



### GIVING

If you are able to fulfill your financial pledge to your church, thank you so much!

If you are able to send an additional gift during this time, know that your generosity will help us emerge from this season with strength and vitality. Thank you!

You can always make a safe and secure gift to your church, electronically, through the church website: [www.eugenefumc.org/donate](http://www.eugenefumc.org/donate)

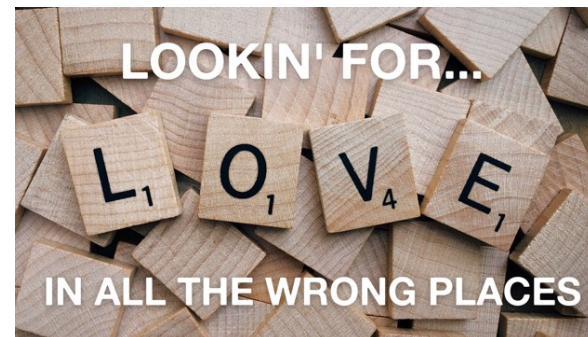
If you prefer to mail your contributions to the office, here is the address for your envelope:

The First United Methodist Church of Eugene  
PO Box 5369, Eugene, OR 97405

Thank you so much for your faithfulness,  
and generosity!

# First United Methodist Church

## 2023 Lenten Messenger



### Looking for God's love this Lent...

Lent is traditionally an annual season of spiritual reflection and discipline that leads us to Holy Week and Easter.

It is among our most ancient traditions. We can find hints of Lenten observances dating back to at least the year 325 AD.

When we pause and take note of this season, we align ourselves with countless other Christians across centuries and countries and cultures, who have chosen to use this season as an opportunity to deepen and expand our faith.

In worship you will see that we are using some "Scrabble-themed" images. Scrabble has long been one of our family's favorite games. Woe to you who casually embarks upon a game of Scrabble with my in-laws, for you know not what you do!

Scrabble is a game that rewards creativity and flexibility. If you get too hung up on making a certain letter or a certain word work, you may miss out on a better option that you just haven't seen yet.

In worship this Lent we will be encountering stories of Jesus that encourage us to be creative and flexible. They will remind us that we may encounter God and God's calling in unanticipated ways, in unlikely places, and through unexpected people.

Are we willing to open our minds and our hearts to a God who may be just waiting to rearrange the letters of our lives into something awesome and incredible that we could have never imagined?

If we know ANYTHING about our God, it is that they will take every opportunity to rearrange us in a way that serves the poor, loves our neighbors, and keeps us humble.

Say amen... or say ouch...



(Continued on page 2)

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*First United Methodist Church is  
A "Reconciling Congregation."  
We are disciples of Jesus Christ,  
welcoming all, doing justice,  
transforming the world.*



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## Update From

### Justice and Ministry Matters (JAMM)

Thanks to your generous support, we have started the year making wonderful contributions to the community!

Not only did you respond in incredible ways to Ukrainian families in need here in our community, but when the weather turned cold and we appealed for coats, wow did you respond!



We took multiple car loads of coats and hats to St. Vincent DePaul's Family Shelter, the Eugene Mission, and the Hope and Safety Alliance.

Thank you so much, for helping to make a difference!  
Yours in Christ,  
Karen Ziros-Smith

Chair of JAMM



### Next "coffee with the pastor" for new and new'ish members!

On the first Sundays of the month join Pastor Adam for some small group discussion about our community, a chance to ask questions, and to get to know some other church members!

We usually gather in the chapel immediately after worship.

The next two "coffee with the pastor" dates will be April 2 and May 7. All are welcome!



(Continued from page 1)

What steals away the bandwidth we need to live and love the people who are most important in our lives? What does Jesus have to say about what should be the most important parts of our lives?

My hope for you this Lent, is that you may find some ways to scale back, to make things more simple, to clear away extraneous distractions in order to give more of our time and attention to God.

