



The Circuit Rider



Salmon Creek

United Methodist Church



February 2026

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Love Boldly
Serve Joyfully
Lead Courageously

ResourceUMC.org/Vision

#LoveServeLeadUMC

Dear friends and family of Salmon Creek United Methodist Church, grace and peace to you all.

As I write this note today, January is quickly coming to a close!

I'm down to the deadline for getting this note to Nancy, and I have a confession to make. I have found myself increasingly distracted by the escalating violence and disregard for civil rights across Minnesota that is now spreading to other states and cities across our country. If you were with us in worship on January 19th, you heard me share about my concerns over the nature of the ICE operations that began in Minnesota and are now growing across the country.

I understand that not everyone feels the same way about the deployment of ICE and the work they are doing. But I encourage all of us to resist the urge to look away and the temptation to think that we would never be affected personally. Sunday, I mentioned that we had been following the events in Minneapolis and St. Paul closely because we have family there.

Yet, the more I have followed & thought about what is happening, I realized that all of the people there are all of our children. As I have watched people of Minneapolis respond, I've been encouraged by the large number of people showing up to speak out against the abuses of power they are witnessing, and working to protect their neighbors. One group in particular, Singing Resistance has caught my ear and heart, <https://www.instagram.com/singingresistancetc/> will take you to their Instagram page. They have managed to gather hundreds to walk the streets together, in single digit temperatures, while singing songs of love and encouragement to their neighbors.

(continued)



One in particular really spoke to my heart, reminding me how we are all part of God's family, carrying within us God's holy breath.

It goes, *"We belong to them, they belong to us. Every one, O every one, O every one of these people are ours, as we are theirs."* Another speaks to those remaining in their homes, fearful of being targeted because of the color of their skin, *"Hold on, hold on, my dear ones here comes the dawn."*

I understand agents are now going door-to-door in Minneapolis, Seattle area cities, and cities in other states. While for now they have been active in quieter ways in Clark County, I believe it is important for us to be aware and stay informed. Clergy have shared with me that patrols have been very active in Ridgefield, and Woodland because of the many construction sites in their communities.

All of this calls us, as people of faith, to prayerfully ask, what would God have us do in this moment?

I hope you will join me in praying for this painful situation across our country, for all involved. And, for those of you able to do more than pray, I encourage you to pray and search your heart for ways you can care for our neighbors.

This Saturday, January 24, our area United Methodist Bishop, Cedrick Bridgeforth, will be speaking at an ecumenical gathering at St. Andrew Lutheran Church, here in Vancouver, entitled *United in Faith: A Call to Action*. I am hopeful to learn ways that we can work with other people of faith in our area to be witnesses for God's justice, love, and care for the vulnerable among us.

Well, I need to wrap this up and get it to Nancy, so I had better say a few things about what is ahead for us here at Salmon Creek UMC in February!

All of February: I am excited to share that our shared youth director, Lacey Kelley, and CCMYC (Clark County Methodist Youth Connection) will be with us at Salmon Creek for the month of February!

Lacey will join us and share in our worship on Sunday mornings, and the area youth will be meeting here on Sunday afternoons from 4-6pm. We are also hopeful that some of the area youth will be able to join us for the Fat Tuesday celebration on February 17th.

Sunday, February 8th – Souper Bowl of Caring: Join the fun and do some good! Wear your favorite team colors or shirts and bring donations of canned soup that will be donated to Clark County Food Bank.

Saturday, February 14th – Join us at 10am for some sweet fun as we gather for multi-generational Valentine cookie decorating! The women of our Joy Bible Study will be baking sugar cookies for us to decorate for Valentine's Day. Some cookies will go home with participants while others will be shared at Coffee Fellowship the next day!

Tuesday, February 17th – Do not miss this fun event that supports our youth! Join us in the gym between 5:30 – 7 pm for the annual Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner to enjoy some delicious pancakes, fun music, and great fellowship! This will be an opportunity for some Mardi Gras fun before we enter the season of Lent. Donations are welcome but not required.

February 18th – Make a plan to attend one of our Ash Wednesday Services as we prepare our hearts for the season of Lent: 12 noon in Pioneer Chapel and 6 pm in the sanctuary.

As we go through the days ahead, I encourage you to ground yourselves in the blessings of each day, the beauty of the sunshine, the life-giving gift of rain, the people in your life who bring you joy and love, the gift of God's love and grace so generously given to us! Best of all, God is with us!

