



Spirit of Grace

A Lutheran-Methodist Cooperative Church

May 2020

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Columbia District April Newsletter

Brief Updates

Shared Annual Conference 2020 is canceled: Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, in consultation with members of the Greater Northwest Area COVID-19 Crisis Management Team and District Superintendents, has made the difficult decision to cancel June's Shared Annual Conference session. Instead, Bishop Stanovsky is working with leaders from all three Conferences to schedule individual Conference gatherings – perhaps virtually – in the fall to deal with the essential business of each Conference for 2020.

In-Person Worship & Building uses suspended to May 30: Bishop Elaine is "extending the suspension of in-person worship in United Methodist Churches and other ministries and the closure of church facilities to all but essential services throughout the Alaska, Oregon-Idaho and Pacific Northwest Conferences through May 30, 2020, despite the loosening of restrictions in some or all of the states of Alaska, Idaho, Oregon and Washington. This date may be reconsidered as circumstances change."



FISH Food Bank update.....Billie Stevens

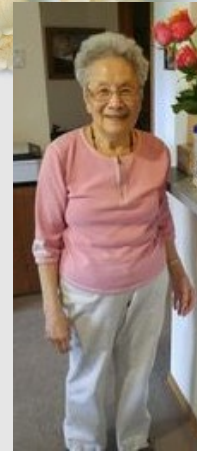
We have not seen the number of clients that other areas are experiencing. But we are definitely seeing an increase in clients. At the Hood River site our normal number of families is about 15 to 20 families a night, now they are averaging 20 to 30 families a night. We are seeing a big increase in both Cascade Locks and Parkdale. Our biggest one time distribution was 53 families but have not seen that since the first week we opened. What is interesting is across the board we are seeing a 33% new client request at each site. I wanted to share a couple examples of why our work is so important.

A young, single mother of three pulled into the parking lot. She was driving the fairly standard family caravan. She looked a little shocked, somewhat embarrassed, but was very pleasant and tried to hide her first timer shame with nervous laughter. She explained that she was new and had never done anything like this before. In a soft, gentle manner, Dale explained that he too was new and that they'd work through this together. When the huge load of food arrived to her car she looked astonished. We were thanked many times over. As she drove away, her face was awash with a mixture of emotions: joy, fear, thankfulness, anxiety, and temporary relief.

Another example was one day I was helping at distribution and started talking with a client. She shared she was new and felt bad about coming but she was a business owner in a small community (and I think that says it all) and was needing help. I shared with her that is why we are here, to help people through the rough times. We talked again when I helped taking her food out and she thanked me not only for the food but for understanding.



In Memory of Lillian "Lil" Kurahara



Lillian "Lil" Kurahara was born on Dec. 15, 1922, in Hood River, Ore., and passed away April 24, 2020, at the age of 97. Lil lived in the Hood River Valley for almost her entire life, first leaving at the age of 17 to attend Pacific University in Forest Grove, Ore., where she majored in chemistry. In 1942, during her sophomore year, her studies were cut short when she was forcibly removed with her family, first to Pinedale Detention Center, Calif., and then to Tule Lake Incarceration Center, Calif., followed by Heart Mountain Incarceration Center, Wyo. After arriving at Tule Lake, Lil became an assistant teacher, where she met her future husband, Jan Kurahara of Sacramento, Calif. They married on March 7, 1943, and were happily wed for 66 years until his passing in 2009. Returning to the Hood River Valley after the war, Lil and Jan raised their family and worked in their orchard.

Lil worked as an assistant librarian at Wy'east High School, at the local radio station, KJHR, for over nine years, and at the Hood River County Assessor's Office, where she worked for over 15 years as the deputy assessor until her retirement in 1989. Lil volunteered at the Hood River Museum, Providence Hospital gift shop and provided countless scrubbers and other handmade crafts to Happy Hands. Lil was a gifted seamstress, knitter and crocheter. She enjoyed playing the piano, had a beautiful singing voice and sang in the church choir.

Per Lil's request, there will not be a public service, but the family will gather at a future date.

In lieu of flowers, please send charitable donations in Lil's name to either Happy Hands (mail to Spirit of Grace Church, Hood River) or Providence Hospice of the Gorge – Hood River, c/o Anderson's Tribute Center, 1401 Belmont Ave., Hood River, OR 97031.

Visit www.AndrsonsTributeCenter.com to leave a note of condolence for the family.

