



The Messenger

January 2022

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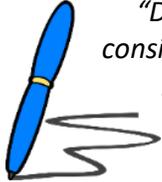
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Worship by Phone: 801-436-3829

First United Methodist Church

1339 W. 400 N., Marriott-Slaterville UT 84404

PASTOR'S PEN



"Do not remember the former things, or consider the things of old. I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth, do you not perceive it?" (Isaiah 43:18-19).

Very often we think of God as unchanging, and that usually brings us comfort. In an ever-faster-changing world, we'd like at least one thing to stay the same. God's enduring nature gives us assurance and anchors us so we don't spin out of control.

But there are other times when we know that change is important. There certainly are some experiences we'd prefer to forget, so we can be free to move on. For example, we all yearn for the day when this COVID pandemic will be over. Lord, please make it so and soon!

In times like these, we can be encouraged by the belief that God isn't stuck in the past, and that God always has some new possibilities just around the corner. We are inspired and motivated in the hope that God is engaged in bringing about new things. While God's eternal nature certainly holds and honors the past and those who lived in it, God's work is not done. God is constantly stirring creation to bring about renewal of life and hope and salvation.

In this New Year of 2022, I pray that you and I will see the positives in the changes God is bringing—if not for ourselves, then at least for those who are younger than us. May we have open hearts and minds for the new things God is about to do.

Happy New Year! Rev. Kim

NEW YEAR SERMON SERIES

In the spirit of New Year's resolutions, Rev. Kim will preach a series of sermons in January on the five vows people make when they join a United Methodist Church. Make a commitment to attend worship in these first weeks of 2022, and review what it means to promise our prayers, presence, gifts, service, and witness.

NEW MEMBER CLASS

On Sundays, January 9 & 16, 2:00-4:00 p.m., Rev. Kim will lead a New Members Class. This class is for those wishing to learn more about the United Methodist Church and what it would mean to join Ogden FUMC. The class information will include history, polity, beliefs, and controversies. If you're a long-time member who could use a refresher, you're welcome too. Just let Rev. Kim know, so she can prepare sufficient materials. The class will be held in the Wesley Room. Masks will be required.

ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS



Do you ever feel like your life is a series of ups and downs? Does "roller coaster" describe how you've been feeling through the pandemic? Well, the Bible has many stories about

ups and downs too. Beginning January 9, the Adult Sunday School Class will begin a series of simple Bible lessons that each have something to do with life's ups and downs. You don't have to buy a book, and there's no reading at home. Just come to class. We'll read the passage from the Bible together and discuss it. You can use a class Bible or bring your own from home. Everyone is welcome. The class meets 8:45-9:45 am each Sunday in the Wesley Room (with masks), or you can join us from home using the Zoom link sent out in the weekly email.

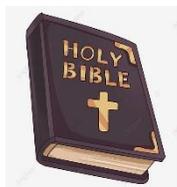
ADULT FRIDAY STUDY



The Friday Study will start up again on January 7 at 9:30 am via Zoom. We will be reading Isabel Wilkerson's book *Caste: The Origins of Our Discontents*. Please

order your own copy and read through chapter one for the first class. All are welcome to participate in this lively group, as we discuss how our Christian faith interacts with our society.

READ THE BIBLE IN A YEAR



Maybe you'd like to make a New Year's resolution to read through the Bible in a year. It's a great goal, with many blessings! Unfortunately, well-intentioned and faithful folks often get bogged down in the hard-to-read sections of the Bible and never make it through. Fortunately, there are Bible reading plans available that help you read the most important parts and allow you to skip the less-important sections.

One such "condensed version" schedule is now available on the usher desk at the back of the sanctuary. Pick up your copy on Sunday and get busy reading through (most of) the Bible in a year. If you'd prefer to print out your copy of the "A Year with the Bible" schedule at home, you can find it here:

<http://www.fumcogdenut.org/bible-reading-resources.html>.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

- 8:45 a.m. Adult Sunday School in-person & Zoom
- 10:00 a.m. In-person Worship and via Facebook Live
- 10:00 a.m. In-person Youth Sunday School
- 11:00 a.m. Fellowship Time
- 11:30 a.m. Zoom Fellowship (3rd Sunday Monthly)

JANUARY MISSION EMPHASIS IS THE SOUPER BOWL OF CARING



It is once again Super Bowl season, which means that the "Souper Bowl of Caring" is once again taking place. This month we will be collecting canned and non-perishable food for Catholic Community Services, which is one of the primary food banks in the Ogden area. In addition, any monetary donations will be used to purchase canned goods to add to our total. There is a table at the rear of the sanctuary that is designated for can donations. Our goal for this year is 1000 items. We look forward to continuing this annual mission project into 2022 with your help!

