


The United Methodist Church of Ephrata

117 C Street NW
Ephrata, WA 98823

«First Name»«Last Name»

«Address»

«City, State, Zip»



Pastor Don Dunn.....pastor@umcephrata.org

Administrative Assistant: Tresa Poe.....office@umcephrata.org

Custodian: Jamie Downing



facebook.com/umcofephrata

Office Hours

Church Office is closed but can
be reached by phone.

Phone: (509)754-4664

Email: office@umcephrata.org



www.umcephrata.org

Thank you for supporting the work of the church through your prayers, your presence, your gifts, your service and your witness as we pursue our mission:

“We Serve God by Serving Others”

The United Methodist Church of Ephrata 



The Update Newsletter

“We Serve God by Serving Others.”

July 2020

Acts 2:43-47 (CEB)

⁴³ A sense of awe came over everyone. God performed many wonders and signs through the apostles. ⁴⁴ All the believers were united and shared everything. ⁴⁵ They would sell pieces of property and possessions and distribute the proceeds to everyone who needed them. ⁴⁶ Every day, they met together in the temple and ate in their homes. They shared food with gladness and simplicity. ⁴⁷ They praised God and demonstrated God’s goodness to everyone. The Lord added daily to the community those who were being saved.



I read this brief passage and pause at the event of Pentecost when the Holy Spirit descended on the church. The changes that came as these followers practiced this new life in Christ would shape people over the centuries up to our present. Gathering for worship, meeting in each other’s homes devoting themselves to Christ, to a communal bondedness, to prayer and to a way of life of care.

During this time of the Pandemic we long for such a gathering of our church family. The ways of relationship you’ve had with each other over a lifetime is suspended as we try in limited ways to live in our bondedness in Christ. I know that many already stay in contact by means of the telephone, others may email, or text one another. Linda Bryant-Smith has provided access to other ministers whose gifts of ministry were received well by the church. These persons have continued to settings where their gifts are now available by the online access. Still, others will read the Upper Room - we have them at the office and can either send or deliver one for you. Others will spend more time with scripture or attend Zoom Bible Study.

The early followers were a mix of people from different locations - race, ethnicity, and a moment when everyone was experiencing something new, and unfamiliar. Yet, they devoted themselves to prayer. Many forms of prayer are open to us as we each with his or her own life pause to listen to God, speak to God, to pray for one another.

The story and picture of Acts is an invitation to ponder the enormous change we face and in which God has not abandoned us. None of us have a clear idea of where the Holy Spirit is leading, but we follow in the Hope that God is at work in you.

Blessing and Peace,

Pastor Don





EUMC Church Council has rewarded a \$500 scholarship to 2020 Ephrata High School graduate and member of EUMC, Corbin Sager. Corbin was presented his scholarship by Pastor Don Dunn at his graduation party with friends and family in attendance. Congratulations Corbin, we all wish you the best in your future endeavors. God Bless You!



Connect With Us!!

Links to all sermons, Zoom bible/book studies are on our website at www.umcephrata.org

Zoom Bible Study (Sermon text for Sunday), Wednesdays at 12pm

Zoom Book Study (Materiality as Resistance), Sundays at 5pm

Sermons posted on Saturdays to our Facebook & YouTube Channel

****If you subscribe to the YouTube channel you will get notifications when a video has posted.**

PRAYER REQUESTS

"I call to you, Lord, come quickly to me; hear me when I call to you. May my prayer be set before you like incense; may the lifting up of my hands be like the evening sacrifice." Psalm 141: 1-2

One of the most wonderful gifts we are given is the gift of prayer. We can pray for one another in times of need as well as times of celebration. To join the email prayer chain, email Tresa at office@umcephrata.org

Prayers for Health, Healing, and Well-Being

- | | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| • Bob St. Clair Jr | • Dan Anderson | • Amy Torrens-Harry |
| • Ed Sivula | • Randy Senn | • Mike Dell |
| • Ron Gardner | • Ed Warren | • Dick Ross |
| • Steven Grass | • Marlene Fisk Warren | • Eric Moulton |
| • Brian Davisson | • David Prince | • Francie Hernandez |
| • Renee Muse | • Abbie Thorndike | • Shirley Johnson |
| • Al Davisson | • Dennis Ackerman | • Jeremy Warren |
| • Steve Smith | • Amy Torrens-Harry | • Kierra Smith |
| • Justin Townley | • Rayce & Tiffany Barnes | • Jessica Smith |
| • Gail Catlow | • Tabatha | • Julea Dunn |
| • Joe Hatch | • David Thompson | |
| • Eleanor Gausman | • Marie Marsh | |