**Sending you all warm thoughts!
Peace and hope,
Kim Poer**

He said to them, "But who do you say that I am?"
Matthew 16:15

TENTATIVE UPCOMING EVENTS

February

- 3 – Ad Board meeting
- 8 – Soup-er bowl soup donation
- 10 – Missions meeting
- 12 – SPRC meeting
- 14 – Cookie decorating event
- 17 – Fat Tuesday Pancake dinner
- 18 – Ash Wednesday
- 18 – You Only Die Once starts (occurs every Wednesday for 6 weeks)
- 22 – Church Library open house and book sale
- 24 – Finance meeting

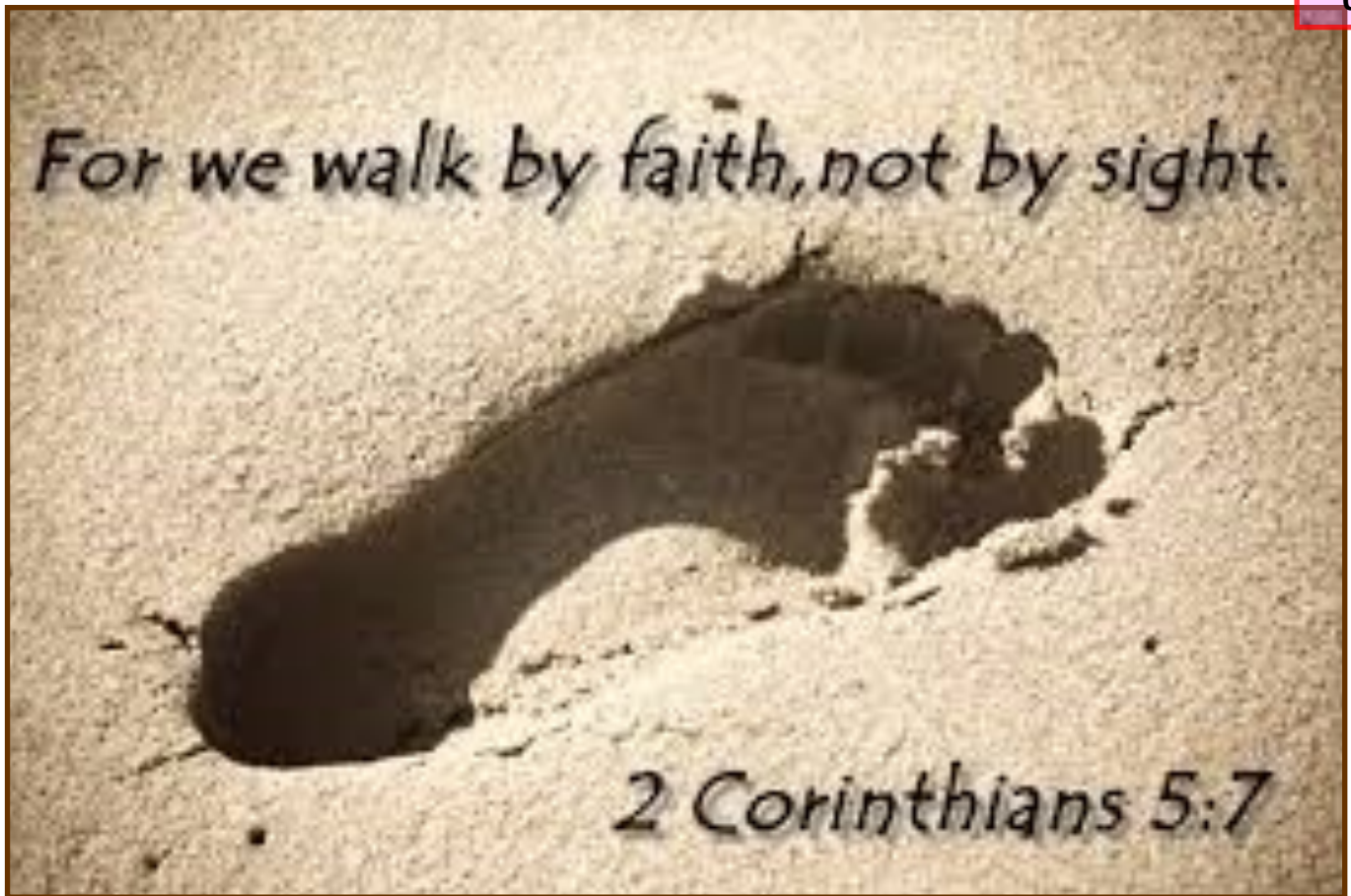
**DATES TO
REMEMBER**

March

- 1 – GS cookie sale? and UMCOR Sunday
- 3 – COM and Ad Board meetings
- 8 – Daylight Savings Time starts
- 10 – Missions meeting
- 12 – Trustees and SPRC meetings
- 14 – Set-up for potluck
- 15 – PIF celebration Potluck
- 24 – Finance Meeting
- 29 – Palm Sunday

