

Sunriver Christian Fellowship



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

January 2024

Sunriver Christian Fellowship

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Dear Family:

As we put 2023 in our rear-view mirror, we will take this opportunity to reflect on what Sunriver Christian Fellowship has accomplished "last year" in our attempt to carry out "God's work with our hands".

First, and most notably, we said farewell to our beloved Nancy McGrath Green in June. After leading the SCF "flock" for more than 30 years of dedicated service, she entered the next chapter of her life as she retired. We all miss her, of course, but love that she and Roy can somewhat relax in their more mature lives.

Most people would probably rank next in our hierarchy of accomplishments that we completed our first full year in our new building's sanctuary, and although that is a grand acknowledgment; knowing the SCF family as we do, we would suggest that the gifts of our worship together throughout the year was our next most rewarding achievement.

OK, enough with trying to rank what SCF has attained not only in 2023, but in years past.

We would like to shift gears to what SCF does well in our community and outside our community (in no particular order):

- 1) Congregational Care - In spite of having Pastoral challenges during our transition period, SCF has accomplished excellent work in caring for our "flock".
- 2) Endowment - Thanks to our excellent Endowment Board we continue to help those in need locally, nationally, and internationally.
- 3) Outreach - Our influence in helping others, especially within the Three Rivers community is beyond words.....UPCAP, Care and Share, Visions of Sugarplums, Woodchuckers, etc. SCF enriches many lives.
- 4) Scholarships - Many young and not-so-young students have benefited from the endeavors of the SCF scholarship committee.
- 5) Management - Both the Managing Board and the staff of SCF work hard to maintain the business health of SCF's affairs. The financial health

and general management have been and continue to be a priority so that SCF and all its blessings continue for years to come.

- 6) Music and worship - So many appreciated talents are shared at SCF by members and non-members to enhance our worship experiences.
- 7) Volunteers - Whenever a need arises, many raise their hands to help!!
- 8) Stewardship - Time and talents are shared unselfishly.....thank you.
- 9) Our new property and building have afforded us the opportunity to provide space for community gatherings, community volunteer fair(s), music events and even a space for a rotating exhibit art gallery. The future will probably allow for expanded use of our facilities for the good of our surrounding area.

We at SCF, however, are not exempt from earthly challenges; both new and old. Most specifically, the journey to find a new senior pastor continues. Although this is a daunting task, SCF's Transition/Call Committee under Jenny Long's leadership is diligently working towards that goal. We are in good hands!

Lastly, we would like to express our appreciation for the efforts of the Managing Board and those acting as support people to the MB in the continuing success of SCF. This year we say goodbye to two members of the MB who have contributed immensely to the success of the board.....Linda Smith who has served for six years (three years as President) and Roy Green who has also served for six years and has done so many extra things for both the MB and SCF, we cannot begin to list them all. Additionally, we "allowed" Patty Smith to retire as the MB's recording secretary; a job she has performed for many years. A well-deserved thank you to each of you for your service to the Managing Board and to your dedication to the success of SCF.

Blessing to you all, Gene Krueger (on behalf of the SCF Managing Board)

UPCOMING SERVICES: all in-person

- January 7:** **1st Sunday after the Epiphany**
The Rev. Mary Anne Gard
- January 14:** **2nd Sunday after the Epiphany**
The Rev. Roy Green, Celebrant
The Rev. Marilyn Roth, Preacher
- January 21:** **3rd Sunday after the Epiphany**
Pastor Rob Pearson
- January 28:** **4th Sunday after the Epiphany**
The Rev. Chuck Christopher
- February 4** **5th Sunday after the Epiphany**
Pastor Rob Pearson, Celebrant
Rev. Melissa Reed, Preacher
- February 11** **The Last Sunday after the Epiphany**
The Rev. Mary Anne Gard

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.

SUNRIVER CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP PASTORAL TRANSITION WORKSHOPS

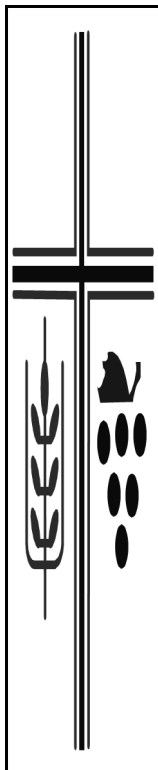
As we look forward to the beginning of a new year, we will also be looking to take the next step in our search for a senior pastor. The Oregon Synod (ELCA) and Episcopal Diocese of Eastern Oregon will be offering their support to the SCF Call/Search Team (previously the Transition Call Committee) to begin interviewing potential pastoral candidates in the coming months. In order that we as a congregation are prepared to embrace our next lead pastor and step into the future with health and energy, Rev. Marilyn Roth and Rev. Melissa Reed, our transition officers from each denomination, will join us over the next few months for the following congregational transition workshops:

January 13th, Saturday, at 4:00 PM in the Fellowship Hall – Honoring Change, Fears & Heart through this Transition (Rev. Marilyn Roth). A light dinner will be provided.