HUMAN RELATIONS SPECIAL OFFERING

By the United Methodist calendar, January 16th is designated as Human Relations Sunday. Enclosed with the newsletter is a Special Sundays envelope to send in your donation to FUMC any time during January. Along with United Methodists around the globe, we give to the Human Relations Offering so we can make an impact in communities where our brothers and sisters



in Christ lack the resources or tools to reach their God-given potentials. Our gifts are part of building beloved community through faith-based volunteer programs, community developers, and

programs that work with at-risk teens. For more than half a century, United Methodists have observed this church-wide special Sunday in recognition of the message Jesus demonstrated during this life: Each of God's children is equally important. Together our reach is beyond measure!

TAKING DOWN DECORATIONS

Alexa, take down the Christmas decorations.

Saturday, January 8th at 9 a.m. we will gather to take down all the Advent/Christmas decorations. Any assistance will be greatly appreciated.

WORSHIP COMMITTEE NEWS

If you attended the Christmas Eve Service in-person, you may have noticed that the signs are down from the pews asking individuals to not sit in certain pews. We plan to leave these signs down now as we know that many of you are mindful of others wanting some distance. Thank you for continuing to wear masks and practicing social distancing.



SUB-FOR-SANTA A BIG SUCCESS



Thank you, congregation, for contributing \$275 to the UMM's Sub-for-Santa project. UMM purchased 21 gifts for foster kids and your additional donations made it possible for Utah Foster Care Foundation to furnish gifts for even more foster kids!

UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

On Tuesday, January 25th at 1:00 p.m. in the Wesley Room, the United Methodist Women invite you to our first meeting of the new year.



The program will be given by Cecilia Tank: a review of a current Reading Program book. Sharing mission-oriented projects, accounts from living participants, and legacy events are priorities of United Methodist Women around the world.

BOOK TALK



The Book Talk book of the month is *The Cuckoo's Calling* by Robert Galbraith. Join us on Monday, January 10, 2022, at 6:30 p.m. via Zoom. Check out the 2022 book list at fumcogdenut.org or pick up a

bookmark in the narthex. Contact Cheryl at [801-389-9864](tel:801-389-9864) for further information.

2022 BOOK TALK READING LIST

January - *The Cuckoo's Calling* by Robert Galbraith
 February - *Blindness* by Jose Saramago
 March - *The Rent Collector* by Camron Wright
 April - *The Evening and the Morning* by Ken Follett
 May - *Indian Killer* by Sherman Alexie
 June - *Freefall* by Jessica Barry
 July - *The Orphan Keeper* by Camron Wright
 August - *Whose Names Are Unknown* by Sanora Babb
 September - *The Lincoln Highway* by Amor Towles
 October - *The Radium Girls* by Kate Moore
 November - *Howard's End* by E.M. Forster
 December - *Three Weeks with My Brother* by Nicholas Sparks & Micah Sparks



RALLY AT THE CAPITOL

WHAT? Rally to end sales tax on food in Utah
 WHERE? State Capitol steps in Salt Lake City
 WHEN? Thursday, January 20, 2022 at 11 a.m.

Crossroads Urban Center, the Coalition of Religious Communities, and other organizations are joining together to ask the Utah Legislature to eliminate sales tax on groceries. Currently, when you buy food at the grocery store, you pay 1.75% tax to the state and 1.25 % tax goes to the counties/cities. This effort is to eliminate the state portion of the food tax. The state of Utah is currently in a strong financial position, and legislators are considering reducing taxes. Faith-based communities consider taxes on food to be the most regressive tax, which do the most harm to those with lower incomes.

We'd like to organize a group from FUMC to go to this rally, as we've done in many previous years. Please put it on your calendar now and stay tuned for more details.

UNITED METHODIST MEN

The next UMM meeting is Monday, January 10th at 6:30 p.m. Look for more information and the ZOOM link in the weekly church email.



RECYCLE FOR THE YOUTH

Thanks to all that have been bringing their aluminum cans to the church for the youth ministry. This money is used for activities and trips. It's a great way to support the youth and save the planet at the same time! Find the bin in the Wesley Room. Every dollar adds up!! PLEASE – aluminum cans ONLY!!



BOY SCOUT BANKRUPTCY



You may be aware that Boy Scouts of America filed for bankruptcy. You may also know that the cause of their financial distress is their need to compensate 82,000 former scouts who have filed sexual abuse claims against BSA. What you may not realize is that, because of the way charters were written, chartering organizations have also been broadly implicated in these misconduct claims. Because United Methodist congregations have chartered so many BSA troops over the years, our denomination has considerable liability to care for those who were harmed. UMC representatives have just negotiated for the UMC to pay \$30 million into the BSA bankruptcy reorganization plan. This \$30 million is deemed to be much less than costs to the denomination would be without the settlement and if the cases went to trial. To help you put this in perspective, the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints used to be the largest BSA chartering organization. In September, the LDS church agreed to contribute \$250 million to this fund. In case you're wondering, our own Ogden First UMC is no longer chartering a BSA troop. We do have a Girl Scout troop meeting at our church now, but we are not the chartering organization and don't have the same level of liability risk.

