



Rose City Park United Methodist Church March Newsletter 2020

The Boy Scouts' History of Service Rose City Park UMC By Becky Garrison

According to Chuck Ehrismann, Assistant Scoutmaster and Merit Badge Counselor, Troop 117, people are surprised when he tells them this troop has been meeting at Rose City Park UMC consistently since 1927. Every Monday evening, over a dozen youth aged 11-18 gather at Youngstown Hall to engage in community projects that benefit both the church and the larger community.

In addition to hiking, camping, and other outdoor pursuits, this troop participates in projects designed to benefit the local community.

Among their recent projects such as helping to refurbish a neighborhood Greenway by putting mulch down on the trail, building a garden for a local retirement community, working with the Portland Water Project to plant trees along the Columbia River to help bring back the salmon habitat, and helping to rebuild a bird habitat in Darfur following the devastating Eagle Creek Fires.

Some of their projects have an ongoing impact in the greater Portland area. For example, one of their scouts led a box building project for the Sunshine Division part of his Eagle Scout project in 1992. The Sunshine Division filled these boxes with food during the Christmas holidays to help those facing food scarcity. This project has since become an annual endeavor for this troop.

Moving forward, Ehrismann plans to continue his work with Elsa Johnson to explore ways they can connect with helping with church projects. Recently they participated in a cleanup of Rose City Park UMC and helped with the Christmas tree sales.

Of the 167 member countries who belong to the World Organization of the Scout Movement, the United States remains the last country that allowed girls to join. In 2010 girls will be able to join Troop 117. Ehrismann, who has worked with women throughout his career in the military and in law enforcement, welcomes this movement towards gender inclusion. “When I came into scouting, it was very difficult for me to have to tell my daughter she can’t be a scout because she’s a girl.” While his daughter could have joined the Girl Scouts, which is an independent organization, she preferred the programming offered by the Boy Scouts.

Ehrismann believes scouting offers youth a chance to be connected together as a community by disconnecting with social media. They have a social media policy whereby the kids put their phones in a basket before their weekly meetings. “I see a big social impact when the kids interact with each other and not look at their phones.”

In Ehrismann’s estimation, scouting teaches a profound form of leadership, citing as an example that 11 of the 12 astronauts who went to the moon were Eagle Scouts. He adds that the scouting uniform transcends culture and religion. Ideally, scouting teaches the need to respect people’s different beliefs and spiritualities. “In Scouting we all share this ethical moral compass and the same set of laws. We all promise to keep ourselves physically sane, mentally awake, and morally straight.



Keeping our communities healthy during the season of Lent

United Methodists and friends,

Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, who came so that we all might live life to the fullest. We know that life depends on spiritual health, and also on physical well-being.

As we enter the season of Lent this, the world is watching a dangerous disease spread. We don't know how widely or quickly the Coronavirus (COVID-19) will spread. I do know that United Methodists want to help limit its spread for the health of one another and the whole world.

Churches are places where people gather and care for one another. We welcome strangers, sit close to one another, join hands in prayer, give hugs of encouragement, and sometimes even weep together. This is a season when it is important for us to be careful and to develop intentional habits that can prevent the spread of this disease.

So, as Lenten practices, I encourage all United Methodists, wherever you gather, to take these reasonable precautions, consistent with the advice of the World Health Organization:

Stay home when you don't feel well. Model this behavior and encourage others to do the same.

Download and post the hygiene advice (linked below) in all restrooms and kitchens.

Be sure alcohol-based hand sanitizer is readily available throughout your facilities, for example, alongside boxes of tissue in sanctuary pews, and in every room. Encourage people to take the hand sanitizer with them when they leave. Then make sure it is replenished. Invite a church member to volunteer to monitor this throughout the Lenten season as a gift to the health of the church.

Encourage everyone to observe a 4 ft distance from others. Maybe suggest a new gesture of greeting, like folding your hands over your heart and then opening them palms out and down toward another person — in a sign of connection, rather than palms out and up, which might indicate barter. Check the World Health Organization website, and local health sites for new public notices, publicize them.

The spread of COVID-19 is a situation that we'll be watching closely. I've asked our Directors of Connectional Ministries (DCMs) to be in conversation with our UMVIM/Disaster Response Teams to review plans and assess potential resources as these persons regularly network with community and governmental agencies.

