

WILSHIRE UNITED METHODIST NATIVE AMERICAN FELLOWSHIP

November and December 2017

Greetings Wilshire,

Most everyone recognizes that Thanksgiving is problematic for Native Peoples. There are several holidays and traditions, which, when viewed from our perspective, are really messed up (Columbus Day, Land Run Celebrations, etc.). Even if the first Thanksgiving was born of Native values like generosity and gratitude, most would recognize that things went terribly wrong for us afterwards. So celebrating those values, ones we still hold dear, isn't easy when the dominant culture still doesn't recognize the ongoing systemic breaking of treaties, stealing of land, violence, trauma, extraction of resources, and on and on...

It makes me angry. The holidays are supposed to be fun, right? Are we having fun yet?

As we wrestle together with what it means to be a Native American UM/Christian Fellowship, those same issues are present. We live within the paradox of being immersed in cultural trappings that are not only non-Native, but often become anti-Native. Christian missionaries were partners and active participants in helping try to wipe out our culture(s), our language(s), and our religion(s). Through forced removals, land allotments, and boarding schools, let's face it, we were abused and worse. And now, we're not only facing the consequences in our families, selves, tribes, and friends, but we're expected to put on a smiling face and celebrate.

Did you hear more about Indigenous People's day or Black Friday? They were on the same day this year. While we value balance and sharing resources, the majority of people are celebrating consumption. While we hold on to a cosmic view of our inner connectedness with all things, we are surrounded by a world where me, myself, and mine, are the focus.

We are still here! That means we can do something(s)! This could all sound like a great argument to disengage or even to fight, but I think there is a better option(s). Might there be some way(s) we can maintain our integrity as Native people, friends of Native peoples, persons on the Jesus path, followers of the Red Road, and begin moving **together** to amplify our own voices and values?

This church is a perfect opportunity. Not the building, but the growing circle of friends... Together, we have started a conversation about OUR Core Values. I believe that this is the beginning of something new, a next step. It will be up to us, with the Spirit's guidance, and even some people who aren't here (yet), to surface, own, articulate, and live in to what we will become together. As we clarify and focus in on the Core Values, I believe that a vision for the future will emerge and help guide us toward what we are becoming.

Portland needs you! The world needs you! Your wisdom, traditions, and shared purpose will make a difference. Words fail to describe the gratitude and honor I feel being your pastor. Wilshire is so full of potential! It reminds me of when Erin and I were pregnant. What will be born here? What is Creator up to with us?

If you are reading this brief article, then you are invited. If you know someone who wants to help, then they are invited. Now is the time for us to engage discerning what we are being empowered to become. Please join me in praying for Wilshire. Please show up and be present

to these conversations. And though we are just starting toward our next steps together, please tell everyone that something wonderful is happening and they are welcome to be full participants. Together, we will rise or fall. If you feel like fighting, then put that energy toward fighting for a preferred future where OUR Core Values will thrive and help transform the world. What we become depends on it.

Blessings Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow, and Forever.

And in closing, please join us on Christmas Eve Eve – December 23rd, at 6:30 pm for Christmas Communion Candlelight Service that will include special music and holiday cheer.

Allen

Please join us



The Eve
before
Christmas Eve

When: Saturday, December 23, 2017

Where: Wilshire United Methodist
Native American Fellowship
Time: 6:30 pm

FROM THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Book Sale and Chili Cook-off held October 21st brought people in out of the rain. The UMW received \$38 in “Chili” donations and the church received \$78.25 from book sales. The very proud winner of the “Chili Trophy” was Milton Bartlett. There were six chili entries!

PBOT, Portland Bureau of Transportation, has issued an affidavit that requires Wilshire UMNAF to repair the sidewalk surrounding the church. There are ten sections of the sidewalk that contain trip hazards or tree damage. A city permit is necessary to do the work and a tree inspection will be required before any root cutting is done. The work needs to be completed by December 23rd, 2017.

Next Trustees meeting will be November 12th at 10am.

Board of Trustees Chairperson,
Helen Stewart

FINANCE NEWS

Property taxes on the parsonage (\$6,516) will be paid by November 15th. As everyone in Portland knows taxes have increased since last year (ours by \$570). By paying the taxes in one full payment we save \$202. The Finance Committee will be working on completing a budget for 2018.

Financial Secretary,
Helen Stewart

MISSION and OUTREACH

Please continue to bring non-perishable food for the BackPack Program and Mainspring Portland. With colder weather the need is GREAT and more people require assistance. Drop off donations in the baskets in the Fellowship Hall corner. Food can also be left in the basket in front of the altar.

THE BOTTLE & CAN LADY (Helen I.)

