

# Weekly Newsletter

Oregon City United Methodist Church

August 21, 2025

**Join Us In-Person or  
Livestream**

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

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A place where we *"Love Others and Value Everyone!"*

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Pastor

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Music Director



Greetings my friends at Oregon City UMC,

Yesterday I was talking with a friend, and she mentioned something that gave me pause. You see, I've been looking for something I could possibly do for a little bit of extra income on the side, and she offered me the contact info for someone she knew who might be able to help. What gave me pause about this is in previous conversations this same friend said there wouldn't be any work availability till the fall. So I tried to confirm this was indeed what I'd heard in our original conversation. To which she replied, "It is the fall. Kids go back to school in the next coming weeks."



Now part of my brain was accepting this school year reasoning and responding with, 'Oh yeah, I guess that's right.' Another part of my brain was flat out denying that it could be considered fall already. Still, a third part of my brain was logically calculating out the calendar and being very strict about the date of the autumn equinox (Monday, September 22, at 11:19 a.m., for those of you who are curious). In the end, I settled on the possibility all three could be true at the same time.

As I continued to think on this, what gave me pause the most is the unpreparedness I was feeling for the change. I mean change comes whether we want it to or not. What's the saying? "Change is the only constant" (attributed to Greek philosopher Heraclitus). If fall is upon us, then that means warmer weather will be cooling. Our kids and grandkids and even we ourselves, in some cases, will be going back to school. It's time for me to check out this opportunity for a side job. This holiday cycle, fast approaching, will be different as, sadly, there may be empty seats at the family tables. Winter will quickly follow the fall, begging the question, are we prepared for a cooler, wetter winter as is predicted?

In the question of change, beyond the changing of Earth's seasons, what changes are coming in the seasons of our lives, our communities, our nations, our world. There's a lot of movement and executive orders and political posturing and both aggressive and subtle action being taken around the globe. In this shifting season are we remaining aware? Will we be ready for what the future holds? What will be the national and global new realities? For there will be new realities, whether great or small, when everything settles.

Take some time to consider the changes on the horizon. Then, ask yourself, 'How will the changes shift who I am and how I understand my faith?' Some of us might say it won't. But I ask you to really consider that sentiment. We are creatures of habit, yes. We are also creatures of adaptation. Anytime there is a change we adapt the various pieces of ourselves for survival. If we don't, we get left behind in some way or another. Or maybe we put the question another way. How does, or will, your faith lead you to respond to change, whether it be a normal shift in the season or a drastic shift in reality?

I, for my part, will hold my ground in Christ, and do what I am able for my family, friends, community, and the marginalized whom we are called to help and advocate for. I will pray for the heart of Christ to be present and working in all places. I will meet the changing seasons with all my strength and lean on Christ in all my weakness. I will hope it is enough.

In faithful service,

*Pastor Tom*

## In Loving Memory

Vern Buttolph



-----Memorial Service-----  
Friday, September 5 at 2:30pm

Willamette National Cemetery  
11800 SE Mt. Scott Blvd  
Happy Valley, OR 97086



WHITEHEAD, VINCENT	08/02
MARGESON, SANDEE	08/10
PALMER, CHRISTA	08/10
STERLE, DENISE	08/10
JOHNSON, SHARI	08/11
FERGUSON, DICK	08/13
SPAINHOWER, KATHY	08/16
WARD, GAIL	08/18
BENSON, DAN	08/27
ENGEL, DAWN	08/31

## HOPE Food Pantry



On August 20, 2025, we served 53 families (210 people), compared to 53 families (240 people) on August 20, 2024.

## Save the date

### Brunch Fellowship

Sunday, August 24 @ 11:00am

We invite you to partake in a selection of brunch items and participate in meaningful fellowship following the service.



### Church Council Meeting

Sunday, August 31 @ 11:30am

### Labor Day

Monday, September 1

The Church office will be closed

### Ladies' Lunch Out!

Tuesday, September 2 at 11:30am

Hope you can come to our next Ladies' Lunch Out! Join us at Tacho's Mexican Restaurant, 515 Molalla Ave, OC. Please RSVP to Marty at [fmsodie@yahoo.com](mailto:fmsodie@yahoo.com) or Susan at [jsronfeld@comcast.net](mailto:jsronfeld@comcast.net).

### Wednesday Night Dinner

Wednesday, September 3 @ 5:30pm

All are invited to attend a dinner sponsored by the Mission Possible Team. This is a fundraiser for Fathers Heart. The funds raised will be allocated towards purchasing jeans, which are urgently needed.



### Rally Sunday

September 7<sup>th</sup>

Celebrate our church's ministries! Worship, choir, and backpack blessing at 10:00am; Ministry Fair and ice cream sundaes at 11:00am.



### Our Weekly Giving Moment

"Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe, 29 for our "God is a consuming fire." Hebrews 12:28-29, CEB

Hebrews 12:28 reminds us that we are part of a kingdom that cannot be shaken—so we offer our lives with gratitude and reverence. In The United Methodist Church, our shared giving through the World Service Fund helps sustain ministries that nurture the next generation of leaders through the General Board of Higher Education and Ministry (GBHEM). GBHEM supports seminarians, clergy development, scholarships, and campus ministries that shape lives for faithful service. Without this connection, there would be no missionaries, no pastors, and no global outreach.

Join us this Sunday for worship as we give thanks for God's unshakable kingdom and those who help lead it.



# Women's Retreat

Christian Renewal Center in Silverton

22444 North Fork Road SE  
Silverton, OR 97381



## November 7-9, 2025

Longing for time to **slow down, wiggle your toes, and bask in the warmth of God's presence?** It's a **beach-themed retreat** where you'll experience meaningful Bible study and worship, connect with other women, and have time for **quiet reflection and plenty of laughter!**

**Option 1: \$150 Full Weekend:** Includes lodging, five meals, all programs, and activities.

**Option 2: \$25 Saturday Day:** Arrive at 9am for morning and afternoon programs plus lunch.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_ City \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Roommate Request \_\_\_\_\_

Partial scholarships are offered. For more information, contact Christa at the church office; all inquiries are confidential.

To register, complete the registration form and include a check payable to "OCUMC" with "Women's Retreat" indicated. The form and payment may be placed in the "OFFICE" mailbox or mailed to the church.

Oregon City United Methodist Church

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