



The Circuit Rider



Salmon Creek

United Methodist Church

Christ's Love is our Hope

February 2025

And I am
convinced that
nothing can ever
separate us
from God's
love. Neither
death nor life,
neither angels nor
demons, neither
our fears for today
nor our worries
about tomorrow...



...nothing in
all creation
will ever be
able to
separate us
from the love
of God that is
revealed in
Christ
Jesus our
Lord.

Romans 8:38-39

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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!

Last Saturday, a group of our church leaders and committee members gathered for our annual Leadership Workshop. Thinking about Jesus' question to his disciples in the Gospel of Matthew, "*Who do you say that I am?*", we were all invited to consider how we would answer this question ourselves today, and what difference our answer makes in our lives. So, I invite you to consider these questions for yourself. *Who do you say Jesus is? And, what impact does that have on how you live your life?*

We also shared conversation about our congregation's mission statement, "*We are a welcoming United Methodist Church congregation that worships together as disciples of Jesus Christ, uniting in fellowship, missions, and service.*" We considered how all of the words in the statement were carefully chosen and what the various parts of it look like as we live it out.

What does it mean for us to be *welcoming*? Are there things we can do to be more welcoming?

We considered what it means for us to be a *United Methodist Church congregation* and part of a connectional structure. What does it mean to be a *disciple*, to be *united in fellowship, missions, and service*? You get the idea! We unpacked each of the words and phrases in our mission statement!

As we look ahead to February and early March, there will be many opportunities for us to come together in *worship, fellowship, missions, service* and more! I hope you will save these dates and join us.

Sunday, February 9th – Souper Bowl of Caring: Wear your favorite team colors or shirts & bring donations of canned soup that will be donated to Clark County Food Bank.

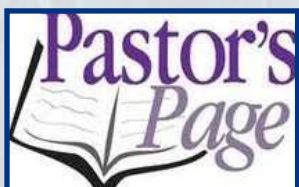
Saturday, February 22nd – Our Stephen Ministry will host a showing of the documentary, "*1946: The Mistranslation that Shifted Culture*", followed by refreshments and conversation. This documentary shares the story of researchers who explore translation decisions that led to the first appearance of the word *homosexual* in the translation from Greek to English in the 1946 publication of the RSV (Revised Standard Version) of the Bible. This event is open to anyone in our congregation or community interested.

Sunday, February 23rd – Scout Sunday: we will recognize and celebrate the contributions of BSA scouts in our congregation and community.

Tuesday, March 4th – Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner: Hosted by our youth group, this will be a fun opportunity for fellowship before we enter the season of Lent.

March 5th – Ash Wednesday Services: 12 noon in Pioneer Chapel and 6 pm in the sanctuary.

For the season of Lent, I will be preaching from Adam Hamilton's study called *The Message of Jesus: Words that Changed the World*. If small groups or individuals are interested in doing this study, we can order books and leader's guides as we have for previous studies.



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

CAL-PAC FIRE UPDATE

Donations for the California Fire:

The California-Pacific Conference has set up a portal where people can give to its Los Angeles Fire Recovery Fund. People can also donate through UMCOR. Links are available below.

Choose one of the links below to donate now. You can also send or bring in a check to SCUMC and write "Advance #901670" on the memo line.

CAL-PAC Website Donations Form:

https://www.eservicepayments.com/cgi-bin/Vanco_ver3.vps?

[ap-](#)

[pver3=Fi1giPL8kwX_Oe1AO50jRsRCr5_a0otZAFfSzuWjqPvHO3iVYxvvhHjRfLOeq662EvVVAEjgawDomKT1pbouf0Le2JkoOHJUvgp7BHufBl=](#)

UMCOR:

<https://advance.umcmmission.org/p-620-umcor-us-disaster-response-and-recovery.aspx>

CHURCH FINANCE



December, 2024 Financial Update

Following is the financial report for the Church as of December 31, 2024.

