



# The Circuit Rider

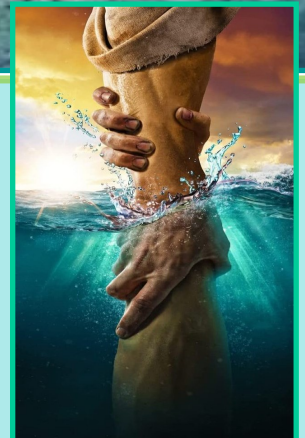
June  
2022



## Salmon Creek Church

Message from Pastor John—2  
Church Budget Profit/Loss  
Statement—3  
J.O.Y. Academy—4  
VBS—5  
Photos from Mother's Day—6  
God's Garden—7

Bell Choir Concert—8, 9  
Thank You, Nancy Volgamore—  
10  
Family Birthdays—11





# a note from Pastor John

## Faith & Tragedy

I had a fairly frothy newsletter article all planned out for this month. I thought, let's enter summer with a reminder that being a follower of Jesus can be fun. When we're camping by the fire, we could sing those old camp songs. We have time in the morning to read a devotional and be grateful for a loving savior. We could watch the kids – or grandkids! – splashing around in the river and think how wonderful life truly is.

Then, the news hit from Uvalde, Texas, of another school shooting.

Should I reconsider all of this frothiness? It seems inappropriate to say the least. Another dose of senseless evil unleashed on innocents; there's nothing frothy about that. As self-centered nihilism rises around us it not only sucks the frothiness out of everything, it replaces it with tragedy. We cannot, we should not, as compassionate followers of Jesus, simply look away and hope evil will stop itself. Or pretend it will never find us. Nothing makes a person feel less frothy than feeling unsafe.

Nevertheless, isn't it time for us to double-down on our faith? The same God who can grant such frothy joy as kids playing in the river is also a God who weeps when their innocence is crushed. Jesus specifically calls us to protect the children, and to deal harshly with those who would harm them. Societies, including ours, used to protect the innocents in large part by broad adoption of the shared values of their faith. When there is meaning that extends beyond oneself, nihilism has a harder time flourishing. But a shared faith, and its shared values, is rapidly disappearing in America and – guess what? – nihilism is on the rise, fueling the evil that can drive someone to mass murder. I am not eliminating personal responsibility from this equation, but evil has a way of encouraging those who are unstable, an encouragement that must be counter-balanced by a strong, meaningful faith.

***Blessings, Pastor John***

God's grace isn't some fluffy church phrase that has no substance. It's powerful. It's life changing, and it's so much like Jesus.



**Salmon Creek United Methodist Church**  
**2022 Budget vs Actual Church Profit & Loss Statement**  
**January 1 – April 30, 2022**

|                               | 2022 Year To date  |                    |                 | 2022 Annual        |
|-------------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|
|                               | Actual             | Budget             | Over/(under)    | Budget             |
| <b>Income</b>                 |                    |                    |                 |                    |
| Pledges                       | \$99,590           | \$108,716          | \$ (9,126)      | \$326,150          |
| Other Income                  | <u>6,045</u>       | <u>8,197</u>       | <u>(2,152)</u>  | <u>20,600</u>      |
| Total Income                  | 105,635            | 116,913            | <u>(11,278)</u> | 346,750            |
| <b>Expenses</b>               |                    |                    |                 |                    |
| Ops & Admin                   | 26,380             | 30,216             | <u>(3,836)</u>  | 90,650             |
| Apportionments                | 14,564             | 14,564             | 0               | 43,671             |
| Program Expenses              | 3,393              | 3,576              | <u>(183)</u>    | 10,722             |
| Salaries, Labor & Related Exp | <u>85,187</u>      | <u>88,506</u>      | <u>(3,320)</u>  | <u>252,132</u>     |
| Total Expenses                | <u>129,524</u>     | <u>136,862</u>     | <u>(7,339)</u>  | <u>397,175</u>     |
| <b>Net Income</b>             | <u>\$ (23,889)</u> | <u>\$ (19,949)</u> | <u>\$ 3,940</u> | <u>\$ (50,425)</u> |

Hello Fellow Congregates:

Salmon Creek United Methodist Church (SCUMC) today is lighting up after the past 2 years of the COVID pandemic. Our participation in the life of the Church has emerged with new and increased enthusiasm and we see new faces. Attendance at all levels of activities has increased. Hurrah!

The Church is on a firm financial foundation as we once again engage in our mission of reaching out to our community in bringing the word of Jesus Christ to those around us and those who we meet.

