

HARMONY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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Coos Bay, OR 97420
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March 2025

Greetings!

In my over 30 years in ministry, there have always been a few questions that I am asked. They are not always asked in the same way or use the same words, yet their meaning is the same. Sometimes I feel that I am being tested by those asking. Other times I feel they are asking because they want me to tell them the answer that they want to hear. And at other times, they are asking because they want to know an answer. I might also add that younger people do not seem to be asking the questions that older people ask. It is amazing the answers I get when I ask the same type of questions to people. Most who answer feel they know the answer and that answer is the correct answer or the answer that everyone should have for the questions.

Hopefully by now I have your interest in what the questions are. So, here they are.

1. Who goes to heaven? i.e. who is "saved"
2. Who did Jesus die for? or a better way to ask might be, who did Jesus NOT die for?
3. Is being an LGBPQ person a sin?
4. Is giving less than 10% to the church a sin?
5. Is lying a sin?
6. Is cheating on your Income Tax a sin?
7. Are there greater or lesser sins?
8. Can sins be graded on a 1 to 10 scale?
9. If you do NOT ask for forgiveness, can you still go to heaven?
10. What is the criteria for going to heaven?

Because I am a clergy person, I get asked these questions from a lot of different people including other clergy.

WHAT WOULD YOUR ANSWERS BE?

And most importantly, do you live by your answers, or pattern your answers after your lifestyle?

Peace and Blessings
Pastor Don

A GLIMPS INTO THE HISTORY OF THE COMMUNITY MEAL

From its conception, it was determined that the mission of Community Fellowship Meal would be to provide a hot, healthy meal to any hungry person who presents themselves with no questions asked, no proselytizing and no response required. Initially, this free meal was only available on 31 Saturdays of each month. We chose Saturdays because it was a day when few other free meals were available and because volunteers who worked during the week could participate if the event were held on a weekend day.

The first Community Fellowship Meal was served at the Coos Bay Senior Center on February 19, 2009. At that time, the Senior Center rented us the facility and provided a cook and dishwasher for \$75 per event. On March 1, 2009, we applied to the United Methodist Bishop's Initiative to Eliminate Hunger and were granted \$450 to offset the facility rental fee. In July, 2009, we were joined in this effort by Faith Lutheran Church which provided a free meal on the 4th Saturday of each month.

Despite intensive attempts to publicize the events, we often found we were serving less than 20 patrons. Because of this fact and due to the Senior Center's decision to raise the rental fee, in October, 2009, we moved the meal location from the Senior Center to the First United Methodist Church of Coos Bay's Fellowship Hall. Because additional groups partnered with us, meals were then able to be served every Saturday with Holy Redeemer Catholic taking 1st Saturdays, Gloria Dei Lutheran 2nd Saturdays, First United Methodist 3rd Saturdays, Faith Lutheran 4th Saturdays and the combined efforts of the North Bend/Coos Bay United Methodist women 5th Saturdays of every month. Each group plans its own menu, purchases and prepares the food, serves the meal and cleans up afterwards.

This move to 123 Ocean Boulevard necessitated licensure of the Coos Bay United Methodist Church kitchen. Coos County Health officials inspected the facility and required the installation of an air gap (floor sink) to eliminate the possibility of sewage backup into the food prep sink. Hiring a licensed plumbing service to comply with this regulation cost \$1245.00. We were also required to install four new faucets (\$80 each) in the public bathrooms which would reach the correct temperature and shut off automatically. These costs were paid by fund raisers, moneys contributed by our partner organizations, and contributions from members of the 1st United Methodist Church. In October, 2010, we went from a temporary restaurant licensure to a "Food Full Entitled/Needy 56%" licensure and have maintained this status with our current license expiring January 1, 2013. Inspections of the facility have noted that the kitchen is very clean and well run.

Food costs were drastically reduced in 2011 by the generous sharing of Pelican Harvest. Almost weekly they provided either substantial quantities of fresh vegetables and/or fruit and/or bread products and/or ice cream. Thankfully, a kind soul contributed a commercial freezer so we have been able to prepare and store many items until we were able to work them into the weekly menu. An average number of 56 meals per week were served in 2011, with 87 being the high on April 16th and 23 being the low on January 1st.

In addition to food, we have been able to provide a small amount of clothing and toiletries at no cost to the patrons.

Today we serve an average of 100 meals both in-house and take-out.

Harmony UMC Updates



~SHARE ~ CONNECT ~ SERVE ~ GROW~

Sunday Worship: 11:00 a.m.

THREE WAYS TO CONNECT ON SUNDAY MORNINGS

- 1. COME TO CHURCH IN PERSON @ 11:00 AM SUNDAY MORNING**
- 2. BIBLE STUDY @ 9:30 AM**
OR
- 3. STREAMING LIVE ON HARMONY UMC FACEBOOK page**

If you are attending in person, please remember:

- Childcare is available
- Fellowship time after church

Celebration of Life for Sharon King
April 7, 2025 at 1:00pm at Harmony UMC

FONDA KELLER HAS A NEW HOSPITAL BED WITH NEW MATTRESS THAT SHE WOULD LIKE TO PAY FORWARD. If YOU OR SOMEONE YOU KNOW IS IN NEED OF A BED, PLEASE CONTACT FONDA AT 541-808-3006.

