

Fremont United Methodist Church

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

All Church Clean Up Day

April 6 starting at 9:00 am

Palm Sunday

April 14

Maundy Thursday

April 18 at Cherry Park UMC

Good Friday

April 19 at Noon & 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil

April 20 at 7:45pm

Easter Celebration Service

April 21

Practice Resurrection

I ran this article back in 2015 but I think it bears repeating for it offers counsel that is relevant to both our political and our denominational settings.

The phrase Practice Resurrection comes from Wendell Berry's poem: *Manifesto: The Mad Farmer Liberation Front*. Mr. Berry unfolds a description of what I'd call a counter-cultural spirituality. It's a kind of spirituality not too far removed from the spirituality commended to us by the Gospels according to Matthew, Mark, Luke and John. I hope Mr. Berry's Gospel-like, subversive spirituality sparks your imagination and inspires in you a fresh way to practice resurrection in your own life. He begins with a warning:

Love the quick profit, the annual raise,
vacation with pay. Want more
of everything ready-made. Be afraid
to know your neighbors and to die.
And you will have a window in your head.
Not even your future will be a mystery
any more. Your mind will be punched in a card
and shut away in a little drawer.
When they want you to buy something
they will call you. When they want you
to die for profit they will let you know.

So, friends, every day do something
that won't compute. Love the Lord.
Love the world. Work for nothing.
Take all that you have and be poor.
Love someone who does not deserve it.

Denounce the government and embrace
the flag. Hope to live in that free
republic for which it stands.
Give your approval to all you cannot
understand. Praise ignorance, for what man
has not encountered he has not destroyed.

Ask the questions that have no answers.
Invest in the millennium. Plant sequoias.
Say that our main crop is the forest
that you did not plant,
that you will not live to harvest.
Say that the leaves are harvested

when they have rotted into the mold.
Call that profit. Prophecy such returns.

Put your faith in the two inches of humus
that will build under the trees
every thousand years.
Listen to carrion – put your ear
close, and hear the faint chattering
of the songs that are to come.
Expect the end of the world. Laugh.
Laughter is immeasurable. Be joyful
though you have considered all the facts.
So long as women do not go cheap
for power, please women more than men.
Ask yourself: Will this satisfy
a woman satisfied to bear a child?
Will this disturb the sleep
of a woman near to giving birth?

Go with your love to the fields.
Lie down in the shade. Rest your head
in her lap. Swear allegiance
to what is highest your thoughts.
As soon as the generals and the politicians
can predict the motions of your mind,
lose it. Leave it as a sign
to mark the false trail, the way
you didn't go. Be like the fox
who makes more tracks than necessary,
some in the wrong direction.
Practice resurrection.

May our walk leave a trail of resurrection glory,



WORSHIP & SPIRITUAL FORMATION

Holy Week

sits at the heart of our faith. It calls us to enter into the great, unreasonable, unimaginable work of God on our behalf. Please do not give it short-shrift, but enter into it through your own reflections and meditations and also by attending the services we offer:

Palm Sunday, Apr 14

Maundy Thursday, 7:00 pm Apr 18, celebrated this year with Cherry Park UMC 1736 SE 106th Ave

Good Friday either at noon or 7:00 pm

Easter Vigil, 7:45 pm Apr 20

Easter Resurrection Celebration Service on Apr 21.

There's a reason we call it Holy Week

It is during Holy Week that we mark the passion, death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ. It is a holy time because of the great salvific work God effected on our behalf. It is holy because we allow ourselves to be both judged by it and saved because of it. So, we invite you to enter into it whole-heartedly.

We begin with Palm Sunday on April 14, then Maundy Thursday with Cherry Park UMC on the 19th, two Good Friday services, one at Noon and one at 7:00 pm, and then the very moving Easter Vigil on the 20th where we move from the darkness of night into the light of Easter morning which prepares us then to celebrate the glorious resurrection of Jesus on Easter, April 21.

Pause in your life with its usual busyness and enter into the cadence of this sacred Holy Week.