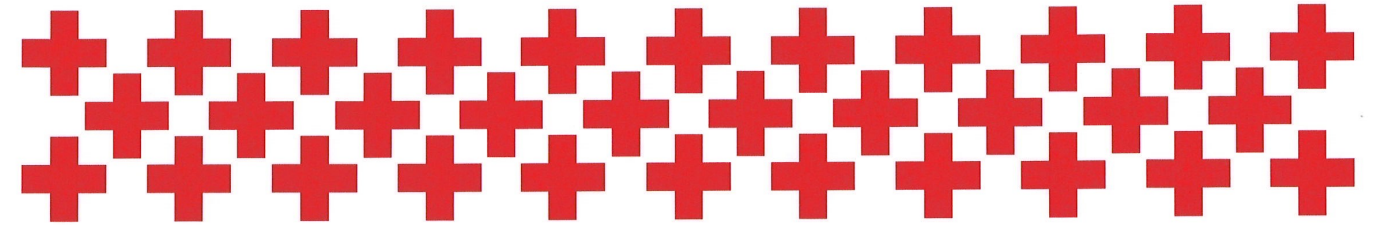
I look forward to exploring this together with you on this year's Lenten journey.

Know that you and yours remain in my prayers.

*Pastor Adam*

## American Red Cross

*Give blood.* Help save lives.



### Blood Drive First United Methodist Church

Fellowship Hall  
1376 Olive Street  
Eugene, OR 97401

**Wednesday, March 22, 2023**  
**11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.**

To schedule an appointment, contact Red Cross at 1-800-733-2767, or sign up online at [RedCrossBlood.org](https://RedCrossBlood.org) using sponsor code: eugenefumc. Per OHA, as a health care operation, masks are required.

Streamline your donation experience and save up to 15 minutes by visiting [RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass](https://RedCrossBlood.org/RapidPass) to complete your pre-donation reading and health history questions on the day of your appointment.



Scan to be directed to RapidPass®

Come give in March and get a \$10 Visa Prepaid Card by email. PLUS, get a chance to win a \$3,000 Visa Prepaid Card to help with gas or grocery expenses! You could be one of five lucky winners. Lend an arm; we'll lend a hand. Terms apply: [rcblood.org/help](https://rcblood.org/help).



Scan to schedule an appointment.

1-800-RED CROSS | 1-800-733-2767 | [redcrossblood.org](https://redcrossblood.org) | Download the Blood Donor App

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# March - April 2023

Sun      Mon      Tue      Wed      Thu      Fri      Sat

26	27	28	29	30	31	April 1
8:30 Men's Group 10 Worship Live and on YouTube 10:15 Open Hearts Elementary/Open		11:15 Staff Meeting 5:30 1619 Class	5 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir	9:45 Thursday Theology on Zoom	6:30 Dinner & College Financial Aid Info	
2 8:30 Men's Group 10 Worship Live and on YouTube 10:15 Open Hearts Elementary/Open Minds Tweens 11 Newish Member Coffee	3 11:30 UWF Ruth	4 9:30 UWF Leadership 5 Health Ministries 5:30 1619 Class	5 1 Raging Grannies 5 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir	6 9 Quilters 9:45 Thursday Theology on Zoom 10 Backpacks	7	8 10 Easter Egg Hunt
Easter 8:30 Men's Group 10 Worship Live and on YouTube 10:15 Open Hearts Elementary/Open	10	11 12 UWF Reading Group 5:30 1619 Class	12 9:30 UWF Sarah 5 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir	13 9:45 Thursday Theology on Zoom 10 Backpacks	14	15
16 8:30 Men's Group 10 Worship Live and on YouTube 10:15 Open Hearts Elementary/Open	17	18 1 Prayer Shawls 5:30 Covenant Council 5:30 1619 Class	19 1 Raging Grannies 5 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir	20 9:45 Thursday Theology on Zoom 10 Backpacks 1 Prayer Shawls	21 11 Care Partners	22
23 8:30 Men's Group 10 Worship Live and on YouTube 10:15 Open Hearts Elementary/Open Minds Tweens	24	25 11:15 Staff Mtg 5:30 1619 Class	26 5 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir	27 9:45 Thursday Theology on Zoom 10 Backpacks 10 Everyone Village Meal	28	29

Sunday Mornings at 8:30 am in the Library



## United Women in Faith Recognition Sunday

Congratulations to **Todd Jackson, Willie Knaus, Dody Hansen, Polly Kohl and Betsy Guinn** on their special recognition from our United Women in Faith! We are so grateful for all of the ways they serve the church, the community and the world!

Not present but also honored were: **James and Allan Walugembe, Pat Knaus, Kathy Kingsbury, Ken Kohl, and Jane Dougall.**

Thank you United Women in Faith!



## Worshipping with our friends from Wesley and Ebbert

Ash Wednesday this year not only marked the beginning of Lent, but it was also the second time this church-year that the people of Ebbert, Wesley and First United Methodist churches have met to share in worship together!