Women's Spiritual Group meets on May 2 (Saturday) 9am on Zoom

Debby C. has set us up to meet via Zoom on May 2 (Saturday) at 9am. To join the Zoom meeting, click on the Zoom link below. If you haven't used Zoom before you will be asked to do a quick download of Zoom software to your computer. You can also join the meeting by calling this number on your phone: 1-669-900-6833. You will be asked to enter the Meeting ID below to join the meeting. (We would just hear your voice and not see you on-screen.) If you haven't used Zoom before and feel a little uncomfortable working with it, I can work with you one-on-one to do a test run before Saturday. Just let me know.

Please scroll down and read everything below. The chapter's questions are listed. You can print them out if you like, to have them handy on Saturday. Bring your coffee/tea and a snack to the meeting and we will Zoom together on Saturday! Carol Kyger

Zoom Meeting link: Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86216627046?pwd=ODlleEZUaHpjQU1uWk45RzFhVG1uUT09>

Meeting ID: 862 1662 7046 Password: 982979

Our discussion questions will follow Chapter 5 "Beauty".

Do you feel pressure to be beautiful? Growing up, how were you taught to view sexuality?

Has the Church ever made you feel like a sex object as a woman?

From a reader: We decided to celebrate beauty by having a henna party. Some friends from India helped us.

Reread Song of Songs. What jumps out at you this time?

Worship 10am Sundays at [facebook.com/hoodriverchurch/live](https://www.facebook.com/hoodriverchurch/live).
A Facebook acct should not be needed. Services are posted afterward on Spirit of Grace website.

Fellowship: after services on Zoom. Computer, tablet, SmartPhone users go to bit.ly/SoGFellowship. Meeting ID is 921 8237 9580; password 020535. To call in to fellowship dial 1-669-900-6833, using ID and password above.



Open Door Study

Thursdays at 6:30pm via Zoom.

Contact Jill McBee for details.

541-354-9920 rmcbee_44@yahoo.com

Youth Group Sundays 6:00pm

Contact Pastor David for meeting via Zoom.



Prayer Requests can be sent to

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

Backup for Carol is Donna Fitch

fitcheshr@gmail.com 541-386-4043

Ray Ishazaka	7
Carol Kyger	14
Sharon Pantely	15
Karthik King	16
Erica Gerald	17
Jill McBee	20
Adeline Schull	25
Donna Fitch	29
Carolyn Peyton	30



Linda & Nathan Boris	25
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Circle Groups

From Pat Pettit

I like to bake when I'm stressed and this is stressful! I've also been sewing facemasks with Gorge Makers Collective. If anybody needs a facemask, I'd be happy to make you one. Send me an email -- patp4674@gmail.com. Or call 541-490-6965
Online church and chats are awesome.

Spirit of Grace has been blessed in countless ways during Pastor David's time with us. In searching for a new pastor, we want to build on these blessings. Your Circle Group leaders will be starting conversations with you regarding your ideas for a new Pastor and Spirit of Grace. Prayerfully consider your thoughts.

Jill McBee, SPRC Chair

Weekly Reflections

May 3 1 Peter 2:21

How does the life of Jesus provide an example for us of how to endure in troubling times?

May 10 1 Peter 2:10

What part does God's grace and mercy take in forming our identity as a Christian community?

May 17 1 Peter 3:21-22

What does baptism mean to you?

May 24 1 Peter 5:7-9

God is with us. We are all in this together. How do these statements effect the way you understand and cope with our current crisis?

May 31 1 Corinthians 12:4-7

What gifts has God gifted you with, and how can you use them to further God's mission in the world?



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

Worship Service 10:00am
Fellowship 11:00am

Education Times

Check with the Church Office

Office Hours

Pastor Mon-Wed 9-Noon. Or by Appt.

Staff Mon, Wed, Thurs 9am-2:00pm
Tuesdays 9am-1:00pm

Pastor

Rev. Dr. David D.M. King

Staff

Jennifer Fowler

Office Manager & Financial Secretary

Linda Boris

Pastoral Assistant



Board of Directors

Pastor David King, ex officio
Tom Hart, Chair (2021)
Sharon Poynter (2021)
Shelley Oates (2020)
Gordon Leigh (2020)
Michele Sibley (2022)
Bob White (2022)

Finance Committee

Pastor David King
Debby Chenoweth (2021)
Dottie Gilbertson (2022)
Muriel Ishizaka Treasurer
Jennifer Fowler Financial Secretary
Tom Hart Payroll
Shelley Oates Board Liaison

Ministry Team Leaders

Worship	Linda Boris, Dottie Gilbertson
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	Audrey Bentz & Sharon Poynter

Staff Parish Relations

Jill McBee	(2020)
Ty Sibley	(2020)
Rose Miller	(2021)
Sharon Pantley	(2021)

Representatives

Oregon Synod Assemble	Bette Lou Yenne
Oregon-Idaho Annual Conf.	



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