

*Florence United Methodist Church*

***Tide-ings* 2026**



## April Newsletter

Florence United Methodist Church  
333 Kingwood, Florence, OR 97439

Office: (541) 997-6025

[florenceoregonumc@gmail.com](mailto:florenceoregonumc@gmail.com)

[www.florenceoregonumc.org](http://www.florenceoregonumc.org)



**Sunday Worship: 10:30 a.m.**

**Serving the People of God:**

**District Superintendent: Wendy Woodworth**

**Pastor: Reverend Deborah Anderson**

**Governing Board Chair: Beth Evans**

**Finance Chair: Kathy Yelle**

**Trustees Chair: Scott Philben**

**SPRC Chair: Ann Scharf**

**Newsletter Editor: Diane McCalmont**

**Ministers: All Members**

Office Phone: 541-997-6025

Pastor Deb's Office Hours:  
 Tuesday & Wednesday, 8:00 a.m.-4:30 p.m.  
 Contacts: Phone: 651-600-9444  
 Email: revdebanderson@gmail.com

Diane's Office Hours;  
 Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday: 10:00am-2:00pm  
 Thursday: 10:00 a.m. through 1:00 p.m.



*April*

*Ministry Opportunities*

Date	Liturgist	Usher/ Greeter	Counters	Projectionist	Flowers
5	Brooke Shafer	Judy Jones	Julia Bicek Jane Salamone	Peggy Hughes	
12	Jim Waterman	Patt Rollins	Patty Evans Brooke Shafer	Peggy Simington	Scott & Vickie Philben
19	Kathy Waterman	Nu Williams	Caroline Mesman Nu Williams	Bert Schniepp	
26	Sharon Gallagher	Patty Evans	Nancy Rhodes Peggy Simington	Karen Baylis	

**Coffee Hour Sign Ups for April**

Apr. 5            Sharon Gallagher, Patty Evans  
 Apr. 12  
 Apr. 19  
 Apr. 26



## The Sight of Resurrection

Dear Family in Christ,

Recently, you may know that I had a bit of a scare with my vision. Things became blurry, uncertain. I didn't know if the upcoming surgery—to remove scar tissue—would restore my sight well enough, with macular degeneration lurking behind it all. I was scared that this was as good as it was going to get.

Blinking used to help to take away the blur; I wish it were so for the world—that we could just blink away the conflict, divisiveness, and uncertainty. But we can't. Our hope is blurred by greed, power, and disregard for human life. And still—whether or not our vision sharpens—we know this: Jesus is here. And because he is here, we know what to do. Easter is about that kind of seeing.

Resurrection is not just a day we celebrate—it is a way of seeing the world differently. Because resurrection does not erase suffering. It meets it. It transforms it. It refuses to let death, injustice, or despair have the final word. Resurrection looks like love that acts. It looks like feeding the hungry, protecting the vulnerable, telling the truth, and refusing to turn away. It looks like showing up—in quiet time, in communal prayer, in solidarity and in action. That kind of life changes how we see—and how we are seen.

And this Easter, may we not only celebrate resurrection—may we see it. May God open our eyes to love, to justice, to hope breaking through. And may we become people who help others see it too.

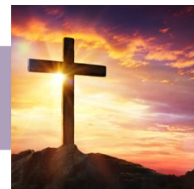
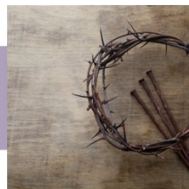
Grace and peace,

Pastor Deborah

## HOLY WEEK HAPPENINGS



- Thursday, April 2, 5:00 p.m.: **Maundy Thursday Service**
  - St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
  - 2135 19th St., Florence
- Friday, April 3, 5:00 p.m.: **Good Friday Service**
  - Florence United Methodist Church
- Sunday, April 5, 6:30 a.m.: **Easter Sunrise Service**
  - Siuslaw River Bridge Interpretive Center
  - 1252 Bay Street (where the Christmas tree gets lit)
  - Please bring chairs for your own seating
  - Join us in music, story, and ritual for an affirmation of the power of
    - LIFE over DEATH
    - LIGHT over DARKNESS
    - LOVE over FEAR
- Sunday, April 5, 10:30 a.m.: Easter Worship Service
  - FUMC





United  
Women  
in Faith

## United Women in Faith News

All women are invited to come to the April meeting of the UWF, to be held on the 1st at 1:00 p.m. You will find a mix of fellowship, devotions, refreshments, prayer, and a program.

