

“This We Believe”

We’ve spent the first two months of 2025 defining doctrines of the church so that each one of us can write our own creed. What do you believe? Being clear about our convictions makes it easier for us to make decisions about how we will interact with the world around us. I have enjoyed preparing and preaching this series along with Pastor Jackie Ryan and Larry Herrmann, Lay Leader. During Lent this year we will be exploring the Social Principles of The United Methodist Church in worship. This is not something the regular UM church goer might know about, but in these challenging times your Worship and Education Teams thought the guidance these provide would be helpful for all of us. Below is the Preface to our updated 2024 Social Principles.

The United Methodist Church, including its predecessor bodies, has a long and rich history of concern for social justice. Its members have often taken forthright positions on controversial issues involving Christian principles. In addition to carrying out acts of mercy, Methodism’s founder, John Wesley, spoke out against the abuse of animals, the exploitation of poor people, and the treatment of human beings as chattel. Following in Wesley’s footsteps, some early Methodists expressed their opposition to the slave trade, to smuggling, and to the cruel treatment of prisoners. Similarly, the United Brethren strongly condemned slavery.

In 1908, The Methodist Episcopal Church (North) was the first denomination to adopt a Social Creed, which called for “equal rights and complete justice for all men in all stations of life.” Within the next decade similar statements were adopted by The Methodist Episcopal Church (South) and by The Methodist Protestant Church. The Evangelical United Brethren Church adopted a statement of Social Principles in 1946 at the time of the uniting of The United Brethren and The Evangelical Church. In 1972, four years after the uniting in 1968 of The Methodist Church and The Evangelical United Brethren Church, the General Conference of The United Methodist Church adopted a new statement of Social Principles, which was revised in 1976 and by each successive General Conference. In 2008, the General Conference added a Social Creed companion litany.

The Social Principles are not church law. Instead, they represent the prayerful and earnest efforts of the General Conference to speak to issues in the contemporary world from a sound biblical and theological foundation that is in keeping with the best of our United Methodist traditions. The Social Principles are thus a call to faithfulness and to social engagement and intended to be instructive and persuasive in the best of the prophetic spirit. Moreover, they challenge all members of The United Methodist Church to engage in deliberative reflection and encourage intentional dialogue between faith and practice. (See ¶ 509.)

The Social Principles are also a living document. In recognition of the important changes that have taken place in The United Methodist Church over the past 50 years, including significant developments in Africa, Europe and the Philippines, the 2012 General Conference mandated that the Social Principles be revised to increase their

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theological grounding, succinctness and global relevance. To accomplish this task, the General Board of Church and Society initially sought input and advice through consultations held in each of the five U.S. Jurisdictions and a majority of the Central Conferences. The initial draft of the revised Social Principles was developed by six writing teams, whose members reflected the broad diversity of the church. Following this, an Editorial Revision Team perfected additional drafts, based on feedback received via online surveys, extensive consultations with central and annual conferences, and comments solicited from United Methodist scholars, bishops, church bodies and leaders across the denomination.



Pastor Jen Stuart

Comments from the Council

Dear Friends, in times when human rights are being eroded and divisions seem to grow deeper, it is more crucial than ever for us, as a Christian congregation, to actively promote diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI). Our faith calls us to stand in solidarity with the marginalized and oppressed, remembering that every person is made in the image of God. Galatians 3:28 reminds us, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, slave nor free, male nor female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus." This verse challenges us to transcend societal divisions and work toward a world where justice and equality prevail. In the face of injustice, it is our duty to be a voice for the voiceless, ensuring that all people have equal dignity and opportunity to flourish, just as Christ envisioned. By advocating for DEI, we uphold the values of God's Kingdom and offer a powerful witness of love and unity in an increasingly fractured world.

To that point, Pastor Jen, Kristin González, and Madras Deacon Jill Plant, have spent the past year working with other United Methodists in the PNW to complete an in-depth training for congregations wishing to further DEI within our congregations. Together, with Madras UMC and Fairwood Community Methodist, we have evaluated and updated an assessment for incorporating DEI concepts for our buildings, worship services, and communications. As we navigate this challenging time in America, let us unite as one loving voice, standing together against exclusion and oppression as Christian witnesses.

Kristin Gonzalez
Council Chairperson



Kristin González
Chairperson

FINANCE CORNER

Thanks to our Finance Committee, we will be providing ongoing monthly financial information. You will find it in this corner in every Chimes. Due to publication deadlines the financial information will lag by a month. Thank you for your understanding!

