

The Messenger

Corona United Methodist Church
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January 11, 2024



Corona United Methodist Church

“And” not “Or”

Living in God’s time for 2024

“For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:”

Ecclesiastes 3:1

As we face the beginning of 2024, this verse above from Ecclesiastes stands out to me. Surprisingly, one of the shortest words got my attention the most. The word: “And”.

This small, but revealing, word is repeated throughout the next 7 verses. For the first time today, I realized the difference it would make by inserting the word “or” instead of the word “and”.

For instance:

“a time to be born OR a time to die.” verse 2

“A time to plant OR a time to pluck up what is planted.” verse 3

The reality is, we live in an experience of life where both things happen simultaneously in time. Birth AND death. Planting AND plucking up. What God reveals to us in this scripture is nothing short of a worldview.

Humanity and life is an embrace of polarity. Those of us trying to create, or living a life of, absolutes with only linear thinking might also be missing something. We are, and life itself is, a composite. Leaving space in our thinking, dreaming and planning for the “And” also allows room for the very presence and essence of God. It enables us to leave room in our judgment of ourselves and others. A composite life is a communal life in which we are never truly alone, where grace abounds for every person and where we don’t believe we have all the answers. It is a life in which we need help - from God and others - and in which we give our help to others.

Where might you include an “And” in your life this new year?

Breathing, waiting, looking, listening and living life with you,
Pastor Susan



2024 Stewardship Campaign will begin January 21st!

As we begin the new year it is a time to reflect on the blessings we have received this past year. It is also a time to think about how we might be able to serve our church moving forward. In the coming weeks please begin to prayerfully consider your tithing and giving pledge for 2024. We continue to need everyone's support to meet our annual budget and further the work of our church. The Stewardship Campaign will begin on January 21st. Pledge cards will be sent in the mail the week before and be available in worship. Please return your pledge cards by February 4. Every contribution will be greatly appreciated. Thank you in advance for your continued support and generosity in the work of our church.

Your Stewardship Committee Co-Chairs
Jim Oliver and Marc Trifiletti

Seams of Faith

Attention all sewist (one who creates works of art using a needle, thread and fabric). Seams of Faith will be meeting on Monday, January 22, 2024! 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. We have new patterns, new fabric and plan to have a great year of fellowship and sewing. Remember there are other things needing to be done before the sewing even begins. We would love to have you join us.

Thank you,
Louise Berkley & Linda McGranahan

Blessing Bags

Donations is needed. Items needed.

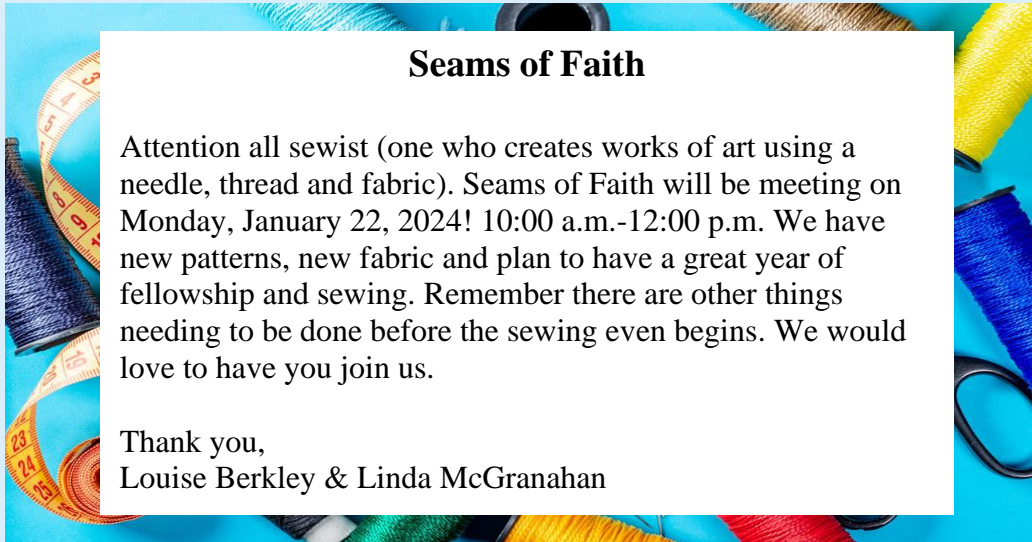
- Pull top Pasta
- Fruit Cups
- Granola Bars
- Individual wrapped cookies
- Capri Sun Drinks

Please drop off donations in the conference room.

Thank you,

Cheryl Lum and Linda McGranahan

Missions & Outreach Co-Chairpersons





January



January 2024						
◀ December						February ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 New Year's Day Office Closed	2 9am <u>Faith Journey</u>	3	4 7pm <u>Boy Scouts</u> 7pm <u>Bad Girls of the Bible (Zoom)</u>	5 6:30pm - 7:30pm <u>Cub Scouts</u>	6 8am <u>All Church clean up</u>
7 10am <u>Worship</u> 6pm <u>Prayer meeting (Zoom)</u>	8	9 9am <u>Faith Journey</u>	10 6:30pm <u>Trustee meeting</u>	11 7pm <u>Boy Scouts</u> 7pm <u>Bad Girls of the Bible (Zoom)</u>	12 6:30pm - 7:30pm <u>Cub Scouts</u>	13 9:30am - 11:30am <u>Remove Christmas Decorations</u>
14 10am <u>Worship</u> 6pm <u>Prayer meeting (Zoom)</u>	15 Martin Luther King Jr. Office Closed	16 9am <u>Faith Journey</u> 1pm <u>Finance Committee meeting</u> 7pm <u>Church Council meeting</u>	17 10am <u>UWF Executive Board meeting at Faxon's House</u> 11am <u>UWF Book Club at Faxon's House</u>	18 7pm <u>Boy Scouts</u> 7pm <u>Bad Girls of the Bible (Zoom)</u>	19 6:30pm - 7:30pm <u>Cub Scouts</u>	20
21 10am <u>Worship</u> <u>REACHurch</u> 4:30pm 5 th - 12 th 5:30pm Dinner 6pm <u>Prayer meeting (Zoom)</u>	22 10am - 12pm <u>Seams of Faith</u>	23 9am <u>Faith Journey</u>	24	25 7pm <u>Boy Scouts</u> 7pm <u>Bad Girls of the Bible (Zoom)</u>	26 6:30pm - 7:30pm <u>Cub Scouts</u>	27
28 10am <u>Worship</u> 6pm <u>Prayer meeting (Zoom)</u>	29	30 9am <u>Faith Journey</u>	31			

Missions & Outreach



Church Announcements

*A note about the deadline for the next Messenger please turn in information by 10 a.m. on Tuesday, 16th January for it to be included on the next messenger.

Finance Committee

December Month to Giving: \$38,317.18
(Including Equitable Comp Grant for Pastor's Salary \$2,870.14)

January Month to Date Giving: \$24,093.97
(Including Equitable Comp Grant for Pastor's Salary \$2,870.14)

Budget Needed: \$30,000

Attendance 12/24/23 10 a.m.: In person - 90
Online - 45

Attendance 12/24/23 6p.m.: In person - 96
Online - 44

Attendance 12/31/23: In person - 100
Online - 26

Attendance: 1/7/24: In person - 94
Online - 32

We wish to THANK you for your Tithes and Offerings.
Your GIFTS support the Mission of this church.

How to Give

Thank you for your tithes and offerings!
Please place them in the offering box located in the back of the sanctuary, send by mail, or use Zelle by going to Zellepay.com or download the App.

Use Coronaumc@aol.com