## THE MESSENGER



# **Canby United Methodist Church**

1520 North Holly Street Canby, Oregon 97013 Pastor Dylan Hyun Web site: www.canbyumc.com Email: canbyumc@canby.com Phone: 503-263-6419

## UMC Lectionary May Readings

The UMC Lectionary is available online from <u>http://www.umcdiscipleship.org</u>.

#### May 2 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 8:26-40, Ps 22:25-31, 1 Jn 4:7-21, Jn 15:1-8

#### May 9 6th Sunday of Easter

Festival of the Christian Home / Mother's Day Acts 10:44-48, Ps 98, 1 Jn 5:1-6, Jn 15:9-17 May 16 7th Sunday of Easter

Ascension Sunday Acts 1:1-11, Ps 47 (UMH 781), Eph 1:15-23, Lk 24:44-53

May 23 Pentecost Heritage Sunday Acts 2:1-21, Ps 104:24-34, 35b (UMH 826), Rom 8:22-27, Jn 15:26-27; 16:4b-15

> May 30 Trinity Sunday / Peace with Justice Sunday

#### **Canby UMC Special Offerings**

The Canby UMC Council has approved a selection of Special Offerings for the year. If you wish to donate, we ask that a separate check in addition to your monthly giving be written.

May 23 Pentecost - Shared Giving

## From Pastor Dylan:

Last week, one of my friends shared his joy saying, "God has blessed us so greatly, and he has decided to give us a new blessing this year! We cannot wait to meet our little one in September!" What a joyful thing for them to celebrate with each other! And I hope and wish all the best things for the child coming into this family. It is such a blessing to have a child, knowing that a child can bring so much joy, laughter, and meaning to the family.

However, one thing in his statement bothered me. It was his expression of "God has decided to give us a new blessing." Yes, I understand his intention of saying God "decided to give" as a way to attribute the new life to God because life/death is out of our realm. I understand that more than other couples because my spouse and I have had three miscarriages, including one that needed actual surgery. We have personally witnessed how much emotional, physiological, and physical energy goes with having a child, especially for women. And we sought the help of fertilization treatment because we were unable to have a baby for five years. Indeed, having a new life is not something a human can control, and we need God's blessing on it.

In contrast, if I heard correctly his expression that God "decided to give" — if we look at it in the opposite way, it can also mean that it is God who decides when NOT to give us the new blessing of having a baby. Looking at it that way could be hurtful to those who are not "blessed" with a baby. I know I am perhaps being too critical of this expression. But what I am trying to say is that the weight of the language we use without giving it much thought can be perceived as harmful to some people.

Years ago, when we had a wildfire in the vicinity, one of my congregants said that they were "blessed" to have no damage from the fire. However, by using that expression, one might fall into the trap of putting those who were impacted by the fire into the

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trap of putting those who were impacted by the fire into the category of people who were NOT "blessed" by God. We do not want to say that God chose NOT to bless those who could not have a baby or could not escape from the fire. Also, when my wife and I sought fertility treatments, we were not trying to go against God's will of not blessing us with another baby.

As followers/disciples of Christ, we are the ambassadors of Christ. Our words and expressions can show God's love and mercy to people around us, especially those who have little or no experience of them. For this reason, I suggest using language and expressions in thoughtful ways with a sensitivity of making them not harmful to others — because words are powerful and have much impact on all of us. Saying that we are fortunate to have good things happen in our lives can be an alternate way to express those joys and thanksgivings.

#### -Pastor Dylan

### **Finance:**

In April, we paid our bills, and thank you for your dedicated support of our ministry

#### **Trustees:**

Two furnaces were replaced in late April which operate the Offices, Fellowship Hall, Sanctuary and Narthex, they were no longer repairable. Thermostats were replaced with wi-fi access thermostats for better cost efficiency. To support the costs of these furnaces, you can mail a check to the church and please note "Furnaces" in the memo line.

One of our lawnmowers wasn't worth fixing and we're working to resolve the issue as quickly as possible.

## **Recycling:**

Thank you to everyone who donated their bottle and can bags, we were able to turn in 30 bags for the bottle recycling fund.

#### -submitted by Mark Oldenkamp

Care Team: We wrote 35 cards and logged 37 texts and calls. Great job Care Team.

**Blessing Bags:** we gave out a bag to a family at Beaverton Fred Meyer. they had a baby and a little girl. We gave them more money too. They were from Ecuador and did not know English. We are praying for them because I know how hard it is to be somewhere and not know the language. God be with them.

**UMW:** we are meeting at Sharon Perez's houses on May 15 at 1 p.m. Come enjoy yourself and bring your mask.

#### -submitted by Deanna Johnson

### Happy May birthday to:

May 13 Dwight Knapp May 20 Phyllis Thompson May 23 Mara Laitinen May 29 Renna Marcus Church Office Hours:

The Church Office will be closed Monday, May 31, in observance of Memorial Day. All other weeks, the office is open Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m. Pastor Dylan is in his office on Fridays, 9-noon.



## Parking lot worship will be Sunday, May 16, at 9 a.m. Zoom worship will also be available. Pastor Dylan will be speaking outside the front doors.

## **Revised Meeting time:**

Church Council will meet Monday, May 10, at 6 p.m. via Zoom.



Canby United Methodist Church - Fellowship Hall Wednesday, May 12 - noon to 5 p.m. To schedule your appointment, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS.