

Sunriver Christian Fellowship



An ecumenical and interdenominational fellowship
sponsored by the Episcopal and Lutheran Churches

December 2022

Dear Family:

MARY'S WOMB

*Mary's womb,
Warm waters.
It was the first resting place of Jesus.
His first ocean.
His hunger for food, for sleep,
for energetic movement,
all were met,
without his asking.
The resources of the inner world
were his.
The riches of the umbilical cord
strengthened him.
Without them he would die.
Divine Life itself, was pulsating,
creating, sleeping, dreaming, growing
within the womb,
unseen, hidden in the belly
of a young teenager.*

*The womb,
the safe place,
the growing place,
the learning place,
the feeding place,
Mary's womb.*

These words can also describe our new sanctuary, our womb, our birth place for which we have waited patiently.

Sunday, December 18, will be the date of our opening service in the new sanctuary. We will be fed with the Eucharist, with blessed bread, wine or juice. The Worship Committee asks that those choosing to receive blessed wine or juice, do so by Intinction only. We ask that you take the bread and lightly touch the wine with it. There will be no sipping from the common cup. As always, the Eucharist is complete and efficacious in bread only. This decision was made being sensitive to the ongoing presence of COVID and RSV (Respiratory Syncytial Virus).

Our new sanctuary, our womb if you will, is expansive in size. There will be no sense of crowded space. The sanctuary will house a full bell choir, a vocal choir in time, the Steinway, the Clavinova, the Altar, and the Pulpit, with comfort.

There are working committees that have shepherded us in the building since last June, and continue to facilitate our move into the new sanctuary. Many hands have made light work as our womb is readied to feed us.

Throughout this whole birthing process, Wade Watson has been our mid-wife. Watching over every detail, smoothing out ripples, negotiating with the powers-that-be, whether they be Deschutes County, the former owner, or the construction company. Wade has readied us for new birth. We owe him our unwavering gratitude. Thanks to his flawless attention, here is our worship schedule:

December 18: Sunday service, 10:30 a.m.
First service in the new Sanctuary
December 24: Christmas Eve Services
Family Service, 3 p.m.
Traditional Service, 6 p.m.
December 25: no service:
"And so God rested on the 7th day."

January 1: Sunday service, 10 a.m.

The Worship Committee has decided to return to our traditional time frame of 10 a.m. You will receive numerous emails guiding you regarding this time change, as we move closer to January 1, 2023

Blessed Advent
and Merry Christmas
Faithfully, Nancy

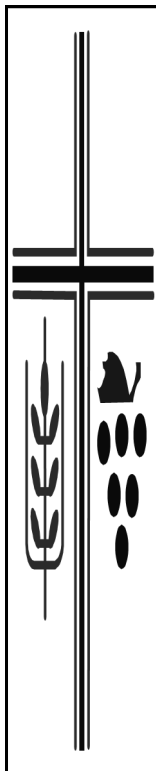
UPCOMING SERVICES: all in-person

- December 4:** The 2nd Sunday of Advent
The Rev. Canon Nancy Green
- December 11:** The 3rd Sunday of Advent
The Rev. Mary Anne Gard
- December 18:** The 4th Sunday of Advent
The Rev. Canon Nancy Green
- December 24:** Christmas Eve Services
Family Service 3 p.m.
Traditional Service 6 p.m.
The Rev. Canon Nancy Green
- December 25:** No Service
- January 1:** The 1st Sunday
After Christmas Day
The Rev. Canon Nancy Green
Pastor Frank Brocker: Preacher

Each Sunday service is live-streamed. See the SCF website for details. Also, each service is being taped during the worship service itself and then posted on the SCF website by Sunday evening.

NOTE: Due to moving equipment to the new sanctuary, there will be no streaming or video, **only audio**, on December 22.

Downstairs Worship Space: The service is also streamed to a monitor downstairs for those feeling more comfortable in an open space yet wish to participate in Sunday worship. Communion will be brought downstairs..

**ADVENT SERVICES**

The four Sundays of Advent began on November 27 and will continue through December 18. A new theme is presented each Sunday along with the lighting of an Advent Candle.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

Family Christmas Eve, 3 p.m.: This service is especially designed for families with young children. It will include the world premiere of "Tis' the Day Before Christmas in Sunriver" written by Mark McConnell, and told by our own *Abbott the Doggy* played by Randy Heise. Carol singing and Holy Eucharist will be included in the service. A special gift will be offered to every family attending.

