

*Florence United Methodist Church*

## *Tide-ings* 2026



# August Newsletter

Florence United Methodist Church  
333 Kingwood, Florence, OR 97439

Office: (541) 997-6025

[florenceoregonumc@gmail.com](mailto:florenceoregonumc@gmail.com)

[www.florenceoregonumc.org](http://www.florenceoregonumc.org)



## Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.

Serving the People of God:

District Superintendent: Wendy Woodworth

Pastor: Reverend Deborah Anderson

Governing Board Chair: Beth Evans

Finance Chair: Kathy Yelle

Trustees Chair: Scott Philben

SPRC Chair: Ann Scharf

Newsletter Editor: Diane McCalmont

Ministers: All Members

Office Phone: 541-997-6025

Pastor Deb's Office Hours:

Tuesday & Wednesday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.

Contacts: Phone: 651-600-9444

Email: revdebanderson@gmail.com



Diane's Office Hours;

Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 10:00am-2:00pm

Thursday: 10:00 a.m. through 1:00 p.m.



*August*

| Date | Liturgist         | Usher/<br>Greeter  | Counters                       | Projectionist      | Flowers     |
|------|-------------------|--------------------|--------------------------------|--------------------|-------------|
| 2    | Kathy<br>Waterman | Patty Evans        | Patty Evans<br>Kay Fitzgerald  | Karen Baylis       | Marja Jones |
| 9    | Kathryn<br>Socea  | Patt Rollins       | Patty Evans<br>Ann Scharf      | Peggy Hughes       |             |
| 16   | Karen Baylis      | Peggy<br>Simington | Patty Evans<br>Julia Bicek     | Bert Schniepp      |             |
| 23   | Cindy<br>Hughes   | Nu Williams        | Patty Evans<br>Nancy Rhodes    | Peggy<br>Simington |             |
| 30   | Ann Scharf        | Lillie Leland      | Patty Evans<br>Peggy Simington | Patty Evans        |             |

### Coffee Hour Signups

|   |             |   |    |    |    |
|---|-------------|---|----|----|----|
| 2 | Nu Williams | 9 | 16 | 23 | 30 |
|---|-------------|---|----|----|----|

Dear Family in Christ,

Grace is yours and peace through Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior!

One of the beautiful things about the Christian life is that we are never finished.

It can be tempting to think that growth belongs to the young, that purpose belongs to those with busy careers, or that change is for churches with lots of new people and endless resources. But Scripture tells a different story. Again and again, God calls ordinary people who are still becoming - Abraham and Sarah in their old age, Moses in the wilderness, Miriam leading with song, Ruth beginning again, Mary saying yes to an unexpected future, and the disciples who learned by following one uncertain step at a time.

This summer we've been exploring many of these stories in worship, and they remind us of a simple truth: God is not finished with us yet. The same is true for Florence United Methodist Church.

Over the past months we've seen signs of new life. New faces have joined us in worship. Caring Circle has become a place of honest conversation and support. Hearts & Hands continues to bless people with tangible expressions of love. New Bible Study with fresh insights. Our hospitality, outreach, music, worship, and prayer all continue because so many people quietly offer their gifts. None of these ministries happen because a few people do everything. They happen because many people each bring what they can.

As we begin launching our Ministry Life Teams, I hope you'll prayerfully consider where God might be inviting you next. You don't have to have all the answers. You don't need years of experience. You don't have to make a lifelong commitment. You simply need an open heart and a willingness to say, "Here I am, Lord."

Perhaps your gift is welcoming visitors with a smile. Perhaps it's making phone calls, praying with others, creating beauty, preparing a meal, singing, organizing, sewing, visiting someone who is lonely, or working behind the scenes so others can flourish. Every gift matters because every act of love becomes part of God's work in the world.

As we move into August, my prayer is that each of us will remain open to becoming who God is still calling us to be—individually and together. May we continue to grow in faith, deepen our friendships, welcome our neighbors, and share Christ's reconciling love with our community.

The story of Florence United Methodist Church is still being written.

And thanks be to God, we all have a part to play.

