



The Circuit Rider



Salmon Creek

United Methodist Church

April 2024

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

[Pastor's Page—2](#)

[Letter to the Congregation—3](#)

[Church Finances—4](#)

[Mission Statement Sign—5](#)

[Gaiser Middle School](#)

[Supplies—6](#)

[Family Fun Night—7](#)

[Building/Room Reservations — 8](#)

[Building Use/Room Use](#)

[Policy—9](#)

[Spotlight on Missions—10](#)

[God's Garden—11](#)

[VBS—12](#)

[Family Promise—13](#)

[Potluck/Townhall—14](#)

[Dates to Remember—15, 16](#)

[Fern Prairie UMC Celebration—17](#)

[Birthdays—18](#)



Dear friends and families of Salmon Creek United Methodist Church,

As I begin this note to you, the first day of spring has arrived in a beautiful way!

My office window is open to the fresh 64-degree temperatures as I look at the bright blue sky. Blooming trees, forsythia bushes and daffodils are testifying boldly that Easter is on the way!

I am really looking forward to my first Easter here this year. In addition to the 8:30 and 10:00 services on Easter morning at Salmon Creek UMC, I will be participating in a special sunrise service with all of the other Clark County UMC pastors. If you are an early riser, you are invited to join us at the Ft. Vancouver Park Gazebo at 6:30 am for this special outdoor service. Salmon Creek UMC will also host an Easter Egg hunt following the 10:00 service. If you have children or grandchildren in your life, please encourage them to join us for this Easter fun.

Sunday, April 7th will be a special morning, as our children (and adults who have chosen to participate) bring the coins they have been collecting throughout Lent to donate to Habitat for Humanity. We will hear from Larry Siewert and possibly some special guests about the work of Habitat and its impact on the lives of families. The coins will be counted the following week, and on April 14th we will share how much was donated to Habitat for Humanity through the special Coins for Lent giving.

Three days have passed since I began this note, and we have moved from blue skies and sunshine to gray skies and rain! I understand that all of the beautiful plants “springing” to life need both, and it is a reminder to me to appreciate both the sunshine and the rain. Changing seasons remind us that life is filled with change, and often change is hard.

There is a big change coming this summer for the staff and families of Salmon Creek Christian Preschool and Daycare. Some of our staff have called this place home for more than a decade. Some of our children are part of families who have attended across multiple generations. You will find in this Circuit Rider, a letter announcing that the Administrative Board of Salmon Creek UMC recently made the difficult decision to close our Daycare program at the end of June. This decision was not made lightly, but with prayer, discussion, and great consideration. There were several concerns that went into the decision, but the primary reason is financial, and the recognition that, with the current financial position of the church, we are not able to continue supporting the expenses it takes to support this ministry. We all understand that sometimes change is necessary, but change is hard. So, I would ask for you all to be in prayer for the staff and families who will be affected by this change, as well as for our SPRC who will be overseeing and managing this time ahead.

Please pray as well for those who are working on the possibility of beginning something new in this area of ministry to children in our community. We are hopeful and are exploring the possibility of beginning a part-time preschool program in the fall that would start small and be very different than the current Daycare program.

Change is hard, but I pray in the end, change will bring some beautiful new blooms.
Peace and hope, Rev. Kim Poer

*In the bulb there is a flower, in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.*

Hymn of Promise, UMH 707





SALMON CREEK CHURCH

A United Methodist Ministry

12217 N.E. Highway 99 • Vancouver, Washington 98686-3216 • (360) 573-3111

Making and engaging disciples of Jesus Christ.

KNOWING CHRIST • GROWING IN CHRIST • SERVING CHRIST • SHARING CHRIST

March 21, 2024

Members of Salmon Creek United Methodist Church,

It is with regret that we are letting you know that the Administrative Board of the Church has made the difficult decision to end our Daycare program at the end of this school year, on June 30, 2024. The decision to close the Daycare was not made lightly but was found necessary by financial sustainability concerns and the changes that will be implemented by the State of Washington in Daycare program requirements beginning in 2026. We are grateful for the long legacy of Salmon Creek Christian Preschool and Daycare, sharing God's love with children and families in the Salmon Creek area for more than 30 years.

