



The Circuit Rider



Salmon Creek

United Methodist Church



December
2024

[Pastor's Page—2, 3](#)

[Advent Book Study—4](#)

[Get Involved—5](#)

[Church Finances—6](#)

[Family Promise 2025—7](#)

[Walk & Knock—8](#)

[Scouts Tree Lot—9](#)

[Lessons & Carols—10](#)

[Night of Hope—11](#)

[BOC Holiday Concert—12, 13](#)

[Christmas Eve—14](#)

[Hymn Sing—15](#)

[Holiday Office Closure—16](#)

[Taking Down the Greens—17](#)

[Be Alive in 2025—18](#)

[Women's Ministry—19](#)

[Missions Auction photos—20-23](#)

[Pastor Appreciation photos—24](#)

[Eek at the Creek photos—25-27](#)

[Upcoming Dates—28](#)

[Emergency Preparedness—29-31](#)

[December Birthdays—32](#)



Travel with us this Advent
as we discover
Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love
ON THE WAY TO

BETHLEHEM

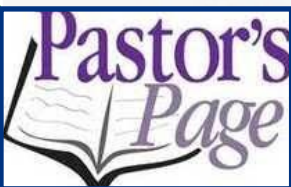
Grace and peace to you, friends and family of Salmon Creek United Methodist Church!

As I write to you today, I am looking out of my office window at a steady rain, wrapped in a cozy prayer shawl from a previous congregation and sipping some warm tea called, Gingerbread Joy! This is one of my favorite times of the year as cooler weather sets in, and plans for Thanksgiving celebrations begin to overlap with preparation for Advent.

During the month of December, we will share in an Advent Journey to Bethlehem. On the way, we will travel through Rome, Jerusalem, and Nazareth, discovering hope, peace, joy and love as we travel together through scripture. Several of our small groups will be doing an Advent study called, *On the Way to Bethlehem* by Rob Fuquay. If you would like to join a group for this Advent study, please reach out to me or Nancy, in the office, and we will try to help you find a group that works for you! We also have books for this study available for individuals to study on their own if that works best for you.

Before we look too far down the road, I want to thank all of you who have turned in 2025 giving pledge cards during our *What Gift Can We Bring* stewardship focus this past month. It has been a gift to me during the month of November to remember that we truly have so much to be grateful for. Please know I am grateful to God for the gift each of you are in my life and to the life of this congregation.

(continued)



As November comes to a close and we move into December, there are several special things about which I want to be sure you know! Our Mission *Giving Tree* is scheduled to go up in the Narthex on Sunday November 24. This year there will be two mission efforts on the tree, gifts for our Family Promise families and food donations to support the work Share does to feed hungry people in our community. On Saturday, November 30th at 11 am, several of us will be gathering to decorate the sanctuary for Advent. Everyone interested is invited to join us, as we know that many hands make the task much easier!

Sunday, December 15th will be a very special morning, as we share the gift of our Lessons and Carols concert by our music ministry groups! This would be a great time to invite friends and neighbors to join us for worship!

Monday, December 16th, we will offer a *Night of Hope* service at 6 pm in the Pioneer Chapel. This service is designed for anyone who has experienced loss. It will focus on the hope and light we find in the season of Christmas. Those who attended this service last year found it meaningful.

Saturday, December 21st will be another great opportunity to enjoy the gift of music as Bells of the Cascades will be here at Salmon Creek UMC to share their concert, *Spirit of the Season*, at 7:00pm.

Tuesday, December 24th, we will celebrate Christmas Eve with three services: 5, 8, and 11 pm. All three services will be similar and end with candlelight. The 5 pm service will be more family-oriented while the 8 pm service will include our chancel choir and hand bells. Make plans now to attend one of our services with your family.

