The Circuit Rider

Salmon Creek
United Methodist Church



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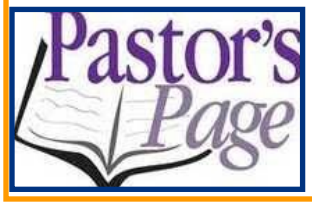


Grace and peace to you, friends and family of Salmon Creek United Methodist Church!

As I *thoughtfully* write this note *today*, I am *happily* enjoying the beautiful sunshine through my office window. The branches are *slowly* swaying on the small tree *just* outside of my window as its leaves are *gently* trembling in the soft breeze. In my yard, and around town, trees and shrubs are beginning to *quietly* slip into their beautiful fall colors. While I appreciate each season of the year, there is something special about that window of time when the seasons are *gradually* changing. We can all feel the anticipation of change that is *slowly* turning our hot summer days into cooler days and nights, *refreshingly* sprinkled with days of clouds and rain!

Did you notice all of the *adverbs*? Preparing for our new worship series, *Embracing an Adverbial Faith,* I have been thinking a lot about adverbs, and the verbs to which they add meaning! I've had the 'Schoolhouse Rock' Adverb song playfully bouncing through my brain since I played the video a couple of weeks ago!
Lolly, Lolly, Lolly get your adverbs here!

I have heard United Methodism most helpfully described as a movement. We are a part of the movement of people called United Methodists. We are called to actively live out our faith in ways that transform the world we live in, and the people we encounter. As United Methodists, verbs and adverbs are necessary descriptors of the ways in which we live our faith, loving boldly, serving joyfully, leading courageously, giving generously, and living abundantly, led by the Holy Spirit as we faithfully follow Jesus in our journey of faith!



As our plans for sharing this series came together, we realized the timing spanned our usual stewardship focus. Because giving

generously has always been an important part of our identity as United Methodists, we decided to wrap stewardship into our series on *Embracing an Adverbial Faith*. Pledge cards for 2027 will be sent out in early October, and they will also be available at the Welcome Desk. I encourage you to be in prayer over the next several weeks as you consider how God is leading you to participate in supporting the financial needs of the church for 2027. Those serving in church leadership roles are being asked to lead the commitment by turning in their cards by early November. Then on Sunday, November 15th, we will have an opportunity during worship for everyone else to offer their pledge cards.
I hope you will plan to join us over the next several weeks for our series *Embracing an Adverbial Faith*.

Salmon Creek UMC also has many great opportunities in October for fellowship, fun, spiritual growth and service. Save these dates and plan now to join us!

October 4: Blessing of the Pets at 2:00 pm
October 7: An Hour of Prayer for Social Justice at 2:00 pm in the Chapel
October 11: Missions Breakfast Supporting UMCOR 9 – 11:30 am
October 17: Women's Retreat Day from 9 am – 1:30 pm
October 25: Eek at the Creek 4-6 pm

Please try to register before the end of September for our Women's Retreat! This half-day retreat will be held on Saturday, October 17th here at Salmon Creek UMC. Registration in September is needed for our team to order lunches and adequately prepare materials for all who will attend!

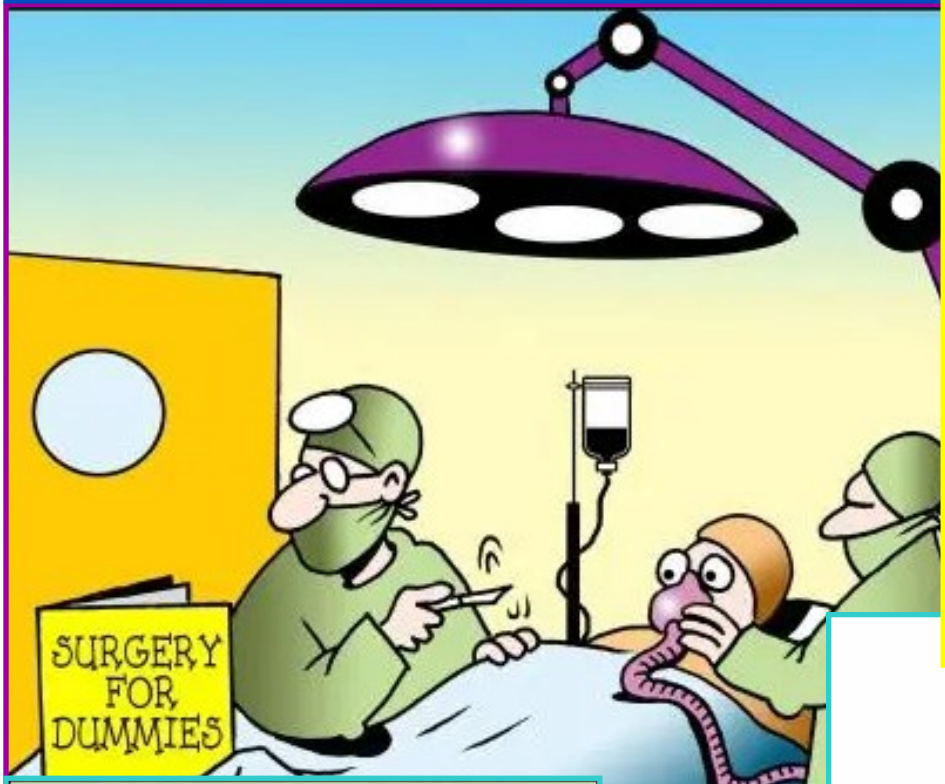
Fall is also Charge Conference season! So, we have begun working on our reports to share with our district superintendent about the ministry we have done over the past year, and our plans for 2027. An important piece of work to prepare for Charge Conference is the assembling of our 2027 Lay Leadership Roster. This is a great time to prayerfully consider if God may be calling you to serve in one of our administrative or ministry areas. If you would like to know more about opportunities to serve, please reach out to me or to Lila De bolt and we will be happy to visit with you.

Peace and joy, Rev. Kim Poer

The United Methodist Church forms disciples of Jesus Christ who, empowered by the Holy Spirit, love boldly, serve joyfully, and lead courageously in local communities and worldwide connections.

Nancy will be out on surgical leave from October 5th through October 25th. We have volunteers to cover the phones and door from 9-12 for that time period. As much as she is able, she will be working from home and trying to keep up, but please remember that she may not be able to respond as fast as usual. We appreciate your understanding!









