



The Messenger



Selah United Methodist Church

June 2022

When I consider the congregation, I assume that the people who gather here, belong here. I assume that we are all United Methodist Christians and that because we are together, we belong together, and that we want to be together. What I have come to discover is that some who are active here have never become official members. In the general run of things this may not be very important, but we are approaching a time when it will become important. Membership becomes important when significant decisions are made about the future of our congregation. According to United Methodist rules, only those who are official members have a vote. We, as a denomination, are in a time of transition and we will be asked to make serious decisions about the future of our denomination and about the future of this particular congregation. The importance of these decisions makes each member's vote more important. It is also true that many of the committees of the church require committee members to be members of the church, though not all of them.

There are several categories of un-joined members. Some may be United Methodists who joined a different congregation and have not transferred their membership here. There may be some who joined the church in some other denomination and have not moved their membership here. And there may be some who have never joined any church and would like to become members here. The one last category is there may be some who have never been baptized and have never joined any church but are attending here. If these un-joined members were newbies that had just moved into the area and knew nothing about Selah UMC, then there might be reason to form a "new members" class. But since these un-joined members are people who have been active in the congregation for some time, they already know who we are and how we function. They have already shown us their commitment to Selah UMC. Because of that history, there is little or no need for any "membership class."

Here's the proposal: On my last Sunday, June 26, 2022, we will have a service of making and renewing membership. Everyone who wants to become a member will be invited to join and become an official member of Selah United Methodist Church. All the rest of the congregation will renew their membership, and everyone will make covenant together to be the living body of Christ for this part of God's creation.

There will be some personal contact, inviting anyone who has not formally joined the church to officially join us. For those who are usure about their past membership, you can still



join us as a transferee. There have been lots of changes in the past few years. Many small churches have closed, both Methodist and others as well. We may not be able to get an official transfer, but we will transfer your membership anyway. Please think and pray through this. It is important for our future. May God bless us as we make our way into the future.

Yours in Christ's work, Interim Pastor Jim Simpson

Mission Outreach

The food bank shelves are looking well stocked. It is good to see how generous and supportive the community organizations and churches and individuals have been. Although there are no special requests this month, please keep the sanctuary grocery basket in mind when you go to the store. Boxed dinners, baking products and health supplies are always appreciated.

JUNE IS GIVE WHAT YOU LIKE, GIVE WHAT YOU CAN MONTH and please share with our Little Food Pantry

Piggy Update:



The coins (and bills) have been taken to the bank. Once again, the "pig farmers" of SUMC have come through for the community of Selah in an amazing way. The total money deposited was \$398.67. Not one coin was rejected for being Canadian. There were two really dirty, mangled pennies that the machine rejected but the teller accepted them so all was well. Thank you for your generosity!! We will call the pigs

back in some time in the fall so you can start filling them up for that round-up.

New pastor update:

Still, we do not know much of what is going on with the appointment of a full-time pastor in Selah. I did get a call Sunday afternoon, 5/22/22 from the District Superintendent. The cabinet has someone in mind for us but there are some paperwork issues that must be worked out before they can move forward with the process of having a meeting with our council and getting it all finalized so that we can make the announcement of who is coming to Selah. Hopefully within the next week or two we will know what is going to happen. All we can do is wait. Wish I had more to report.

Gail Davis, Council Chairperson



WORSHIP TEAM REPORT



The Worship Team (Committee) met on Wednesday, May 18th, at 1:00 PM at the Simonson Room. The group reviewed information received from members of the congregation for worship events held since the last meeting. Margaret participated in the Maundy Thursday service on ZOOM and thought it was effective. The Sunrise service was nice, but cold. Thanks to Bob Ruud who built the fire to keep us comfortable. The sun came up on time and was a pleasant backdrop to Pastor Jim's sermon. There were positive comments about the flowers and the cross provided last year by the men's group. There was one suggestion that we might put it out closer to the road.

We need to be more intentional about promoting our activities. We have signs out about the Little Pantry, but nothing giving information about the service time. There are no articles in the newspaper, no ads anywhere. How

will people know we are still an alive congregation?

The Team is looking for some information on Communion. It was served live for the first time inside the building since the start of the pandemic. Almost everyone at the service came forward to receive bread and dip it in the cup at the service in May.

It was noted that there are several people who are active in the church who have never formally joined. Some have commented that they don't know what the process is, or think they will need to take a class in order to join. It was agreed that people who have been worshipping with us for years and working in church projects probably know what we stand for and what we believe. There will be a Membership Sunday the last Sunday in June where we will be receiving new members. Talk to Pastor Jim if you would like to add your name to the Membership Roll.

