



# GREAT SPIRIT

[www.greatspiritpdx.com](http://www.greatspiritpdx.com)

Great Spirit Newsletter October-November 2023

Issue 27

## From the Single Board

By Helen Stewart

Fall has arrived and with it a whirlwind of meetings and activities at the church. October 1st will be the next Single Board meeting. Plans will be made for the balance of 2023 and a look into 2024.

On August 27th Great Spirit UMC welcomed 18 new members to the congregation. A warm greeting was given to Buffalo Ackerman, Frank Alby, Rosa Alby, Joseph Bull, Sky Bull, Maria Xiang, Stuart Crazybull, Thor Griffin, Candida Kingbird, Mishi Kingbird, Robert Kolln, Sonya Owens, Robert Seals, Nellie Stearns, Joaquin Tobar, Beverly Towner, Susan Towner, and Caroline Underwood.

The attendance at worship and Sunday potlucks have increased, (a good thing!) in recent weeks. The hospitality team continues to work hard to prepare the meal at noon. Thanks to everyone bringing a dish to share.

Single Board members

are Pastor Buck, Loretta Milton, Frank Alby, Caroline Underwood, Beverly Towner, Helen Stewart, Carol and Ed Edmo, and Karrie Young. If you have an interest in serving on the Single Board at Great Spirit, let Pastor Allen know.

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.

Several events are planned for Indigenous

Peoples' Day on October 9th. Celebrations will be held at PSU from 10am-3pm, NAYA Garden Day, Barbie's Village in Laurelhurst, 909 NE 33rd Ave, from 4pm-8pm with dinner at 5pm, Children's Mini-Powwow, speakers, vendors, and resources.

Time to update the church directory. If you would like to be included in the directory send the following information to Helen Stewart ([helkatstew@comcast.net](mailto:helkatstew@comcast.net)): Name, address, phone number, email address and month/day of birth. Optional information to share is ethnicity and/or tribal affiliation. Forms will be available at church.

### 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](http://www.greatspiritpdx.com)

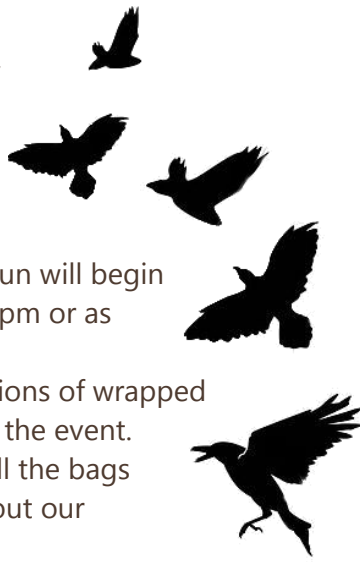
There is a prayer request form on the front page of the website.

## HALLOWEEN HOSPITALITY

Helen Iles and friends will be on the front porch giving out bags of treats on Tuesday, October 31st, Halloween. The fun will begin at 5:30pm and continue to 7:30pm or as long as the candy bags last!

She would appreciate donations of wrapped candy for the treat bags before the event. Sunday October 29th she will fill the bags with treats and a bookmark about our church.

Please come help serve apple cider to the costumed neighborhood children and parents. You are welcome to come in costume too!



## HISTORIAN NEWS – Let’s Keep in Touch!

October 1st Helen Iles will bring another historian scrapbook up from the archives to share with everyone. Put a slip of paper in the box to request a year you would like to see in the next few months. Take a few minutes on Sunday morning to view the activities in the current book.

Helen continues to gather church bulletins, paper clippings, and pictures of events to add to this year’s scrapbook.

## BOTTLES AND CANS LADY (Helen Iles)

At the end of August, Helen turned in \$400 from bottle and cans recycled and at the end of September \$250 bringing a total for the year to \$3,150.

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

MainSpring accepted 75 pounds of clothing and shoes from Great Spirit UMC in September.

MainSpring distributes non-perishable in-date food, gently used clothing, and personal care items to persons in need. MainSpring is located on the Northeast corner of 82nd and Fremont St. Donations can be left on the entry table in the Fellowship Hall.

## Happy Birthday!

### OCTOBER Birthdays

- October 4 Josh Marple
- October 5 Jim Nelson
- October 6 David Marple
- October 9 Bobbie Edwards
- October 16 Barbara Nelson
- October 16 Se-Ah-Dom Edmo Baker
- October 22 Loretta Milton
- October 30 Roxanne Williams
- October 30 April Milla Ruby Gudino-Wermy

### NOVEMBER Birthdays

- November 23 Caroline Underwood
- November 26 Jay Bateman

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

### HAPPY ANNIVERSARY!

October 12 Shadow Rose and Matthew Sunshine

## 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](http://greatspiritpdx.com) scroll to the bottom of the page and click the DONATE button.



A tree in Autumn colors along Fanno Creek Trail last week.

## UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

United Women in Faith Held its Annual Meeting at Great Spirit Church September 23, 2023

It was a Saturday to remember when 34 attendees were treated to a time of listening, responding, & connecting in person. We gathered with prayer and flute music provided by Karrie Young. A land acknowledgement was offered, as well as a welcome by President, Gloria Marple, and singing of "Bind Us Together, Lord."

Women from two districts, Cascadia & Columbia, processed through business items such as approval of minutes, budgets and election of officers. A memorial for women who have walked on recently was offered with prayer and glowing candlelight.

The highlight of the day was a time of listening to our two wonderful speakers, Maryl Smith and Pastor Allen Buck. With a mesmerizing presentation, Maryl guided us through stories and truth-telling of historical trauma, genocide, land theft, broken treaties, boarding schools, survival of cultural practices and the complicity of religious institutions. Allen focused on the Circle of Indigenous Ministries and how the Church is working with Tribal Nations throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Kitchen chores were kept to a minimum as sack



## Opportunities for Connection

- October 9 – Indigenous Peoples' Day
- October 14 – United Women in Faith gathering Saturday at 10:00 am
- October 15 – Dr. Carma Corcoran will be speaking at Great Spirit during potluck meal
- October 31 – Halloween Hospitality on the front porch at Great Spirit from 5:30 pm to 7:30 pm
- November 11 – Veterans Day
- 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](http://www.greatspiritpdx.org) or on Facebook at Great Spirit Native American

lunches brought from home were eaten in the fellowship hall. Discussion, recognitions, officer installation, devotions and a pledge service were followed by Communion and Benediction. It was a very hopeful, inspiring time of connecting at Great Spirit Church.

## 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.

[greatspiritpdx@gmail.com](mailto:greatspiritpdx@gmail.com)

[greatspiritpdx.com](http://greatspiritpdx.com)

---

**3917 NE Shaver ST  
Portland, OR 97212**