



GREAT SPIRIT

www.greatspiritpdx.com

Great Spirit Newsletter February-March 2022

Issue 17

From the Single Board

By Helen Stewart

WELCOME 2022!

A new year to celebrate! Renewed energy! Good things can happen! We have given up a lot in the past two years but are ready to move ahead. Spring is coming! Lent is coming!

March 2nd is Ash Wednesday and Easter is coming April 17th. The Single Board will be planning events to celebrate the season that will allow for social distancing and masking as permitted.

At the Charge Conference held last November 23rd, District Superintendent, Tim Overton-Harris, led discussion on the three reports requested by Bishop Elaine Stanovsky. First was the Report on Dismantling Racism. Tim said that it is not for people of color to dismantle racism but the white dominant culture. He prayerfully lamented

practices that the church and the dominant culture continue to uphold and accept. He asked God to open our hearts to change.

Second is the Report on Ministry in the Pandemic. Carol said we learned that we were resilient. We learned new skills, connected via Facebook and Zoom, shared what we have, and that church is more than just gathering on Sunday.

Lastly, the Report on Local Church Disaster Response & Preparedness was discussed. It is

important to be prepared for any disaster: 115 degrees, fire, smoke, flooding, avalanches, earthquakes, volcanic eruptions. Oregon has experienced many such disasters. The Board will consider ways we can be better prepared to help our congregation and community.

Carol Edmo was elected to serve on the Single Board. Carol has encouraged and supported the positive changes made at Great Spirit over the last 20 years.

In closing the Charge Conference, Carol thought it important for Tim to know of all the activities going on at Great

WORSHIP WITH US

Worship services are held each Sunday at 11:00am for vaccinated, masked persons at 3917 NE Shaver St. 97212. Services can be viewed on Facebook or on our website

www.greatspiritpdx.com

There is a prayer request form on the front page of the website. Worship includes smudging, drumming, and Native American prayer. To go lunch provided following service.

Spirit that make it more than just a gathering place on Sunday. Carol's list:

- Sunday worship (In-person and Facebook)
- United Methodist Women
- bottle and can recycling
- Yard Sale with neighborhood involvement
- Wisdom of the Elders
- Red Lodge Clothing Room
- Mt. Hood Cherokees
- Boy Scout Troop 107
- Alaska Native Brothers and Sisters
- Drum Bros. on Thursday and Sunday mornings
- Women of Wellbriety
- Pacific Northwest Council of Water Protectors
- Huckleberry Camp meetings
- CONAM
- Bow and Arrow Culture Club
- Portland Indigenous Marketplace
- First Indigenous Nations Society
- Funerals
- PINEWAS native elders
- Peace walkers
- Indian Education Program
- Indigenous Peoples' Day host.

Great Spirit UMC is a hub for Native activities in Portland and the Northwest. Allen has worked with the Klamath Tribe in Chiloquin, the Nez Perce in Joseph, and the congregation in Lapwai, Idaho.

Finance update: Financially 2021 ended with some very generous donations to Great Spirit UMC. The church paid 100%, \$ 6,933, of the Shared

DONATE

Great Spirit accepts donations. You can designate something specific, like outreach or women only. We also have a general fund, which is what keeps our lights on, the heat on, and the doors open, as well as emergency food services. On the website at greatspiritpdx.com scroll to the bottom of the page and click the DONATE button.

Giving Apportionment. 2022 is off to a slow start with the temporary closing of the church due to the rise in the Omicron variant of coronavirus. The 2022 budget will be presented for approval at the next board meeting. Pledges and tithes can be mailed to Great Spirit UMC at 3917 NE Shaver St. Portland, OR 97212.

Christmas Eve-Eve Service was held on December 23rd. A small group gathered for the celebration that ended with candle light and a masked version of Silent Night. The service can be viewed on the website.

There is room on the Single Board for Native leaders to participate in the activities and planning for the future of Great Spirit. Interested persons should contact Pastor Allen.

We look forward to more time together. Time to share, celebrate our wins and losses, highs and lows and reconnect more fully with each of you. Keep in touch, leave prayer requests on the website, stay healthy!

Submitted, Helen Stewart

BOTTLES AND CANS LADY (Helen Iles)

RECORD BREAKING YEAR!

Helen set a new record for collecting bottles and cans! The new record is \$4,700. The previous record set in 2020 was \$4,061. The money collected goes to Great Spirit's Shared Ministries Apportionments. Can we help Helen break the record again? Helen will provide pick-up service of bottles and cans from your location. Please give her a call at 503-252-0026.

Bottles and cans for recycling can be left at the church on Sunday morning or during the week at the ramp door to the Sanctuary.

HISTORIAN NEWS – Let's Keep in Touch!

Helen Iles has completed the scrapbook for 2021. Though it is much thinner than pre-pandemic years, it does provide a "picture" of the happenings at Great Spirit. We appreciate the time

and effort that Helen spends on this project. Helen welcomes pictures, flyers, or other documentation to add to the scrapbook of events in 2022.

Send notes or digital pictures to Helen Stewart (helkatstew@comcast.net) for inclusion in the scrapbooks.

MISSION

November 30th Helen Iles delivered 117lbs of clothing and bedding to MainSpring Portland. MainSpring can use non-perishable food, gently used clothing and unopened health care items for distribution to persons in need. Please leave donations in the Fellowship Hall with a note indicating "MainSpring."



Opportunities for Connection

- Pastor Allen and Monika Trujillo have posted sermons and "Pause and Pray" on the website and Facebook. Take a few minutes to view the website at: www.greatspiritpdx.org or facebook at: <https://www.facebook.com/greatspiritpdx>
- Anyone interested in joining the Single Board should speak to Pastor Allen.

Happy Birthday!

FEBRUARY Birthdays

- February 6 Nanci Schaughnessy
- February 8 Beverly Towner
- February 14 Janell Collier
- February 16 Beth Fleisher
- February 22 Bill Potts

MARCH Birthdays

- March 3 Karrie Young
- March 16 Ed Edmo
- March 17 Linda Meanus
- March 22 Jay Cracka

To add your name to the Birthday list, please let Helen Stewart know the important date. Anniversaries are important too!

ANNIVERSARY:

- February 14 Dean and Lois Wagner
- March 18 David and Mandy Marple

News from UNITED METHODIST WOMEN

SAVE THE DATE:

March 12, 2022

10:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

You are invited to join this online Every Member Enrichment Event hosted by the Columbia District United Methodist Women. A presentation by the Second Home Project serving high school students in the Portland area experiencing houselessness is on the agenda.

(Zoom information will be forthcoming.)

submitted by Loretta Milton

OUR CORE VALUES

LOVE – Love is the way.

CONNECTION – All of creation is connected by Spirit. That spark of the Divine connects with all humanity and the rest of creation.

SPIRITUALITY – Without cultivation of the spiritual life, we become unbalanced. Active participation in the development of one's spirituality is critical for a whole life. We believe this happens best in community.

TRADITION – Those who have gone on before us leave legacies of the old ways and wisdom with those who become elders. We encourage, value, and listen to them, so our tradition(s) may continue to help shape and guide us, informing who we are and what we will become.

We seek to become and embody these values every single day.

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