



The Circuit Rider



Salmon Creek
United Methodist Church

LET ALL
THAT
YOU DO
BE DONE
WITH
LOVE.

1 CORINTHIANS 16:14 NKJV



2024

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Dear friends and family of Salmon Creek United Methodist Church, grace and peace to you all!

As I write this today, we are on our third day in a row of working from home due to icy roads! It was so hard to make the call not to open for worship on Sunday, Jan 14th. Yet, as I watched the weather move in, it became clear to me that right decision had been made. Hopefully, all of you found a way to spend some intentional time with God on your own that day. I took the opportunity to worship online with two different Texas congregations I had connections with, and really enjoyed sharing the music and messages of worship with some old friends.

Hopefully by now you have been able to see the beautiful new floors in our fellowship hall that continue throughout our school. Look for an article in this Circuit Rider from our Trustees that shares some of the great work that has been done through the funding from our *Pay it Forward* campaign. *Pay it Forward* is a forward-looking capital stewardship campaign in which many of you have invested to fund facility repairs and improvements. Church leadership will be sharing more soon about this important fund, and opportunities for all of us to invest in the future ministry of Salmon Creek UMC through *Pay it Forward*.

February is coming quickly around the corner with so many opportunities for us to worship, grow, and serve together!

The month begins with a great opportunity to serve as we host our first Family Promise week of the year from January 28th to February 4th. If you haven't signed up to help and would like to find out if there are still needs, check with Karen Beilsmith.

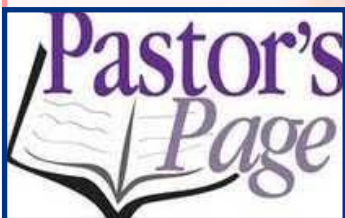
On February 13th, our youth group will host a Fat Tuesday Pancake Dinner. This will be fun opportunity for fellowship before we enter the season of Lent. Ash Wednesday services will be offered on February 14th at 12 noon in Pioneer Chapel and at 6 pm in the sanctuary. I hope you will save these dates and join us.

Small groups are continuing to read and discuss the book Our Purpose is Love by David N. Field. As we finish our study, I am eager to see how we, as individuals and as a congregation, will live into all we are learning about God's love and grace.

Sending you all warm thoughts as I look out of my window at the snow and ice!

Peace and hope, Kim Poer

A favorite quote from chapter two of Our Purpose is Love by David N. Field:



A Christian is one whose character is shaped by love from the inside out.

A Word on Church Lay Leadership...

LAY LEADERSHIP

The beginning of the year is a good time to remind everyone about whom to consult if they have concerns or questions about the church or how it is operating. I wanted to send you a list of the folks who currently hold office in the various church committee and other positions within our church. Should you have questions or concerns related to their areas of expertise, feel free to call or approach them.

Administrative Board Chair	Jim Roberts
Administrative Board Secretary	Tom Shumaker
Lay Leader	Greg Berry
Council on Ministries Chair	Karen Beilsmith
Finance Chair	Winston Asai
Trustees Chair	Steve Enyeart
Staff/Parish Relations Chair	Dan Kingsley
Financial Secretary	Jim Roberts
Treasurer	Kathy Scott
Day School Representative	Jan Asai
Youth Representative	Teddy Ernster

A more expansive list is available on the bulletin board outside the work-room at church which includes the members of each committee. Please note that the above listing does not include the Pastor who, among other things, is the spiritual leader of our church.

Thank you,
Your Ad Board Chair, Jim Roberts



Church Financial Report

December, 2023 Financial Update

The Church had a very strong December, and the generosity of the Congregation is inspiring to witness. Following is a summary of our financial results for the Church for the month of December and for the full year of 2023.

	<u>Actual</u>	<u>December Budget</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Year to Date Budget</u>	<u>Fav/(Unfav)</u>
Income	58,708	26,843	31,865	339,170	322,100	17,070
Expenses	<u>31,758</u>	<u>31,164</u>	<u>(594)</u>	<u>366,522</u>	<u>387,977</u>	<u>21,455</u>
Operating Income/ (Loss)	26,950	(4,321)	31,271	(27,352)	(65,877)	38,525
<u>Other Income</u>						
ERC (COVID relief) Grants				82,596		82,596
Transfer from Reserves	3,663	3,663	- 0 -	44,000	44,000	- 0 -
Investments Gain / (Loss)	<u>17,864</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>	<u>17,864</u>	<u>43,442</u>	<u>- 0 -</u>	<u>43,442</u>
Net Income	<u>48,477</u>	<u>(658)</u>	<u>49,135</u>	<u>142,686</u>	<u>(21,877)</u>	<u>164,563</u>

