



The Circuit Rider



Salmon Creek

United Methodist Church



Pastor's Page—2, 3

New elected Bishops—4

Church Finances—5

Family Promise—6

Pillow Drive—7

Summer Lunch Program—8

Read & Ring—9

Prayer Shawl Ministry—10

Back to School Drive—11

Missions Benefit Breakfast—12

Little Fish Christian Preschool—
13

Rally Day—14

Potluck & Townhall—15

Women's Retreat—16

God's Garden—17, 18

Church Picnic—19

SCCPD Teachers—20

Dates to Remember—21

Birthdays—22



Mark 6: 30-33

³⁰ The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. ³¹ He said to them, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while.” For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. ³² And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves.

Sabbath and the Holiness of Time

How would you respond to the invitation, “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves”, come away and rest? In the Gospel of Mark, we read about Jesus calling his disciples to rest from their work because

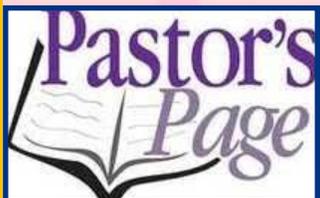
“many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat” (6:31). Summertime rest in a deserted place sounds pretty good to many of us right now!

For many of us the problems of over-commitment, over-scheduling, and lack of leisure time can threaten our physical and emotional health, taking a toll on our relationships with family, friends...and even our relationship with God! This is not the rhythm of life God calls us to, yet how do we break this cycle and choose to accept God’s gift of Sabbath?

Throughout the gospels, we read about times when Jesus observes the Sabbath, but mostly we read about times when he is accused of not observing it properly, according to the law. His observance of Sabbath challenges the legalistic understanding of Sabbath dominant among religious leaders in his time. The gospel writer in Mark tells us that when Jesus was criticized for healing someone on the Sabbath, he replied with the question, “Is it lawful to do good or to do harm on the Sabbath, to save a life or to kill?” And, when Jesus’ disciples were criticized for failing to obey Sabbath law, he responded that, “Sabbath was made for humankind, and not humankind for the Sabbath”. Sabbath is for humankind, a gift for the good of humankind, and more.

Abraham Heschel, in his book *Sabbath*, describes this seventh day as a “holiness in time”. He compares the observation of Sabbath time to “islands of stillness” and a “sanctuary in time” where we escape from “tensions” and

Abraham Joshua Heschel. *The Sabbath*. New York: Farrar, Strauss and Giroux, 1951, 1979. References are to page 28.



“practical affairs”. This day of rest from work is described in Genesis as part of God’s design in creation, as important as the six days of work, necessary for renewal and restoration. This gift of Sabbath rest is extended in Leviticus even to the land, as fields are to rest from cultivation during every seventh year.

Regular times of rest will make the land more productive, and the same is true of each of us.

The important aspects in observing Sabbath are regularity to establish a rhythm and intentionality to focus on God’s holiness. All of us, like Jesus’ disciples, need to accept Jesus’ invitation to “Come away to a deserted place...and rest a while”. You may have heard the saying that, like a pitcher, those who pour themselves out for others must also take time to be refilled. Sabbath rest can refill us.

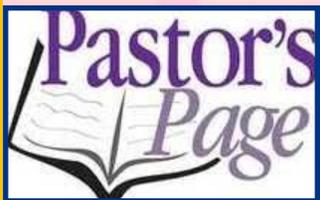
Intellectually we know that we cannot go on indefinitely, giving of ourselves, of our energies, without recharging our battery, refilling our pitchers. But, somehow we too often remain on the treadmill of life, caught up in a cycle that keeps looking ahead to just one more activity, just one more phone call, just one more thing!

Now for some of us, Sunday will not be a day of rest, but Heschel suggests an understanding of Sabbath that permeates our lives. He writes that Sabbath “needs the companionship of all other days” as our life is lived in appreciation of what “this day may bring”. Sabbath is “our awareness of God’s presence in the world”.