We want to give our thanks and express our appreciation to the Daycare staff for their hard work and dedication over the years. The staff's commitment to Salmon Creek Christian Preschool and Daycare has been a blessing to more children and families than we can count, and we are deeply grateful for service.

To continue our mission of supporting the children in our community, we are investigating the feasibility to move forward with a new program in the next school year that will be limited to part-time Preschool as Salmon Creek Christian Preschool. We will keep you informed of our progress in determining if a part-time Preschool is workable.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to Pastor Kim at 360-573-3111 or Dan Kingsley, Chairman of the Staff Parish Relations committee, at 215-850-4822.

Blessings,

Dan Kingsley, Chair of Staff Parish Relations Committee

Pastor Kim Poer



February, 2024 Financial Update

Following is the financial report for the Church for February, 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	39,549	28,792	10,757	100,502	57,584	42,918
Expenses	28,877	31,646	2,769	59,173	63,292	4,119
Operating Income / (Loss)	10,672	(2,854)	13,526	41,329	(5,708)	47,037

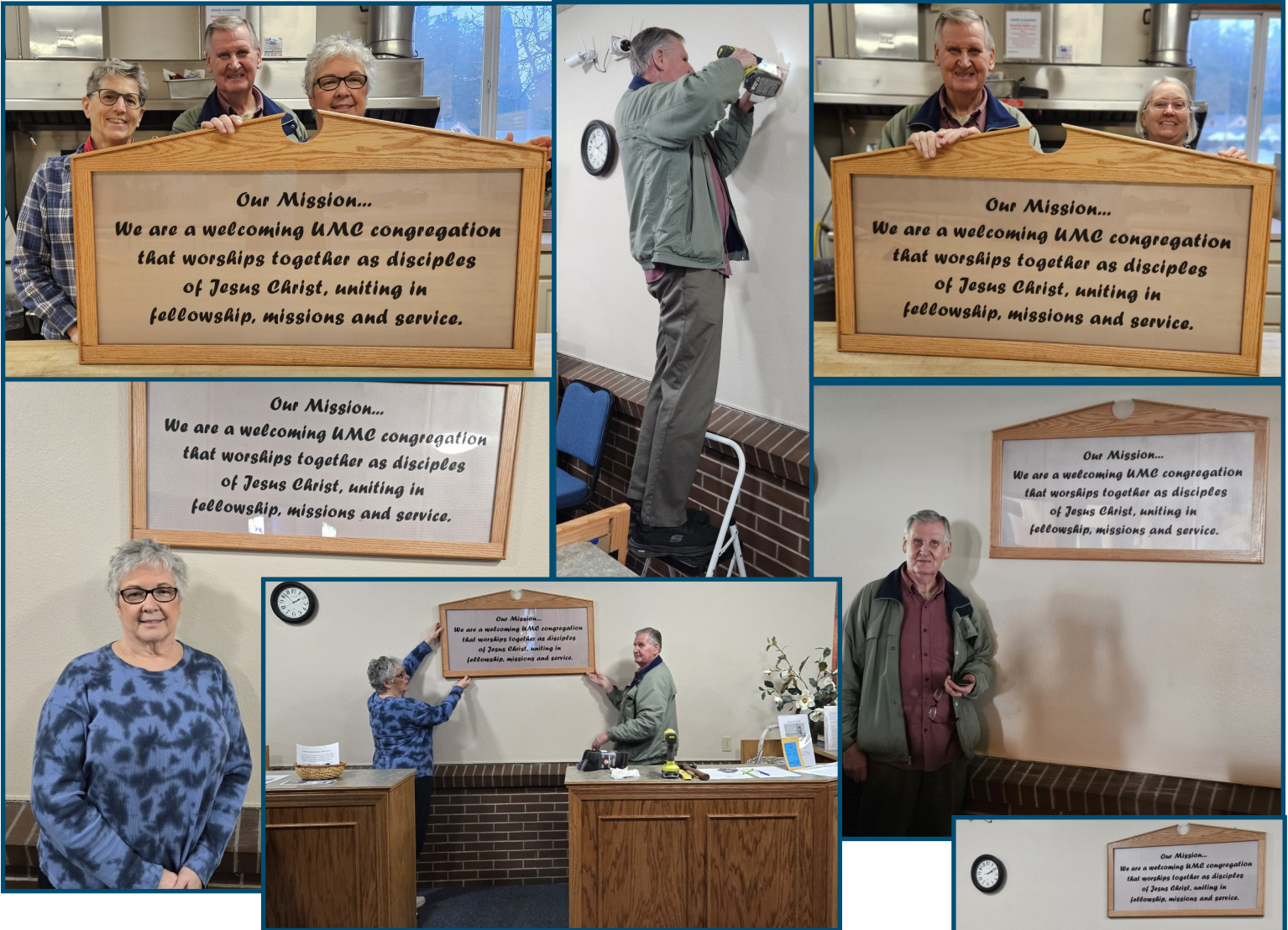
If you have any questions, please contact me or any member of the Finance Committee.

