

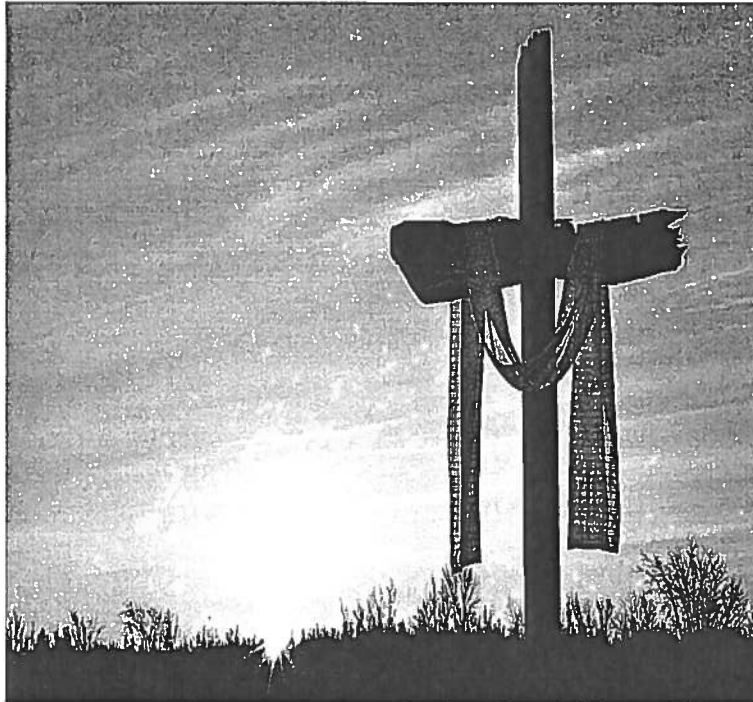
# WHITNEY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Rev. Christina Thompson, Pastor

*Worship with us every Sunday at 10:00 a.m.  
3315 Overland Boise, Idaho 83705*

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## April 2019



**Palm Sunday service**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Maunday Thursday service**

**6:00 p.m.**

**Good Friday service**

**7:30 p.m.**

**Easter Morning service**

**10:00 a.m.**

Contact us:

Phone — 208-343-2892

Email — 3315whitneychurch@gmail.com

website — [www.whitneyumc.org](http://www.whitneyumc.org)



### OPPORTUNITIES

#### Sunday

Worship 10:00 a.m.

Adult Sunday School 8:30 a.m.

Bible Study 9:30 a.m.

Children's Sunday School 10:20 a.m.

Nursery 9:30 a.m.

#### Monday

River Bank Choir 4 p.m.

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Mondays

Stephen Ministry 6:30 p.m.

2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Mondays

Shawlers 6:30 p.m.

#### Second Tuesday

Congregational Care 10:00 a.m.

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday

United Methodist Women 12 noon

#### Wednesday

Prayer and Share small group 1:30 p.m.

Chancel Choir 7:00 p.m.

#### Thursday

6 Ways to Sunday Praise Band 5:45 p.m.

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday

WEPRAY team 3:00 p.m.

Community dinner 6:00 p.m.

#### 2nd Saturday

United Methodist Men 9 a.m.

#### Every Saturday

Saturday Lunch 11:00 a.m.

From our Pastor, Rev. Christina Thompson .....

While I was on renewal leave, I worshiped at 5 different churches. One of these was the worshipping community at St. Gertrude's Monastery in Cottonwood. The others were churches here in the valley, two United Methodist, one Catholic and one Presbyterian.



It was a different experience being a visitor to a church. In all cases, I knew either the pastor of the church and in one church I knew people who worshiped there and I had been in all four church buildings for various purposes in the past. But that did not change the odd feeling of entering a strange church for worship. I want to share some of my thoughts and feelings to help us as a worshipping community be more welcoming to visitors.