April's program will consist of attendees putting together Easter baskets, which are slated to be given to foster children in our community. The finished baskets will be dropped off at the elementary school for disbursement by their Special Programs staff. Bring items to include in the baskets, such as Easter grass, pencils, candy, plastic Easter eggs, stickers, and other small toy items. Please no religious items.

Pecans, pecans, pecans—there are a few bags of pecans left. Here's an opportunity for you to pick up a bag of pecans at no charge, bake a treat using them and bring it to coffee hour after church. We'll sell your goodies, with the proceeds going to support Amanda Weaver and Renee' Hansen attending the United Women in Faith Assembly in Indianapolis, Indiana May15-17.

The UWF Fundraising Committee has been hard at work deciding what events to hold this year in order to raise funds that will go to the many organization (who help women, children, and youth) we support. The annual High Tea and Auction is in the works, scheduled for June 13, Noon-3:00pm at the Presbyterian Community Church. The theme this year is "Local Florence" and will highlight items and gift certificates from our local businesses. Tickets are \$15 each. Other fundraisers include the Rummage sale to be held later in the summer, and a pecan sale in the fall.

Diane McCalmont, Secretary



## Bible Stories for Grown-Ups

The adult Bible study will continue to meet at 10:30 am Mondays in the Sunday School room of the Fellowship Hall building. Beginning the day after Easter Sunday, we will spend the next six weeks with some familiar Bible stories most of us learned years ago while we were children.

Beginning with a short video presentation each week by Rev. Josh Scott, we will be refocusing with **Bible Stories for Grown-ups**, as we take a new look at the familiar beginning with Noah and the Flood. Among others, we will be looking at the Parable of the Talents, Zaccheus, and others.

Come join us for a new look at these and other familiar stories most of us learned as children.

Bert Schniepp

## PFLAG to present “The DATA Scene”

PFLAG will meet Monday, April 13 in the Fellowship Hall to show examples of data specific to our region that will help us use the region’s demographics to plan for the coming months and years. Broad understanding of the region’s population helps all non-profits, especially those like PFLAG – which deal with specific populations – navigate issues affecting their families, friends and themselves.

The meeting begins at 6 p.m. and should wrap up by 7:30 p.m. As with all PFLAG events, the meeting is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be available. If you haven’t attended PFLAG in a while, consider dropping by, bringing a friend, meeting the new leadership team, and hearing about the organization’s initiatives for this year and next.

PFLAG Florence is one of more than 400 chapters in the largest national organization serving the LGBTQ+ community and those who love them.

Linda Yoder



**Monday, April 13, 6 p.m.**  
at Florence United Methodist Church

Second and Kingwood Streets

What does our community look like, data-wise? Find out how understanding our region’s demographics impact LGBTQ+ issues