Respectfully Submitted.

Winston Asai Chair – Finance Committee

FINANCES

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



Take a look at our new mission statement sign! This project came about after the visioning sessions last summer and fall with the church's leadership. The new mission statement was devised to represent our path forward. I wanted our mission to be clear and visible to the entire congregation. With the support and approval from the Administrative Board, I took charge in planning how this could be done. I ordered the stencil. And I asked Larry Siewert to design the wood plaque. I asked Karen Beilsmith to help with the assembly so we would have extra hands to secure the stencil. Pastor Kim also helped with the assembly. The project was financed solely by me. My hope is for the congregation to look at the sign often, remember why we gather together and go forward in love and service as Jesus did.

I'm very happy to present this gift to the church as a means of keeping the hope alive, so that our future is always bright, secure, and filled with the loving presence of Jesus Christ. — Lila DeBolt





SCHOOL SUPPLIES:

Gaiser Middle School has just passed our half year mark and we are running out of some key supplies!

Of greatest need:

Pencils

Notebook paper

Individual rolls of tape

Glue sticks

Individually wrapped snacks (like granola bars or cheese & crackers);
no peanut butter please.

There is a box at the back of the church where you can drop off supplies. Contact kathy.hardy@vansd.org if you have any questions.



**We are in the stages of planning for a fun family evening
with a movie, popcorn, goodies and fellowship!**

**(And of course, all are welcome
— not just families!)**

Save the date: April 26, 2024

More details soon!



Free

Family Fun

NIGHT

FACILITY ROOM USAGE:

Ad Board discussed the issue of room/facility usage at the meeting on Tuesday, March 5th; scheduling has been somewhat of a puzzle of late, so we have decided to have a form to be filled out regarding room usage, date, time, reason, etc. For those using the rooms on an annual basis, the form would only need to be filled out once yearly, for occasional use, the form would need to be filled out per use. Also, when groups take a seasonal "hiatus", that would need to be indicated on the form. This will help Nancy a lot in the very complicated scheduling of our church rooms, as lately, there have been some double and even triple bookings due to us not communicating to that extent. Thank you all for your understanding! Forms will be available in the office and on the hall bulletin board.

Forms for annual usage can be filled out every January.

Facility Use Request Form



ROOM RESERVATION FORM

Name of person reserving the room _____

Group Name _____

Room Preference _____

Date and Time Desired for event _____

Frequency of room usage _____

Approved by _____

Date _____

**SALMON CREEK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
POLICY FOR SCHEDULING ROOMS FOR ACTIVITIES/EVENTS**

Because of our numerous on-campus locations for church activities and outside rentals, scheduling of these events must be coordinated in a consistent, responsible, and fair manner. It is the intention of this policy to address this issue with simple guidelines to assure that this is accomplished in an organized and easy fashion.

GUIDELINES

1. All scheduling of activities and events on the Church calendar will be managed by the Office Administrator ONLY.
2. Please do not assume that any room is available at any time. Consultation with the Office Administrator on room availability is always recommended before planning any event.
3. The Requestor must complete a "Room Reservation" form to begin the process. Submit the form to the Office Administrator and/or discuss with the her/him.
4. When reserving a room, the requestor must provide information on date, time, frequency of need, desired room(s) and time span for the activity. Be sure to include time for set-up and break-down.
5. The Office Administrator will confirm the availability of desired room(s), grant permission to use requested room(s), and document your reservation on the official Church calendar.
6. For outside rentals, a Building Use Agreement must be completed and forwarded to the Trustees for approval and fee assignment. The Office Administrator will confirm availability of desired room(s) and complete the agreement process.
7. If there are desired changes to the room request (adding an additional room or time change, etc), the Office Administrator must be notified and he/she will confirm the availability of desired changes.
8. A schedule of weekly, monthly, and special events room usage will be posted in the Administration hallway.
9. For any questions regarding reserving a room, please see the Office Administrator.
10. A supply of Room Reservation forms will be available in the Administrative Hallway (bulletin board) for future needs. Please complete one and submit to the Office Administrator when planning for any room usage.