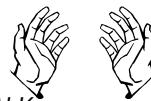
February 4th: Remembering our History, Rooting in our Values (Rev. Melissa O. Reed)

March 10th: Mapping our Leadership & Preparing for our new Pastor (Revs. Roth and Reed)

All are welcome to attend these presentations. Feb. 4th and March 10th will be held in the Fellowship Hall upstairs shortly following the conclusion of the Sunday service. Lunch will be provided for all who attend.

**Prayer Needs**

- Aedan
- William L.
- Olivia L.
- Bergen B.
- Rich D.
- Dick & Marianne A.
- Amber F.
- Lynne E.
- Erik E.
- Patty & Al K.
- Carol F.
- Jennie F.
- Ann W.
- Nancy V.
- Neil S.
- Stan P.
- Andy S.
- Clyde B.
- Oralee H.
- Kyle N. & Joy
- Hal K.
- Joyce H.

**CHRISTMAS BASKETS: FOOD AND GIFTS**

People Served
51 families with
70 children,
88 adults,
25 seniors

SCF MANAGING BOARD

The SCF Managing Board meets monthly, on the fourth Tuesday of the month, at SCF, 1:30 p.m. The next meeting will be January 23. All are welcome to attend.

ANNUAL MEETING & REPORTS

The annual SCF business meeting will be held on Sunday, January 21, 2024, following the worship service in the sanctuary. The meeting includes: (1) voting on the 2024 budget, (2) confirmation of new Management Board members, new Nominating Committee members, and new Endowment Trustee members. A printed "2023 Annual Report" will be available at this meeting and will also be on the SCF website.

In order to be included in the 2023 Annual Report, all ministry team leaders are asked to submit their respective ministry's annual report as an email attachment, by Monday, January 8th to the church office – sunrivercf@gmail.com.— and to Joan Lewis – officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org.

NOMINATIONS

- The Nominating Committee presents the following slate of nominations for the various vacancies at SCF.
- The election will take place at the SCF Annual Meeting on January 21, 2024.
- 1. Managing Board nominees: Dave Long (3yr.), Tom Ped (3yr.) and Terry Thomas (2yr)
- 2. Endowment Board nominees: Gordon Werkema (3yrs.), Wade Watson (3yrs.) and Roy Green (3yrs.)
- 3. Nominating Committee nominees: Susan Huseonica (3yrs.) and Sally Heise (3yrs.)"

February 2024 Newsletter Deadline: January 25

Please send articles to Joan Lewis:
officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org

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 meets every Monday; 10-11:30 a.m., in the SCF Fellowship Hall. All women are welcome. We have a meeting, read and discuss a book, share joys and concerns, and support a number of missions.

If any one is interested and would like more information on the group or the book we're reading, please contact Chris Hamilton: chrish39@gmail.com

Men of Faith

This group meets the third Tuesday of each month, 3-4 p.m. in the SCF Fellowship Hall. For more information contact Harry Hamilton: weatherlore@msn.com

SCF MANAGING BOARD DECEMBER 2023 MEETING SUMMARY: DAVE DRESCHER

- Wade reported on 2023 Phase 2 Capital Campaign projects and discussed 2024 Phase 3 projects. This will be shared at the Annual Meeting in January.
- Dave reported on projects to ensure safety and access to SCF, as well as ongoing building improvement projects. Report available on request.
- Jenny presented current happenings with the SCF Call/Search Team (Full update available in this Newsletter).
- Roy shared Pulpit Supply Pastors lined up for January and February.
- Joe presented and discussed FY23 Financial closeout and the proposed FY24 SCF Budget. This will be shared at the Annual Meeting in January.
- An Important bylaw change will be offered for membership approval in January with ballots available starting December 31st. Election of candidates for the Managing Board, Endowment Board of Trustees, and Nominating Committee will occur at the Annual Meeting.
- Dog Park update. A formal letter was sent from SCF to the SROA General Manager stating our opposition to the proposed dog park next to HTCC and SCF. Barb Purcel is preparing a petition restating our concerns, for all of us to sign and then deliver to the General Manager and Task Force.
- New Member chairperson report. Jenny shared some exciting plans for various get togethers.
- Joan and Rob taking more control of how our SCF website stays up to date and relevant.
- As three new Board members start in January, we gave deep thanks and gratitude to our three retiring Board members who gave their time and talents. Thank you Roy, Linda and Sue.

UPDATING PRINTED DIRECTORY

An updated version of SCF's printed directory will be available in mid-February. To assist revision efforts, please email to the church office any changes to your personal information in the current [SCF 2023 Directory](#) if you haven't already.