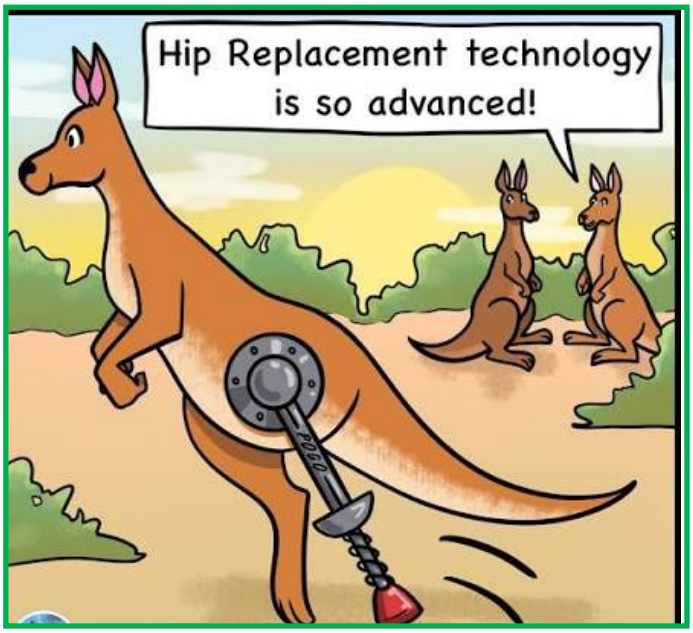


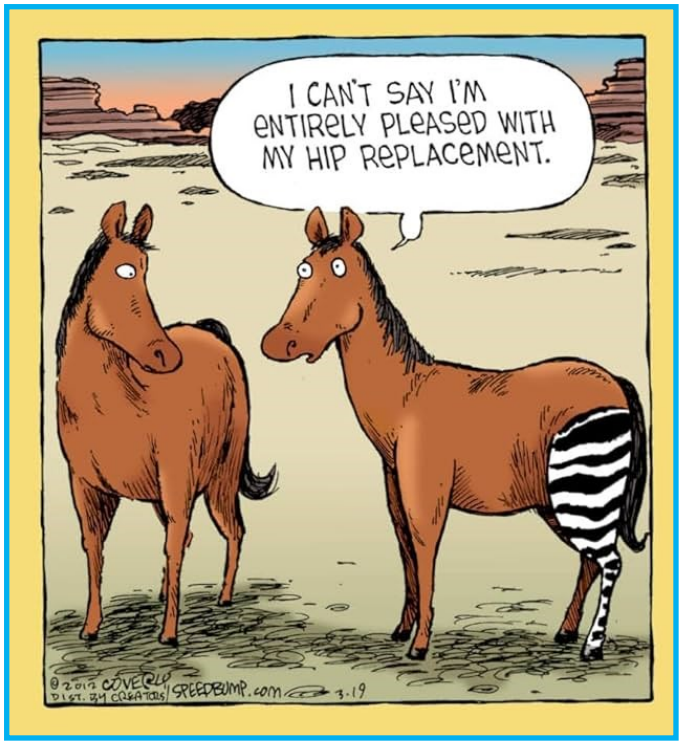
Microsoft Publisher, which is the software program used to create our Monthly Circuit Rider newsletter, is being discontinued as of October 1st.

Dear Church Family:

I wanted to notify you all that there is a possibility that I will not be able to get a November issue of the Circuit Rider put together and distributed. Because Publisher is being discontinued, I will now have to learn a whole new software. The learning process alone can take some time. As most of you know, I will be out recovering from hip replacement surgery from October 5th through October 25th. I'm told that I will be "very busy" during the recovery process; exercises and icing every few hours, PT appointments, other appointments, 10 new medications that need to be taken during recovery. I had lofty hopes of working from home during this time, but now I'm not so sure how much I'll be able to tackle while dealing with this stressful time.
I would appreciate your support and understanding if this ends up being the case.
I will do as much as I'm able, but please know that things might seem a little disorganized and fragmented while I'm away. And please understand if there is *no* November issue of the Circuit Rider. I will give it my best.

Thank you all for all the love, prayers and support!
Nancy Volgamore
Church Office Administrator





TENTATIVE UPCOMING EVENTS October



4 – Peace Pole Prayers, Blessing of the Pets, Stewardship Campaign begins
6 – AD Board meeting
7—Prayer Vigil for Social Justice
8 – Trustees meeting
9—Creation Care
10 – Set-up for breakfast
11 – Mission Breakfast for UMCOR, Pastor Appreciation
12—Worship Committee meeting
13 – Missions meeting
15—SPRC, Women's Ministry meetings
17 – Women's Retreat
22—Preschool Board meeting
25 – Eek at the Creek 4-6 pm
27 – Finance meeting
31—Halloween

November

1 – DST ends, Peace Pole Prayer, All Saint's Day, Commitment Sunday, Accessibility Task Force
3 – COM and Ad Board meetings
7—Earth Day 2.0 Fall clean up, BOC concert
8 – Veteran's Recognition, BOC Concert
9—Worship Committee meeting
10 – Missions meeting
11 – Veteran's Day -? gathering at the flagpole
12 – Trustees meeting
13 – Set-up for auction
14 – Mission Basket Auction (new date this year)
15—Stewardship Sunday
18—CHARGE CONFERENCE
19—SPRC, Women's Ministry meetings
22 – Hanging of the Greens
24 – Finance meeting
26 – Thanksgiving
29 – 1st Sunday of Advent

December

1 – Ad Board meeting
3—Preschool Board meeting
6 – Peace Pole Prayer
8 – Missions meeting
10 – Trustees and SPRC meetings
12—Preschool bake sale cookie drop off/assembly
13 – Lessons and Carols Service, Preschool Bake Sale Fundraiser
14 – Night of Hope service
22 – Finance meeting
24 – Christmas Eve services – 5, 8, 11 pm
25 – Christmas
27 – Sing-along service
31 – New Year's Eve