From January 1st, 2017 to October 22nd, 2017 Helen has turned in \$2,993.95 for Shared Giving (Apportionments). 35,535 containers were sorted and returned to the recycling center! That is a tremendous amount of work and time!

Bravo Helen !!

HISTORIAN NEWS

You will often see Helen Iles taking pictures of events taking place at Wilshire. She posts the pictures in the history book along with weekly church bulletins and newsletters.

Music at WUMNAF

We are always looking for Native Americans who would like to share a song during our Special Music on Sunday mornings. Talk with Janell, the piano player or Pastor Allen if you are interested.

Choirs! We'd like to include some choir songs during worship. There are multiple opportunities for those of you who are interested.

First, did you know that Erin Buck is practicing a Christmas song with the children on Sunday mornings downstairs? "To Us a Child is Born" will be sung on Sunday, December 17th during worship. Bring your children so they can be a part of this!

Also, we will have two adult choir numbers, one in November and one in December. Rehearsals for "A Native American Blessing" will be on

Sunday mornings at 10:15 am on 5th and 12th. We will share it with the congregation on Thanksgiving Sunday, November 19th. We will also rehearse a Christmas number for December 17th with rehearsals at the same time on December 3rd and 10th. Come join us!

Submitted, Janell Collier

About the United Methodist Women

The United Methodist Women is a national organization on the forefront of advocating for women, children, youth & families worldwide.....thus, our unit at Wilshire can tap into the greater resources of a large organization to accomplish goals toward social & environmental justice.

We also have a good time just connecting with one another (10 people connected at our last meeting on Oct. 28). So, come to our next meeting on Saturday, Dec. 2, at 9:30 a.m. at the Church. A program will be offered up on "food, faith and forgiveness".....as well as some calendaring to set meetings & events into 2018.

Save the date: Dec. 16 at 11:00 a.m. we will gather at the Church for an Elders & Friends Celebration Luncheon. Stay tuned for the luncheon potluck food signup sheet to circulate in the next few weeks.

Respectfully Submitted,
Loretta Milton

WILSHIRE SEWING GROUP

The sewing group meets on Monday afternoons from 1:30pm – 3:30pm. All are welcome! If you plan to come, call Helen Stewart (503-282-6431) or Bobbie Edwards (503-708-7865) (we don't always hear the doorbell). Bring ideas for Christmas!



NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

23rd Steven Gregg
23rd Caroling Underwood
23rd Susan Pike
25th Susan D'Andrea
26th Jay Bateman
27th Judy Barney

DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

4th Claudia Long
12th Brian Yapko
12th Teresa Gregg
13th Lee Ann Wermey
13th Mandy Marple
15th Ed Wermey
21st Lee Wermey, Jr.
25th Carol Edmo
30th Hasani Milton

Jan Michael Looking Wolf - Flute Medicine

www.lookingwolf.com



Save The Date -- Plan To Come And Be Blessed!

CD RELEASE CONCERT FOR FLUTE MEDICINE!!

At Wilshire UM Native American Fellowship, 3917 NE Shaver St, Portland, Oregon

Saturday, December 2, 2017

Doors open: 6:30 p.m.

Music Starts: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Suggested Donation: Adults \$10, Elders 55 and over \$5, Children – first child of family \$5, additional children FREE (\$25 cap per family)

All door proceeds will go to Wilshire – be generous! ☺

Flute Medicine CDs, Download Cards, and other merchandise will be for sale.

We are honored to have Jan Michael Looking Wolf return to Wilshire in a concert premiering songs from his brand new CD, *Flute Medicine*. Jan Michael will be performing songs from his recordings that travel in style from solo traditional flute, contemporary melodies with beautiful accompaniment, to folk rock vocal ballads with a message of love, compassion, and connection.

Recording Artist/Performer/Educator/Author/Humanitarian

"A modern master of the Native American Flute, a premier performer of the instrument of our time..."

- - Billboard Journal

An enrolled Kalapuya member of the Confederated Tribes of Grand Ronde, who resides within his indigenous homelands in Oregon, **Jan Michael Looking Wolf** is a world renowned Native American flute player. Traveling a broad range of musical styles, his recordings have garnered over 52 awards and a top ten ranking in the new age charts. He is the winner of five Native American Music Awards, including Artist of the Year, Flutist of the Year, Best Record and Best Music Video (2).