- 1) It was hard to get myself into the building. A couple of times I sat in my car and told myself I could just go home. I did manage to get out of my car and walk into the church, but I did have a bit of trepidation. Which door do I go in? What will I experience? What is expected of me? Where do I sit (am I sitting in someone's seat?) Will I know any of the songs they sing? I am an experienced church goer and it was still hard.
  - a. It gave me a good understanding of what new people to our church feel like. The questions of which door do I use? Where do I go? Where do I sit? What will be expected of me in worship? Those are all questions that new people ask – even if they are experienced church people. Imagine what a new person who is not an experienced church person is thinking. I don't think we have any idea how hard it is to come to a new church for the first time.
- 2) With the exception of the church where I knew people who worshiped there, in the other churches no one except the greeter and the pastor talked to me. No one. I did not have anyone come up to say hello or introduce themselves. In the couple of times when I stood in the entry way wondering where to go, no one asked if they could help me. It was a very odd experience.
  - a. While we do not want to overwhelm new people, be on the lookout for people you do not know. Say hi to them. Introduce yourself. Even if you are not sure whether they are new or not--- err on the side of hospitality. Tell them your name and let them know you are glad they are here today. Look out for people who look lost and ask if you can help them. They might just need to know where the bathroom is.
  - b. If they sit in your usual seat, take a deep breath and either ask if they mind you sitting next to them, or sit in a different seat! It will be ok, I promise!
- 3) It is odd to sing songs you do not know. I know a lot of hymns and worship songs and still there were many songs that were sung that I did not know. I realized that it is ok some times to just let the band or song leader sing and to not sing. You are still worshipping, just in a different way.
- 4) Worshipping requires a bit of trust on the worshippers part. Even though I often felt a bit out of place, I trusted that the bulletin, the worship leaders and the pastors would guide me in what I needed to know. And they did!
- 5) God can be worshiped in different ways, through different songs, through different types of prayers. If we are open to the movement of the spirit, we will encounter God even in new spaces. In all of the different places I worshiped, I encountered God. Sometimes it was through the songs, sometimes through the sermon or prayers. Sometimes in the silence and sometimes in the altar decorations and banners. Not everything that happened in worship spoke to me, but because I was open to God's movement, God spoke to me every time.
  - a. There might be things done in worship here that do not speak to you. Maybe the written liturgy, or some of the songs, or the words projected during Rev. Christina's sermon, or the altar decorations.

But that is ok. Some of those things will touch someone else and I pray that something in worship speaks to you. That is the beauty of worship and the beauty of the body of Christ.

- 6) What an amazing body the body of Christ really is. We might worship slightly differently than Catholics or Presbyterians or even other United Methodists, but we all are in this body together. And there is so much more that binds us together than divides us. I am grateful for all those who I worshipped with while I was gone and I am grateful to be back worshipping with you all again.

Blessings

Rev. Christina

## **WHITNEY WELCOME STATEMENT**

**We, the Whitney United Methodist Church, declare that all persons are  
welcome to join and participate fully in the life of our congregation  
regardless of age, race, ethnicities, sexual orientation, gender identities,  
economic conditions, marital status and mental or physical abilities.**



## Church Council Minutes-February 23, 2019

### Meeting Focus: Looking Up

#### Looking at the role of the Church Council and looking at Whitney's Mission/Vision/Goals

**Members attending:** Rev. Christina Thompson, Ramona Walhof, Lory Nesor, Bert Allen, Stewart Gardner, Kevin Daniel, Dianna Shea, Brad Minasian, Lorrie Baer, Phyllis Ross and Brandon O'Meara. **Members absent:** Johnna Dunten and Joyce Obland.

#### Relationship grounding:

Members shared where they had experienced God in the life of the church since the last council meeting. Mentioned were the success of Joseph's Closet, interaction with neighborhood schools and the congregation's efforts to meet the needs of the church while Rev. Christina was on Renewal Leave.

#### Review of Whitney UMC's Mission/Vision/Core Values/Goals

**Mission:** mission focus is to disciple, serve and provide resources to children and traditional/ non traditional families.

