



# The Messenger



Selah United Methodist Church

April 2021



“Christ has risen, Christ has risen indeed.” These are comforting words to our ears. Christ has died and was raised on our behalf. But these words can be difficult to understand at the same time. In seminary I read many books on the different theological interpretations on why Christ went to the cross. It seems that every theologian has a different perspective on this event. I guess for me, I am reminded of Matthew 18:2-4 (NRSV).

2 He called a child, whom he put among them, 3 and said, “Truly I tell you, unless you change and become like children, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven. 4 Whoever becomes humble like this child is the greatest in the kingdom of heaven.

As we try to understand the death and resurrection of Christ, it might be easier to understand it from the eyes of a child. When we start to overcomplicate the story, it begins to lose its significance. We cannot allow the significance to be lost. Christ went to the cross, died on the cross, was separated from God for three days, and arose from the grave. This was the ultimate demonstration of Agape (God’s Love). Christ went to the cross so that we may have life, life abundant.

As we enter April 2021, we do have life abundant through Christ. COVID-19 or nothing else can take that love away from us. As Spring begins, we see this abundant life everywhere- in the tulips, buds on the trees, ducklings, the grass turning green - stop and take the time to experience it. Take the time to experience Christ’s love for you. Then take his love (Agape) to those around you. “Christ has risen, Christ has risen indeed.”

Shalom, Pastor Dirk



## Mission Outreach

Selah Food Bank: The space at the food bank, although in the same place, is looking expanded, fresh and inviting. Washington State, Northwest Harvest and the community all help fill the shelves and fresh produce boxes. Soon, we will be able to be part of that effort to collect food that will go directly to Selah area residents who depend on the food bank.

Camp Hope: In March, the Wesley UMC bakers and cooks prepared a new recipe of Cottage Pie. Do you know Cottage Pie? They delivered this pie, mixed vegetables, coleslaw, cake and milk to 70 or more grateful residents. Good news for Camp Hope! The county commissioners helped secure funds to deliver and install new portable shelters that will double the camp's capacity, making the total approximately 200. The shelters are being prepared for new residents and the hope is they will be occupied soon. Camp Hope is converting several portable classrooms for the temporary housing. Each portable will house about 36 people; each portable will be divided into two pods, one for adult women and one for adult men. Another will be divided further to create smaller spaces where families can stay together. Director Kay estimates that the family units should be able to house 10-15 families. He also hopes to prepare and house a permanent shelter for young people. Currently, there is no permanent overnight shelter for young homeless people in Yakima. The tentative plan at Camp Hope is to house young adults ages 18-24, with one pod for men and another for women. Permission from regulatory authorities is pending for unaccompanied minors. When fully operational and occupied, Camp Hope and Noah's Ark will have 200 to 250 mouths to feed. Wesley UMC is discussing and planning how that much food can be prepared and delivered each month. As pandemic restrictions ease, perhaps Selah UMC will be able to assist with this mammoth cooking commitment one night a month.

The Rod's House Young Adult Extreme Weather Shelter that began the first week in November at the graciousness of Motel 6 and the meticulous planning of the Rod's House staff will close on March 31st. The meal partners from all over the Yakima community helped feed over 100 different young adults over those months. Rod's House is also pleased to announce a new director, Mark James. He is excited and looking forward "to great things in the future with the help from our network of support." Here are a few needed items on their spring Wish List: art supplies of all kinds, bras in all sizes, NEW men and women's underwear in all sizes, new or gently worn shoes in all sizes, FULL sized toiletries.



## WORSHIP NEWS

The Worship Team met on Zoom on March 2<sup>nd</sup> to finalize plans for Lent, Easter and Holy Week. The group first reviewed activities since the last meeting. It was noted that the Church Council approved a One License subscription, and that it has been used several times during worship. It was noted that there were 18 people logged In to the Ash Wednesday service, which was greater than the number who attended last year's service.



Palms have been ordered for Passion/Palm Sunday. There will be a drive-thru **palm distribution** on **March 27<sup>th</sup>** (the day before Palm Sunday). It will be held **from 2 PM until 4 PM**. Just drive through the church parking lot and pick up your palms. They will also be distributing Communion "kits", which consist of a sealed cup of grape juice and a communion wafer. The kits can be used for the Maundy Thursday worship service on April 1<sup>st</sup>. We will be interested in hearing feedback on the kits. **The Maundy Thursday**

**worship service will be held on Zoom at 7:00 PM.**

The United Methodist Men's group has made a **large cross** which has holes drilled in it. **The plan is to have it decorated with flowers for Easter.** There will be buckets of water set out near the entryway of the church, and folks are urged to **bring flowers** which will be used to decorate the cross. A picture of the decorated cross will be shown at the beginning of the Easter Zoom service. While you are there with your flowers, take a look at the Little Pantry, which holds food that is available to community members in need.