	Month			Year to Date		
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>
Income	22,312	28,792	(6,480)	458,767	345,500	113,267
Expenses	35,355	31,476	(3,879)	419,221	392,909	(26,312)
Operating Income / (Loss)	(13,043)	(2,684)	(10,359)	39,545	(47,409)	86,955

December giving was below budget again for the month at 87 % of plan, and Q4 at only 71 % of Plan. Expenses were ~ (\$ 4,000) unfavorable to budget, primarily due to facilities and landscaping costs running higher than Plan.

This resulted in a loss of ~ (\$ 10,000) for the month of December. Even though December's results were negative, we are still very strong on a Year-to-Date basis, with Pledge Income at 105 % of Plan, and YTD Expenses favorable to Plan (after adjusting for the ~ \$ 42,000 furnace replacement payments made this year).

On a YTD Basis, we have realized a net profit of ~ \$ 40,000, which is \$ 87,000 Favorable to Plan. Praise be to God!

2025 Budget Update

Surprisingly, our pledges for 2025 are lagging behind our 2024 figures. We still have many outstanding pledges for 2025, and without them, we are facing a potential "Deficit Budget" for the year. We do very much appreciate the pledges that have been made, and we thank you very much for your contributions of time, talents, and stewardship. If you have not turned in your 2025 pledge, there is still time! **Thank you!**

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

Respectfully Submitted.

Winston Asai Chair – Finance Committee

TENTATIVE DATES FOR THE YEAR

DATES TO REMEMBER

February 2025

2/4/25 Ad Board 6 pm
 2/9/25 SouperBowl of Caring—soup collection
 2/11/25 Missions 6:00 pm
 2/12/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 2/18/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 2/22/25 Stephen Ministry Presents the Movie 1946—1:00 pm
 2/23/25 Scout Sunday
 2/25/25 Finance 6:30 pm

March 2025

3/2/25 Girl Scout Cookie booth
 3/4/25 COM 4 pm
 3/4/25 Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner supporting our Youth 5:00 pm
 3/5/25 Ash Wednesday services: 12 noon in Chapel, 6 pm Sanctuary
 3/8/25 Roberta Gapsch Celebration of Life 2:00 pm
 3/11/25 AD Board 5 pm (special time)
 3/11/25 Missions 6:00 pm
 3/13/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 3/18/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 3/25/25 Finance 6:30 pm

April 2025

4/1/25 Friends in Faith 1 pm
 4/1/25 Ad Board 6:00 pm
 4/8/25 Missions 6:00 pm
 4/10/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 4/15/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 4/20/25 Easter Sunday—Worship 8:30 am and 10:00 am
 4/22/25 Finance 6:30 pm
 4/27/25 Family Promise Week and a half
 4/27/25 Missions Breakfast
 4/28 – 6/9 You Only Die Once 6-week Workshop begins 6:30 – 8 pm

DATES TO REMEMBER

May 2025

5/6/25 COM 4:00 pm, Ad Board 6 pm
 5/8/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 5/11/25 Mother's Day
 5/20/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 5/26/25 Memorial Day holiday
 5/27/25 Finance 6:30 pm

June 2025

6/1/25 Graduating Senior Recognition Sunday
 6/8/25 Pentecost Sunday
 6/10/25 AD Board 5:00 pm (special Time)
 6/10/25 Missions 6:00 pm
 6/12/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 6/15/25 Father's Day
 6/17/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 6/24/25 Finance 6:30
 6/26 – 6/29 PNW Annual Conference—Bothell UMC

July 2025

7/1/25 COM 4:00 pm, Ad Board 6:00 pm
 7/7—11 VBS Compassion Camp
 7/10/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 7/13/25 VBS Sunday
 7/15/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 7/20/25 Tentative Potluck
 7/22/25 Finance 6:30 pm

August

8/5/25 Ad Board 6:00 pm
 8/10 – 8/17 Host Family Promise
 8/14/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 8/19/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 8/26/25 Finance 6:30 pm

JANUARY

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

JUNE

JULY

AUGUST

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER

DATES TO REMEMBER

September 2025

9/1/25 Labor Day holiday
 9/2/25 COM 4:00 pm, Ad Board 6 pm
 9/7/25 Rally Day
 9/11/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 9/14/25 Church Picnic
 9/16/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 9/23/25 Finance 6:30 pm