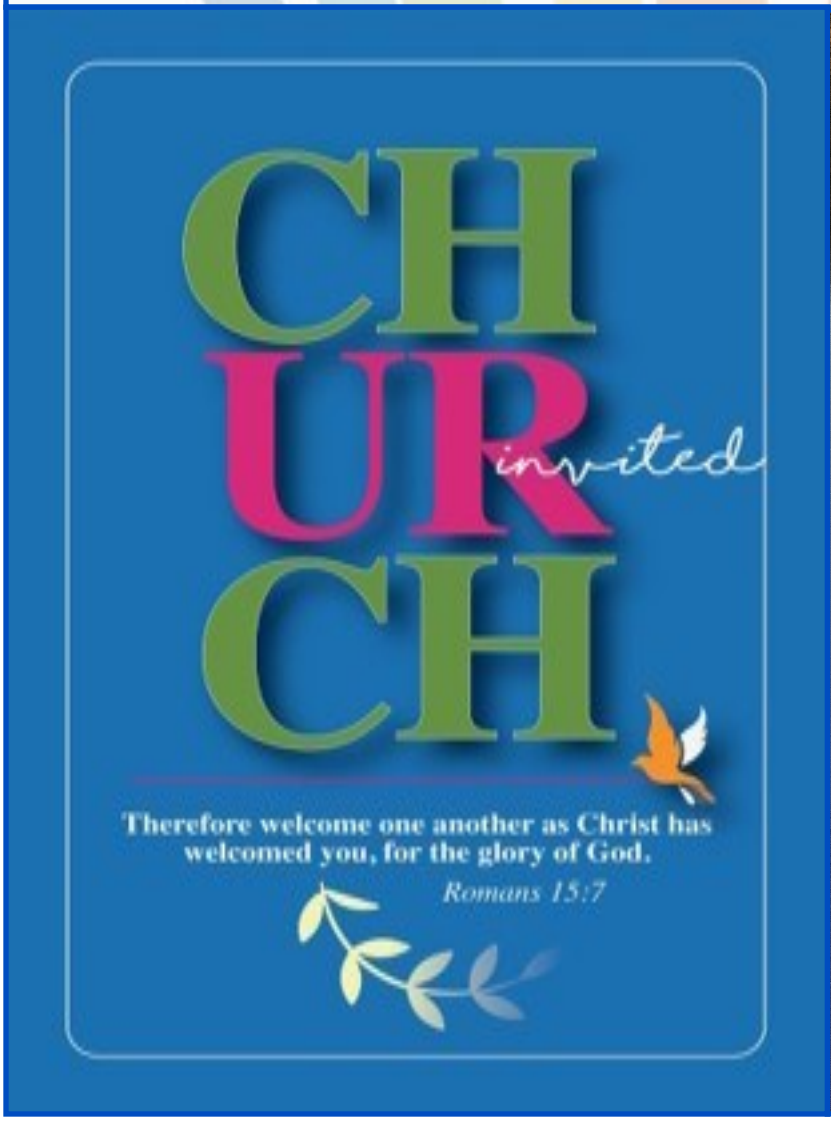
Event Discriptions

	Event Type	Description	Dates
Youth Group Type	Confirmation		Sept. 27 Oct. 4 Oct. 11 Oct. 18 Oct. 25 Nov. 1 Nov. 8 Nov. 15 Dec. 13
	Together @ The Table	We gather at our designated youth group location for food, faith, conversation, games, and meaningful connection. Activities may include lessons, small groups, creative projects, game nights, and other classic youth-group fun. Dinner is always provided, and adult volunteers are needed for every gathering. Event-specific information, permission forms, transportation details, and volunteer needs will be shared in advance.	Sept. 6 Sept. 13 Oct. 4 Oct. 18 Nov. 1 Nov. 15 Jan. 10 Jan. 24 Feb. 7 Feb. 21 Mar. 7 Mar. 21 Apr. 25 May 16 May 23
	Love In Action	We make room for caring for our community and doing service. Some activities include building food bags for kids in need, projects around church, sending cards to elders, etc. Unless otherwise noted, we meet at 4:00 PM at the designated church before traveling together. Dinner is provided, and event details, permission forms, and volunteer needs will be shared in advance.	Sept. 20 Oct. 11 Nov. 8 Dec. 13 Feb. 28 May 2 Jun. 6
	Holy Shenanigans	We make room for joyful chaos with celebrations, traditions, and extra-special activities. These may include holiday parties, lock-ins, scavenger hunts, themed nights, retreats, or other larger events. Details and schedules may vary. Unless otherwise noted, we meet at 4:00 PM at the designated youth group location. If an activity is off campus, everyone will still meet at the church first. Dinner is always provided, and adult volunteers are needed for every gathering. Event-specific information, permission forms, transportation details, and volunteer needs will be shared in advance.	Aug. 30, Kick Off @ Orchards Sept. 27, Live Action Clue Oct. 25, Trunk or Treat @ SCUMY Dec. 6, Christmas Event TBD Jan. 15-18, Holy Shenanigans Retreat @ OP Jan. 31, TBD Feb. 12 - 15, Suttle Lake Retreat Mar. 14, TBD Apr. 4-9, SLAM Apr. 18, TBD Jun. 19, TBD Dates TBD: OP Mid/High Camp OP Elementary Camp OP Kite Camp
HS Coffee Hour	North County	Unless otherwise marked, we meet on the first Sunday of the month at noon at Black Rock Coffee Bar in Salmon Creek, across from Burgerville on NE 20th Avenue. If weather permits, we may meet for a walk instead at the parking lot for Salmon Creek Regional Park/Kline line Pond. Check the calendar and weekly communications for the confirmed location. Adult volunteers are needed for each gathering.	Sept. 13 Oct. 4 Nov. 1 Jan. 10 Feb. 7 Mar. 7 Apr. 11 May 2
	Sounth County	Unless otherwise marked, we meet on the third Sunday of the month at noon at Starbucks on Andresen, near WinCo. If weather permits, we may meet for a walk instead at the Burnt Bridge Creek Trail parking lot on Devine Road. Check the calendar and weekly communications for the confirmed location. Adult volunteers are needed for each gathering.	Sept. 20 Oct. 18 Nov. 15 Jan. 24 Feb. 21 Mar. 21 Apr. 18 May 16
YAM	Theological Foodies	Young adults are invited to gather on select Tuesday nights at 7:00 PM for appetizers and honest conversations about faith, theology, life, and the questions we carry. No perfect answers or church experience are required—just come ready to eat, wonder, and build community together. Locations will be listed on the calendar and shared in advance.	Sept. 10 - Mental Health Oct. 8 - Nov. 12 -

U R INVITED!

As we prepare for the upcoming fall and holiday activities, let's all remember to invite our families, neighbors, and friends. There are many special events planned for the remaining of this year. What a great way to bring in new people – invite them to join in on 1 or all of the events!!

Special invitation cards are available at the Welcome Desk for you to take to pass out to everyone you meet – the grocery store cashier, your barber, the mailman, your Uber driver, the receptionist at the doctor's office. The cards have been updated with the end- of- the-year activities. So, take one and pass it along to someone who needs some fun, or a pick-me up, or some holiday cheer. Let's be welcoming and inviting. Let's fill the pews. Let's see some new faces as we enjoy the fall and holiday fun!





August, 2026 Financial Update

Following is the financial report for the Church for August, 2026.

