

## Pastoral News

Good day my friends, I hope this note finds you well...

We have reached the promise land, yes, we have. It feels like it has taken forever, and now we know how the Israelites may have felt.

After 40 years of paperwork and zoom meetings and, and, and, and, and...but why did an 11-day journey take 40 years? (Of course, in the bible 40 most often means until it was accomplished).

Maybe the Israelites were not ready to receive, were not prepared. Often there are life moments we should be better prepared for. A drivers license, a job, or a marriage, or entering the promised land. Yes, we can stumble thru them unprepared, learn on the fly, grow by making mistakes, all true. But some mistakes can't be fixed, they hurt and leave scars. So, what did the Israelites learn in their time in the wilderness?

The way to our promised land is not always easy, in fact, it rarely is. ...

God will make a way where there doesn't seem to be a way. ...

God will lead us day and night. ...

God fights on behalf of his people. ...

God provides in miraculous ways.

So, we need to ask ourselves as well, are we prepared? Are we ready to receive? What if anything did, we at Fowler UMC learn over the

## What's In This Month's Issue:

- Caritas Challenge
- Prayers Needed
- Birthdays
- United Women of Faith

## February Calendar

**4th, 11th, 18th, & 25th**

Worship @ 10:30

**5th, 12th, 19th, & 26th**

Parks & Rec @2:45-6:30

**6th, 13th, 20th, & 27th**

Tops @ 9

Bible Study @ 10:30 (not on 5th)

Prayer Group @ 11:30

**8th, 15th, 22nd, & 29th**

Crafting Group 9 till noon

**11th**

Church Council

**22nd**

Flashes Articles Due

past 40 years? (1 year). A question we should probably ponder.

The BOCD (Board of Congregational Development) decided we were ready for our next step and wrote us a letter, here is their letter to us...

*Dear Pastor Rene', Lynn and Fowler UMC/NewDay*

*Thank you for being present at the Board of Congregational Development meeting today and for the information you submitted between meetings. It was helpful to getting to a decision.*

*The Board of Congregational Development is excited about your ministry and intends to walk with Fowler UMC/New Day Ministry for next four years as the ministry develops. Initially, BOCD will fund \$75,000 in calendar year 2024 and \$23,375 from January to June, 2025. This represents 100% of your request in 2024 and 85% for the first six months of 2025. The funding is for 18 months initially because the grant is intended to fund the pastor; this allocation allows you to plan through the 2024-2025 appointment year.*

*BOCD would like to support Fowler/New Day in increasing its capacity to budget. BOCD noticed that budgets did not include cost of living or other increases that will impact the bottom line. We will support you in this process. In addition, BOCD will support you in better understanding the parameters on your investment income. The IV staff will help make connections for both of these explorations (budget and investments).*

*Together, Fowler/New Day and BOCD, will enter into an evaluation process in Fall 2024 to understand how the ministry is developing; assess the funding partners and streams; and determine funding beyond June 2025.*

*BOCD would also like Fowler/New Day Ministry to think about immigrant generation or communities of color in the Spokane area to plan for access by these communities early in the ministry's formation (Latiné; African immigrant populations; Pacific Island communities; other). Rev. Cruz Edwin Santos has offered his support regarding Latiné community and other immigrant populations.*

*Congratulations on all that you have accomplished thus far. We look forward to how the ministry will develop in the future.*

*I will be in contact soon to discuss a Memorandum of Understanding so that the funds can begin flowing.*

*Blessings,*

*Kristina Gonzalez*

*Executive Director for Innovation and Vitality*

The only question that is left to be answered is. Did we truly just spend our 40 years in the wilderness, or are we just now leaving Egypt?

# Caritas Challenge

Tooth Brush, Tooth Paste, Soap, Razor, Shampoo, Feminine pads, Mouth Wash, Q tips, Tissue, Windex, Clorox, etc. . . .