October 2025

10/7/25 Ad Board 6:00 pm
 10/9/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 10/18/25 Possible Women's Retreat
 10/21/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 10/25/25 Eek @the Creek – Trunk or Treat
 10/28/25 Finance 6:30 pm

November 2025

11/13/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 11/15/25 Missions Basket Auction
 11/18/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 11/27/25 Thanksgiving—church closed

December 2025

12/7—14 Family Promise Week
 12/11/25 Trustees 5:30 pm
 12/14/25 Lesson and Carols worship
 12/15/25 Night of Hope Worship 6:00 pm
 12/16/25 SPRC 6:30 pm
 12/24/25 Christmas Eve Worship—5:00 pm, 8:00 pm, 11:00 pm

FEBRUARY

MARCH

APRIL

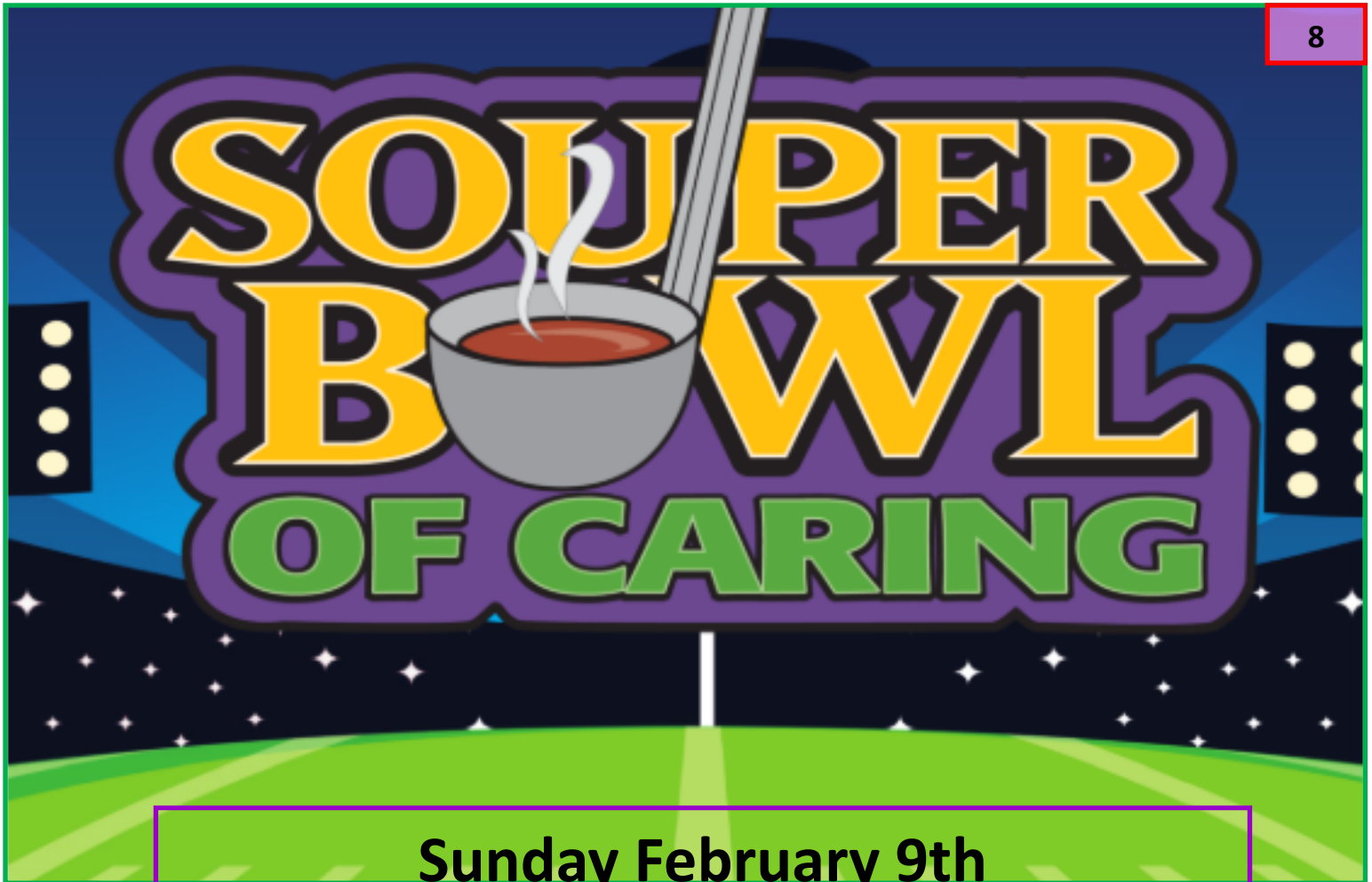
JULY

AUGUST

OCTOBER

NOVEMBER

DECEMBER



Sunday February 9th

“Souperbowl Sunday”

**Wear your favorite NFL team’s colors, or jerseys, and
bring in a few cans of soup
for this special event!**

Find out More:

[Tackle Hunger - Home of the Souper Bowl of Caring](#)

Join us for an exciting opportunity to collect donations and raise funds and support local food charities—all while celebrating the thrill of the Big Game! Let's team up to make a powerful impact in the fight against hunger. The campaign kicks off on January 12th, 2025, and runs through February 9th, 2025. Together, we can make a difference! If you can't bring cans on Sunday, February 9th, we will keep donations open throughout that following week.



Save the date: February 22nd, 1:00 pm

