

OPFern Prairie United Methodist Church May/June Newsletter

Greetings friends and church family! We hope this newsletter finds you basking in an after-Easter glow and surrounded by God's beautiful creation. We are reminded in Psalm 147:8 that "God covers the sky with clouds; He supplies the Earth with rain and makes grass grow on the hills." While we contemplate on God's blessings let us pray that our hearts grow in thankfulness and that we, too, can look up and proclaim as the nineteen-year-old Abe Lincoln, "I never behold the stars that I do not feel that I am looking into the face of God." Amen.

We want to thank those who participated and helped with our Earth Day Awareness Event on April 22nd. The weather broke, the sun shone, and there was much laughter and joy. Kelly Moyer from the Post Record ran a particularly nice article about our church's 150th anniversary which was warmly received by others outside our immediate church family and spurred them to join us for the event and to come and meet Reverend John Wesley, our Methodist founder, the next day during service.

Our worship coordinator, Joan, has been tirelessly working to gather information and arranging for guest speakers to share their memories through October (see attached calendar of upcoming events). Connexion Sundays allow us to share personal memories as well. We encourage everyone to keep those memories coming as she is compiling them and photos to add to a special commemorative album. It is always a joy to see you in person or share a phone conversation!

As always, you all remain actively in our prayers. Please do not hesitate to reach out to any of our contact people listed below if you have specific joys or concerns, transportation or communication requests, or a need to receive travelling communion. God's blessings to you all in the coming months.

Contact:
info@fernprairieunitedmethodist.org

Calendar of upcoming events in May and June

May 7: Service led by Marilyn Oltmann

May 14: "Family Connexions" led by Kathy Kahler

Council meeting following service

May 21: Guest speaker, Rev. Carol Davies

Potluck following service

May 28: Rev. Keith Hackett serving Holy Communion

June 4: Service led by Marilyn Oltmann

June 11: Guest speaker, Rev. Carol Mariano (daughter of Vern and Neta Stebbins)

Council Meeting following service

June 18: "Sharing Connexions" led by Kathy Kahler

Potluck following service

June 25: Rev. Keith Hackett serving Holy Communion

Everyone is welcome to join us for each of these Sunday services, held at 10:00am.

Long time pastors at Fern Prairie UMC

Over the one-hundred-and-fifty-year history of Fern Prairie United Methodist Church 57 pastors have served the church; just five of them served for almost a third of that long history. It is noticeable that none of the five whilst at Fern preached at another church- in other words it was not a yoked appointment. However, the three men were in full time appointment serving beyond the local church at a university, a counseling center or non-profit service agency. The two women were part time serving in retirement or in a pioneering role inspiring a future pastor from Fern Prairie.

Over the next year we will be remembering these five by having them present their recollections and/or by compiling and sharing ours of them. The Rev. Carol Davies, who came to Fern Prairie as her first appointment in 1980 will also be remembering and remembered.

If you have recollections of any Fern Prairie pastors, particularly the seven listed below, please share them with Joan: revkeithjoan@hotmail.com or handwritten.

THANK YOU, Joan

May 21: Rev. Carol Davies 'Reflection on My time at Fern Prairie 1980-82'

June 10 (Saturday): 3:00 pm 'Music to a Tea' with The Stebbins Sisters, Carol, Kathy, Merry

Donations for New Furnace & UMCOR Ukraine

June 11: Rev. Carol Mariano, daughter of Vern and Neta Stebbins

July 16: Carl Landerholm 'Reflection on My Time at Fern Prairie 1995-02'

August 27: Rev. Keith Hackett 'Reflection on My Time at Fern Prairie 1982-91'

September 10: 'Remembering Rev. Ruth Mathis at Fern Prairie 2007-16'

October 15: 'Remembering Dorothy Northcutt at Fern Prairie 1961-1970'

January 21 150th 'Remembering Rev. Phil Harder at Fern Prairie 1977-80; 02-07'

**Please share "My Connexions & Memories of Fern Prairie United Methodist Church"
regarding:**

1. The Building
Roof, basement, windows, furnace, well
2. The Preachers
Women
60s, 70s, 80s, 90s, 00s, 10s,
3. The Congregation
Pioneering families
4. Sunday School & Youth Group/ Other groups
Music
Women's groups
5. The Celebrations
Picnics, Parties, Pig Roast, Mini Missions,
60th, 100th, 125th Anniversaries

Or * Please write or share to Joan Hackett

**Sesquicentennial Anniversary 1873 – 2023
Fern Prairie United Methodist Church
26112 NE Brunner Road, Camas, WA**

Special Event
Saturday, June 10th, 2023 at 3:00pm

“Music to a Tea” with ‘The Stebbins Sisters’
Carol, Kathy & Merry

Hats & 19th Century Costumes Appropriate

Donations- Half for the New Furnace & Half for UMCOR Advance for Ukraine

Limited Seating

Reservations Requested

Please contact: Joan Hackett @ (360)696-1615
Email: revkeithjoan@hotmail.com