Year to Date (through January 2025)

Income: \$117,222

Budget: \$48,308

Expenses: \$47,332



A Message from Music Ministries

Is it Spring yet? That groundhog promised an early one, as I recall, but I've never put my faith in Phil, so I'm doubtful. As always, I stress vocal care to all during the cold and flu season, and we have had a doozy of a season already....Jen's bout with the flu, mine with strep throat, and a wide variety of viruses which many others have battled.

Tips to recover vocally from an upper respiratory infection/hoarseness or sore throat include:

- ◆ Resting the voice. (no whispering, as it actually causes more harm) If you must speak, use a quiet, gentle tone. No singing, except for emergencies.
- ◆ Hydration. (Water is best.)
- ◆ Organic raw honey, which has antiseptic and antimicrobial qualities, soothes the throat, and helps suppress coughing.
- ◆ Suppress coughing as much as possible.
- ◆ Ginger, which has anti-inflammatory properties for the throat.
- ◆ Avoid spicy foods, which can irritate the throat.

I have more vocal tips for those who are interested. These tips are strictly from the standpoint of vocal health and not meant as medical advice, which I am not qualified to offer.

The choir is working on our Easter Cantata, which will be presented on Palm Sunday, April 13. We will have one service that day at 10 a.m. Easter Sunday we will be singing "The Hallelujah Chorus" at the end of 2nd service, and I will invite all interested singers forward to join the choir and musicians. If you have a copy of Handel's "Messiah," or a single copy of "The Hallelujah Chorus," please bring it to church, as we sometimes run out of copies. We don't mind sharing, though.

We hope you've been enjoying the new songs introduced in first service lately. We've incorporated some great social justice songs, and I'm grateful for members of the team for enthusiastically sharing some of their favorites. I'm also happy to note that our praise team can boast, "We got the beat." Michelle, Ryder, Dave and John, on drums, guitar and piano are an excellent band, and we singers find our feet dancing or tapping through most of our set on Sundays.

As always, I'm grateful for all of the musicians who bless our music ministries, as well as the care and support of the staff and congregation at Bend Church.

Blessings to all,
Karen Sipes,
Director of Music and Arts
music@bendumc.org / 541-382-1672 Ext 119



Karen Sipes



Jackie Ryan
Intern Pastor

Hello dear people of Bend Church! It's hard to believe that my time with you, serving as your intern pastor, is quickly coming to an end as of March 16th. Although it was 18 months ago when I appeared in worship one Sunday in mid-September 2023, it seems like it was just yesterday. You all warmly welcomed me in and have graciously accompanied me in my internship. I am deeply thankful. I have so enjoyed getting to know each of you as we have journeyed together in our walk with Christ. Bible studies, worship time, lively community discussions, Christmas Tea, discerning God's presence and direction through retreats, prayer, as well as quiet time together contemplating the mystery of faith are but a few of the precious experiences we have shared together. Being in relationship with all of you, in community has brought into clear view for me the love of our living and gracious God.

I especially want to give thanks to Rev. Jen who has been an inspiration and ever-present guide and mentor throughout my internship. Jen, you have shared the life of being a pastor in all its shapes and forms with me for which I am super grateful. I am looking forward to serving others in the role as pastor with as much enthusiasm, compassion, and spiritual grounding that I have experienced through your pastoral leadership.

Blessings to each and every one of you!
Intern Pastor Jackie

Handbell update!

Handbells at Bend Church are going strong! We welcomed a new member to our group, Bryce Nance. He comes to us from Colorado. He is an accomplished ringer who wanted to try his hand at directing. I was thrilled to give him that chance and in turn it gave me the chance to ring. Although I enjoy ringing, I'm not ready to give up my directing duties for good. It's way too much fun!

Even though the group looks "full", we are always looking for new ringers. If you can read music and have an interest in exploring the world of handbells, let me know. Just contact the church office. We'll get you into a pair of gloves in no time!

Shelley Giaier
Bells of Praise
Handbell Director

Handbells are fun!!



Rex the Ringer

Open Door Ministries - Needed Items of the Month

We've had a run on clothing lately and are low on men's pants and boxer shorts—any sizes would be appreciated.

We also need your cans and bottles for recycling. Coded plastic bags are available in the mailroom and narthex. It all adds up!