April

- 2 – Maundy Thursday service
- 3 – Good Friday service
- 5 – Easter Services 8:30 and 10
- 7 – Ad Board meeting
- 9 – Trustees and SPRC meetings
- 14 – Missions meeting
- 18 – Earth Day celebration and workday
- 25 – Set-up for breakfast
- 26 – Mission Breakfast for HFH, Family Promise here
- 28 – Finance meeting



WALK BY FAITH is back!!

Join Pastor Kim and friends Mondays and Wednesdays from 12—1pm in the gym to walk together. It's cold, raining and dark outside. Here is a safe, dry place in which to get some exercise and see friends!

Ushers Needed



Sunday Servant

Calling all Smiling faces!

We need Ushers to welcome our congregants and visitors to our church, pass out bulletins, and help with seating. If you enjoy meeting people and are trying to find a place you can be of service to our church, we need you!

Please see Kathy Bachman (information in directory), or check the box and fill in your name on the Communication Card in your bulletin.

*Be a Sunday
Morning Usher*

December, 2025 Year End Financial Update

Following is the financial report for the Church as of December 31, 2025.

	Month			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)
Income	25,437	29,000	(3,563)	399,280	348,000	51,280
Expenses	31,424	41,925	10,501	417,981	426,808	8,827
Profit / (Loss)	(5,987)	(12,925)	6,938	(18,701)	(78,808)	60,107

We have finished our year end accounting and there is "good news and bad news".

The "bad news" included the following:

- We finished the year with a loss of (18,701)
- Our building rent income was unfavorable to Budget by ~ (4,000)

The "good news" included the following:

- Pledge Income came in at 104 % of Plan
- The YTD Loss was favorable to Budget by ~ 60,000
- We still have adequate cash reserves to cover ~ 9 months of operating expenses

In a continuing and repeat comment, your commitment to our Church and our Community remains steadfast and we appreciate everyone's generosity.

With respect to our Preschool program, we still continue to operate at a loss as we strive to add more students. YTD Losses approximated (13,000) through December. The Day School will remain open through May, 2026, but continuing operations beyond that date is doubtful at this point.

Thank you to everyone for your contributions of time, talent and financial resources as we continue to worship together as disciples of Jesus Christ, united in missions, fellowship and service.

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

Respectfully Submitted.

Winston Asai Chair – Finance Committee

2026 Operating Budget

The Administrative Board approved the Church's Operating Budget for 2026 and is presented below:

Description	2026 <u>Budget</u>	2025 (*) <u>Actual</u>	Favorable / <u>Unfavorable</u>	<u>Comments, etc.</u>
Income				
Pledges	330,000	321,846	8,154	Similar to 2025
Other	<u>27,200</u>	<u>32,321</u>	<u>(5,121)</u>	
Total Income	357,200	354,167	3,033	
Expenses				
Salaries, etc.	245,750	225,863	(19,887)	New Youth Director
Other Expenses	<u>140,807</u>	<u>152,907</u>	<u>12,100</u>	See Notes Below
Total Expenses	386,557	378,770	(7,787)	
(Operating Loss for Year)	<u>(29,357)</u>	<u>(24,603)</u>	<u>4,754</u>	

Notes, Comments, Etc.

1. (*) The 2025 actuals have been adjusted to eliminate 2025 Investment income of ~ 45,000, and eliminate ~ 40,000 in Facilities Expenses that were "one time" in nature.
2. The increase in Salaries Expenses is primarily due to the addition of the new Youth Director position which is being funded by a consortium of United Methodist Churches.
3. The decrease in Other Expenses is based on utilizing some of the Church's B Accounts which were established to address certain, specific expenses; e.g. Cemetery, Landscaping, etc.
4. The basis premise of the 2026 Budget was to retain current Church staff and to retain / grow the Church's programs and ministries, and utilize our Unrestricted Cash to fund this deficit.

