

GREAT SPIRIT

www.greatspiritpdx.com

Great Spirit Newsletter August-September 2023

Issue 26

From the Single Board

By Helen Stewart

Members of the Single Board have had a busy summer, so no meeting was scheduled, but September is just around the corner.

Single Board members are Pastor Buck, Loretta Milton, Frank Alby, Caroline Underwood, Beverly Towner, Helen Stewart, Carol and Ed Edmo, and Karrie Young. Frank and Rosa Alby are planning to return to Alaska in September. Pastor Allen will be looking for a member to fill the vacancy on the Board. If you have an interest in leadership at Great Spirit, let him know.

The return of Delta Park Powwow was welcomed by many people. Great Spirit UMC had a good location for our tables. Kids enjoyed the coloring sheets on the craft table. Pastor Allen had lots of help making prayer ties. It was great to reconnect with friends and family.

The Single Board is in discussion on the subject of infant childcare on Sundays and additional support in the Sunday School for Paulette

Meyer. There are specific requirements in the Safe Sanctuary Policy that need to be addressed.

The Stronghold: A Culturally Responsive Peer Support Program in Chiloquin, OR has signed a three-year lease for \$1/year with Great Spirit UMC. Sarah Miller, the Executive Director, has led a remarkable journey for the program. The Stronghold provides peer delivered services, transitional housing, food pantry, clothing/hygiene kits, Wellbriety meetings and cultural activities.

July 13th-15th the Klamath Tribes Language

Dept. held a community meeting for Klamath Tribal members living in the Portland area. Other social service departments were represented, and tribal cards were printed. The Fellowship Hall had many visitors over the three days.

Saturday, July 29th, Great Spirit hosted the 2023 Pacific Northwest Interfaith Peace Walk for Abolish Nuclear Weapons and End All Wars. This was the 19th year of visits from members of the Nipponzan Myohoji Buddhist Order and supporters of Peace. They walk about 13 miles a day for four

WORSHIP WITH US

Worship services are held each Sunday at 11:00 am for vaccinated, masked persons at 3917 NE Shaver ST 97212. Worship includes smudging, drumming, and Native American prayer.

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.

days in the Portland-Salem area. Along the way they listen, share the voices of war survivors, pray and teach the promise of peace on this earth. Friend and neighbor Chisao Hata coordinates their visit.

Sunday Potlucks have become very popular, more people are staying for food and conversation. The Hospitality team appreciates the response for help preparing the meal and the clean-up afterward. This month the ice cream single-serve cups were a hit!

Photo at right: The two cranes in a mobile were presented to Great Spirit from the Peace Walkers. They walk to get the message out to the public, Abolish Nuclear Weapons & End all Wars! Their cranes symbolize hope and healing during challenging times.



Happy Birthday!

AUGUST Birthdays

- August 15 David Allison
- August 19 Leslie Hall
- August 25 Tena Benedict
- August 27 Chisao Hata

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

- September 8 Siale Edmo Cook
- September 9 Eva Johnson
- September 10 Lois Wagner
- September 24 Tami Gallegos
- September 30 Pastor Allen Buck

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

August 1 Craig & Kathy Lesley
August 6 Patrick & Tena Benedict
August 7 Ed & LeeAnn Wermey

ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETING TO BE HELD AT GREAT SPIRIT

The Great Spirit United Women in Faith (UWF) is hosting an important gathering of women from across the Cascadia and Columbia Districts. This means that folks from as far as the north Oregon coast as well as Eastern Oregon may be attending; the Columbia District includes St. Helens on the West, and East to Pendleton. It will be a celebratory occasion, the first in-person Annual Meeting since the pandemic. Of course plans include a business portion, as well as an informative program; sack lunches are on the agenda to keep kitchen chores to a minimum. Stay tuned for more information on the agenda, and programming.

We will be gathering at Great Spirit Church on Saturday, September 23, at 10:00 a.m. lasting until 1:00. See you there!!