*Free Event. Refreshments Served. Invite a friend*

**Taizé Community Prayer Service  
Practicing Resurrection**

**Sunday, April 12, 2026  
4:00 pm**

**Florence United Methodist Church  
333 Kingwood Street**

**Musicians' Rehearsals  
Tuesday, April 7, at 2:00 pm  
Sunday, April 12 at 3:00 pm**

**For more information contact  
Patricia Evans, Taizé Coordinator**

**PALS**



**1:00-2:30 p.m. Fridays**  
Tedd Powell Fellowship Hall  
All women are welcome!

**P... Prayer  
A... Action  
L... Love  
S...Sharing**

# APRIL

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu
			<b>1</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs <b>1:00pm UWF Mtg</b> <b>4:00pm Care Circle</b>	<b>2</b> 10:00am-1:00pm O 11:30am Free Lu 2-3pm Homesch <b>5:00pm Maundy</b> <b>Svce at St. Andr</b>
<b>5 EASTER</b> <b>6:30am Easter Sun-</b> <b>rise Svce on Bay St.</b>  10:30am Easter Worship Svce Coffee hour after svce	<b>6</b> <b>Office Closed</b> <b>10:30am Adult Bible</b> <b>Study at FUMC</b>	<b>7</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 11:30am Free Lunch <b>2:00pm Taizé Music</b> <b>Rehearsal</b>	<b>8</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs <b>10:00am-12:00pm Hearts</b> <b>&amp; Hands Craft Ministry</b> <b>4:00pm Care Circle</b>	<b>9</b> 10:00am-1:00pm O 11:30am Free Lu 2-3pm Homesch
<b>12</b> 10:30am Church Svce Coffee after church <b>3:00pm Taizé Music</b> <b>Rehearsal</b> <b>4:00pm Taizé Prayer</b> <b>Svce</b>	<b>13</b> <b>Office Closed</b> <b>10:30am Adult Bible</b> <b>Study at FUMC</b> <b>6:00pm PFLAG</b>	<b>14</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 11:30am Free Lunch <b>3:00pm Church Council</b> <b>Mtg</b>	<b>15</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs <b>10:00-11:30am Book</b> <b>Group</b> <b>4:00pm Care Circle</b> <b>5:30pm Church Potluck</b>	<b>16</b> 10:00am-1:00pm O 11:30am Free Lu 2-3pm Homesch
<b>19</b> 10:30am Church Svce Coffee after church	<b>20</b> <b>Office Closed</b> <b>10:30am Adult Bible</b> <b>Study at FUMC</b>	<b>21</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	<b>22</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs <b>4:00pm Care Circle</b> <b>Newsletter Deadline</b>	<b>23</b> 10:00am-1:00pm O 11:30am Free Lu 2-3pm Homesch
<b>26</b> 10:30am Church Svce Coffee after church	<b>27</b> <b>Office Closed</b> <b>10:30am Adult Bible</b> <b>Study at FUMC</b>	<b>28</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 11:30am Free Lunch	<b>29</b> 8:00am-4:30pm Pastor Deb's Office Hrs 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs <b>4:00pm Care Circle</b>	<b>30</b> 10:00am-1:00pm O 11:30am Free Lu 2-3pm Homesch

	Fri	Sat
Regular office hrs Lunch Poolers Thurs new's	<b>3</b> 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 1-2:30pm PALS meet <b>5:00pm Good Friday Svce at FUMC</b>	<b>4</b>
Regular office hrs Lunch Poolers	<b>10</b> 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 1-2:30pm PALS meet	<b>11</b>
Regular office hrs Lunch Poolers	<b>17</b> 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 1-2:30pm PALS meet	<b>18</b>
Regular office hrs Lunch Poolers	<b>24</b> 10:00am-2:00pm Regular Office hrs 1-2:30pm PALS meet	<b>25</b>
Regular office hrs Lunch Poolers		



### *Birthdays*

- 8 Nancy Rickard
- 9 Renee' Hansen
- 10 April McCalmont
- 25 Kathy Waterman

### *Anniversaries*

- 5 Larry & Sharon Gallagher
- 14 Casey & Sabrina Hand
- 27 Bruce & May Hadley
- 30 Glen & Karen Baylis

**If I've missed your birthday or anniversary, please send an email to Diane at [florenceoregonumc@gmail.com](mailto:florenceoregonumc@gmail.com) to let me know.**



## Looking for Fellowship?

"Hearts and Hands" is an adventure in creative hospitality and service. On the second Wednesday of each month from 10:00am -12 noon the doors of the Fellowship Hall are open

to welcome folks looking for warm fellowship and an opportunity to have fun exploring a variety of arts and crafts that reach out to the community in Christian love.

It was born in our Prayer Shawl Ministry with knitted and crocheted shawls, scarves and hats and has expanded to include sewing, painting, card and bookmark crafting, table favors and a multitude of other possibilities. Bring your art project and join the fellowship or just come and see what is being created.