If anyone has any questions regarding the 2026 Budget, please contact me or any member of the Administrative Board or Finance Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Winston Asai

Chair – Finance Committee



We have been in touch with Kathy Bryson, who is the ERT Coordinator for the PNW Conference of the UMC. She will contact us when local training is available. If you are interested in joining the team, please let us know.



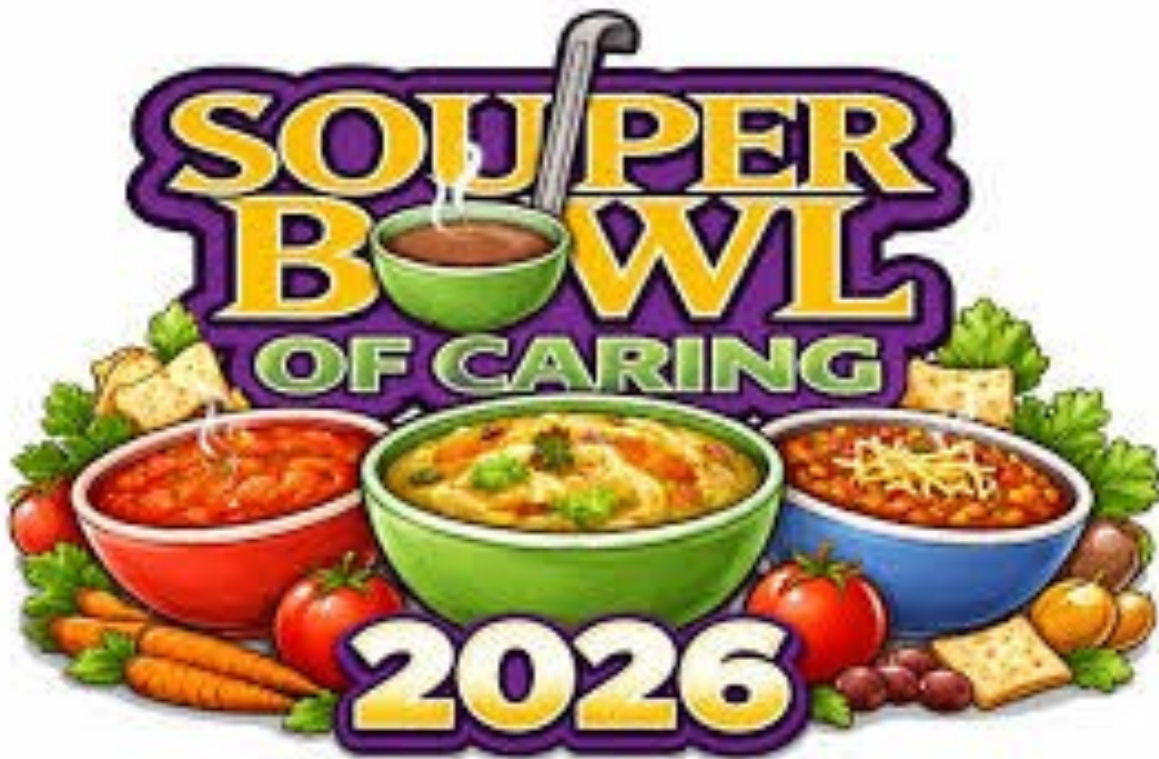


PUZZLE TIME!!!

If you like to put together jigsaw puzzles, then here is the perfect outlet for you! Puzzle Time will be starting on Wednesday February 4, 2026. This is an opportunity for you to gather with others to solve puzzles. This also will provide a respite from afternoon boredom with a few friends. We will have 3 puzzles set up in room 204 of the FMC from 1-3 pm every Wednesday afternoon. Go in, put a few pieces in place or solve the whole darn thing! This will be an on-going opportunity for you to have fun, exercise your brain, talk with other church members and have a good time. Feel free to bring your own drinks and snacks. Stay as long as you want. Take some time out of your schedule to enjoy the company of other puzzlers!

If you have any questions, please contact Faye Wells or Lila DeBolt.

Look for more reminders as we get closer!!!



On Sunday, February 8th, we will have the “Soup-er Bowl of Caring”. There will be a bin available, so bring in cans of soup to be donated through “tacklehunger.org”.

To find out more:

[Tackle Hunger: Home of the Souper Bowl of Caring](https://tacklehunger.org)

1st MEETINGS OF THE TASKFORCES SUCCESSFUL!!

