



March 2024

HAPPY
EASTER



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A Message from Pastor Leslie

Dear Church,

This month my “baby” turns 2! When I found out I was pregnant, I was surrounded by moving boxes as we were days away from moving to Vancouver, Washington for my first appointment as a lead pastor of not one, but two churches. I thought the exhaustion and nausea were from stress... surprise!

I was nervous. Nervous that I was going to have to ask for a maternity leave in my first year. Nervous about how it would be received that I was going to need flexibility as a working mother. Nervous that my child would be seen as a loud and distasteful distraction in the midst of an older congregation. I was wrong on all accounts.



In the last two years, you have surrounded my family with more love and support than I could have imagined. Luca loves coming to church! He has his Sunday routine down. He bursts through the doors and says hello to the worship team. Miss Linda lets him hold the remote and turn on the tv screens while they chat about whatever happens to be on his mind. Then we head downstairs to see what kind of pre-church snacks he can wrangle out of Mr. and Mrs. Forman. Back up to the sanctuary, he pulls out crayons and a coloring book to do some art

while people arrive for worship. Sometimes a friend will join him on the floor, like Robert Harris. As soon as Mr. Mark walks through the door, he jumps up and runs to get hugs. With a wave, they head downstairs to his classroom, a classroom that has recently been painted by volunteers and has new carpet because of a donation from a loving congregation member. Many people have given gifts for him via a baby shower, Christmas presents, and “I was thinking of you” gifts.



A Message from Pastor Leslie

I am so thankful for the way our church shows Jesus to my son each week. Most Sundays, Luca is the only kid. But that doesn't matter to him because he is part of the church. Not simply part of the children's program, but part of the church. My 2-year-old is friends with people in their 20's, 80's and every age in between. He is more than just the token child we can point to in the corner, but an actual part of the congregation. He is learning that Jesus loves him because you all love him. It is important for toddlers to learn that Jesus loves them, but it is also important for us all to know throughout our lives that Jesus loves us. Jesus loves the little children, but God also loves the young parents and the recently retired, the widows and widowers and the ones who stayed single all their life, the people in their first homes and the ones who are in their last. Jesus loves us all our life, and we experience the love of Jesus when those who follow him love us. The thing that makes us Christians is the way we care for each other with love.

Keep on loving!

If there is a way we can love you as a congregation in a tangible way or simply through prayer, please reach out and let me know!

It is an honor to be your pastor,
Pastor Leslie

You can always reach me by phone/text at 626-340-5638
email at wumcpastorleslie@gmail.com

Church Office: 360-835-3494

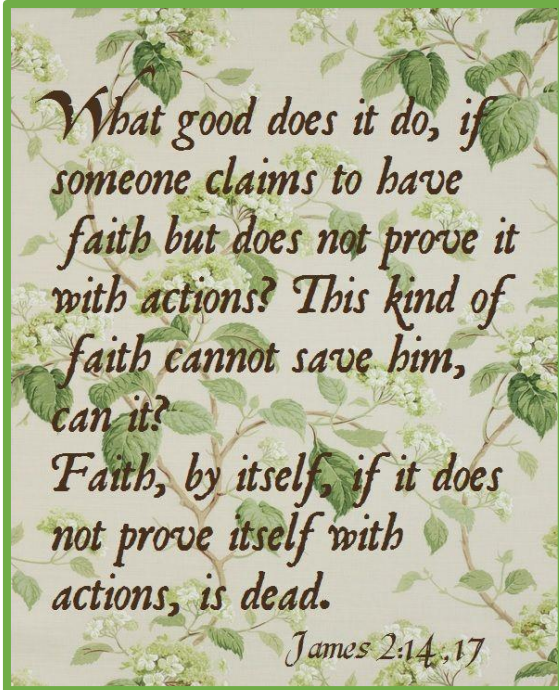


"By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another"
(John 13:35)

Church Council News



Dear Church Family,



In latest news, our Church was blessed to give a total of \$1500 to the Interfaith Treasure House, which was 10% of our Holiday 2023 Bazaar proceeds. This was the largest dollar amount in history we have donated from our WUMC Annual Holiday Bazaar.

