



The Circuit Rider

SALMON CREEK CHURCH



2023



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**“The Anchor Holds though the ship is battered,
The Anchor Holds though the sails are torn.
I have fallen on my knees as I face the raging seas,
The Anchor Holds in spite of the storm.”**

Hello to all Fellow Congregants of Salmon Creek United Methodist Church:

On behalf of the Leadership Team here at SCUMC, we bring you good news in that we have an anchor in which to trust. The past few months have brought us some unfortunate and trying obstacles to overcome. By the good Grace of our Lord, we have survived and we are moving forward in a positive direction to regain and revitalize our spiritual wholeness.

We are working very diligently with District Superintendent Kathleen Weber and Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth to assure a smooth transition in the pulpit without cessation of any Sunday morning services. We now have guest Pastors scheduled through March 12th! We are still waiting for the announcement of our Interim Pastor and the newly-appointed Pastor for July 1st, which hopefully will come soon. We will continue to worship as a community and celebrate the joy of being Christians. Our missional work is never-ceasing, with Family Promise and Habitat for Humanity providing great opportunities to serve Vancouver and those who need our help. We are welcoming new worshippers and seeing the Sanctuary being filled every Sunday. Our youth and children’s programming continue to provide quality care, fellowship and nurturing for all ages.

We have chosen to reference the Anchor – Christ is the Anchor for us through the storms of life. He is the Anchor which holds us and protects us. Do you see the cross in every anchor? It is there, giving us hope for the soul. I invite you to find your Anchor with us – refuse to sink. Stay steadfast and hold on to what you have known for so long – God IS our Anchor in whom we trust and know that good will follow.

Mark your calendars - On March 11, 2023, the Leadership team will sponsor a Potluck dinner for everyone in the Church. This will be a time for fellowship, to become acquainted with new attendees, laugh, re-commit yourself to getting active in the church again, and maybe just breathe a sigh of relief that we have withstood the storm and know that we are ready for calm seas again. More information will soon be announced as we get closer. Plan to attend – *be* the change you want to see in our Church. This is the time!!

As always, please feel free to contact either Chairman, any of the Admin Board, or SPRC members, if you have questions, concerns or comments. We want to keep you informed as we receive updates. Working together will provide a positive, hopeful environment that will propel us forward.

Sincerely,

Lila DeBolt – Chairman Administrative Board

Dan Kingsley - Chairman SPRC

Members: Jim Roberts, Tom Shumaker, Ed Grubel, Pam Copeland, Karen Beilsmith, Steve Enyeart, Winston Asai, Jan Asai, Richard Beilsmith, Teddy Ernster, Maggie Mikalatos, Libby Montoya-Bunkley

Farewell, Pastor John!

Sayonara

Goodbye

Pastor John's last Sunday with us was February 19th. Matthew dedicated a Bell Choir performance to him. They performed "An Irish Blessing". We wish Pastor John all the best in his new retirement and we thank him for his years of service to our church.



Ciao



Auf wiedersehen



Byebye

As you go

Pot-luck dinner to be held on March 11th!!

The leadership teams of the Administrative Board and SPRC invite everyone to join us for a Pot-Luck dinner on Saturday, March 11 at 5:30 pm at the Church. (The location will either be the Fellowship Hall or the FMC gym - TBD later). This will be a time for fellowship, laughter, to meet new congregants, and renew your commitment to our Church as we move forward. A hot, main dish will be provided as well as dinner rolls and beverages. We are asking everyone to bring a salad or dessert to share. There will be a raffle for door prizes, as well! You just might get lucky and win something!!! So that we may plan on accurate numbers, please sign-up to reserve your spot. You may do this on Sunday mornings in the Narthex, OR you may call the church office, OR you may call, text or email Lila DeBolt:

360-600-8521 LJSDEB56@aol.com

Come—Let's have a good time with our Church family!

Hope to see EVERYONE there!!



FREE TAX PREPARATION

TAX PREP SERVICE: These are the same people who have used our church facility as a set-up for their business during Tax time. They are still available for you to help,



FEBRUARY 1 - APRIL 18

HOURS & LOCATIONS

CLARK COLLEGE

1933 Fort Vancouver Way,
Vancouver, WA 98663

Mon & Wed 1PM-9PM

(Exceptions: Feb 20 & 22,
March 8, 20 & 22)

THREE CREEKS COMMUNITY LIBRARY

800-C NE Tenney Rd
Vancouver, WA 98685

Fri & Sat 10AM-6PM

(Exception: March 18)

BRIDGEVIEW RESOURCE CENTER

505 Omaha Way
Vancouver, WA 98661

1PM-9PM

February 20 & 22
March 8, 20 & 22.



