



# The Circuit Rider

LORD MY GOD, HOW  
FANTASTIC YOU ARE!

—PSALM 104:1



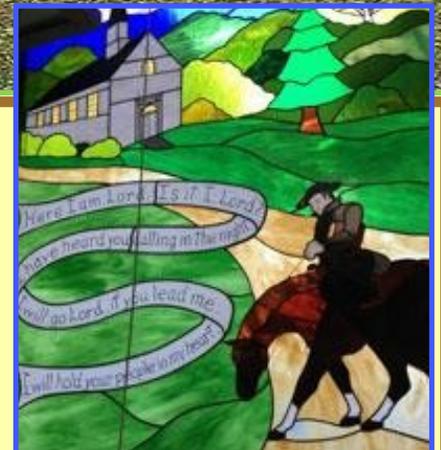
October

2020

## Salmon Creek Church

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# a note from Pastor John



## How is it with your soul?

Since the pandemic began in February, it seems like we've been overwhelmed by disease, lockdowns, riots, weather and fear. I pray fervently that you have been able to find a candle in all of this through faith in Christ Jesus; faith in your heart and enacted in your life, and the lives of others. There is always hope because there is always Jesus, the embodiment of God's light in this world.

In October, we are going to be looking at a passage from Ephesians regarding the Armor of God. Remember, the early Christians often found themselves facing a darkness of a different kind – persecution – and Paul, who writes so eloquently about faith, also provides a metaphor on practical ways to resist evil, and to protect your faith from darkness. It is clear in this passage that Paul sees a battle between good and evil, between light and dark, in his own time, and I suspect he would see the same battle going on in our time as well.

His final piece of advice is to stay in prayer. Tell God what's on your heart and listen for God's response. Try to live obedient to God's Word, even when it's hard. Ask Jesus for forgiveness, and grant forgiveness to others. I don't know when these stressful times will end, and I suppose life is always stressful in some ways. Jesus' point isn't that the world is easy; his point is that the way in which we respond to the world is important: with faith, love, repentance and forgiveness. In Ephesians, Paul tries to give us some tools to enact these things.

*Blessings, Pastor John Hiestand*



# Armor of God

1. Belt of Truth
2. Breastplate of Righteousness
3. Feet Fitted with the Gospel of Peace
4. Shield of Faith
5. Helmet of Salvation
6. Sword of the Spirit

*Ephesians 6:10-18*

Join us for  
**WORSHIP**

Salmon Creek Church will be Livestreaming church services at 10:00 am on Sunday mornings on our YouTube channel. You can join us in the FMC to watch the broadcast, or watch a recorded version later on our YouTube Channel.

Also, sermons through October will be based on Ephesians 6:10-18 "The Armor of God"



## ***Want to help our brothers and sisters who have been victims of the Wildfires in the PNW?***

When a disaster strikes, survivors often lose so much – the roof over their heads and other property, livelihoods, even loved ones. Recent wildfires show how devastating these disasters can be. Often overlooked is the despair that strikes as some also lose hope.

The mission of our PNW Disaster Response is to provide a caring Christian presence in the aftermath of a disaster.

Our goal for this Advance Fund is to have in place the resources to respond to disasters when they happen. Join us in our response to the real needs of our neighbors as they recover from tragedy and find hope again.

### **Financial donations can be sent to:**

**Give at UMCOR.COM: UMCOR Advance #901670**

**Give at PNW Conference: PNWUMC.ORG Advance #352**

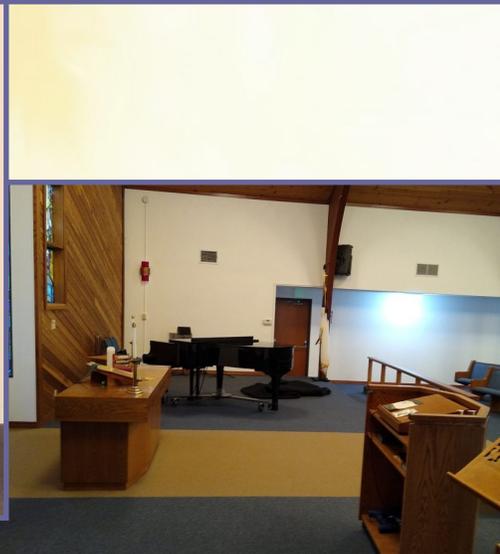
**Or Give by mail: PNWUMC offices at P.O. Box 13650, Des Moines, WA 98198**

