Florence United Methodist Church

Tide-ings 2026

November Newsletter

Florence United Methodist Church
333 Kingwood, Florence, OR 97439
Office: (541) 997-6025
florenceoregonumc@gmail.com
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



Diane's Office Hours;
Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 10:00am-2:00pm
Thursday: 10:00 a.m. through 1:00 p.m.

Pastor Deb's Office Hours:
Tuesday & Wednesday, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.
Thursday: (;00am-4:00pm, study time
Contacts: Phone: 651-600-9444
Email: revdebanderson@gmail.com



November

Date	Liturgist	Usher/ Greeter	Counters	Projectionist	Altar Guild
1	Cindy Hughes	Patty Evans	Kay Fitzgerald Patty Evans	Peggy Hughes	Elaine Bach
8	Ann Scharf	Barbara Cornell	Ann Scharf Nancy Rhodes	Bert Schniepp	
15	Kathy Bones	Kathryn Socea	Brooke Shafer Patty Evans	Karen Baylis	
22	Karen Baylis	Caroline Mesman	Caroline Mesman Patty Evans	Peggy Simington	
29	Patty Evans	Kathryn Socea	Nancy Rhodes Patty Evans	Bert Schniepp	

11/29	**Flowers**	**Elaine Bach**

What Feeds the People Who Feed Others?



Dear Family in Christ,

Spend a little time at Florence United Methodist Church, and you will discover that something is almost always happening. Meals are prepared, music rehearsed, gifts made, meetings held, and people cared for. There are dishes to wash, calls to make, and plans for whatever comes next. I love the care that moves through this congregation. And lately, I have been wondering: What feeds the people who feed others? What nourishes our own souls?

We talk easily about what needs doing. We may talk less often about what sustains us: where we notice God, what prayer is like for us, which questions we carry, or what helps us when faith feels uncertain.

Of course, what we say aloud reveals only part of our spiritual lives. Some of us have a quiet, deeply rooted faith. Some find prayer easier while walking or playing piano or crafting a wooden toy than while sitting still. Some have never felt comfortable speaking about something so personal. There is no single way to be close to God.

And much of what we already do here grows out of that closeness. Preparing a meal can become a prayer of care for those who will eat it. Listening patiently can make room for grace. Receiving another person's help can teach us something about trusting God's love.

Still, even work we love can leave us tired. We can become so absorbed in the next task that we have little opportunity to notice what is happening within us. Jesus knew the demands of caring for people, and the Gospels tell us that he also withdrew to pray. There is something tender in that example: our need for spiritual nourishment belongs within a faithful life.

This November, I invite us to give that need a little attention. Perhaps linger over a line of Scripture. Sit quietly with your morning coffee. Take a walk without needing to accomplish anything. Tell God honestly how you are—even if the only words you have are "thank you," "help," or "I don't know."

And perhaps, when it feels right, let someone else into that part of your life. Ask a church friend, "What has been sustaining you lately?" Share a moment when you felt God's presence—or admit that you have been longing for it.
I would welcome those conversations, too.

There is room in this busy, caring church for our questions, our weariness, our wonder, and our growing faith. As we care for one another, may we also make room to receive the love of God that sustains us.

Blessings and Peace,

Pastor Deb

United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith News

All women are welcome to attend the November 4 meeting of the United Women in Faith. It will begin at 1:00pm, with Diane McCalmonyt leading devotions. The hostess for the day is Sharon Gallagher. Carla Ayers will present information about the new Opioid Clinic planned to open in Florence. Judy Jones will talk about the UWF World Thank Offering. Also on the agenda is election of officers for 2027, and approval of a 2027 Budget.

