

# Friday with Friends

December 6, 2024

A Newsletter of Klamath Falls Friends Church  
1918 Oregon Ave. Klamath Falls, OR 97601

*• Happy Holidays •*



This Sunday (December 8, 2024) after Worship

We will be celebrating the holiday and each other while snacking on finger foods together.

You are encouraged to stay even if you do not bring a finger food.

Come and join in on the festivities

December 15, 2024 9:00 AM

Peace and Social Concerns



**December 15 during worship**

we will find out a little more about OHSU's Street Nursing Program.

The OHSU Street Nursing Team is a grant-funded program that engages nursing students in unique clinical learning opportunities that improve health and health care access for people experiencing homelessness in southern Oregon communities (Medford, Ashland, Grants Pass, and Klamath Falls).

The Street Nursing Team identifies the needs of people who are experiencing homelessness and provides care coordination, wound care, foot soaks, therapeutic listening, harm education, mental health services, telehealth appointments initiated from the street, advocacy in the hospital and clinics, and referrals to other services in the area.

We will be taking up an offering for this program and for bus tokens for their clients to be able to access medical care.



We will be staying after worship on September 15  
for a spiritual art program,  
As we design and fill our Gratitude Boxes



Come and join us for caroling and fellowship on  
Christmas Eve at 6:00 PM



Klamath Interfaith Food Pantry  
Board Meeting Minutes  
December 3, 2024

Attending: Alicia Pinkerton, Brion Pinkerton, Michele Malott, Geoff LeGault, Dan Curran, Lee Curran, Leigh Tolton, Margo

McCullough, Kerry Foreman, Phyllis Olson, Linda Warner, Mary Prange (via phone)

The minutes from the November 12, 2024, meeting were approved as written.

**New Business**

Alicia explained an incident she witnessed during intake between a client and one of our volunteers that has created a need for KIFP to adopt a Code of Conduct. (see attached document) The board approved adoption. Linda will send out this with the Food Bank required annual Civil Rights and Confidentiality training materials. Brion will provide more information regarding de-escalation of potentially volatile situations that might arise with clients. (Follow-up: Brion has arranged for Valeree Lane from Healthy Klamath to conduct a stigma training for pantry volunteers and congregations on February 27, 2025, from 8:30 until 10:30 am. Alicia will reserve the KLC sanctuary.)

Lee shared a difficult situation she had with a couple of clients who wanted to take more than their share of the toiletries and other freebie items. (Follow-up: Dan will take over the distribution of these items.)

Lee met with Basin Transit and learned that the reasons they have cut hours of service was due to a cut in funding as well as the difficulty of getting qualified workers and bus drivers. She will arrange for a Basin Transit representative to have a table at one of the January pantry nights. This person will teach people about using the bus and give out free bus tokens. KIFP will purchase the bus tokens.

Marilyn Gran-Moravac will give a presentation about the OHSU Street Nursing Program during the last week in January in the KLC sanctuary. All congregations and pantry volunteers will be invited. (Follow-up: Leigh and Michele will take the lead on scheduling this. Linda will send out details to invitees.)

### **Old Business**

We had 63 Thanksgiving Meal Boxes prepared by volunteers, but 19 of those were never picked up. Next year we will ask for client phone numbers so that we can call them and remind them. We may also prepare extra baskets for those who don't sign up. Purchasing reusable shopping bags might make the organization and distribution easier, provided the bags aren't too expensive. We could also make uniform signs for family names. Generally, the board thought the project was a success and want to do it again next year.

Overall, the pantry processes/procedures/scheduling are going well. It helped tremendously to have Hazel work as a "runner" to get people from the first waiting area and take them to intake.

The blankets are organized and ready to distribute beginning at the December 10th pantry. The board decided one blanket per person until we see how supplies hold out. Sleeping bags will be distributed to unhoused people at intake.

### **Other**

Kudos to Jeff Newman and Kerry Foreman for their work as Spanish interpreters. Joe Tolton is also fluent in Spanish. The board feels we are very lucky to have these three among our volunteers.

Linda will make name badges for all volunteers.

Shopping Assistants will give candy to clients who bring their own bags/boxes. After a few months of "training," we'll have some sort of raffle (cash?) to reinforce this behavior. Shopping Assistants will encourage clients to bring bags.

Phyllis will purchase candy.  
Respectfully submitted, Linda Warner

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Klamath Falls Friends Church

Meeting for Worship with Attention to Business

November 24, 2024  
Presiding Clerk - Sarah

**Centering Moment**

Sarah led meeting attendees in a calming, centering moment.