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Winston Asai Chair – Finance Committee

2024 Operating Budget

The Administrative Board approved the Church's operating budget for 2024 and is presented below:

Description	2024 Budget	2023 Actual	Favorable/ (Unfavorable)	Comments, etc.
Income				
Pledges	324,000	317,294	6,706	
Other	21,500	26,952	(5,452)	
Total Income	345,500	344,246	1,254	
Expenses				
Salaries, etc.	228,111	203,598	(24,513)	
Other Expenses	164,799	162,924	(1,875)	
Total Expenses	392,910	366,522	(26,388)	
Operating Income/(Loss)	(47,410)	(22,276)	(25,134)	
Other Income/(Expense)				
ERC (Covid Relief)	0	82,596	(82,596)	One time COVID relief funds
Transfer from Reserves	0	44,000	(44,000)	Contingency reserves
Investments Gain/(Loss)	0	38,366	(38,366)	Investment gains/(losses)
Total	0	164,962	(164,962)	
Net Income / (Loss)	(47,410)	142,686	(190,096)	

Notes:

1. We are budgeting for a loss as the Church continues to be in a "rebuilding mode". The generosity of the congregation is always inspiring to witness.
2. The basic premise of the budget was to retain current Church staff and to retain / grow the Church's programs and ministries and to utilize the 2023 Surplus for the year 2024.
3. The Other Income / (Expenses) that occurred during 2023 are explained above, and the COVID relief funds and Contingency Reserves are "One Time Events" that will not occur in 2024.

The Investments Gain/(Loss) category results from the Church's investments in certain funds managed by the Faith Foundation Northwest, the investment arm of the Pacific Northwest United Methodist Church organization.

If anyone has any questions regarding this year's budget, please contact me or any member of the Administrative Board or Finance Committee.

Respectfully Submitted,

Winston Asai
Chair – Finance Committee

PAY-IT-FORWARD Update 2019-2023 and Plea for Funds

Dear Congregation: We have weathered many storms over the last 5 years. The *Pay It Forward* Campaign has given the funds to start replacement work, augmented with volunteer help. The PIF donations so far have raised about \$180,000, including \$75,000 from GJ-WS donations to the church. The original target was \$384,000 for project funding 2019 – 2024. Many projects have been delayed and prices have escalated going forward for the remaining projects.

The Day School project, funded by PIF funds, has left us with ~\$40,000 in funds. We hope you can help us to start to replenish the PIF funds this year. The Trustees will continue to try to augment the projects with volunteer help. Below is a list of what we have done and what is still needed:

2020 - New carpets in Sanctuary and Narthex - \$17,500. Painting Sanctuary \$1000. (During COVID, in addition to the carpets replacement, the Trustees and volunteers cleaned and painted Sanctuary, revised the altar area, added Disabled access and spaces, and replaced all lights with LED lights).

2020 - 2 HVAC replacements. We replaced 2 HVAC units – main building offices; and the St Paul/Choir room areas. - \$23,000.

2022 – Reseal Parking Lot. Sealcoat and striping - \$15,240. A decision was made to use funds intended for the eventual repaving of the remaining parking lot areas in 2026 or later. Several areas still need to be repaved eventually.

2022 – Replace 2 HVAC Units. HVAC units for the Daycare and Chapel were replaced. The chapel unit was failing, parts were replaced to get it operational, but it needed to be replaced. The oldest of the 3 Daycare units was replaced, adding new heat exchanger (now required for commercial buildings) - \$48,000. We still have 8 units that were to be replaced by 2024 (over 29 years old now), including the Sanctuary, Narthex and FMC building.

2023 – Daycare and Fellowship Hall Flooring - \$61,300. The decision was made to replace the carpets and vinyl flooring with LVP flooring (much easier to clean). \$21,000 had been originally estimated. Increased costs were due in part to additional cost of removing the existing flooring and flooring prices had increased.

2023 – Parking Lot Lights replacement - ~\$1,100). Replaced 10 lights and added a new one between the buildings. It was decided that we did not need to replace the utility poles.

Other Projects (2018 estimates):

Carpets in offices, St Paul room, hallways and FMC rooms and hallways - \$30,000.

8 HVAC Units (replacement, heat exchangers not included) - \$140,000 (probably \$25K each).

Gym Painting with fire Retardant paint and Floor resurfacing - \$35,000. No rush.

Flat Roof Replacement - \$35,000 (more likely \$50-60K when replaced). We have had several leaks over last 2-3 years, so this should be a priority. Water damage could include rot as time goes on.