~Pastor Q and the Worship Team

Good Friday Pilgrimage

For those who would like a more animated and physical observance of Good Friday, Faith UMC is offering a 12-mile urban pilgrimage on Good Friday (April 19).

The pilgrimage includes a number of stops that follow a progressive-adaptation of the stations of the cross. If you are interested in knowing more, please contact Rev Taylor Gould taylor.gould1@gmail.com by April 14.

What does it mean when the Bible says...?

As in years past we plan to engage in a conversational reflection during our summer Sunday services. This year, we'd like you to share a scripture verse or text that puzzles or troubles you. If you can't think of a particular text, you might suggest an idea you think the Bible puts forward that doesn't make sense to you or you believe to be a contradiction to other things you believe the Bible says. These submissions need to be in by Sunday, May 19. You can share your text/idea on the attendance card or you can email Pastor Q at lq@fremontumc.org.

You're invited to deepen your spiritual life

Covenant Groups are a way fortify your spiritual life by joining a small group of individuals who pray together and encourage one another in life's circumstances. The health and vitality of a congregation directly correlates to the spiritual depth and vitality of its members. Participating in one of these options will enrich you, and you will enrich the life of this faith community. Please contact Joanne Poff if you would like to know more: jepoff@gmail.com



SERVICE & MISSION

Coming Together After General Conference

The weightiness of this weekend's Special Session of General Conference is an invitation to come together in Christ. Bishop Elaine Stanovsky has commended that we respond to this invitation to communion in every district of the Greater Northwest Area by hosting several Table Talks. These events will include a time of worship and sharing Holy Communion together, as well as conversation using a covenant in which participants agree to stay curious, be kind, and listen with the same amount of passion with which they want to be heard. The two offerings in the Columbia District are below, along with Table Talks in neighboring districts for Columbia District churches outside of the Portland area. Consider where you might like to participate and save the date. Please do pre-register at <https://umoi-reg.brtapp.com/TableTalks3> at least one week before the event so that we can fully prepare for your participation. These Table Talks are free.

Location	Date & Time	Hosting Church
PDX East	April 7, 3pm-5pm	Rose City Park UMC

Stay Informed about the responses to the General Conference decision of Feb 23.

The best resource for information about how the United Methodist Conferences and Churches in the West are responding to the General Conference is via the Western Jurisdiction Website <http://westernjurisdictionumc.org/> You can also subscribe to the site to receive regular updates.

Their posting of March 21 can be found at <http://westernjurisdictionumc.org/as-we-make-our-way-back-home/> (an important one to read).

From "They" To "We" UMCOR

is the United Methodist Committee on Relief, and yet they are anything but atypical committee. They are a program by the General Board of Global Ministries taking action when disaster strikes around the globe. We will be collecting a special offering for UMCOR on March 31st. Our generosity as a church contributes to the operating budget of UMCOR. This world-wide offering allows UMCOR to funnel 100% of other donations received throughout the year directly to relief efforts.

NE Emergency Food Bank

Thank you to Allan and Trina Leschber and Nathan Cambell for helping provide food to 76 families on March 23rd. On deck for April 27th are Bill Edwards, Kathy and Robert Greaves, Donna Leslie and Prineet Pottmeyer and YOU? If you are interested in learning more about the NE Emergency Food Bank and Fremont's longstanding support for it please contact Jeff Michel at 5095michel@gmail.com.



FUN & FELLOWSHIP

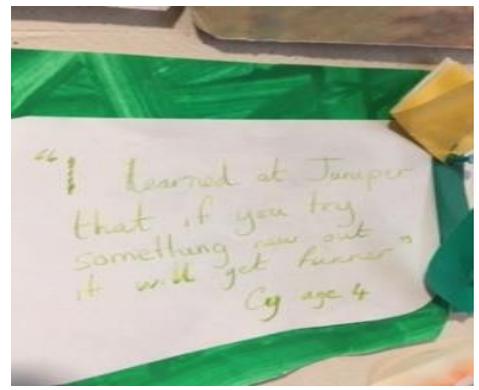
Fremont's Community Partners Juniper School

At Fremont, we believe that our building itself is a part of the ministry of the church, and so we share space with a number of 'community partners'; neighborhood groups and organizations that reflect Fremont's mission and vision. Sharing space with our partners helps us live out our value of being a welcoming and inclusive community as well as being a meeting place and a physical resource for NE Portland and beyond.