Additionally, we made a \$934 contribution to the Children's Home Society. Thanks to everyone's generosity during the Christmas Giving Drive.

This January and February storm damage was well managed in a timely and efficient manner by the Trustees' work party, led by Chair Joe Wittler. As expected, there were many limbs and branches strewn throughout our property. We also lost two trees in the area near the parking lot, one which took down the electrical cable for the parking lot lights. Our Comcast cable went down over the front lot, but continued working and Comcast has since placed it underground.

The process of disaffiliation of those congregations who voted **not** to be reconciling was completed on December 31, 2023. Our conference lost 6% of its churches, most from Eastern Washington. Zero churches left the Crest to Coast district. It was noted that new birthing of churches is happening in those communities that disaffiliated. The assets of disaffiliated churches were overseen by individual conferences. Our Conference did very well in comparison to districts across the United States.

The Crest to Coast Annual Conference will be held June 13-16th in the Seven Rivers District in Eastern Washington. A representative and an alternate are needed from WUMC. A Zoom option may be offered.

Warm Regards,

Barbara Crozier

Council Co-Chair

Spotlight on Linda Lee Scharpf

A Fern Prairie UMC transplant Linda Lee says what she loves about WUMC is Sunday Worship.

Linda Lee was born in sunny Southern California and lived in the San Diego Mountains until the age of 12 when the family moved to Salem, Oregon. Her Mother taught school for a while before Wendy, David and Linda Lee kept her busy at home. Linda Lee was a 'Daddy's Girl' and wanted to follow in his footsteps as a BLM Forester, but alas it was not to be for women in 1956. So, instead, she earned a Bachelor of Science Degree in Home Economics and worked as a Librarian for 23 years in Oregon and Washington.

When asked what she considered her proudest accomplishment, without hesitation she responded, "I had a successful marriage with the love of my life, Raymond Scharpf and we have two adult children of whom I am very proud." Her son, Michael, is a Washington State Fisheries Biologist and father to Jessica and Brooke. Ironically, her daughter, Karen recently retired from the US Forest Service as a GIS Coordinator as well as Land Acquisition Manager, helping to soften the blow of Linda Lee's greatest regret: Denied the right to pursue her passion in Forestry just because she was a woman in the 1950's. Karen is Mom to Candace, Dae-Anna and Will. In addition to their five Grandchildren, Raymond and Linda Lee also have four Great Grandchildren: Violet who is 10, Ariana is 6, Parker is 7 and Porter will be 4.

Linda Lee's childhood nickname was Rusty because of her Badge-of-Honor-Red Hair. Contrary to widespread belief that all redheads are feisty, sunburn-prone and freckled, THIS limited-edition red head is a bit bashful. Still, as long as we're profiling here, her signature scent might just be Sunscreen SPF 100. The family is keeping the ginger alive with 3 Grand/Greats carrying on their God given MC1R gene uniqueness.

Linda Lee is on a weekly Seniors 20-Team Bowling League with her highest score so far of 195, just shy of reaching professional level bowling. She gardens and puzzles and knits and reads and collects miniature ceramic birds and has amassed a 30 wooden Christmas Tree collection.



Here's something you may not have known about congregant, Linda Lee: She's a long-time active member of P.E.O.* Sisterhood, founded in 1869 with about 197,000 members internationally. P.E.O. is a philanthropic organization where women celebrate the advancement of women; educate women through scholarships, grants, awards and motivate women to achieve their highest aspirations. Her local chapter, called Joyful Hearts, was formed in 2005, has 36 members and meets monthly. Simply put, the Sisterhood is helping women help women. They visit Alzheimer's patients, the infirmed and provide food, cards of encouragement and support for whomever has a need. When Linda Lee's Raymond passed, the Joyful Hearts all rallied round with compassion, hugs and enough food for a decade. The official flower of P.E.O. is the marguerite daisy.

