

**Vancouver First**

United Methodist Church  
 401 E 33rd St, Vancouver WA 98663

**Our Mission**

We are companions on a spiritual journey, engaging minds, transforming hearts, and empowering hands to serve Jesus Christ in our local and global community.

**Mark Your Calendar**

- 01/20 • Martin Luther King, Jr. Day of Observance
- 01/21 • Care Team • 4 p.m.
- 01/22 • Worship Team Kick-off Meeting • 5 p.m.
- 01/22 • Finance Team (*rescheduled*) • 6:30 p.m.
- 01/23 • Leadership Team Meeting • 6:30 p.m.
- 01/25 • Memorial for Mary Lou Richeson • 2 p.m.
- 01/26 • SiBs Potluck • after service
- 02/05 • Bridges Group Service Work at Church • 9 a.m.
- 02/06 • UMW Naomi Circle • 10 a.m.
- 02/12 • UMW Leadership Team • 10 a.m.
- 02/14 • First Church Fellowship • 10 a.m.
- 02/15 • Encore Concert: Jazz, Rags & Blues • 7 p.m.
- 02/17 • President's Day Observed • School/Office closed
- 02/19 • UMW Rachel Circle • 10 a.m.
- 02/19 • Trustees • 4:30 p.m.
- 02/19 • Finance • 6:30 p.m.
- 02/20 • Foundation • 12 p.m.
- 02/20 • SPRC • 6:30 p.m.
- 02/26 • Ash Wednesday
- 03/07 • United Methodist Women Soup Derby • 5 p.m.
- 03/27 • Ocean Park Men's Service Weekend (3/27-29th)

**Weekly Schedule**

- SUNDAYS**
- 8:15 a.m. Adult Choir Practice
- 9 a.m. Adult Education Seekers Class
- 10 a.m. Youth Sunday School (grades 6-12)
- 10 a.m. Worship Service
- 3:30 p.m. Middle School Youth Group
- 6 p.m. Bell Ensemble Practice
- MONDAYS**
- 9:30 a.m. Knitting Group
- 6:30 p.m. Monday Night Leaven Group
- TUESDAYS**
- 9:30 a.m. Tuesday Morning Leaven Group
- WEDNESDAYS**
- 9 a.m. Bridges Coffee & Conversation
- 6:30 p.m. High School Youth Group

2019 Giving Statements will be emailed or mailed in February. Please make sure the church has your current your email or mailing address.  
*Michelle Treasurer*

**EASTER EVENTS - 2020**

- LENT SEASON** • February 26th - April 9th
- LENTEN SUPPER & STUDY** • Starts February 26th
- ASH WEDNESDAY** • February 26th
- PALM SUNDAY** • April 5th
- EASTER EGG HUNT** • April 5th
- MAUNDY THURSDAY** • April 9th
- GOOD FRIDAY** • April 10th
- EASTER SUNDAY** • April 12th

**Contacts**

- Senior Pastor | Rev. Bruce Smith
- Program & Facilities Administrator | Gary Carter
- Director of Youth Ministries | Justin Nutting
- Director of Music Ministries | Thomas Rheingans
- Choir Director | Amber Tripp
- Nursery Coordinator | Jenifer Walton
- Treasurer | Michelle Mehl
- Office Administrator | Ginny Sorenson
- Maintenance Technician | Scott Hansen
- Lay Leaders | Evan Hull & John Gentry
- Trustee's Chair | Thomas Musser

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**Volume 79 • Issue 1**

**January/February • 2020**

WEEK	MESSAGE	LESSON
1. Jan. 12th	Baptism of Our Lord	Acts 10:34-43 / Matthew 3:13-17
2. Jan. 19th	Grace and Peace	I Corinthians 1:1-9 / John 1:29-42
3. Jan. 26th	Unity in Mind and Purpose	I Corinthians 1:10-18 / Matthew 4:12-23
4. Feb. 2nd	God's Purpose	I Corinthians 1:18-31 / Matthew 5:1-12
5. Feb. 9th	Taught by the Spirit	I Corinthians 2:1-12 / Matthew 5:13-20
6. Feb. 16th	God's Servants	I Corinthians 3:1-9 / Matthew 5:21-26
7. Feb. 23rd	Transfiguration Sunday	Matthew 17:1-9

**WORSHIP SERIES**  
**GRACE for the JOURNEY**

**2020 Vision**

*A Message From Pastor Bruce*

I don't know about you, but I'm taking a moment to adjust to the idea that it's the year 2020. It wasn't that long ago that I lead church leadership discussions about having a vision for the year 2020 ... well, that time is now.

I am thankful to be here at Vancouver First United Methodist Church. Being here as your pastor isn't what I had envisioned even just a year ago, and it has taken some time to become familiar with the ministry here. I am thankful for the grace you have given me as we join in the work of the church together.

I am mindful of the changing world and what role the church will have in this new era. I believe that the mission the church created some years ago still aptly leads us into the foreseeable future: We are "companions on a spiritual journey ... to serve Jesus

Christ in our local and global community." I believe we have friends, relatives, associates and neighbors who desire to be part of a community that makes a difference. I know we will continue to work on providing that as well as we can.

I anticipate that while we will notice and respond appropriately to news in our denomination, we will continue to be the church God is calling us to be in Vancouver. Denominational names and structures have changed a few times in the 150-year history of Vancouver First, and while those changes happened, the people of the church continued to meet in small groups, worship and reach out in mission to be in ministry in this community. I believe that we are being called to keep doing that work and I look forward to seeing how God will lead us.



## ENCORE Concert Series

### "Jazz, Rags and Blues" February 15th • 7 p.m.

The Encore Series continues in 2020 with a boisterous presentation, "Jazz, Rags and Blues" slated for Saturday, February 15th, at 7 p.m. at Vancouver First United Methodist Church.

Blues, Ragtime and Jazz are distinctive American contributions to modern music. The sounds of Scott Joplin, W.C. Handy, and George Gershwin will be featured at the February Encore concert. The concert will also feature classical favorites of Chopin and Beethoven.

As always, the Encore series features free admission, and donations are accepted to help offset costs. Bring a friend or two and let's fill the sanctuary for some toe-tappin', high energy music. It's sure to be a great time.

## LENT 2020

### Supper & Study Wednesdays @ 5:30 p.m. February 26th

Join us for a new Lenten Supper & Study series starting on Ash Wednesday, February 26th at 5:30 p.m. that will continue until Holy Week in April. We pray and eat together, then have open and honest discussions about our faith and the weekly lesson.

ENCORE  
PRESENTS concert series  
2020  
JAZZ  
Rags  
AND  
Blues  
7 p.m.  
SATURDAY  
FEB. 15<sup>TH</sup>  
Vancouver First  
United Methodist Church  
401 E. 33rd. Street  
Vancouver, WA  
FREE ADMISSION

## Happy Birthday

### January

Barbara Duncan  
Bonnie Weeks  
Briannah Trotter  
Christy Bayly  
Claudia Bottemiller  
Daniel Payne  
Dave Nutting  
Gerry Short  
Jack Harris  
Jeralyn Green  
Jill Durgin

Jim Martin  
Jonathan Shaw  
Julie Harris  
Justin Nutting  
Karolyn Shoote  
Katherine Janney  
Larry Kniss  
Lorraine Dix  
Marianne Dearborn  
Marvin Windred  
Matthew Hope  
Matthew Shoemaker  
Nancy Bacon

Nora Bell  
Rachel Lookingbill-Weyant  
Rhoda Laws  
Richard Estep  
Robert Downs  
Roger Bieber  
Ryan Budnik  
Stephen Jacobs  
Sue Irish  
Teuila Kaumatule-Muli  
Thelma Collins  
Traci Mitchel  
Wesley Moholt

### February

Abram DeLisle  
Adele Firestone  
Annie Marichalar  
Ashley Singh  
Colleen Schoonover  
Dean Lookingbill  
Debbi Musser  
Dora Perry  
Earnest Spencer  
Ed Waldrop  
Emily Smith  
Erma Patterson