Traditional Christmas Eve Service, 6 p.m. (note different time from past years): This service includes carol singing, special music, a challenging word from Pastor Nancy, and Celebration of Holy Eucharist.

PASTORAL CALL COMMITTEE

As you are aware, Pastor Nancy has announced her retirement date as June 4, 2023. This requires the formation of a Pastoral Call Committee to begin the work of seeking a new senior pastor for SCF. It is a detailed process and, in the opinion of the Managing Board, must be the work of the congregation and not the Board. Each member has a voice that needs to be heard as we shape the future of SCF. If you have a desire to serve on the Call Committee, please let any member of the Managing Board know of your interest in participating in this important work.

Prayer Needs

- Aedan
- William L.
- Marianna W.
- Olivia L.
- Bergen B.
- Rich
- Dick & Marianne A.
- Paul M.
- Mike F.
- Joe H.
- Beve K.
- Keith L.
- Amber F.
- Mal M.
- Peter G.
- Betsy M.
- Lynne E.
- Erik E.
- Lynnette B.
- Patty K.
- Bob W.
- Sandy M.
- John S.
- Carol F.
- Michal H.

**CARE AND SHARE**

November
Boxes Distributed
Small: 24
Medium: 55
Large: 24
X-Large: 7
Total: 110
People Served
Adults: 290
Children: 127
Total: 417

DAILY BREAD

Copies of the daily devotional for winter, Our Daily Bread, are now available on the counter when entering the building. They are free.

**SCF OPEN HOUSE/HOLIDAY DECORATING PARTY**

Saturday, December 17, 3 p.m., we will have an SCF Open House/Holiday Decorating Party to prepare our new sanctuary for the first worship services the next day. It is hoped that each household will donate a Christmas ornament or ornaments to decorate our SCF "Family Tree". If you are unable to attend in person, ornaments may be brought to a worship service and placed in a basket designated for that purpose. They can also be given to Chris Baldwin, Chris Hamilton, Liz Haberman or Gina Rosbrook. Please include a short message that shares the importance of the ornament to your family, as well as place your name on the ornament if possible. The plan is to create a book that contains the ornament pictures and stories that will keep the history of our SCF "Family Tree" as a treasure for all. We will gather in the new sanctuary at 3 p.m. to start our festivities. Please bring cookies or treats to share and the Hospitality Committee will provide beverages. Remember that no food or beverages will be allowed in the sanctuary except for water in a lidded container.

January 2023 Newsletter Deadline: December 27

Please send articles to Jan Tuckerman:
jtuckerman.sunriver@outlook.com

Transformed to Love & Serve – the Goal of the Education Ministry of SCF
Ongoing Groups: These groups continue to meet throughout the year
Feminine Spirituality

This group will meet Monday, December 5, 10 a.m. at the Sunriver Library and then no more meetings for the rest of December. Meetings will resume sometime in January with a new book selection to be decided. All women are welcome to attend. For further information contact:

Chris Hamilton: chrish39@gmail.com or Shereda Benfield: skbenfield@gmail.com

Men of Faith

This group meets monthly on the second Tuesday of each month, 7:30-8:30 a.m. at the Pozzi Building at the Sunriver Nature Center.

December 13: Al Klascius is the presenter. Topic: "How to feel good about YOU while dealing with: Pain, Uncertainty, and Unending Work—in other words—LIFE!"

SCF MANAGING BOARD November 22 Meeting Summary: Gene Krueger

At its November 22 meeting, the Managing Board heard updates from Wade Watson and Dave Drescher on the renovation of our new Church home. The ceiling soundproofing has been installed and we have received the sanctuary chairs. Apart from the sanctuary's two double doors, the construction is "on time."

The treasurer's reports on the current budget and the purposed 2023 budget were given by Joe Amos. An Executive Session of the Management Board will be held on November 29 to do an in-depth analysis of the proposed 2023 budget.

On-going matters before the Board included: 1. Revising the SCF Bylaws and Endowment Fund Enabling Resolution for adoption at the Annual Meeting to be held January 22, 2023. 2. Musical equipment and office furnishings moves 3. Christmas Eve parking issues. 4. A draft of the proposed Building Usage Guidelines was discussed; Barb Purcell will give the committee feedback from the MB. 5. Barb Purcell updated fundraising for Andi's Kitchen; \$80,558 has been received to date.