**Facility Use
Request Form**



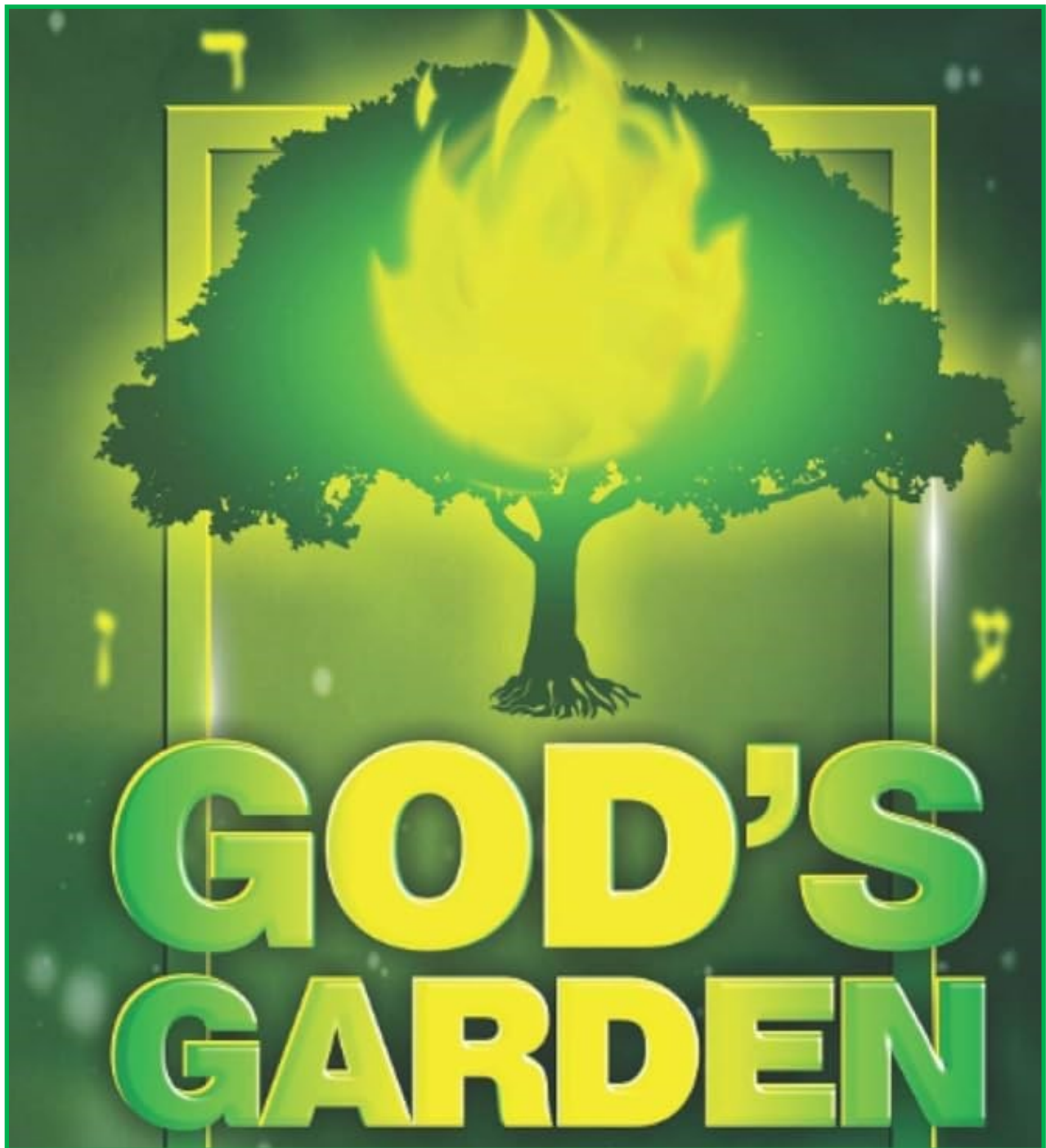


HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

By Larry Siewert

It is time again to get back to building Habitat homes. Our next scheduled build date is May 18th. Before that date, I contact all of you who have indicated that you want to volunteer. There are still six homes that need to be finished and landscaped. On April 7th, during our church service, we will have an opportunity to meet one, or maybe two of the Habitat families who will be living in the new homes. During that visit, our children, and all those who have been collecting "Coins for Lent", will have the opportunity to meet these families and see first hand what our mission does. We will tell the families about our collection, which will be "counted" and converted into a check for Habitat. Let us all remember that we are the hands and feet (and strong backs) of Jesus, give generously.

