

The mission of Fairwood Community United Methodist Church is to build community through Christian faith, fellowship, service and social justice where all belong.

**Worship & Christian
Education -
Sunday Schedule**

**Sundays at 10:00am
Worship Service in-
person or on our public
Facebook page or at
www.fairwoodumc.org**

10:00 AM - 11:00 AM Youth
Illumin8 (Gr. 6-12) - Sr. High
Room BH-3

10:15 AM - 11:00 AM
Children's Sunday School
(Gr. K-5) - BH-5

4:00 PM - 5:30 PM
Youth

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Rev. Dr. Ferdie Llenado

Newsletter: China Krismer

Deadline for copy:
25th day of each month for
next month's news.
i.e., June 25 deadline is for
the July issue.



Pastor Ferdie Llenado

FROM GIFTS TO LIGHTS

As this fresh year unfolds before us, I am struck by two thoughts: the gifts we received last Advent, and the gifts we transform to lights during Epiphany.

What an awesome Advent being gifted by God's presence and the presence of each other last month. We have been blessed by inspiring music and heartwarming fellowship. We were energized by increased attendance, and our shared joy of seeing family and friends gathered around the Christ child on Christmas Eve.

As we step into Epiphany season, I am encouraged that these same gifts will carry us forward towards deeper participation, missional actions, and deeper soul formation. Friends, the Holy Child did not stay in the manger. He grew up and healed the sick, preached the good news, and embodied radical inclusion.

In the same way, I invite you to transform the Advent gifts to Epiphany lights that will illuminate our community. In the words of Howard Thurman,

“When the song of the angels is stilled,
when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home,
when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins:
to find the lost,
to heal the broken,
to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner,
to rebuild the nations,
to bring peace among the people,
to make music in the heart.” **Amen.**

Stewardship Update 2024 Pledge Drive

Thank you for your generous pledges of financial support for our church's ministries in 2024!

With your generosity and revised estimates of expenses, we reached 92% of our goal! Our Church Council approved a small-deficit budget for 2024.

2023 tax statements will be emailed by the end of January. If you wish to receive a paper copy, please contact Jennifer Flagel, jennu-ann@gmail.com.

Thank you for your generosity!



Styrofoam

We will be collecting any large **styrofoam** and delivering it for recycling. Save any of your styrofoam from your Christmas presents. A box for collection will be in Narthex after Christmas.

SINGLE WOMEN'S LUNCHEON

Date: Monday, January 6, 2024

Time: 11:30 am

Location: Claim Jumper



***Extra 2024 Calendars????
Please consider donating them!***

Just look for the 2024 Calendar Box in the Narthex. We will be delivering them to the Renton S.A. Food Bank or other area in need.



Questions- contact
Sharon Kenyon 425-271-2080

United Women of Faith

We had a wonderful finale' to our year! First of all, there were 24 attendees at our Christmas party in the afternoon on December 15th in the Parlor. Teacup stories, holiday treats and songs were enjoyed by all. Thank you to Barb D. for organizing all the teas and to Cynthia V. for musically leading us in some familiar Christmas carols. Doorprize names were drawn and the lucky winners took home the beautiful poinsettia centerpieces. A big thank you to all who brought yummy holiday treats! The decorations and tables were very festive.

Next, we honored our outgoing team leadership members. Jeanne Harmon has been our President for the past 8 years, and we thanked her for an outstanding job. We also thanked Donna Stock for her 22 years of service on the leadership team in roles including treasurer for many years and membership chair most recently. Marie Milo has been part of our nominations team for a two-year term, and we thanked her also. We honored them with gifts of gratitude and our thanks for jobs well done!

In addition, we approved our 2024 budget and presented our 2024 team leaders. They are as follows:

President: Debbie Miller	Devotions/Hospitality: Julie Thorp
Vice-President: Becky Clardy	Social Action: Open
Secretary: Linda Carlson	Nominations: Lisa Sweet, Open
Treasurer: Joletta Holman	Members at Large: Sharon Ramos, Open

Lastly, we collected gift cards for local students needing a bit of help at this time of year. A total of \$580 was donated by the attendees and will be evenly divided between Communities in Schools in Kent and Greater King County. Thank you to all!