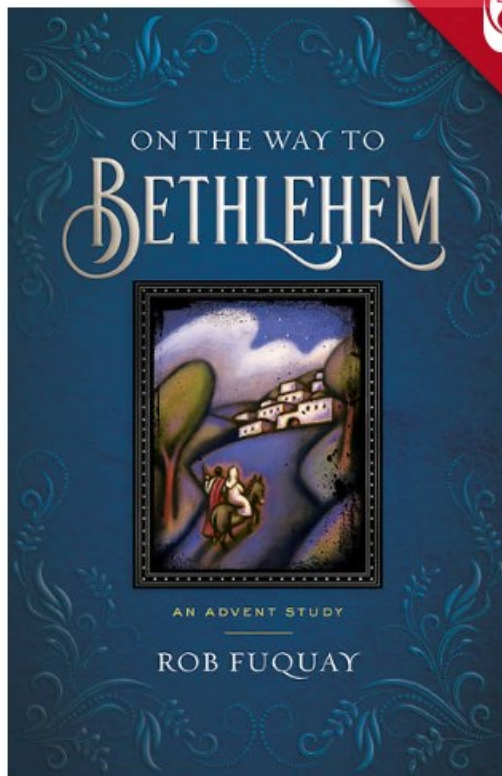
Peace and joy,
Rev. Kim Poer

*Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

Now Thank We All Our God, United Methodist Hymnal 102



Travel with us this Advent
as we discover
Hope, Peace, Joy, and Love
ON THE WAY TO
BETHLEHEM



Our small groups are doing an Advent Study: Rob Fuquay's "On the Way to Bethlehem". Books are available in the church office, \$15.00 each. If you are not in a small group, and would like to do the study, we are trying to form more small groups; talk with Pastor Kim.



WE NEED YOU!

There are so many areas in which you can get involved in your church and we need everyone. If you were not here for worship service on October 13th, Lila DeBolt made a short presentation about opportunities for you to find a place to become involved. Lila and Nancy Volgamore created a pamphlet which outlines all of the different committees and groups within our church. They also created a document describing what is involved in all of those committees and groups so that you can determine which would best fit you.

These materials can be accessed on our website (click the link below), or copies are available at the church.

Please prayerfully consider where you might find a place to serve and deepen your relationship with Salmon Creek Church.

[Ways to get Involved! | Salmon Creek Church](#)

October, 2024 Financial Update

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

	Month			Year to Date		
	Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)	Actual	Budget	Fav/(Unfav)
Income	9,145	28,792	(19,647)	405,219	287,920	117,299
Expenses	28,540	31,472	— 2,932	336,200	329,958	(6,242)
Operating Income / (Loss)	(19,395)	(2,680)	(16,715)	69,019	(42,038)	111,057

Unfortunately, October giving was the second lowest of the year. That coupled with the investment losses of \$ (6,108) led to a deficit for the month of \$ (19,395) and a very rough month for the Church. Even though October's results were negative, we are still very strong on a Year-to-Date basis, with Pledge Income at 129 % of Plan, and Expenses favorable to Plan, after adjusting for the \$ 24,000 furnace replacement payment made earlier this year.

On a YTD Basis, we have realized a net profit of \$ 69,000, which is \$111,000 Favorable to Plan. Praise be to God!

We continue to want to thank the congregation for your continued gifts of time, talent and monies that are necessary to support the mission of our Church, which is "We are a welcoming United Methodist Church congregation that worships together as disciples of Jesus Christ, uniting in fellowship, missions and service." Your generosity and faith were in full force at the Missions Auction which raised a lot of money for some very worthy charitable organizations. Thank you again!

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

Respectfully Submitted.

Winston Asai Chair – Finance Committee



2025 HOSTING:

January 26-Feb 2

**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!

WALK & KNOCK

We need volunteers! Annual Clark County Food Bank's 'Walk and Knock' is *Saturday, December 7th*. Greg Berry is captain of the Hazel Dell area and they need volunteers to help walk and knock to pick up food donations. Can you help for a few hours? Greg says it will be from 9am to noon or 1pm; contact Greg if you are able to volunteer for this special cause.





**Our Boy Scout Troop #14 will be having their
annual Christmas tree sale in our front lot; open
from Saturday, November 30th through
Sunday, December 15th.**

**Monday - Friday, Noon—8pm
Saturday and Sunday, 9am—
9pm**

A SERVICE OF
LESSONS
& **CAROLS**The title is set within a rectangular frame with a light beige background and a green border. The words 'LESSONS' and 'CAROLS' are in a large, bold, brown serif font. The ampersand is a large, stylized, light-colored flourish. The words 'A SERVICE OF' are in a smaller, brown serif font above 'LESSONS'. The entire title is flanked by green floral and leafy decorations.The background of the entire page is a photograph of four lit purple candles. The candles are arranged in a cluster, with their flames glowing. They are surrounded by green evergreen branches and white, snow-like decorations. The overall lighting is soft and warm, creating a festive and serene atmosphere.

