

Whitney Quarterly

Summer Edition 2023

Whitney United Methodist Church



Church Office

- Office@WhitneyUMC.org

Pastor: Rev. Daryl Blanksma

- WhitneyPastor@WhitneyUMC.org

Worship— Sundays at 10:00 am: in-person or live streamed on our YouTube channel @Whitney UMC Boise

Saturday Lunch— 10:30 am—noon

Community Dinner— Every 3rd Friday from 5:30—6:30 pm

3315 W Overland Rd. Boise, ID 83705

Phone: (208) 343-2892 | Website: www.WhitneyUMC.org

Pastor's Note:

Last year at this time we were undertaking the refurbishment of the church building following the sewage backup in May. This year it is the parsonage's (the house the church owns for the pastor) turn to act up. We have had four separate water caused events since late April. First, the water heater ruptured and flooded a portion of the basement. A week later, a failed wax ring in the toilet in the master bath required pulling up the flooring and replacing a portion of the sub floor. Then on June 27, water on the basement floor led to the discovery that roots had cracked the main sewage line leading out of the house. Two days later the upstairs half bath was flooded. The culprit was a cracked shutoff valve under the floor of the sink vanity. This may have been the source of the water found in the basement a couple days prior, but the sewer line needed to be replaced in either case. Some of the costs are covered by insurance but there are some major expenses not covered by insurance that we will need to cover out of church funds.

You may be aware that our church secretary resigned in May. We made the decision to try to get through the summer without a secretary to try to help out our financial situation. This was before the parsonage problems, which have only made things worse. The Council is planning a financial campaign for this Fall to support our operating budget, and various groups are looking at all of our expenses to see if there are places where we can cut costs. One area that is being looked at is whether Whitney can continue to afford a full time pastor. You'll be hearing more on this as the group continues their work. In the meantime, please keep Whitney's financial difficulties in your prayers, and if you are able to help out with an extra donation, that would be very much appreciated. We are especially in need of donations to our General operating budget. Programs like our food ministry and Joseph's Closet have sufficient funds right now. We need donations to keep the lights on.

Peace,



Community Dinner Resumes Dine In Service

At our June Community Dinner we resumed dine in service, in addition to offering take out meals. If we can get enough volunteers we plan to continue offering a "dine in" option. Our next Community Dinner is July 21. We still need volunteers to help with clean up. Contact Emily Nelson if you are interested in helping.



Whitney Family Camp

August 11-13

Camp Sawtooth - North of Fairfield

Cost \$90 per adult, children free



You are invited to join your friends for a weekend of relaxation and rejuvenation along the South Fork of the Boise River at our United Methodist operated Camp Sawtooth. Spend time reading, fishing or wading in the South Fork of the Boise River, bike riding, hiking or just taking a nap. Spend time connecting with others, or just in quiet solitude. There will be games and crafts provided, or bring your own to share. Ride the Zip line and end the day singing around the campfire (complete with s'mores). There will be time to worship together on Sunday morning. All food will be provided; each family is asked to take turns helping with food preparation and clean up. The sleeping cabins are unheated but enclosed and there are modern restroom and shower facilities. You will need to provide your own sleeping bag and pillow, towels and toiletries. Or you can bring your own RV or tent to stay in. If you would like more information talk to Kevin or Becky Daniel, or Johnna or Malcom Dunten.

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Mission to Kenya



Mary and Louise Kienzle led worship on April 30 talking about their upcoming UMVIM mission trip to Kenya

Mary Kienzle will be traveling to Kenya later this month (July 27) as part of a United Methodist Volunteer in Mission (UMVIM) team from the Oregon-Idaho Conference. Mary and her mother, Louise, led a special service at Whitney on April 30 while Pastor Daryl was on renewal leave.

Mary wants to thank all those who have supported this trip with your donations of money and supplies. "This wouldn't be possible without all of your support!"

We will have a special "Sending Forth" ceremony for Mary during Worship on July 23.

Baptisms at Whitney



Robert Eldon Gardner was baptized on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023. With Lay Leader Lory Nesor and Pastor Daryl

Elsie Mae Falconer (being held) with parents Sean and Haley Falconer, and brothers Kaden & Quincy. Due to health concerns, Elsie was baptized in a private ceremony with family on March 13, 2023. Here she is being presented to the congregation on Easter Sunday, April 9, 2023



New Members at Whitney

Peggy Jackson, Bobbie Bynum, Melinda and Joe Maillard joined Whitney on March 26, 2023. With Lay Leader Lory Nesor and Pastor Daryl



Bob Storm joined on June 25, 2023



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH



United Women in Faith

United Women in Faith have been busy with many activities. Our annual service was held on Mother's Day and the theme was Love. Kimberly Gardner gave an inspiring and challenging message on "Mothering." At the end of the service, the United Methodist Men presented all women of the church with a small gift. Thank you UMM! The service concluded with delicious home made refreshments which included delicious lemonade made by Robert Gardner. In May we were invited to join the women of First Church (Cathedral of the Rockies) for a spring luncheon. We enjoyed a lovely salad luncheon, desserts and fellowship. We are hoping to gather together again. In June we took a field trip to the Anne Frank Memorial. We had an excellent guided tour of the only Anne Frank memorial in the United States. After the tour we went to Ann Morrison park for our picnic lunch. Most of our women are involved in all of the outreach ministries of the church in different ways. We have always made education a strong focus and have been able to give \$500 scholarships to graduating seniors for the past several years. This year we were happy to present the scholarship to Miriam Fridel during worship service on June 4. More about Miriam in another article. After our June Celia Cowan picnic we will be adjourning for the summer and resume again in September. We welcome all women to join us.