**Chris Wash
Kevin Harmon
Michael Oliveira**

Please let us know if someone should be added or taken off our prayer list by contacting the church office: Also contact the church office if you know of someone in need of a visit by our Congregational Care Team or Pastor Don.



Community Dinners

Meals will go back to once a month on the last Thursday of the month in July. So our next Community Dinner will be July 30th and will be available for pickup starting at 5:30pm and delivery.



Volunteer Coordinator Needed

If you'd like to help when our church returns to regular worship services and other events, consider volunteering to organize our volunteers. Tura Yount, who previously held this position, has left a notebook detailing how the task of scheduling the folks who serve as ushers, greeters, counters, fellowship hosts, liturgists and other assistants can be accomplished. This coordinator also serves on the Church Council. If you have questions about the position or you'd like to volunteer please speak with Church Council chair Mary Holleman or Pastor Don.



To date we are still looking for another accompanist, or multiple people to share the job, for when church services resume. Please spread the word and if you know of anyone who may be interested, have them call the church for more information. Music teacher, Pat Patterson, from Big Bend is offering some music in our weekly worship and we are grateful for the sharing of his gifts with us.



Unfortunately at this point we are going to have to cancel the yard sale for this year.

Thank you for your understanding.

Keep in mind these Phases are from the United Methodist Church and may not be the same as the ones the Governor has put in place. The Bishop has approved Phase 2. A Phase 3 request has been submitted to the District Superintendent. Thank you for your patience! We will keep everyone updated on the status of our Phases.

A Safe Reopening at a Glance

PHASE	1	2	3	4
HIGH-RISK POPULATIONS	Stay Home, Save Lives	Stay Home, Save Lives	Stay Home, Save Lives	Discretionary
PHYSICAL DISTANCING	Strict	Strict	Moderate	Limited
MAXIMUM GROUP SIZE	5	10	50	No size limit
LEADERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess church or ministry capacity Develop plan re-imagining ministry together Create communication strategy 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess church or ministry capacity Review & update plan reimagining ministry together Communicate progress or updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess church or ministry capacity Review & update plan reimagining ministry together Communicate progress or updates 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assess church or ministry capacity Review & update plan reimagining ministry together Communicate progress or updates
SAFETY ACTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face masks & physical distancing required Hand washing or sanitizer used consistently Sanitize after each use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face masks & physical distancing required Hand washing or sanitizer used consistently Sanitize after each use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Face masks & physical distancing required Alternatives to typical worship practices Provide hygiene supplies Sanitize after each use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Alternatives to typical worship practices Provide hygiene supplies Sanitize regularly
STAFF AND VOLUNTEERS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and volunteers work from home Limited access for essential functions allowed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and designated volunteers may work in building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and designated volunteers may work in building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and designated volunteers resume work in building
WORSHIP	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual only Group of 5 or less may gather in building for worship recording, no singing Drive-in type gatherings permitted 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual only Group of 10 less may gather in building for worship recording, no singing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual plus in-person worship up to 50 people, weddings and funerals No communion, live singing, or food service 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual plus in-person worship, weddings and funerals No live singing Limited coffee hour service
MINISTRY ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS	Virtual only	Virtual plus limited in-person designated meetings & services	Virtual plus limited in-person designated meetings & services	Virtual and in-person
BUILDING USE	Closed	Limited to staff, volunteers & designated services	Limited to staff, volunteers & designated services	Open
COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND OUTREACH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual Limited essential crisis services offered outdoors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual Limited essential crisis services offered outdoors 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual Limited services in building 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual Services in building
ESSENTIAL SERVICES	Following strict state & local guidelines	Following strict state & local guidelines	Following strict state & local guidelines	Following strict state & local guidelines
OTHER MINISTRY SETTINGS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Closed Consistent with guidelines above & contextualized for unique ministry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited Consistent with guidelines above & contextualized for unique ministry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Limited Consistent with guidelines above & contextualized for unique ministry 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Open Consistent with guidelines above & contextualized for unique ministry

“A New Way to Visit Old Friends”

At our June 10th church council meeting we discussed our growing internet worship options. Pastor Don comes to us for Sunday worship, a book study/discussion and Bible study. What else is possible? Why not check in with friends who've moved on?

