



# The Circuit Rider

Give thanks to the Lord,  
for He is good; His love endures forever.  
- Psalm 118:1



2021

Salmon Creek Church

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# a note from Pastor John

13<sup>th</sup> century theologian and mystic Meister Eckhart once said, “If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough.” Eckhart lived in a time of great upheaval in the Roman Catholic Church. The Pope had left Rome and established his residency in Avignon, France. The Dominican and Franciscan orders were fighting with each other, and questions about the legitimacy of the Avignon Popes would eventually lead, after Eckhart’s death, to the Papal Schism. Late in his life, Eckhart was tried for heresy by the Inquisition for expressing non-orthodox views, but he died before a verdict was given. He fell into obscurity for centuries, but with the 20<sup>th</sup> century revival of Christian mysticism he has been rehabilitated.

Some seek for Christ through the mystical path. Others (St. Thomas Aquinas, for example) seek Christ through learning. Many seek Christ in ritual or in doctrine. Most seek Christ, in one way or another, through scripture. Sometimes, church institutions insist that only one of these models is correct, and the others are in error – heresy. The Protestant Reformation, begun by Luther, tends to place an emphasis on learning at the expense of mysticism, and while placing an emphasis on scripture, sometimes confuses doctrine with gospel. Yet, in spite of all this theological push-me pull-you, Eckhart’s statement remains true. It is a simple utterance that can be spoken by the mystic or the scholar, the theologian or the novice.

If only chaotic times had been confined to the 13<sup>th</sup> century! Times of harmony and calm are sadly the exception, not the rule. But as we approach Thanksgiving, we must refresh ourselves with the daily knowledge of gratitude towards God. For those moments when you can think of no other prayer, “Thank you” would be enough. In times of joy, it is an acknowledgement of the source of joy. In times of sorrow, it acknowledges the comfort of God’s abiding presence. It’s a prayer that can, and should, be said constantly.

*Blessings, Pastor John*



For Pastor Appreciation Sunday, 10/10/21, Pastor John was given a lantern in appreciation for all he does for SCUMC. The lantern symbolizes the light of Christ, which we are following, and John is guiding the church towards this light. Also in the challenging times over the last 18 months, John literally has created a format for both virtual and in-person worship and has kept our light on at the church. We are very appreciative of Pastor John and so glad to have him here!

**Pastor John's Office hours:**

Monday: 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Tuesday: 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

Wednesday: 1:00 pm – 4:30 pm

Thursday: 9:30 am – 1:00 pm



*If these times don't work for you, please make an appointment.*

*I am not always in my office during office hours. I might be visiting, running an errand, or in a different part of the building. I welcome drop-ins, but if at all possible, please try to schedule an appointment.*

**Trustees Update**

Here is an update on the work around our church:



**HVAC Units replacement** – Chapel and Day Care. We have gone over details with Miller's HVAC on replacement of these 2 HVAC units. They hope to submit request to county for permits soon. I expect that work on the chapel will be next spring, no date yet on either. We did have another failure of the Day Care unit, but it was easy to fix this time. Strange, but we had both Day care units out plus the Fellowship Hall unit at the same time – each for a different problem.

**Security Cameras** – Security cameras were installed in both buildings with greater coverage of the parking lots. Also added new lights on the south side parking area.

**Day Care Doors** – We signed an agreement to have the Daycare doors resurfaced and painted with commercial paint. Many of these doors had started to peel from previous paint-overs and needed to be resurfaced. The company will remove the doors, resurface, paint, and then reinstall to better fit openings over winter break for the school – Thanks to Jim Roberts for his efforts to find a contractor.

**Shrubs** – Work has started on pruning the shrubs and removing those that were too far damaged from the extreme heat wave in June. This will be a major effort and my thanks go to Larry Siewert and Richard Beilsmith. They both have been taking care of our landscape except for mowing the main lawns.

**Day Care Lights and Ceiling Paint** – Trustees will start replacing lights in the Day Care rooms over Christmas break and into the new year. At the same time, the ceilings will be repainted. Volunteers are welcome to help out with the painting.