Jan Michael's lifeway and musical expressions are based on the tradition of 'One Heart'. In short, it is a universal truth that everyone is equal regardless of the color of our skin, tribal affiliation, language we speak, income, gender, faith, nationality or personal beliefs. 'One Heart' is the recognition of Unity through Diversity

Healing Notes

Our new program: Healing Notes: Native American-Style Flute Music for Healing & Transition is underway! Healing Notes is a service for healing; special gatherings and celebrations; birthing; convalescence (home or facility) from illness or injury; death, dying and grieving; hospice; funerals, weddings, etc. Stephanie will travel to you and play the Native American Flute for you or your loved one(s). The potential benefits of music in a healing setting are calming, soothing, relief from pain, alleviation of distress, peace and relaxation. Reading, conversation, and smudging are also available upon request. All visits are strictly confidential. There is no charge for this service; funds for this program are provided by grants and voluntary love donations. This service is open to all ages, ethnicities, creeds, and spiritualities; it is nondenominational and there is no proselytizing. If you are interested in this service, please call Stephanie at the number during the hours below. If you need brochures, please contact either Stephanie or Helen Stewart of the Board of Trustees. Please don't hesitate to call Stephanie at (503) 846-1755 between 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., if you have any questions or concerns.

-Stephanie Baldrige

Prayer Tree

Should you, or anyone that you know, be seriously ill, coming up for surgery, convalescing, dying, etc., please help us activate the Prayer Tree by calling Stephanie at (503) 846-1755 between the hours of 11:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m., or e-mailing her at: alaria@syrynx.net. In this way, we can notify everyone quickly and easily, and put all of our collective prayers to work!

-Stephanie Baldrige

Cascadia Flute Circle

Don't forget to visit www.cascadiaflutecircle.org for a wealth of Native American cultural information and traditional (as well as non-

traditional) recipes. We're not just about Native American Flutes!
Please contact Stephanie at alaria@syrinx.net

or (503) 846-1755 if you would like more info on Cascadia Flute Circle, Native American Flute presentations/lectures, lessons, concerts, weddings, funerals, etc.

Stephanie is also doing Native American Flute lessons online. Please visit www.nativeamericanflutelessons.com, or contact Stephanie for more information.

WILSHIRE
United Methodist Native American Fellowship
VISION and MISSION STATEMENT

See below for Wilshire United Methodist Native American Fellowship
new Vision and Mission statements

Vision

Wilshire United Methodist Native American Fellowship is a home for all to gain strength, comfort, understanding and guidance, celebrating living in Creator's world. The fellowship will be a bridge between traditions, generations and beliefs.

Mission

Wilshire United Methodist Native American Fellowship's Mission is to bring children and elders together to share Christian and Spiritual traditions

These are works in progress.....please see Church Task Force if you have questions or input on the statements. You are also welcome to attend the Church Task Force meetings.

Sundays Worship 11:00
AM Potluck and
Fellowship following the
service

November 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
5 10:45 AM Choir Practice 11 AM Worship 12 PM Potluck	6 Labor Day Flute Lessons 7 PM	7 Boy Scouts	8 7PM Barbershop	9 Flute Lessons 7 PM	10	11 10am-3pm Mt. Hood Cherokees Native Craft Fair
12 10AM Trustees 10:45 AM Choir Practice 11 AM Worship 12 PM Potluck 1 PM Church Council	13 Sewing Circle 1:30 PM Flute Lessons 7 PM	14 Boy Scouts	15 7PM Barbershop	16 Flute Lessons 7 PM	17	18 10am-4pm Church Bazaar 11:30am – 1pm Indian Taco Sale
19 11 AM Worship 12 PM Potluck	20 Sewing Circle 1:30 PM Flute Lessons 7 PM	21 Boy Scouts	22 7PM Barbershop	23 Thanksgiving Day	24	25
26 11 AM Worship 12 PM Potluck	27 Sewing Circle 1:30 PM Flute Lessons 7 PM	28 Boy Scouts	29	30		

December 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
31st 11 AM Worship 12 PM Potluck New Year's Eve					1	2 9:30AM UMW Mtg & Thank Offering 7pm-9pm Jan Michael Looking Wolf Concert
3 10:15 AM Choir Practice 11 AM Worship 12 PM Potluck	4 Sewing Circle 1:30p Flute Lessons 7 PM	5 Boy Scouts	6 7PM Barbershop	7 Flute Lessons 7 PM	8	9
10 10:15 AM Choir Practice 11 AM Worship 12 PM Potluck	11 Sewing Circle 1:30p Flute Lessons 7 PM	12 Boy Scouts	13 7PM Barbershop	14 Flute Lessons 7 PM	15	16 11AM Potluck to honor our Elders & Friends
17 11 AM Worship 12 PM Potluck	18 Sewing Circle 1:30p Flute Lessons 7 PM	19 Boy Scouts	20 7PM Barbershop	21 Flute Lessons 7 PM	22	23 6:30 pm Wilshire Christmas Eve – Eve Service
24 11 AM Worship 12 PM Potluck	25 Merry Christmas	26	27 7PM Barbershop	28 Flute Lessons 7 PM	29	30