FAT TUESDAY Pancake Dinner



Join us on Tuesday, February 13th for a pancake dinner, hosted by our Youth Group. Come and eat, enjoy fellowship with our youth and leaders and help support the group with your generous donations.

5:30 pm—Fellowship Hall



We welcome back Jessica Santillan as our Director of Youth Ministries and say a huge thank you to Gavin Huckins for all his years of service in that role.

Join us for worship on Ash Wednesday,

February 14th

12:00 pm—Pioneer Chapel

6:00 pm—Sanctuary



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!)**

We will let you know more details as soon as they come up. It will most likely be some time in March.



Family Fun

NIGHT

FAMILY PROMISE

We will be hosting Family Promise from January 28th through February 4th.

Did you know that the seeds for Family Promise of Clark County, FPCC, were planted in our church's sanctuary in August of 2016? Tom, a representative from the Family Promise national office gave a presentation to church leaders of Clark County at Salmon Creek UMC, saying that this could be a piece of the puzzle for helping families without a home in Clark County. Salmon Creek UMC has been a part of it since the beginning, with church members serving on the board. Our Doug Lehrman is currently on the Board.

Family Promise of Clark County has come a long way since then. We hosted our first families in April of 2018.

Some people wonder how many families/people we really help. Here are the numbers for FPCC from 2019 – 22:

Individuals served in the shelter 185; 49 families with 104 children. Individuals served in non-shelter programs 468; 123 families, 287 children for a total of 696 served, this includes referrals to programs that better suited their needs, and 391 children.

There have been some changes in the past year with staff, and most notably a move of the Day Center from Camas to the heart of Vancouver at River City Church, 2400 E Fourth Plain Blvd. The new location makes it easier for our participants to connect with service providers without having to commute from Camas. It also means that the families can sleep an hour longer, and the kids spend less time on a bus!

Let's meet the new staff:

Shane Scalf, Executive Director, has been a part of FPCC since the beginning. Shane was the Church Coordinator at Meadowglade Seventh Day Adventist Church prior to becoming the Executive Director. Shane spent twelve years in the military. His military career provided him with valuable organizational skills, leadership training, ethical standards, and discipline. He draws on his military experience for all things operational. After leaving the army, Shane worked in the Health Insurance industry for 12 years. During that time, he became aware of the homeless challenges in our area. His desire to help with these issues led him to work for the Portland Rescue Mission Men's Shelter. Shane has developed a collaborative approach to leadership and has a true passion for helping families in need. Using a trauma informed approach, he ensures that families throughout Clark County receive support, resources, and hope. Shane worshipped with us in October when SCUMC gifted a check to FPCC for the diversion program which assists with the prevention of a family becoming homeless.





Niccole Fuller, Case Manager, is passionate about making changes in the lives of the families we serve. Niccole comes from a background of working in various careers, such as the Vancouver Housing Authority, Bridgeview Resource Center, and Self Enhancement, Incorporated. Having worked these various jobs has given her an edge that relates to finding the best resources to ensure our families become self-sufficient and housed. For Niccole, it's all about relationships and using resources in our community to combat barriers that families face to ensure their success.

Karen Mallory, Intake Coordinator, has always had a passion for helping people, especially children. With a degree in Early Childhood Education, she spent years teaching preschool and kindergarten, as well as serving on local school boards and working with after-school programs. She began working as the Administrator for a local church in 2009. When that church became a Host Congregation, she first learned about Family Promise of Clark County, and she was immediately enthralled. The compassion, vision, and uniquely structured program, intentionally stepping into relationship alongside families with children facing homelessness, spoke to her heart and she knew she needed to be a part of the Family Promise of Clark County team.

Hope Haddock, Resource Coordinator, is the newest staff member, in a newly created position. You know those times when you ask me if Family Promise could use something, and I respond, "I don't know?" Well, Hope is the go-to person who will know. If you have a gently used piece of furniture or some kitchen items that need a new home, Hope is whom I will contact to see if there is a family who could use the item. The Day Center has limited storage, so if the item is large and there isn't an immediate need for it, Hope will refer you to the Northwest Furniture Bank on Mill Plain. Recently, Jayne McCarley asked if Family Promise could use a set of dishes that she hadn't used for a long time. Sure enough, a family was just moving into their apartment and Jayne's dishes were needed and appreciated!

Speaking of Jayne, ask her what it is like to be an overnight host for Family Promise when we host. Back in October, Jayne hosted for her first time. As Jayne would say, "You are never too old to try something new!"