Creation Care and Accessibility

The first meetings of both the **Creation Care** and **Accessibility** Taskforces occurred during the 2nd week of January. Both generated very good discussions and action plans. The purpose of these groups is to: 1. Look at our energy footprint and recycling effort in order to be environmentally compliant, and 2. Be committed in providing an inclusive campus that is accessible and inviting to everyone who enters.

Both teams are looking at our everyday structure and procedures to assure that we are doing everything possible here at SCUMC to promote a good ecological and accessible space that welcomes all people in a responsible manner. We will be sharing new information with the congregation soon. Look for our progress reports in the Circuit Rider, the Currents, and the Sunday morning announcements.

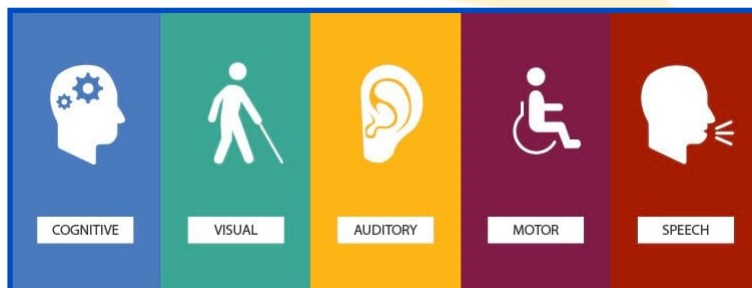
There is still time to join in on these new endeavors. We welcome ALL congregants who share a passion in either of these important aspects of awareness. Please, plan to attend the next meetings so that you, too, can be a part of these teams. No experience is necessary – just your enthusiasm for making a difference!

Next Meetings --- **Creation Care** -- Friday, February 13, 2026 at 9 am in the St. Paul room

Accessibility – Sunday, April 19, 2026 at 11:15 am in the Library

If you have any questions or would like more information, please don't hesitate to reach out to Lila DeBolt:

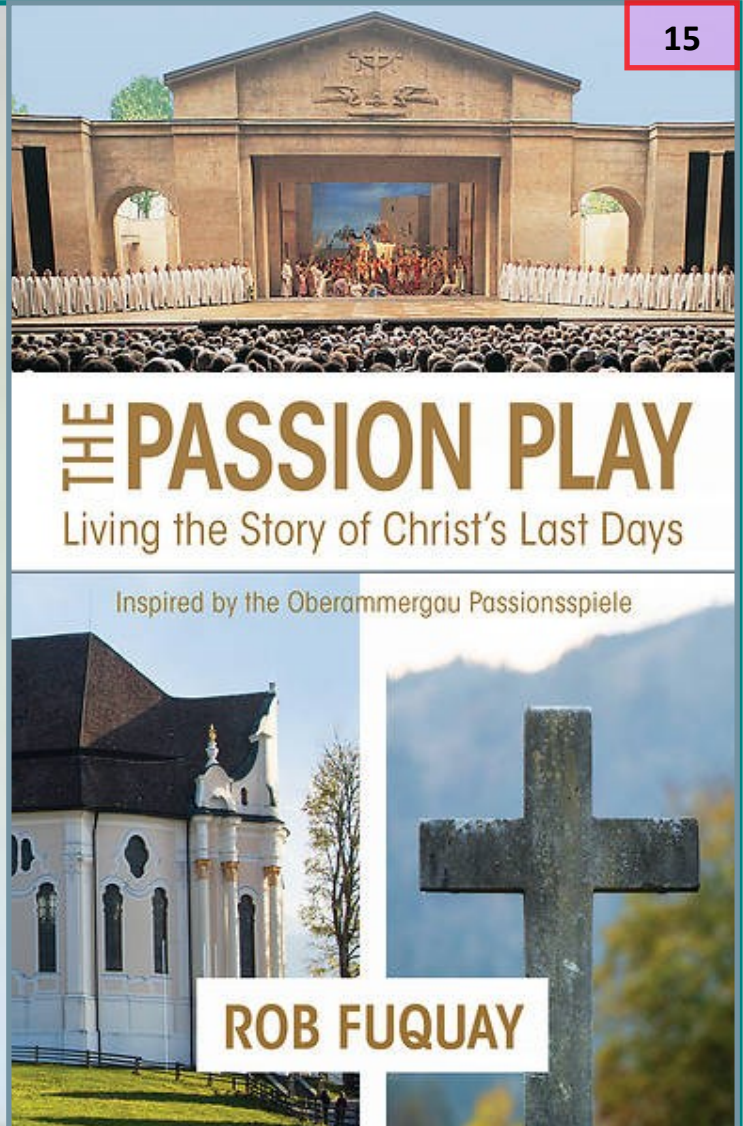
360-600-8521 LJSDEB56@aol.com





Come join the fun! We will be decorating cookies for Valentine's Day on Saturday, February 14th at 10:00 am in the Fellowship Hall. Cookies and supplies will be provided.