	Month			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)
Pledges	27,058	27,500	(442)	271,166	220,000	51,166
Other Income	2,095	2,267	(172)	15,764	18,133	(2,369)
Investments	6,801	0	6,801	29,698	0	29,698
Total Income	35,954	29,767	6,187	316,628	238,133	78,495
Expenses	28,299	30,948	2,649	257,140	262,773	5,633
Operating Income / (Loss)	7,655	(1,181)	8,836	59,488	(24,640)	84,127

Our pledge income remained strong during the summer with pledges at 98 % of Plan for the month of August. On a YTD basis, we're 123 % of Plan, and ~ 51,000 favorable to Plan. Our expenses were very close to Budget for both August and Year to Date, with variances of 2,649 and 5,633, respectively.

Our YTD profit for the Church is now ~ 59,000 and ~ 84,000 favorable to our Budget. In a repeat comment, your commitment to our Church and our Community remains steadfast and we appreciate everyone's generosity. As we head into the Fall and schools being open in September, we remain optimistic that we will finish the year with very strong results.

Our Preschool program is now open again and has increased its enrollment recently, and we are getting closer to a break-even operation. In a repeat comment, the Administrative Board voted to keep the school open through this school year!

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





Capital Replacement Program (PIF)
9/2026 Update/Funding

As head of the Trustees, I want to thank the congregation for the funds that have been provided to our PIF Fund. The new campaign is off to a great start - $117,950 pledged over 3 years. The current available, after deducting the 2 PIF projects recently completed, is $ 24,300 with $67,000 pledged remaining. We still have needs beyond funds and are hoping you will continue to support the campaign. We are also fixing the main building soffits / Parapet issue. The contractor should be finished in early September. That project is being funded from the Parsonage funds.

We really appreciate the funds provided by the congregation to the PIF account to address the many needed replacements in this large campus. With a declining congregation, it is not as easy as it was years ago, but we have the campus we have, and we need to maintain it for the future. It is a dilemma that we all have, declining, aging out congregation and church buildings that need to be maintained. I hope you will continue to support our efforts.

Projects Update:
FMC Gym HVAC Units: The cost is almost $38,000 for the 2 units, which has been completed.

Marquee Sign: The Admin Board voted to replace the marquee (top part) with a lighted marquee that would clearly illuminate the *Salmon Creek UMC church*. We are still working on the lettering, but the top portion has been replaced – hopefully making it easier for people attending events at night to see us.
Gym Lights – Paint Ceiling. Work has been completed on replacing the light fixtures in the gym and painting the ceiling. The new fixtures are LED and it is much brighter now and the painting helps as well. Drop by and take a look. Total cost was $27,825. The gym is getting more use with girls' basketball, softball, volleyball, boy scouts, cub scouts, dances, men's basketball, and other events, some of which (quilting bazaars) have filled the gym.

Main Building Parapet / Soffits. The contractor had a good idea to just cover the old siding with a new cement board (Hardy board) rather than remove, repair and replace the old siding. Work should be completed by the time you to see this article. Total cost is around $10,000. (we will still need to paint…)

We have the following list of Capital Replacement projects that will need to be addressed:

- **2 HVAC Units 30 years old – the two Sanctuary units still need to be replaced. We may use other funds rather than the PIF funds and we have applied for a grant that may reduce the cost for the project. The plan will include resealing portions of the roof as we replace the roof mounted HVAC units. Complete roof replacement is not being considered.**
- **Main Building Fire alarm panel and required upgrades. The fire alarm panel in the FMC was replaced as it was deemed obsolete. We spent $20K on replacing the FMC Alarm panel with some minor alarm additions. Main building unit is older. Estimated cost is $40K and we plan to use Parsonage funds for this work.**
- **Women's restroom; convert to ADA compliant, replace drinking fountain. Recommended by the Accessibility committee and a compliance concern of the conference. $8K**
- **Parking Lot Repaving of areas not repaved in 2016 and sealing and striping. We spent $70K on major repaving in 2015. Then $15K in 2022 for sealing and striping. Recommend using *PIF Funds* as this is more repair and is included in the PIF funds. Estimated cost is $35-40K.**
- **Carpets in offices, St Paul room, hallways and FMC rooms and hallway. Replacement is low priority, but some are quite worn now.**

Thanks for your continued support.

Steve Enyeart Chair, Trustees



CHANGING LIVES
One Service Project at a Time

WRITTEN BY AMANDA CARAWAY

This year, Salmon Creek United Methodist Church will serve the community through a program called "Church Without Walls." Instead of gathering for worship as usual, members will spend one Sunday serving others throughout the community.

"We'll have a fun day of service, doing yard cleanup at Gaiser Middle School and handing out Flood Buckets and Blessing Bags," said Nancy Volgamore, administrative assistant for the church.

Volunteers assemble Flood Buckets filled with sanitation supplies to help families clean up after flooding. Blessing Bags contain food, water, warm clothing, and hygiene items for people experiencing homelessness, offering support when it is needed most.



Nancy Volgamore, administrative assistant for Salmon Creek United Methodist Church, and Pastor Kimberly Poer, help coordinate community outreach programs that serve neighbors throughout the year.

"Our congregation donates all the items for the buckets and bags," said Volgamore. "These wonderful people have become my church family."

The church also supports Share Vancouver (sharevancouver.org) by providing bagged lunches for children during the summer months, when school meals are unavailable. In addition, members donate food and clothing to the YMCA and host YMCA summer camps on the church campus, extending their outreach beyond a single day of service.

"The summer camps are my favorite community program because I get to see the kids," said Volgamore. "There are all kinds of camps, including basketball in our gym, cooking and outdoor games."

Each year, the church also hosts an Easter Egg Hunt and Eek at the Creek, a Trunk-or-Treat event that gives local families additional opportunities to connect with the congregation.

"The most rewarding part of my job is the love I receive from the congregation," said Volgamore. "From the first time I walked through the doors, I felt so much support from this church family, and that support makes our work possible."

To learn more, call (360) 573-3111 or visit **salmoncreek.church**

GREET FELIDA **magazine did an article on our church for their September issue! It shed a very positive light on our church, even with a few facts a bit mis-construed. I was not able to find a way to link the article here, but hopefully you can read it in this reprint.**

We are so proud of all the great work we do, serving as the *"hands and feet" of Christ*!



OCTOBER 1 - 31

seats AND feets

underwear, socks
& diapers drive



Every year, Salmon Creek UMC participates in this annual drive for SHARE Vancouver, one of our supported missions. They ask for new socks, underwear and diapers — any size of all as they are needed by all ages. We will have a barrel in our Narthex area for you to drop off your donated items.

SHARE thanks you as do all the recipients of the donations!!

We serve as the *Hands and Feet of Christ*!

October's gathering will be on Sunday, October 4th at 9:45 am.

May Peace Prevail On Earth

Every First Sunday of the month, join us at 9:45 am out-side at our Peace Pole to share pray-ers for the world, the people, the earth.