The Team spent a considerable time talking about becoming a Reconciling Congregation, and there were no conclusions, as it is not the job of the Worship Team to make those decisions, but it will be a decision made by the congregation after time for everyone to learn more about what is entailed in the process and what "Reconciling" means. There will be a speaker on June 19th from the Ellensburg UMC who will share her experience and what being a part of a Reconciling Congregation has made in her life.



Pentecost falls on June 5th this year. Everyone is encouraged to wear RED to worship that day. We will also celebrate Communion that day. Following the worship service there will be a BBQ Chicken dinner for the congregation. Make plans to join us in the celebration, as we affirm that “WE ARE ALIVE!” We will also be honoring Mark Williams and Jim Simpson for filling our pulpit following Pastor Dirk’s move to full time Navy chaplaincy. The next meeting will be held on June 22nd at 1:00 PM in the Simonson Room to discuss plans for the pastoral transition. Meetings are open to anyone who is interested in worship at Selah UMC.

Kevin Dow, team leader

Selah United Women in Faith



What I like about being part of United Women in Faith is the impact and outreach of programs of our mission institutions locally and around the world. United Women in Faith publish a magazine called Response. The magazine highlights National Mission Institutions programs that impacting the lives of Women, children, and youth. There is a bible study that you can use with a group or as an individual and a mission study you could use for a mini retreat. I will leave a copy pinned to the bulletin board if anyone would like to read the magazine.

Did you know we have two national mission institutions in Washington? Atlantic Street Center and Tacoma Community House. Atlantic Street Center was founded in 1910. It is one of the oldest non-profit social service agencies. They provide wrap around services including education, family support, behavioral health counseling to low- income minority of King and Pierce counties. They have three outreach sites Main Office in Seattle, which provides Behavioral Health, Youth Development, & Domestic Violence. Rainier Beach Site supports Early Learning Youth Development and Family Support and the Kent Site has Early Learning, Family Support, and Behavioral Health. Check out their website to see their outreach in the community. (Google Atlantic Street Center)

Our next meeting will be via zoom on June 22nd, at 7:00 pm.
Tressa Cummings, Selah Women of Faith President



TO BE OR NOT TO BE . . . A RECONCILING CHURCH

The goal of becoming a reconciling church is not to simply grow the church. A reconciling church is, by the very nature of its name, an affirming church where all, including those marginalized by society, are welcome to worship God. Jesus said “You shall love your neighbor as yourself” and we should become a reconciling church because it is the right thing to do. If in the process of becoming a reconciling church, we grow the church, then wouldn’t that be wonderful, but, again, that is not the purpose.

In fact, if you want to grow the church, how is this for a simpler, easier way to do it. We could get a Praise Band, and on the Reader Board put “SELAH’S FINEST PRAISE BAND, 10:30 a.m.” Sorry Kevin, sorry Bill, but you’re on the outs. Next, we could condemn gay marriage and the so called “gay lifestyle”. Unmarried couples cohabitating would be considered sinners and any immigrants who are not our color would be given the cold shoulder, and so on, and so on. In other words, we could be like many of the other churches that draw large crowds and the reader board signage might actually give us an edge. BUT, THAT’S NOT WHO WE ARE! We are, in fact, a welcoming church. We simply need to get the message out into the public sphere and stop being Selah’s best kept secret!

We celebrate God’s gift of diversity and value the wholeness made possible in community equally shared and shepherded by all.

We welcome and affirm people of every gender identity, gender expression, and sexual orientation, who are also of every age, race, ethnicity, physical and mental ability, level of education, and family structure, and of every economic, immigration, martial, and social status, and so much more. We acknowledge that we live in a world of profound social, economic, and political inequities. As followers of Jesus, we commit ourselves to the pursuit of justice and pledge to stand in solidarity with all who are marginalized and oppressed.



Summer Newsletter Schedule



I have a few things coming up end of June and middle to end of July that will interfere with my normal schedule for putting together our newsletter. Because of this, I will be doing one newsletter this summer that I intend to distribute on July 11 and will not be doing one in August. Due date for articles for this newsletter will be July 5. I will send reminders as that date approaches.

Finance Update

We started this year in a financial position we haven't experienced in a very long time – money in our checking account beyond that needed to pay our bills. However, so far this year, our monthly giving has been a bit less than our expenses. Since we had a cushion in our bank account, that hasn't been a problem. However, when our new pastor arrives our payroll expenses will increase – how much we are not sure yet. We have not had to cover full payroll and benefits for a full-time pastor for almost a year. Please keep this in mind as you consider your giving in support of our church and its ministry.



