

The Fremonter



As a reconciling congregation Fremont UMC affirms without equivocation that all human beings, having been created in God's image and having received the breath and grace of God, are God's children.

Sexual orientation or gender identity have no bearing on one's status as a beloved child of God. Our LGBTQI+ siblings are welcomed, affirmed, and fully embraced in this faith community.

We are a church that embodies love and relentless unapologetic pursuit of equity and social justice.

Upcoming Events

Informational Workshop on Planned Giving
March 2 at 7 pm via zoom

Book Club Meeting
March 8th at 7 pm via ZOOM

Fremont UMC Women Meeting
March 18th at 10 am via zoom

Pastor's Greeting

Greetings, Fremont Family:

As Spring approaches, I can almost feel creation leaning toward life. As the days lengthen (the Old English word for Lent), flowers push through the ground, buds appear on the trees, and everything (including me) turns toward the sun. Even though the distribution of vaccines has been slow, more and more of us are getting vaccinated, and life almost feels possible again! Just this week, we received news that our children in PPS will be returning to school in April for some form of hybrid learning. Praise God! There is lots to celebrate, and the same is true at Fremont.

In January, I set for myself and for our congregation some lofty goals. The first goal was to form a Dream Team that would partner with me to discern God's intentions for our future at Fremont (big picture work). The second goal was to finish the Reckoning with Racism co-hort and identify several corporate practices of repentance to reconcile our history with our future. The final goal was to launch the postponed Capital Campaign. I am overjoyed to tell you that we are well on our way toward meeting all three of these goals! On February 16th, the Building Design Team at Fremont reconvened to review and prioritize important improvements to the building. As we move forward, we will be sharing with the congregation our hopes for making our building more open, welcoming and technologically modernized, not just for ourselves but for our neighbors and future partners in ministry as well. On February 20th, the newly constituted Dream Team held its first meeting. This exceptional group of visionary women is just getting started, and they already deep in the creative process. On February 21st, the Capital Campaign Leadership Team met to shift and reframe our Capital Campaign's focus to incorporate affording both our deferred maintenance and our new orientation to neighborhood. These three amazing teams, the Building Design Team, the Dream Team and the Capital Campaign Team, will work in conjunction with each other keeping communication open and aligning their work to collectively move us in the same direction. Finally, the Reckoning with Racism Team continues to meet bi-monthly to develop our congregation's land story and to continue to listen and

learn from leaders from around the state of Oregon.

There is so much to look forward to regarding our future life together at Fremont. We are emerging from a long isolation, but God is trustworthy and faithful. I believe that this next season at Fremont will form a crucial foundation for a bright and beautiful future together. May it be so.

Grace and peace, Pastor Erin

Building Design Team	Capital Campaign Leadership Team	Dream Team
Beth Moore	Allison Martin (Chair)	Diane Rheos
John Shapland	Les Wardenaar	Jean Root
Jill Chan	Kathy Elliot	Amy Ostlund
Beth Skillern	Robert Greaves	Wiki Smith
Allen Leschber	Kirk Wimmer	Kris Forzsley
Cynthia Macleod	Donna leslie	Jan Plummer
Tim Root	Rebecca Kenney	Marty Mayo
Scott Overton		
Susan Harwell		
Marilyn Mauch		

Worship & Spiritual Formation

UMW

The United Methodist Women will meet on Thursday, March 18 at 10:00 via zoom. Claudia Roberts will provide a program on Persistence in Mission about the many missions of UMW globally. Keep working on your blankets, let Trina Leschber know if you would like to help with them.

An Important Update from the Building Design Team:

The Fremont UMC Building Design Team reconvened on 2/16 after being sidelined for over a year by COVID-19, as other priorities necessarily moved to the forefront. Feeling invigorated by the 'clean slate' that the recent building purge (old and damaged furniture was removed) provided, a strong and motivated team gathered via Zoom to discuss next steps. With an excellent contractor and a solid preliminary plan in our back pockets (from November 2019), the Building Design Team is excited to move forward, confident that we can fine-tune our

plans, given some of the things we have learned in the interim, and do so with input from the congregation and church staff. Our next gathering will be March 7th. Please contact pastorerin@fremontumc.org with questions or feedback. On a personal note, I felt moved to join this team because of my innate passion for interior design and function of space, and I hope to thus be a useful contributor!

Jill Chan

Service & Mission

Spring Break Camp Planners and Leaders needed!

Fremont Families will provide Spring Break Camp content to families safely this year, and we need innovators, teachers, and creative folks who are interested in forming a group that imagines what this could like for our Fremont families.