**Vision:** that Whitney UMC is a gathering of joyful and excited people who serve our community Spiritually, Intellectually and Physically.

**New Goals from our November 2018 meeting:** 1) reach out to Non-traditional families, 2) work on the challenge of the need for more space, 3) continuing to work on welcoming and incorporating new visitors 4) continuing to offer opportunities for intentional discipleship.

#### Discussion points were:

That the Vision Statement may be too broad. Being more specific would help prioritize the areas we are called to serve. Keep statements front and center by being more intentional by refocusing statements in sermons, newsletters.

Council members can better example our Vision by focusing on being a joyful and excited follower of Jesus Christ.

That the word "gathering" in our Vision Statement is defined as any activity that fits within the scope of our Vision and Mission, Core Values and Goals.

That a disciple is defined as a believer in Christ, seeking to grow in Christ, is intentional in how he relates and serves others, is supportive in another's growth and knows the importance of receiving as well as giving.

Council leaders are expected to model and manifest the mission/vision by serving as good examples in following our membership vows to uphold the church with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness, as well as by reflecting the grace of God that lives and works within us as we continue to move toward perfection thru Christ.

#### Our role as Council: What are the expectations of us on the council?

Attendance at meetings held 4 times a year

Missing 3 meetings in a row results in automatic removal from Council Fulfilling our membership vows of supporting the church with our prayers, our presence, our gifts, our service and our witness. Serve as a communication conduit for the congregation/ministries

Who is responsible for attention to finance, SPRC and facilities (Trustees).

Finance, SPRC and Trustee Committees will have one council member serving as liaison to Council

Rotation - members will be asked yearly if they want to continue and can do so up to a maximum of 5 years with a one year break before reappointed to that committee

Rich Keefe will continue as SPRC chairman. Current tasks include a transition plan for Lesli McGowan's departure and scheduling quarterly SPRC meetings where issues/complaints can be funneled.

## UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

At our March meeting we celebrated our 150<sup>th</sup> birthday. Lorrie Baer decorated our tables with vintage hats, scarves and other memorabilia from our past. Rev. Christina brought a Bible which was published in 1870, just one year after our organization was formed, and Phyllis Ross brought some beautiful old glassware and vases. We played some games, watched a video of our beginnings and had birthday cupcakes. As our birthday gift to the church, we contributed \$300 to a fund to purchase a defibrillator for the church. Our actual birthday is March 23, 1869, so we continued our celebration during worship on March 24 with singing, a video and a birthday cake.

We are reminded that in the early 20<sup>th</sup> century, women's missionary societies met with frequent disapproval over the fear that the women would leave traditional roles and upset the established order. The women and their reform efforts including laity rights, anti-slavery, and suffrage efforts were often described as "unreasonable" by the men in charge of the church's mission work. In a 1910 speech, Belle Harris Bennett declared "that what we have asked from you is neither unwomanly or unreasonable." Today we continue to be inspired by these so-called "unreasonable women."

Come join us at our April 3 meeting. It is a potluck lunch at noon in the sanctuary. The program will be presented by Phyllis Ross.

*Our vision: Turning faith, hope and love into action on behalf of women, children and youth around the world.*

### **Coming Volunteer Opportunities at Whitney Elementary**

April 5 – 7:45 – 9:00am - "Muffins with Moms" - serve muffins, coffee and water in the cafeteria

May 17 – 6-8pm – Cultural Festival – potluck and program. Need help monitoring food, directing traffic

**If you would like to help with either or both of these activities, please see Lory Neser or Rev. Christina**

## **AN UPDATE ON LESLI MCGOWAN**

Lesli McGowan is Whitney's Family Life Director and has been feeling for many years a calling from God to enter ministry. In the last couple of years, she has been actively working to answer this call. This has included support from this local congregation.

The process in The United Methodist Church to answer a call to ministry can feel slow. So I wanted to update you on where Lesli is in this process.