NAME TAGS



At Ogden FUMC, we encourage wearing name tags so that we can interact with each other in a confident and friendly way. But some folks are new to our church, and others have lost their nametags. The church office is happy to print up a clear/white plastic, clip-on name tag for you at no cost. If you would like one of the reddish-brown magnetic tags, we will need you to pay \$10 with your order, so we can get them printed. Please turn in this form if you'd like a nametag.

Name 1: _____

Name 2: _____

Clear/white Plastic clip tag _____ (no cost)

Brownish-Red Magnetic Tag _____ (\$10 each)

Enclosed \$ _____

2021 GIVING



At the end of this year we thought it would be appropriate to share with all of you where your donated funds have been put to use. Your generosity is amazing! The totals represent January through November, 2021. This does not include the in-kind donations that you so freely gave, of time, talents and gifts.

Fund	Amount Donated
Cottages of Hope	\$970.00
COVAX (Love Beyond Borders)	\$770.00
Diaper Drive	\$595.00
Easter Food Baskets	\$865.00
CCS Food Bank	\$2,144.30
Foundation 4 Orphans (by Children's Ministry)	\$450.00
Heifer International (by Beekeepers)	\$153.06
Human Relations Day	\$220.00
JENAR	\$1,451.52
Kent's Kitchen	\$150.00
Lantern House	\$710.00
Lantern House (by Beekeepers)	\$500.00
Michael Templeton Fund	\$722.00
Mission Shares	\$25,234.58
Mission Shares Emphasis	\$2,764.76
Morton Cure Paralysis	\$10.00
Mozart Adevu (by Beekeepers)	\$500.00
Native American Ministry	\$270.00
Ogden Youth Futures (by Beekeeping Ministry)	\$500.00
Pastor's Discretionary Fund	\$3,425.79
Peace with Justice	\$165.00
Pura Vida Ministries	\$20.00
Quessua Agriculture (by Beekeepers)	\$500.00
UMCOR	\$7,309.64
Veteran Run/Chili Cook-off	\$988.65
Weber/Morgan Children's Justice Center (by Children's Ministry)	\$450.00
World Communion Sunday	\$40.00
YCC Family Crisis Center (by Beekeepers)	\$350.00
Total	\$52,229.30

THIRD SUNDAY ZOOM FELLOWSHIP



We're continuing to have Zoom Fellowship on the third Sunday of each month, beginning at 11:30 a.m. This gives an opportunity for

fellowship with those worshipping from home through Facebook Live. Watch the weekly email for the Zoom link.



We'd like to thank our church family for all the cards and prayers that came our way during my mother's rehab and passing. She so enjoyed attending Christmas Eve services, Sweetheart Dinners, and Fish Fries, and especially softball games. She valued the friendships she had during those times. We are blessed to have such a caring church family. – Mitch and Brenda Boren

Dear First UM Church,

Thank you so much for letting my piano studio use your beautiful space for our Christmas recital! We hope you have a wonderful holiday season. Thanks for all you do!
Anarie White

Dear First United Methodist Church,

On behalf of the Board, staff, and especially our clients, I sincerely thank you for your recent and generous donation of \$350.00 to the YCC Family Crisis Center.

We are honored to provide service and support to individuals and families experiencing domestic violence, sexual assault, or housing instability. For those needing services, advocacy, hospital response, or safe shelter, we are here 24 hours a day, 365 days a year. Our child care center is vibrant and thriving – and our outreach and education programs are stronger than ever.

Not only has the Covid-19 pandemic exacerbated domestic violence, it's also created a very difficult climate in which to raise much needed funds to continue our critical work. With this donation, you are right here by our side and we so appreciate you, your kindness, and your generous support.

Many, many thanks,
Margaret Rose
Executive Director

Dear Congregation,

Thank you for the many Christmas gifts from individuals and for the \$50 gift the SPR Committee provided from the whole church. I'm grateful for your generosity and love!

Happy New Year!

Rev. Kim

I'd like to thank everyone for all their cards and prayers. They worked!

My neurosurgeon cancelled my surgery. Once the thrush had cleared up all the pain was gone. He said when the pain comes back we can always reschedule the surgery.

Thank you,
Faye Templeton

Dear FUMC Family,

Thanks for all the Christmas gifts and goodies and for the gift card from the SPR committee. I enjoy working with all of you and wish you all a Happy New Year!

Gail Jensen

**HAPPY NEW YEAR
2022!**

"It's tempting to think 'a little' isn't significant and that only 'a lot' matters. But most things that are important in life start very small and change very slowly, and they don't come with fanfare and bright lights." –Mister Rogers