If you are not currently in the church's printed directory and would like to be included, please send the following information to the church – sunrivercf@gmail.com:

- Name(s)
- Phone number(s) (land & cell)
- Physical and mailing addresses (if different)
- Email address(es).

The deadline is Friday, February 2nd.

UPDATED DIRECTORY INFORMATION

Kate Mendenhall – address update: 7375 E. Princess Blvd., Unit 2715, Scottsdale, AZ 85255.
Al Rice & Jan Matthews – 70 SW Century Dr., Ste. 100, MB 1145, Bend, OR 97702. Jan's cell phone correction – 575-932-8889.

Ministry Team Leaders – 2023

Congregational Care
Rob Pearson
 Stephen Ministry
Randy Heise
 Communications
Cindy & Mark McConnell
 Education
Rob Pearson
 Evangelism
Vacant
 Membership/Welcome
Jenny Long
 Outreach
Jane Boubel—UPCAP
Gina & Terry Tjaden—
National & International
 Scholarship Program
Rob Pearson
 Stewardship
Gene Bennington
 Worship
Rob Pearson

SCF Managing Board – 2023

Gene Krueger
President
 Barbara Purcell
Vice President
 Joan Lewis
Secretary-ex officio
 Joe Amos
Treasurer
 Dave Drescher
 Roy Green
 Phil Northcote
 Linda Smith

SCF Endowment Fund Trustees— 2023

Wade Watson
President
 Vicki Udlock
Secretary
 Susan Kenney
Treasurer
 Linda Collier
 Mike Gocke
 Liz Haberman
 Gordon Werkema

SCF STAFF

Vacant
Senior Pastor
 Dr. Robert Pearson
Associate Pastor
 Worship & Education
 Joan Lewis
 Office Manager

SERGER The choir is looking for someone who can use a serger to make scarves for the women in the choir. Fabric has been purchased, washed and is ready to go. Contact Diana Gustavson 612-770-7706. Thanks!

ANDI'S COOKBOOKS Cookbooks will be available in the church office. Suggested donation is \$40. Contact Joan Lewis at 541-593-1183 or email at officemanager@sunriverchristianfellowship.org. All proceeds go to Andi's kitchen.

STEINWAY FUNDRAISER
On Saturday, January 20, 2 pm in the SCF sanctuary, the Sunriver Music Festival will be offering a special program called "Hear & Now - Creating a Place with Music." The program will feature Ryan Zwahlen, Flute & Oboe, and Gary Ruppert, Piano. The purpose of this program is to raise funds for the ongoing care and maintenance of the Festival's Steinway Grand Piano which SCF has the privilege of housing and using. There is no charge for the program but donations to this fund would be appreciated.

STORYDWELLING VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY
Many of you have had the privilege of meeting Erika Spaet, (pastor of Storydwelling Community in Bend) on those occasions when she has visited Sunriver Christian Fellowship as a guest pastor. On one of those occasions, Erika shared her interest in planning opportunities for both churches to get to know each other better. As part of one of these conversations, Erika spoke of ReVillage, a cooperative child care opportunity born of a common faith and fierce love of children. And right now, ReVillage is looking for volunteers to help families who are not able to meet the minimum number of hours on site. You can be a part of this wonderful opportunity in a manner that matches your needs. You can donate as little as 1 hour a month or more if you wish. Children's ages range from 3-5 years old. If you are interested, you may contact Jenny Long (usna03@gmail.com) or Erika Spaet (thatpastorerika@gmail.com).

NANCY MCGRATH GREEN GALLERY
Plein Air Painters of Oregon will bring the beauty of the great outdoors to the Nancy McGrath Green Gallery in Sunriver from January 7 - April 1, 2024. The exhibition will include both plein air and studio work, all original landscapes capturing the color and light of the natural world. The exhibit will showcase paintings by more than 20 artists in a broad range of styles, with watercolor, pastel, acrylic, and oil painting all represented. Plein air paintings are expressive with loose brushstrokes to quickly capture the mood of the scene in a rapidly changing environment. Every painting captures a moment in time. The artists will be on hand for a public reception in the gallery on Sunday, January 14th from 11:30 am - 1pm. The gallery is open for viewing on weekdays (except Thursdays) from 2-4 pm and on Sundays from 12-1pm.

MUSIC GROUPS RESTART
Looking ahead to winter and Easter, SCF's music groups begin their weekly rehearsals in early 2024. The Bells of Sunriver will start practicing again on Monday, January 8th, noon, at SCF in the Fellowship Hall upstairs. If you haven't been part of this musical team but are interested and would like more information, contact Shelley Giaier, Bell Director, at michelegiaier777@gmail.com.
The vocal choir will resume practices on Wednesday, January 10th, 4:30 pm also in the SCF Fellowship Hall. Anyone interested in joining is invited. For more information on the choir, contact Pastor Rob at either [541-593-1183](tel:541-593-1183) or sunrivercf@gmail.com.

Happy New Year!