The last two months we've had knitters working on prayer shawls and scarves and circle loom weavers working on red caps for No Kings Day. There is a plan to begin making "fidget quilts" for our friends in Memory Care.

This is a wonderful way to introduce friends to the church, to get better acquainted with new friends, to explore a new art form and to share handmade gifts of love with our community.

Patty Evans

## Your Help is Needed!

Each Sunday a team of two stays after worship for a short time to count and deposit our morning offering. Their careful, faithful work is essential to the smooth running of the church and the responsible care of the financial gifts people are investing in ministry every week.

Grateful thanks are extended to our counting teams that include Julia Bicek, Jane Salamone, Brooke Shafer, Caroline Mesman, Nu Williams, Peggy Simington, Nancy Rhodes and Sharon Gallagher.

Currently we need at least two new counters to fill out our schedule and provide a standby list. Counters need to be able to work effectively with a team mate to count, record, and deposit the offering following a set of simple, clear, right practice guidelines that are required by our denomination. Counters must be approved by the Church Council and receive training, support, and heartfelt gratitude. The job is not difficult but is very important and help is needed! For more information and to express interest, please contact Patty Evans at 541-905-4248 or [pcevans1556@gmail.com](mailto:pcevans1556@gmail.com).



Thank you to all of my church family for the patience and understanding you've shown over the past 3 months, while I've settled into the office and adjusted to working again. The office has been rearranged (thank you, Scott Philben), we've put in a different copier, and done a little decorating. I'm continuing to sort through cabinet drawers, keeping and organizing what we're required to. So, it's still a bit of a work in progress.

Again, thank you all!

Diane McCalmont,  
Office Administrator



## Notes from the Church Council



The church council met the second Tuesday in March. We are excited to have three new members (of the church) on the council - Julia Bicek, Chuck Cornell, and Kathryn Socea. Each is already adding a lot to our work of taking care of the church.

We approved the 2026 budget. Kathy Yelle will review the budget with the congregation during a Sunday service.

We are continuing to look for a church pianist. Sharon Belvill is filling in on Sunday mornings and we are so grateful to her for doing so. This summer, Carol Cooper will return one week each month to play. Even though we have Sunday mornings covered for now, we would love to have a more robust music program in the church - a choir, the praise band, and music for special services that take place at other times than Sunday mornings. This a paid position, so we are not expecting someone to volunteer. If you know anyone who plays the piano, and who might be interested in some part time work, please let a member of the Staff/Parish Relations Committee know (Ann Scharf, Patty Evans, Brooke Shafer, Karen Baylis).

Remember that you are always welcome to attend council meetings. They are the second Tuesday of each month at 3:00pm in the Fellowship Hall.

Beth Evans

## Florence United Methodist Church FINANCES



February 1-28, 2025: Receipts: \$ 6,517.68

Expenses: \$ 6,683.64

March income through the 25th: \$ 7,769.65

Provided by Kathy Yelle, Treasurer

# Go Camping

## Follow Up to Oregon State Outdoor School Funding

*From the current issue of Magruder's Coastal Currents newsletter:*

You may have heard that the \$6 million cut to Oregon Outdoor School funding was not restored during the state's short legislative session for the upcoming fiscal year. As a result, Outdoor School programs and the camps that host them will continue to navigate the sudden 20% reduction in funding.

We want to extend our deep gratitude to everyone who contacted state leaders this past month to advocate for Outdoor School and the camps that make these programs possible. Camp Magruder truly felt your support, and your voices helped elevate the importance of these programs for students across Oregon.

One silver lining in this situation is that additional reductions—which had been proposed earlier in the session—were ultimately not adopted. Earlier this week, Camp Magruder welcomed our first Outdoor School students of the season. Even amid uncertainty, it was inspiring to see the joy, curiosity, and growth that a week of outdoor learning brings. We are proud to have hosted these experiences for decades and are grateful for the partnership and leadership of the educators at Northwest Regional ESD who make Outdoor School happen week after week.