Ebbert hosted our shared Blue Christmas service in December, and Rev. Nicole from Wesley preached.

First Church hosted Ash Wednesday, and Rev. Liv from Ebbert preached.

And we hope you can join us for a **special Sunrise Worship Service on Easter Sunday, April 9th.** Wesley UMC will host, and our Pastor Adam will preach. Stay tuned for more details!





## FUN WITH FAMILY MINISTRIES!



Sunday School is from 10:15 - 11:00 am each Sunday morning.

We have classes serving all ages.

Invite a friend to come to join in the fun!

### FUN St Patrick's Day Party!

At FUMC on March 17th from 5- 10 pm!

Great time to have a date night! Dinner and Games in the Sanctuary!

### SAVE THE DATE!

**Easter Egg Hunt** Saturday, April 8th, starting at 10am! We will have fun activities offerings at the beginning, a song and a story then we will hunt for eggs in 2 places. One for Kindergarten and older and one for PreK and younger. All are invited to this fun event! Bring a friend!

### BIRTHDAY RECOGNITIONS!

On Sundays we love to recognize folks who have recently had birthdays, or who have a birthday coming up! If you have someone in your life who you would like to get a birthday shout out on Sunday, send the details (and a picture!) to Pastor Adam at [adambriddell@gmail.com](mailto:adambriddell@gmail.com)!



# Feb-March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>Feb 26</b> 8:30 Men's Group 10 Worship Live and on YouTube 10:15 Open Hearts Elementary/Open Minds Tweens	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 11:15 Staff Meeting Office Closed	<b>March 1</b> 1 Raging Grannies 5 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel	<b>2</b> 9:45 Thursday Theology on Zoom 10 Backpacks	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>5</b> 8:30 Men's Group 10 Worship Live and on YouTube 10:15 Open Hearts Elementary/Open Minds Tweens	<b>6</b> 11:30 UWF Ruth	<b>7</b> 9:30 UWF Leadership Team 5 Health Ministries Team 5:30 1619 Class	<b>8</b> 9:30 UWF Sarah 5 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir	<b>9</b> 9:45 Thursday Theology on Zoom 10 Backpacks	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>12</b> 8:30 Men's Group 10 Worship Live and on YouTube 10:15 Open Hearts Elementary/Open Minds Tweens 11:30 Hosea Lunch Prep	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 11:15 Staff Meeting Office Closed 12 UWF Reading Group 5:30 1619 Class	<b>15</b> 1 Raging Grannies 5 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir	<b>16</b> 9:45 Thursday Theology on Zoom 10 Backpacks	<b>17</b> 11 Care Partners 5 St. Patrick's Day Party	<b>18</b>
<b>19</b> 8:30 Men's Group 10 Worship Live and on YouTube 10:15 Open Hearts Elementary/Open	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b> 1 Prayer Shawl Ministry 5:30 Covenant Council 5:30 1619 Class	<b>22</b> 11 Blood Drive 5 Bell Choir 6:30 Chancel Choir	<b>23</b> 9:45 Thursday Theology on Zoom 10 Backpacks 10 Everyone	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>



## Report From Your Foundation

The Foundation at First makes so much ministry possible, with funds dedicated to building maintenance, scholarships for young adults, youth ministry, music ministry, and responding to emerging needs in our community.

Every year the Foundation makes funds available through its Rohm-Barrett Scholarship or gram, helping young adults access post-secondary education, community college, and/or their first undergraduate experience.

If you have children or grandchildren who can benefit from this program this year, email Dody Hansen at [hansendody@gmail.com](mailto:hansendody@gmail.com). Applications will be available in the spring, and awards will be for the September 2023 school year.

The resources in the Foundation are invested using socially responsible investment screens.

Our thanks to the members of our Foundation Board: Kathi Hoffer (Board Chair), Charlotte Sutton (secretary), Mike Ritchey, Lee Sutton (Trustee Chair), Rev. Adam Briddell, Barbara Roberts, Nia Fleck, and Phyllis Wolf.



## Suicide Prevention Resources

The Lane County Public Health Department is doing important work for the cause of suicide prevention in our community. Data suggests that one of the most important things we can do to keep our families and friends safe, is keep any firearms in our homes safe and secure. To that end, Lane County Public Health makes available to community organizations, a variety of gun safety tools. Your church has lockboxes for handguns, and lockable cases for rifles, that we are happy to share with you if they can contribute to the safety of your homes. Contact the church office for more details.