Heartfelt   
**THANKS**  
**TO OUR VOLUNTEERS!**

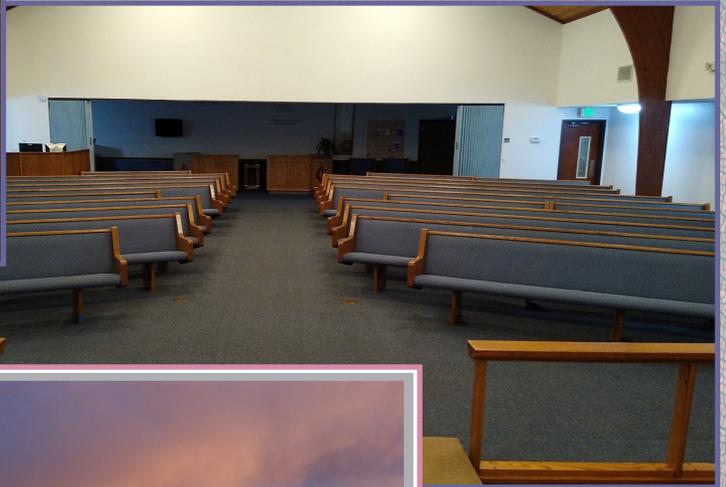
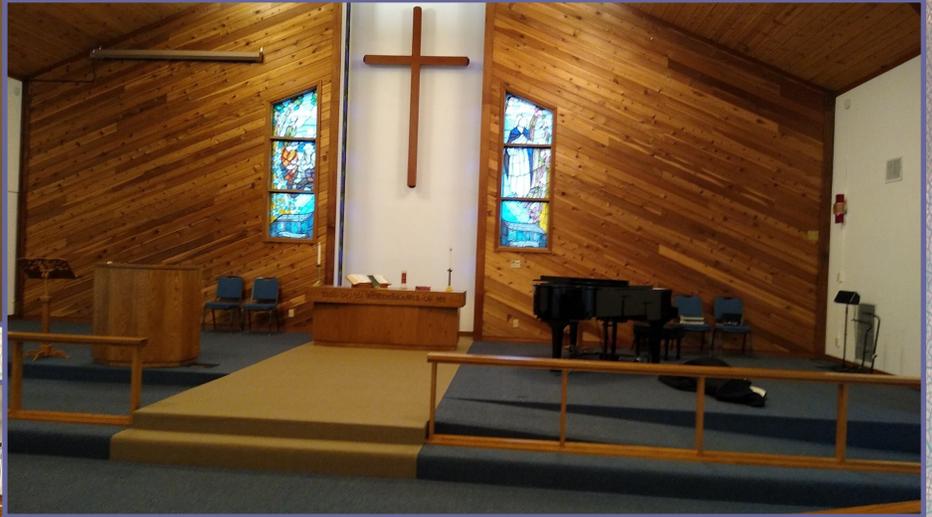
## Sanctuary Work and New Carpet Completed

Thanks to the generosity of the Church members and the hard work of several volunteers, we have completed the Sanctuary painting, clean-up and altar modifications. We now have a ramp for the altar, have modified the choir area and have added a closet for items on the altar (chancel). Over the last few weeks, carpet was installed in the Sanctuary and Narthex. If you get a chance, stop by and see for yourself. Volunteers included: Richard Beilsmith, Larry Siewert, Ron Doering, Jim Costello, Jim Roberts, Greg Berry, Nelson Copeland, Lynne Nieda and Rich Bippes.