New Business items: 1. Initial steps for the formation of a Pastoral Call Committee have begun. 2. Discussion of how SCF could apply for a Bisbee grant. 3. The church office will relocate to the new church building in the near future (details to follow). 4. MB members Sandra Kendle's and Paul Knollman's terms expire at close of 2022; the nominating committee has put forward names of candidates to fill those positions. The election to fill those positions will take place at the Annual Meeting on January 22, 2023. 5. The MB voted to approve the request by the worship committee that effective January 1, 2023, the SCF worship service will begin at 10:00 a.m..

The Managing Board meets next on December 29 at 1:30 by Zoom, and you may join us by emailing Linda Smith (smitmack@pacbell.net) to receive the Zoom link.

NEW SANCTUARY DEDICATION

On Sunday, January 15, 2023, the new SCF sanctuary will be dedicated as part of the worship service. This will be a great time of thanksgiving and praise for God's gift to SCF and a reminder of the new and wonderful opportunities as SCF looks to the future.

EDUCATION OPPORTUNITY

Advent Class: beginning Sunday, December 4, Pastor Rob will offer a 3-week class entitled "The Amazing Cousins: Beginnings." It is an overview of the unique pre-birth and birth experiences of both Jesus and John the Baptist. It follows the worship service.

Financial Report as of October 31, 2022

	<u>Actual Jan.-Oct.</u>	<u>Budget Jan.-Oct.</u>
<u>Income</u>	\$251,050	\$259,952
<u>Expenses</u>	\$274,303	\$316,472
<u>Net Income</u>	\$ -23,253	\$ -56,520

Ministry Team Leaders — 2022

Congregational Care
Pastor Nancy Green

Stephen Ministry
Randy Heise

Senior Ministry
Joe Huseonica

Communications
Cindy & Mark McConnell

Education
Rob Pearson

Evangelism

Membership/Welcome
*Jenny Long
 Linda Salzer*

Outreach
*Jane Boubel—UPCAP
 Gina & Terry Tjaden—
 National & International*

Scholarship Program
Rob Pearson

Stewardship
Gene Bennington

Worship
Rob Pearson

SCF Managing Board — 2022

Linda Smith
President

Gene Krueger
Vice President

Patty Smith
Secretary-ex officio

Joe Amos
Treasurer

Dave Drescher
Roy Green

Sandra Kendle
 Paul Knollman

Barbara Purcell

SCF Endowment Fund Trustees—2022

Wade Watson
President

Vicki Udlock
Secretary

Cliff Erickson
Treasurer-ex officio

Paul Barthelmy
 Linda Collier

Mike Gocke
 Liz Haberman

Susan Kenney

SCF STAFF

The Rev. Canon
 Nancy Sargent Green

Senior Pastor
 Dr. Robert Pearson

Associate Pastor:
 Worship &

Administration
 Jan Tuckerman

Administrative
 Assistant

REUSABLE WASHABLE COFFEE CUPS

SCF is looking for ways to reduce our impact on the environment. While we have switched from Styrofoam cups to paper cups for coffee time, we have a chance to take things one step further—reusable coffee cups. Johnson Brothers Appliances (who will be providing the appliances for Andi's Kitchen upstairs) have offered us a discount on a regular dishwasher that we could put in the utility room on the main floor. This would allow us to use regular coffee cups and wash them at the end of coffee service. The price they have quoted is \$638 (a savings of about 30%). If you would be interested in contributing to this effort, checks may be made out to SCF with "Dishwasher" on the memo line. Any and all contributions are welcome. Contact either Sally Heise (cell: 541-390-0027) or Barb Purcell (cell: 630-881-8225) if you have questions or would like additional information.

ALTAR GUILD MEMBERS & CHALICE BEARERS NEEDED

We currently have a shortage of Altar Guild Members, and additional Chalice Bearers will also be needed as we move into our new sanctuary. If you are interested in either area of service or in both, contact Susan at - 503-704-6826 or smhuseonica@aol.com.



VOCAL CHOIR RESTART

After nearly three years of the church choir's absence, choir rehearsals will start for the purpose of participation in SCF's Traditional Christmas Eve Service on December 24. Our first "restart" practice is Wednesday, December 7, 4:30 pm, upstairs in our new building. Anyone who has not been in the choir before and would like to participate is more than welcome to join us. As a safety precaution, please bring a mask.



