



Spirit of Grace

A Lutheran-Methodist Cooperative Church

August 2017

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A Fall Retreat in Astoria for Women

" Bridges"

– all kinds

-one side and then the other

- travelling over and under

- life stages

- your faith journey.

- a multitude of ideas to be explored

" Bridges" will be the theme of our retreat to be held from Friday evening **Nov 3rd** until Sunday morning **Nov 5th** at the **Astoria Crest Motel**. Read the poster board in the narthex for more info.

We will begin hearing a remarkable fantasy story, "The Bridge Builder" by New Zealand author Margaret Mahy. After that you can anticipate travelling a spiritual journey with bible study, discussion, prayer, journaling, art, worship, and riverside walks. We have the use of a meeting room and there is an outside Jacuzzi. Astoria itself has much to offer in your free time. There will be some catered meals including breakfast, but also opportunities to eat out! Jill McBee will be leading the retreat with a lot of help from her friends in Women's Spiritual Group.

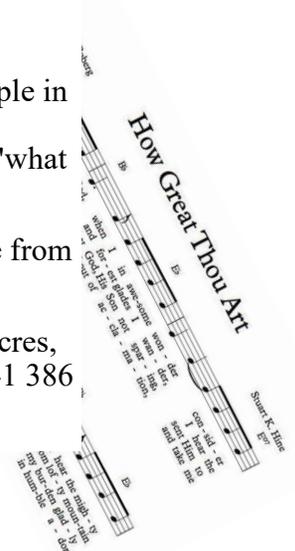
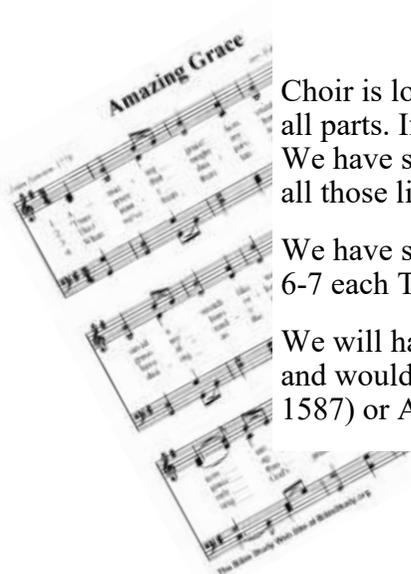
More details will be shared next month but be sure to **sign up soon** and let your accommodation needs be reserved. Single, double, family, river view, pet friendly, - all kinds of rooms are possible at a variety of prices. **Mark your calendars.** —Jill McBee

Spirit of Grace Choir

Choir is looking for a few new people to join us this year. We need people in all parts. If you're reluctant, thinking you can't read music, forget it. We have strong people on all parts who will sing with you as you learn "what all those little marks" are for.

We have some neat music to work on some old, some new. We practice from 6-7 each Thursday evening, early fall through late spring.

We will have a get- acquainted potluck on August 31 at Morningsong acres, and would invite anyone interested to get in touch with Marv Turner (541 386 1587) or Audrey Bentz or any other choir member. —Marv Turner



Dear Friends,

As I write this, it is 78° on the first of eight days with forecasted highs of 100° or more. Please stay safe out there during this time of extreme heat. Stay inside when you can, and be sure to drink plenty of water. Here at church, we are making preparations to have worship in the Community Room on Sunday morning.

I want to thank all of you who took part in the *Season of Listening* this spring. I heard lots of positive feedback about your 1-to-1 conversations, and I thought we had some very productive conversations in our house meetings. Again, thank you to all who volunteered and participated.

We learned quite a lot by listening. First, we learned that church community is important, especially in times of transition and crisis. Having a group of people who know you, care about you, and pray for you can make a tremendous difference. And in order to be supportive to one another, we need to take the time to get to know one another, to learn each other's stories.

We're going to be doing a few things to move us in that direction. One is called *Dinners of Eight*. If you sign up to be a part of it, you'll be placed in a group of about eight people, which will likely be three or four family groups. Then you'll get together for a potluck dinner about once a month, each time hosted by a different person or family. By the end of the calendar year, you'll have shared a meal with your group three or four times, participated in some great conversation, and built relationships. **Kristin Marcroft** has agreed to help get us organized, and you'll be hearing more in the weeks to come.

Second, we'll be working on how we welcome visitors. In our house meetings, you noted how important it is to be intentional about offering hospitality and how each individual in the church has a responsibility to welcome newcomers. I know many of you already have a personal discipline of welcoming the new folks you see. Others aren't really sure how to reach out to strangers. I am working with the Board to strengthen our ministry of hospitality and to help all of us learn some basics on how we invite and welcome newcomers. Expect to hear more about it in the fall.