Pat Luce and Leslie Hopper
Co-coordinators

OPEN DOOR MINISTRIES
MAILROOM TIMES:
WEEK DAYS 1pm – 3pm
(M,T,W,Th,F)
Community Room entrance on Kansas Street



Lisa Radford Compassionate Care Ministry


“Thanks to the generosity of the Bend Church community, the Lisa Radford Memorial Compassionate Care fund has been able to continue helping people facing financial difficulties and emergencies. Every Wednesday we distribute a limited number of gift cards that people can use for transportation costs, heating fuel, or other personal necessities. As we are able, additional funds are set aside to help with utility bills, rental assistance, and a wide variety of additional costs that people living with financial vulnerability encounter. People are allowed to seek assistance from the fund once a month. Members of the Compassionate Care Team are Emily Baker, Terry Leggert, Steven Simmonds, Jeff Cole, and Thom Larson. If you want more information about the work of the team, any one of them would welcome your questions.

Traditionally, the funds that are distributed come from donations given by church members. On Sundays when communion is served, contribution baskets for Compassionate Care will be made available. You are encouraged to share your gifts when you come to the table, though gifts to Compassionate Care will be gladly received by the church any time. As our country moves through this challenging time of change, the needs of our most financially insecure population will grow significantly. Thank you again for your generosity and compassion! People know they will be cared for here at Bend Church because of you!

Thom Larson
Lisa Radford Compassionate Care Ministry Lead



Happening in our Church Community



BIBLE STUDY

- Lectionary Studies: Mondays at Noon in the Conference Room.
- Wednesday Bible Study: 4pm via Zoom
- Thursday 50/50 Bible Study: 7pm via Zoom

Contact the office for more information



Help support our church ministries by purchasing a "Choose Love" T-shirt or sweatshirt!



Scan this QR code for the website



fat TUESDAY

Pancake Feed!




March 4th - 5:30pm
in the Fellowship Hall



March 5, 2025

12:00pm service Trinity Episcopal Church 469 NW Wall St.	6:00pm service Bend United Methodist 680 NW Bond St
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Lent 2025
Social Principles
Community Action

"This We Believe:
From Ashes
to Action,
Bringing Hope
to the World"
(Isaiah 58:6-7)

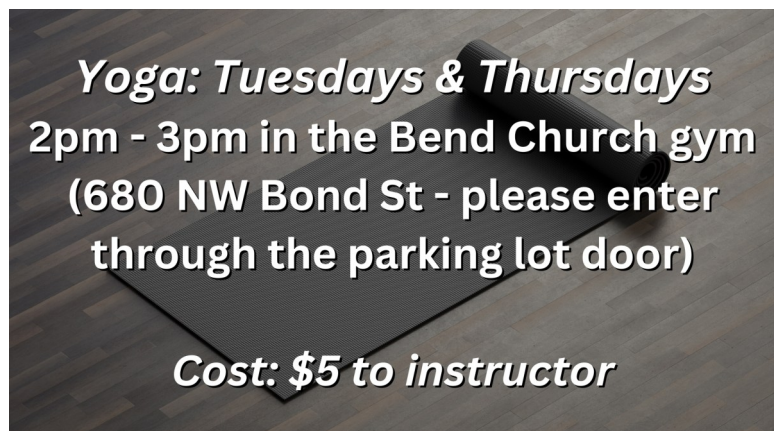


Prayer Without Words
Introduction to Contemplative Prayer
Workshop led by Chris Guthrie

Sunday Practice during Lent
March 9th - April 6th
12:30pm in the Fellowship Hall



Weekly Congregation Potluck
Thursdays at 5:30pm
in the Fellowship Hall.



Yoga: Tuesdays & Thursdays
2pm - 3pm in the Bend Church gym
(680 NW Bond St - please enter
through the parking lot door)