Sunday, December 15th
During Worship Service

If you are struggling, grieving,
lonely, depressed, finding it
hard to enjoy the holiday sea-
son for whatever reason, join
Pastor Kim and others for

A Night of Hope.

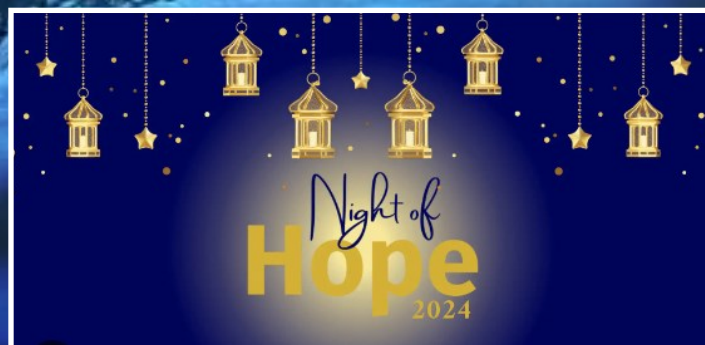
We will join together to find
comfort in the presence of
each other and our Lord.

Monday, December 16th

6:00 pm

In the Pioneer Chapel

Night of Hope



SPIRIT OF THE SEASON



See the following page for details!





Spirit of the Season

A Handbell Concert



Join us as we work to nourish neighbors in need this holiday with a donation of food or personal care items for Esther's Pantry, Oregon's first LGBTQ+ affirming shopping-style food pantry. Contribute and receive a \$5 discount on adult admission.

Thank you for supporting our music and supporting our mission to uplift and edify our community.

SATURDAY

DEC 21, 2024 - 7:00PM

SALMON CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
12217 NE HWY 99
VANCOUVER, WA 98686

SUNDAY


DEC 22, 2024 - 4:00PM

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
1623 NE HANCOCK STREET
PORTLAND, OR 97212

Admission is \$20 adults, \$5 students, children under 6 free, and as always, no one will be turned away for lack of funds. Tickets can be purchased at the door with cash, check, or card.

For more information:

Website: <https://www.bellofthecascades.org/>

 <https://www.facebook.com/bellofthecascades>



**OREGON ARTS
COMMISSION**



Christmas

EVE SERVICE

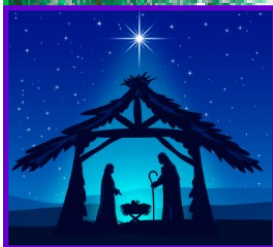
Christmas Eve Services

Tuesday, December 24th

5:00 pm—Family Service

8:00 pm

11:00 pm—Candlelight Service



Advent Hymn Sing

**Sunday, December 29th
10:00 am during worship service**



Nancy will be out of the office from Friday, December 20th through Wednesday, January 1st, however she will be in for limited hours to prepare for Sunday worship services and Christmas Eve services. Nancy checks the office e-mail from home, so you can contact her if you need to.

The church will be open for Christmas Eve services.

**Pastor Kim will be available by phone,
with some limited office hours.**

We wish you all a very blessed holiday season!



Taking Down the Greens

Sincere thanks to all who helped decorate our sanctuary for this beautiful Advent Season. Also, we thank all who are giving a poinsettia this year. PLEASE take your plant home after the services, or before Dec. 30th.

We would love for you to join us on **January 5th at 3:00 p.m.**
as we take down the decorations.