Mary Brogan has been the head teacher of Juniper Preschool for many years, and she recently shared a bit about the Juniper, and why she appreciates being a 'Fremont Partner'.

Mary told us that Juniper has been operating at Fremont for almost 20 years. This year Juniper is serving 14 families with children ranging from 3-5 years old. The preschool runs Monday-Thursday in a sunny second floor space that the teachers and children enjoy. Juniper uses a curriculum inspired by the Waldorf teaching method. The goal is to nurture imagination, instill a love of learning and awaken a sense of moral responsibility in each child. At Juniper, they strive to create an environment where each child will blossom, surrounded by love and respect. Mary tells us that the Juniper families appreciate the opportunity to interact with our Fremont staff and Pastor Linda. The Juniper teachers and families also like getting to know the families who come to Music Together at Fremont.

This message from a 4-year-old student on his piece of art has a lesson for anyone. He said "I learned at Juniper that if you try something new out, it will get better!" Thanks to Juniper Preschool and our other Fremont Partners for helping the church be much more than a building on Fremont Street.



Church and Parsonage Yard Beautification

It's that time of year to dust off those rakes, shovels, snippers, clippers and wheelbarrows! The Trustees need your help April 6 beginning at 9:00am to beautify, weed and in general clean up both the church and the parsonage yards. Trustees will need extensive assistance in laying out yards of compost and planting new plants and flowers. The church has some tools, but we are asking individuals to bring their own tools (labeled) as well. If gardening isn't your thing but you'd still like to take part, we're hoping to provide a simple lunch for workers. There will be sign-up sheets for various ways to participate (including providing lunch!) by the coffee station after church starting in March.

Please see John Shapland or Thom Pickens with any questions you may have.

Don't Miss a Great Time

An opportunity to support our children and youth at the Green Brunch Sunday, April 7 following worship. Enjoy food, fellowship and fun as we raise money for our children and youth to attend camp. Please come prepared to be generous.

Fremont United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women will have their monthly meeting on Wednesday, April 17 10:00am at the home of Edie Stoaks, 2407 NE Regents Dr., 97212. The program will be "Thankfulness in Costa Rica" given by Trina Leschber. All women of the church are cordially invited.

Stone Soup Meet and Eat

We are an inter-generational group of Fremonters and friends who enjoy a pot luck dinner and fellowship one time per month. We are open to singles, families, young and old. Just fix a dish to share and come at 5:30 PM. All supplies will be provided. We are usually done by 7:30 PM. For more information you can contact Claudia Roberts at clarobb@juno.com. We would love to have you join us. If driving is a problem, let us know and we can pick you up.
Next meeting: April 27



THANK YOUS

Extending our gratitude to:

- ♥ Thom Pickens for filling in for John Shapland
- ♥ Everyone who made the March Joyful Noise Service so wonderful!
- ♥ David Weber for teaching the Book of Acts
- ♥ Everyone who participated in the Ash Wednesday service
- ♥ Tracy B for organizing Aspire Group



OTHER NEWS OF NOTE

Looking for up to date info about FUMC events?

Stay informed by checking our website fremontumc.org

Serving dishes leftover from Christmas

We have several dishes left over from Christmas events sitting on the counter outside the office. Please pick-up any dishes by the end of April, items not picked up will be donated to good will.

Finance Committee meets Thursday, April 29 at 7pm in the Bob Nelson Room

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	Madalyn Bach
Bookkeeper	Carol Hancock
Custodian	Patricia Bailey

Office Hours: Monday 9:00am-5:00pm & Tues-Thursday 9:00am-1:00pm
Monday is the pastor's scheduled day off.