Evan Hull  
Graham Shaw  
Jason Soumokil  
Jean Roberts  
Jeanette Williams  
Jeri Sawyer  
Jill Walton  
Joanne Ruzek  
Lorraine LaFave  
Lynda Botts  
Marcia Hidden  
Mark Carter  
Martha Palmer  
Mary Evens  
Nicole Younger

Noah Kays  
Noah Thomas  
Oliver Hidden  
Phyllis Gildehous  
Phyllis Kniss  
Riley Friauf  
Robert New  
Ryan Wilmington  
Sara Willcox  
Sharon Brown  
Shivani Singh  
Sydney Friauf  
Teagan Wooldridge-Mackey  
Thomas Cousino

## Happy Anniversary

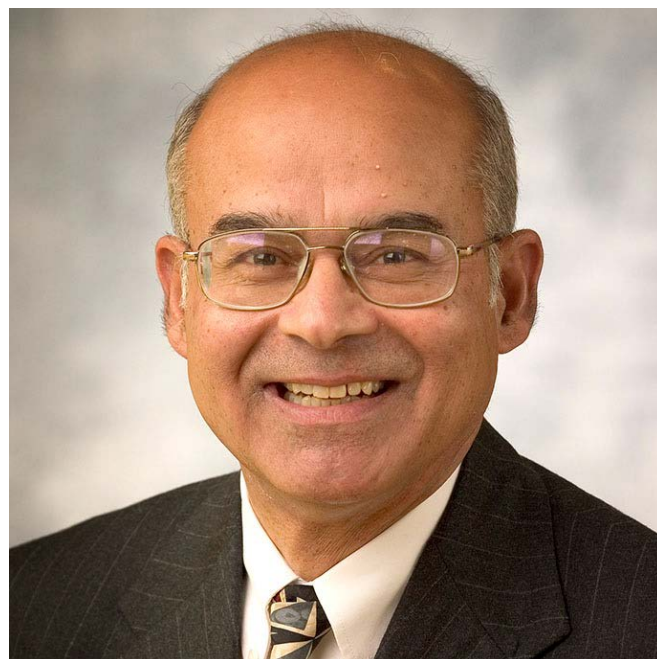
### January

Dave & Ceci Smith  
Jim & Rita Toepfer  
Hal & Sheila Leonhardt  
Daryll & Carol Pierce

### February

Bob & Char Robinson  
Len & Diane Satterfield  
Jim & Christy Bayly





## Friday Fellowship

**Guest Speaker Dr. Khalid Khan**

**February 14th • 10 a.m.**

Make plans now to join us for the February Friday Fellowship, on February 14th, in Hesseltine Hall and take part in the discussion as we hear from Dr. Khalid Khan, a professor emeritus at the University of Portland, about Islam.

Dr. Khan is a retired Professor of Mechanical Engineering in the Donald P. Shiley School of Engineering at the University of Portland, Portland, Oregon. He moved to the Pacific Northwest in 1975 and has lived in Vancouver area since 1979.

He is a founding member of the Islamic Society of Greater Portland (ISGP), and a Trustee of the Islamic Society of SW Washington (ISSWW). He has also volunteered his time and energy for the past four decades in intra-faith, inter-faith and inter-cultural activities in Portland-Vancouver area, serving on boards of such diverse bodies as the Muslim Educational Trust (MET) and the Multi-Cultural Association (MCA) in Portland, Oregon.

He is currently a member of the Interfaith Coalition of SW Washington and the Vancouver Police Chief's Diversity Advisory Team (CDAT).

# Focused on our FAITH

## Together

*The year 2020 is off to a busy start with opportunities for us to gather in our journey with Christ.*

Beyond the time spent in the pews learning and worshiping, VanFUMC is busy all week long. Small groups and teams meet throughout the week. A usual Monday here starts with the Knitting Group joining together and crafting scarves, prayer shawls, and hats for the community. Monday night also hosts a weekly Monday Night Leaven Book Group at 6:30 p.m. The Tuesday Morning Leaven Book Group meets early at 9:30 a.m. There is also a group referred to as

"Bridges." They meet weekly at a coffee shop to enjoy fellowship, go on field trips, and plan what service activities to do at church or a member's home. Then we have groups that meet monthly. The United Methodist Women and First Church Fellowship often feature guest speakers to help broaden our knowledge of community needs, and how to support them with a disciples heart. No matter what group is meeting, the common theme is God, being connected, and in action.