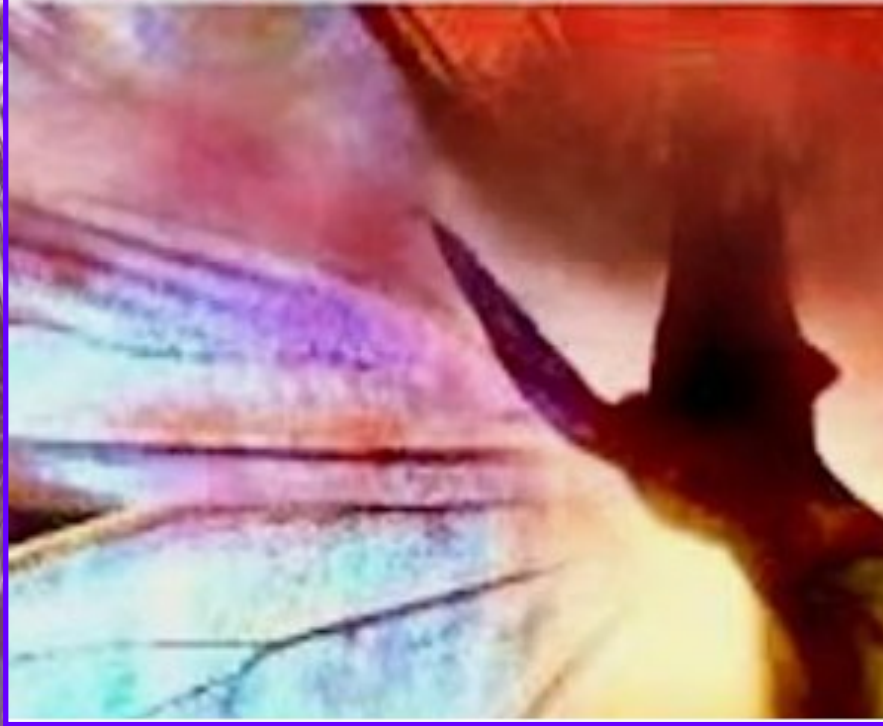
The Worship Committee

Alexa,

TAKE DOWN THE
CHRISTMAS
DECORATIONS



Be Alive In 2025



Save the date!

**New Year “KICK OFF” Spaghetti Luncheon
All Church meal and presentation!**

Sunday, January 12th, 2025

After worship service

More coming soon!



**LET'S KICK-OFF
THE NEW YEAR
TOGETHER**





Women's Ministry and the Dorothy Herbert Trust have served our Lord at Salmon Creek Church in many wonderful ways this past year. We voted to use trust money to pay for "The Upper Room" devotionals, books for Stephen's Ministry and classes, cards and gifts given by the Friends in Faith Ministry to our shut-ins and others who are on our prayer chain, Bible study scholarships and retreat expenses.

We sponsored and helped with Pastor Kim's Grief classes and Jayne McCarley's "You Only Die Once" classes.

We supported the reorganized 'Celebration of Life' receptions, led by Betty Selby, the Kathy Bachman led Welcome Center, and Echo Langley's Prayer Shawl Ministry.

Sandie Hollister and Sandy Bippes led the 'Passing Quilt' Ministry team that made and donated 60 quilts to Legacy Hospital.

Sandie Hollister and Sandy Bippes led J.O.Y. Bible study on Thursdays and Maggie Mikalatos and Kathy Valrejean led our Sunday Bible study "Better Together".

Elaine Gilbert led our Book Club, and Elaine and Faye Wells are in charge of our library.

Betty Selby and Marilyn Forman's 'Friends in Faith' Ministry team shared God's love with cards, gifts, visits, and phone calls.

We culminated the year on October 19th with a fantastic day retreat led by Laurie Doering and her team. It was held at Ridgefield United Methodist Church, for 53 women, including 6 from Ridgefield UMC. The speaker, Legacy Chaplain Mary Mahoney, spoke on resilience (Ecclesiastes 3:1-13).

Thank you to Pastor Kim and Nancy Volgamore for their encouragement and support!

Thank you to the many women who helped with our ministry and all who participated!

Thank you to Dorothy Herbert for her generosity to Salmon Creek women.

In Christ's name,

Joan Stuart

P.S. We are planning for next year and are very open to proposals.