Covid continues to limit our coming together times, but I wanted to let you know that the Trustees are still here and doing what we can to keep this church your place to worship.

May God speed, Steve Enyeart, Chair for the Trustees



Dear Fellow Circuit Rider Reader:

Salmon Creek Church (SCUMC) continues to be financially healthy. Through September, pledge/general fund income is at our budgeted amount for this point of the year. Other income increased 45,000 by participating in the governmental COVID funding to keep jobs program. Operating expenses remain near budget thanks to our vigilant staff and volunteers.

**Statement of Income and Expense  
January 1 through September 30, 2021**

**Income**

General Fund/Pledges	222,375
Other	<u>102,422</u>
<b>Total Income</b>	324,802

**Expenses**

Operations & Administration	65,136
Apportionments	34,087
Program Expenses	5,415
Staffing and Related Expenses	<u>160,542</u>

**Total Expenses** 265180

**Net Income** 59,622

The last two months of this year will be critical for our operations as we head into enhancing and building our program and outreach to the community. We will need your continued support .

Thank You One and All

Ed Grubel, Chair Finance Committee



## STEWARDSHIP

*A disciple's response*

Last month, we introduced our Stewardship Campaign to the congregation. This marks one more return to “normalcy”, since last year we did not have a campaign due to Covid. Still, sometimes people jokingly refer to this as the time of year when we start “twisting arms” to get donations from the congregation. While I know this is usually said in jest, I hope no one feels they need to have an arm twisted to give to the church.

“He sat down opposite the treasury, and watched the crowd putting money into the treasury. Many rich people put in large sums. A poor widow came and put in two small copper coins, which are worth a penny. Then he called his disciples and said to them, ‘Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all those who are contributing to the treasury. For all of them have contributed out of their abundance; but she out of her poverty has put in everything she had, all she had to live on.’ “– Mark 12:41-44

Giving from poverty doesn’t sound logical to us: if you have little, you should hoard whatever you do have to try and get by. Yet Jesus is making the point that giving from abundance is easy – the lives of the rich aren’t particularly changed even when giving a large amount.

Like every church, we need the kind of giving that keeps the lights on and the doors open: it’s just a fact of life, and the church is grateful for those gifts. Jesus was not ungrateful for the gifts of the rich people. But Jesus offers another gift that cannot be bought except by giving all of yourself, as the poor widow did. So, I encourage you, whether giving from abundance or from poverty, to first give all of yourself to Christ.



## The J.O.Y. Academy

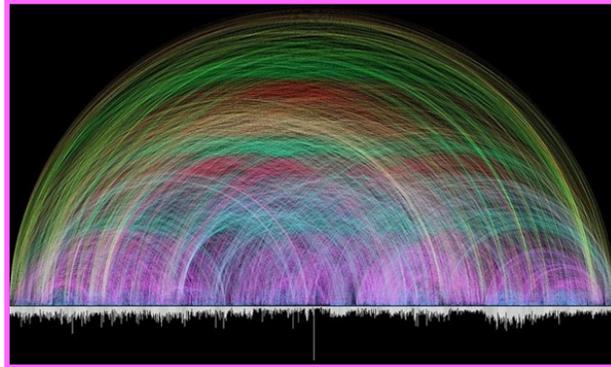
### *Jesus – Others – You*

### *Inspiring children to follow Christ*

**Safe Sanctuary – Any Questions?** We are blessed to have parents who trust us with their children and youth, and in return we honor their trust by doing all we can to ensure their safety. All those who signed up to be a “Sunday Shepherd” for the J.O.Y. Academy and those who work with our youth group undergo a background check. They are also asked to take an online safety training called “Safe Sanctuary.” We have simple, effective policies like “Never Alone” and “The Rule of Threes” that help our volunteers and children remember the basics. **We strive to be transparent** – so, Pastor Vivian will be available to answer questions in the Fellowship Hall at the end of Fellowship on two Sundays: November 14 and 21. Just look for her as you finish your coffee – she’ll be in the corner with her cup of tea and a cookie of her own, just waiting for someone to ask a question.