BLESSING OF THE PETS
October 4
2:00 pm
On our patio between the buildings

Bring your beloved family member!





PASTOR APPRECIATION DAY
Sunday, October 11

Thank you, Pastor Kim!





UMCOR
United Methodist Committee on Relief

MISSION BREAKFAST
FOR UMCOR
October 11

Soul Care SATURDAY

WOMEN'S RETREAT

Saturday, October 17, 2026 9:00am - 1:30pm

Reconnect. Renew. Refresh.

Guest Speaker

Poppy Smith

Author, Speaker, and Spiritual Coach

FLOURISH AS A WOMAN

"My longing is to see women flourish at every age and stage of life. I believe this is God's desire and that He wants us to grow spiritually, emotionally, and personally."

- Registration opens August 16 and closes October 4. The cost is $20 per person, which includes a delicious Panera lunch. Registration forms will include lunch selections.
- You can register in the Narthex or contact Laurie Doering (360) 606-7494 lauriejd0503@comcast.net
- Mark your calendars, invite a friend, and plan to join us for this uplifting day of growth, connection, and encouragement.
- For women of every age and stage of life!



Meet Poppy Smith

Spiritual Director/Christian Life Coach/Speaker/Author

With a broad background in teaching, coaching, counseling, and inspiring women of different ages and cultures, I offer both Biblical and personal wisdom for situations you may wish to discuss.

I'm originally from England and was raised in a loving, but non-believing family. My father served in the British Royal Air Force, which meant my childhood was shaped by constant movement. My parents loved to travel, and by the time I was grown, I had lived in many parts of Britain as well as Sri Lanka, Singapore, and Kenya. Change felt normal—until God used it to change me. At seventeen, friends shared the Gospel with me, and I responded immediately to god's love. That decision set the direction of my life, but it didn't spare me from struggle.

As a new Christian in Nairobi, Kenya, I attended a very small, very English church, where I met and married my American husband, a Peace corps doctor. Just six weeks later, we arrived in the United States. I was only twenty-two and expected life to feel like an exciting adventure. Instead, I felt profoundly alone.

My husband disappeared into the hospital for five years of surgical training, coming home only to sleep ad study. I was navigating a foreign culture, a demanding marriage season, and early motherhood without family support. The result? Anger, bitterness, and depression quietly took root. Even the joy of two delightful children couldn't erase the deep sense of hopelessness I carried.

More than once, I considered leaving, returning to England or Nairobi. But God intervened through the wise encouragement of someone I trusted. I realized that running away was not God's answer. Over time, God gently transformed my anger and bitterness into acceptance. I didn't suddenly understand His ways, but I learned to trust Him even when I couldn't. (For a candid, humorous, and practical look at growth in marriage, see my book "Why Can't He Be More Like Me?"

www.poppysmith.com

As my emotional health began to strengthen, my hunger to know God more deeply grew. I joined Bible Study Fellowship, which provided the structure, discipline, and biblical foundation I laced. For twelve years, it became God's primary training ground in my life—especially during the seven years I spent teaching more than 350 women each week.

After our children left for college, God opened doors to teach and encourage women at retreats and conferences across the United States and in over twenty countries. I discovered something profound: women everywhere—whether in India, Hong Kong, Mongolia, Lebanon, Oman, England, Australia or New Zealand—share the same longings. We may live in different cultures, but we wrestle with the same fears, disappointments, relationships and questions about God.

Alongside my travels, I attended seminary and earned a Master's degree in Spiritual Formation and Direction. Wanting to serve women more effectively, I became a Certified Life Coach with the American Association of Christian Counselors and a Certified Domestic Abuse Advocate. Encouraged to write what I was teaching, my books and Bible Studies became additional vehicles to share the reality of God's presence in our lives.

Each season—joyful and painful—has shaped who I am and my calling and passion to help women flourish through offering Christ-centered counsel, coaching and Spiritual direction. As we spend time together, you will gain insight and learn to:

- **Recognize and release what's holding you back**: Fear, anger, bitterness, despair, temptation? These powerful emotions can derail your walk with God. I know, because I've faced them myself!
- **Apply practical, biblical tools for change**: Identifying your self-talk, negative thinking patterns, expectations.
- **Experience God's grace in real-life struggles:** Forgiveness, love, acceptance, knowing you are precious to Him.
- **Move from surviving to flourishing as the woman God intended you to be**.



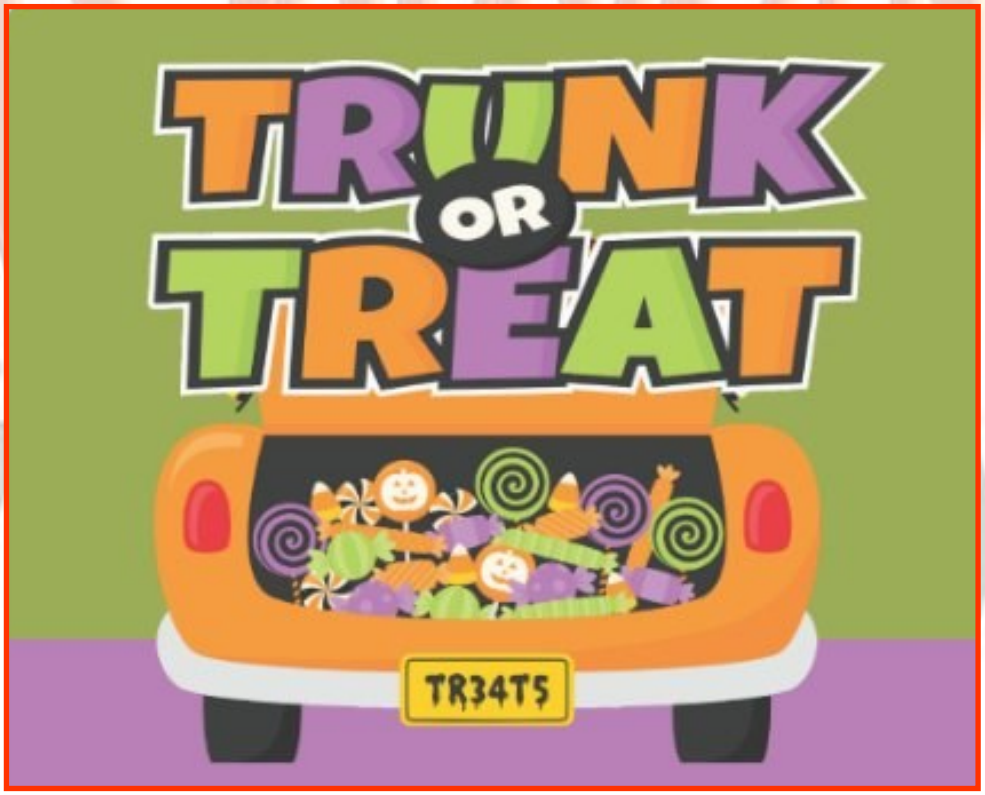
Join Poppy and your sisters in Christ as we learn and grow together on our Soul Care Saturday—October 17, from 9—1:30 pm here at Salmon Creek UMC.

www.poppysmith.com

EEK AT THE CREEK
Trunk or Treat
October 25

JOIN IN THE FUN!