## Men's Service Weekend @ Ocean Park

**March 27th-29th**

Set your calendar for March 27 – 29 for the second annual MEN'S SERVICE WEEKEND for men of the United Methodist Churches of Clark County and the Pacific Northwest. It will be held at Ocean Park Retreat Center. This will be a great opportunity to get to know men from fellow churches while serving a great cause.

We will not only have outstanding fellowship, we will perform a variety of important tasks to help your camp prepare for the busy summer season.

The projects were chosen to allow various abilities and capabilities so that all may participate. The projects include, but are not limited to: updating exterior lighting, maintaining the ocean view from Sea Breeze Lodge, trail clearing, challenge course clearing, and interior painting. This is rain or shine. If the weather is too harsh for outside, there is the

painting and repair work. During our first Men's Service Weekend in 2019, we not only cleared much of the way for the new zip line, split and stored firewood, and repaired tables and chairs.

There is a \$40 fee to cover the cost of meals for Saturday and Sunday morning. If anyone has concerns about the costs, please contact Brandon Scheer, camp director.

### To Register

Go to [opretreat.org/retreats](http://opretreat.org/retreats)

Our camp relies on volunteers in order to provide the important ministry that it serves. Please plan to come and meet new friends while enabling our Ocean Park Retreat Center to thrive.

**If you have any questions, please contact Tom Musser by text or voice at 360-607-3472**



## SOUP DERBY

... Dessert Auction ...

## United Methodist Women's

**Annual Soup Derby & Dessert Auction**

**Saturday, March 7th • 5 p.m.**

United Methodist Women's "Soup Derby and Dessert Auction" is set for Saturday, March 7, from 5 to 8 PM in Jason Lee Hall, here at the Church. This annual fundraiser supports global and local mission projects, including child foster care, Days for Girls, Boys and Girls Club, and others, wherever the need is greatest.

Your ticket gives you the opportunity to sample delicious homemade soups and participate in the Dessert Auction. After you've sampled soups, enjoy a bowl (or two) of soup, and vote for your favorite! At the end of the Derby, we'll award three People's Choice Awards (1st, 2nd and 3rd), based on your votes.

Then, plan to stay for the Dessert Auction. Gary Carter will manage the bidding for the amazing homemade desserts, including pies (regular and sugar-free), cakes, cheesecakes and beyond! You can take 'em home or share them with your table mates.

### Soup Entries & Dessert Donations

Got a favorite soup you want to enter in the Soup Derby? You could be a People's Choice winner!

**Contact Gwyn Vollmer ([lgvollmer@comcast.com](mailto:lgvollmer@comcast.com) or 360-694-5100).**

How about donating your favorite dessert to the Dessert Auction?

**Contact Nancy Janney ([nktownend@comcast.net](mailto:nktownend@comcast.net) or 360-903-5971).**

Everyone is a winner at the Soup Derby: you'll enjoy an evening of food, fun and fellowship, and you'll help support local children and youth. Tickets go on sale Sunday, February 9th, at the Information Booth and from all United Methodist Women.

**Tickets: \$12 or \$5 for kids 10 & younger.**





# LORRAINE DIX

## ORIGINAL ART

Lorraine was born on January 20th, 1919 and spent her childhood in Farger Lake Washington. Lorraine loved gardening and did so as long as she was physically able to. She spent many hours over most of her life quilting, knitting, crocheting, tole painting and oil painting. She spent time with others in the church teaching each other how to paint. Mom had a real talent as exhibited in the examples here today, and I would have to guess she's painted close to a hundred wonderful pictures. She also enjoyed riding on the back of Michael's Harley until she was 97.

*By: Lorraine's son Michael*

## Featured Artist

Our featured artist for the Conrad Room Gallery is Lorraine Dix, longtime VanFUMC member, who is celebrating her 101st birthday the month of January.

Lorraine signs her artwork as "Raine"

*Raine*

