



GREAT SPIRIT

www.greatspiritpdx.com

Great Spirit Newsletter Jun-July 2024

Issue 31

From the Single Board

By Helen Stewart

Time for Summer! The Powwow Season! The weather has been cooperating, flowers are blooming! Rose Festival has begun!

The Single Board met on April 28th to make plans for the rest of 2024. Everyone agreed returning to All-Church Conversations during potluck as we did before Covid would be an opportunity to engage the whole congregation in the future of Great Spirit UMC. The Board reviewed the Budget and financial status, taxes and insurances to be paid, and usual church expenses. Pastor Allen mentioned the need for grant writing, especially for food grants for Sunday and Thursday meals.

The Board sends deep condolences to the family of member Frank Alby. Frank was an active member of the Board, a very wise man, always willing to help, provide prayers and advice. We will keep him in prayer.

The Sunday School Children's Ministry will be moving into the former "Choir Room". They have outgrown the current room, some

Sundays there are eleven children attending. Help is needed to clean, move furniture, and paint the room before the move. See Erin Buck if you would like to participate.

On June 1st, Great Spirit UMC joined friend Chisao Hata in programming for the Vanport Mosaic. An Afternoon of Rooting and Re-Storying, performances, pop-up exhibits, and drumming on the Indigenous land where Vanport once stood and where nearly 4,000 Japanese Americans were unjustly incarcerated. Pastor Buck paralleled the events with government taking land away and reservation incarceration of Native Americans.

Beginning Tuesday, June 4th, Great Spirit UMC will be hosting weekly Wellbriety meetings from 7PM-9PM. Wellbriety promotes the message of recovery through Native American traditions and tribal culture. The meetings are open to everyone.

Delta Park Powwow will be held June 14th -16th. Great Spirit UMC will host a table for crafts and

WORSHIP WITH US

Worship services are held each Sunday at 11:00 am at 3917 NE Shaver ST 97212. Masks are optional. 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.

conversation. Help in setting up, assist with crafts, and dismantling would be appreciated. Color sheets and crayons will be available.

Visit the website www.greatspiritpdx.com for Past Sunday Services, Calendar events and Resources.

For a copy of the new Church Directory, see Helen Stewart on Sunday morning. (helkatstew@comcast.net).

HISTORIAN NEWS

Helen Iles continues to take photographs to include in the archived scrapbooks of events happening at Great Spirit UMC. She includes newsletters, flyers, and weekly church bulletins in the scrapbook. It's a great historical resource and always fun to look back on events from years past,

how much we have changed, remembering friends, fond recollections! Helen will showcase another book from a past year each Sunday.



Happy Birthday!

JUNE Birthdays

- June 7 Raleigh Marple
- June 11 Roger Warren
- June 13 Meg Vogt
- June 20 Ricardo Gallegos

JULY Birthdays

- July 5 Craig Lesley
- July 9 Bodie Birch
- July 11 Helen Stewart
- July 15 Galey Morrison
- July 18 Leila Ann Wermey
- July 23 Earlene (Buttons) Gillette
- July 26 Paul Darling

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

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

- June 1 David and Janell Collier
- June 2 Raleigh and Gloria Marple
- June 6 Paul and Louise Darling
- June 20 Ricardo and Tami Gallegos

BOTTLES AND CANS LADY (Helen Iles)

Bottle and Can receipts through the month of May were \$1,350. The money collected is designated for our Shared Giving apportioned by the United Methodist Church. Shared Giving supports missions, disaster relief, and other programs of the greater church.

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 30 pounds of Clothing to Mainspring in May. MainSpring assists families in the Portland area. Their facility is located at 82nd and Fremont.

Leave your gently used donations in the bin at the entry to the Fellowship Hall. MainSpring also accepts personal care items and non-perishable in-date food.

NEWS FROM GREAT SPIRIT UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH

You are invited to be a part of the United Women in Faith! June 29, 2024, is our next scheduled gathering held in the Church Fellowship Hall. We will gather for connecting, prayer, planning & refreshments. One advantage of joining the UWF is connection - not only with the Great Spirit folks, but with women from around the Columbia & Cascadia Districts. The District Leadership Team does the planning for yearly events that are inspiring, uplifting and memorable. There are 2 main events: The EMEE (Every Member Enrichment Event) usually held Feb./March & the Annual Meeting held in early fall. (Great Spirit Church hosted our last Annual Meeting in September of 2023.)

In addition, this year, a Spiritual Retreat was held April 13 at the Woodburn UMC. What a wonderful time to "step away from everyday life and focus on yourself in a safe space for spiritual renewal and closer connection to God". We were well led by the

Rev. Danna Drum as well as pianist Noelle Goodenberger, music being an integral part of our experience. We also received information on efforts toward Just Energy For All and Climate Justice.

There will be a District Annual Meeting September 21, 2024. The venue is still to be announced. We can discuss transportation to this event at our next meeting - in the past we have tried to meet at the Church, then driving in one or two cars. We hope to see you on Saturday, June 29, 2024, at 10:00 am!!



Opportunities for Connection

- June 14-16th Delta Park Powwow
- June 29th 10:00 am United Women in Faith
- Volunteers Needed for Sunday Potluck, Hospitality, Children and Youth Ministry
- Wellbriety meetings Tuesdays 7-9 pm at Great Spirit UMC
- 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

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

greatspiritpdx.com

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