Sabbath is a gift, we can choose to receive it or rush past it. Heschel asserts that, “what we are depends on what the Sabbath is to us”. It shapes how we engage others and the world around us. If we can begin to recognize God’s presence in the world each day, and strive to live daily in a relationship of justice with others and the earth, we may feel our yokes lifted as we begin to see each day as an opportunity to live in the reign of God.

Summer is upon us! It is up to you. Will you accept Jesus’ invitation? “Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while”.

Heschel. *The Sabbath*, page 89.



Western Jurisdictional Conference

In our last publication we shared information and links for the recent Western Jurisdictional Conference that took place July 10-13 in Spokane, Washington. Many items of business were taken care of for our Western Jurisdiction, but some of the biggest accomplishments were the election of two new bishops, Kristin Stoneking, who was assigned to serve as bishop of the Mountain Sky Conference, and Sandra K. Olewine, who was assigned to serve as the bishop for the California-Nevada Conference. You can see below the rest of the bishop assignments for this quadrennium. I am excited to share that Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth will continue to serve as our bishop as he was re-appointed to lead the Greater Northwest Area which includes the Oregon-Idaho Conference, the Pacific Northwest Conference, and the Alaska Conference! The Jurisdictional Gathering also celebrated the retirements of Bishop Minerva Carcaño and Bishop Karen Oliveto.

Read in the link below about other exciting work that was accomplished!

<https://westernjurisdictionumc.org/news/>

Western Jurisdiction

California-Nevada: Bishop Sandra K. Olewine

California-Pacific: Bishop Dottie Escobedo-Frank

Desert Southwest: Bishop Carlo A. Rapanut, who also will lead the New Mexico Conference in the South Central Jurisdiction.

Greater Northwest: Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth

Mountain Sky: Bishop Kristin Stoneking

The Western Jurisdiction includes the states of Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Oregon, Utah, Washington and Wyoming.



Bishop Sandra K. Olewine



Bishop Kristin Stoneking

CHURCH FINANCE



May, 2024 Financial Update

Following is the financial report for the Church for June, 2024.

	Month			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)
Income	39,564	28,792	10,772	296,328	172,752	123,576
Expenses	28,535	31,472	<u>2,938</u>	<u>185,793</u>	196,451	<u>10,658</u>
Operating Income / (Loss)	11,029	(2,680)	13,709	110,535	(23,699)	134,234

The financial results for the Church continue to be very strong through June 30, 2024, as we move into the “dog days of summer”. We continue to want to thank the congregation for your continued gifts of time, talent and monies that are necessary to support the mission of our Church, which is “We are a welcoming United Methodist Church congregation that worships together as disciples of Jesus Christ, uniting in fellowship, missions and service.”

If you have any questions, please contact me or any member of the Finance Committee.

Respectfully Submitted.

Winston Asai Chair – Finance Committee



Our Next Host Dates:
August 4 – 11th
October 27 – November 3rd

Our summer service week is August 4-11th. Summer is a great time to include your kids since there isn't school the next morning. Some churches have had families spend the night too, there just needs to be two adults.

Please look over the signup and see if your summer schedule has an open date to serve.

We just love getting to know the families from all three churches who come together to serve. After the August dates, our next host week is October 27th thru November 3rd.

Yes, we get Halloween!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C4EABAD2EA3FB6-50023400-family>



Sign up below to provide items for a “Move-in basket”. Items needed are household products such as laundry baskets, window cleaner, Swiffer and pads, broom and dust pan, other cleaning products, supplies.

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C4EABAD2EA3FB6-50023621-family#/>



PILLOW DRIVE!

We are collecting **brand new** pillows for Family Promise. Please bring in brand new pillows and place them in the crib located in the Narthex. The drive will go until August 11th.