Sign up with Tiffiney!





Reminder:

Set your clocks BACK one hour

at bedtime on October 31st,
as November 1st ends
Daylight Savings Time!!



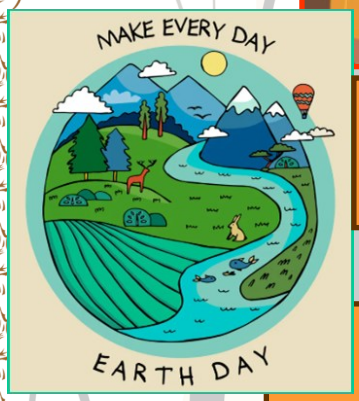
Hanging of the Greens! Please join us on Sunday, November 22nd for the annual "Hanging of the Greens"! We will decorate the sanctuary as well as the outside, for Christmas, from 11:30 (right after worship) until it is finished. It always goes faster with more people, so come and join in the fun!! Refreshments will be provided. After the New Year, we will take them all down, date and time TBD.





The Worship committee could really use a few more volunteers to work in a team of two and help set up Communion as well as volunteers to help serve Communion on the first Sunday of the month and at special services. If you are interested in helping, please contact Angie Williams at 360.281.5618.

NOVEMBER EVENTS



EARTH DAY 2.0
November 7

VETERAN'S SUNDAY
November 8





BASKET AUCTION
November 14

CHARGE CONFERENCE
November 18





HANGING OF THE GREENS
November 22





LESSONS & CAROLS
December 13



NIGHT OF HOPE
December 14



CHRISTMAS EVE
December 24
5PM, 8PM, 11PM

CHRISTMASTIDE
HYMN SING
December 27





Prayer Shawls

Prayer Shawls are a vital part of our congregation's ministry to ourselves, our friends or family. Stephen Ministers are particularly thankful for the shawls provided by our knitters and those who crochet. We use them in our individual work with others and make them available to others during our quarterly Healing Service segments on a Sunday morning. Pastor Kim also has need of them from time to time.

It is time to ask our men and women who do these beautiful shawls to settle down and start the fall season off with needles and hooks in hand, a pause to pray, and a favorite program, movie or music for company. Generally, each shawl takes three skeins of relatively bulky yarn and measures twenty by sixty inches. This link is to a basic pattern to knit or crochet. We have seen many original patterns and stitches over the years. If your have questions or three or more skeins you want to donate, please bring them to Sandie Hollister on a Sunday morning, or to *Joy* Bible.

Thank you to Echo Langley for her participation and leadership of the Prayer Shawl Ministry for several years now. Echo is moving to Missouri to be near family as she has recently retired from her special brand of nursing to seniors in our community.

www.shawlministry.com

Microsoft Word - Shawl_Ministry_Brochure_5_05.doc

Prayer Shawl Instructions

"Check out the new commemorative plaque honoring Larry Siewert. "The Larry Tree" was planted in April of this year as part of our Earth Day Celebration.
This new plaque will remain in place so that we never forget what a truly valuable asset Larry is to our church.
Thank you, Larry, for being our rock!"

We love you, Larry!

Thank you for all you do!





HOPE

Are you a Caregiver for a loved one with Dementia, or do you know someone who is? As our church family continues to age, we will see this situation coming up more and more.
HOPE is a wonderful resource for all sorts of helpful connections, information, support groups, and so much more, and it is right here in Vancouver.

HOPE Dementia Support offers hope for the care partner and the individual living with dementia

Our mission is to provide Support, Education, and Advocacy for the care partner and the individual living with dementia. (PLWD)

HOPE Dementia Support

CREATION CARE

Is this important ministry calling you?
Talk with Lila DeBolt, Aileen Maddox
or Teresa Rivera

Creation Care Task Force:
Next meeting:
October 9, 2026 at 9:00 am



Creation Care

At Salmon Creek United Methodist church



The Summer Produce Recipes will stay on the SCUMC Creation Care web pages through September. In October and November, we will Feature Fall Pumpkin Recipes.

CREATION CARE



Yes, One Person Can Make a Difference! … Creation Care Tips to Consider from *The UM Creation Justice Movement*
https://umcreationjustice.org/

Have you ever thought of the "R's" as a spiritual practice? Reduce is a spiritual practice. (Do I need this? Is it harmful in any way?) Reuse also challenges us spiritually. (God is a creator. How can I avoid being a "waster"?) Recycle is important too. (What creative ways can I find to give something a second life?) Reduce, reuse, recycle—John Wesley would be proud of you.

1. Conserve water. Set up a rain barrel, plant tea bags with your flowers and veggies to hold moisture longer, use leftover pet water on the plants. Inside, fix leaks, add a low-flush toilet, install a fine-spray shower head, take shorter showers, run the dishwasher only when full. Presoak silverware and dishes in a container rather than rinsing with running water.

2. Climate justice. Do you know someone with asthma or COPD? *("Lord, when did we see thee...?")* The air pollution that affects our climate also harms the health of people. Jesus challenged us to care for the "least" among us, including children and older adults whose lungs are vulnerable. People in poverty and people of color especially suffer from compromised health due to air pollution. Climate action is also action for justice.

YOUR DAILY DOSE OF CLIMATE HOPE

Could you use a Daily Dose of Climate Hope? Do you want to learn about the many positive actions that are part of a larger worldwide eco-friendly revitalization? Then become a free subscriber to the Your Daily Dose of Climate Hope publication on Substack's online platform. This includes climate news, actions, and hope about the trends, innovations, and people creating a better world! Here's how to subscribe:

On your smartphone:

- **Use your search engine to find Daily Dose of Climate Hope.**
- **Choose the result that shows the Climate Action Now logo (shown above).**
- **Enter your email address in the text field provided.**
- **Click the Subscribe button.**
- **Choose the free plan option if prompted with paid upgrade tiers.**
- **Confirm your subscription via the welcome email sent to your inbox.**

On your computer:

- **Go to https://climateactapp.substack.com/**
- **Follow steps c. through f. above.**

In addition, you may want to see how the Climate Action Now app helps people take meaningful climate action: (1) messaging elected officials about specific climate policies with pre-written emails, (2) earning points that contribute toward planting real trees, and (3) combating climate change (https://www.climateactionnow.com/). Consider downloading the Climate Action Now app for iOS or Android because …

Climate action is action for justice.
Climate action and our prayers are antidotes to despair.