All ages welcome!!



We will be presenting a new Lenten study: Rob Fuquay's *"The Passion Play: Living the Story of Christ's last Days"*. Some of our study groups will be using this book and it will be available for anyone else, not in a group, who would like to do this. The study will begin the Sunday after Ash Wednesday, (Sunday February 22nd) and will continue through Lent. Books have been ordered, they are \$15.00 each (including tax and shipping) —let Nancy know if you would like one.



**Join us for our annual Mardi Gras
“FAT TUESDAY” Pancake supper!!**

**Tuesday, February 17th—in the gym
5—7pm**

Benefits our youth group!

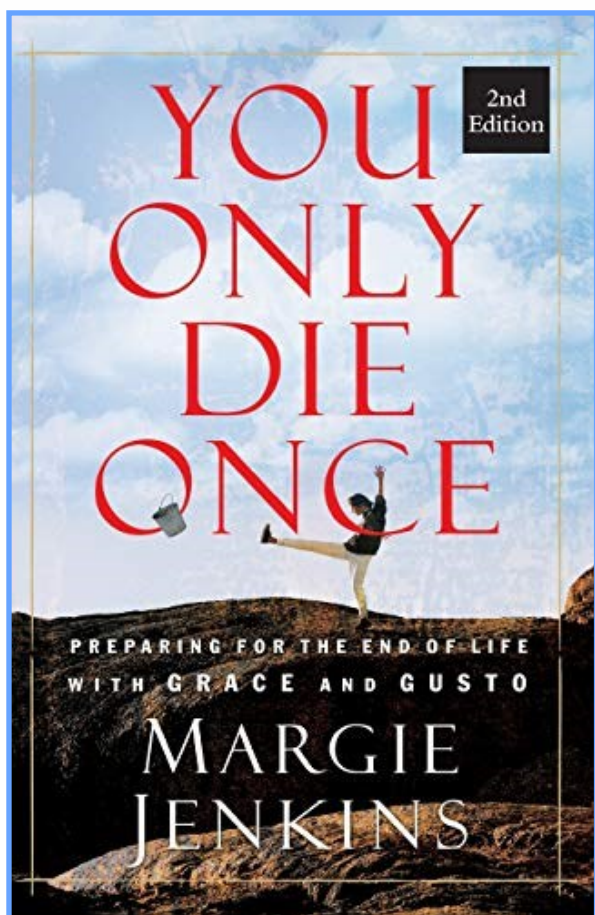


Lent in 2026 will start on Wednesday,
February 18th
and end on Thursday, April 2nd.



Ash Wednesday Services

Wednesday, February 18th
12:00 pm in the Pioneer Chapel
6:00 pm in the sanctuary



**Preparing for the end of life
with Grace and Gusto!!**

**We are pleased to present a third session of these classes!
We have conducted the classes twice prior to this and
they've been a resounding success!**

Wednesdays at 1:00 pm in the St. Paul Room

Beginning Wednesday, February 18th,

class runs for 6 weeks.

Sign up by February 8th—cost is \$14.00

YoDo
YOU ONLY DIE ONCE



Library Open House

USED BOOK SALE



SPECIAL OPEN HOUSE IN THE CHURCH LIBRARY

Do you know that we have a library here at SCUMC with hundreds of great reads? Do you know that we have several sets of small group study books? Do you know that we have a lot of children's books? Have you ever been in the library? If you answered "no" to any or all of these questions, then please continue to read this!

On Sunday, February 22, 2026, there will be a special coffee fellowship in the Family Ministry Center gym to encourage everyone to check out our great Library. It is located in room 205 in the FMC. There are so many interesting, historical and biblical books that you can check out and enjoy. You can also curl up in one of the comfy chairs in the room and read right there, if you choose. Also, there will be an opportunity for you to purchase some books. Look at the tables in the gym to find a book that speaks to you. These older books will be sold at a minimal price, with all proceeds going to the Pay-it-Forward campaign. So, pick up a book, take it home and enjoy some enlightening reading.