Thanks!  
 Steve Enyeart,  
 Trustees







*Praise God in his sanctuary;  
praise him in his mighty heavens.  
Psalm 150:1*



The love of a  
*Family*  
is life's greatest gift

## THANK YOU

Dear Church Family:

We spent time with Marla Rapp and presented her with our church's love gift of \$1540. What joy this brought to all of us. Marla was most appreciative and overwhelmed of the generosity of our gift to her, Amy, Hayden and Julia.

THANK YOU for your loving donations given to them. They will definitely use this gift to enhance a Christmas time away. They plan to be somewhere where there is snow and skiing. Please continue to keep all of them in your prayers.

Betty Selby, Kathy Hardy and Lynne Nieda

Thank  
you

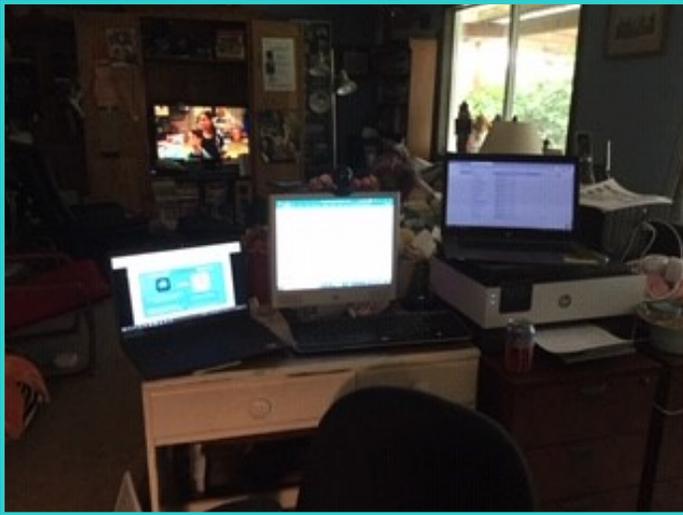
Dear Salmon Creek Family:

I am truly in awe of the outpouring of love and care you have shown to me and my children. We are truly blessed to be part of Salmon Creek United Methodist church. Through this extremely dark time, this church community has been a light. From countless cards, delicious dinners, and wonderful gift cards and checks, we have felt loved and comforted. Then, as a most truly generous present, you gifted our family with the ability to get away and spend time together doing something fun as a family. I am so blessed to have each and every one of you in my life and am truly so, so thankful. We will definitely let you all know how your gift is to be enjoyed.

With much love,  
Marla, Amy, Hayden & Julia Rapp

# SCHOOL START UP

School has a very different look this Fall!!



Monitoring students on ZOOM while they take a test.



The parking lot at Columbia River on the first day of School.



Kathy Hardy's classroom at Gaiser Middle School.





### **Missions Month – 2020**

The time is coming when we would begin planning for our annual Missions Basket Auction... But the world has changed; we can't gather together like we have before! The agencies we support still need funds to help reach out in our community – now more than ever!!!

We believe that our church family is as caring and generous as always!

#### ***What to do?***

#### **Introducing Missions Month 2020!**

Throughout the month of November, the missions team will be sharing stories and information about our mission partners – in the Circuit Rider and at church services. We are asking our church family to consider how much you would have been willing to spend on making a basket, purchasing dinner tickets, bidding on baskets, participating in the paddle raise – and make a donation to our Missions Month fund! Share the information with anyone you would have invited to the auction and encourage them to make a donation as well.

All funds raised will be divided among our community mission partners:

Safe Choice Women's Shelter  
 Friends of the Carpenter  
 Share, Inc.  
 Ft. Vancouver Seafarer's Center  
 Open House Ministries

***Be looking for more information about Missions Month 2020!***





## Welcome Center Clean Up

The Welcome Center was emptied during the recent work on the sanctuary and the narthex. It has been placed back in the narthex and it's time to reorganize and put things back. Over the past year, or a little longer, a number of items have been left in the center. As we move closer to the opportunity to worship together in the sanctuary, we need to organize the items that belong in the Welcome Center. If you have any item(s) to claim, please contact Sue Tibbs at 360-919-5462 or [tibbsal@comcast.net](mailto:tibbsal@comcast.net). Lost and found items will be donated if not claimed.