Your Stephen Ministers are sponsoring a film on how the word “homosexual” got into many of the revised Bibles in the post World War Two period.

Title: 1946, The mistranslation that shifted culture

Saturday, February 22 at 1:00 pm

Screening in the sanctuary, followed by tea and cookies in the fellowship hall with the opportunity to discuss with two of the sponsors supporting it in this area. We hope that many of you can attend and learn about this along with us.

SCOUT SUNDAY



**Be sure to attend on Sunday, February 23rd as we celebrate “Scout Sunday”.
All are invited to this special time
honoring all scouts.**



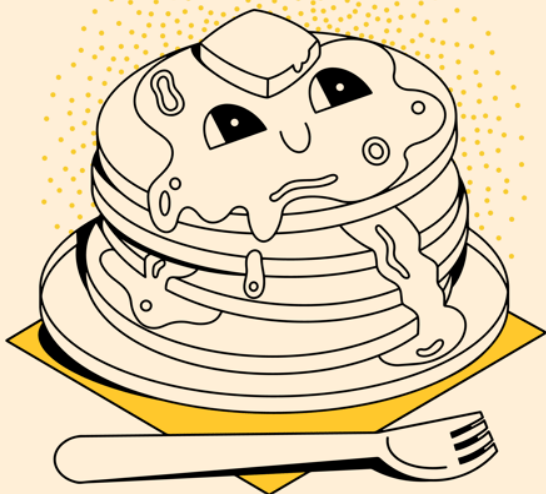
SCOUT SUNDAY



Bring your checkbook, cash or card on
Sunday March 2nd, as our Girl
Scouts will be in the Fellowship Hall
after service, selling cookies!



PANCAKE TUESDAY



**PANCAKES MADE BY
THE YOUTH MINISTRY**

Tuesday, March 4th

Time: 5:00 pm

**Join us for a Mardi Gras
Pancake Dinner!**



Ash

WEDNESDAY

WORSHIP SERVICE

We will offer two services for Ash Wednesday this year:

Wednesday, March 5th at noon in the Pioneer Chapel

Wednesday, March 5th at 6:00 pm in the main sanctuary

ASH
WEDNESDAY



2025 HOSTING:

***April 27 -May 7—(This is a week and a half.
The second half will be at St. John Lutheran.)***

**August 10-17
December 7-14**

Sign up to Volunteer

Talk with Karen Beilsmith!

COMMUNION SERVERS

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY

If you are interested in helping to serve Communion, please let Angie Williams know at 360.281.5618 or email to anjwill17@gmail.com ~ Thank you!