Chicken BBQ Lunch Coming Up

On June 5 there will be a chicken BBQ lunch after church in the fellowship hall. Enjoy a quarter chicken, baked beans, coleslaw and a chance to visit. Because of increased COVID concerns, we may need to be spaced out a bit while we eat, but we will still be able to enjoy each others company



Bud Hall Memorial Scholarship



The members of the Bud Hall Memorial Scholarship Team have awarded 2022 Bud Hall Memorial Scholarships to four very qualified students.

The recipients from our church family are Maya Voight, Ryan Mead, Makenna Helseth, and Selah High School senior, Abigale Hammermeister. Each one has been awarded a \$5000.00 scholarship. Maya attends Whitworth College and Washington State University. Ryan attends Central Washington University. Makenna attends Western Oregon University. Abigale is a senior at Selah High School and will attend Grand Canyon University. They are all very deserving students. The Scholarship Team sends our best wishes to these very capable students.

Margaret Antanaitis

Community Service/Fundraiser Coming Up



The 4-H horse show that we have served concessions at in the past is happening again June 23 to 26 at State Fair Park. We have been asked to serve food again this year and we need volunteers to work the concession stand. In the past we have served breakfast burritos, hamburgers, hot dogs, soft drinks, bottled water and the ever popular soft ice cream. Early in June I will be contacting you for volunteers

to man the concession stand; we need three or four people each five-hour shift. Please keep those dates open to help. It is usually a fun time and the 4-H families really appreciate our good food. If you have questions, contact Becky. Thanks.



JUNE Celebrations

Birthdays

- 4 Helen Charlot
- 7 Matthew Mead
- 8 Lanae Brown
- 9 Gail Davis
- 9 Don Schramm
- 9 Lucas Mahugh
- 10 Logan Hayman
- 11 Mark Charcas
- 12 Bob Ruud
- 13 LaVerne Nelson
- 13 Wyatt Harrington
- 15 Joanne Helms
- 16 Andrew Baranowski
- 18 Merl Brothers
- 20 Katie Kaumheimer
- 21 Michelle Helseth
- 26 Lois Cummings
- 30 Rikki Gonzales

Anniversaries

- 13 Jim & Beth Mahugh



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=NmsxRGsrNktoaUI1NWdKaUxhbnlNQ09>

Meeting ID: 669 186 246 Password: 848493

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



JUNE CALENDAR

- 2 Weekly Check-in @ 10:00 am via Zoom; Continuing every Thursday
See link on prior page to join via Zoom
Pub Theology @ 6:00 pm at Selah Springs Brewery; Continuing every Thursday
- 5 UMM Breakfast @ 8:00 am in Fellowship Hall and cook chicken after
Sunday Worship @ 10:30 am in Sanctuary and via Zoom
Holy Communion; Pentecost (wear red)
See link on prior page to join via Zoom
BBQ Chicken lunch after worship service in Fellowship Hall
- 7 Coffee Hour @ 9:30 am at Sundance Espresso; Continuing every Tuesday
- 12 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 am in Sanctuary and via Zoom
Trinity Sunday and Peace with Justice Sunday
See link on prior page to join via Zoom
- 15 Church Council meeting @ 6:00 pm in Simonson Room
- 19 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 am in Sanctuary and via Zoom
Second Sunday After Pentecost- See link on prior page to join via Zoom
Juneteenth
Happy Father's Day
- 21 Summer Soltice
- 22 Worship Team Meeting 1:00 pm in Simonsen Room
United Women of Faith meeting via Zoom @ 7:00 pm; use check-in link on prior page
- 23 – 26 Concession Stand at 4-H Horse Show; State Fair Park
- 26 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 am in Sanctuary and via Zoom
Third Sunday after Pentecost; Pastor Jim's Last Sunday
See link on prior page to join via Zoom
- 28 Camp Hope Dinner, prepared and delivered by Wesley with help from SUMC

July 3 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 am in Sanctuary and via Zoom

Welcome to our new pastor

See link on prior page to join via Zoom

July 5 Coffee Hour @ 9:30 am at Sundance Espresso; Continuing every Tuesday

July 7 Weekly Check-in @ 10:00 am via Zoom; Continuing every Thursday

See link on prior page to join via Zoom

Pub Theology @ 6:00 pm at Selah Springs Brewery; Continuing every Thursday

**NEWSLETTER ARTICLES FOR JULY/AUGUST NEWSLETTER ARE
DUE ON JULY 5**

Selah United Methodist Church

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Growing Into the Image of Christ

Pastor Jim Simpson Contact Information:

Cell phone: (253) 229-0340

Email: grampajim2014@gmail.com

Newsletter articles for the July
newsletter are due July 5

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.”