Thank you,  
Sue Tibbs





## What are you doing to meet this moment?

Recently, a colleague of mine asked, “What are you doing to meet this moment of racial reckoning in our country?”

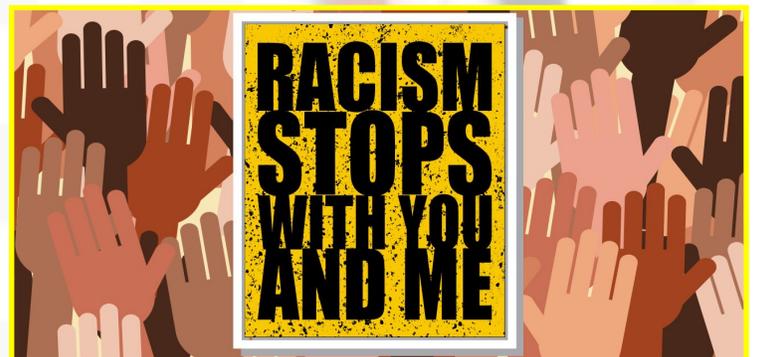
It’s a stark and important question. The pain and anguish of the BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) community is palpable right now. Police brutality and historic, systemic racism are front and center in the news, on social media and in our lives. We all play a role (whether we want to or not) in how this moment of racial reckoning will go in our families, communities and country, and especially our churches.

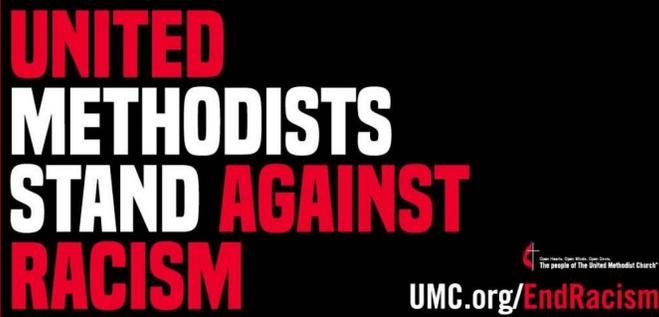
As I start to reflect on what I’m doing to meet this moment of racial reckoning, I think about the book group I joined this summer with seminary friends. We are working our way through How to be an Antiracist by Ibram X. Kendi. Our conversations have been open, honest, raw, compelling and accountable as we seek to understand our history, what it means to be anti-racist and how we can choose anti-racist words and actions in our daily lives. I think about the podcast discussion group with some clergy in our district. Together we are listening to 1619, a podcast based on the written work by Nikole Hannah-Jones of The New York Times. We discuss how the history and personal stories shared connect with our own histories and stories. We seek to deepen our understanding of one another and historic racism in addition to creating space for accountability as we seek to engage more intentionally in racial justice. I also think about how Danae and I are attempting to more intentionally participate in our local community by attending virtual city council meetings where policing policies will be addressed, pushing for sustained community dialogue about racial justice and holding one another accountable when we see or say something that’s rooted in racism.

It is good and important work. But for all of the essays, blogs and books I read by Black authors, for all the justice conscious conversations I’m in, for all the history I’m re-learning for the first time, there are countless moments that I have remained silent (and still do), intentionally turned away from news or conversation about racial reckoning because “I just can’t deal with it right now” or am ignorant of the ways my privilege shows and advantages me. I am far from competent on anti-racism, but I am committed to the journey and the work.

Which is why I am asking you – what are you doing to meet this moment of racial reckoning in our country?

I really am curious to know what you are doing – on your own or with your church community.





I know many in our district are engaging. It would be good to hear and share what is happening around the district. The work looks different depending on whether you identify as white, black, indigenous or person of color.

If you need some ideas, you can check out some of our denominational resources:

[Greater Northwest Area Commitment to Confront Racism](#) – A resource page in our own GNW area.