The first meeting in the new year will be held on January 18th, 2024. Please note that this is the third Thursday of the month. We will meet in the church parking lot at 9:30am to carpool to the new Family First Community Center in Renton. It is located at 16200 116th Ave SE and serves Renton families. It brings quality recreation, education, and wellness programs and services to the historically underserved communities of Benson Hill and Cascade. The facility helps families achieve goals in education, fitness, wellness, and overall health by offering additional programs together with their partners. It was built in partnership with retired Seahawk Doug Baldwin, Jr., and the City of Renton and opened on June 15th, 2023.

Please join us as we learn more about this important new meeting place for Renton families. Our tour is at 10:00am and will last about an hour before we carpool back to the church. Mark your calendars now for January 18th!



United Women in Faith Mission Project Vine Maple Place

Vine Maple Place is a Christian organization located in Maple Valley that breaks the generational cycle of homelessness by working with single parents and their children. They also have a new second location in Kent. Their approach offers safety, provides stability, and equips to self-sufficiency.

The vision of Vine Maple Place is to end family homelessness in South King County, resulting in healthier communities where every child and parent has a stable home to grow and thrive.

Families come to Vine Maple Place hungry. A Meal-in-a-Bag gives a mom all the necessary ingredients she needs to make a home cooked meal. These meals provide not only stability and a chance for a family to connect around the dinner table, but they also assist in helping a family stretch their food budget.

The United Women in Faith are planning to assemble “Meal-in-a-Bags” for Vine Maple Place at our February 8th meeting, and we are asking for your help. Our goal is 80 bags (20 each of 4 recipes).

On Sunday, January 14th, we will have the food items we need for 80 meals, listed on sticky notes and placed on a poster in the Narthex. Please take one or more, purchase the items, and bring them back by Sunday, February 4th. There will be a collection box in the Narthex. We also welcome checks to “Fairwood UMW” with “VMP” on the memo line, which we will use to fill in needed items or to purchase essential hygiene items, which are also very much needed.

Thank you for your help in our UWF mission project. We hope we can make a difference in people’s lives!



United Women in Faith 2023 Mission Success

Thank you to all church members and community friends who helped in our fundraising efforts in 2023 through the Quilt/Craft/Baked Goods Sale and Soup Lunch in October and our Second Chance Sale in November. We raised \$5,000 dollars and are sending it forward, as well as an additional \$1,000 in our budget and \$580 collected in gift cards at our Christmas party, to do good in the community. We would like to report to you the donations we have made this year. They are as follows, in dollars:

200 Atlantic Street Center
200 Tacoma Community House
400 Treehouse for Kids
400 REACH Center of Hope
400 Way Back Inn
400 Vine Maple Place
400 Youth Care
400 Riverton Park UMC
400 World Relief
500 FCUMC Community Assistance Program
650 Vision House
650 Nome Community Center
790 Communities in Schools of Kent
790 Communities in Schools of Greater King County

In addition, in March we collected basic need supplies from our congregation and UWF members and delivered multiple bags to Vine Maple Place. This organization provides shelter, help in finding a job and childcare to homeless families with children, until they can manage on their own. The process usually takes about a year. Such good work they do!

We also delivered 5 twin-sized quilts made by our quilt group to Vine Maple Place, and 4 smaller quilts given to children in stressful situations, distributed throughout Seattle, to Project Linus. Thank you, quilters!

It has been an amazing year. **Thank you FCUMC!**



Fresh flower arrangements beautify the sanctuary of our church and are a gift to our congregation!

Do you have a special occasion to celebrate... birthdays, anniversaries, or perhaps in memory of a loved one? Or you may be anticipating a garden filled with flowers to share! If so, please stop by and sign up on the Flower Chart Calendar located on the Narthex bulletin board. (The 2024 dates are now posted.)



Super Simple Supper Help Wanted!