Nominations for 2027 officers are as follows:

- ⇒ President: Linda Yoder
- ⇒ Treasurer: Vicki Philben (continuing)
- ⇒ Secretary: Diane McCalmont (continuing)
- ⇒ Council Representative: Julia Bicek (continuing)
- ⇒ Education/Interpretation: Diane McCalmont (continuing)
- ⇒ Nurture/Outreach: Diane McCalmont

Pecans should be arriving in the early part of November. Once they arrive, Diane will let the congregation know, and a day will be scheduled for sales to begin. Schermer's Pecans are harvested fresh this fall. Types available and prices are as follows:

- ⇒ Medium pieces $12/bag
- ⇒ Glazed pecans $12/bag
- ⇒ Pecan halves $15/bag
- ⇒ Chocolate covered pecans $15/bag
- ⇒ Pecan clusters $15/bag

Looking Ahead: The annual UWF Christmas Part has been scheduled for Saturday, December 5, 1:00pm in the Fellowship Hall. Sharon Gallagher and Beth Evans will be coordinating this event.

Diane McCalmont, Secretary

Items Needed for Free Lunch Give-Away Basket…

Body wipes	Shampoo/conditioner	Hand warmers	Packaged snacks
Body wash/hand soap	Toothbrush/paste	Gloves	**Bring your items to the church, to the Free Lunch program, or give to a UWF member.**
Kleenex	Deodorant	Warm hats	
Hairbrush/comb	Laundry soap/sheets	Foot warmers	
Tylenol	Mini flashlights	Socks	





Gather for an Evening
of Reflection and Renewal

As the autumn season deepens, we invite you to pause, breathe, and join us for our monthly ecumenical Taizé Community Prayer Service on Sunday, November 8 at 4:00 pm in the sanctuary.

This month, our prayers, silence, and songs will center around the theme of Sacred Gratitude. In a world that often moves too fast, this service offers a gentle, candlelit space to ground ourselves in thankfulness, center our hearts, and share in communal stillness. Through simple, repetitive chants, brief scripture readings, and extended moments of shared silence, we will cultivate a deeper awareness of the blessings that sustain us.

Whether you are seeking a quiet refuge, a deeper connection to the sacred, or simply a moment of peace to begin your week, you are welcome exactly as you are. Bring a friend, neighbor, or family member to share in this beautiful, meditative experience.

Patty Evans



Calling All Musicians and Singers

Our Taizé Musician's Team welcomes those who wish to support the monthly service through vocal or instrumental music. If you would like to lift your talents in song or play an instrument, please join us for our upcoming rehearsals in the sanctuary:

Tuesday, November 3 at 2:00 pm
Sunday, November 8 at 3:00 pm (final warm-up before the service)

We look forward to entering into this space of sacred gratitude together.

Patty Evans

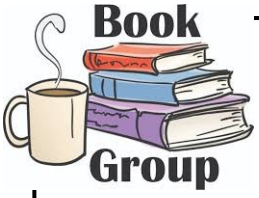
Adult Bible Study of Genesis



The Adult Bible study will continue the study of Genesis using the opening video of Dr. Amy-Jill Levine. Her focus on the book of Genesis provides us with insights from this first Old Testament book dealing with the intersection of our faith with our everyday lives and helping us all to solidify our connection to God and to all creation.

All are welcome to join us for the short video and discussion following on each Monday morning from 10:30 to 11:30 in the Sunday School room of the Fellowship Hall.

Bert Schniepp



Book Group

The book group will meet next on November 18th, from 10:00-11:30. We will be reading *Educated* by Tara Westover. The discussion will be lead by Bert Schneipp. We will not meet in December because it is such a busy month.

We meet on the third Wednesday of the month, from 10:00-11:30, in the Fellowship Hall. Members take turns selecting a book and leading the discussion. Most discussion leaders bring a small snack, but this is not a requirement! It is really fun, and the group is open to church members and their friends who like to read and talk about books. Here is what is scheduled for the first few months of 2027.