The house meetings also identified a need for ministry around the issues of aging. How can we be supportive of congregants who are transitioning into new life circumstances? How can we empower our elders to share their own gifts of ministry? **Mark Turner** is leading a new working group to guide us as we seek answers to these questions. Please reach out to him if you are interested in exploring ministries of aging.

We are also working to strengthen our relationship with our Community Garden. **Susan Randolph**, our Garden Coordinator, has been working hard partnering with members of the congregation as well as local organizations to grow fresh, organic produce for the **FISH Food Bank** and connect needy members of the community more directly with their food sources. To help us connect more with the garden, and to honor those volunteers who have worked tirelessly to make it happen, we will be having a Garden Party on Sunday, September 10th, at noon. It will be a potluck, outside (weather permitting) to learn more about this important ministry and share in fellowship. You'll be hearing more about it in the weeks to come.

There are others things that you brought up in your 1-to-1 conversations and house meetings, but there isn't room here to mention all of them. I want to deeply thank all of you again for participating in this process, for having the courage to speak and to listen, and for helping us to discern the ways God is calling us together in community and mission. Let's keep the conversation going. God's blessings upon you all.

Your servant in Christ,

+Pastor David

Weekly Reflections

August 6th Genesis 32:26-28

When have you wrestled with God? How did it affect you?

August 13th Matthew 14:28-29

When was a time you took a step toward Jesus even though it felt scary or unfamiliar?

August 20th Matthew 15:24-27

Have you ever felt alienated from God or church? How? What brought you back?

August 27th Exodus 1:15-17

Who are the faithful women who have made a difference in your life?

GROW



Due to the number of people who will be away on *vacation* August 16th, we are **postponing the Garden Party** until **Sunday, September 10th**. Fortunately, this will give US more time to plan fun activities and YOU more time to save the date. **Please RSVP!**

This is a great opportunity to meet our gracious hosts and all the volunteers who have worked so hard in the garden this year. We will celebrate the end of summer and enjoy a good old fashion BBQ in this beautiful garden space that we have created together.

So bring yourselves, and your families, and any additional food items that you would like to share. We will make sure to have veggie kabobs or other alternatives available for vegetarians - and I'm open to suggestions! Finally, there are a few of you who I have not seen in a while but who have been very supportive of the garden and a huge part of making this project possible -- let's reconnect!



Susan Randolph Volunteer Coordinator FISH Food Bank Garden
1140 Tucker Rd, Hood River Phone:339-368-0233



Grant Anderson will be spending the next 11 months or so in Taipei, Taiwan through the Rotary Student Youth Exchange Program. This has been a dream of his since 5th grade!

Grant will live with three different host families through the year and attend school at the Xiufeng High School in New Taipei City. New Taipei has a population of about 10 million so this will be a very different setting than little White Salmon, WA.

Grant will focus on learning the language of Traditional Chinese, but will also participate in various other classes at his school; as well as sports and clubs. Total immersion into the Taiwanese culture is one of the main points of this exchange program. Please keep him in your prayers in the coming year, it will be quite an adventure.
—Cheri Anderson



Gorge Youth Collective

is planning another great summer outing - this time to Laurance Lake on Sunday August 6th from 3-7pm.



Please meet at Hood River Valley Christian parking lot: 975 Indian Creek Road at 3pm. We have a bus to take us up to the lake. Hot dogs for dinner will be provided. Please bring a favorite side to share and a drink if you like one. If you fish, bring your gear! If you swim, bring towel/suit. We will have a canoe, paddle boards and some art supplies for you creative types.

Parents: Please bring the release form found in the narthex or it can be emailed from the church office. We will meet back in the parking lot at 7pm.
—Pastor David



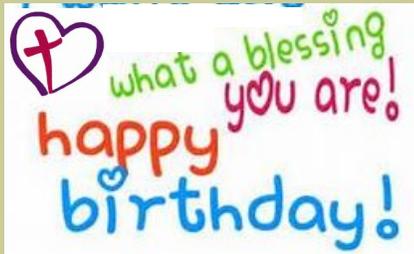
Birthday lunch with Happy Hands

Family celebration at Spirit of Grace with Blanche's children: Dennis, Laurie, Marcia, Blanche, Janice, Linda, Michael.



FELLOWSHIP

The men's Tuesday morning coffee informal get-togethers are growing, with a few (non-Spiritual) folks just coming for the fellowship and gab.