Food plays such a vital part in our culture and the way we do ministry. It's also an important part of youth ministries at FCUMC. Each Sunday at 4:00 PM, our youth gather with their adult leaders and enjoy a simple supper provided by individuals, groups, or the committees of our church. This is a fantastic way to meet the youth, break bread together and enjoy fellowship. Add "Youth Simple Supper" to your resolutions for 2024 and sign-up for a Sunday or two. When you provide a meal for youth group, you help create intergenerational bonds and show support for our youth leaders. It means so much to so many!

We look forward to seeing you in 2024!

To learn more about Simple Supper and to sign up, contact LJ Martin at ljmart125@gmail.com (email only, please).



Youth Choir Update

We are celebrating **January** birthdays! If yours is not shown, that means we don't have that information for you. Please notify the office at office@fairwoodumc.org so we can update our records.


Happy Birthday to:

Jeffrey Kress	Greg White
Aeris Reid	Mack Yager
Richard Snyder	Jack Yager
Audrey Link	Makenna Spates
Ron Wendt	Kaylee Spates
Stan Ferguson	Deanna Adams
Sharon Dennis	Glenn Clements
Joe Harmon	Cyndi Ewing
Cynthia VanDevender	Tom Kelley
Linda Carlson	Pat Truitt
Lori McEwen	Lucas Freng



Youth choir will begin practicing for 2024 this Sunday, January 7th in the choir room from 11:15 to 11:20. All 5th graders through high school students are invited to join us. We will be learning some new contemporary songs as well as singing some of our favorites.

If you prefer to not have your birthday on our list, please notify the office at office@fairwoodumc.org in the two weeks before the Epistle is due to come out.