[Boise 1st UMC's Removal of Stained Glass Window](#) – Read one way that First United Methodist Church of Boise (Cathedral of the Rockies) is meeting this moment of racial reckoning.

[NAMI Seattle BIPOC Mental Health Resources](#) – Though based in Seattle, there is a good list of resources for BIPOC folks looking for support during this trauma filled time.

[GCORR's Online Course: You Are Here: First Steps for White Christians on Race and Racism](#)

[GCORR's Online Course: Anti-racism 101: Required Skills for White People Who Want to Be Allies](#)

[GCORR Blog on Overt and Covert Racism](#)

If you are doing something to meet this moment of racial reckoning, somehow engaging in the work of confronting racism (even if you are just beginning), take a moment to let me know. I want to hear your stories and, as appropriate, share the work our district is engaging in right now.



*Rev. Kathleen Weber serves as District Superintendent for the Crest to Coast Missional District of The Pacific Northwest Annual Conference of The United Methodist Church.*

**SALMON CREEK  
CHURCH**

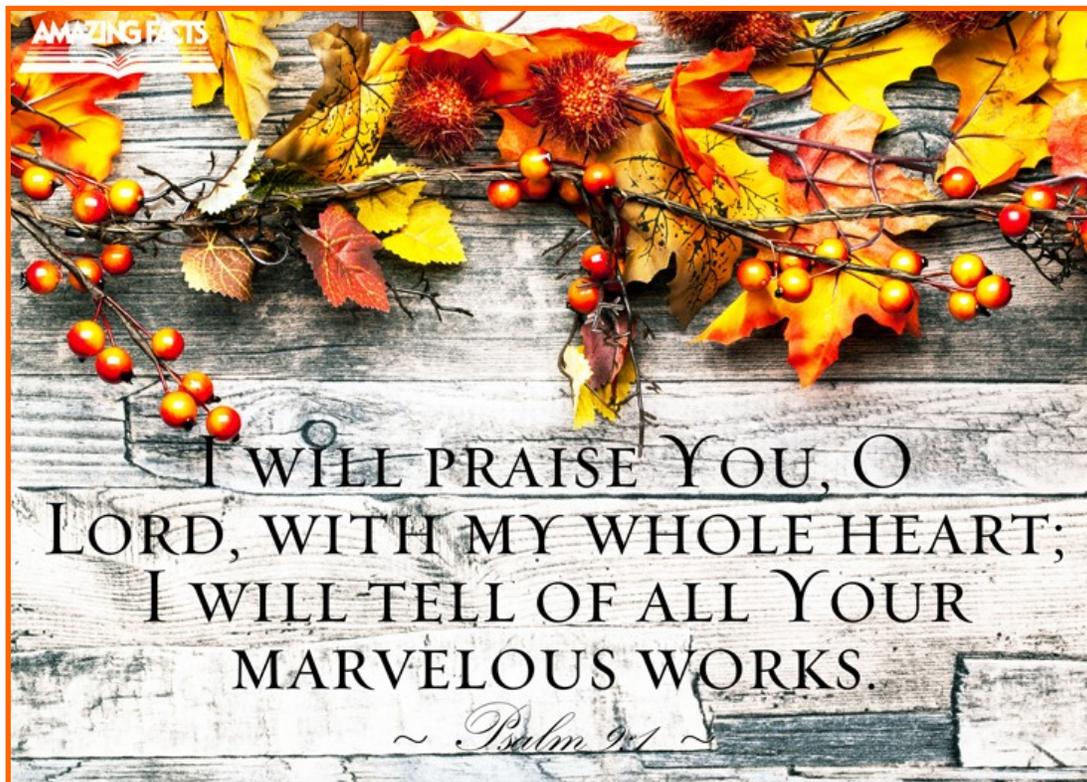
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Thank you for reading the Circuit Rider! If you have questions or concerns please feel free to contact us.

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Submissions for the Circuit Rider can be sent to [dalemv@att.net](mailto:dalemv@att.net). Articles and announcements are due by midnight on the third Sunday of each month.

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