After being approved by this congregation in the fall of 2017, Lesli has been meeting with the Sage District's Committee on Ministry (DCOM). She was approved as a certified candidate for ministry on April 18, 2018 (part of the first steps in becoming a minister.) Then she was approved by DCOM at their January 22, 2019 meeting to be recommended for licensing as a local pastor. (Sort of the next step). This is a huge step for Lesli!

This recommendation goes to the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference's Board of Ordained Ministry (BOM) when they meet in June 2019. Assuming she is approved for licensing at the BOM meeting (and there is no sense that will not happen), then Lesli will be available to serve as a licensed local pastor in a church somewhere.

Right now, the big question is where she will be appointed and if that will happen this appointment year. (Appointments run from July 1 to June 30). She is actively working with what is called the Appointive cabinet in both our Annual Conference as well as the Appointive cabinet in the Desert Southwest Annual Conference (state of Arizona) to see if there is an church appointment for her in those areas. Once an appointment is found for her and once that appointment starts (most likely on July 1) then she will be a local licensed pastor.

The one question is whether she could be appointed here at Whitney UMC. For the most part, the answer is no. Lesli needs to be appointed full time and right now as it stands financially, it would be hard for us to pay for her to be appointed here. We would need to increase her hours and be able to provide her health insurance and pension which is a large financial commitment. There is also a sense that God is not calling her to serve here at Whitney, but that God needs her gifts somewhere else.

I invite you to pray for Lesli and for where God is calling her. I also invite you to pray for Whitney UMC and for her position and what God is calling us to do about that.

If you have any questions about this process, please see Rev. Christina or Rich Keefe, SPRC chair

## WHITNEY UNITED METHODIST WOMEN



**Whitney United Methodist Women posed wearing Lorrie Baer's vintage hats at the conclusion of their meeting on March 6.**

The hats are in celebration of 150 years of United Methodist Women.

Pictured left to right, back row: Lory Nesor, President, Lorrie Baer, Rev. Christina

3rd row: Carol Adams, Carla Biersdorff, Judith Alexander, Barbara Nolan

2nd row: Johnna Dunten, Diana Shea, Ruth Romans, Jana Hedges

front row: Emily Nelson, Cathie Slocum, Jan Spencer, Phyllis Ross

# THINGS TO KNOW

Printed copied of Rev. Christina's sermons are on the rack in the Sanctuary one week after live worship.

**PALM SUNDAY – April 14 in Sunday worship.** We will experience Jesus' entrance into Jerusalem and his journey to the cross. We will do this as we look at the last line of the Lord's Prayer. "For thine is the Kingdom and the power and the glory, forever."

**MAUNDAY THURSDAY -- April 18.** Join us as we hear of Jesus' last supper with his disciples and then experience the passion story. We will start with our traditional soup supper at 6:00 p.m.

**GOOD FRIDAY – April 19.** Join us as we continue Jesus' journey to the cross. Service at 7:30 p.m.

**EASTER SUNDAY – April 21. Jesus is Risen.** Join us as we celebrate Jesus' resurrection. Worship at 10:00 a.m.

There will be Liturgist training for all people who are currently liturgists and for anyone who is interested in being a liturgist. (Liturgists are the people who help in worship usually by reading the Call to Worship and the Scripture). We will meet after church on April 14 in the front of the Sanctuary and have a short training for the best practices for being liturgist.

Training for Acolytes (those who light the candles) will be after church on May 19.

Upcoming Events – Family camp – August 9-12.

Neighborhood Block Party – August 29 at Whitney Elementary from 4:30 – 7:00 p.m. The church has a booth at this event and helps with the Hot Dog feed and provides the cookies!

Box tops

We are still collecting Box tops to give to Whitney Elementary School. Bring your box tops to the church office.

## SUMMER OPPORTUNITIES

There are church camps for elementary and youth that take place at Sawtooth United Methodist Church camp. Below is the list of camps available this summer. Note that Whitney will have campers going to Elementary 1 (July 7-13) and Junior High camp (July 7-13). For more information see Rev. Christina or Lesli McGowan. To receive the Subsidized rate — campers must be registered by May 5, 2019. The church offers a scholarship of half of the cost of camp for all church folk who go to camp and we can help cover more of the fee if cost is an issue.