**Hyperlink Bible** – It’s common today to read an article on the internet with embedded links to other articles from which the author drew his information or inspiration. Called hyperlinks, one can simply click on the highlighted word or phrase and be automatically taken to that article. While we consider the Bible to be one book, in reality it is comprised of 66 different books, divided into two parts (The Old and New Testaments). For thousands of years the faithful have studied its pages, learning how Isaiah prophesizes the coming of Jesus, the Messiah; or seeing how the New Jerusalem of Revelation 21 resembles the Garden of Eden at creation in Genesis. Recently people tracked the number of cross references contained in our Scripture – ***and were amazed to learn that the Bible has 63,770 cross references contained in its pages!***

In an effort to inspire our children to become interested in the Bible, Pastor Vivian obtained an illustration of “The Hyperlinked Bible” created by Christopher Harisson, in collaboration with Christoph Römhild, a Lutheran pastor. A small version is offered here, but you can view the full sized illustration in the J.O.Y. Academy Worship Center (Room 201 in the FMC). It’s amazing! For more information, here’s our own hyperlink to an article about the [Hyperlink Bible](#).



<https://www.lightforcenetwork.com/salaam/holy-hyperlink-bible-and-its-63779-cross-references>

**Announcing the “Hide the Altar” Contest!** – The children of Salmon Creek Church and the Salmon Creek Church Day School are coming together to discover how loving Jesus helps us love our neighbors. As we approach the holiday season, Gayle Horowitz and Pastor Vivian will challenge the children to donate so much non-perishable food and supplies that – when we stack it all up – it hides the altar! The Day School children will bring their food every week and place it in front of the altar when they meet with (and sing with!) Pastor John. Our J.O.Y. Academy kids will bring their items on Sunday. **Please bring your donations to the church BY NOVEMBER 21** – when we will bless it all and then donate it to **SHARE VANCOUVER** so families will have food for the Thanksgiving holiday. **That’s not much time, so they will need your help!** Here’s a list of what they need most:

Canned vegetables, fruits, beans, tuna, soup, ravioli, chili, spaghetti sauce

Dried rice, beans, pasta

Cereal, oatmeal, mac & cheese, boxed dinners, shelf stable milks

Snack items: tuna packets, tuna salad & chicken salad snack kits, cheese and/or peanut butter crackers, chewy granola and/or snack bars, squeezable packets of apple sauce, fruit cups, fruit snacks, protein/nutritional beverages, juice

Shampoo, conditioner, body wash, soap, shaving cream, razors, tooth brushes, tooth paste

Feminine Hygiene products, personal wipes, toilet paper

First aid items, band aids, anti-bacterial cream, compression roll, gauze pads, isopropyl alcohol wipes/bottles, hydrogen peroxide

Diapers (all sizes), wipes

# Shoebox Update Fall 2021



**TWO-DAY  
PACKING PARTY!  
YOUR CHOICE OF  
THREE 2-HOUR  
SHIFTS!**

**November 5-6<sup>TH</sup>**

Sign up and help us give hope and joy to children in a time of pandemic!

## Packing Party Checklist

- Use the links to sign up for the shift(s) you desire (attendance at each shift is limited to 100)
- One person may sign up for a family or group (no more than 4 children per adult, please)
- Arrive on time to attend your shift's orientation, even if you have packed shoeboxes before
- Bring a facemask for each person.
- You may use the note cards we provide or bring your own notes
- Please consider a gift for shipping expenses (it costs \$9 to ship a box)

**Our goals for 2021:  
4200 shoeboxes  
\$37,800 for shipping**



Felida Bible Church partners with Samaritan's Purse to share the love of Christ with children worldwide through gift-filled shoeboxes.

## One Great Event, Three Great Options!

IT'S SHOEBOX PACKING PARTY TIME! But just like last year, we can't do all of our packing at one big party.

THE GOOD NEWS: packing in shifts worked last year and we are confident it will work again! We believe that with your help, we can fill enough shoeboxes to give hope and joy to 4200 or more needy kids around the world while upholding guidelines to protect everyone's health.

This year our packing party will be spread out over two days, Friday November 5th and Saturday November 6th with three different two-hour shifts. Attendance will be limited to 100 people per shift.