**Gathering/Teaching Moment**

When you want to speak, ask for “Clerk, please”.

Speak from the Light Within.

Allow time for contemplation after each person speaks.

**Pastors’ Reports** – Leigh and Joe - see the attached Reports

**Peace and Social Concerns** – Joe – Clerk - see the attached PS&C Report  
Informational:

Thanksgiving Boxes - are being distributed this month.

KFF Banner - was installed but sustained wind damage & will be repaired.

Street Nursing bus tokens - a special offering will be taken on Sunday 12/15.

Landfill update - the application process is on hold.

Food Bank update- let Linda Warner know if you can volunteer.

Ministry and Care -Wendy

Informational:

M&C has discussed having volunteers clean the building to reduce costs; we are paying \$140/mo for others to clean upstairs 1-2 times per month.

Mike stated that if any of us are serious about cleaning the building to reduce operating costs, it must be brought to the Stewardship Committee.

This undertaking would need to be organized and done on a regular basis, with various duties to be shared. This proposal will be discussed at M&C then brought to the Stewardship Committee, then they will seek volunteers.

Membership Letter:

The KFF Membership letter: M&C is creating a new letter template to make it more user friendly, interactive and personal.

An interested person would bring their letter of personal beliefs to M&C, then perhaps that person would read it to the Fellowship.

Carla asked for clarification on the difference between being a Member vs being an Attendee. Becoming a Member is seen as more of a public commitment, where a person is making an internal decision be devoted and committed to KFF.

Sarah suggested that before a Member candidate is declared/accepted as a Member, they come to a gathering and share why they've decided to be a Quaker, and clarify why they are wanting to become a Member.

After M&C creates a new Membership letter, how would a person receive it? Bernie stated that she has attended KFF for many years; being a member is not much different than being an Attendee. She also noted that some KFF Committees require that the Clerks be Members.

Kate requested that we have another Circle of Friends to discuss Membership.

### **Environmental Book Group:**

A Quaker Way to Earth Care by Cherice Bock: Sarah was asked to lead it. There will be a sign-up sheet in the lobby for the Group, and ordering information for those that want to purchase the books to own. M&C stated that they have the funds to purchase books; Leigh will order 6 books that will be available Sunday December 1 st . The Book Group will start January 19, 2025 (the 3 rd Sunday), after the KFF service.

### **Discussion/Discernment:**

Joe is offering a Bible Study Group; several people have asked about Joe providing one again. The first Group will be held on February 9, 2025 at 9:00 a.m. (every 2 nd Sunday) before the KFF service.

Kate stated that this would be a long day for those attending P&SC before the service. After discussion it was determined that the 3rd Sunday is the one that works best. It may be in person AND hybrid.

Kate expressed a personal stronger interest in having a "Quaker-based" Bible Study. Carla and Sue expressed interest in this as well. Wendy supported the possibility of KFF providing a class about a Quaker-based

approach to the Bible.

Sarah shared that she sees a Bible study as being MORE than just being told how to interpret it and what to believe, which has been the traditional approach. She sees it as more of a relating to it from your own perspective, where you express your views about the stories and teachings.

Bernie stated that M&C talked in the past about providing a group about Quaker teachings and beliefs.

**Stewardship** – Mike; Co-treasures Maureen and Margo

Informational:

Lights have been replaced in pastors' office and stairwell

The snowplow has kept the lot clear.

Our downstairs thermostat might be replaced if installing new batteries doesn't improve the furnace function.

Piano tuning was requested by Carl.

Budget reports and proposed changes are needed from all committees by December 15, earlier if possible.

Property tax: we have never had to pay this, due to our non-profit status, but when KFF split from the NW Yearly Meeting to become KF Friends, our status became null and void. Mike investigated this- we have to reapply for Non-profit status. Our property Tax fee is 1/10th of 1% of our property value. The County Assessor agreed to waive the 2024 taxes, but we had to pay a \$635.00 penalty fee.

A KFF budget will be created and shared, hopefully by the end of 2024.

Wendy asked that since KFF is losing money every month, should each Committee look at ways to reduce costs?

Mike replied that KFF currently has \$54,000 in the bank - we have already slimmed down and our budget is tight. The best way to increase income is to strengthen/increase our membership and attendance and giving.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Margo- Maureen completed and submitted financial reports before she left on her vacation- there are no major changes or additions.

### **Financial report**

Mike: KFF has four \$25,000 CDs- one matures every quarter; the next

matures in December.

Pledge Letters: New letters have been sent- please return ASAP.

Closing Prayer

KFF Business Meeting notes respectfully submitted by Sue Graves, Recording Clerk