- ◊ January 20 - *The Calamity Club* by Katherine Stockett - discussion led by Julia Bicek
- ◊ February 17 - *The Only Woman in the Room* by Marie Benedict - discussion led by Linda Yoder
- ◊ March 17 - *Whistler* by Ann Patchett - discussion led by Beth Evans
- ◊ April 21 - *Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles - discussion led by Patty Evans
- ◊ May 9 - *Blue Song* by Nancy Rhodes—discussion led by Nancy Rhodes

Beth Evans



Everyone is invited to the FUMC
Thanksgiving Potluck
Wednesday, November 18, 5:30pm
Fellowship Hall
Nu Williams is preparing the turkey
There will be a sign-up sheet going around for you to indicate what type of side dish you will bring
Also bring your own table service

"Friendsgiving" is November 9 at PFLAG

PFLAG Florence

Join friends for a night of food, fun, and games with a Thanksgiving theme for this month's PFLAG meeting on Monday, November 9, at Florence United Methodist Church, starting at 6 p.m. It's an appetizer potluck to which you're invited to bring your specialty, but the most important thing to bring is yourself. There will always be enough to go around. The church is located at the corner of 2nd and Kingwood, one block West of Highway 101.

In addition to food, there will be sharing and a recap of PFLAG's outreach during the past year, which included a Coastal Leadership Summit October 10, which brought together LGBTQ+ folks from a wide area for an all-day event in Florence.

You do not have to be a member of PFLAG to attend. All meetings are free and open to the public. The new board especially welcomes new ideas and help with its community outreach.

PFLAG Florence is a member of the Florence Area Chamber of Commerce and the Florence Area Community Coalition. It's an affiliate of a national organization of more than 400 local chapters that are working to create a caring, just, and affirming world for LGBTQ+ people and those who love them.

Linda Yoder

NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
1 **9:00am Choir Practice** 10:30am Worship Svce with Communion **Free Lunch Giving Sun.**	***2*** 10:30am Adult Bible Study *Office Closed*	***3*** 9:00am-4:00pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 11:30am Free Lunch **2:00pmTaizé Music Rehear** **3:00pm Church Council Mtg**	***4*** 9:00am-4:00pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs **1:00pm UWF mtg** 4:00pm Care Circle 5:30pm Women of the Bible Study	***5*** 9:00am-4:0 10:00am-1: 11:30am Fr
8 10:30am Church Svce **Charge/Church Conference right after service** Coffee after church **3:00pm Taizé Music Rehearsal** **4:00pm Taizé Prayer**	***9*** 10:30am Adult Bible Study *Office Closed* **6:30pm PFLAG**	***10*** 9:00am-4:00pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	***11*** 9:00am-4:00pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs **10:00am-12:00pm Hearts & Hands Craft Ministry** 4:00pm Care Circle 5:30pm Women of the Bible Study	***12*** 9:00am-4:0 10:00am-1: 11:30am Fr
15 **9:00am Choir Practice** 10:30am Church Svce Coffee after church	***16*** *Office Closed* 10:30am Adult Bible Study	***17*** 9:00am-4:00pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	***18*** 9:00am-4:00pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs **10:00-11:30am Book Group** **5:30pm Thanksgiving Potluck**	***19*** 9:00am-4:0 10:00am-1: 11:30am Fr
22 10:30am Church Svce Coffee after church	***23*** *Office Closed* 10:30am Adult Bible Study	***24*** 9:00am-4:00pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	***25*** 9:00am-4:00pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 4:00pm Care Circle 5:30pm Women of the Bible Study	***26 Thank***
29 10:30am Church Svce Coffee after church	***30*** *Office Closed* 10:30am Adult Bible Study			

	Fri	Sat
0pm Pastor's Study Day 00pm Regular Office hrs ee Lunch	***6*** 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 1-2:30pm PALS meet	***7***
0pm Pastor's Study Day 00pm Regular Office hrs ee Lunch	***13*** 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 1-2:30pm PALS meet	***14*** ***11:00am Yola Hesser Memorial Service—reception to follow***
0pm Pastor's Study Day 00pm Regular Office hrs ee Lunch	***20*** 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 1-2:30pm PALS meet	***21***
sgiving	***27***	***28***





Birthdays

2	Ralph Ray
3	Alex Goss
4	Sandy Woodward
14	Eleanor Hand
24	Fritzi Keller
26	Carol Salisbury

Anniversaries

26 Tom & Stephanie Gonser

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



Discover the Joy of Creating with Hearts and Hands

Do you love to knit, crochet, paint, sew, or craft? Or perhaps you are looking to discover a new creative hobby? We invite you to join us for Hearts and Hands, our church's vibrant craft ministry.