**Philanthropic Educational Organization*

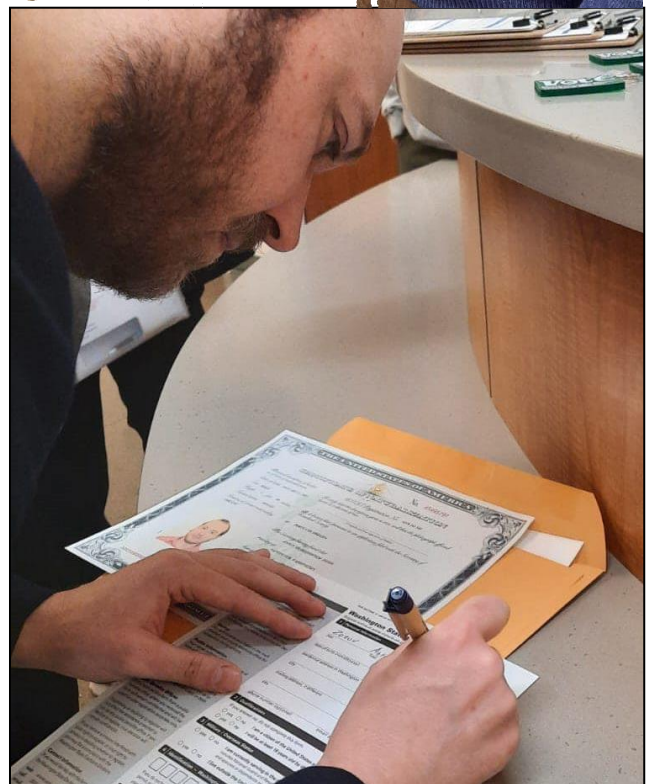
And finally, floating down the Danube on a European river cruise would complete her Bucket List.



Congratulations! Anton!



What better way to celebrate your Mother's Birthday than to become a citizen of the United States!



👗 Dress 👗 A 👗 Girl 👗



Cleta's Shoppe

Dress A Girl Around the World is in full swing.

Dresses are appearing on the walls of the sanctuary. The opportunity to join in this mission is available through cash donations. Donations are being taken by the entry way to the sanctuary. This mission gives many the opportunity to participate. JOY!

Dress A Girl







Contributed By
Sandy Havrelly ~ WUMC Congregational Care Coordinator

Here I sit on this blustery Sunday afternoon thinking about how blessed we all are to be part of a loving WUMC community. As we stand in our circle of love at the conclusion of worship singing Shalom (peace) I thought that we are a very lucky group of people enjoying the love residing within our walls and that we have the opportunity to take that love and peace out into our greater world. As we go in Peace and live in Love we have the string that binds us all together. When we combine that with our mission statement and choose to live it out in our daily lives our world can only become better.

"We are becoming the people God calls us to be and we're doing the work God calls us to do"

With that said, I'm sure you all noticed the beautiful dresses going up on the walls of the sanctuary. Each Sunday in Lent, the beauty of the dresses will increase until we are surrounded in the DOING of many!

For the past nine years "Dress A Girl Around the World" mission has been added to our Lenten Season. Some of us got to wondering exactly what goes into each dress and what the cost of a dress averages out to be. Clea Gilman and Chuckie Smiley put together some of the costs of making a dress. These costs are often offset by donations of cash, fabrics, trims, buttons and thread. But, for now, let's look at what the approximate costs would be for one dress, remembering that the size of the dress and specific materials will determine exact pricing. The prices below are configured at today's commercial costs.

-  A dress takes 1-1 ½ yards depending on size. Fabric costs between \$12.99 and \$14.99 per yard
-  Lace, eyelet or other trim costs between \$1.25-3.99 per yard
-  Bias tape costs \$3.00 per package
-  "Dress A Girl" labels cost \$12 per 100 labels making the cost per dress 12¢
-  One quarter inch hair ribbon costs between 10¢ and 50¢
-  Additional costs are for pellon (*a lining for the pockets*), buttons, one 2" and one 3" safety pin, 2 hair bands per dress, thread, cardstock for sizing label

Depending on the size and the materials each dress costs between \$10-\$15. It is noteworthy that those called to this mission refuse to make a sub-par dress. They believe every girl deserves a quality dress filled with love and prayer and a dress that can endure multiple washings in multiple conditions. (in a washer, on the riverbank, by hand, etc.)