For questions, contact Aileen Maddox.



MARK YOUR CALENDAR – EARTH DAY 2.0

Don't forget to schedule this work day on your calendars – Saturday, November 7, 2026. This will be our Fall "clean-up the campus" day. We will start at 9 am, with light refreshments on the back patio. There is raking, trimming and pruning to be done. Bring your work gloves, rakes, trimming and pruning tools, and buckets. So, join in the fun and help to make our campus clean and beautiful for the holiday season.

Sign-up will start on October 18th at the Welcome Desk. Please let us know if you are planning to help!

For more information, see Lila DeBolt.





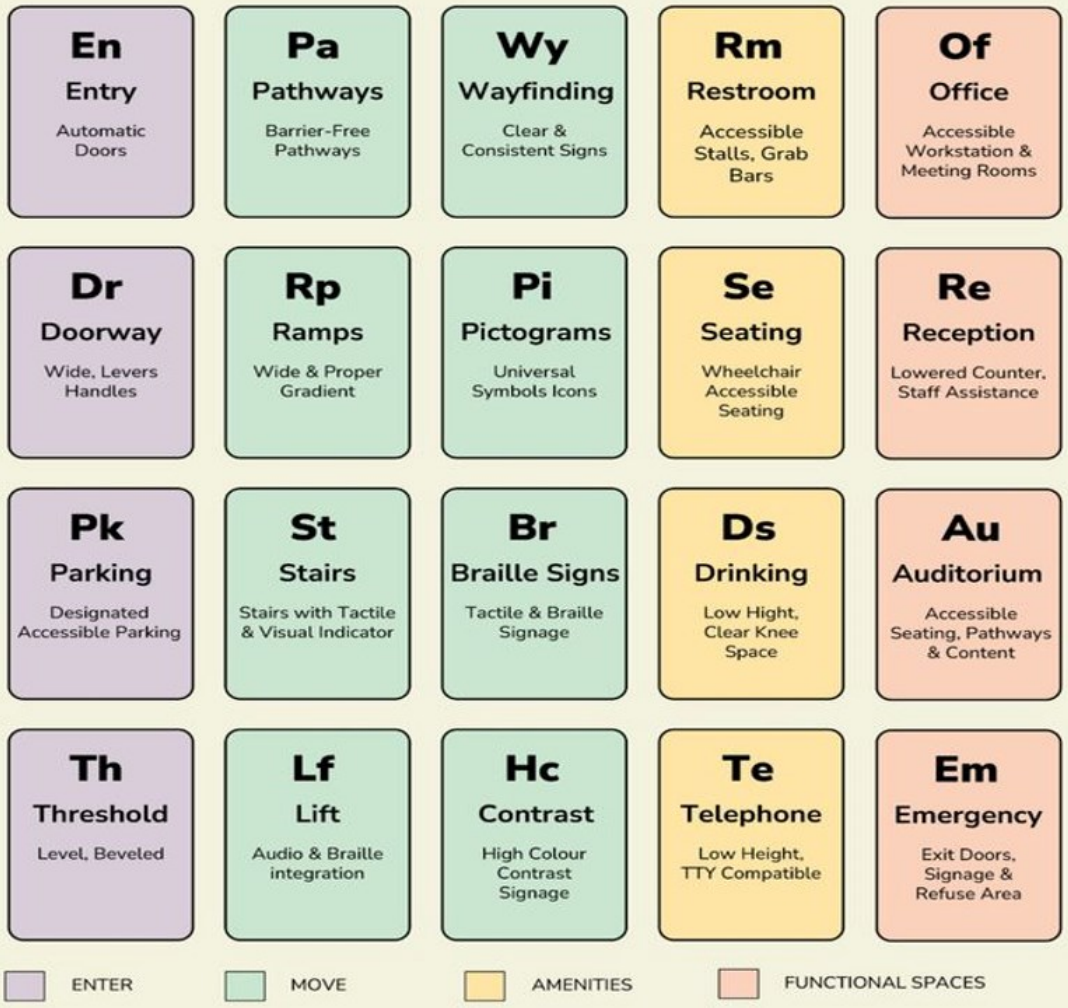
The Accessibility Task Force needs your help! Starting with the new year, some vacancies will become available on the team. Do you have a passion for making a difference in our church so that every person who enters feels welcome and valued? Are you ready to explore, plan and discover how we can make our campus accessible for anyone with any special need? Then, this is THE place for you! Join now and become a part of the experience. The team meets every other month, usually after church service. If you are interested in joining or want more information, please see Lila DeBolt, Lilly Longshore, or Doug Lehrman. We are waiting for your ideas to be shared!

Accessibility Task force

Next meeting:

Sunday, November 1—11:30—St. Paul Room

Periodic Table of **Accessible Building** Features



Accessibility for all is about so much more than the average person thinks. It's more than a ramp or an open door. It involves making people feel comfortable and welcome in every aspect of life. This "table" offers insight into the many obstacles that are often taken for granted, or completely forgotten. Every person has a right to be accessible in every way.

The Accessibility Task Force here at SCUMC is striving to make our campus accessible and inviting to all who enter through our doors. We want to be inclusive so that each individual who joins us feels that he/she is a valuable asset in our congregation.

Pause for a minute to think about what you can do to help someone feel as though they matter and belong.

Sidewalks that sideline

By KIMBERLY CORTEZ The Columbian



Time and tight budgets constrain progress to make Clark County's sidewalks and streets accessible and in compliance with ADA standards

For Lilly Longshore, a bump in the sidewalk isn't just a bump. It's a barrier. "It does not take much," said Longshore, 64.

The Clark County resident has been paralyzed from the waist down since she fell 24 years ago and broke her neck. Officials are aware of the barriers encountered by Longshore and others who rely on wheelchairs. They just don't have enough money to fix them all.

The Americans with Disabilities Act outlines standards for accessibility. Violations include missing curb ramps or ones with the wrong slope, sidewalks buckled by tree roots and out-of-reach crosswalk buttons. For example, in the city of Ridgefield, 70 percent of curb ramps failed ADA standards and 75 percent of sidewalk miles have a compliance issue, said Miranda Lange, public works infrastructure deputy director. Bringing it all up to ADA standards would cost close to $21.2 million.
"It was a shock," said Lange, who noted Ridgefield's annual budget for barrier removal is $164,000 a year.