Food Pantry Donations Needed

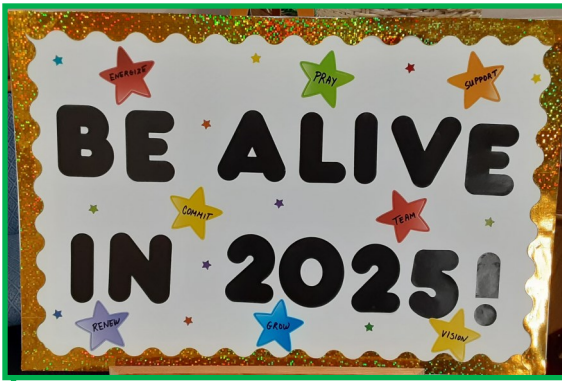
Our Food Pantry needs your help! There are a few items that are either low or completely out of stock on our shelves. The smallest size of peanut butter (creamy/crunchy), protein bars, assorted crackers that come in sleeves, squeeze style fruit pouches, pop-top items such as stew or meat, assorted snacks individually wrapped, liquid such as water or hydrating bottles, tooth brush/tooth paste, plastic cutlery that is wrapped, warm beanies/gloves. If you would like to donate, you can leave items in the food pantry cart located in the East entrance. This time of year someone in need may be cold and hungry, your help is greatly appreciated. If you have any questions, you can contact Angie Williams at 360.281.5618 or email to anjwill17@gmail.com.

A great time was had by all who attended the “Kick Off” BE ALIVE IN 2025 luncheon hosted by our AD Board chair, Lila DeBolt On Sunday, January 12th. We enjoyed a spaghetti lunch, listened to our new theme song, “Fully Alive”, and were reminded of those who are serving in leadership roles. Everyone is encouraged to get involved in some area of service, committees or missions.

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The following is the speech given at the kick-off luncheon on Jan. 12. It is provided for those who were unable to attend.



BE ALIVE IN 2025

Well, what exactly does that mean? The obvious answer is that I want everyone's hearts beating and lungs breathing. But, it goes way beyond any physical activities. Being alive means your spirit is alive with the mission of God. For the Christian, to be spiritually alive is to be in union with God, using one's gifts to glorify God and grow in the word of God. Philippians 2:13 says "For it is God who works in you and to act in order to fulfill his good purpose". As we enter into 2025, I'm inviting you to refresh, renew, and recommit yourselves to our church, our mission and our God.

We have seen quite a big change in our congregation in the last couple of years. Our Sunday morning attendance is continually increasing from 50 to over 100 congregants. We are accepting new members into our church family.

We are doing God's work with our continuance of missions like Family Promise, the Basket Auction, and teaching our children and youth by example from the congregation, just to name a few. The days of that horrible storm we experienced are over! How exciting for our church to be growing, thriving and being intentionally missional in our purpose. But, we can't stop now. We need to continue the momentum for the future of our church. We can't slow down, thinking we've done everything we can and let's see what happens. We must continue to grow spiritually and financially so that in the years to come, we can say, "Well done!" We will have a place for future generations to worship and perform God's work. We can't look away; we can't miss anything. This endeavor will take everyone to get on-board with a whole-hearted enthusiasm. Today is your opportunity to build the tomorrow you want.

So, as we go into 2025, I suggest you rise up, start fresh, and see the bright opportunity in each new day. This is your time to volunteer, commit, share your ideas, visions and talents, be present each and every Sunday, join groups to expand your spirituality, and financially support the many endeavors of our church. Mahatma Ghandi said, "The future depends on what you do today." Our future is yours to make. The only limit is you. Be Brave and fearless.

As I sat in a pew on Christmas Eve listening to the powerful Christmas story, I was thinking about Mary when the angel appeared to her with the plan for all mankind. Mary said, “Here Am I!”. She didn’t say, “I can’t do that right now”, “I’ve already done that”, or “Get someone else.” She did what was asked of her without hesitation. Yes, she probably was nervous. But, the calm of our God gave her courage and determination to get the job done. My Friends, here we are! Our future lies ahead. Let’s work together in a majestic way to make SCUMC long-lasting, superior and full of love and kindness.