## Recovery Groups at First

Here at First UMC we host a variety of weekly recovery groups:

- Mondays 12pm AA Men's Meeting in Room 19
- Tuesday 7:30pm AA Men's Meeting in Chapel
- Wednesday 12pm AA Men's Meeting in Room 19
- Friday 6pm AA Women's Group in Room 16
- Friday 6pm AA Men's Group in Library
- Saturday 9am AA Meditation in Chapel



## Coming Up With Concerts at First

The FUMC Sanctuary Choir, guitarist David Rogers and organist Brad Schultz present "Lent in the Cathedral" in the FUMC chapel on **Sunday, March 12 at 3pm**. The program centers on the musical activities in the principal Cathedral in Guatemala, in the highland city of Antigua. Manuscripts depict a robust catalog of music for Lent, Holy Week and a Salve Regina service, all composed by resident musicians transplanted from Old Spain. Selections from this repertoire will be performed by the choir, in addition to music from Old & New Spain by David Rogers and Brad Schultz. Suggested donation \$10 or nonperishable food for Food for Lane County.



This spring's *Classes at First offering, The 1619 Project, Music & Communities of Faith* begins on Tuesday, March 7, 5:30 in the Chapel. Join Dr. Brad Schultz for a weekly lecture and book discussion of Nikole Hannah-Jones's groundbreaking work, *The 1619 Project*. The group will meet on Tuesdays from 5:30-6:45 in the Chapel from March 7 to April 25 (8 weeks). All are welcome to join, but please acquire the book (or e-version) by whatever means is convenient- our March 7 meeting will include a discussion of Chapter 1. The reading outline and more information can be found at [www.concertsatfirsteugene.com](http://www.concertsatfirsteugene.com).



**Thanks to the wonderful Concerts at First Board (Sheryl Aydelott, Marlene Barkhurst, George Hutto, Shira Fadeley) for their work in hosting the St Olaf Choir earlier in February. The concert, which drew an audience of over 500 to our sanctuary, was part of the Choir's tour of the West Coast.**





## Sing in the Choir, Ring With the Bells, Play With the Band...

**Sanctuary Choir** rehearsals are on Wednesdays at 6:30pm in the Chapel, and this is a great time to join us. In the coming weeks, we are focusing on music for Holy Week and Easter in April, and a cantata in May.

You certainly need not be present every week to participate, and some music reading skills are helpful, though not essential. Contact Brad with questions, or just drop in on Wednesdays.

**Handbell Choir** rehearsals take place on Wednesdays at 5pm in the Bell Room. New and interested ringers are welcome! Contact Shira Fadeley for details.

Contact Shira for details at [shirafadeley@yahoo.com](mailto:shirafadeley@yahoo.com)

**Do you play an instrument?** Are you willing to add your talents to our worship services, perhaps alongside one of our choirs, our hymns, as a soloist, or with the band? Brad and Michael would love to hear from you!

Contact Brad at [brad.s.schultz@gmail.com](mailto:brad.s.schultz@gmail.com) and Michael at [macemoncreative@gmail.com](mailto:macemoncreative@gmail.com).



## Report From Covenant Council

Your Covenant Council leadership team had their first meeting of the year on Tuesday, January 23rd.

We reviewed some of our important work in 2022, and discussed some of our goals for 2023.

In 2022 we welcomed more than 30 new members to the church, and connected our worship to our witness in the community by honoring Pride Sunday, and donating Sunday offerings to our local NAACP and 4J LGBTQ+ inclusion initiatives.

You have helped to shape disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world, by:

- Building community among families with children and youth;
- Creating space for education and exploration of our faith and our traditions, for people of all ages;
- Connecting people in service to the world, locally and globally; and
- Helping to respond to our community's homelessness crisis.

Specifically in regard to supporting our unhoused neighbors, our church served as the youth site for the Egan hypothermia shelter network. We prepared to-go lunches for our hungry neighbors, distributed from the church and through the Eugene Community Refrigerator project. And we financially supported St. Vincent DePaul, Community Supported Shelters, and many other organizations working to end homelessness in our community.

Also in 2022 you supported a very successful Concerts at First ministry that is enriching for current members and introduces new people to our community. And you helped us to care for our infrastructure with vigilance, including installing a new sanctuary screen, and changing our phones and internet over to Comcast fiber.