Even Clark County's largest city, Vancouver, has a long list of ADA violations. "There's millions and millions of dollars of corrective work that needs to be done to bring the sidewalks into compliance," said Ryan Lopossa, Vancouver's streets and transportation manager. "Whether we do the work or property owners do the work, that's going to take a couple of decades of time to get that work done."

The Americans with Disabilities Act requires municipalities to identify deficiencies and create transition plans that provide a roadmap toward compliance.

James Carothers, engineering manager for the city of Camas, said the community's 20-year plan, developed in 2015, identified downtown as a focus for ADA projects. "The biggest barrier is the funding," Carothers said. "We've been fairly creative with funding sources. We do chase grants. We've made quite a dent in the last 10 years."

While cities work to retrofit old roads and sidewalks, new developments are built from the outset to meet ADA requirements. "The way that most sidewalks in the city get built is with development," said Mark Herceg, public works director for the city of Battle Ground. "As developers come in and build a subdivision or build a commercial development, they essentially have to do the frontage improvements that are directly abutting their property." But they're not required to upgrade the connecting properties, so gaps in accessibility often remain.

In 2021, the city of Battle Ground identified $116 million in funding needed to fix ADA barriers in public right-of-way — including $40 million for sidewalks and $15 million for curb ramps. Herceg said Battle Ground's landscape has many wetlands and other environmentally sensitive areas where building requires permits from the state Department of Ecology or the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, which drives up the cost of ADA projects.

Everything that we do is much more expensive," Herceg said. "You have a doubling of cost, and that means for the same amount of money you can only do about half of the work. That's an across-the-board thing."

One recent accessibility project in Battle Ground is nearly complete: a $720,000 accessible pathway along Southwest 20th Avenue. The project was identified by local residents, many of whom live in a nearby assisted living and senior apartment complex. They wanted to reach a nearby Walmart but did not have a safe and accessible route.

Most cities in Clark County are working toward ensuring all their infrastructure is accessible to people with disabilities, said Longshore, who has a background in engineering. She's noticed crosswalk push buttons that give verbal directions and more accessible parks and events. She said she understands these projects require time and money. There are simple steps residents can take in the meantime to make life a little easier for someone using a wheelchair, mobility device or walker, she said. One is simply being mindful of how everyday actions can create barriers for others.

"There are definitely a percentage (of people) that don't get it," Longshore said. "And it's understandable because if they don't have to it's easy to not really pay attention if you don't know anybody in a wheelchair or if you aren't in a wheelchair." Longshore said she frequently encounters people who park in handicapped parking spots without a proper permit or who don't leave enough space next to those spots. She often encounters people using the restroom or changing stalls meant for wheelchair users.

"There's a piece of education, I think, that's missing," Longshore said. And that responsibility shouldn't fall on people with disabilities, said Jeff Waugh, a Vancouver resident and longtime special education teacher. Waugh said he's alerted the city of Vancouver about obstructions on sidewalks that create mobility and accessibility barriers. He's observed some older neighbors who use mobility devices in streets rather than on sidewalks because they're blocked by garbage cans and other obstructions. "People with disabilities shouldn't have to become the city's accessibility enforcement system," Waugh said.

Waugh, like Longshore, believes continued education is just as important as making sure physical infrastructure is accessible to all people. "It's not a one-shot thing," Waugh said. "You have to continue to do it, and agencies need to look at what they're doing. Don't tell me about how many policies you have. Show me that the wheelchair can get down the sidewalk."
"It's easy to not really pay attention if you don't know anybody in a wheelchair or if you aren't in a wheelchair."

Lilly Longshore
Clark County resident

epaper.columbian.com/infinity/article_popover_share.aspx?guid=0ea47890-e007-4227-9f4a-9a6525d756dd&share=true

Kimberly Cortez: 360- 735-4522; kimberly.cortez@ columbian.com

ABOUT THE PROJECT: Community Funded Journalism is a project from The Columbian and the Local Media Foundation that is funded by community donations. The Columbian controls all content. For more information, visit columbian.com/cfj.



New stoves for our Fellowship Hall kitchen and FMC Kitchen were delivered by Home Depot on Tuesday, September 15th. They look great, and it will be such a pleasure to have working stoves/baking options now available! The pre-school teachers are already excited about modules they are planning with the

New Stoves in!







Fellowship Hall Kitchen stove being installed



FMC Kitchen stove being installed

On September 8th, the old stoves were taken out of the Fellowship Hall kitchen and the FMC kitchen, making room for the brand new stoves to be delivered. Photos were taken of the moving out, and of what it looked like after they were out! A huge thank you to all who were part of making this finally happen!

Old Stoves out!

In asking those who have been around a long time, we finally learned that the old FMC stove was given to the church by Burgerville. Apparently, it had something to do with improvements being done on Highway 99; the Burgerville in that area was being closed and moved. The church was offered the stove and the trash bins in the FMC.



Fellowship Hall kitchen stove going ….. Gone!





FMC kitchen stove going ….. Gone!



On August 29, 2026, our former pastor, Joyce Emery, and her husband, Rev. David Emery, celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary here at the church. We finished our gym re-decorating project just in time for the party. Many of our Salmon Creek UMC folks were able to attend the party, and it was absolutely lovely. Pastors Joyce & David are so grateful for the use of the facilities and all the help in planning and setting up, and for all the wonderful friends and wishes.

Congratulations to Pastors Joyce and David on 50 years of marriage!

Many of our SCUMC family were able to attend and have photos with the Emerys!

Bob & E-Lois Gebhart



Former Dayschool Director Gayle Horwitz



Jerry & Sharon Regier



Sally DuPree



Ed & Diane Grubel



Jim & Betty Selby



Jack & Libby Bunkley



Laurie Doering



Monica Tanner



David & Lynne Nieda



Faye Wells



Jan Hamman



Lola Vaughn



Over 100 people attended!





INSTALLATION OF NEW SIGN

8-20-26

The sign will be reworked to achieve a different color and larger lettering for the "UMC" portion so it's more visible.













GYM REMODELING PROJECT
NEW OVERHEAD LED LIGHTS
& PAINTING
August 17—25













Kathy Hardy—October 2

Faye Wells—October 7

Sandy Bippes—October 9

Jan Asai—October 16

Elaine Gilbert—October 25

Dan Kingsley—October 26

Bob Gordon—October 30

Don't see your birthday?

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



www.salmoncreek.church

https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?

Join us live on Sunday mornings for worship, or view our past recordings:

https://www.youtube.com/@salmoncreekchurch8931



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

The Circuit Rider **is a publication of Salmon Creek United Methodist Church.**
Submissions should be sent to admin@salmoncreek.church
and are due by the 15th of the prior month.
Thank you for reading our magazine.
Compiled and edited by Nancy Volgamore, church Office Administrator and Member