Isaiah 40:31 says, “But those who hope in the Lord will renew their strength. They will soar on wings like eagles, they will run and not grow weary, they will walk and not be faint.”

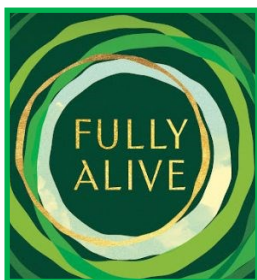
Folks, as we face this new year, I am asking you to “BE ALIVE IN 2025”. Be fully alive in your spirit and commitment to our church. Recharge and Refresh. Become excited and filled with energy to do our necessary work for the sake of our Lord and the prosperity of our church.

As a symbol of your recommitment to our church, there are Be Alive tags at the Welcome Center in the Narthex that you can wear around your church name tag or pinned to your shirt. If you didn’t receive one at the luncheon, stop by to choose one for you. Show your pride and dedication as we go forward into this new year. Be Alive with the spirit of God in you. For further inspiration, check out the Be Alive link found in the weekly Currents or click below. This is our theme song for this year. It is a performance by the Gaither Vocal Band – “Fully Alive”. Listen to the words and let them absorb into your being. BE ALIVE IN 2025!!

Lila DeBolt, Chairman, Administrative Board, 2025

Gaither Vocal Band: *Fully Alive*

https://youtu.be/YpAeY9qqsos?si=U5i_oFwBRcdqL_ot





Thank you to all of the wonderful volunteers who came down to the church and helped with 'Taking Down the Greens' on Sunday, January 5th! Many hands make the work lighter ...also, more fun!



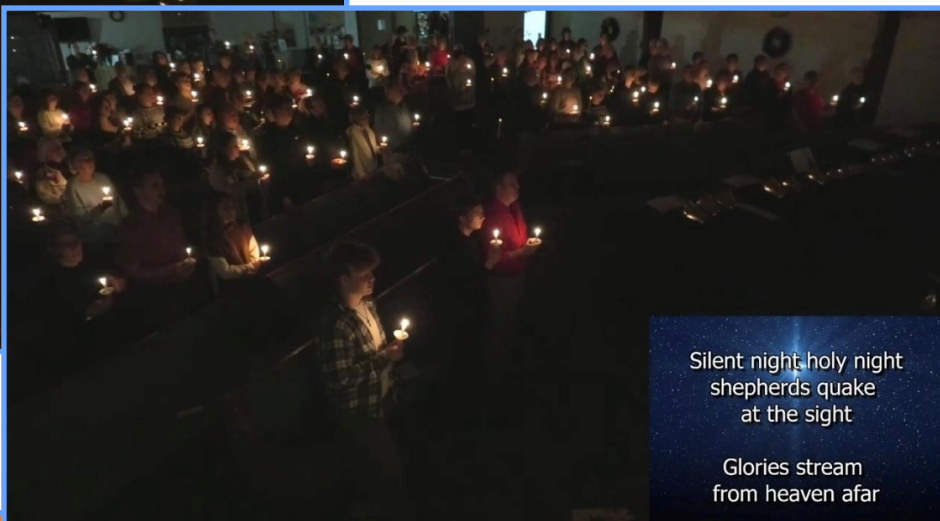
A night of music was provided by Teddy Ernster on January 4, 2025. Teddy provided the concert to raise funds for his Eagle Scout project, which involves the refurbishment of a set of handbells. Thanks so much to all who came out to support this cause!! We are so proud of Teddy and his accomplishments and talents.