Hearts and Hands is a space where we come together to celebrate our unique, God-given artistic gifts. More than just a crafting circle, this ministry is about purpose. Through the items we create, we aim to bring tangible comfort, healing, and joy to individuals within our own congregation and across the wider community. Every project is infused with love and prayer.

Our next gathering will take place on Wednesday, November 11, from 10:00 AM to 12:00 noon. Pastor Deb has graciously invited us into her home and will be leading November's special project which is sewing handmade sanitary supplies for women and children in Malawi, Africa.

This is a wonderful opportunity to use our hands to bring dignity, health, and hope to sisters across the globe.

You don't need to know how to sew to share in this creative experience. We will need people who can cut the fabric and pin the layers so the sewers can quickly whip them up. Bring along your cloth cutting scissors if you have them. Also, if you have large safety pins you can donate, please bring them along too.

Whether you are a lifelong master crafter or have never picked up a needle or thread, there is a place for you at our table. Come for the crafting, stay for the fellowship, and leave knowing you made a difference.

Contact Patty Evans at 541-905-4248 or the church office at 541-997-6025 if you have questions or need more information.

Come share your heart and your hands with us. Invite a friend to join you!

Patty Evans

Church Council Notes

The Council has been preparing for our annual Charge Conference on November 8th. The Charge Conference will follow the church service at 11:30am and it is really important for as many church members to stay for the meeting as possible. It won't be a very long meeting. You will be asked to vote on three things.

1. The proposed council members and church officers for 2027.

Council Chair	Chuck Cornell
Trustee Chair	Scott Philben
Finance Chair	Kathy Yelle
SPRC Chair	Ann Scharf
Secretary	Diane McCalmont (also UWF Secretary)
Conference Rep	Amanda Weaver
At-large Member	Elaine Bach
At-large Member	Kathryn Socea
UWF Rep	Julia Bicek
Nominating Committee	Kathryn Waterman (also Nurture Comm)
Nominating Committee	Judy Jones
Treasurer	Kay Fitzgerald
Financial Secretary	Patty Evans
Membership	Jean Hefty
SPRC Comm	Brooke Shafer
SPRC Comm	Karen Baylis
Free Lunch Coordinator	Vicki Philben
UWF President	Linda Yoder

2. The names of members who have left our church in the past two-three years.
3. The pastor's hours and salary. If the intention of giving cards you turned in indicate an increase in giving, we will vote to increase the position to full time.

If there is not an increase, we will vote to make the position 3/4 time. When we increased the salary this past summer, we added a day (8 hours) to the (half time) position. Making the position 3/4 time shifts it from 28 to 30 hours each week. We have talked about the position in terms of salary rather than hours because Pastor Deb gives us way more hours each week than we can pay her for currently. Also, we stayed under 3/4 time when we last voted because we had not gotten a response from the District about required participation in the Methodist insurance pool. We now know we can increase the position 3/4 time.

Beth Evans

Playful Mixture of Classics Coming This Month

Masterworks Chorale and Chamber Players will perform “A Potpourri of Great Composers” on Friday and Saturday, November 13th and 14th, 3:00 p.m. Held at New Life Lutheran Church, 2100 Spruce Street, the concerts will be directed by Sylvia Hartman. Florence UMC members of the Chorale include John Pohlman and Linda Yoder.