Our library is maintained by Faye Wells and Elaine Gilbert. These ladies do a fine job in organizing and supplying so many great books for your enjoyment. Our gratitude goes out to them for serving in this ministry!

So, remember on Feb. 22, go to the FMC after the morning service, grab your coffee and pastry, check out the book sale and check out the library. Pick up a goodie or two in the library, just for stopping in! Of course, there will be plenty of time for the usual fellowship and chit-chat. Make this day a book priority for all!

**"A book is not just a book. It is Sanity. It is happiness. It is a Teacher.
It is a Therapist. It is Magic and a Best Friend."**



Thank you to all who served during our 1/25 to 2/1 hosting week!

2026 HOSTING:

April 26—May 6th

August 9—16th

December 6—13th



Reverend Dorothy Northcutt Herbert

Dorothy Flowers married Ray Northcutt at Salmon Creek Church in 1952 and was impactful at Salmon Creek United Methodist Church and the Vancouver District until she died in 2009.

In 1952 to 1956, Dorothy Northcutt was active in Women's Society of Christian Service, where she learned in 1956 that the General Conferences of Methodist Churches had granted full rights to women ministers. She said, "I can do that."

In 1961, Reverend Dorothy Northcutt started her 10 year ministry as pastor at Fern Prairie Methodist Church. After that, she substituted in all but one of the 42 churches in the Vancouver district.

She presided at funerals, baptisms and weddings, was treasurer of the Vancouver district, mentored other women pastors and mentored women at Salmon Creek United Methodist Church. At Salmon Creek UMC, Dorothy taught Bible study classes, chaired Evangelism, sang in the choir, trained acolytes, participated in handbells and helped organize and implement Women's Ministry in 1996.

Dorothy and Ray were largely responsible for moving and restoring our Pioneer Chapel to its current location in 1981 as a memorial to Ray's parents who came to Salmon Creek UMC in 1910.

In 2008, Reverend Dorothy N. Herbert continued her much appreciated Salmon Creek UMC philanthropy by bequeathing, in a trust, a portion of the value of her estate, to our Salmon Creek UMC Women's Ministry, because she believed in our goal of doing God-inspired ministry for SCUMC women.

The Women's Ministry/Dorothy N. Herbert Trust committee (listed below) is committed to responsibly use interest accrued from Dorothy's endowment for Women's Ministry financial support.

We invite Salmon Creek UMC women to help us further God's work by sharing ministry ideas and joining us.

In Christ's name,

Joan Stuart

Sandie Hollister

Sandy Bippes

Maggie Mikalatos

Faye Wells

Laurie Doering

Teresa Rivera

Dana Biles

Linda Garrison

Karen West

Betty Selby

Kathy Bachman





Benefit Breakfast January 18, 2026

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Family Promise

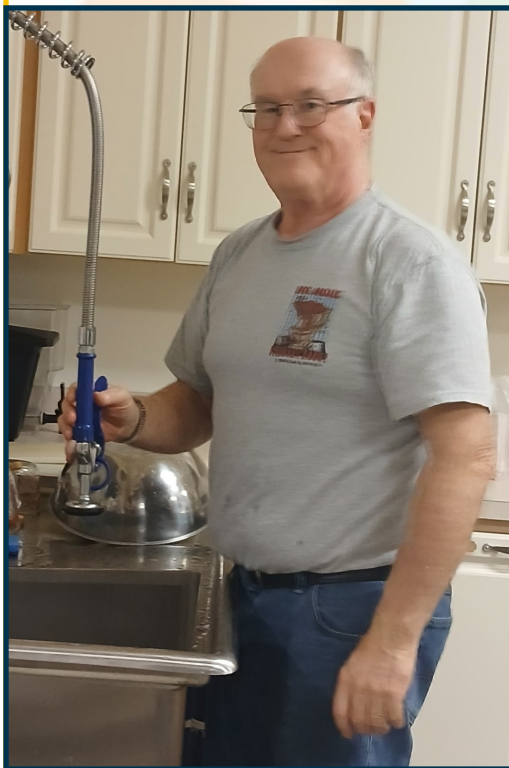
We had a wonderful Missions Benefit Breakfast on Sunday, January 18th to benefit Family Promise. I want to thank Lila DeBolt for helping Saturday in the kitchen with food prep along with Steve Enyeart. Don and Kathy Hardy decorated tables that were set up by Larry Siewert's men's group. Helping Sunday were Larry Siewert, Steve and Gay Enyeart, Don and Kathy Hardy, Greg Berry, Dan and Lynne Kingsley and Claire Davis.