Financially our income from all sources is less than we had projected. We believe this to be at least partially due to the recurrent spikes of the COVID virus. As activity at Salmon Creek resumes, we are hopeful that so too will income. The continued support you have shown these past months is greatly appreciated.

Expenses have been closely monitored and are at or below budgeted levels.

The Church leadership understands that, in this time of pushing our outreach mission forward, that funds must be expended in order to reach out as well as to excite ourselves and are committed to responsibly reaching that end.

Blessings

Ed Grubel

Chair Finance Committee

## The J.O.Y. Academy

*Jesus – Others – You*

Inspiring children to follow Christ



**JUNE 5<sup>TH</sup> is PENTECOST – and the *J.O.Y. Academy* will celebrate!**

Something very special happened almost 2,000 years ago – tongues of fire appeared over the heads of the Disciples – and they became APOSTLES! Suddenly they could speak all kinds of different languages and they were so filled by God's Holy Spirit that they shouted and laughed in amazement!

Through story and song, with balloons and cookies, the children who participate in *J.O.Y. Academy* on Sunday, June 5<sup>th</sup> will learn about this special day in the life of Jesus' people.

***All children in grades K-5 are invited to join us – and bring their friends!***





Climb aboard for...



The best week of the summer!

New friends • Amazing experiments • Creative games  
Super-fun snacks • Surprising adventures • Incredible music

Location: **Salmon Creek Church**  12217 NE Hwy 99, Vancouver

VBS will last from: **Monday, August 8 - Friday, August 12**

Each day's fun begins & ends at: **1:00 - 4:30 pm**

Special Event **BBQ for VBS families - Friday @ 5:00 pm**

For more information, call: **the church office : 360-573-3111**

Register online here: **<https://salmoncreekchurch> then click "More - Children's Ministry"**

**For kids going into grades K-5**

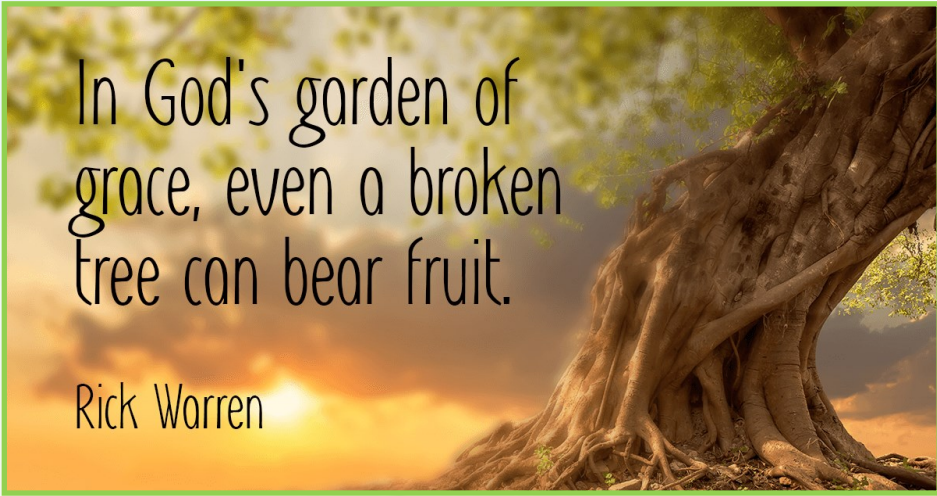
**FREE** - donations gratefully accepted



# Mother's Day

A graphic with a teal background, the words "Mother's Day" in a white cursive font, and a row of colorful tulips (yellow, orange, red) at the bottom.





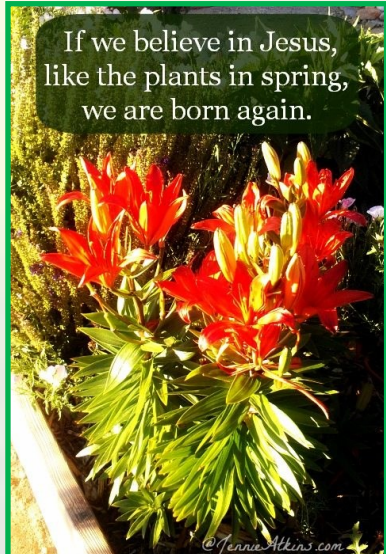
In God's garden of  
grace, even a broken  
tree can bear fruit.

