



GREAT SPIRIT

www.greatspiritpdx.com

Great Spirit Newsletter Aug-Sep 2024

Issue 32

From the Single Board

By Helen Stewart

Hello! It has been a hot summer so far, with more to come! Prayers go out to all people in the forest fire zone areas of the Northwest.

The *Single Board* has plans for a meeting in August or very early September.

Pastor Allen wants to hold an *All-Church Conversation* meeting during potluck as we did before Covid. Watch your Sunday Bulletin for when it will be scheduled.

In a return to other traditions, last Sunday he encouraged everyone to "Pass the Peace" during the time of Smudging. He said shake hands, hug, fist bump, or any other appropriate way to greet each other. Covid is still around, stay home if you are ill, wear a mask out of concern for yourself and others.

The *Sunday School Children's Ministry* will be moving into the former "Choir Room". Before the grand move-in, the room will need a bit of cleaning, painting and refreshing. Check with Erin Buck if you would like to participate in the project.

Sacred Heart Wellbriety meetings continue Tuesdays from 7PM-9PM. Wellbriety promotes the message of recovery through Native American traditions and tribal culture. The meetings are open to everyone.

Our space at the Delta Park Powwow was well attended. Many stopped by to make a prayer tie. Color sheets and crayons were available for the children to use. Pastor Allen brought extra chairs. Friends dropped by to sit and have a conversation or participate in a craft. Thank you to all volunteers assisting in the event!

Applause should be given to Maryl Smith. Sunday, July 21st, during the "Lightning and Thunder" the church and the neighborhood loss power. Maryl, standing in for Pastor Allen, went on with the service, speaking in her loudest voice. She remarked how the Drum required no electricity. Power was restored halfway through after many prayers were lifted.

Visit www.greatspiritpdx.com for past Sunday Services, Calendar events and Resources.

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.

AN UPLIFTING SATURDAY MORNING GREAT SPIRIT CIRCLE OF WOMEN REPORT

On June 29th the Great Spirit United Women in Faith gathered together in our fellowship hall with special guest Teresa Montana of *Wisdom of the Elders*. It was inspiring to hear of Wisdom's work in the community and how this nonprofit has evolved; from providing internships, gathering stories and giving them back, to restoring and elevating traditional ecological knowledge. This impactful work of connecting with community, government & private agencies, tribal nations and working to restore habitat is enhanced by grant writing to help with funding for internships and multi-media projects.

Having Teresa's input was invaluable for attendees to have meaningful discussion on how our *Circle of Women* at Great Spirit Church can re-imagine and ask the question: Where do we go from here? How do we expand on our connections with Red Lodge Transition Services & Missing & Murdered Indigenous Women? How do we enhance our connection to community? What would this look like? What words do we use? What actions do we take?

What would a vital women's circle look like for you personally? Could we provide childcare at our gatherings? Transportation? Resources?

We look forward to our next gathering To Be Determined. Please connect with Helen Iles so that she can put you on the contact list. Hope to see you there!

BOTTLES AND CANS LADY (Helen Iles)

The end of July totals for Bottle and Can receipts are \$2,100. 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.



Opportunities for Connection

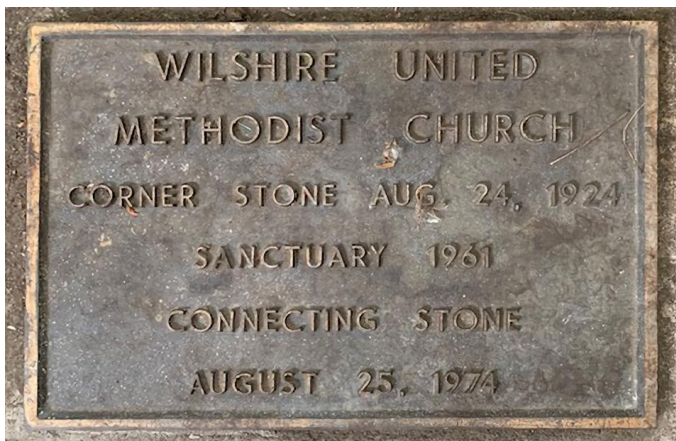
- August 23rd-25th – Pacific Northwest Council of Water Protectors Annual Medicine Gathering at Oxbow Regional Park
- September 21st – United Women in Faith District Annual Meeting. Time and venue to be determined, Save the Date!
- Volunteers Needed for Sunday Potluck, Hospitality, Children and Youth Ministry
- Sacred Heart Wellbriety meetings Tuesdays 7-9PM 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

HISTORIAN NEWS

On Sunday afternoon, August 24, 1924, a corner stone was laid for the Wilshire Community House by the City Church Extension Society of the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Community

House was dedicated for the religious, intellectual, social and athletic use of the people of Wilshire. A Sunday School was organized then and in 1926 the first regular church service was held.

Many changes and improvements were made to the original building. In 1961 our current Sanctuary was added. A Connecting stone was laid on August 25, 1974, on the 50th Anniversary of the church. An Anniversary Tea was held, and Bishop Tuell was the guest speaker at the morning worship service.



Happy Birthday!

JUNE Birthdays

- August 12th Stuart Crazybull
- August 15th David Allison
- August 19th Leslie Hall
- August 25th Tena Benedict
- August 27th Chisao Hata
- August 31st Sheila Kirk

SEPTEMBER Birthdays

- September 2nd Sabrina Dotts
- September 5th Cat Whipple
- September 6th Hope Poitra
- September 8th Siale Edmo Cook
- September 9th Eva Johnson
- September 9th Louise Darling
- September 10th Lois Wagner
- September 24th Tami Gallegos
- September 27th John Edmo
- September 30th 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 1st Craig and Kathy Lesley
- August 6th Patrick and Tena Benedict
- August 7th Ed and LeeAnn Wermey

MISSION

Helen Iles delivered 25 pounds of Food and 15 pounds of clothing to Mainspring in June and July. MainSpring assists families in the Portland area.

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.

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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