The current funding cuts will have real impacts on Outdoor School programs and the camps that host them. For Camp Magruder, those effects will be felt most acutely this fall and next spring. The anticipated loss of income will affect our ability to field a full camp staff, keep pace with facility maintenance, maintain our high standards of food service, and prevent retreat rates from rising significantly. Even in the face of these challenges, we remain committed to innovating and adapting so that Camp Magruder continues to be a place where people can encounter the wonder, love, and justice that we seek to cultivate through our camping ministry.

Looking ahead, our work now turns toward the next biennial state budget. In the coming months, we will begin reaching out to state leaders to advocate for restoring full Outdoor School funding in the 2027–2029 fiscal cycle. Our hope is that Outdoor School programs—and the camps that support them—can move beyond lean years like this and return to a place where they can truly thrive.

Thank you for standing with Camp Magruder and Outdoor School. Your continued support, advocacy, and encouragement mean more than you know as we work to sustain this important legacy for future generations.



### *Keeping in Our Prayers*

Peggy Simington; Julia Bicek; Chuck Cornell; Machel  
Goodwin; Ray Feay and other friends & family of Aaron Gallegos; Judy Jones; Earl Rosendaul; Yola Hesser; Carolyn Munson; Betty Livingston; Donna Embree and daughter, Barbara; Sandy & Terry Woodward; Georgia Garrett; and Ursula Sears.

Soldiers everywhere in the world and those who wait for them to come home.  
*We ask God's blessing on these people and those in need, but not named.*

Note: To receive the electronic prayer chain, contact ...  
[kathywaterman10@gmail.com](mailto:kathywaterman10@gmail.com).



Did you know that our church pays for our congregants to have access to Amplify Media? Amplify Media is primarily a streaming service that allows users to access Bible study, devotional and worship content anytime, on any device, with a single subscription for an entire congregation. The platform provides videos, podcasts, audiobooks, and other digital media developed by the United Methodist Publishing House and local churches, emphasizing Wesleyan theological perspectives (Amplify Media 2026)

To access the church's account follow the link below and enter the all-church access code. Then you will be able to enter your own username and password for an individual account through our church.

<https://my.amplifymedia.com/amplify/enter-access-code>  
Access Code YVWKHD

Thank you,  
Kathy Yelle, Treasurer

## RECIPE CORNER

### Carrot Cupcakes



#### Ingredients

- 4 large eggs, room temperature
- 2 cups sugar
- 1 cup canola oil
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 1 teaspoon ground allspice
- 1/2 teaspoon salt
- 3 cups grated carrots
- CHUNKY FROSTING:**
- 1 package (8 ounces) cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup butter, softened
- 2 cups confectioners' sugar
- 1/2 cup sweetened shredded coconut
- 1/2 cup chopped pecans
- 1/2 cup chopped raisins

#### Directions

- 1.Preheat oven to 325°. In a large bowl, beat the eggs, sugar and oil. Combine the flour, cinnamon, baking soda, baking powder, allspice and salt; gradually add to egg mixture. Stir in carrots.
- 2.Fill 24 greased or paper-lined muffin cups two-thirds full with batter. Bake until a toothpick inserted in the center comes out clean, 20-25 minutes. Cool for 5 minutes before removing from pans to wire racks.
- 3.For frosting, in a large bowl, beat cream cheese and butter until fluffy. Gradually beat in confectioners' sugar until smooth. Stir in the coconut, pecans and raisins. Frost cupcakes. Store in the refrigerator.



Makes 2 dozen

# APRIL NEWSLETTER

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**Love Boldly**  
**Serve Joyfully**  
**Lead Courageously**



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Online: [www.florenceoregonumc.org](http://www.florenceoregonumc.org)

**Directory Update:**

Do we have your current address,  
phone number, and e-mail address?

Please forward them to:

[florenceoregonumc@gmail.com](mailto:florenceoregonumc@gmail.com)

If you do not wish to receive this  
Newsletter, please notify the church office.