Every time a new family enters Family Promise, they are given a pillow for each family member. That pillow travels with them from church to church and then on to their new home. For health and sanitary reasons, the pillows can't be reused. That means Family Promise goes through lots of pillows. Whitney at Family Promise estimates they need between 220-250 Pillows to finish the year!



Join the team serving lunches to kids at Sarah J. Anderson school. We serve lunches all summer long. It is a rewarding mission and literally involves just handing out lunch sacks and boxes. It only requires a few hours of time. Please talk with Kathy Hardy if you're interested in volunteering for this mission.

Thank you to those who have been serving so far this summer!

Read and Ring: 2024

Sat, August 17, 2024, 9:00 AM

If you are interested in participating in this workshop, talk with Matthew.

Salmon Creek United Methodist Church

12217 NE Hwy 99

Vancouver, WA

Cost: Early Bird registration, through Monday, August 5, is \$30 per person. August 6 and later, registration is \$45 per person.



Read & Ring

Bells of the Cascades



Knit One, Pray "Too"

The Stephen Ministers would like to thank all the knitters who provide prayer shawls. They are an important part of our own ministry. Even though it is summer, we hope that some of you will take up your knitting needles, as we are out of shawls for both men and women. A shawl takes three to four single skeins of 4 ply knitting worsted.

Size 10 or 11 needles are suggested for a final size of 20 by 60 inches.

Crocheted shawls are also welcome.

The stories from the knitters reflect how meaningful the knitting is to them. They pray for the recipient, count their own blessings, and thank God as they knit. It sounds like a silent retreat into their own personal faith journey. We also hear stories from the recipients, but those remain part of our confidential sharing.

Echo Langley leads the prayer shawl ministry if you need further information.

573-220-5220



BACK TO SCHOOL

SUPPLIES DRIVE

Help a child succeed this school year!



Several years ago, Salmon Creek Church began a partnership with Gaiser Middle School. We have provided school supplies and funds for families in need. Church volunteers have helped in the classroom, provided conference dinners for teachers and supported the honor roll breakfast. Here is a bit of information about Gaiser...

Gaiser Middle School is a large, diverse middle school located about 2 miles from Salmon Creek Church. The Gaiser boundary reaches from 119th St. in the North to Hwy 500 in the South. East to West boundaries run from Hwy 99 to the Vancouver Mall. This means that some Gaiser students travel over 30 minutes on the bus to get to school.

In the 2023 – 24 school year, Gaiser had 736 students. About 60% of the students qualify for free and reduced lunch and 4% are classified as homeless. Among the languages spoken at Gaiser are Spanish (38%), Russian, Ukrainian, Arabic, Farsi, Chuukese and Thai, 24% of student are English language learners. 59% of students at Gaiser identify as non-white. Almost 17% of the students have a disability.

This August we will again be holding a supply drive for Gaiser. Items can be brought to the church and placed in the Gaiser bin. Most needed items are:

College rule composition books

Pencils

5 color highlighter sets

Tape/gluesticks



Missions Benefit Breakfast

Benefitting our Schools:

Sunday, August 25th, 9:00—11:30 am

AND

Blessing of the backpacks: Sunday August 25



Little Fish Christian Preschool

Enroll Now for Fall

Little Fish Christian Preschool
A ministry of Salmon Creek UMC



Half-day Program for 3 - 5 yearolds

Monday - Thursday 8:30 - 12:30

salmoncreek.church

360-573-3111

Coming this Fall!

Salmon Creek UMC is excited to launch a new *part-time* preschool program this September! It will be called

Little Fish Christian Preschool.

Ashley Skelton will be running this program and will be responsible for the daily operations as well as teaching side-by-side with Angela Parrish. The Little Fish Christian Preschool will offer one morning class, Monday-Thursday 8:30am-12:30pm and will serve 3 year-olds (potty trained) through 5 year-olds.



SAVE THE DATE!

Rally Day is coming!

Sunday, September 8th

**Search your heart to see where God has
called you to serve.**



Potluck & Townhall

SAVE THE DATE!

