



The Circuit Rider

Salmon Creek Church



Advent

Hope · Love · Joy · Peace



2022



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a note from Pastor John

In the two million years of human archeological history, the vast majority of our ancestors lived in a community. Some were perhaps quite small – a family or two – but many were multi-family groups. While it is certainly true that, in a utilitarian way of thinking, communities contributed to the survival of their constituents, it is also true that communities have always been built on relationship. In short, humans have always needed other humans for more than utilitarian purposes. One of those purposes has been the communal wakening to the presence of God. While a solitary individual may feel the presence of God, that experience must be validated and supported by the experience of others. Very, very few true hermits existed then or now and, truth be told, they are usually supported by some kind of community.

As in millions of other churches, mosques, synagogues and temples around the planet, we at Salmon Creek Church also seek God in community. As with ancient humans, we too need validation and support that our journey has meaning because it has meaning for others; that we can count on the support of our community because, when it's our turn, we will support others in the community. During times of stress or discord we all must be able to look to that which lies at the center of our community – Jesus Christ – to guide us back to harmony. When the community becomes unstable, it is Christ who calls us to set aside or resolve differences (Matthew 18), embrace humility (Matthew 7:1-5) and practice our faithfulness to God's Word in our faithfulness to our community.

The world continues to change at a dizzying pace – in our families, in our communities and in our churches. But there is no better time of year than Advent for us to remember, individually and as a community, that we still stand on the solid rock of Jesus Christ. And keep in mind that the verses that mention shifting sands (Matthew 7:24-27) refer to a community: the wise man does not stand alone; he builds a house. God deliberately chooses to be incarnated as Jesus into the most basic of communities, a family, and begins his ministry by forming a community of disciples. This year as we light the Advent candles of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love, we wish these things not only for ourselves, but also for those around us. The fire from the candles does not merely represent the utilitarian necessity for warmth. It represents the deeper fire of the Spirit, born in Christ and lived out in families and communities everywhere.

Blessings, Pastor John



SALMON CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

Charge Conference will be:

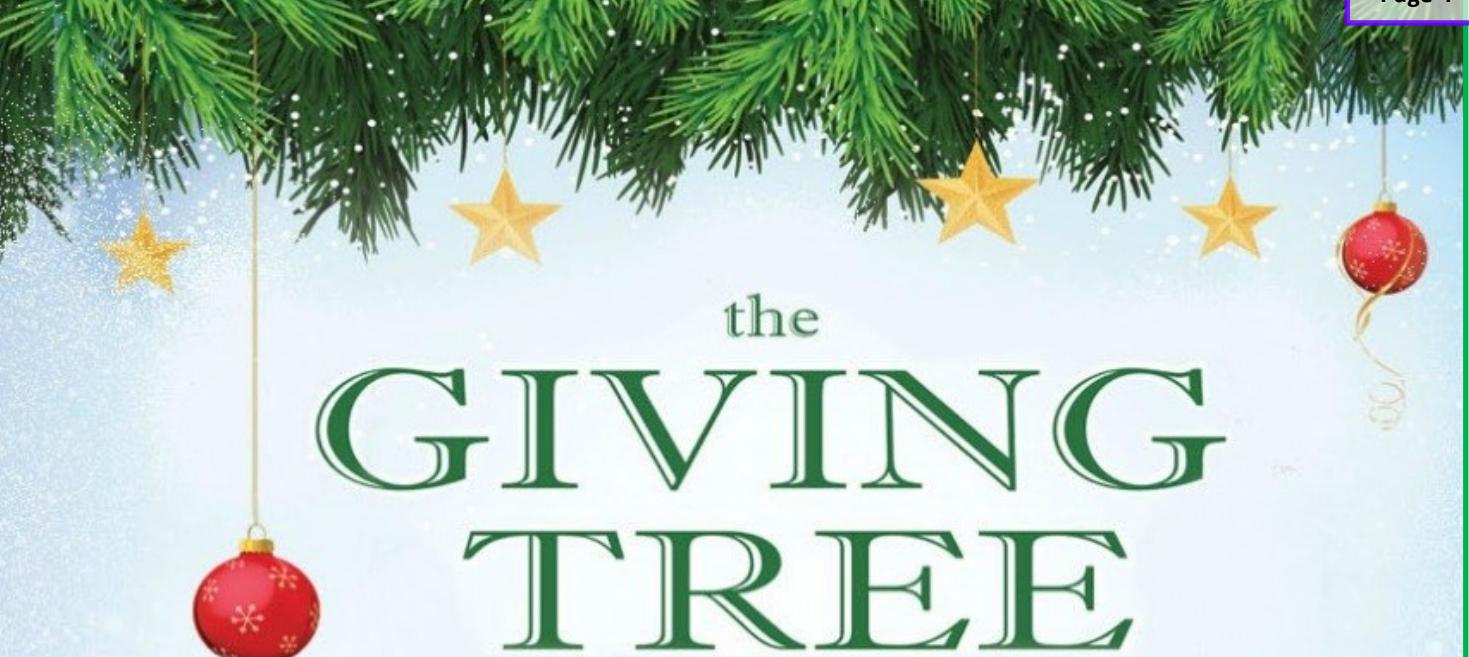
Saturday, December 3rd

Chili dinner—5:00 pm

Meeting—6:00 pm

There is still time to sign up for the dinner:

[https://www.signupgenius.com/
go/10c0c48acad29a1fbc25-2022](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c48acad29a1fbc25-2022)



the GIVING TREE

Provide a Merry Christmas for Families in Need

Christmas Giving Tree – We will have names of 4 families who have graduated from Family Promise. Look for tags on the tree with printed information for each family member. Thank you in advance for supporting these families.

Family Promise is requesting this year that the presents arrive **unwrapped**. In order to identify who the gifts are for, please label the gifts with either a sticky note, or a piece of tape.





HOST WEEK:

Sunday December 4th through

Sunday, December 11th:

SIGN UP FOR DECEMBER HOSTING SPOTS:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080c4eabad2ea3fb6-family4>

UPCOMING HOSTING DATES FOR 2023

February 19—26

April 16—23

August 6—13

October 22—29

December 30—January 6, 2024

A SERVICE OF LESSONS & CAROLS

BELL CHOIR CONCERT

Saturday, December 10th—6 pm

Lessons and Carols

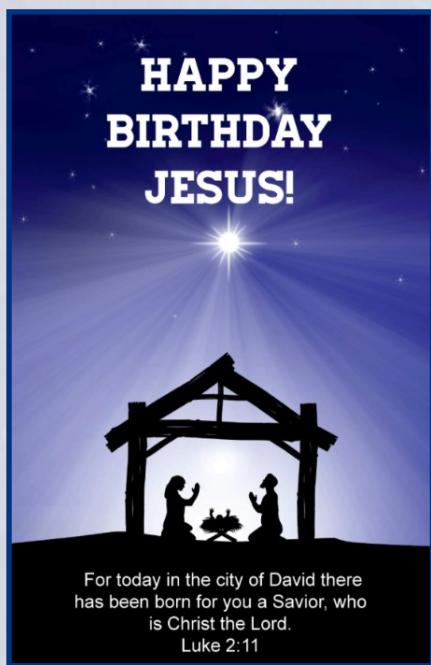




Christmas Eve Services

Christmas Eve services will be
at 5:00 pm, 8:00 pm and 11:00 pm

S E R V I C E T I M E S



We will have a "Happy Birthday Jesus" church service at the regular time on Sunday, December 25, Christmas Day.

Blessing Bags for the homeless

& how you can help



FOOD PANTRY

Please continue to bring in your donations for our Food Pantry "blessing bags". We are serving those who come to our door for help. For the most part, they are houseless and unable to cook a meal, therefore having items that are **pop top and ready to open** and eat are best. Below is a list of items to help guide your shopping. Donations can be left in the "Outreach Food" cart in the narthex of the church at the back doors near the family ministries center. With your help, we can help others by providing them nourishment. Thank you!