As usual, we'll provide all the supplies; just come join the fun!

## Party Details and Important Info

Here's the plan:

- ✓ Three 2-hour shifts over two days
- ✓ 100 people per shift maximum
- ✓ Room arranged for distancing between households
- ✓ Facemasks required (a limited number will be available onsite)
- ✓ Room re-set and sanitized between shifts
- ✓ We have all the supplies needed to pack 4200 gift-filled shoeboxes
- ✓ You must sign up for the shift(s) you want (see below)

## Sign Up!

Click the link for the shift you prefer. Three 2-hour shifts are available, with 100 slots per shift. Indicate the total number of people you are planning to bring, including children. Please note: *all groups with children must have at least one adult for every 4 kids who stay with them the entire shift.* We love having children help but we need adults to make sure that all packing instructions are followed.

**Friday, November 5<sup>th</sup>: One 2-Hour Shift**

6:00pm - 8:00pm [Click to sign up for Friday Nov. 5th 6-8pm](#)

**Saturday, November 6<sup>th</sup>: Two 2-Hour Shifts**

10:00am - Noon [Click to sign up for Saturday Nov. 6th 10am-noon](#)

1:30pm - 3:30pm [Click to sign up for Saturday Nov. 6th 1:30-3:30pm](#)

(You may also sign up by going to [www.felida.org](http://www.felida.org))

**Saturday November 20, 2021**

**5:00 pm Doors open and Silent Auction begins**

**6:00 pm Dinner and Live Auction followed by the Dessert Dash**

We will again gather for a delicious dinner, a silent and oral auction and an opportunity to learn about and support local ministries. Tickets can be purchased online or at the church. Attendees will be able to use a credit card to pay for tickets and donations.

We will be having another "dessert dash - we need donations of yummy desserts! Be prepared to bid to eat the dessert of your choice!

We will have a paddle raise so if you don't get a basket you can still support our ministries.

Tickets on sale each Sunday after church in the Narthex or online for \$15.00. Proceeds benefit Safe Choices YWCA, Friends of the Carpenter, SHARE Vancouver, Open House Ministries and The Seafarer's Center. Please also consider donating a basket, a dessert, or volunteering. We look forward to seeing you there!

Questions? Contact the church office or a member of the missions team - Mary Mountain, Christina Hunter, Linda Sloan, Larry Siewert, Greg Berry, Gay Enyeart, Kathy Hardy

Click (or copy and paste) this link to purchase tickets online. Please also indicate if there is a special diet or if child care is needed:

<https://www.theauctionevent.com/scumc21.jsp>

Click this link to sign up to volunteer:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4AA5A72FA5FC1-volunteer>

Click this link to sign up to provide a dessert:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4AA5A72FA5FC1-mission>

Click this link to sign up to provide a basket:

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/9040F4AA5A72FA5FC1-mission1>

**BASKET  
AUCTION**

## ANNUAL MISSIONS BASKET AUCTION – Saturday, November 20

### What is a basket?

Baskets are collections of items, homemade or purchased by church members and combined together with a theme...baking, pampering, movie night, etc.

We encourage individuals, families and groups in the church to put together baskets to be auctioned off at our annual basket auction! There will be a silent auction and an oral auction of baskets by our own Roger Brindle.

### Where do auction funds go?

1. **Share Inc.** – Non-profit organization that provides food and shelter to the homeless and low income in Clark county. School food backpacks and summer lunches are provided by Share.
2. **Seafarers Center** – Welcomes and provides services for international mariners while docked at the Port of Vancouver and Portland.
3. **Safe Choice** – Shelter and services for women who are victims of domestic violence.
4. **Friends of the Carpenter** – A ministry that serves the homeless and less fortunate in Vancouver. Projects of 'wood' allows those participating to become friends around a table with Christ at the center.
5. **Open House Ministries** – A ministry that serves families who are in transition. A way for them to 'get back on their feet'. Providing them housing, counseling, goal setting and hope.

