

## Fern Prairie United Methodist Church September-October Newsletter 2024

*“Everybody needs beauty as well as bread, places to play in and pray in, where Nature may heal and cheer and give strength to body and soul alike.” - John Muir*

Hello friends and church family! Hopefully you have all had an opportunity to soak up some of summer's goodness...whether it be warm sunshine, refreshing rain, bird song, fresh produce, or any of nature's splendor. As we transition into fall it is a blessing to know that God adds a splash of color into our lives...just when we need it most. Spirit is always present and accessible all around us. Andrew Garland Breeden, acquisitions editor of The Upper Room writes, “Some of my most memorable and meaningful spiritual insights have occurred on an afternoon hike, during an interaction with a stranger, or while reading scripture.” Wherever you find that quiet place to connect with our Creator may it strengthen and nourish you.

Our hearts and prayers go out to the Landerholm family during their loss of Carl. Our congregation was very blessed to have been able to be an active part of his life this past year. We also want to include the Mabry family in prayer during their loss of Mary. They will both be deeply missed.

On a brighter note, we are so very happy to have been able to share in the exchange of vows between Dick and Linda this past month. The ceremony was simple as requested but it was quite evident to all attending that the Spirit was present in our little church that day. What a lovely cake and sentiment, Joan A... 😊 Blessings to you in your new adventure together Dick and Linda!

We keep everyone in prayer and encourage all of you to reach out with any prayer concerns or needs that we can fill. God bless and keep you!

<https://fernprairieunitedmethodist.org>

Link for online giving: <https://secure.myvanco.com/L-ZA35>

### Upcoming calender and events:

#### September:

**1-** Education Sunday (beginning in September we will be holding Adult and Youth classes following a sing-a-long in the sanctuary the first Sunday of each month)

**8-** Doug Wood, guest speaker (**\*Council Meeting following, all invited**)

**14- Saturday-** The church has been invited to a service planned in memory of Carl Landerholm to be held at La Center Cemetery at 1:00pm, followed by a reception until 3:00pm at La Center Middle School. (Copies of the invitation can be found in the fellowship hall.)

**15-** Rev. Tom Tucker, guest speaker, followed by our church potluck picnic near the newly cleaned grotto area. The church will be providing grilled hamburgers, hotdogs, and buns...please bring a favorite side dish to share. Camas UMC has been invited to join us for the festivities.

**22-** Music Connexion Sunday- Talents from our church family led by Joan H.

**29-** Rev. Keith Hackett, Holy Communion

**October:**

**6-** Education Sunday (Adult and youth classes following a sing-a-long in the sanctuary)

**13-** Rev. Carol Davies, guest speaker

**20-** Family connexion stories led by Joan H.

**27-** Rev. Keith Hackett, Holy Communion

**Short Biography of Rev. Tom Tucker:**

Pastor Tom has served congregations in Oregon, Idaho and Washington, small, medium, and large. He was Pastor of the Vancouver Heights UMC for eleven years until his retirement in 2010. Tom was asked to work with the Washougal UMC in 2014 and retired again in 2018. Since then, he became the pastor Emeritus of Vancouver Heights UMC. Recently he officiated his 599th wedding and occasionally fills in to preach as requested.

**Sneak Peek into November:****Saturday November 23<sup>rd</sup> 3-5pm**

For the second year St. Nicholas, also known as Santa Claus, will pay an early visit to Fern Prairie UMC! Included will be: Stories and Photo, Cookies and Cocoa. Plan to come with your children and grandchildren to hear the Christmas stories, have photographs taken with our special visitor to send with your Christmas greetings, and enjoy tasty treats with hot cocoa. All are welcome.

New toys (unwrapped) will be appreciated and donated to the local CAROL program.

**Additional note from missions/outreach:** Please keep eyes and ears open for any need you see involving local family and/or individuals that we can help out with the funds we received from our church plant and yard sales. If you are aware of someone needing a financial boost please contact one of our council members. Thank you in advance for being ministering angels!