This year we hope to begin offering two worship services on Sunday mornings, beginning September 10th, 2023. We will continue to invest in new and exciting ways in our family ministry. We are exploring some important building renovations, and the potential for a new partnership with our neighbors, Homes for Good.

We are so excited for how God continues to be at work through the people of the First United Methodist Church of Eugene!

The Covenant Council will meet next on Tuesday, March 21, at 5:30pm. All are welcome!



## Serving Globally

### Update From Uganda

The clinic is operating well and smoothly with a great team, thanks to your generosity!

Official COVID numbers remain very low in Uganda, and the country has now been certified as Ebola-free by the WHO. So in some ways the public health landscape in Uganda is improving.

Our prayers go out to the families of many Ugandan nationals who were in Turkey, and were either injured or lost their lives in the recent earthquake.

Daily patient counts at the clinic are encouraging, and a recent medical camp was a big success in distributing supplies and sharing important healthcare education. We continue to do important work for the cause of malaria prevention, maternal health, and resourcing people with epilepsy. Thank you so much for your support!





EMILY ADLER MOSQUEDA



**UNEXPECTED**  
A POSTPARTUM MEMOIR

## Congrats Emily on Your New Book!

So exciting that Emily Adler Mosqueda has published her memoir, "Unexpected." We are so grateful for the courage and wisdom she has shared with us in these pages. You can find a copy through your favorite book-seller.

## Remembering Bert Lund

There will be a memorial service for Bert Lund on Saturday, March 18th, at 1:00pm in the Sanctuary at First.

Albert (Bert) J. Lund Jr. was born on February 8, 1930, in Portland to Albert and Bertha Lund. An only child, he grew up on Portland's east side, usually in homes near his father's auto repair shop.

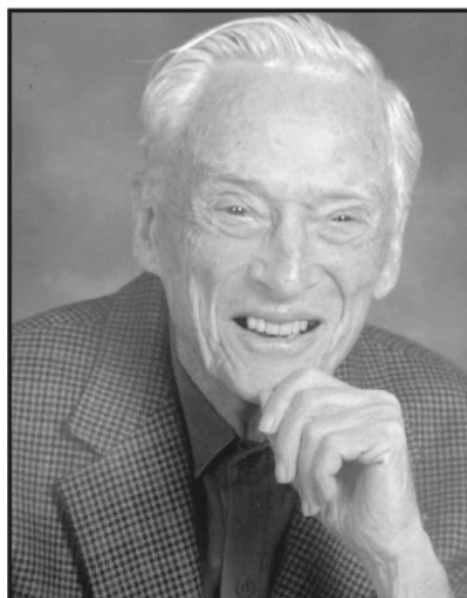
He played French horn in the Grant High School band and orchestra, appearing in all-state and all-Northwest bands, and was a pitcher on the baseball team. In 1947, he enrolled at Willamette University, where he continued to play music and baseball. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in history in 1951 and earned a master's degree in education from the University of Portland in 1956.

Bert began his teaching career with two years at Stanfield High School in eastern Oregon. In 1956, he moved to Eugene for a job at Wilson Junior High, where he taught social living (history and English) for the next eleven years. In 1967 he switched to Jefferson Junior High, where he taught social studies and served as department chair until retiring in 1985 after 33 years as an educator.

In August 1957, Bert began dating a fellow Willamette alum who would become the love of his life: Betty Leonard. They married on June 29, 1958, and spent the rest of their lives in Eugene. Their first son, Jim, was born in 1960, and second son, Dave, arrived in 1962. Bert treasured the four grandchildren that eventually followed: Emily, Erik, Sonja, and Peter. Bert and Betty were happily married for 51 years until her death in 2010.

Always active, Bert was a founding member of Asbury United Methodist Church in Eugene and directed the choir there for 10 years before the family moved across town in 1969 and began attending First United Methodist Church.

The full obituary was published in the Register Guard on Sunday, February 26th. We hope you can join us to celebrate and remember Bert on March 18th.



## Update from OEDDO - which stands for the Orphan, Elderly, Disabled Development Organization - in Cambodia

Well frankly, 2023 did not start out all that well.

We had many people ill and in the hospital.

Most of our people are home now, but our irreplaceable director, Vanna just had surgery. We ask for prayers for her successful recovery during this time and for the children.

The harvest is complete so now there is some time for other things. A lot of building has been accomplished. The kitchenette at the center was moved to the fruitland. One day all the kids went there and cleaned the whole area. Now they are working on building a duplex.