**Thank you all,
Karen Beilsmith**



2024 UPCOMING HOST DATES

January 28—February 4

April 28-May 5

August 4-11

October 27-Nov 3

A black rectangular box with a blue border. On the left, a silver spotlight is shown from a low angle, casting a beam of light towards the right. The background is black with several small, bright white stars. The text "Spotlight on....." is written in white, bold, sans-serif font in the center.

Spotlight on.....

A black rectangular box with a blue border, tilted at an angle. It features the text "Small groups" in a colorful, sans-serif font. "Small" is in green, yellow, and orange, while "groups" is in white. Below it, the tagline "life's better in groups" is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font.

**Small
groups**
life's better in groups

A large, light blue watermark consisting of the words "SMALL" and "GROUPS" in a bold, sans-serif font, stacked vertically. The watermark is set against a background of colorful, overlapping geometric shapes in shades of blue, green, yellow, and pink.

SMALL GROUPS:

Better Together—Maggie Mikalatos & Kathy Valrejean

JOY Bible—Sandie Hollister

Sunday Servants—Jim & Betty Selby

Morning Men's Group—Jim Roberts

Book Study Group—David Nieda

If you are not currently in a small group, but would like to be, please talk with Pastor Kim.



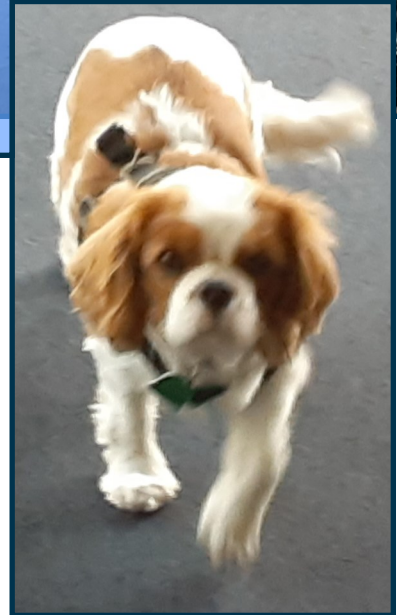
Coffee Fellowship

**We really need more coffee fellowship hosts!
Would you be able to host this gathering after
worship service once every 4-6 weeks? If you are
interested, please talk with Karen Beilsmith about
what is involved.**

**Think about serving your church family
in this capacity.**

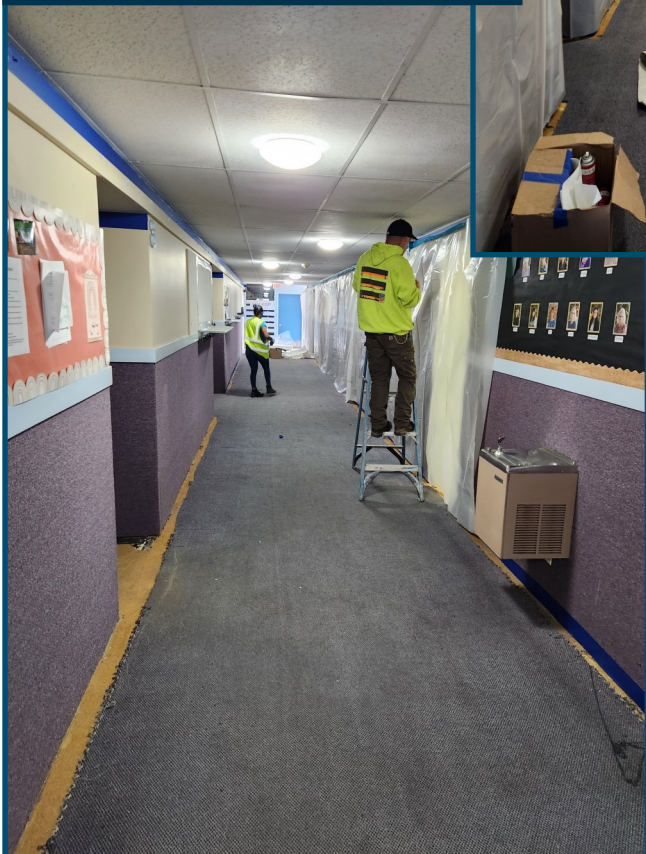


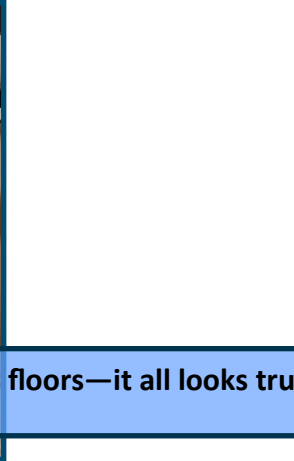
Larry Siewert and Richard Beilsmith work on new baseboard trim for the day school during the flooring project completed over the holidays. As always, Maddie Siewert was on hand to supervise.