Water bottles

Crackers (the kind that come in sleeves is best)

Peanut butter (16 oz size or less)

Canned meat (tuna, chicken, salmon, pork, ham)

Soup

Fruit (canned or fruit cups)

Jell-o cups

Protein bars

Snack bars

Individual packages of nuts, raisins, dried fruit

Travel sized toiletries

Tooth brush/tooth paste

Small tissue packs

Hand warmers

2022 Annual Missions Dinner and Auction

Things were rolling again for the auction. We had more than 3 dozen baskets donated for the event. Attendance was around 90 folks and we raised over \$14,000! The Dessert Dash was a hit again, raising \$2,600. Live auction items featured a wood carved US Flag and a handmade quilt for the 10 items in that portion of the evening. Greg Berry served as host, and of course Roger Brindle was the auctioneer, with Gavin Huckins and Juan Maldonado as our “Vanna Whites”, displaying the auction items.

Funds raised will be sent to the 5 charities:

Share Inc. – Non-profit organization that provides food and shelter to the homeless and low income in Clark county, including school food, backpacks and summer lunches for low income kids.

Vancouver Seafarers Center – Welcomes and provides services for international mariners while docked at the Port of Vancouver and Portland.

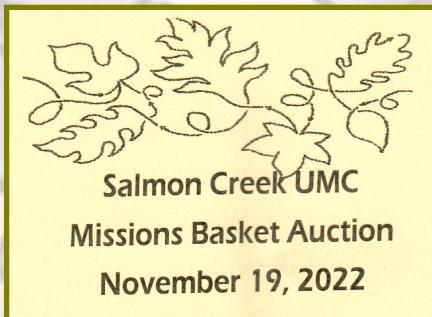
Safe Choice – Women’s shelter and services, for those who are victims of domestic violence.

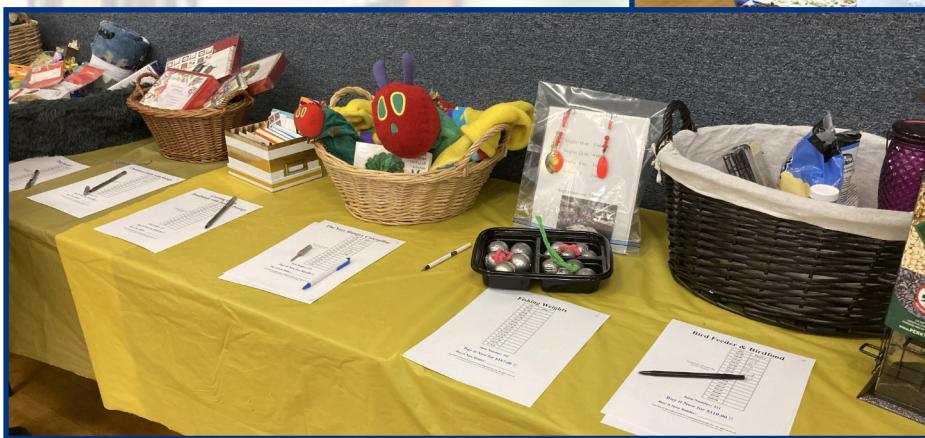
Friends of the Carpenter – A wood shop ministry for homeless and less fortunate in Vancouver which provides the opportunity to become friends around a table with Christ at the center.

Open House Ministries – A ministry that serves families who are in transition - providing housing, counseling, goal setting and hope.