**SWEETS FOR YOUR  
SWEETHEART**



# **VALENTINE'S DAY**

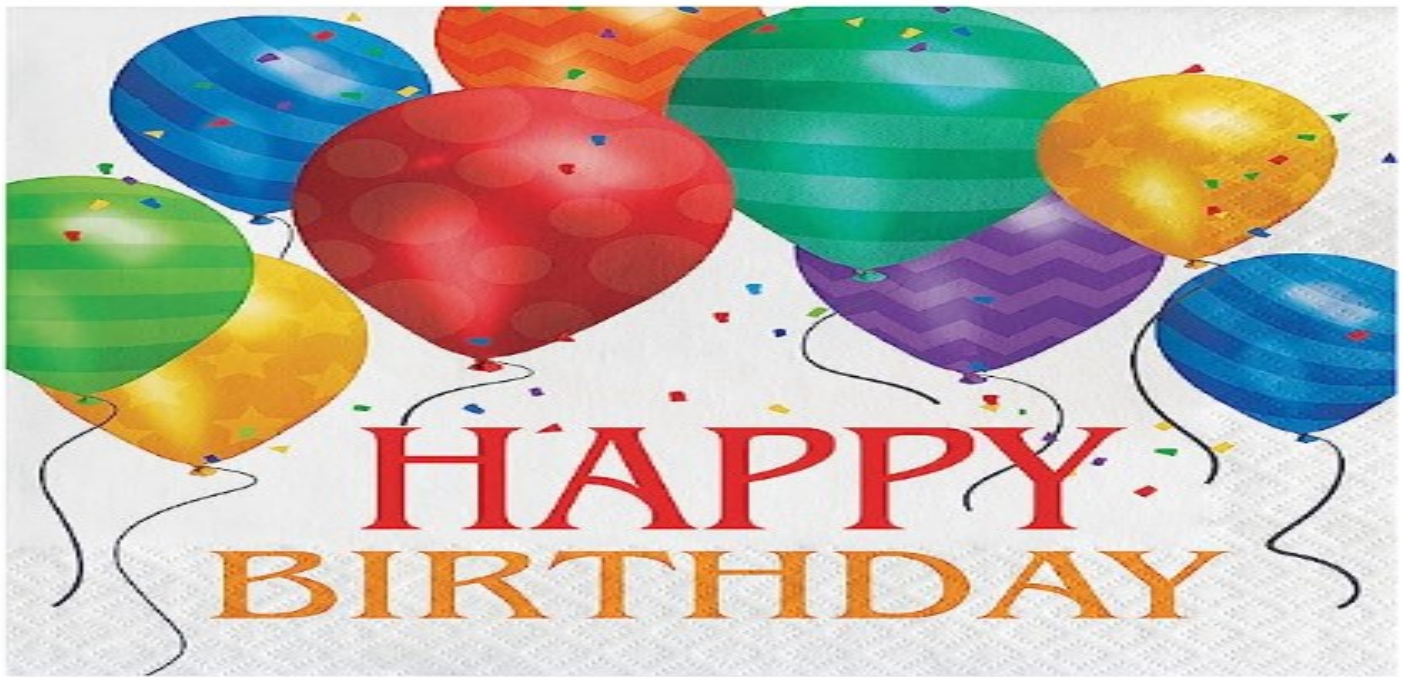
**14TH FEB 2024**



We have your homemade sweets for your sweet.

Call us at 5093253242 to preorder by the 7th of February and then pick up by the 14th of February.

Item	Cost
2 Cream Puffs	\$6
2 Cream Cheese Lemon pies	\$6
1 layer Heart Chocolate Cake	\$6
Heart Shaped Brownies	\$6
Heart shaped chocolate layer cookie	\$6
Chocolate chip Banana Bread	\$6



## **February Birthdays**

3rd - Jennifer Willis

15th - Jayden Grater

16th - Reid Bryan

20th - Bob Newell

22nd - Dolores Hagen

23rd - Wanda Haggerty



# P R A Y E R

## **Hand of God to Touch**

Peace on Earth  
Elections  
Our Church  
Ongoing Lay Servant class  
Family  
Mary Russell

## **Health and Healing**

Dick Mabbott  
Sindie Price - Breast Cancer  
Ryan  
Larry - foot issues  
Joe - medication issues

## **Continued Prayers**

All those recovering from surgery  
Jean  
Linda Stancil- coming home soon  
Brandi  
June's Daughter Jill  
Dan and Wendy Montgomery  
Pam  
Brent

## **Prayers of Gratitude**

For chance to ride the motorcycles  
For Nicholas helping us remodel

“The peace of Christ must control your hearts- a peace into which you were called in one body. And be thankful people.”

Colossians 3:15 CEB





United  
Women  
in Faith

## 2024 A CALL TO PRAYER AND SELF-DENIAL

### LIFTING UP VOICES FOR CLIMATE JUSTICE

Join your Fowler United Women in Faith group at Audubon Park UMC on Monday February 26 at 1 pm for a Call to Prayer and Self-Denial program. Dessert and Fellowship will follow.

For over 150 years United Women in Faith has put their faith, hope and love in action to support programs for women, children and youth locally and around the world. Each year we plan a service of A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial. Each year a different program is selected for your giving. This year your gifts will support programs for climate justice put into action by United Women in Faith. Your selfless giving joins the generosity of others who lift up their hearts and hand to God to raise the voices of those impacted by climate crises. Join a movement to support work that equips and mobilizes members and communities to take action for just energy for all!

Facts from the r list of *response* magazine: **100** Percent of A Call to Prayer and Self-Denial offering that goes to the focus area each year. This year your gifts will go to United Women in Faith's Just Energy 4 All campaign. **7,748** Number of legislative actions taken online for climate justice by United Women in Faith members and friends in 2022. **50** Number of climate and environmental justice events held by United Women in Faith in 2022. **421,688** Dollars raised to directly support the Office of Deaconesses and Home Missioners through A Call to Prayer and Self Denial 2022. **100** Percent of conference participation in A Call to Prayer and Self Denial 2022.

Sharon

Fowler United Methodist Church

3928 N. Howard Street  
Spokane, WA 99205  
Fowlerumc@yahoo.com  
509-325-3242

### ***Fowler Flashes***

is published monthly by  
**Fowler United Methodist  
Church**

3928 N. Howard St.  
Spokane, WA 99205  
(509) 325-3242

Facebook: [FowlerUnited  
MethodistChurch](#)  
[fowlerumc@yahoo.com](mailto:fowlerumc@yahoo.com)

[Fowlerumc.org](http://Fowlerumc.org)

**Pastor:**

**Rev. René Devantier**  
Editor: Diane Strobeck  
©2024 Fowler United  
Methodist Church



# COME AND CRAFT WITH US!



The 2nd and fourth Thursday  
at 9am