Do you have a gift or talent you'd like to share with our kids? Do you want to teach them a skill that you know? What about a special story you want to tell to an audience of children? Do you have a heart for organizing and want to play an administrative role? There's a place for everyone!

If this has inspired something in you to be involved, please email Ashley Brassea at family@fremontumc.org.

Fun & Fellowship

The Color Purple

The Fremont Book Group has chosen to read Alice Walker's book for our March 8th meeting at 7 pm. Please, join us for this discussion. Maybe you saw the movie. Maybe you saw the play. Maybe you didn't quite finish reading it. Join the discussion anyway because these are important issues to be aware of, and this story is a classic. Contact Suzanne Wardenaar to be added to the list for our Zoom link. (971) 570-7893 or wardenaar@msn.com

Juniper School

I am delighted to share a little about what is happening in our Juniper classroom. At this wonderful time of year we are enjoying our neighborhood walks and eagerly looking for signs that Spring is finally here. We notice the early blooms, the little bulbs poking their heads up and even the birds seem to sing more loudly and be more active.

Juniper is a Waldorf inspired school that has been a part of the Fremont United Methodist community and a building partner for more than twenty years. Imaginative play is the foundation for our program and encouraging respect and empathy for one another and our planet is an integral part of our work together. Like Einstein said, "If you can imagine it, you can make it" At Juniper each child's creative and imaginative capacities are nurtured and cherished. Everyday we are busy baking, sewing, painting, singing, creating stories and puppet shows, playing and exploring ideas together.

Sometimes our attention will focus on a specific idea. Often times the seeds for these ideas begin in a story or an experience that a student shares with the rest of class. We grow and nurture these idea seeds during our "circle time" conversations and throughout the day.

One lunch time recently someone was eating juju berries. Another student decided juju berries couldn't be real as he didn't know where they came from. "Like raspberries grow on a vine" He couldn't believe in juju berries as he also had never seen them at his house. Another boy said, "We don't have to see something to believe in it like I have never seen Ireland but I still believe in it" (That is where I am from) A third chimed in, "Well I believe in fairies and giants and leprechauns because they live in Ireland... but not unicorns." The child (eating the juju berries) beside him replied " I believe in unicorns and I think juju berries are real because I am eating them and they are right here." This was the beginning of many conversations around the big idea of what we believe in.

It did not really matter to most students that the berries were right there on the table but at the time there appeared to be no unicorns present!. Anything is possible in our classroom as the children learn about the world we live in, our place within it and different ways to think and explore the world around

them. The well of ideas that children draw from seems to be limitless and I am truly fortunate to be able to share in these conversations. Who knows one day I may bring in some juju berries to share - or maybe not!. However please do let us know if you notice any unicorns or leprechauns about the neighborhood!

Mary

How to Stay Connected

Log-in instructions for our virtual Sunday Worship Services

Click <https://zoom.us/j/429790924>.

Enter Meeting ID: 429 790 924

OR, choose a phone number to call to LISTEN-ONLY:

+1 312 626 6799

+1 346 248 7799

+1 646 558 8656

+1 669 900 9128

+1 253 215 8782

+1 301 715 8592

then, enter the Meeting ID: 429 790 924

Log-in instructions for our virtual Wednesday Night Prayer Service

click <https://zoom.us/j/752185399>.

Enter Meeting ID: 752 185 399

OR, choose a phone number to call to LISTEN-ONLY:

+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

+1 253 215 8782 US

+1 301 715 8592 US

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

then, enter the Meeting ID: 752 185 399

There's help

If you have questions about how this works or problems connecting, you can send an email help@fremontumc.org. Now this email is not an all-purpose help line, it is for issues relating to the ZOOM feature we are using to conduct these services and other gatherings. Randy Poff will respond to you as quickly as he can to help you out.

“Like” FUMC on Facebook & share a story

If you like us, please “like” and follow our Facebook page. This helps people find us. Also, share our posts with your friends! And one last thing: If you would write a review for us on our page, it also helps people find us. Thank you.

What to put an article in next month's Newsletter?

Email Youth@fremontumc.org with the article and details by
Friday, March 19th!

**FREMONT UMC MINISTRY****Ministers**

All the People

Pastor

Rev. Erin Martin

Family Ministry Associate

Ashley Brassea

Director of Music

Lynn Rognsvoog

Music Assistant

Jonathan Roberts

Childcare

Béatrice Kanyandekwe

Youth Ministry / Communication

Jocelyn Hart

Bookkeeper

Carol Hancock

Custodian

Patricia Bailey

Office Hours

Monday-Thurs 10:00-3:00

(Monday is the pastor's scheduled day off)

Friday: Closed

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