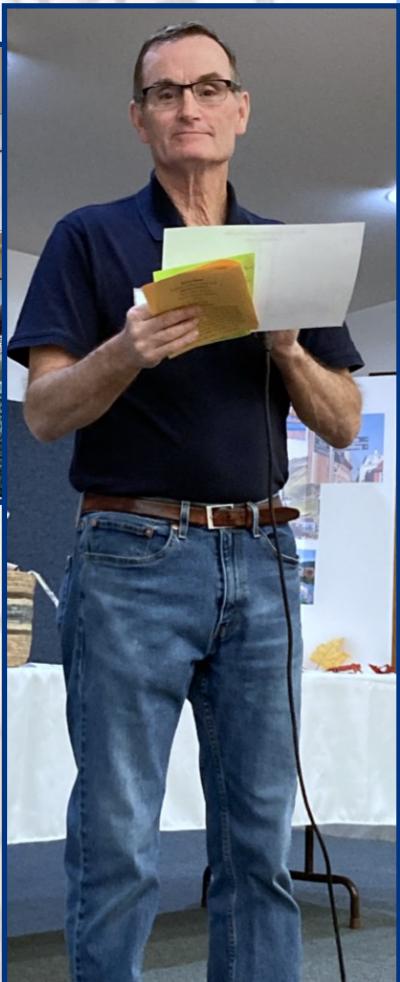
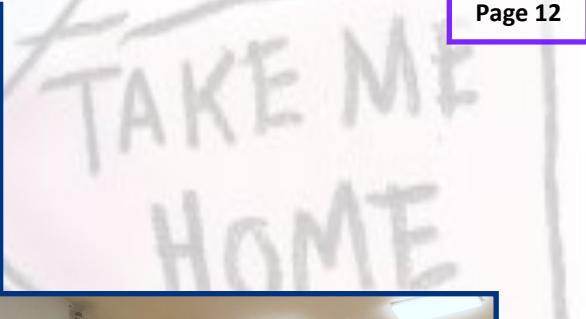
Many folks helped with the event. Our thanks go to Kathy Hardy for organizing, table decorations and much more. Larry Siewert for event set up and dish washing. Nancy for communications of the event. Gay Enyeart led the kitchen staff, which featured Pork loin with dressing and gravy, fresh green beans, and mashed yams. Jessica and the Youth group for being the servers and helping with cleanup.

Volunteers include: Laurie Doering, Tina and Kevin Hunter, Nancy Evans, Steve Enyeart, Ed Grubel, Dan and Lynne Kingsley, Thursday night men’s group, Glenn Ekberg for photos. Organizing this event were many of the same folks above who also put in much time beforehand to make event a success. Thanks to all! Enjoy the photos on the following pages.











On Sunday, November 13th, we celebrated our wonderful staff!

Left to right:

Tiffiney Nordby, Pastor Vivian Hiestand, Josh Billings, Matthew Compton, Jessica Santillan, Nancy Volgamore, Pastor John Hiestand





HONORING VETERANS



We honored our Salmon Creek church veterans on Sunday, November 13th. Above is a photo taken in 2019:

Back Row: Left to right:

Roger Brindle, Jim Roberts, Greg Berry, Tom Shumaker, Kyle Youngblood, Ed Grubel, Al Bauer, Bob Hager

Front row: Pete Mikalatos, Pam Roberts, Ken Brandt, Bill Bolton, Red Gilbert, Tarisa Tognetti, Nelson Copeland, Jerome "Andy" Anderson

Do you do Calligraphy, or do you know someone who does Calligraphy?

We are wanting to update our Veteran's plaque and add some names and need someone who can do calligraphy. If you are a calligraphy artist or know someone who is, please notify the office for details.

Also, if you have someone you would like to be added to the plaque, please let us know right away as well.

Calligraphy

DECEMBER birthdays



Don't see your birthday?

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

Donna Johnson—December 1
Martha Van Male December 2
Clare Kennedy December 4
Doris Price Howell December 16
Julie Hildreth December 19
Richard James Scott December 20
Dorrie Etribou December 22
Sharon Koeltzow December 24
Jim Gahagan December 25
Anthony Press December 26
Steve Enyeart December 27
Ronald Lien December 27
Allie Mikalatos December 27
Madison Hawn December 29
Susan Lenski December 30
Jackie Miller December 31
Tarisa Tognetti December 31





De-Greening of the Church

The Worship Committee gives thanks to all who helped decorate our Sanctuary for this Christmas. What a joy to come into our church and see decorations of the beautiful Advent Season.

As we all know, come January, all the decorations must be taken down and stored.

**PLEASE join us on Saturday, January 7th
at 9:00 a.m. to do this work.**

We thank you in advance.

Advent

HOPE, PEACE, JOY, LOVE, CHRIST



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

12217 NE HWY 99
Vancouver WA, 98686
360-573-3111 www.salmoncreek.church

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**.

Editor: Nancy Volgamore