The flooring project underway ...





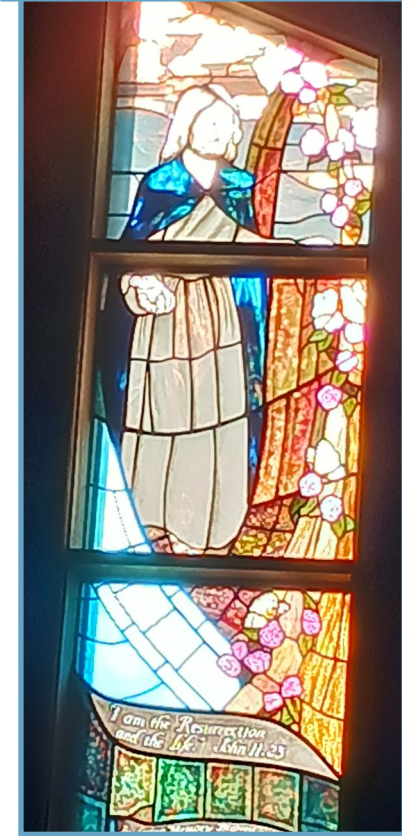
The new floors—it all looks truly amazing!





The new floors—it all looks truly amazing!





We had a power outage during worship on January 7, 2024. Pastor Kim didn't miss a beat and just kept going with her sermon. For many of us, it was a very spiritual experience. The Epiphany candles and the altar candles were lit, and just as Pastor Kim said the word "light" is when the power went out! The light was shining in through the stained glass, and it was really beautiful. We served Communion by candle light!



PET blessing



Pastor Kim delivered a pet blessing upon Echo Langley's new puppy, Penny Grace, on January 3, 2024.

Among the things in my life
I thank God for most,
is the love
He gave me for animals.
My heart would be emptier,
and life would be
less without them.





A Moment in History

By Historian Larry Siewert

FREE Firewood!!!

If you look in the church's back parking lot you will observe that one of our large Fir trees was blown over during the wind and snowstorm, during the week of January 8th. Thank goodness it did not do any damage to the back fence or any of the surrounding structures! The Trustees will clean it up when the weather gets better. They are going to have someone chip all the branches, which will be taken to the cemetery for ground cover, but the rest of the wood will be cut into bolts and given away. If you know anyone who wants some firewood, please have them contact one of our Trustees.

While I was writing this article, it reminded me of another time when the Trustees had to take down some large Fir trees in the front parking lot. The year was 1941, and Trustees Arthur Northcutt and Will Galbraith felled two Fir trees which had to be moved before they could move the church to its new location, so that the Pacific Highway could be widened. As they were cleaning up the trees, the newly appointed Pastor, Chester Wischmeirer, came out of the parsonage to have a chat with them. Before they could warn him, the pastor sat down on one of the newly cut Fir stumps, which was covered in pitch. I guess it took the Trustees a while to extricate the pastor and his pants from the pitch, which had glued him to the stump!

Pastor Wischmeirer was required to serve both Salmon Creek and East Vancouver United Methodist Churches because of the war and all the new people working at the shipyards.



Jim Roberts—February 1

Lila DeBolt—February 3

Linda Sloan—February 3

Sue Sloan—February 4

Pete Mikalatos—February 5

Joyce Murphy—February 9

Roger Brindle—February 18

Carolyn Fox—February 21

Kathryn Bachman—February 24

Don't see your birthday?

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

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

February

- 2/13 Youth Fat Tuesday pancake dinner
- 2/14 Ash Wednesday Worship: 12:00 pm Chapel, 6:00 pm Sanctuary
- 2/19 Presidents' Day

March

- 3/10 Daylight Savings Time begins
 - 3/24 Palm Sunday Worship
 - 3/28 Holy Thursday Worship
 - 3/29 Good Friday Worship
 - 3/31 Easter Worship followed by Egg Hunt
- Possible Family Fun/movie night some date in March?

April

- 4/1 Monday after Easter (CHURCH CLOSED)
- 4/1 – 4/5 Vancouver Schools Spring Break
- 4/20 Leadership Retreat – all day in gym
- 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



**DATES TO
REMEMBER**

July

7/28 Townhall 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

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)**

**DATES TO
REMEMBER**

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

Use it to Glorify
the Lord!



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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