United Women in Faith News - Save the Dates!

Harmony UMC Women in Faith are planning a Spring Tea, Saturday, April 5th, at 2PM. Fun fellowship, sweet treats and an inspiring program are on the agenda! Watch for more details in the weeks to come!

U.W.F. is also planning to hold its annual church wide Rummage Sale May 16th and 17th. Due to a lack of storage space at Harmony, we ask that contributions of items be stored at home at this time. We will announce the start of drop off availability a few weeks prior to the sale.

Our Rummage Sale is our main fundraiser for the missions we support, so find some room to gather good stuff as you do some spring cleaning and help us continue to contribute to many wonderful mission projects! Also, share with family and friends that we will welcome their cool stuff as well!

March 2025

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 11– Lunch (1st Presbyterian) 3:30-Sq Dancers
2 9:30 Bible Study 11 Worship	3	4 10-2 DKD Clinic 11-1 Devereux 2 HIV Alliance 3 Snack Pack 6:30 Sea Breeze	5 10 Mat Min 12 Garden Club 6:30 Choir 7 Alanon	6 11-1 Devereux lunch	7 11-1 Devereux lunch	8 11– Lunch (Gloria Dei)
9 9:30 Bible Study 11 Worship	10	11 11-1 Devereux lunch 2 HIV Alliance 3 Snack Pack 6:30 Sea Breeze	12 10 Mat Min 6:30 Choir 7 Alanon	13 11-1 Devereux lunch	14 11-1 Devereux lunch	15 11– Lunch (Harmony UMC) 3:30-Sq Dancers
16 9:30 Bible Study 11 Worship	17	18 11-1 Devereux lunch 2 HIV Alliance 3 Snack Pack 6:30 Sea Breeze	19 10 Mat Min 6:30 Choir 7 Alanon	20 11-1 Devereux lunch	21 11-1 Devereux lunch	22 11– Lunch (Faith Lutheran)
23 9:30 Bible Study 11 Worship	24	25 11-1 Devereux lunch 2 HIV Alliance 3 Snack Pack 6:30 Sea Breeze	26 10 Mat Min 6:30 Choir 7 Alanon	27 11-1 Devereux lunch	28 11-1 Devereux lunch	29 11– Lunch (Emmanuel)
30 9:30 Bible Study 11 Worship	31					

Harmony General Fund & Ministries

Harmony UMC Outreach/Ministries

- * Saturday Community Fellowship Meal
 - * Clothes Closet
 - * Mat Ministry
- * Eastside Snack Pack Program
 - * Harmony House
 - * Wesley Fund
- * Coos Food Cupboard
- * Camping Scholarships (United Methodist Camps)

Remember, giving with a cheerful heart and a spirit of generosity is a beautiful way to honor God and bless others.

Coos Food Cupboard

Harmony UMC is a faithful supporter of Coos Food Cupboard. Please give non-perishable goods. There is a basket in the narthex for Coos Food Cupboard.

Thank you!



HARMONY UMC General Fund As of February 28, 2025

February Monthly Expenses

Income:	\$ 7,012.45
Expenses	\$ 9,762.19
Inc. less Exp	\$-2,685.74

HARMONY UMC Dedicated Fund Balance As of February 28, 2025

Wesley Fund	\$ 1269.25
Eastside Snack Pack	\$ -763.84
Sat. Fellowship Meal	\$ -586.86

Share...Connect...Serve...Grow

WE ARE STEWARDS THROUGH...

...OUR PRAYERS

- Fonda Keller
- Sharon King's Family
- Joan Glasgow
- Shayla Van Tassel



If you would like to add someone to the prayer chain, please contact Debra in the church office (541)267-4410 or email Harmonyumcoregon@gmail.com

...OUR GIFTS

- Coos Food Cupboard
- Harmony House
- Juniper House
- Eastside Snack Pack Program
- Saturday Community Fellowship Meal
- The Wesley Fund : Helping those in need
- Mat Ministry
- Harmony Singers, Musicians & Sound Booth
- Harmony UMC Staff

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Mar 7 Alan Baisinger
 Mar 20 Nick Lovell
 Mar 23 Debra Jensen
 Mar 24 William Agricola
 Mar 25 Thomas Stringer
 Mar 26 Ron Lovell



...OUR PRESENCE

Please come and join us on
 Sunday 11:00 am. Worship Service
 If you do not feel comfortable with in-person worship, we are still streaming our services on Harmony UMC Facebook Page.
 Please join us in worship !

...OUR SERVICE

- * *Providing hot meals to the community on Saturdays : 5 churches participate.*
 - * *Realizing that we do not own this building—God owns it and we need to allow other groups to use it.*
- ⇒ *Big Thank You to all our volunteers*

Volunteering when needed

- ♦ *Those who work for Harmony UMC*
- ♦ *Our groups that cook, help, and feed those individuals who come to the Saturday Community Fellowship Meal.*
- ♦ *All the other volunteers who help to make our church the place to be.*

ANNIVERSARIES



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