Blessings and Peace,  
Pastor Deb





United  
Women  
in Faith

## United Women in Faith News

United Women in Faith is still on break during August. Meetings will resume in September, on the 2nd at 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. The group will confirm our pledge to the mission work of UWF at large. Renee' Hansen is hosting and Brooke Shafer will lead devotions. Diane McCalmont will provide a program. ALL women are invited - bring a friend!

This year's annual rummage sale was another success. Nu Williams spearheaded the project. At the time of this writing, total funds raised were near \$1,000! Thanks to all who donated items and/or helped with set-up, cleanup, and running of the sale. Proceeds from this fundraiser will go to help fund organizations that support women, children, and families in our community and beyond.

Diane McCalmont, Secretary

## **Taizé Community Prayer Service**

**Sunday, August 9, 2026, 4:00 pm**

**Florence United Methodist Church**

**333 Kingwood Street**

**Musicians' Rehearsals**

**Tuesday, August 4, at 2:00 pm**

**Sunday, August 9 at 3:00 pm**

**For more information contact**

**Patricia Evans, Taizé Coordinator**

**541-905-4248**

**541-905-4248 or pcevans1556@gmail.com**

## Outreach & Nurture—Teacher/Staff Bag Project



Over the last ten years, our church has given teachers and educational staff at Siuslaw School District gift bags as they start each year. In 2020, I took this project on and wanted to make it into a community project. We also included the Mapleton School District and staff members as well. I am a retired High School Administrator of a large inner city high school in Bakersfield, California (we moved to Florence full-time in 2020). Supporting our educators and staff is very important to me and to our church!

Last year we had 25 Community Partners:

Peace Health, Grocery Outlet, River Roasters, Safeway, Fred Meyer, Abby's Legendary Pizza, Three Rivers Casino, Mo's Seafood and Chowder, Florence Dental Clinic, Artefacts, City Lights Cinemas, Waterfront Depot, Chad E. Clement Dentistry, Nosh Eatery, Hunt Family Dentistry, Books' N Bears, Stitch & Sole, Laurel Bay Gardens, Organic Noodle, Dairy Queen, A&W, Uncommon Collective, Timber & Flame, Rivals Hollow, and Shippin' Shack!

So far this year we have garnered **Happy Taco, Restobar, The Brown Hen, Laughing Crab, the Masons, and USBank** to join our community team! Our goal is to provide each teacher and staff member with a gift bag filled with useful educational items, restaurant coupons, and treats donated by generous Community Partners like you. Your support helps us to show our appreciation for the people who make a difference in the lives of our students every day! We will fill **250 bags** on **August 24** and deliver the bags on the same day for the **District All School Meetings**.

**Please mark your calendar to fill the bags on August 24 in the Church Parking Lot at 9:00 am.** This is always a positive and fun activity! Additionally, please make sure you support and frequent our Community Partners and let them know how much we appreciate their participation in this Time-Honored Project!

***"I can do all things in Christ who strengthens me!"*** - Philippians 4:13

With Gratitude,  
Kathryn Waterman, Nurture Chair



## FREE COMMUNITY DROP OFF EVENT !

**MIDDLE SCHOOL  
SOUTH PARKING LOT**

**10 AM TILL 1 PM**

**Saturday August 22, 2026**

### St. Vinnie's

Mattresses  
Block Styrofoam  
Household Items  
Appliances

### Florence Food Share

Non-perishable food items

### Oregon Coast Humane Society

Pet supplies, toys, towels,  
blankets

### County Transfer and Recycling

(City Residents Only)

- Tires (up to 19 inches)
- Appliances with Refrigerant
- Propane Tanks (up to 5 Gallons)
- Yard Debris in Garbage Bags - 3 per household
- Rechargeable Batteries

### Lion's Club

Hearing Aids  
Glasses

### Habitat for Humanity

- Paint in original container with secure lid
- Reusable Construction Materials

### Circular Action

#### Alliance

Plastic:  
Bags (stretchy)  
Snap Lids  
Pails/ Buckets  
Shredded Paper

#### Fix It Fair

Repair your

- Bike
- Small Appliances
- Clothes

**SPONSORED BY:**



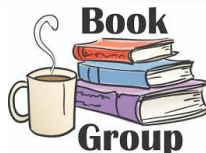
County Transfer & Recycling



No Adult Bible study in August. Sessions will resume on the 2nd Monday in **September**.



Hearts & Hands Craft Ministry meets on the 2nd Wednesday each month, 10:00am-Noon, in the Fellowship Hall.



The Book Groups meets the third Wednesday each Month, 10:00-11:30am, in the Fellowship Hall.



## Coming Up: PFLAG Events

The meeting Monday, August 10 at 6 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall will be our annual potluck and an opportunity to share experiences about tabling at the Florence Farmers Market and participating in the Yachats La de da Parade. We'll also discuss some new fundraising activities and soliciting ideas for the annual meeting, which will be held Monday, September 14, when the slate of officers will be presented. September is also the month when annual dues are collected.

Look for PFLAG at the Farmers Market on the Waterfront on August 4 and 18 and September 1, 15 and 29.

PFLAG will continue to hold regular meetings on the second Mondays of the month at 6 p.m. The meetings are free and refreshments are available. PFLAG is grateful to Florence UMC for continued use of the Fellowship Hall. The chapter was founded in 2011 by members of this church. If you'd like to support PFLAG, just check out the website at [pflagflorenceoregon.org](http://pflagflorenceoregon.org) and press the donate button.

Linda Yoder

**PALS**



**1:00-2:30 p.m. Fridays**  
Tedd Powell Fellowship Hall  
All women are welcome!

**P... Prayer**  
**A... Action**  
**L... Love**  
**S...Sharing**

# AUGUST

| Sun                                                                                                                                      | Mon                                                                                                                                 | Tue                                                                                                                                                     | Wed                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Thu                                 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
|                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                     |
| <b>2</b><br>10:30am Church Svce<br>Coffee after church                                                                                   | <b>3</b><br><b>Office Closed</b>                                                                                                    | <b>4</b><br>8:00am-4:30pm Pastor Deb's<br>Office Hrs<br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>11:30am Free Lunch<br><b>2:00pm Taizé Music Rehear.</b> | <b>5</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor<br>Deb's Office Hrs<br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br><b>5:30pm Women of the Bible<br/>Study</b>                                                                  | <b>6</b><br>10:00am-1<br>11:30am F  |
| <b>9</b><br>10:30am Church Svce<br>Coffee after church<br><b>3:00pm Taizé Music<br/>Rehearsal</b><br><b>4:00pm Taizé Prayer<br/>Svce</b> | <b>10</b><br><b>Office Closed</b><br><b>6:00pm PFLAG</b>                                                                            | <b>11</b><br>8:00am-4:30pm Pastor<br>Deb's Office Hrs<br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>11:30am Free Lunch<br><b>3:00pm Church Council Mtg</b> | <b>12</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor<br>Deb's Office Hrs<br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br><b>10:00am-12:00pm Hearts &amp;<br/>Hands Craft Ministry</b><br><b>5:30pm Women of the Bible<br/>Study</b> | <b>13</b><br>10:00am-1<br>11:30am F |
| <b>16</b><br>10:30am Church Svce<br>Coffee after church                                                                                  | <b>17</b><br><b>Office Closed</b>                                                                                                   | <b>18</b><br>8:00am-4:30pm Pastor<br>Deb's Office Hrs<br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>11:30am Free Lunch                                     | <b>19</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor<br>Deb's Office Hrs<br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br><b>10:00-11:30am Book Group</b><br><b>5:30pm Women of the Bible<br/>Study</b>                              | <b>20</b><br>10:00am-1<br>11:30am F |
| <b>23</b><br>10:30am Church Svce<br><b>Johnson-Nagel<br/>Baptism</b><br>Coffee after church                                              | <b>24</b><br><b>Office Closed</b><br><b>9:00am Putting<br/>together appreciation<br/>bags for the schools-<br/>FUMC parking lot</b> | <b>25</b><br>8:00am-4:30pm Pastor<br>Deb's Office Hrs<br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>11:30am Free Lunch                                     | <b>26</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor<br>Deb's Office Hrs<br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br><b>5:30pm Women of the Bible<br/>Study</b>                                                                 | <b>27</b><br>10:00am-1<br>11:30am F |
| <b>30</b><br>10:30am Church Svce<br>Coffee after church                                                                                  | <b>31</b><br><b>Office Closed</b>                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                          |                                     |

| Fri                                         |                                                                         | Sat                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------|
|                                             |                                                                         | <b>1</b>                                                             |
| 10:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>Free Lunch | <b>7</b><br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>1-2:30pm PALS meet  | <b>8</b>                                                             |
| 10:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>Free Lunch | <b>14</b><br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>1-2:30pm PALS meet | <b>15</b>                                                            |
| 10:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>Free Lunch | <b>21</b><br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>1-2:30pm PALS meet | <b>22</b><br>10:00am-1:00pm<br>Recycling Dropoff<br>at Middle School |
| 10:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>Free Lunch | <b>28</b><br>10:00am-2:00pm Regular<br>Office hrs<br>1-2:30pm PALS meet | <b>29</b>                                                            |
|                                             |                                                                         |                                                                      |



## *Birthdays*

6 Karen Baylis

## *Anniversaries*

5 Bert & Linda Schniepp  
18 Scott & Vicki Philben  
24 Terry & Sandy Woodward

If I've missed your  
birthday or anniversary,  
please let me know at  
florenceoregonumc  
@gmail.com



## Free Lunch News

Free Lunch would like to thank the Faith Foundation Northwest for their grant that enabled us to purchase and install a bike rack. People often ride their bikes to Free Lunch. Until now the only place to secure the bikes was to chain them to the sign or railing. Needless to say, this was not very good for the railing. Now we have a designated bike rack that looks neat, won't damage the railing posts, and is secure. Thanks, too, to Robin Hendrick for the bike rack installation.

The Faith Foundation Northwest has also given Free Lunch money for Rhody Bus tickets. The Rhody bus stops right in front of the church and will take

people pretty much anywhere they want to go in the city of Florence. With the same grant we were also able to purchase some LinkLane bus tickets that go from Florence to Eugene for people who have vital appointments there.

Vicki Philben



## **Florence United Methodist Church** **FINANCES**

June 1-30, 2026: Receipts: \$ 8,137.96  
Expenses: \$ 7,828.47

July income through the 25th: \$ 22,777.22

Provided by Kathy Yelle, Treasurer





## Church Council Notes

Church Council met on July 14th. Kathy Waterman and Judy Jones are doing a great job of recruiting people to serve on the Council, starting in January 2027. Nominees will be presented and voted on at the fall Charge Conference. Chuck Cornell is willing to serve as Council Chair. Kathy Yelle is willing to extend her time as Finance Chair for one year, with Kay Fitzgerald stepping up as Treasurer. Amanda Weaver will serve as a member-at-large. We still need another Council Member and someone who is willing to be the Trustee. The Trustee keeps an eye on our buildings and arranges for repairs when needed.

You may have noticed we have a bike rack by the Fellowship Hall. This was purchased and installed with grant funds secured by Vicki Philben. Rosie Goodwin and Hazel Vacura's memorial bench has arrived and will be installed soon. I imagine Rosie saying from heaven, "Well, it's about time!"

We reviewed the feedback from church members about Pastor Deb. A common concern was the number of hours the Pastor works each week. The position is simply greater than part time. We are looking at how to increase the Pastor's hours, both to honor the work Pastor Deb is currently doing and to position ourselves to stay a viable congregation into the future. You will be hearing more about this, and be engaged in the process, over the next few months.

Amanda Weaver and Pastor Deb reported on the Congregational Enrichment Gathering. Five people signed up to be part of a Spiritual Life Team, six to be part of a Care and Nurture Team and four to be part of an Outreach Team. Amanda will lead another workshop in the fall for those who could not attend in July. The ministry teams are a great way for you to participate in the life of the church.

Please remember that Council meetings are open to all members of the congregation. We meet on the second Tuesdays of each month at 3:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Beth Evans

## *Save the Date...*

### **Ecumenical Outdoor Worship & Picnic**

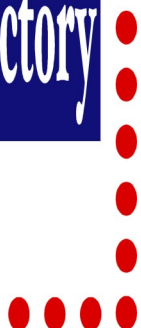
Presbyterians, Episcopalians, Catholics, Methodists, Lutherans - an outdoor service and potluck picnic - hosted by the Presbyterian Church, will be held on **Sunday,**

**September 6, 2026**, at the East Woahink Lake section of Honeyman Park (where we were last year). Reverend Deb Anderson will be preaching; service begins at **10:30 a.m.**, followed by the potluck.

