



The Messenger



Selah United Methodist Church

March 2021



We are now in the mist of the Lenten season - a journey that leads us to explore our walk with Christ. This last year has been a journey for all of us. Our faith has been tested and tried with the COVID-19 pandemic. Not being able to gather together as our church family has been difficult on everyone. We have made due with the Zoom gatherings. This journey all began last year during Lent. We have been in the wilderness wandering for a year. What we can learn from Scripture is that wilderness experiences can redefine us and can offer us new beginnings. Moses and the Israelites experienced

forty years in the wilderness. In the end the Israelites were able to enter into their new land. Jesus spent forty days and nights in the wilderness and was tempted by Satan. Jesus emerged out of the wilderness ready to start his ministry and change the world. I believe we will come out of this wilderness experience stronger and more prepared to do God's ministry. Are you ready? I know, I am.

Blessings, Pastor Dirk



Mission Outreach



Our small congregation at Selah United Methodist Church continues to help when and where they can. The Free Food Pantry stays packed with non-perishable donations with the hope that Selah people are learning about our little pantry and visiting it when they have needs.

- Wesley cooks prepared another warm nourishing meal for the many Camp Hope and Noah Ark residents: beef enchilada casserole, salad vegetables, brownies and milk. Several SUMC people helped by contributing ground beef, brownies and milk and delivery.

- Motel 6 continues to offer eight motel room for up to 24 homeless teens. We provided a baked potato and chili meal to those teens who were able to take the hot food to their room where there is a microwave and fridge.

With the extreme cold weather, many organizations like Camp Hope and Rod's house have stepped up their operations to provide not only warm meals, but warm clothes and shelter options. In mid-February, during the worst cold, KIMA reported about some of the combined county efforts to find and assist unsheltered homeless people. Recognition needs to go to Camp Hope Director Mike Kay and his team who went out daily hunting people on the street, asking their needs, handing out water, offering to take them to a shelter. Mike said the county commissioners have also helped make hotel voucher available if local shelters are full so no one has to be turned back out into the freezing cold. It is unimaginable to think of sleeping outside during our super cold nights. Camp Hope is also to be commended that since the beginning, they have had no COVID-19 cases in their humble, but safe home for 75 or more residents.





WORSHIP NEWS

The Worship Team (Committee) did not meet in February; our next meeting will be March 2 when we will firm up plans for Palm/Passion Sunday and the plans for the drive through distribution of palms on Saturday, March 27. Maundy Thursday falls on April 1st this year (no fooling), and we are planning a distribution of Communion kits consisting of a communion wafer and small cup of grape juice hermetically sealed. Members of the United Methodist Men's group are working on a place to display Easter flowers. Details for both the Maundy Thursday service and flower display will be the April Messenger and will be shared via Facebook posts and emails.

The following 11 ideas for fasting during Lent, attributed to Pope Francis, are practices that encourage followers of Jesus to become more Christ-like in thought, word and action:

- Fast from hurting words and say kind words.
- Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.
- Fast from anger and be filled with patience.
- Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.
- Fast from worries and have trust in God.
- Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.
- Fast from pressures and be prayerful.
- Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.
- Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.
- Fast from grudges and be reconciled.
- Fast from words and be silent so you can listen



LENT



SELAH UMW

Our UMW group had so much fun sending out Valentine cards. Since we could not hold our annual Valentine Tea, we still wanted to let people know we were thinking of them. **(editorial note – many thanks from those who received the cards!)**

I read an article in the UMW Response magazine where a UMW group with the help of other organizations put together UMCOR health kits but added a mask and hand sanitizer and gave them out to people who were being released from prison. I thought what a great idea. I know some of us carry Ziplock bags with food items in our cars to handout to people on the street corners. What if we added a mask and hand sanitizer to the bag! Small gesture of letting someone know there are people that want them to be safe also.