- Lory Neser



Spring luncheon at First Church



UMM presented the women of the church with a small gift after the United Women in Faith service on May 14.

United Women in Faith Scholarship



One of the most important goals of the year is always our scholarship program for one of our youth. The recipient this year is Miriam Fridel.

Miriam spent most of her childhood with our congregation. She is Rev. Christina's daughter. She has just graduated from Borah High with a 4.35 GPA, and finished academically 5th in her class of 364.

Miriam will be attending Idaho State University in Pocatello. Having a long time interest in the study of dinosaurs, most of her studies will be with the goal in mind to become a Paleontologist. And with her enthusiasm driving her we believe she will do just that!

We wish Miriam the best.

Blessings from All of Us!
Whitney United Women in Faith
-submitted by Lorrie Baer

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United Women in Faith Yard Sale Saturday, September 9 8:00 am to Noon

United Women in Faith are having a yard sale on September 9 in the side church parking lot. Donations of good used household items, ceramics, dishes, toys, books, etc. can be brought to the church during that week (we are sorry but we don't have space to store items for a longer period of time). More information will be coming in future Midweek Emails, or you can talk to Lory Nesor or Lorrie Baer.

So clean out your closets, sweep under the beds, sort out your drawers and see which treasures you can part with.

Proceeds from the yard sale will benefit the United Women in Faith Scholarship Fund.

Whitney Elementary Connection

Many of our women volunteer during the year at Whitney Elementary either with Susan Dennis, Community School Coordinator, or for specific activities. We also support the teachers with small gifts and goodies during the school year. This May we hosted two groups of students at the church for Friday activities. One group was 13 3rd graders who used our kitchen for 3 Fridays to hone their cooking skills. The first Friday was pizza, second was Chex party mix and they ended the sessions with cookies and candy treats. Thanks to Emily Nelson who coordinated the event with the parent volunteer and teacher chaperone. It was fun to see how excited the kids were and answer the many questions they asked. The second group was a mixed group of 20 who used the back of the sanctuary for Tai Kwan Do. Master Lee and two teachers led the students through a number of movements. They were very structured and well-behaved. Our goal in providing space for these activities was so that the children will see a church as a safe, happy place and I think we succeeded!



We have a new connection opportunity this summer. We are working with Whitney Elementary, the International Rescue Committee and Sojourn Church to provide after school activities for 70-100 refugee children in grades 1-12. These children are in temporary residence at the Simple Suites while the IRC finds appropriate housing. New refugee families are coming to Boise weekly. The children will attend summer school in the mornings at Whitney Elementary and also have lunch there. On Wednesdays they will be dropped off at Owyhee Park for games and activities until 3:00. We (Whitney Church) will provide snacks for them at the Park.

If you would like to volunteer to help with this activity see Melinda Maillard, Emily Nelson or Lory Nesor.



United Women in Faith outing to Anne Frank Memorial



United Women in Faith Luncheon with women from First United Methodist Church



Bishop Cedrick wearing finished stole



Churches in the Greater Northwest Area were invited to submit quilting squares to create a custom made stole for new Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth. Betty Dippi created the above squares for Whitney

Annual Conference Wrap Up

“Go and Do Likewise” was the theme of the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference gathering held in a hybrid setting at Meridian United Methodist Church and online via Zoom on June 8-11. Lory Nesor and Kimberly Gardner attended as Lay Members from Whitney. Charles Owusu-Ansah was in attendance at a District Equalization member, and Pastor Daryl attended as clergy.



Bishop Cedrick D. Bridgeforth, newly-installed resident bishop for the Greater Northwest Episcopal Area, presided as he outlined a vision for us going the M.I.L.E. the coming year. Through a series of sermons, Bishop Bridgeforth talked about a vision for ministry that matters (M), Itineration and location of those serving our ministry settings (I), lay-empowered leadership (L) and eliminating racism (E). Resources around each of these points will continue to be developed to engage local churches and ministry settings in this work in the months to come. Clergy and laity were encouraged to do some mirror

work to look at ministry that is and is not working and seek to be doing more window work – reaching out into our communities.

As part of our “window” work, members heard stories from four ministry settings around the Conference – Collister UMC, Aloha UMC, the Stronghold at the old Chiloquin UMC, and Joyful Noise at Madras UMC – that are at work in their communities to provide housing to the unhoused or economically disadvantaged, provide after-school music lessons for students with limited financial resources, and transforming a closed UMC into a decolonized space to resource individuals from the Klamath Tribe in southern Oregon.

On Thursday evening, as we gathered for an all-Conference picnic at Kleiner Park in Meridian, we created a “living rainbow” with guest photographer Mary Kienzle providing a drone photo and video of participants lined up waving flags in rainbow colors. The Oregon-Idaho Conference has been a reconciling Conference since 1996.



During plenary sessions, members approved legislation that cleans up 57 pages of conference rules, as well as legislation calling on Idaho and Oregon federal lawmakers to support the “Truth and Healing Commission on Indian Boarding Schools Act.” We approved a 2024 budget as well as recommendations from the equitable compensation commission and board of pensions.

Sprinkled throughout the Conference session were many opportunities to worship. During the Memorial Service, the Conference honored the lives of 82 clergy and clergy spouses who had passed away since our last in-person gathering in 2019. During closing worship on June 11, one provisional elder was commissioned and two elders in full connection were ordained. - Kristen Caldwell



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Summer Potlucks

Our second Summer Potluck was a big success with 32 in attendance and lots of good food. Thank you David Hawk for supplying the fried chicken. Our next Potlucks will be held August 9 and September 6 at 5:30 pm. Come and join us!