Pastor Geoff Helton in Spokane and Pastor Josh Mikelson in Scotland, like us, are using internet links to share messages of hope, love and faith in a time when church doors are closed because of the COVID19 crisis.

When I contacted Pastor Geoff who now serves at Audubon Park UMC, he sent back a lovely message which said, in part, “It’s so great to hear from you ... I remember the good people of Ephrata often and you are in my prayers.”

In addition to serving his church, Pastor Geoff has taught some courses at Whitworth University and is also Chair of the Board of Ordained Ministry for Annual Conference.

Megan is assistant Director of the Evening Teacher Certification program at Whitworth as well as teaching some courses in theology.

Their girls, Elizabeth, 7, and Rebekah, 5, will both be in school this fall. “Before the pandemic, life for our girls was full of tennis lessons, ballet, soccer and playdates with friends.” he wrote, “We’d love for folks to connect with us...the best place to start is

audubonparkumc.org.” From there you will find links to their YouTube channel many archived sermons and programs. Or, check in at 7 p.m. Wednesday at the website for the Midweek Vespers service, a comforting program of prayer, music and worship. There is also a Facebook page, **Audubon Park UMC** to explore or even follow.

Meanwhile, thousands of miles and an ocean away, Pastor Josh and his wife, Pastor Heather serve Kemnay Parish Church of Scotland. The website is kemnayparish.church/wp. It has links to sermons, worship services and photos of the church and surrounding area.

On Easter Sunday this year, I went to the website and saw a Sunrise service filmed in a garden area adjoining the church. Two guys with guitars to sing and Josh in sweatshirt and blue jeans surrounded by the beauty of God's creation.

I've also watched some pre-pandemic worship services. The congregational singing sounded much like ours but the liturgist with a thick Scottish accent reminded me I had traveled to distant shores.

You will also find Josh on the Facebook Page (**Kemnay Parish Church**) with Bible study and messages of prayer. You may remember he was an ardent Seahawk fan when we first met him seven years ago. He still is. I saw him in a recent Bible study video filmed in his office and he was in full Seahawk regalia. Same Josh, same passion in his voice as he discussed verses from Paul's letter to the Philippians.

One of my favorite YouTube offerings from our Scottish connection is “A Cuppa and Conversation.” Go to YouTube and search for “**Gordon presbytery a cuppa and conversation.**” There you will find a series of group photos with subject titles. Most often Josh and Heather are in the group of four drinking tea and discussing a timely subject. Heather is often the moderator of the informal group.

So much to discover, so nice to see and hear familiar our friends in faith. Whether near or far, they're just a few moments away on the internet trail.



Mary Mantz
July 2nd

Camille Price
July 7th

Ray Ryan
July 7

Denis Plew
July 8th

Louise Sivula
July 8th

Bob Bluhm
July 9th

Randy Senn
July 13th

Dolores Pheasant
July 17th

Ralph Boyden
July 18th

Samantha Downing
July 19th

Louise Ingebrigtsen
July 19th

Cameron McKnight
July 26th



Ken & Gail Slininger
July 5th
12 years

Mark Your Calendar

July 1 Zoom Bible Study, 12pm

July 4 Independence Day



July 5 Book Study, 5pm

July 8 Zoom Bible Study, 12pm

July 12 Book Study, 5pm

July 15 Zoom Bible Study, 12pm

July 19 Book Study, 5pm

July 22 Zoom Bible Study, 12pm

July 26 Book Study, 5pm

July 29 Zoom Bible Study, 12pm

**July 30 Community Dinner, 5:30pm
(Take out or Delivery)**

All Sunday Worship Services and groups of any kind are cancelled.

**Video Sermons
Facebook - @EphrataUMC
YouTube Channel
Ephrata United Methodist Church**