



The Messenger



Selah United Methodist Church

July 2021



Wow is it hot!!! As we enter July, we are experiencing triple digit temperatures. This a time we need to be looking out for each other. Like we did during the pandemic. Make sure you are calling your family, friends, and neighbors to make sure they are doing alright. As I preach every Sunday - Love God and Love Neighbor - Let's put this into action.

In June, the Pacific Northwest Annual Conference held our conference via Zoom. I am pleased to announce that I have been reappointed to Selah UMC for another year. The Seven Rivers Missional District has a new District Superintendent, Daniel Miranda. Daniel will be serving both the Seven Rivers and Inland Missional Districts. Bishop Elaine Stanovsky will serve the conference for one more year. Annual Conference next year will be June 09-12 in Puyallup, WA.

I will be returning to my normal office hours starting July 1. My office hours will be Monday-Thursday 10:00-3:00. We will also be having service indoors. As we move back into the sanctuary, please be mindful of social distancing. Our sanctuary is large enough to spread out to keep everyone safe. We will continue to provide the service on Zoom but with limited interaction. Stay tuned as we start to open the church for more activities.

Shalom Pastor Dirk



Mission Outreach



JULY IS BAKING SUPPLY MONTH

During the pandemic shutdown, we have not had access to our Selah Food Bank grocery basket. But since we are back worshipping in the sanctuary - Now We Do! I visited the food bank, and they were so happy to hear that we are back *in*

business. Tammy and Dave, the lead volunteers, did not hesitate to say they are in great need for baking supplies; flour, sugar, mixes, baking powder, spices, etc. (Bags of flour and sugar are divided so any size is welcomed.) **So that they do not have to wait until the next Food Bank truck pick up, let's make our first official indoor service also a quick campaign for baking goods for the food bank. Come to church with a bag of sugar or a muffin mix or a baking ingredient of your choice.** JULY IS BAKING SUPPLY MONTH for the Selah Food Bank. Any non-perishable goods will be gratefully received by the food bank staff and generously distributed to the Selah area residents who depend on the food bank. Please note that this is not intended to replace the generosity of the SUMC congregation to the Free Food Pantry.



Wish we could have seen the smiles of delight and appreciation at Camp Hope and Noah's Ark as they were served SUMC barbeque chicken, coleslaw, vegetables, french bread and chocolate cake. We are helping Wesley UMC feed 100 to 150 total resident and homeless families each month. Many thank you's to Chuck, the cooks (Ron J and Ron D and Ed) and all who donated to make this delicious SUMC BBQ chicken meal happen. Chuck bought the chickens for the dinner and folks at church last Sunday donated toward the cost, but additional donations are needed to reimburse him. You can donate in person at church or mail to the church a check made out to Chuck.

As the Yakima community opens up, we are hoping that in the fall NW Harvest volunteers from Selah UMC and Wesley UMC will be able to resume packing meals for the Backpack Mission.



A BIG Shout Out

Our church community continues to benefit from *so* many dedicated volunteers.

Throughout the pandemic, Gail Davis has steadfastly kept the Daily Check-in going. Gail can be counted on week in and week out to Zoom in at 10:00 AM. She stays

tuned in for a full hour, making sure there's always another person, even for anyone joining late. A BIG thank you from all who have been checking in, and from *everyone* at Selah UMC. Have a volunteer(s) you'd like to give a "shout out" to? Let Becky know!



United
Methodist
Women
FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

Selah UMW

The Selah UMW takes July and August off which means no meetings.

We decided to extend the collection of flashlights, Travel Alarm Clocks, and night lights for the Voices for Children organization through the month of July. Now that we are back to in person worship and Pastor Dirk has office hours, it is a lot easier for those of you wanting to donate to stop by the church.

There is a donation box inside the narthex. Someone mentioned during our meeting that you can get LED flashlights at the dollar store. You might have these items laying around your house that you aren't using any more. These items give foster children a sense of security during the night. If you have any questions, contact Tressa.

Tressa Cummings
Selah UMW President



Greetings to all you SUMC pig keepers

Remember, we are calling the pigs back to the barn. Last year we decided to use the funds gained through the Piggy Project as a donation to the YWCA domestic violence program in memory of Emily Harris. We hope that the pigs have been well fed and will be ready to ante up on **July 18th**. I know some people have full pigs and some pigs may not have been overfed since we couldn't be out spending our dollar bills to generate a lot of change, but whatever we can collect will be appreciated by the YWCA. Thank you to all you participate in this fun project.

Small Group: Bob and Donna, Don and Connie, Ron and Linda, Sue Eisenhower, Debbie Jespersen, Tereica, and Gail.



Protests and Pursuit of Justice are Christian Pursuits

It seems that everywhere we turn these days, someone is protesting something, and often at the top of their lungs. Angry protests make for “good” TV and media coverage. Angry protests even break out in family kitchens or the grocery store parking lot. We’re overwhelmed with protests! People of

faith, particularly Christians, seem to be conflicted about whether protests do any good, or even if protests are “Christian.” Aren’t we supposed to be peace-lovers, even peacemakers? Certainly. So, I ask: Can peacemaking include protests? In two words: Of course.