Title	Age Level	Date	Cost
Elementary 1	Completed grades 3-6th	7/7--7/13/2019	Subsidized rate \$390 Full rate \$440
Junior High Camp	Completed grades 6-8th	7/7--7/13/2019	Subsidized rate \$390
Outpost Camp	Completed grades 4-6th	7/14 – 7/20/2019	Subsidized rate \$390
Senior High Camp	Completed grades 9-12th	7/14 – 7/20/2019	Subsidized rate \$390 Full rate \$440
Sawtooth Adventure Camp	Completed grades 7-12th	7/21 – 7/27/2019	Subsidized rate \$390
Elementary II	Completed grades 3-6th	7/21 – 7/27/2019	Subsidized rate \$390

## APRIL BIRTHDAY

- 1 Lorrie Baer
- 3 Marlys Tudehope
- 5 Lisa Blakeley
- 6 Mac McDaniel
- 17 Steve McGrath
- 18 Anna Larracochea
- 24 Mark Nesor
- 26 Joyce Obland

## Help us Celebrate the Easter Season!

We will have an Easter egg hunt for the children so candy is needed to fill the eggs. If you would like to contribute some candy of your choice, please bring it to the office by April 14.

The altar will be awesome for Easter and some white Easter lilies would be welcome. Please leave a note on them if the flowers are in honor of a loved one. They can be brought to the office.

## APRIL ANNIVERSARY



Judith and Nick Alexander

Barbara and George Nickelsen

Tyke and Mikki Carr extend thanks and appreciation for all the love and support they received during Tyke's recent episode with a health issue. The cards, calls and warm wishes were much appreciated. warm wishes are very much appreciated.



## APRIL HOSPITALITY

Date	Acolytes	Liturgist	Greeters	Coffee	Communion Stewards
April 7	Kaylyn Fournier Noa Nesor	Sally Cupan	Bob & Maggie Storm Barry Kelso	Linda Slupe Julie Hall	Mel and Cathie Slocum Lesli McGowan
April 14	Ruth Gardner Gena Waller	Johnna Duntun	Ruthie Carter Elvin Clubb	Lorrie Baer Gaye Cabe	
April 21	Kaylyn Fournier Miriam Fridel	Noa Nesor	Kathy Hammers DeDe Matthews Julie Hall	Arny Skov Kathy Skov Jody Baer Gordy Myre	
April 28	Samara Legg Grace Fridel	Joyce Obland	Jody Baer Gordy Myre	Julie Hall Joyce Obland	





## RAMONA WALHOF

This is a very busy month for me so I guess I should write a little about myself.

I was born in Griswold, Iowa, the second of three blind children. Nobody used the word blind; they just assumed they could see things we couldn't. So we learned that people thought blindness was bad and we should hide it. We could not read the large print books that were ordered when we started to school, so we were sent to the School for the Blind 200 miles away. It must have been hard for my parents, but it was an adventure for my brother, sister and me.

After high school graduation, I got some high quality cane travel training in Des Moines. I was recommended for a program and moved to Washington DC for college and got a degree in language from Georgetown University. My husband and I met in Los Angeles at a convention of the National Federation of the Blind, and the next year we were married.

After moving to Idaho, I taught Head Start and had several different jobs, as well as two children, Laura and Christopher. Today Laura teaches chemistry half time and is the Associate Pastor for the Aldersgate United Methodist church in Bellevue, WA. Her daughter, Grace, is in high school, and her husband designs educational software. Chris contracts for various jobs while his wife travels extensively as a Medicare consultant. Their children are Jordyn 17; Reagan 15; and John 12. I am as proud as most grandparents and treasure time with my kids and grandchildren. Jordyn is graduating from Capital High this year with honors and trying to decide which university to attend.