Submitted by Loretta Milton

HISTORIAN NEWS – Let’s Keep in Touch!

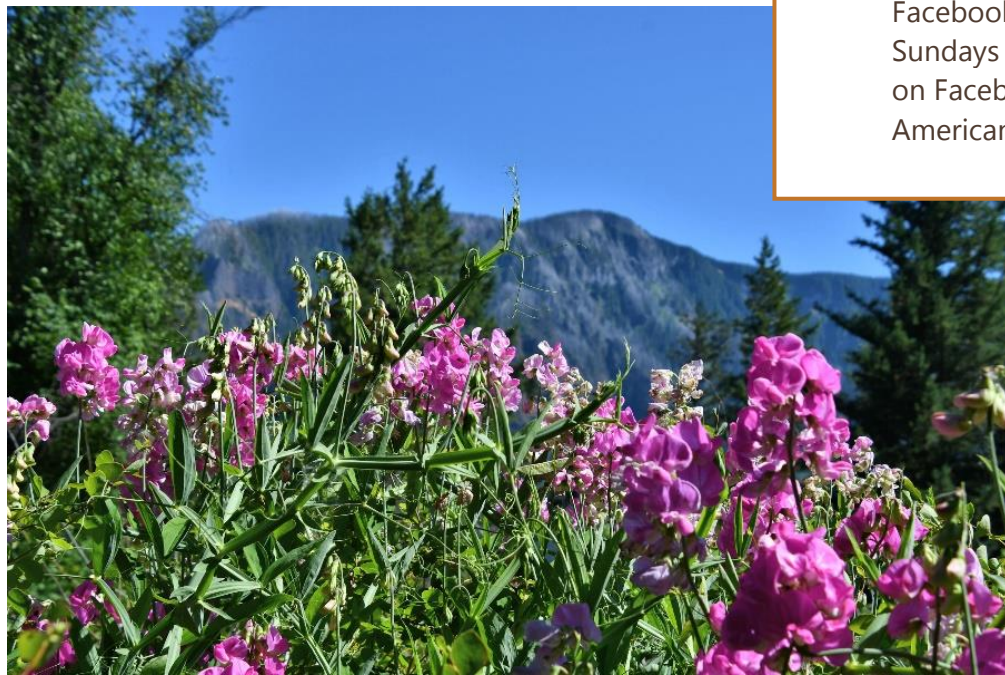
Helen Iles has brought from the archives a different selected historian scrapbook to display each month. On August 6th another historian scrapbook was available. Spend a few minutes on Sunday morning to view the current book. You may be able to recognize a face or familiar scene from yesteryear!

BOTTLES AND CANS LADY (Helen Iles)

At the end of July, Helen turned in \$500 from bottle and cans recycled. That is 5,000 cans! The total for the first six months of 2023 is \$2,500. Money from bottle and cans recycling goes toward Great Spirit’s Shared Giving Apportionment. Helen will gladly pick up bottles and cans at your home or business. Give her a call at 503-252-0026.

MISSION

Helen Iles delivered 46 pounds of clothing and bedding in June to MainSpring. In July she delivered 27 pounds of clothing and bedding. MainSpring distributes non-perishable in-date food, gently used clothing, and personal care items to persons in need. MainSpring is located on the



Opportunities for Connection

- August 19 – Great Spirit United Women in Faith 10am
- September 9 – Alaska Native Brothers and Sisters invite everyone to the Native Foods Picnic at noon at NAYA.
- September 23 – United Women in Faith District Annual Mtg 10am at Great Spirit Church
- Pastor Allen has posted sermons and “Pause and Pray” on the website and Facebook. Watch at 11:00 am on Sundays at: www.greatspiritpdx.org or on Facebook at Great Spirit Native American

Northeast corner of 82nd and Fremont St. Donations can be left on the entry table in the Fellowship Hall.

Photo at left. Wild sweet peas growing in the Columbia River Gorge last month.

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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