy Land team member. Thank you for supporting our Fundraiser.

Brew Pub Gathering

A gathering of folks who like a brew and those who don't to share a casual meal together and discuss how our Christian faith relates to a current social issue. This time we'll be talking about what everyone else is talking about: what to do about gun violence and how ought Christians relate to the ethos of the NRA. We're still trying to find a quieter pub for our gathering so the location will be announced but we gather at 6:30 for dinner Mon, April 9, our formal conversation begins at 7:00 pm.

Stone Soup "Meet and Eat"

Stone Soup "Meet and Eat" group will gather in Saturday, April 21st. We meet monthly at 5:30 pm in the Fellowship Hall at Fremont. We are an open intergenerational group who meet for food and fellowship. All are welcome. Bring your family and friends and a dish to share and join us! For more information contact Claudia Roberts or Geri Wilson.

A WORD FROM FINANCE

Did you know?
Fremont accepts pledges and donations in all shapes and forms!
You can give to Fremont in the form of:
Cash or Checks
Checks sent from your bank
Direct Deposit from your bank
Gifts of Securities
Distributions from Retirement Accounts
Gifts from donor advised funds

If you have any questions about any of the above methods, contact Alan at books@fremontumc.org.

FREMONT UMC MINISTRY TEAM

Ministers	All the People
Pastor	Linda Quanstrom
Director of Music	Lynn Rognsvoog
Youth & Family Ministries Program Director	Tanner Morton
Music Assistant	Janet Orjala
Childcare	Béatrice Kanyandekwe
Administrative Assistant	Meg Hall
Bookkeeper	Alan Silver
Custodian	Patricia Bailey
Office Hours: 9:00am - 2:00pm Monday through Thursday	
Monday is the pastor's scheduled day off.	

Dear Fremonters,
Below is a bird’s eye view of the events and initiatives due to take place at or in conjunction with Fremont UMC this year. We hope this overview will help you with your own calendar planning. As these events and activities draw near there will be announcements with more details and explanations but if you’ve questions about any of them, please do not hesitate to contact Meg in the office. If she doesn’t have the answer she’ll find someone who does and get back to you. Lots of great things happening, some tried and true, some new.

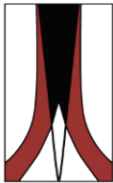
Fremont UMC’s 2018 Calendar
of Events & Initiatives

as of 3/6/18

Feb 14-Mar 29	Lent	Jun 17	Music Sunday
Mar 11	2 nd Amendment Forum 11:30 am	Jun 23	NEEFB Saturday
Mar 17	Green Dinner 5:00 pm	Jun-Oct	FunRaisers
Mar 18	Worship then Spring Yard Clean Up	Jly 1-Aug 26	Ask A Question Summer Series
Mar 21,22	Basement Painting Project 9:00 am	Jly 5	Brew Pub Gathering 6:30 TBA
Mar 24	NEEFB Saturday contact Jeff Michel	Jly 8-11	Mini Camp
Mar 24	Holy Land Plant Sale	July 8-13	Youth Camp
Mar 25	Palm Sunday	Jly 28	NEEFB Saturday
Mar 28	Maundy Thursday Service 7:00pm	Jly 29	Noisy Offering
Mar 30	Good Friday at Noon & 7:00 pm	Aug 3-5	Gran(d) Camp II
Mar 31	Easter Vigil with Baptisms & Reaffirmation of Baptisms 7:00 pm	Aug 4	20s-40s Brew Pub Outing TBA
Apr 1	Easter	Aug 25	NEEFB Saturday
Apr 8	Staff Recognition & Abuse Awareness	Spt 9	Rally Sunday
Apr 9	Brew Pub Gathering 6:30pm TBA	Spt 22	NEEFB Saturday
Apr 12-Jun 7	Christian Imagination Study	Spt 23	Blessing of the Animals Worship Srv
Apr 22	Earth Day Sunday	Spt 30	Noisy Offering
Apr 28	NEEFB Saturday	Oct 5-6	Way of Discipleship Training
Apr 29	Noisy Offering	Oct 8-18	Holy Land Trip
May 11or12	Mother’s Day Plants Delivered	Oct 9	Brew Pub Gathering 6:30 TBA
May 18	Dad & Kid’s Day Out	Oct 27	NEEFB Saturday
May 20	Pentecost & Sacramental Living Rite of Affirmation	Oct 28-Nov 11	Stewardship Campaign for 2019
May 26	NEEFB Saturday	Nov 25	NEEFB Saturday
Jun 1-3	Basement Sale	Dec 15	Parent’s Afternoon Out
Jun 15-17	Gran(d) Camp I	Dec 22	NEEFB Saturday
Jun 10	Teacher & Volunteer Recognition & FunRaiser Auction	Dec 24	Children’s Christmas Pageant 7:00pm Christmas Eve Candlelight 10:00pm
		Dec 30	Noisy Offering

NOTE: *Sacramental Living runs Jan 7 – May 20*

2620 NE Fremont St
Portland OR 97212



Fremont
United Methodist Church

Christian Imagination Study begins April 12 7:00 pm
Bishop's Table Talk on Sunday, April 15, 2:30-5:30
Brew Pub Gathering April 9, 6:30 pm