Missions Basket Auction

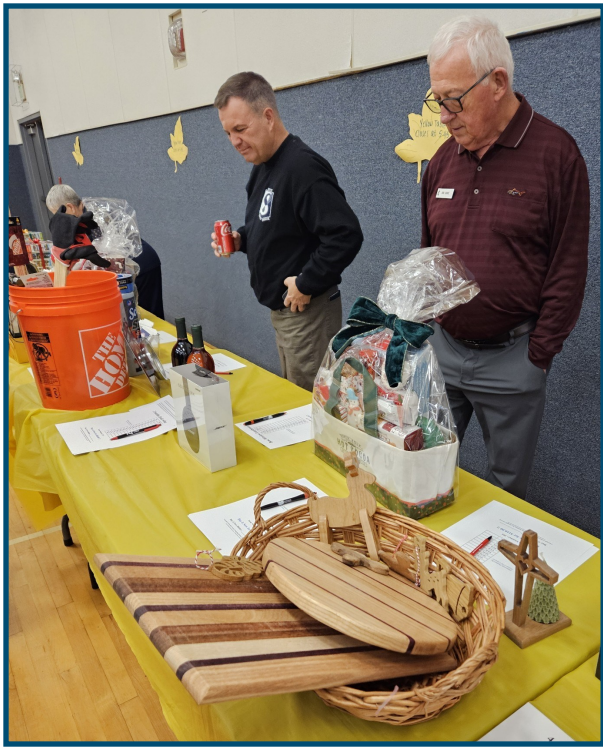


November 16, 2024



Missions Basket Auction
November 16, 2024





Missions Basket Auction
November 16, 2024



Missions Basket Auction
November 16, 2024

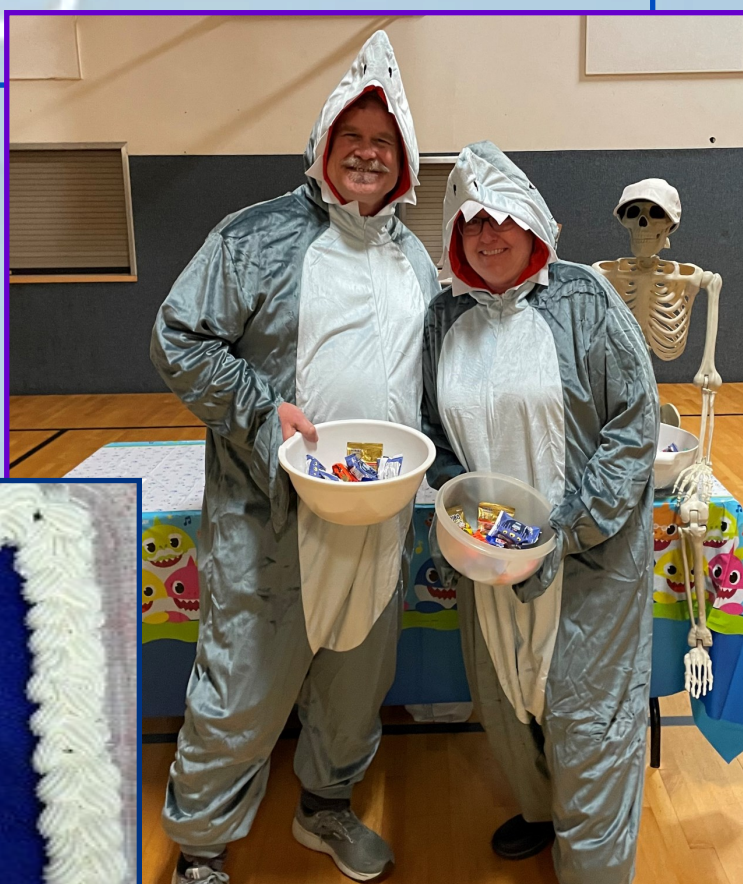




We celebrated our appreciation for Pastor Kim on Sunday, October 27th. Kim was presented with a speech of recognition and gratitude, and a gift and then we enjoyed cake during coffee fellowship.

Thank you, Pastor Kim, for all that you are and for all that you do!

You are loved.