**Our next all-church Potluck/Townhall:
Sunday, September 22nd after worship.**

**Please plan on coming;
bring your questions, suggestions,
concerns.**

If you are able, bring a dish.



Women's Retreat

Ladies of SCUMC: SAVE THE DATE!!

Saturday, October 19th, we are planning an all-day Women's retreat, which will include an exciting line-up of activities and a catered lunch. More information coming soon, but please write 10/19/24 on your calendar.



Enjoy some photos of our beautiful, bountiful gardens!

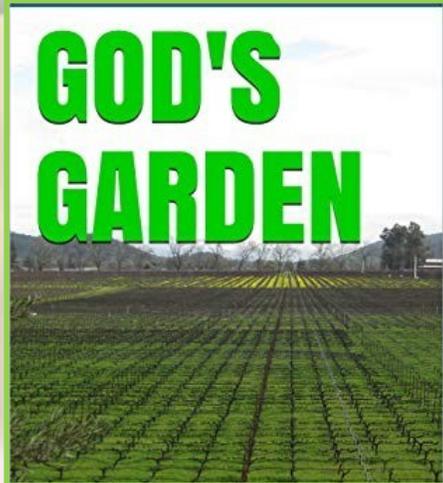
GOD'S GARDEN





Below are pictures of the garden that Tiffney and our Sunday school kids planted.

GOD'S GARDEN



We had a great time at the church picnic along with Joyland Church on Sunday, July 14th. The food was great, the company was even better!

Church picnic!



On June 28th, we closed the doors of our former Salmon Creek Christian Preschool and Daycare. We are so grateful to all of our wonderful teachers and staff and will miss them all.

Back Row: Ashley, Donna, Brynn, Angela, Debbie, Pat, Cheri

Front row: Barb, Tasha, Christy



TENTATIVE DATES FOR THE YEAR

August

- 8/4 – 8/11 Family Promise Week
- 8/12 – 8/16 YMCA Summer Camp
- 8/25 Mission Breakfast – Back-to-School SOS (Support Our Schools, VPS)
- 8/25 Blessing of the Backpacks
- 8/28 First day of school – Vancouver Schools

September

- 9/8 Rally Day
- 9/22 Town Hall Potluck

October

- 10/6 Mission Breakfast – Habitat
- 10/19 Women's Ministry Retreat Day
- 10/26 Eek@theCreek 4-6 pm (Saturday)
- 10/27 – 11/3 Family Promise Week



November

- 11/15 Set up for basket auction
- 11/16 (Saturday) Basket Auction & Dinner
- 11/28 Thanksgiving Day
- 11/30 Hanging of the Greens

December

- 12/1 1st Sunday of Advent
- 12/6 Happy Birthday, Jesus – 6:15 pm
- 12/8 2nd Sunday of Advent
- 12/14 Lessons and Carols – 6:00 pm
- 12/15 3rd Sunday of Advent
- 12/16 (Monday) Night of Hope
- 12/20 BOC Rehearsals and set ups
- 12/21 BOC Concert – 7:00 pm
- 12/22 4th Sunday of Advent
- 12/24 (Tuesday) Christmas Eve Services
- 12/21 – 1/2/25 Church office closed**

Let's
Celebrate
AUGUST
Birthdays



Betty Selby—August 4

Lola Vaughn—August 6

Susan Scott—August 11

Joanie Dudley—August 14

Jeanne Eten—August 16

Sally DuPree—August 20

Douglas Lehrman—August 28

K.D. Caballero—August 29

Don't see your birthday?

Let us know when it is
and we'll
update records!



***We are a welcoming United Methodist
Church congregation
that worships together as disciples of Jesus Christ,
uniting in fellowship, missions and service.***

Thank you for reading the Circuit Rider! If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

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Submissions for the Circuit Rider can be sent to admin@salmoncreek.church Deadline for each month for submission is the 15th of the prior month.

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