Back at Loma farm the quadriplex is also underway which when completed will offer a home for four unhoused families.

Finishing touches were made at the hospital, library and kitchen.

A fence was built around a field to keep the cows out. They will grow grass for the cows during the off season before the next rice planting. They also built a gazebo where the kitchenette had been. One of our elders also got a new roof for her house.

The well at the village is complete and dedicated. Everyone was so happy and celebrated with the kids being showered with the well water.

Our sixteen new university students have begun their classes. There is much joy and excitement. They all come from the villages so we also have a class on how to learn to live in the city. It is a big shock for them since some had never been to the city before.

We have forty students squeezing into our one house. We really could use another house for them! Anyone interested in this, please feel free to contact us. We could rent a house including utilities for \$1,000 a month or buy a large house for about \$50,000.

I'll end this report with a picture of three of our future students, our triplet sisters who are now two years old. In the picture they are showing off their new outfits from Mom Vanna.



Thank you again for all your help!

Betsy Guinn

To learn more about OEDDO email Betsy at: [betsyguinn@yahoo.com](mailto:betsyguinn@yahoo.com)



## Opportunities to Serve - Serving Locally

Thank you for helping us provide bags of groceries to food-insecure families at Cesar Chavez Elementary School and bagged lunches to help fill up the Eugene Community Refrigerators stationed around our neighborhood!

We can always receive your donations of nonperishable foods - just place them in the Food For Lane County bins in the sanctuary.

### Preparing food for hungry people



#### Every 4th Thursday from 11-12 pm

We are making a meal for 50 people at Everyone Village! Volunteer in the FUMC kitchen to make a meal together and deliver it to 3825 Janisse Street, Eugene

We need people to shop, cook, prep, and deliver this lunch for 50 people living in transitional housing. This community eats together once a week on Thursdays and meets about how they can support each other in finding permanent housing.

#### Every 2nd Sunday from 11:30-12

Making lunch for 30 youths at Hosea Youth Center! Volunteer in the FUMC kitchen to make lunches for unhoused youth. This center provides day-use shelter, counseling, computers, recreation, and medical services to unhoused youth in Eugene. We deliver the meals the following Monday before 11:30 am to 834 Monroe St, Eugene, OR 97402.



## FILL THE BIN!

We will have a bin in the narthex of the church for the next month collecting high protein foods for Food for Lane County. **Specific foods needed are peanut butter, tuna, canned chicken, chili and beef stew.**

If we fill the bin FFLC will pick up the food from our church!

Thank you for thinking of those who are hungry when you do your grocery shopping!

~ Karen Ziros-Smith  
Justice and Ministry Matters (JAMM) Team



## News from the Oregon-Idaho Annual Conference

### Disability awareness and engagement in our churches and communities



Greater Northwest Episcopal Area Abundant Health Ministries presents:  
Disability Awareness and Engagement in our Churches and Communities.

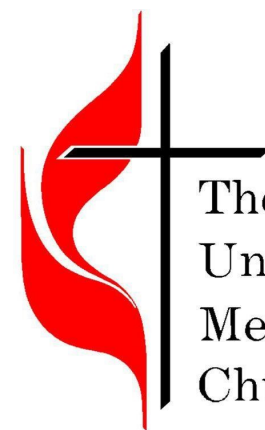
The virtual event takes place Tuesday, March 21, 2023 at 5 p.m.PST. It is presented by: Rev. Debbie Hills, chairperson of the Disability Ministries Committee of the UMC

Topics to be Discussed:

- Disability Theology Framework overview - Do No Harm
- First steps to take in your church
- Creating spaces to foster acceptance and belonging in the Church
- Taking it to the streets (joining with others/pioneering)
- Resources to share

To register contact Emilie Kroen at [ekroen@yahoo.com](mailto:ekroen@yahoo.com).

## News From the United Methodist Church Honoring UMCOR Sunday on March 19th



The  
United  
Methodist  
Church

UMCOR Sunday is one of our six denominational giving Sundays, and on Sunday March 19th we will have special envelopes available for gifts benefiting the United Methodist Committee on Relief.

UMCOR does incredible work around the world as the disaster response agency of the United Methodist Church.

Most recently, UMCOR has been supporting recovery work in Turkey and Syria, in

response to the devastating earthquakes that have impacted so many communities in those countries.

You can learn more about UMCOR by visiting [www.umcmmission.org/umcor/](http://www.umcmmission.org/umcor/)

Thank you for your generous support of UMCOR!