The program will feature choral works by Schubert and Faure, with a little PDQ Bach, Gilbert & Sullivan and Aaron Copland’s “I Bought Me a Cat” just for fun. Soloists will perform the quartet from Rigoletto by Giuseppi Verdi, Wagner’s “Song to the Evening Star,” and Menotti’s Telephone Aria.

The Chamber Players will perform selections from Brahms, Elgar, and Bruch, and “The Aquarium” from Saint Saens’ “Carnival of the Animals” will be performed on two pianos.

The concerts are free. Donations are accepted. The Masterworks Chorale and Chamber Players is a 501(c)3 charitable organization. “A Potpourri of Great Composers” concerts are sponsored by Shorewood Senior Living.





Altar Guild

Our newly organized Altar Guild will prepare and care for our worship space, so that it reflects the welcome, beauty, and sacredness of our life together, helping to create a setting that invites prayer, expresses welcome, and supports the congregation's worship. Through practical, often quiet acts of service, members contribute to the spiritual life of our church family. Through this ministry, we offer our care for the space where our church family gathers to encounter God and one another. Great appreciation is extended to Sharon Gallagher who has agreed to be our Altar Guild Leader. This creative servant group is open to everyone. For more information and to volunteer to serve on the Altar Guild, please contact Sharon at 541-590-3676 or the church office at 541-997-6025.

Florence United Methodist Church
FINANCES



September 1-30, 2026: Receipts: $ 5,465.63
Expenses: $ 8,502.44

October income through the 24th: $ 7,643.00

Provided by Kathy Yelle, Treasurer



Keeping in Our Prayers

Yola Hesser's family & friends; Earl Rosendaul's family & friends; Ray Feay's family & friends; Dean Spencer; Sharon Belvill; Peggy Simington; Julia Bicek; Machelle Goodwin; Butch Goodwin; Judy Jones & family; Carolyn Munson; Betty Livingston; Georgia Garrett; Sandy & Terry Woodward.

We ask God's blessing on these people and those in need, but not named.

Soldiers everywhere in the world and those who wait for them to come home.

Note: To receive the electronic prayer chain, contact ... kathywaterman10@gmail.com.

Dear Church Family,

Thank you so much for your generous birthday gifts and for making me feel so loved and appreciated. I'm truly grateful for your kindness and thoughtfulness. I'm thinking of putting the gift toward a loom, which would make it even more special!

With love and gratitude,

Pastor Deb



Candied Sweet Potatoes

Recipe by Sloane Layton

Ingredients:

- **3 lb.** sweet potatoes (about 5 medium), peeled and cut into **1/2**-inch thick rounds
- 1/2 cup light brown sugar
- 6 Tbsp. unsalted butter, melted
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- 1 1/2 tsp. kosher salt
- 1 tsp. ground cinnamon
- 1/2 tsp. ground ginger
- Pinch of nutmeg
- 2 tsp. bourbon (optional)

Directions:

1. Preheat the oven to 400 degrees F. In a large bowl, whisk together the brown sugar, butter, maple syrup, 1 tbsp. Of water, salt, cinnamon, ginger, and nutmeg, plus bourbon, if using. Add the sweet potatoes to the sugar mixture and toss to coat. Pour into a 13 by 9 inch casserole dish. Spread the potatoes into an even layer and pour any leftover sugar mixture over them.
2. Bake the sweet potatoes until tender and the sauce thickens into a glaze, 45 to 60 minutes, stirring every 15 minutes. Let cool for 10 minutes before serving.



Yields: 6-8 servings
Prep Time: 15 minutes
Total Time: 1 hour 10 minutes

NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER

Love Boldly
Serve Joyfully
Lead Courageously



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Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.
Office Phone: (541) 997-6025
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Online: www.florenceoregonumc.org

Directory Update:
Do we have your current address, phone number, and e-mail address?
Please forward them to:
florenceoregonumc@gmail.com
If you do <u>not</u> wish to receive this Newsletter, please notify the church office.