WORKING FAMILIES TAX CREDIT


A new tax credit for Washington workers



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Well it was a wonderful, yet eventful week for hosting Family Promise! A huge thank you to our flexible volunteers.

We hosted a family of 7 this time. Mom, dad, grandma, and four kids ages 10, 9, 6 and 9 months. Richard had told the kids on the van ride over that there would be a gym to play in. At their first glimpse I heard, "WOW, that is huge!" It was hard to get the 6-year-old to sit and eat dinner; he wanted to play. The family chose to all sleep in room 201. It was cozy.

The family and evening hosts joined the rest of Salmon Creek UMC members for the youth's Fat Tuesday fundraiser. Before our hosts had a chance to donate for the family's dinner, a generous member informed me that they had already paid for the family. THANK YOU! The kids enjoyed the pancakes and went back for seconds. The father was still in wet clothes from working outside at the airport on Tuesday.

As you can imagine, Wednesday was a little eventful with the snow storm! Richard was able to get the family safely back to the Day Center in Camas before the heavy snow arrived. It was decided to have the family shelter in place at the Day Center for Wednesday and Thursday. At this writing, it hasn't been determined about Friday. This kept our volunteers safely at home, the family safe and Richard from having to deal with icy roads. The Day Center does have food stored for weather emergencies, so the family had meals too.

I took a few pictures on Tuesday, hoping to get more pictures later in the week of how we set up for meals. As you can see, the six beds and Play'n Pack do fit in room 201. I have also included pictures of the volunteers' beds. They are at least 10 inches thick and very comfy. These are not the old army cots of the past! See the photos following this page.

Thank you!

Karen Beilsmith

UPCOMING HOSTING DATES FOR 2023

April 16—23

August 6—13

October 22—29

December 30—January 6, 2024



If you have hesitated to volunteer for overnight duty with Family Promise, hesitate no more The beds are really, really comfortable! We can use more volunteers in every arena!





Even though it was cloudy and cold on February 18th, twelve volunteers showed up at the Habitat build site with high spirits, knowing they were doing God's work. The Habitat staff provided hot coffee and donuts to get us started, and everyone jumped in and soon walls were being built and many other tasks were being done. Habitat staff was grateful for our large group because there was no time to stand around to find something to do.

Our volunteers were so grateful because we were able to work on our very own church-sponsored home and meet Hpong Zi, the new homeowner. Hpong came to Malaysia from Burma because of the oppression of the Myanmar military dictatorship. He stayed in a refugee camp for nine years and, while there, he met his wife, Chan Zi. Through the refugee program they were able to come to America in September of 2016. They have three children: two boys, Shae Wang (8), Phejohn (4), and a daughter, Esther (2). They currently live in a very small and unsafe apartment, and they never thought it was possible to have their own home.

In the future, our church will have another opportunity to volunteer again. I will make a request with Habitat and as soon as I receive the date I will let everyone know. In the meantime, remember that The Mission Team is providing another free breakfast on **Sunday March 26th**. Habitat for Humanity is such a worthy cause and our Mission team would be so grateful for any donations made in their name.

By Larry Siewert

February 18 Volunteer Work Day

February 18 Volunteer Work Day



Front Row (L-R): Dan Kingsley, Laurie Doering, Lynne Kingsley, Lynne Nieda, Larry Siewert, Kathy Bachman, Jim Costello
Back Row (L-R): HH Director, Richard Beilsmith, David Nieda, Greg Berry, Jerry Davis, Lance Bachman



Larry Siewert and Hpong Zi, the new home owner.





The guys putting one of the walls up!





Lynne Nieda, Lynne Kingsley and Laurie Doering help out by organizing the shed!





SIGN UP TO JOIN US ON OUR NEXT HABITAT BUILD DAY! WE ALL LEARN A LOT AND HAVE A GREAT TIME DOING GOD'S WORK!

EAT TUESDAY



We had a pancake fundraiser dinner on Tuesday, February 21st. The dinner went very well! We fed over 50 people and raised over \$700 for the youth program! Thank you to all who joined us!



FAT TUESDAY

Youth Group FUNDRAISER



FAC TUESDAY

Youth Group FUNDRAISER





Ken Brandt—March 2
Alex Longshore—March 3
Jane Clark—March 6
Kevin Hunter—March 8
Paul Ralston—March 8
Roberta E. Gapsch—March 10
Jim Selby—March 13
Karen West—March 15
Phyllis Deaver—March 16
Pat Prichard—March 17
Leah A Such—March 17
Lance Bachman—March 19
Nancy Brandon—March 19
LaVeta Scherer—March 19
Katie Albrici—March 23
Patricia Petersen—March 24

Don't see your birthday?

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



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

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Vancouver WA, 98686

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