The way John Wesley held spiritual and social holiness together is a mark of Methodist distinction. He studied and wrote extensively about medicine and the importance of maintaining a healthful life both spiritually and physically. Let's follow his example. Let's work for holiness of body as well as spirit this holy season.

May God bless you and keep you healthy and safe,



On-line Giving Options

Looking for an easy way to give in 2020? Do you find yourself at church during weekly offering time realizing you forgot your checkbook? No cash on you? You wish there was a simple way to have your monthly giving be as easy as your ebanking bill paying? Our on-line giving solution EasyGive was designed just for you. With a few clicks your monthly giving can be easily deducted from your bank account each week or each month. Any way and any amount you choose.

Access EasyGive via the RCPUMC website, under the tab Donate. <https://www.rcpumc.org/donate>.

Building Happenings from Elsa Johnson, Building and Facilities Manager

A note on phones: Please be aware that there are different phone numbers to use for different needs. The main church office number is 503-954-2830. For any bookkeeping or finance related matters, please call Andre's line 971-808-5197. For any facility or calendar related matters, call Elsa's line 503-208-3547. Even better, you can email us! Elsa: building@rosecitypark.org, Andre: accounts@rosecitypark.org, Jack: office@rosecitypark.org. Thank you!

Upcoming Events in our Building:
Blueprint Arts Concert, 3/7 at 7pm

Encore Brass Concert, 3/8 at 3pm
NE Swap and Play Open House, 3/21 from 9-1
Building Partner offsite events:

Portland Columbia Symphony: A Concert for Hope, March 13 & 15,
First United Methodist, Ticket info: <https://pcsymphony.org/>

What else is happening in our building when you're not here?

Rose City Neighborhood Preschool M-F and a special Spring Breakfast

Boy Scout and Girl Scout meetings

Sober sister and In-Laws AA meetings

Toastmasters workshops

Mankind Project meetings

Swap and Play Open Play hours

POCA Tech acupuncture training

Do Good office hours, meetings and staff workout sessions

Yoga classes

Various music rehearsals

NE Village meetings and community workshops

Cascadia Behavioral Health meetings

And more!



WORK DAY
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CHURCH

SAVE THE DATE : Church Work Day!

An all-church work date has been set for **Saturday, April 4th from 9am - 1pm**. This is an opportunity to spruce up the church before Easter! There will be a variety of inside and outside jobs.

If you're willing to help, but need child care, contact Larry McDowell or David Ball. Snacks will be provided



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

UMW Meeting For March 17th!

11:00am to 1:00pm: Meet in the Parlor

Please bring a salad to share

Main dish and Dessert provided

We will have guests from Bradley Angle to share how they assist women who are coming out of abusive situations.



Learn a new tradition this Lent Add color to your Easter celebrations!

Join us in learning to make Ukrainian-style Easter Eggs. Yes, you too can make these beautiful expressions of love. All it takes is a little training, time, and practice. Open to all ages - younger children with adult assistance, come along and learn with them! Yes, you can do

it. All materials are provided

When: Saturday March 7, join us anytime from 9 am to 2 pm or Sunday March 15, from noon to 5. Allow at least 2 hours to complete an egg, you don't have to stay the whole time.

Where: Fellowship Hall, Montavilla United Methodist Church, 232 SE 80th Ave, Portland, Oregon

Equipment is limited, so please RSVP to Robin Bown. For more information, Contact Robin Bown 503-860-6707 or robinbown@aol.com

Standing Announcements

Connect with Rev. Karen — call or text her at 503.412.8899, she is available to meet up!

If you have a prayer request, please send it to rcpumcprayer@gmail.com. The entire prayer chain would be pleased to be able to pray for you or a loved for any concerns you might have! Questions? Contact Kay Pettygrove at kayp1024@gmail.com.



Newsletter Deadlines and RCP Social Media

Newsletter Deadlines

In order to streamline the process of getting articles published, deadlines for the Newsletter will always be Noon on the last day of the month.

Social Media

You may or may not know that we have a Facebook Account and Instagram Account. If there are special events that you would like highlighted, we are able to use these mediums to get the word out as well. Most of the time, I do this anyway but also feel free to let me know and I can make it a point to add it to those spaces.

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