There will be an in-person **Sunrise service** at the fire pit behind the church. **It will start at 6:20 Easter morning.** Bob Ruud has agreed to start a fire in time for the service. Use of face coverings and social distancing will be required, and there will be no congregational singing or unison readings. Bring your lawn chair, pray, listen, and enjoy the sunrise. The regular **Easter celebration worship service** will be held on **Zoom starting at 10:30** on Easter morning.

The metrics are improving, but not enough to allow us to start in-person indoor worship yet, and even if we were to do so, we would miss out on a lot that helps make in-person worship meaningful, like singing, hugs, handshakes, and after-worship snacks. Please be patient, but remember: wherever we worship, Christ is there with us!



United  
Methodist  
Women  
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## SELAH UMW

Happy Spring! New life is popping up everywhere. I went out to check on my tulips and daffodils the other day and was surprised some were already blooming.

I am always inspired by the work of UMW and the mission outreach that takes place all over the world. I recently read an article on Knitting a Better Future for Women in Bolivia. United Methodist Women mission

giving supports Methodist Women's Federation known as FEFEMEF or Federacion Femenina Metodista. Methodism arrived in Bolivia in 1906 when Methodist missionaries came to La Paz the capitol city of Bolivia, which by the way is the highest capital city in the world at an altitude of 11,942 feet. When the Methodist missionaries arrived, the indigenous peoples were forbidden from learning how to read and write. The Methodist missionaries taught the indigenous people to read and write through teaching of the gospel and started schools especially girls to receive and education. The Methodist Church and Leadership programs taught by Methodist Women Federation has provided the indigenous women to gain self - confidence in themselves through leadership classes, skill building workshops. the skill building workshops focus mostly on sewing, knitting, and learning ways to make various clothing. It gives the women a chance to become independent and earn money to help support the families, and educate their children.

Thank you for supporting us, so we can support others in our country and around the world.

April 20th will be our next meeting via zoom at 7:00 pm. We use Dirks Daily Check In link to log on.

Tressa Cummings

Selah UMW President



## Baby News From the Schramms

The Schramm family is growing again. Don and Connie Schramm are so excited to announce our daughter, Carrie and her husband, Fred welcomed their 4th baby boy on February 26. **Eli Steven Mauss** was 9 lbs 1 oz, healthy and happy. He joins his brothers Kenton (2 years old), Everett (4 years old) and Victor (12 years old). The family lives in Richland, WA. Everyone is home and doing well.



## SUMC Scholarship Deadline Approaching

The application for the 2021 Bud Hall Memorial Scholarship is posted on the SUMC Facebook page and on the SUMC website, which can be reached using this link: [www.selahumc.org/s/scholarship](http://www.selahumc.org/s/scholarship)  
The application can be downloaded and printed from either site.

To qualify for this scholarship students must be actively involved in their church and meet the other requirements on the application. Instructions for submitting are on the application.  
**April 15, 2021 is the deadline for submission.**

SUMC Scholarship Team

## Horse Show Support

On March 20 a few of the UMM group provided food for the first 4-H/youth horse show since the beginning of the pandemic. It was very successful with the families appreciating the good food at a reasonable price. They are scheduled to do it again on April 17. For many years our church has provided food during a 4-H horse show/training event in June. Unfortunately, state fair park is doing some maintenance work around the horse arena, so the 4H event will be held in Ellensburg this year and we will not be operating concessions.

Becky



## Work continues around church



A small team of church members tackled the rose garden in March and cleaned it up making way for spring growth. We will have a lovely rose garden in a couple months. Don and Connie arranged to have

the bird holes on the exterior of the church filled to prevent nests from being built inside.



## UMCOR West Depot Closed

Many from our church have volunteered at the UMCOR West Depot in Salt Lake City. The decision was made to close it at the end of 2020. This link is to the Press Release with the closure announcement:



<https://umcmmission.org/news-statements/umcor-to-consolidate-relief-supply-network-operations/>

Sager Brown, is now the sole Relief Depot for UMCOR. It is located in southern Louisiana, in the town of Baldwin. Since they have not been able to have volunteers on campus since the middle of March 2020, they have been conducting virtual mission trips to keep our volunteers connected to the outreach ministry of Sager Brown. If anyone is interested in participating in one of the virtual mission trips, let Becky know and the email with information on how to participate will be sent to you. One is scheduled for April 14 and another for April 28. They typically last 1.5 to 2 hours.