March 16th at 7:00 pm via zoom is the next meeting. Our guest speaker is from the Kids Closet. Kids Closet provides opportunity for children in foster care to come in and pick out articles of clothing that they can take with them to the foster home. Children in the foster care system only have a couple changes of clothes due to being moved from one foster home to another. This program allows them to pick out gently used clothing. Allowing the children to pick out their own clothing really boosts their self-esteem. If you are interested in hearing about this program click on the daily check-in link at 7:00 pm. The link is posted in the newsletter. All are welcome to join.

Tressa Cummings, Selah UMW President

SUMC Scholarship Application Available

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

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



Baby News From the McFarlands

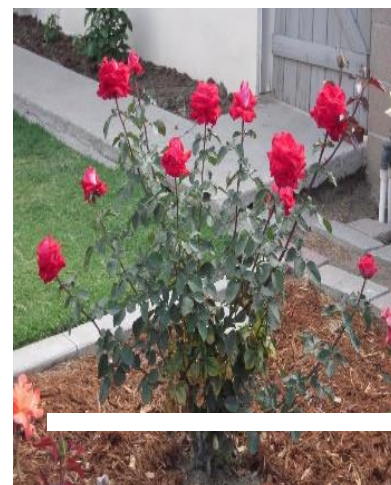
Hallelujah! Mike and Joy McFarland are excited to announce the birth of their first grandchild! His name is Soren Ash McFarland. Born January 27th at 1:25 pm, weighing 8 pounds 8 ounces, to proud parents Erik McFarland and his wife Jennifer Ash. The family lives in Sammamish Washington with their cat Tanuki and are enjoying getting to know their new family member.



Rose Garden Help Needed

Calling all gardeners, would-be gardeners, or rose bush tenders. We would like to put together a team of people that would be willing to maintain the rose garden in front of the Church building. It is watered by a drip system that Connie and Don Schramm oversee. We need people that will weed, prune, dead-head and do any other tasks that are needed to keep rose bushes in good, healthy condition. Hopefully once the garden is cleaned up and readied for the season the upkeep will be an easy task, weekly or bi-weekly. (This is not my area of expertise so I really don't know what will be involved.) If you are interested and willing to be a part of this service to the Church please let me know: 697-7579.

Thank you. Gail Davis



Fellowship Hall Needs

The Church Council discussed the need for looking at the condition of the floor covering in the Fellowship Hall. Damage from spilled food, flooding from leaking pipes, and normal wear and tear over the years have been pointed out over the past few years. We are beginning the process of studying what would be the best alternatives and how to fund the project. We will be looking into getting some bids and having the area looked at by flooring "experts" to guide us on how to proceed. We are asking for the congregation to begin to think about fundraising ideas and/or extra giving to be designated for the Fellowship Flooring Fund. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Gail Davis, Council Chair



From Bishop Elaine Stanovsky

To United Methodist members and friends in churches of the Inland District and the Seven Rivers District of The United Methodist Church, Grace and peace to you in the name of Jesus Christ, who leads us in the way of life. In fulfilling my responsibility for oversight of the United Methodist Churches in the Greater Northwest, I have asked Rev. Daniel Miranda to join the Pacific Northwest Cabinet as District Superintendent of the Inland District and the Seven Rivers District reaching from the crest of the Cascade Mountains east, across northern Idaho, beginning July 1, 2021. He has graciously accepted this invitation.

Daniel was trained and ordained as a minister in the American Baptist Church, transferring his clergy membership to The United Methodist Church in 2020. He has served United Methodist congregations in Waterville, Pateros, and Auburn, Washington since 2003. He also speaks Spanish fluently, served in ministry in Japan and the Philippines, and worked as a drug and alcohol counselor. Of himself, Daniel says, “I begin with Jesus because Jesus is the embodiment of God for the world.”