My husband died while both our children were very young, and I moved back to Des Moines to teach for the Iowa Commission for the Blind. Later I moved to Baltimore where I was employed by the National Federation for the Blind Headquarters. In 1982 I returned to Idaho and briefly directed the Idaho Commission for the Blind here. After some political shenanigans, I went into business for the remainder of my working life.

I have been a member of many United Methodist churches in Iowa, Washington Dc, Baltimore and Boise. I must have joined Whitney Church about 5 years ago, and it seems to be a good fit for me. I appreciate the friendliness and the acceptance I have found. I enjoy singing in the choir and have learned a lot from serving on the Church Council, though it is about time for me to go off. I am now serving on the Staff Parish Relations Committee.

I have written several books and other documents on blindness and continue to volunteer for the National Federation of the Blind, the largest organization of blind people in the country and the best advocacy organization for the blind. If anyone would like to read more about blindness, I just happen to have several kinds of literature. But I hope I have learned enough about other things in my life to contribute in other areas as appropriate.

Whitney United Methodist Church  
3315 Overland Rd. Boise, Idaho  
Worship every Sunday 10:00 a.m.



2019

SUNDAY		MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY		SATURDAY	
(dates & times subject to change)		1 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry		2 12:00 United Methodist Women 2:00 P.M. Prayer & Share		3 10:00 a.m. Congregation- al Care 6:30 p.m. Troop 49 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts		4 1:30 p.m. prayer & share 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir		5 10:30 a.m. Visitor followup 5:45p.m. Praise Band		6 10:00 a.m. Sat. lunch 2:00 p.m. Table Talk at Caldwell UMC	
7 10:00 a.m. Worship 8:30 a.m. "How to...." 9:30 a.m. Nursery open 9:30 a.m. Adult SS 10:20 a.m. Children's SS 5:00 p.m. ALPHA	8 10:30 a.m. Finance 10:30 a.m. Visitor follow up 4:00 p.m. Riverbank Choir 6:30 p.m. Shawlwers	9 10:00 a.m. Congregation- al Care 6:30 p.m. Troop 49 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	10 1:30 p.m. prayer & share 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	11 10:30 a.m. Visitor followup 5:45p.m. Praise Band	12 3:00 p.m. WEPRAY	13 9:00 a.m. UMM 10:00 a.m. Sat. lunch	14 10:00 a.m. Worship 9:30 a.m. "How to...." 9:30 a.m. Nursery open 9:30 a.m. Adult SS 10:20 a.m. Children's SS Liturgist training 5:00 p.m. ALPHA	15 10:00 a.m. Congregational Care 4:00 p.m. Riverbank Choir 6:30 p.m. Stephen Ministry 6:45 p.m. Worship team	16 6:30 p.m. Troop 49 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	17 1:30 prayer & share. 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	18 6:00 p.m. Maundy Thurs- day Service 5:45 p.m. Praise Band	19 3:00 p.m. WEPRAY 6>00 p.m. Community Dinner 7:30 p.m. Good Friday Service	20 10:00 a.m. Sat. lunch
21 Easter Sunday 10:00 a.m. Worship 8:30 a.m. "How to...." 9:30 a.m. Nursery open 9:30 a.m. Adult SS 10:20 a.m. Children's SS	22 4:00 p.m. Riverbank Choir 6:30 p.m. Shawlwers	23 7:00 p.m. Celia Cowan @ Kathy Old's home 6:30 p.m. Troop 49 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts	24 1:30 prayer & share 7:00 p.m. Chancel Choir	25 5:45 p.m. Praise Band	26 3:00 p.m. WEPRAY	27 10:00 a.m. Sat. lunch	28 10:00 a.m. Worship 8:30 a.m. "How to...." 9:30 a.m. Nursery open 9:30 a.m. Adult SS 10:20 a.m. Children's SS 11:15 a.m. Coffee with Pastor 12:00 p.m. Church Council 5:00 p.m. MANNA	29 4:00 p.m. Riverbank Youth Choir	30 6:30 p.m. Troop 49 6:30 p.m. Cub Scouts				