\$1.00 is added for each dress created to help get the dresses from Dress A Girl Around the World headquarters to their destination throughout the world. Our cost each year depends on the number of dresses created.

In addition we have the cost of mailing the dresses to Dress A Girl Around the World Headquarters. Last year the cost was \$460.00.

👗 Dress A Girl 👗

So, if you, like me, are not a seamstress but you are called to support this mission we can do so in many ways.

1. We can help with shipping costs
2. We can find quilting fabric bargains at garage sales
3. We can commit to picking up one or two yards of fabric, or buttons, or trims throughout the year. It's fun to see how your fabric piece is incorporated into these dresses.
4. Let your friends and family know about this mission. Often times someone unexpected has a cupboard full of supplies they've been wanting to get rid of, but they want it to go to a good cause.



A collection jar is located in the Narthex and remain through Easter. You are invited to donate cash if you are called to help. I know your hearts are big and I know many of you will fall in love with this mission as you watch the dresses accumulate.

This is a whole church mission!
Our seamstresses are called by love and passion.
Are you?



Happy March Birthdays

Linda Christensen

March 25

Gladys Dole

March 25

Robin Gould

March 19

Joe Kelly

March 23

Doug Kelly

March 30

Martha Kelly

March 25



Martin Kollmorgen

March 12

Luca Kollreno

March 3

Sarah Shoemaker

March 15

David Steinke

*(March 24, 1939, Birth Year
Shown By Special Request*



Shirley Stevens

March 8

Saint Patrick's Day

On Saint Patrick's Day, it is customary to wear shamrocks, green clothing or green accessories. Saint Patrick is said to have used the shamrock, a three-leaved plant, to explain the Holy Trinity to the pagan Irish. This story first appears in writing in 1726, though it may be older.

Christians may also attend church services, and the Lenten restrictions on eating and drinking alcohol are lifted for the day. Perhaps because of this, drinking alcohol – particularly Irish whiskey, beer, or cider – has become an integral part of the celebrations.



Seven fun facts about St. Patty's Day

- 1) The real St. Patrick was born in Britain
- 2) There were no snakes around for St. Patrick to Banish from Ireland
- 3) Leprechauns Are Likely Based on Celtic Fairies
- 4) The Shamrock Was Considered a Sacred Plant
- 5) The First St. Patrick's Day Parade Was Held in America
- 6) The Irish Were Once Scorned in America
- 7) Corned Beef and Cabbage Was an American Innovation

Giving ~ January

INCOME

General Fund Giving	\$ 4,983.35
Endowment Transfer – Operations	951.60
Ministerial Housing Transfer	1,421.70
Checking Interest	2.60
TOTAL INCOME	\$ 7,359.25

EXPENSES

Personnel	\$ 10,748.63
Apportionments	1,388.02
Christmas Project for Kids	934.00
Other	2,060.67
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$15,131.32

DEFICIT

TOTAL DEFICIT	\$ 7,771.97
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You may drop your tithe in the Offering Plate on Sunday OR You may remit your Offering to
Post Office Box 12, Washougal, Washington 98671

OR you can go online to:

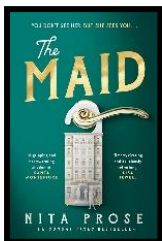
www.washougalunitedmethodistchurch.org
to give online.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact
Lou Ann Wittler~ Financial Secretary at 360.834.5677.

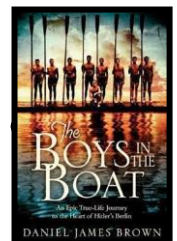
Hungry Page Turners Book Club

The Washougal United Methodist Church Book Club, Hungry Page Turners,
meets on the THIRD TUESDAY of each month at NOON at LEONARDO'S PIZZERIA.