MASTERSINGERS IN CONCERT

Messiah and more! Live at The Tower Theatre: Saturday, December 10 at 7 p.m., Sunday, December 11 at 2 p.m. and 7 p.m. Presented by the Tower Theater Foundation, the Central Oregon Mastersingers return to the Tower Theatre on December 10-11 with selections from Handel's *Messiah*, along with other holiday favorites. The 50-voice choir, led by Artistic Director Christian Clark, will be joined by a chamber orchestra composed of local musicians (many of whom are members of the Central Oregon Symphony), and first-rate professional soloists from Bend, Eugene, and Portland. Many tickets still available for Dec. 11, 7 p.m., with a few left for Dec. 10, 7 p.m., and the Dec. 11 matinee at 2 p.m. Don't wait!! Contact the Tower at towertheatre.org; Box Office: 541-317-0700.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

December 18 and our first worship service in the new sanctuary will soon be here! Much progress was made toward finishing the space in November—acoustic panels, carpeting, lighting and many finishes were installed. Installation of the audio/video system and more finish work will be completed by December 9 so move-in activities can be completed the following week. The sanctuary chairs, the pulpit and communion table have arrived and are awaiting placement. Excitement prevails!



ANNUAL MEETING & REPORTS DEADLINE

The SCF Annual Business Meeting is scheduled for Sunday, January 22, following the worship service. Approval of the "Proposed 2023 Budget," election of proposed church officers, and approval of amendment changes to the church's By-Laws will be included in this important meeting. Ministry leaders are asked to submit their respective annual ministry reports to the church office by January 16 if they want them included in the "Annual Report."



SCF ENDOWMENT FUND

SCF's Endowment Fund was established in 2002 with the stated goal to "enhance and expand the ministries of SCF." The Fund enables the congregation to develop its ministries beyond what is possible through its annual operating funds.

The Fund is governed by an "Enabling Resolution, Policies and Guidelines" document which has been approved and occasionally updated by congregational vote. Management of the Fund is entrusted to a Board of Trustees comprised of seven (7) elected members of the congregation.

Most of the Fund's resources are invested with the Episcopal Church Foundation (ECF) as a true endowment fund, which means that gifts to the fund must be held in perpetuity and are protected by Oregon state law. Distributions from the Fund are limited to investment income in order to maintain the corpus and its purchasing power.

Consistent with the goal of expanding SCF's ministries, the Trustees attempt to identify and support ministries which demonstrate a current need that has not been supported by SCF's operating funds recently. During the past year, the Fund has provided grants totaling \$24,300 to the following ministries:

Lutheran Immigration & Refugee Service:

Support of refugees fleeing the war in Ukraine (\$4,000)

Lutheran Community Services NW:

Resettlement of Afghan and Ukrainian refugees in Oregon and Washington (\$5,300)

A Promise of Health:

Construction of a new medical clinic to serve indigenous people in rural Mexico (\$2,500)

SCF Scholarship Fund:

Providing college scholarships to South Deschutes County residents (\$2,000)

La Pine Community Kitchen:

Food and feeding programs for people in need (\$2,500)

MountainStar Family Relief:

Construction of new facility in La Pine to prevent child abuse and neglect by providing support and services that help vulnerable children and families succeed (\$8,000). MountainStar facilities presently exist in Bend, Redmond, Madras and Prineville.

Expansion of the Endowment Fund's assets will allow SCF to increase its ability to demonstrate Jesus' model of love for one another and care for our neighbors. Gifts to the Fund via IRA Qualified Charitable Distributions, appreciated stocks, life insurance, bequests through wills and trusts, and memorials provide an opportunity for the donor to express their personal values and establish a lasting legacy.

Questions about the Endowment Fund and opportunities to support it are welcomed and can be addressed to any of the Trustees. Names of the Trustees are included on page 3 of this newsletter.

Sunriver Christian Fellowship

**18160 Cottonwood Rd., #266
Sunriver, Oregon 97707-9317**

Sunriver Christian Fellowship

Ecumenical Services in the Episcopal and Lutheran Traditions

Sunday Service — 10:30 a.m.

Sunriver Christian Fellowship

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E-mail: sunrivercf@gmail.com

Web: www.sunriverchristianfellowship.org