Contrary to what too many Christians believe, our biblical faith traditions are filled with protests. God drew people into protests of all kinds to bring some degree of peace and justice into people’s lives. Biblical “peace,” however, is not merely the absence of conflict. It is more the presence of relational wholeness, completeness, inner/outer harmony, hope and justice. And justice? I repeat what many others have declared: The work of peace is justice. Social justice and personal justice are the fruits of peacemaking. Protest is often the method. As Jesus rode down the Mount of Olives on what we call Palm Sunday, he stopped, saw the city of Jerusalem (Luke 19:35-44) and wept sadly. “Would that even today you knew the things that make for peace.”

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What were those things that make for peace? One of those things that make for peace, personally and socially, has always been protest. But we must be clear as to why we choose protest to seek peace. Violence is not peacemaking protest. Victimized by violence, Jesus still embodied peacemaking. We're called to live the same way, nonviolently. Whether the guilty verdicts in the highly charged Derek Chauvin trial bring you relief or frustration, let your future protests be for peacemaking and for justice. Let your hearts be nonviolent, so your actions can follow in kind.

Free Methodist pastor Benjamin D. Wayman wrote a compelling Nov. 4 article for Christian Century titled "Why Do Christians Protest?" He's right when he declares "Christians ... are political specifically because, like Jesus, we are passionately concerned with people and the world God has created. Our faith doesn't align with any political party, but our politics displays how we choose to live together." We can't always control the consequences of our protests. But we can stay clearheaded about why and how we protest for the others whose lives are bruised by injustice. Our peacemaking protests stand decidedly with and for those others. On the other hand, when we shrink from standing up and/or speaking out for others, our claims of peace expose themselves as shallow.

And this, I observe, is where we live most of the time. Want a new start? Learn more deeply how protests and peacemaking live at the center of our faith tradition. Check your fears at the door and learn something new about your faith tradition.

Find an issue, or people, you feel passionate about. Look for simple ways to protest that issue. That will connect you to other religious, or nonreligious people, passionate about the same issue. Don't let religious or political labels distract you from joining with others to protest a wrong you know hurts people. Protests seek to right human wrongs. Whether your protest method is letter-writing to political leaders, picket-carrying for a cause you believe is righteous, the gentle loving of a lonely person or volunteering at a food bank, remember why you choose to protest. Every act that serves another can be a protest for peace.

When our protests help us bring some kind of peace, some kind of justice, into another person's life? Priceless!

The Rev. Paul Graves serves as the chair for the Council on Older Adult Ministries for the Pacific Northwest Conference of The United Methodist Church



July Celebrations

Birthdays

- 1 Steve Hayman
- 4 Makenna Helseth
- 5 Jean Porter
- 10 Sarah Hourihan
- 11 Jim Mahugh
- 12 Cheryl Natland
- 16 Lee Hamilton
- 20 Grant Goss
- 22 Kevin Dow
- 25 Chris Natland
- 25 Mary Lenhardt
- 26 Laurane Arms
- 26 Beth Mahugh
- 27 Brenda Schenk
- 30 Ted Antanaitis

Anniversaries

- 1 Mike & Michelle Helseth
- 5 Ted & Margaret Antanaitis
- 17 Robert & Alicia Shoddy





JULY CALENDAR

Pastor Dirk will have regular office hours Monday through Thursday 10:00 to 3:00.

- 1 Weekly check-in via Zoom @ 10:00; continuing every Thursday
See link below to join via Zoom
Pub Theology - Continuing every Thursday – format to be announced
- 4 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 am – In the sanctuary and via Zoom –
6th Sunday after Pentecost - **Communion Sunday**
See link below to join via Zoom
Independence Day
- 5 Independence Day Observed – Office closed
- 11 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 am – In the Sanctuary and via Zoom
7th Sunday after Pentecost **See link below to join via Zoom**
- 18 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 am – In the Sanctuary and via Zoom
8th Sunday after Pentecost **Remember your fat piggies, donations to go to the
YWCA domestic violence program**
See link below to join via Zoom
- 21 Church Council, @ 6:00 pm in the Simonson Room in person
- 25 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 am - In the Sanctuary and via Zoom
9th Sunday of Pentecost **See link below to join via Zoom**
- 25 **Newsletter articles due**
- 27 Camp Hope dinner prepared and delivered by Wesley UMC with help from
SUMC

ZOOM LINKS

SUMC Sunday Service

Time: 10:30 a.m.

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/692949701?pwd=LzlNSWYyT1BGUzNhVHc0ME9ydnBLQT09>

Meeting ID: 692 949 701 Password: 021416

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

THURSDAY CHECK-IN

10:00 am THURSDAY check-in. Join Zoom:

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/669186246?pwd=NmsxRGsrNktoaUI1NWdKaUxhbmlNQTO9>

Meeting ID: 669 186 246 Password: 848493

One tap mobile: +12532158782,,669186246#,,1#,848493# 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

Newsletter articles for the August
newsletter are due July 25

Articles can be emailed to

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.”