Rick Warren

The God's Gardeners are busy picking what to plant, preparing soils and planting. The cold and wet Spring has put everything back about two weeks for planting. The good news is that there are no gardens left to rent for this year, maybe a first! Thanks to some Trustees who have worked valiantly to keep the bunnies out, we have yet to see one inside the fenced area! There is rhubarb to pick for those who want some. Betty and I have already had rhubarb sauce and she baked a pie for our Grandsons and Granddaughter-in-Law when we hosted them for a Sunday evening meal. Special thanks to Ann Wear who will work with the Daycare in their gardens.

It is great to finally get our hands in the soil!

Jim Selby



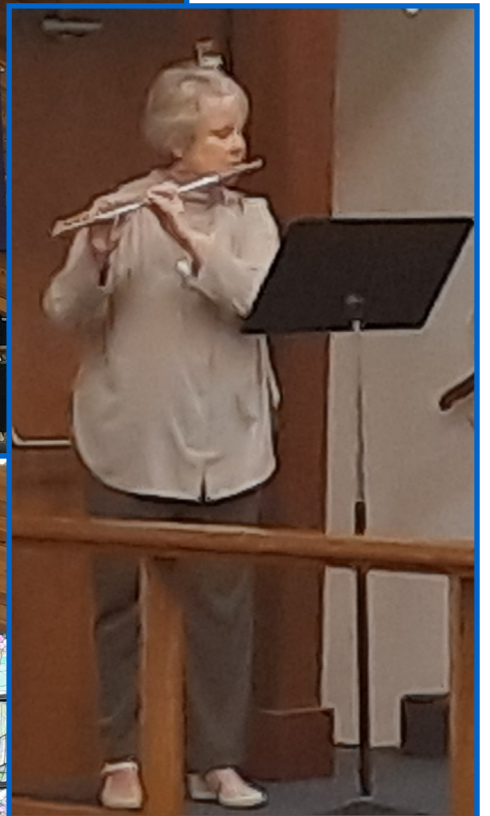
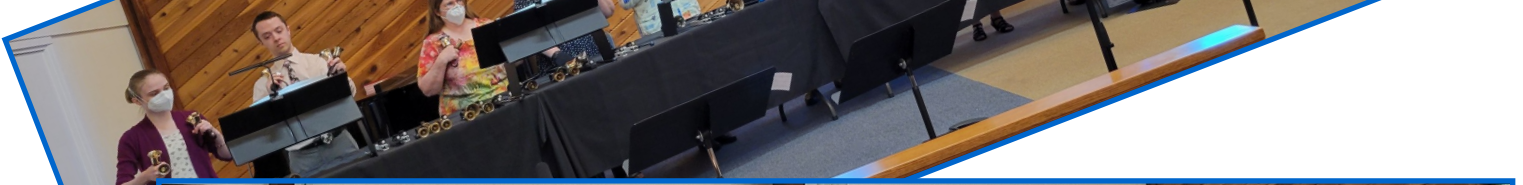
If we believe in Jesus,  
like the plants in spring,  
we are born again.



# Bell Choir Concert "In Christ Alone" May 22, 2022











**I wanted to say a gigantic THANK YOU to Nancy Volgamore. She has produced this newsletter for several years now, but this will be her last edition. The Circuit Rider will continue, of course, but it has been a delight and privilege to work with Nancy. She is even very polite when she reminds me every month that my article is late, which it usually is. The beautiful results of her careful and faithful editing and composition are self-evident, and the Circuit Rider has continued its tradition as a first-rate newsletter.**

**We are hopeful we'll see Nancy around the church a little bit more, and when you do, you too can give her a gigantic THANK YOU!**

**Pastor John**

**It has been my pleasure, and my way of serving, to produce the monthly Circuit Rider for all of you for the past 3 1/2 years. I am stepping down from doing this now and this is my last issue. Thank you for allowing me to serve my church family in this most satisfying way!**

**Nancy Volgamore**



# Happy Birthday To Everyone Born in June!

4. Linda Garrison
4. Phyllis Stajcr
6. Zachary Nieda
7. Ilianna Aguirre
8. Nancy Vlcek
11. Dolly Forrester
11. Martha Retzlaff
13. Marilyn Forman
13. Barbara Harmon
13. Larry Kennedy
18. Billie Brummel
19. Melissa (Brandon)
19. Nancy Schmahl
20. Jerry Davis
20. E-Lois Gebhart
22. Jayne McCarley
24. Bob Cooke
25. Ron Vail
26. Karen Beilsmith
26. Lynne Kingsley
30. Sut Oishi



joyful the joy of the lord strength is my strength  
persistent optimistic caring - Nehemiah 8:10  
Lynnette Ortu