Martha Hoskins	1
Vita Corrado	2
Kayla & Kiahla King	8
Donna Martinson	9
Betty Shalhope	15
Bill Crompton	16
Jana Austin Jacobson	17
Bob Havig	18
Cindy Murahashi	22
Nicolas Saenz-Hart	23
Jack Siekkinen	26
Audrey Bentz	27
Judith Ann Richards	28

PRAYER REQUEST
WE ARE HERE TO PRAY FOR YOU

Requests can be sent to

Carol Kyger
cckyer@gmail.com
or 541-386-6341

Backup for Carol is
Donna Fitch
fitcheshr@gmail.com
541-386-4043

Erica & Pepi Gerald	1
Tom & Cory Hart	2
Bette & Alan Yenne	10
Cindy & Scott Murahashi	17
Pat & Bill Crompton	19
Cheri & Jim Anderson Donna & Scott Fitch	20
Kris & Bob White	23
Betty & Don Shalhope	25
Gladys & Jim Edwards	26
Diane & Dean Kleinsmith Mari & Jim Matthias	28
Shelley & Greg Oates	29

August 2017

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
Communion for 9am service is the 1st and 3rd Sunday Communion for 10:30 service is the 1st Sunday		1	2 9am Quilting	3	4	5 9am Women's Spirituality at the church office
6 Communion 9am Traditional 10 Fellowship 10:30 Celebration 3-7pm Gorge Yth Collective @ Laurance Lake	7 9am Happy Hands	8 10am Men's Coffee @ Rosauers	9	10 5:15pm Celeb. Serv Prac	11	12
13 9am Traditional 10 Fellowship 10:30 Celebration	14 9am Happy Hands	15 10am Men's Coffee @ Rosauers	16 9am Quilting	17 5:15pm Celeb. Serv Prac 10:30 Coffee and Compassion Group	18	19
20 Communion 9am Traditional 10 Fellowship 10:30 Celebration	21 9am Happy Hands	22 10am Men's Coffee @ Rosauers 2pm Women's Bible Study	23	24 5:15pm Celeb. Serv Prac	25	26
27 9am Traditional 10 Fellowship 10:30 Celebration Food on the 4th	28 9am Happy Hands	29 10am Men's Coffee @ Rosauers	30	31 Choir potluck at Morning Song Acres Time tba		

9:00 Service Worship Duties

August	6 Communion	13	20 Communion	27	
	Kris White	Kathy Terry	Stephanie Hepburn	Tom Hart	
	Kris & Bob White	Rick McBee Craig Terry	Kris & Bob White	Marlene Lahti Doug Swanson	
	Kris White	Della H. Dottie G. Esther H.		Birthday Cake May-August birthdays	
	Marlene L. Della H.		Marlene L. Della H.		



Spirit of Grace

1140 Tucker Road
Hood River, Oregon 97031
Phone: 541-386-3993
Email: office@hoodriverchurch.com
Web site: hoodriverchurch.org

Sunday Worship Times

Traditional Service 9:00am
Fellowship 10am-10:30
Celebration Service 10:30am

Education Times

Children's Sunday School 10:45am
Youth Group 6-7:30pm Sundays
Women's Bible Study 4th Tuesday, 2-4:00pm

Office Hours

Pastor Mon-Thurs 9am-Noon, or by appt.
Staff Mon, Wed, Thurs 9am-2:00pm
Tuesdays 9am-1:00pm

Pastor

Rev. David D.M. King
daviddmking@gmail.com 541-399-9020

Staff

Jennifer Fowler
Office Manager & Financial Secretary

Linda Boris

Pastoral Assistant



Board of Directors

Pastor David King, ex officio
Debby Chenoweth (2016)
Rick McBee (2016)
Jim Anderson (2017)
Donna Fitch (2017)
Pat Pettit (2018)
Alden Gendreau (2018)
Michele Sibley (2019)
Bob White (2019)

Finance Committee

Pastor David King
Jean Sheppard (2016)
Jim Siekkinen (2018)
Vicki Wartalski (2019)
Muriel Ishizaka Treasurer
Jennifer Fowler Fin. Secretary
Tom Hart Payroll

Ministry Team Leaders

Celebration Worship	Linda Boris
Traditional Worship	Vicki Wartalski
Children & Youth	Melissa Mimier King
Men's Ministry	Marv Turner
Women's Ministry	Kris White
Outreach	Debby Chenoweth
Prayer Chain	Carol Kyger
Reception	Jill McBee & Pat Crompton
Building	Rick McBee

Music Ministry

Organist/Piano	Dottie Gilbertson & Audrey Bentz
Choir	Marv & Ruth Turner

Staff Parish Relations

George Bentz, Chair (2016, 2018)
Doug Swanson (2017)
Cindy Murahashi (2017)
Kristin Marcroft (2018)
Rick McBee Board Liaison

Happy Hands

Mondays 9am to 11am
Women's Craft & Fellowship Group in Fellowship Hall

Quilting

1st and 3rd Wednesdays
Quilts for Lutheran World Relief in Fellowship Hall

Women's Bible Study

4th Tuesday of the month
2-4pm at church

Women's Spirituality

1st Saturday of the month
Study and fellowship in Church Office



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