### How do I donate a basket?



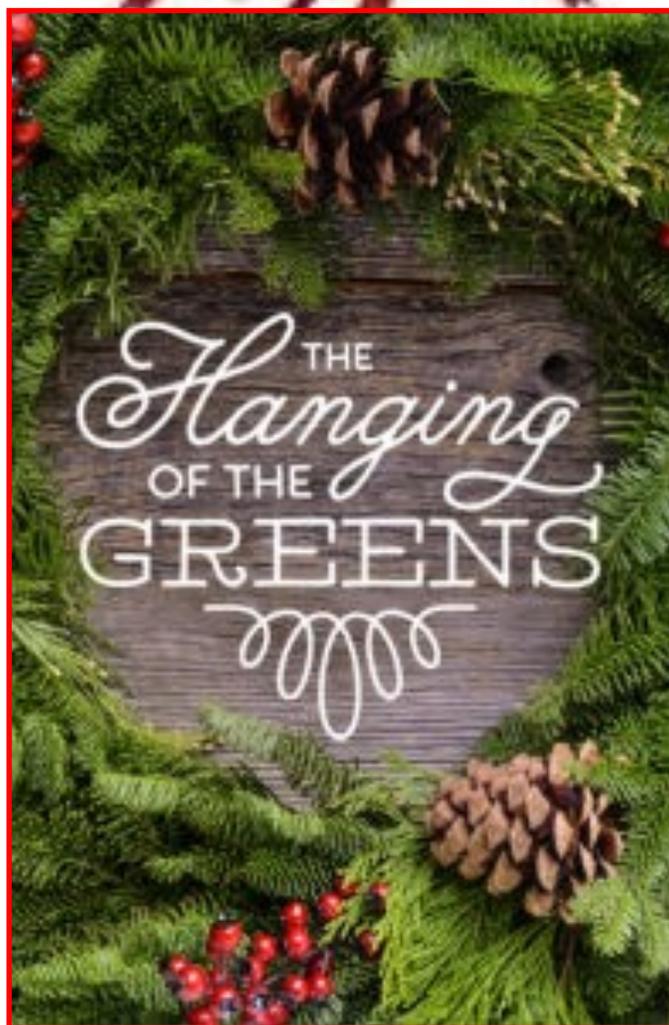
Sign up on our online form or at our display in the back of the church. Then complete this form and leave it in your basket when you bring it to the church. You may also submit the information prior to bringing in your basket – making sure you also identify the basket at the time it is brought to the church. All baskets should be at the church no later than 4pm on **November 18<sup>th</sup>** sooner if possible! Thank you!

**Name of person or group donating a basket:**

**Type of basket or brief description of contents:**

**Estimated retail value: \$**

Thank you for your contribution towards missions work in our community and around the world. Your expenditure on your basket is tax deductible, please keep your receipts or you may get a receipt from the church office or the treasurer following the Auction.



## **Hanging of the Greens**

What a joy it is to decorate our sanctuary for the Advent Season as we prepare to welcome the gift of Baby Jesus. Please join us for the HANGING OF THE GREENS on **Saturday, November 27<sup>th</sup>** at **9:00 a.m.**

As our mothers always told us, "Many hands make light work", so let's follow that good advice. See you there.

The taking down of the greens will be on **Saturday, January 8<sup>th</sup>** at **9:00 a.m.** Again, your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

The Worship Committee



A while ago, during worship, Pastor John asked me what percentage of the participants in Family Promise successfully graduate. I was able to get that information the next day.

Family Promise of Clark County has been able to successfully graduate 85% of their participants into housing. One hundred percent of those who have graduated have been able to maintain permanent housing!

I would like to update you regarding the two families that we hosted in September. Our single mother of three has secured a job with UPS getting paid \$27 per hour. She also has secured housing and will be graduating in less than two weeks from entering our program. A third family entered the program Monday night after we hosted.

As for **Give More 24**, a huge THANK YOU! The goal was \$70,000. Since not everyone likes to do online giving, money is still trickling in. We are currently at \$69,400 and they are aware of more money coming in.

I just want to give a huge THANK YOU to everyone who helped. Not all volunteers interact directly with the guests. There is set up, transportation, meal prep, dish washing, hosting, take down, room set up and laundry. I probably left something out, but it takes everyone doing what they feel comfortable with for us to successfully serve these families.

