



April 18, 2024

WORSHIP

with us

**Join Us In-Person or
Livestream**

**OCUM Church starting at
10:00a.m.**

FAMILY & FRIENDS ALL WELCOME

Rev. Tom Orquiza-Renardo
Pastor
Cell: 503-888-5224
ocumcpastor@gmail.com

Christa Palmer
Secretary
Office: 503-656-3433
Office@oregoncityumc.com

Rick Wilson
Music Director

To the Faithful of Oregon City UMC,

Greetings to you, my faith-filled friends and family. Perhaps some of you have noticed the hustle and bustle picking up in our denomination lately. It's more than just Easter and a Resurrection energy that has our clergy and laity gearing up for something big. It's time for General Conference again.

Why is General Conference so important? General Conference is the governing body of The United Methodist Church, that considers and sets denomination-wide legislation and policy. It's the only gathering of our denomination, with lay and clergy representatives from around the world, that has the authority to make public statements on the stances of the entire denomination. General Conference also only convenes (with some exceptions) every four years.

This General Conference is of particular interest because it's been postponed for four years due to the COVID pandemic. It's also the General Conference where the official split of the denomination was expected over issues of LGBTQIA+ affirmation, acceptance, and inclusion. The Global Methodist Church has since been formed and many of our congregations have already disaffiliated from The United Methodist Church.

What else should we know about this General Conference? Well, there's some significant legislation on the docket to be considered and voted on. Here is some of the proposed legislation being considered:

- **Regionalization of The United Methodist Church:** This proposal aims to address what many United Methodists see as a longstanding problem limiting the denomination's missional effectiveness — namely that the church in the U.S. and the central conferences have unequal standing in decision-making.
- **Revised Social Principals:** The Social Principles serve as The United Methodist Church's official summary of stated convictions on social issues of the day. The proposed Revised Social Principles reflects the United Methodist response to today's most pressing social issues.
- **Creating a General Book of Discipline:** In 2012, General Conference tasked the *Standing Committee on Central Conference Matters* with helping to develop a truly global Book of Discipline that took into consideration the different cultural and regional realities present throughout our worldwide denomination. The hope is to create a more balanced Book of Discipline fully compatible with denominational life outside of, as well as within, the U.S.
- **Clergy officiation of same-sex weddings, harmful disciplinary language and policy toward "self-avowed practicing" gay clergy, and treatment of girls and woman:** For decades, our denomination has struggled with LGBTQIA+ issues, and the Church has been struggling with equality for, and the mistreatment of woman since before it became the Church. This General Conference will address these issues and potentially change language and policy to be more gender-equitable and more inclusive of our LGBTQIA+ siblings.

As this legislation and more comes before the General Conference starting next week, let us be in prayer for the Church, our denomination, our conferences, our delegates, our laity and leaders, our clergy and bishops, and our future as The United Methodist Church.

For more information about General Conference, other proposed legislation, and to stay updated on what's happening, go to <https://www.resourceumc.org/en/churchwide/general-conference-2020>

May Spirit guide us into a future illumined by the light of Christ as we work to build the Kin-dom of God here and now.

Pastor Tom



BINGO

and

Potluck Night!

Friday, April 26

6:00 p.m.

Entry Fee:

Bring a new or gently used item
for the BINGO Prize Table.

*Winners choose prizes from
the BINGO prize table.*

We'll provide drinks, bring a
potluck dish to share if you like!





SALTENBERGER, ANGELA	04/04
FOURIER, MARVIN	04/13
RICE, ZACH	04/19
PALMER, RILEY	04/20

MISSION POSSIBLE
East
\$1,125 RAISED!
We'll be making **100 Hygeine Kits!**
(Kits x \$10 per Kit)
FUNDRAISING GOAL!

Now Hiring



Church Custodian

Oregon City United Methodist Church seeks custodian to perform routine janitorial services.

The successful candidates must be able to pass a background check, have a demonstrated ability to work on their own, complete tasks as assigned in a timely manner.

Contact Pastor Tom for more information and a job description. ocumcpastor@gmail.com

Fellowship Conversations
April 21st after worship in the worship hall
Conversations about Oregon City UMC's ministry: We want to hear your voice and build on your ideas.

Our Weekly Giving Moment

"Little children, let's not love with words or speech but with action and truth." —1 John 3:18, CEB

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission (UMVIM) has been in existence since 1976. The 2016 General Conference approved Volunteers in Mission Awareness Sunday (UMVIM) at its gathering. "UMVIM Awareness Sunday calls the Church to celebrate those who have served in short-term missions and the work of UMVIM throughout the world. If the annual conference so directs, an offering may be received and used by the annual conference Volunteers in Mission program. (The Book of Discipline, 2016, paragraph 265.5)

United Methodist Volunteers in Mission seeks to equip volunteers with experiences that allow them to put Christian love into action in places around the world. The projects that volunteers can serve with are as diverse as the number of places they serve. Work involves the building of churches in impoverished areas and assisting people who are in desperate need of not only food and clean water but also the hope of Jesus. Additional projects include working at medical clinics, teaching English and improving substandard housing in the United States and globally.

UMVIM recognizes the important work of putting Christian love into action across the globe. The success and engagement in God's mission is training, accepting accountability and celebrating our mission journey.

BOTTLE DRIVE



DONATE YOUR EMPTY EMPTIES

You can support OCUMC with your empty bottles and cans!

You can put any container in a Blue Bag that is eligible for an **Oregon Refund**. Containers must have been purchased in Oregon, and they must be empty, whole, and uncrushed.

Our Fundraising Team will provide the bags to members and anyone else who wants one. The bags are blue and have an OCUMC sticker on them. You simply collect your bottles and cans in the blue bags, then drop the full bags at the local Bottle Drop location or at OCUMC.

For more information contact the church office.