MISSIONS

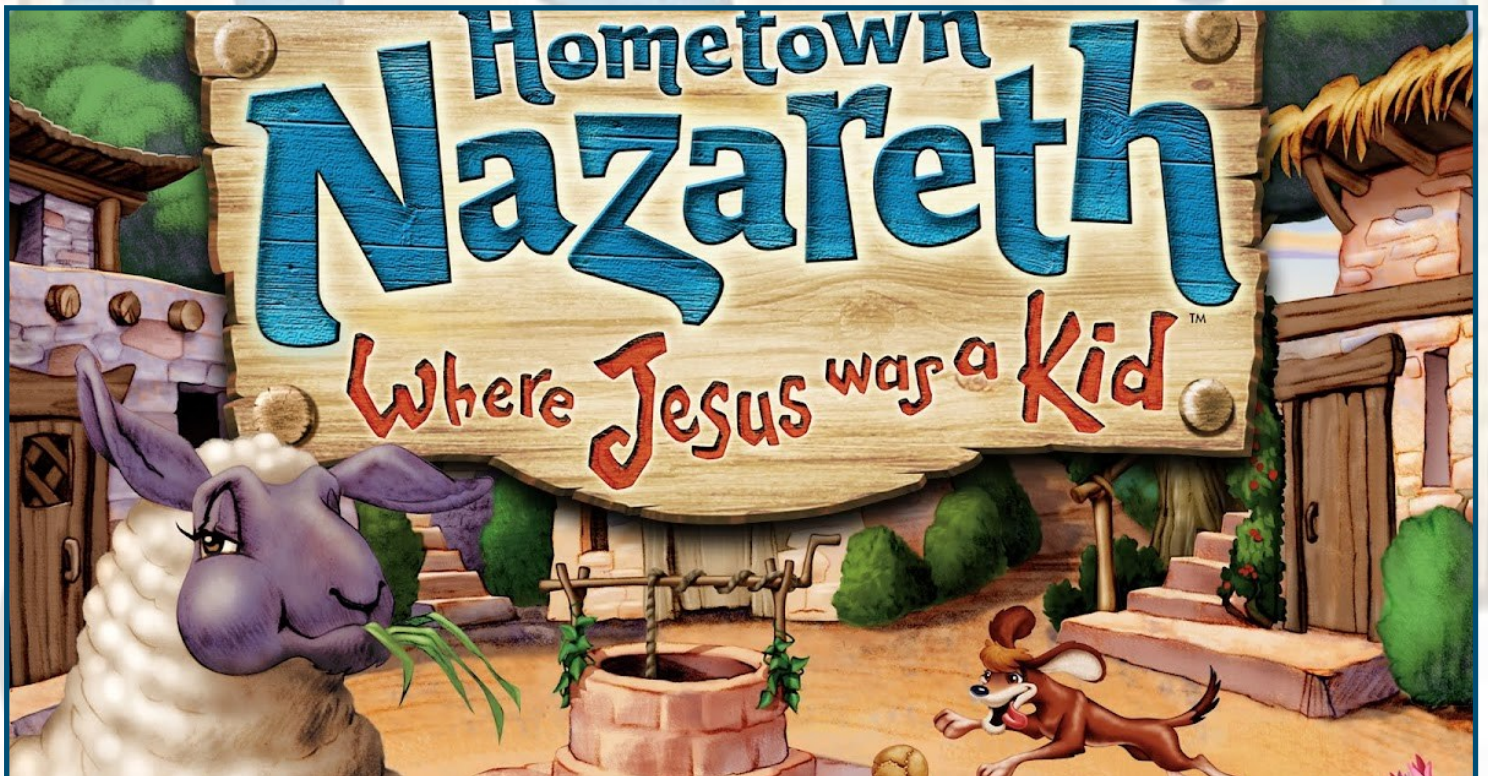


There are only six garden plots left for this year. Consider having a plot in God's Gardens behind the Family Ministries Center. Each plot is only \$10 for the year to cover the cost of watering; watering is set up to water all except four plots which are reserved already. We usually have plenty of rain until late May when the sprinklers are turned on; we have a hose with a sprinkler nozzle to use until then. Some plots may require additional soil depending on what you plant, but otherwise they are ready to go. There are plenty of garden tools in our garden shed along with stakes, tomato frames, and various fencing (to protect against squirrels and birds for some crops).

Jim Selby, 828-508-5094 will be glad to meet with you and show you what is available.

**This summer's VBS is "Home Town Nazareth" -
from June 24th through 28th—Volunteer sign-
ups are available NOW!**

**Volunteer Informational and Planning Meeting:
Sunday, April 14th, after worship.**





2024 UPCOMING HOST DATES

April 28-May 5

August 4-11

October 27-Nov 3

Salmon Creek will be hosting Family Promise April 28th through May 5th with the help of Felida Bible and Vancouver Apostolic Lutheran Churches. There are currently three families in the program, with a total of 12 guests. Hopefully, one or more of these families will graduate, and we will get to support another family when we host.

How can you serve, you ask? We will need help setting up on Sunday April 28th at 3 PM, and restoring our rooms for Sunday Bible Study at 6:30 PM. We will also need meal hosts, from 5:15 until 9 pm. That entails preparing a kid-friendly meal for the families, serving them and then sitting down to eat with them. Then, we will need overnight hosts, which entails bringing your own bedding to sleep on a provided, comfortable bed. You will be there from 9PM until 6:30AM. You are able to sleep through the night, but might have to let in a guest who is returning from work.