Karen Beilsmith



## Garden Plots Available!

For 2022, we will have several excellent garden beds available in God's Garden. Each bed is 4x8 feet and most will need very few soil amendments for great crops. If you saw any of the tomato plants in the garden this year, you have some idea of how ideal sun and wind conditions are for those plots. We did have trouble with rabbits, but think we have solved that issue for next year with some additional fencing. We have several seasoned gardeners who would be glad to work with you to show you how to develop and maintain your garden. The cost per plot is only \$10. For more information, call Jim Selby at 360-597-3294.

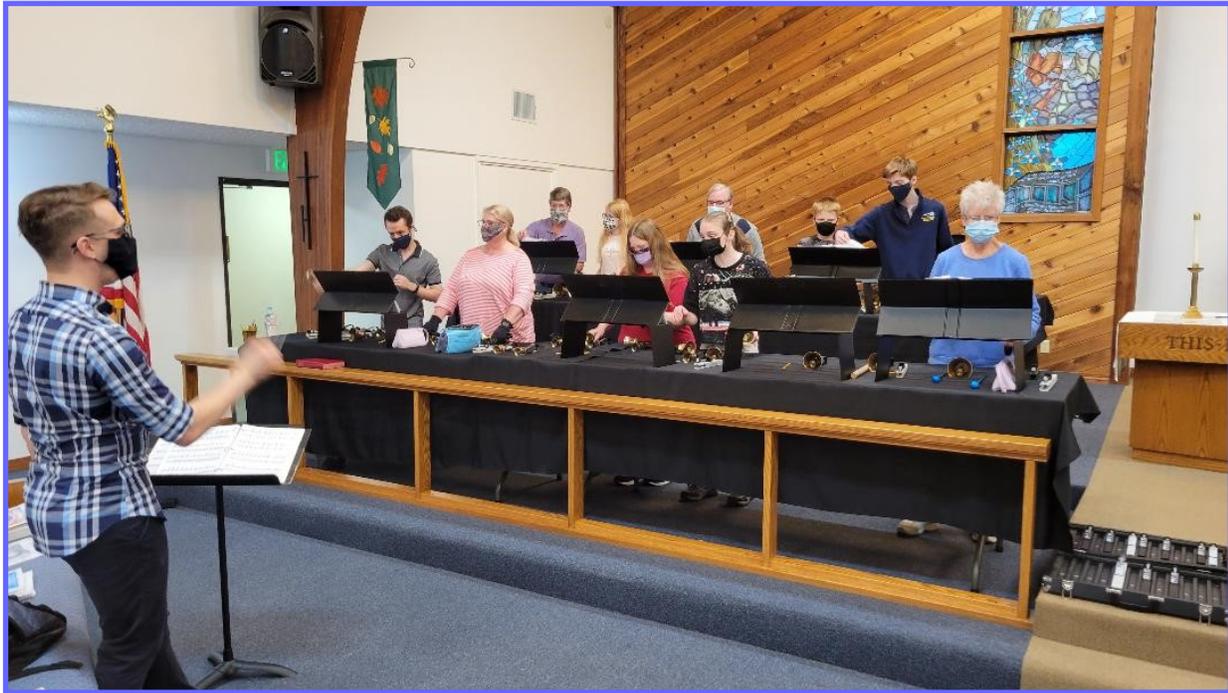




## November Birthdays

- 2. Katy Bachman
- 5. Richard Bippes
- 6. Becky Kelly
- 6. David Koeltzow
- 7. Greg Berry
- 7. Art Retzlaff
- 8. Alice Love
- 11. Heidi Hawn
- 12. Rhet Young
- 17. Diane Arp
- 21. MaryeJo Siewert
- 22. Ellen Ives
- 23. Joy Olsen
- 27. Stacey McAllister





**Adoration Ringers**  
**Rehearsing for 10/24/2021**

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 [nancy.volgamore@salmoncreek.church](mailto:nancy.volgamore@salmoncreek.church). Deadline for each month for submission varies and is announced at the beginning of the prior month.

Editor: Nancy Volgamore