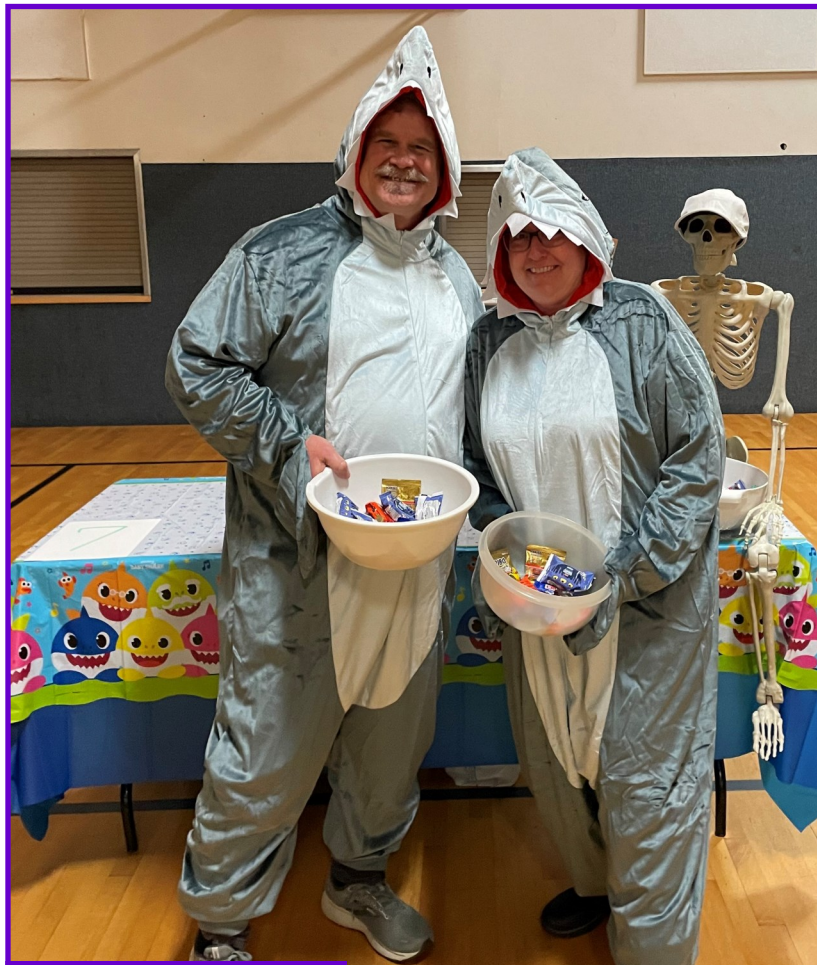


Brian & Kim in their Shark suits!



EEK at the Creek

Saturday, October 26, 2024



EEK at the Creek

Saturday, October 26, 2024



Trunk or Treat 🎃

EEK at the Creek

Saturday, October 26, 2024





December

12/1	1 st Sunday of Advent
12/8	2 nd Sunday of Advent
12/15	3 rd Sunday of Advent/Lessons and Carols
12/16	(Monday) Night of Hope
12/20	BOC Rehearsals and set ups
12/21	BOC Concert – 7:00 pm
12/22	4 th Sunday of Advent
12/24	(Tuesday) Christmas Eve Services: 5pm, 8pm, 11pm
12/29	Hymn Sing
12/20 – 1/2/25 – Church office closed	

January 2025

1/5	Taking Down the Greens—3:00 pm
1/12	“Be Alive in 2025” Spaghetti Luncheon after worship
1/25	Leadership Retreat
1/26	Mission Benefit Breakfast 9 – 11:30 am

EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS



MAKE A PLAN



BUILD A KIT



BE INFORMED

I recently had a congregant ask me if we had an “emergency preparedness” informational sheet. They seemed to recall we had printed one in a past Circuit Rider. We did publish the Salmon Creek Emergency Response booklet, but that was specifically in regards to the church building. Their question prompted me to do a little research online for emergency preparedness for our personal lives, family and homes. I found that the Red Cross website has loads of information on how to prepare for an emergency. It’s worth taking a look at it:

[How to Prepare For Emergencies | Be Red Cross Ready | Red Cross](#)

Preparedness Essentials

Preparedness Checklist

Disasters disrupt our lives. Some disasters, like floods and home fires, can occur anywhere. Other disasters, like wildfires and hurricanes, are more common in certain areas. Climate change is causing more frequent and extreme weather events. This increases our risk of death, injury, property loss and disruption. But we can take action to prepare. Prepare now to protect yourself, your loved ones and your home.