I am also pleased to announce that Rev. Sheila Miranda, currently the pastor of Colby United Methodist Church on the Kitsap Peninsula and Daniel’s partner in marriage and ministry, will join him in this move, stepping into a new appointment as Assistant for Connectional Ministries in the Inland and Seven Rivers District to work with pastoral leaders across the two districts to form regional ministry “circuits” for mutual support, oversight, professional development, and community service.

Sheila, too, entered ordained ministry through the American Baptist Church, and they served together in Japan, the Philippines, and Waterville. Sheila has a background in ethnomusicology and is known for her calm pastoral presence. She is in process of transferring her membership to The United Methodist Church, where she has served churches since 2002.



TEXAS WINTER STORM HELP

As the needs in Texas continue, so does support from UMCOR. Emergency funding is supporting relief efforts in the Texas, Central Texas and North Texas annual conferences. Flood assessments are ongoing and cleaning kits are making their way to communities where burst pipes have caused damage to homes, buildings, and churches. UMCOR-trained local Emergency Response Teams (ERTs) are gearing up and will begin responding later in the week. We remain in prayer with those who weathered and are still weathering, the aftermath of this severe winter storm. You can support U.S. Disaster Response at this UMCOR link: <https://umcmmission.org/advance-project/901670> or by sending a check to the church clearly marked UMCOR Advance 901670. Make the check out to SUMC and donated funds will be sent through the conference.

CREDIT: Courtesy of the Texas Annual Conference and Friendswood UMC

March Celebrations

Birthdays

- 5 Ryan Mead
Corbyn Lowell
- 6 Bev Goodman
Kierna Hayman
- 7 Margaret Antanaitis
- 10 Dee Hayman
- 11 Michelle McFarland
- 14 Judy Jones
- 15 Robert Antanaitis
Lyle Von Essen
- 21 Andrea Van Beek
- 23 Roger Coburn
- 24 Robert Shoddy
- 25 Duward Massie
- 27 Lauryn Baranowski
- 28 Bill Walton
- 29 Becky Johnson
Laura Antanaitis Eidson

Anniversaries

- 3 Ron and Linda Drew
- 17 Don and Connie Schramm





MARCH CALENDAR

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

- 1 First Day of **Women's History Month**
Daily Check-in via Zoom with Pastor Dirk @ 10:00 am
Continuing Monday - Friday unless canceled by Pastor Dirk.
Link on next page to join via Zoom.
- 2 Worship Team (Committee) via Zoom @ 2:00 pm
Use check-in link on next page to join via Zoom.
- 3 Being United Methodists Study with Pastor Kevin via Zoom @ 6:00 pm
Continuing every Wednesday
Use check-in link on next page to join Zoom.
- 4 Pub Theology via Zoom @ 6:00 pm Continuing every Thursday,
Link on next page to join Zoom Meeting
- 7 Bible Study with Pastor Dirk via Zoom @ 9:15 am Continuing every Sunday
Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am; 3rd Sunday in Lent
Communion – remember bread and juice; Link on next page to join via Zoom
- 9 Book Bunch via Zoom @ 7:00 pm.
Use morning check-in link on next page to join
- 14 **Daylight Savings Time Begins – Spring forward one hour**
Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am
4th Sunday of Lent – UMCOR Sunday with Special Offering
- 16 UMW meeting via Zoom @ 7:00 pm
Use morning check-in link on next page
- 17 Church Council meeting via Zoom @ 6:00 pm
Use morning check-in link on next page
St. Patrick's Day
- 21 Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am
5th Sunday of Lent
- 23 Book Bunch via Zoom @ 7:00 pm
Use morning check-in link on next page to join
Camp Hope Dinner prepared and delivered by Wesley UMC.
Watch for food requests from SUMC, if needed, the week before.
- 25 **Newsletter articles due**
- 27 Drive through palm pickup @ church; time to be announced
- 28 Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am
Passion/Palm Sunday – Beginning of Holy Week



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)

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

Newsletter articles for the April
newsletter are due March 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.”