Florence Ecumenical Choir will serve in leading hymns, providing music during communion, and singing an anthem, "I'm Gonna Sing and Shout!". Choir rehearsals will be held on Fridays, August 14, 21, and 28, 11:30 - 12:30, at the Presbyterian Church. Rhianna Sutherland is accompanying, with Laura Merz directing. For information regarding choir rehearsals, please call or text Laura at 541-901-9884.



**UPDATE**



### **CONTACT INFO EITHER INCORRECT OR NOT INCLUDED IN THE LAST DIRECTORY UPDATE**

Bob & Joyce Redfern  
Home phone: 541-997-9254  
Email: bigred068@gmail.com

Karen Baylis  
Corrected Address: 1780 Willow Lp

Lance & Elaine Bach  
3932 Spruce St  
Florence, OR 97439  
916-402-4655  
natty2737@gmail.com



United  
Women  
in Faith

The United Women in Faith Assembly was held in Indianapolis, Indiana May 15-17, 2026, and the theme was "Dream it! Believe it! Do it!" Approximately 3,000 women attended this year. Our Amanda Weaver worked during the assembly, through her role as the Virtual Meeting Planner for UWF.

We learned about international Missions, There was inspiration for leaders. Gathering music, a prayer, and meditation room, and more.

We were honored to experience the presence of the speaker, Stacey Abrams, and her mother. Being from a family of six children, she expressed that if there was a problem, she learned they had to figure out how to solve it together. She is an author, voting rights activist, lawyer, governmental candidate, and served in the Georgia House of Representatives from 2007-2017. It was an inspiring experience for many of us.

I'm thankful for the opportunity to attend this assembly and for the financial help from our United Women in Faith and FUMC. Thank you!

-Renee' Hansen



***Another beautiful day at Suttle Lake Camp during the Quilt Show Retreat in July. Diane McCalmont attended this 4-day retreat, along with 16 others, for fellowship, fun, quilting, and enjoying nature.***

***Choir Anthem with Guest  
Drummer, Calvin Waterman,  
17 years old  
(the Waterman's grandson)  
7-5-26***



***Some of the  
attendees at the  
Congregational Enrichment  
Workshop  
7-8-26***





### *Keeping in Our Prayers*

Dean Spencer; Barbara Embree and the friends and family of Donna Embree; Peggy Simington; Julia Bicek; Machel Goodwin; Butch Goodwin; Ray Feay; Judy Jones; Earl Rosendaul; Yola Hesser; Carolyn Munson; Betty Livingston; Sandy & Terry Woodward; Georgia Garrett.

Soldiers everywhere in the world and those who wait for them to come home.  
*We ask God's blessing on these people and those in need, but not named.*

Note: To receive the electronic prayer chain, contact ...  
[kathywaterman10@gmail.com](mailto:kathywaterman10@gmail.com).

#### **A prayer for those impacted by fire and smoke:**

God of Pentecost and fiery pillar, we rejoice in the flame of your eternal love. But right now, many places in our mortal world are on fire, and we ask for the strength to become love-bearers to the plants, animals and people that are being harmed. Let us find ways to help the wounded and repair the damaged places.

We also ask for clarity of vision that we might see, each of us, how we have contributed—intentionally or inattentively—to making a world that is so hot and so ready to burn.

Grant that we may leave the path of harming, and turn to the path of healing your beloved creation, our only home.

We ask this in the name of the great healer, your son Jesus the Christ.  
Amen

- Bob Wilson, Co-Caretaker of God's Creation, Oregon-Idaho.

# AUGUST NEWSLETTER

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**Love Boldly**  
**Serve Joyfully**  
**Lead Courageously**



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Online: [www.florenceoregonumc.org](http://www.florenceoregonumc.org)

**Directory Update:**

Do we have your current address,  
phone number, and e-mail address?

Please forward them to:

[florenceoregonumc@gmail.com](mailto:florenceoregonumc@gmail.com)

If you do not wish to receive this  
Newsletter, please notify the church office.