PHOTOS FROM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES





PHOTOS FROM CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES



Celebrating
FEBRUARY
Birthdays



Jim Roberts—Feb 1

Lila DeBolt—Feb 3

Bill Forrester—Feb 5

Pete Mikalatos—Feb 5

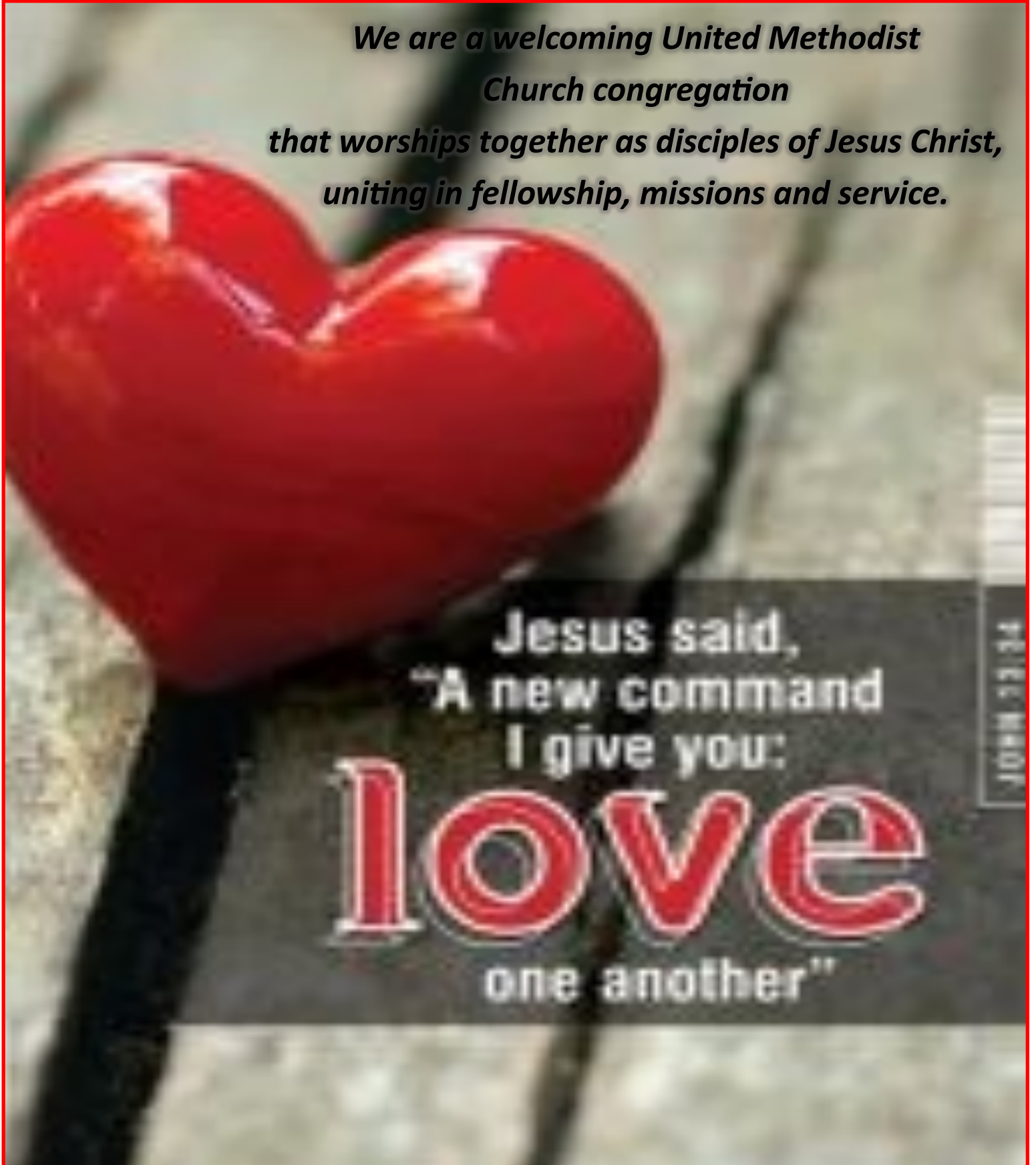
Joyce Murphy—Feb 9

Carolyn Fox—Feb 21

Kathryn Bachman—Feb 24

Don't see your birthday?

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



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

Jesus said,
"A new command
I give you:
love
one another"

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.

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