How do you sign up, you ask? Karen Beilsmith has created a *SignupGenius* signup that is shown below. That link is also shared with you through the Currents. You can also talk with Karen and she will gladly sign you up.

[https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C4EABAD2EA3FB6-48670693-family#/#/](https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080C4EABAD2EA3FB6-48670693-family#/)

Thank you for supporting this mission that lets you be the hands and feet of God.

Future dates for 2024 are August 4-11 and October 27 through November 3.

The new Day Center at River City Church on Fourth Plain only has a one stall bathroom with a small shower. Family Promise of Clark County is in the process of getting the permits to add a second bathroom. County Code is requiring that bathroom be disabled accessible, which is adding to the cost. If you would like to donate to help build this bathroom, you can go to the Family Promise of Clark County website to donate.

UPDATE: Our sweet Lastlee and her family, (INCLUDING Edson and Lynda!!), have been housed! (Can you even begin to imagine how Lynda must be feeling? She is finally going to be with her husband, daughter, and grandbabies!)

We are all so excited for Lastlee. I think all of you have met and enjoyed this sweet momma who has been through so much, who has so much on her plate, and who has just persevered and handled each change, obstacle, and difficulty with determination and a smile on her face.

Please celebrate with us; with Lastlee, CJ, McKenzie, Edson, and Lynda; as they got the keys to their new HOME this past month.



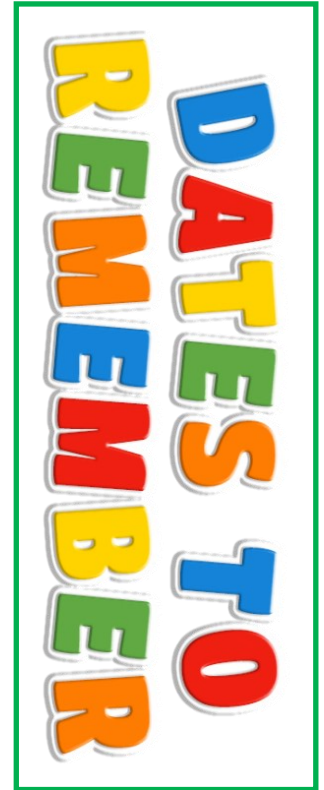
Potluck & Townhall

Save the Date, for:

**Our next all-church Potluck
and Town Hall meeting:**

SUNDAY, APRIL 28, 2024

TENTATIVE DATES FOR THE YEAR
(just to keep in mind what's coming up)



April

- 4/1 Monday after Easter (CHURCH CLOSED)
- 4/1 – 4/5 Vancouver Schools Spring Break
- 4/14 VBS Planning Meeting
- 4/20 Leadership Retreat – all day—fellowship hall
- 4/26 Family Fun/movie night
- 4/28 Town Hall/Potluck after worship
- 4/28 – 5/5 Family Promise Week

May

- 5/12 Mother's Day
- 5/19 Missions Benefit Breakfast
- 5/27 Memorial Day – Church closed
- 5/30 BOC Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall
- 5/31 BOC Rehearsal – Fellowship Hall

June

- 6/7 – 6/12 Pastor Kim out of town at Clergy Conference in Houston
- 6/8 Music Ministries Concert – 6:00 pm
- 6/14 Vancouver Public Schools last scheduled day of school
- 6/16 Father's Day
- 6/24 – 6/28 VBS week
- 6/28 Day School Graduation (Sanctuary)
- 6/30 VBS Sunday

July

- 7/28 Town Hall/Potluck after worship

August

- 8/4 – 8/11 Family Promise Week
- 8/25 Blessing of the Backpacks
- 8/28 First day of school – Vancouver Schools

DATES TO REMEMBER

September

October

10/26 (Saturday) Eek@theCreek 4-6 pm
10/27 – 11/3 Family Promise Week

November

11/15 Set up for basket auction
11/16 (Saturday) Basket Auction & Dinner
11/28 Thanksgiving Day
11/30 Hanging of the Greens

December

12/1 1st Sunday of Advent
12/6 Happy Birthday, Jesus – 6:15 pm
12/8 2nd Sunday of Advent
12/14 Lessons and Carols – 6:00 pm
12/15 3rd Sunday of Advent
12/16 (Monday) Night of Hope
12/20 BOC Rehearsals and set ups
12/21 BOC Concert – 7:00 pm
12/22 4th Sunday of Advent
12/24 (Tuesday) Christmas Eve Services
12/23/24– 1/2/25 **Church closed (excepting worship services on 12/24)**



You're Invited:

Fern Prairie United Methodist Church Celebrates 150 Years
on the same site!

26112 NE Brunner Road (PO Box 626)
Camas, WA 98607

Please help us celebrate the Grand Finale of
our Sesquicentennial in May.

**Saturday May 18, 2024, 3:00 pm “Sesquicentennial Scenes”
A Pageant**

Free Tickets by Reservation – EMAIL:
info@fernprairieunitedmethodist.org

Donations accepted for the *“Firm Foundations Future Fund”*

To maintain the well, the roof, the basement and the firm foundation on solid
rock of the *“The Little White Church on the Hill”* for the next 150 years.

On request, donors will later receive—A commemorative compilation of
“Sesquicentennial Scenes” and Connexions of FPUMC.

Sunday May 19 2024 10:00 am Worship

Preacher & Communion Celebrant—Bishop Mary Ann Swenson

Bishop Mary Ann was the pastor at Orchards UMC -1974-83.

She was the Bishop in the Denver Area 1992-2000 & California Pacific 2000-
2012.

Anniversary Luncheon to Follow



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

Don Hardy—April 4

Diane Grubel—April 10

Wayne Dudley—April 13

Bonnie Jean Brandt—April 14

Nancy Heup—April 19

Winston Asai—April 22

Cheryl Anderson—April 23

Kathleen Zimmer—April 24

Larry D. Siewert—April 27

Echo Langley—April 29

Richard Beilsmith—April 30

Gayle Horwitz—April 30

Don't see your birthday?

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

A photograph of a dove perched on a branch with cherry blossoms. The dove is light-colored with a dark collar around its neck. The background is a soft-focus green, suggesting a natural outdoor setting. The text is overlaid on the right side of the image.

*Flowers appear on
the earth; the season
of singing has come,
the cooing of doves
is heard in our land.*

*Song of Solomon
2:12 NIV*

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