68 breakfasts were ordered, 24 before service and 44 after service:

Egg Casserole	63
Pancakes	48
Link Sausage	58
Fresh Fruit	53
Orange Juice	17
Apple Juice	7
V-8 Juice	7

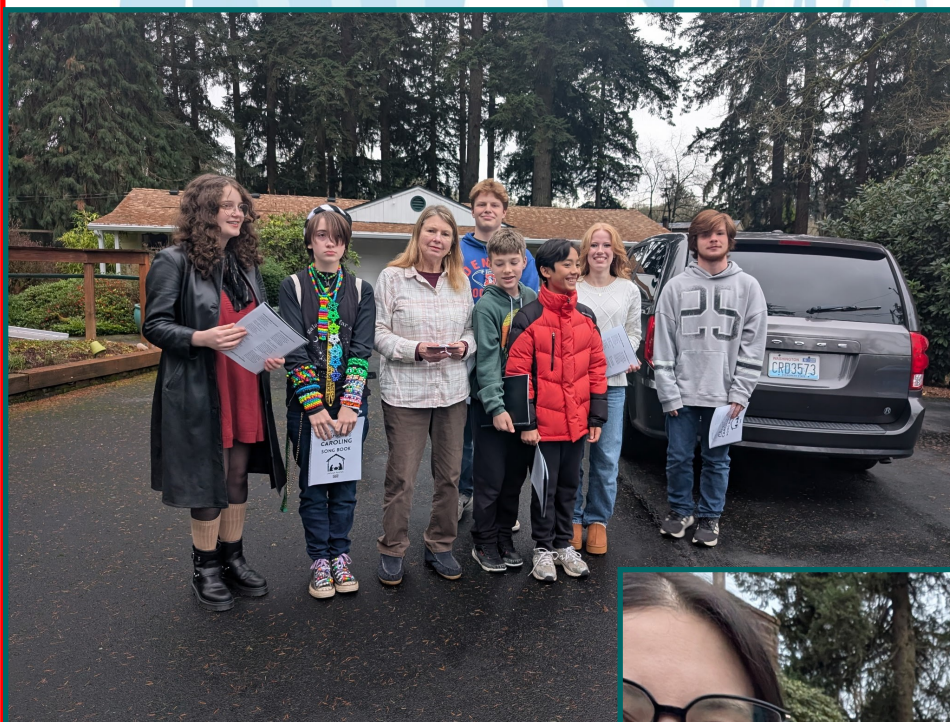
Donations were \$1,210.00 for Family Promise!

Thank you so much, Gay Enyeart – Co Chair Mission Team

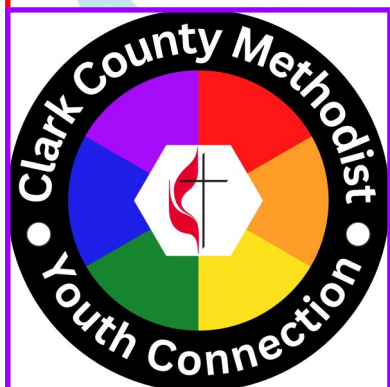




Youth Caroling



Last December, Several of our area youth joined Lacey to sing Christmas Carols to some lucky, happy recipients!



Celebrating **FEBRUARY** *Birthdays*

Jim Roberts—February 1

Lila DeBolt—February 3

Linda Sloan—February 3

Sue Sloan—February 4

Pete Mikalatos—February 5

Joyce Murphy—February 9

Suzy Clayton—February 14

Carolyn Fox—February 21

Kathy Bachman—February 24

Zach Scott—February 25

Don't see your birthday?

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



"MAY YOU EXPERIENCE
THE LOVE OF CHRIST,
THOUGH IT IS TOO GREAT
TO UNDERSTAND FULLY.
THEN YOU WILL BE MADE
COMPLETE WITH ALL THE
FULLNESS OF LIFE AND
POWER THAT COMES
FROM GOD."

EPHESIANS 3:19

***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.

Editor: Nancy Volgamore