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Pastor Ferdie's Day Off 12:45pm - 3:15pm Game Group - Parlor 7:00pm - 8:30pm BSA Troop 455/8455 - MPR, Sanctuary, Narthex	2 6:00pm - 7:00pm Community Fitness Program - MPR 7:00pm - 8:30pm AA Meeting - BH-2 & BH-5	3 7:15pm - 8:30pm Chancel Choir rehearsal - Sanctuary	4 10:00am - 11:30am UMW/UWF Team Meeting - Zoom 4:00pm - 5:00pm SPROWT - Zoom Mtg 5:30pm - 6:30pm Y&C Council - Zoom Meeting 7:00pm - 8:30pm AA Meeting - BH-2 & BH-5	5	6 9:00am - 11:00am Removal of Advent Decor - Sanctuary & Narthex (usage 8:45am - 11:00am)
7 Communion Sunday 10:00am - 11:00am illumin8 (Youth grades. 6-12) - Sr. High Room 10:00am - 11:00am Worship Service (in-person, FB or www.fairwoodumc.org) 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School (Children grades K-5) - BH-5 11:15am - 11:50am Youth Choir Practice - Choir Room 11:30am - 12:45pm Trustees - Parlor 3:00pm - 6:30pm Simple Supper & Youth Group - Kitchen, Parlor, MPR & All BH Classrooms 6:30pm - 7:30pm Guitar Ensemble - Sanctuary	8 Pastor Ferdie's Day Off 11:30am Single Ladies Luncheon 7:00pm - 8:30pm BSA Troop 455/8455 - MPR, Sanctuary, Narthex	9 6:00pm - 7:00pm Community Fitness Program - MPR 6:30pm - 8:00pm Finance Committee - Zoom 7:00pm - 8:30pm AA Meeting - BH-2 & BH-5	10 10:00am - 12:00pm Quilt Group - BH 2 & 5 7:15pm - 8:30pm Chancel Choir rehearsal - Sanctuary	11 10:00am - 12:00pm UWF/UMW General Meeting - Parlor 6:30pm - 8:00pm SPRC - Parlor 7:00pm - 8:30pm AA Meeting - BH-2 & BH-5	12 6:30pm - 8:30pm Light Pink Community Group - Parlor	13 9:00am - 1:00pm SPROWT Soft Launch - BH (usage 7am - 3pm) 6:30pm - 7:30pm Staff Gathering - Llenado's Home
14 10:00am - 11:00am illumin8 (Youth grades. 6-12) - Sr. High Room 10:00am - 11:00am Worship Service (in-person, FB or www.fairwoodumc.org) 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School (Children grades K-5) - BH-5 11:00am - 3:00pm Knitting Group - Parlor 11:15am - 11:50am Youth Choir Practice - Choir Room 11:30am - 12:30pm Replace Temporary Lawn Sign - BH 2 3:00pm - 6:30pm Simple Supper & Youth Group - Kitchen, Parlor, MPR & All BH Classrooms 6:30pm - 7:30pm Guitar Ensemble - Sanctuary	15 Pastor Ferdie's Day Off 12:45pm - 3:15pm Game Group - Parlor 7:00pm - 8:30pm BSA Troop 455/8455 - MPR, Sanctuary, Narthex 7:00pm - 8:30pm Saints & Sinners Family History small group - Zoom	16 6:00pm - 7:00pm Community Fitness Program - MPR 7:00pm - 8:30pm AA Meeting - BH-2 & BH-5 7:00pm - 8:30pm Membership & Evangelism - Zoom	17 6:00pm - 8:00pm Fairwood Community BSA Pack 455 - MPR 7:15pm - 8:30pm Chancel Choir rehearsal - Sanctuary	18 7:00pm - 8:30pm AA Meeting - BH-2 & BH-5	19 7:00pm - 8:30pm Hot Pink Group - Parlor	
21 10:00am - 11:00am illumin8 (Youth grades. 6-12) - Sr. High Room 10:00am - 11:00am Worship Service (in-person, FB or www.fairwoodumc.org) 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School (Children grades K-5) - BH-5 11:15am - 11:50am Youth Choir Practice - Choir Room 3:00pm - 6:30pm Simple Supper & Youth Group - Kitchen, Parlor, MPR & All BH Classrooms 6:30pm - 7:30pm Guitar Ensemble - Sanctuary 6:30pm - 8:30pm Worship Committee - Parlor (usage 6:30-9:30p)	22 Pastor Ferdie's Day Off 7:00pm - 8:30pm BSA Troop 455/8455 - MPR, Sanctuary, Narthex 7:00pm - 8:00pm Signs for Glory - Parlor	23 9:30am - 11:00am Bible/Book Study Group - Zoom & Parlor 6:00pm - 7:00pm Community Fitness Program - MPR 6:30pm - 9:00pm Candlewood Ridge Community - HOA Mtg - MPR 7:00pm - 8:30pm AA Meeting - BH-2 & BH-5 7:00pm - 8:30pm BSA Troop meetings - Sanctuary	24 10:00am - 12:00pm Quilt Group - BH-5 7:15pm - 8:30pm Chancel Choir rehearsal - Sanctuary	25 Epistle Deadline 3:00pm - 4:30pm Care Team - Parlor 7:00pm - 8:30pm AA Meeting - BH-2 & BH-5 7:00pm - 8:30pm Book Club - Parlor (usage 6:30-9:00)	26 4:00pm - 11:59pm Youth Group - Benedict Hall (Kitchen, Parlor, MPR, and All Rooms)	27 12:01am - 5:00pm Youth Group - Benedict Hall (Kitchen, Parlor, MPR, and All Rooms)
28 10:00am - 11:00am illumin8 (Youth grades. 6-12) - Sr. High Room 10:00am - 11:00am Worship Service (in-person, FB or www.fairwoodumc.org) 10:15am - 11:00am Sunday School (Children grades K-5) - BH-5 11:00am - 3:00pm Knitting Group - Parlor 11:15am - 11:50am Youth Choir Practice - Choir Room 3:00pm - 6:30pm Simple Supper & Youth Group - Kitchen, Parlor, MPR & All BH Classrooms 6:30pm - 7:30pm Guitar Ensemble - Sanctuary	29 Pastor Ferdie's Day Off 7:00pm - 8:30pm BSA Troop 455/8455 - MPR, Sanctuary, Narthex	30 9:30am - 11:00am Bible/Book Study Group - Zoom & Parlor 6:00pm - 7:00pm Community Fitness Program - MPR 7:00pm - 8:30pm AA Meeting - BH-2 & BH-5	31 7:15pm - 8:30pm Chancel Choir rehearsal - Sanctuary			