Be Prepared

Being prepared means that you:

- Know what hazards, like tornadoes or floods, are likely to happen in your community.
- Have plans in place so that you and your loved ones know how to respond.
- Have a way to monitor emergency conditions in your area.
- Have emergency skills, such as CPR and first aid.
- Have emergency supplies, like food, water and medicine, so that you can meet your basic needs.

- Have a battery-powered radio.
- Plan to monitor weather conditions near you.



Learn Emergency Skills

Prepare now so that you have critical skills and can meet your basic needs.

- Learn first aid and CPR.
- Utilities may be offline. Be ready to live without power, gas and water. Plan for your needs, including cell phones and medical equipment. Talk to your doctor. Plan for backup power.



Understand Your Risks

Some hazards, such as floods and home fires, can happen anywhere. Others, including earthquakes and hurricanes, are more common in certain areas. Reach out to your state or local office of emergency management agency to learn more about your local risks.



Gather Emergency Supplies

Gather food, water and medicine. Organize supplies into a Go-Kit and a Stay-at-Home Kit.

- Go-Kit: at least three days of supplies that you can carry with you. Include backup batteries and chargers for your devices (cell phone, CPAP, wheelchair, etc.)
- Stay-at-Home Kit: at least two weeks of supplies. Stores and pharmacies might be closed.
- Have a 1-month supply of medication in a child-proof container and medical supplies or equipment.



Plan to Stay Connected

In a disaster, it is important to stay connected and informed.

- Sign up for free emergency alerts from your local government.
- Have a backup battery or a way to charge your cell phone.



Gather Emergency Supplies

- Keep personal, financial and medical records safe and easy to access (hard copies or securely backed up). Consider keeping a list of your medications and dosages on a small card to carry with you.
- Customize your kits to meet your household's needs and the season.

Basic supplies include:

- Water: 1 gallon per person, per day
- Food: non-perishable, easy-to-prepare items
- Can opener
- Medications and medical items
- Flashlight or battery-powered lanterns
- Battery-powered or hand-crank radio (NOAA Weather Radio, if possible)
- Extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Multi-purpose tool
- Sanitation and personal hygiene items
- Cell phone with chargers
- Family and emergency contact information
- Extra cash
- Emergency blanket
- Hats, gloves, boots, coats, etc. (cold weather)
- Sun hats, sunglasses, sunscreen, bug spray, etc. (warm weather)
- Change of clothes
- Map(s) of the area
- Keep personal, financial and medical records safe and easy to access (hard copies or securely backed up).



Make Plans to Stay Safe

Stay or go? Depending on the emergency, you may need to stay where you are or evacuate to stay safe.

If you need to go somewhere else, think through these questions:

- Where will I go?
- How will I get there?
- Where will I stay?
- What will I bring with me?



Plan to Reconnect With Loved Ones

- If separated, or if the phone or internet is down, have a plan to communicate with loved ones.
- Complete a contact card for each member of your household. Ensure that they carry it with them.
- Text is best. A text message may go through when a phone call will not.
- Designate an out-of-town contact who can help your household reconnect. It may be easier to reach people outside the affected area.
- Agree to meet in a specific place to help you reconnect with loved ones when it is safe.
 - If you need to leave your home, choose a specific location nearby.
 - If you need to leave your community, choose a specific location outside your community.



Plan to Take Care of Yourself

- It's normal to have bad feelings, stress or anxiety after a disaster or other emergency.
- Plan to eat healthy food and get enough sleep to help you deal with stress.
- Know that you can contact the Disaster Distress Helpline for free if you need to talk to someone. Call or text **1-800-985-5990**.

Prepare so you can protect. | For more information, visit redcross.org/prepare | Download the Emergency App





DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Tom Jacquemin—Dec 1

Donna Johnson—Dec 1

Martha Van Male—Dec 2

Josh Billings—Dec 15

Doris Price Howell—Dec 16

Dorrie Estribou—Dec 22

Jesus—Dec 25

Jim Gahagan—Dec 25

Steve Enyeart—Dec 27

Susan Lenski—Dec 30

Don't see your birthday?

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

O Holy Night!



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

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

12217 NE HWY 99
Vancouver WA, 98686
360-573-3111 www.salmoncreek.church

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