Judy Whetzel - 360.835.5230 - maui.born62@gmail.com



March's Book	The Maid	Nita Prose
April's Book	The Boys in the Boat	Daniel James Brown



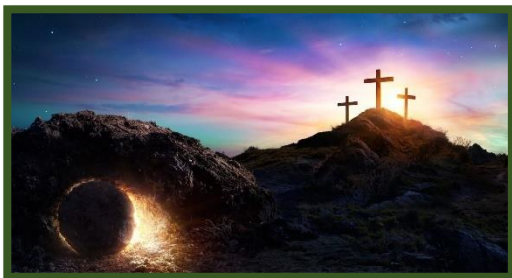
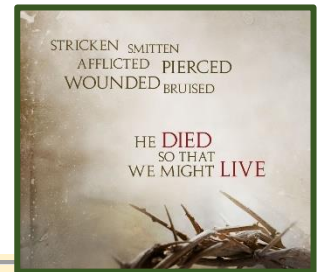
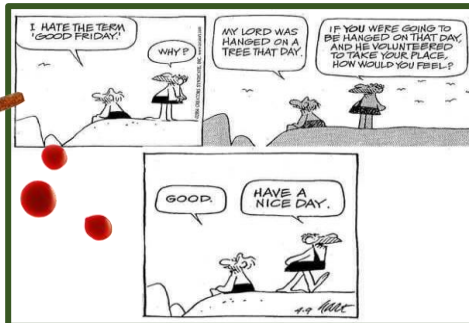
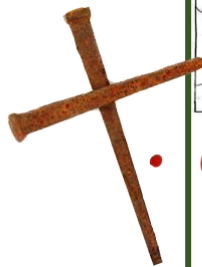
Holy Week



*Palm
Sunday*

Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday recalls an event in Scripture of Jesus entering into Jerusalem and being greeted by the people waving palm branches. For we Christians, it is a reminder of the welcoming of Jesus into our hearts and of our willingness to follow Him.

Maundy Thursday is part of our celebration of Easter and marks the night of the Last Supper as told in the Bible. At the Last Supper, Jesus commanded that people should love one another, he then washed the feet of his disciples as an act of kindness.



Holy Saturday In Silence We Await

Holy Saturday commemorates the day that Jesus Christ lay in the tomb after his death, according to the Christian bible. It is the day after Good Friday and the day before Easter Sunday. It is also known as Easter Eve, Easter Even, Black Saturday, or the Saturday before Easter.

Easter Crossword Fun

EASTER

Fill in the crossword and find the hidden words.

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Happy Easter!

March 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
					1	2	
					World Day of Prayer 	John Wesley Died in 1791	
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Worship ☩ 10:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Lenten Bible Study	Men's Coffee 9:00 Allen Room Dress♥A♥Girl 10-2 Clea's Shoppe						
	10	11	12	13	14	15	
Worship ☩ 10:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Lenten Bible Study	Men's Coffee 9:00 Allen Room Dress♥A♥Girl 10-2 Clea's Shoppe						
	17	18	1 st Day of Spring 19	20	21	22	
Worship ☩ 10:00 Potluck Sunday Lenten Bible Study	Men's Coffee 9:00 Allen Room Dress♥A♥Girl 10-2 Clea's Shoppe	Hungry Page Turners Noon Leonardo's Pizzeria		SPRC Meets @ 2 Finance & Church Council Meet @ 3 Both in the Fellowship Hall			
Palm Sunday 24	Holy Week 25	26	27	28	29	Holy Saturday 30	
Worship ☩ 10:00 Coffee Hour 11:00 Lenten Bible Study 	Men's Coffee 9:00 Allen Room				 Charles Wesley Died in 1788		
EASTER! 31	Sunrise Service 6:30 am Worship ☩ 10:00			Do you read the monthly WUMC Newsletter? The first person to show me a correctly completed Easter Crossword wins a PRIZE!			 Women's History Month