Cost: \$5 to instructor

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1 9:00am - Jazzercise
2 9am Worship Service  10am Coffee Hour 10am Guy Talk 11am Worship Service 2pm - The Chosen 4 - 6:30pm BYC	3 9:00 - Jazzercise 12:00 - Jazzercise 12:00 Lectionary Class 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail & Free Store 4:30pm - Jazzercise 4:30 Bells of Praise	4 9:00am - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail 2:00pm - Yoga 4:30pm - Jazzercise 5:30pm Shrove Tuesday Pancake Fest 6pm - Praise Band	5 12pm - Jazzercise 1pm-3pm Open Door: Mail, Free Store & Compassionate Care 4pm Zoom Bible Study 4:30pm - Jazzercise 6pm Ash Wed. service 	6 9:00am - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail 2pm - Yoga 4:30pm - Jazzercise 7pm - 50/50 Bible Study via Zoom	7 9:00am - Jazzercise 12:00 - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail	8 9:00am - Jazzercise 
9 9am Worship Service  10am Coffee Hour 10am Guy Talk 11am Worship Service 12:30 Prayer w/out Words 2pm - The Chosen 3pm - Jazzercise 4 - 6:30pm BYC	10 9:00 - Jazzercise 12:00 - Jazzercise 12:00 Lectionary Class 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail & Free Store 4:30pm - Jazzercise 4:30 Bells of Praise	11 9:00am - Jazzercise 9:30am All Staff Mtg 10am Ruth Circle 11am Worship Team 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail 2:00pm - Yoga 4:30pm - Jazzercise 6pm - Praise Band	12 12pm - Jazzercise 1pm-3pm Open Door: Mail, Free Store & Compassionate Care 4pm Zoom Bible Study 4:30pm - Jazzercise 6:30pm - Choir	13 9:00am - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail 2pm - Yoga 4:30pm - Jazzercise 5:30pm - Potluck 7pm - 50/50 Bible Study via Zoom	14 9:00am - Jazzercise 12:00 - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail	15 9:00am - Jazzercise 10:00 - 2:00 Outside event
16 9am Worship Service  10am Coffee Hour 10am Guy Talk 11am Worship Service 12:30 Prayer w/out Words 2pm - The Chosen 4 - 6:30pm BYC	 17 9:00 - Jazzercise 10:00 - Crafters 12:00 Lectionary Class 12:00 - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail & Free Store 4:30pm - Jazzercise 4:30 Bells of Praise	18 9:00am - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail 2:00pm - Yoga 4:30pm - Jazzercise 6pm - Praise Band	19 10am Education Team 12pm - Jazzercise 1pm-3pm Open Door: Mail, Free Store & Compassionate Care 4pm Zoom Bible Study 4:30pm - Jazzercise 6:30pm - Choir	20 9:00am - Jazzercise 10am Circle of Friends 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail 2pm - Yoga 4:30pm - Jazzercise 5:30pm - Potluck 7pm - 50/50 Bible Study via Zoom	21 9:00am - Jazzercise 12:00 - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail	22 9:00am - Jazzercise
23 9am Worship Service  10am Coffee Hour 10am Guy Talk 11am Worship Service 12:30 Prayer w/out Words 2pm - The Chosen 3pm - Jazzercise 4 - 6:30pm BYC	24 9:00 - Jazzercise 10:00 - Crafters 12:00 Lectionary Class 12:00 - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail & Free Store 4:30pm - Jazzercise 4:30 Bells of Praise	25 9:00am - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail 2:00pm - Yoga 4:30pm - Jazzercise 6pm - Praise Band	26 10am - UWF Board 12pm - Jazzercise 1pm-3pm Open Door: Mail, Free Store & Compassionate Care 4pm Zoom Bible Study 4:30pm - Jazzercise 6:30pm - Choir	27 9:00am - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail 2pm - Yoga 4:30pm - Jazzercise 5:30pm - Potluck 7pm - 50/50 Bible Study via Zoom	28 9:00am - Jazzercise 12:00 - Jazzercise 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail	29 9:00am - Jazzercise
30 9am Worship Service  10am Coffee Hour 10am Guy Talk 11am Worship Service 12:30 Prayer w/out Words 2pm - The Chosen 4 - 6:30pm BYC	31 9:00 - Jazzercise 12:00 - Jazzercise 12:00 Lectionary Class 1:00 Council Meeting 1:00pm - 3:00pm Open Door Mail & Free Store 4:30pm - Jazzercise 4:30 Bells of Praise					

Please note: Calendar items are church related. There are many more events occurring in the building that are not on this calendar. We are blessed to be a busy building seven days a week! **If you are not scheduled to meet at the church** we ask that you respect those using our building by checking in at the office first as you enter the church. Thank you!



The Chimes

680 NW Bond Street
Bend, Oregon 97703
www.bendumc.org



The Chimes is a monthly newsletter published for the members and friends of Bend Church.
Send correspondence and address changes to 680 NW Bond St., Bend, Oregon 97703; or email: communications@bendumc.org



CHURCH STAFF

Lead Pastor: Rev. Jen Stuart

Director of Operations: Erin Buckley-Noonan
Faith Intern: Pastor Jackie Ryan
Bookkeeper: Tyler Macdonald

Director of Music & Arts Ministry: Karen Sipes
Bells of Praise Director: Shelley Giaier
Custodians: Kelly Todd & Mari Vega

Bishop of the Oregon-Idaho Conference:
Rev. Dr. Cedrick Bridgeforth
Greater Northwest Area Website: greaternw.org

Cascadia District Superintendent:
Rev. Wendy Woodworth
Oregon-Idaho Conference Website: umoi.org

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