## April Celebrations

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### Birthdays

- 1 Anthony Schenk
- 4 Ron Drew
- 6 Leslie Blackaby
  - 4 Karen Davis and Rob Gallion
- 8 Shelley Von Essen
  - 8 Bob and Donna Ruud
- 13 Seth Eisenhower
- 15 Pat Barton
- 18 Carrie Schramm Mauss

### Anniversaries

- 1 Ron and Becky Johnson
- 4 Rex and Andrea Van Beek



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## Snacks For High School Students

Selah High School continues to ask for snacks that can be given to their students. The food some students get at school often is the best meal – or snack – they get. Ideas include Cup of Soup, individual bags of chips or popcorn, granola bars, breakfast or protein bars, or similar items. They can be dropped off at the high school.



## ***APRIL CALENDAR***

Pastor Dirk is on National Guard Assignment, but available via Zoom for Church worship and meetings.

- 1 Daily Check-in via Zoom with Pastor Dirk @ 10:00 am  
Continuing Monday - Friday unless canceled by Pastor Dirk.  
**See link on next page to join via Zoom.**  
**Maundy Thursday Service via Zoom @7:00 pm**  
**See link on next page to join via Zoom**
- 2 **Good Friday** – Sanctuary open from 12:00 to 3:00 pm
- 3 Drop off flowers for cross/pick up communion elements @ church 2:00 – 4:00 pm
- 4 **Easter Sunday - Christ is Risen - Hallelujah**  
Sunrise Service @ 6:20 am at the fire pit **with masks and social distancing**  
Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am;  
**Communion – remember bread and juice**  
**See link on next page to join via Zoom**
- 8 Pub Theology via Zoom @ 6:00 pm Continuing every Thursday,  
**See link on next page to join Zoom Meeting**
- 11 Bible Study with Pastor Dirk via Zoom @9:15 am Continuing every Sunday  
Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am  
Second Sunday of Easter
- 13 Book Bunch via Zoom @ 7:00 pm.  
**See link on next page to join Zoom meeting.**
- 17 4-H Horse Show – UMM providing concessions
- 18 Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am  
Third Sunday of Easter
- 20 UMW meeting via Zoom @ 7:00 pm  
Use morning check-in link on next page
- 21 Church Council meeting via Zoom @ 6:00 pm
- 25 Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am  
Fourth Sunday of Easter  
**Newsletter articles due**
- 27 Camp Hope Dinner prepared and delivered by Wesley UMC.  
Watch for food requests from SUMC, if needed, the week before.  
Book Bunch via Zoom @ 7:00 pm





## **ZOOM LINKS**

### **SUMC Sunday Service & Bible Study**

**Time: 10:30 a.m.**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/692949701?pwd=Lz1NSWYyT1BGUzNhVHc0ME9ydnBLQT09>

Meeting ID: 692 949 701 Password: 021416

One tap mobile: +12532158782,,692949701#,,1#,021416# US (Tacoma)

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### **ZOOM CHECK-IN WITH PASTOR DIRK**

**Monday – Friday @10:00 am daily check-in via Zoom. Join Zoom:**

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/669186246?pwd=NmsxRGsrNktoaUI1NWdKaUxhbnlNQTO9>

Meeting ID: 669 186 246 Password: 848493

One tap mobile: +12532158782,,669186246#,,1#,848493# US (Tacoma)

### **ZOOM PUB THEOLOGY ON THURSDAYS**

**Thursday @ 6:00 pm via Zoom. Join Zoom:**

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/95829189054?pwd=cGJwYmw3M2UrTDk4Ml1TVUUySVI3QT09>

Meeting ID: 958 2918 9054 Password: 013652

One tap mobile: +12532158782,,95829189054#,,1#,013652# US (Tacoma)

## **Selah United Methodist Church**

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Growing Into the Image of Christ

How to get hold of Pastor Dirk:

Cell phone: (509) 388-1218

Email: [pastordirkrobinson@gmail.com](mailto:pastordirkrobinson@gmail.com)

Newsletter articles for the May  
newsletter are due April 25

Articles can be emailed to  
[bjoh461@fairpoint.net](mailto:bjoh461@fairpoint.net)

### **Mission Statement**

“As a sacred body that worships God, we feed the soul of our communities, serve the needs around us, and open our hearts in respectful acceptance of all.”

### **Vision Statement**

“To be an energized faith community.”