



# The Messenger



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Selah United Methodist Church

September 20 20



Romans 12:21 “Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.”

This text has really spoken to my heart. As we witness evil acts happening all around us it is easy to be overcome with hate. Trust me over the last few months I have had feelings of evilness and hate. But then I am reminded of the love of God. That with God we can overcome hate and evil. As this verse states, “overcome evil with good.” I believe it is

time that we dedicate ourselves to doing what is good.

Let's define what is good, “that which is morally right, righteousness.” I believe deep in our hearts we all know what is good and what is bad. It is our moral compass that leads us to do what is either right or wrong. I believe the Holy Spirit helps guide our moral compass as followers of Christ. In these times of COVID-19, riots, fires, hurricanes and other situations, we must keep our moral compass pointing towards Christ. We must continue to do what is good. Good WILL overcome evil. When we witness the Fruit of the Spirit in our church and community, we know we are doing good. Here is a reminder of the Fruit: Love, Joy, Peace, Patience, kindness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control. May Selah United Methodist Church have a great harvest of Fruit as we continue to do the work of the Spirit.

Shalom, Pastor Dirk

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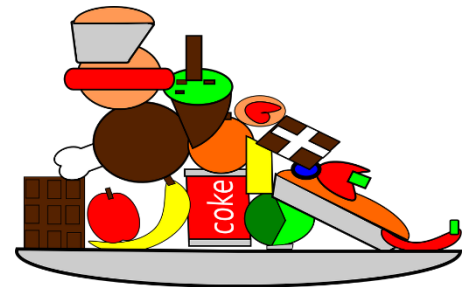


## Mission Outreach



It probably comes as no surprise, but the WSDOT notified us that the volunteer coffee service at Indian John Rest Area will be "closed indefinitely" until 2021 because of the pandemic. It has been closed for months. Our reserved weekend was October 2-5. Each year, we call in on Columbus Day to reserve a weekend for the following year. This year's reservation call-in has also been cancelled until next year.

- The ministry of delivering meals to Camp Hope continues through the efforts of Wesley UMC with a little help from Selah UMC. In August, a nice summer meal included hot dogs grilled on site by a couple from Wesley, baked beans, coleslaw, potato chips, cake, milk and lemonade. We contributed milk, potato chips and several cakes. Camp Hope continues to stay COVID free and viable each month. There has been some progress in receiving their non-profit status. Please pray that they remain safe and free of virus...and open. The monthly dinner always includes enough for the Noah's Ark residents in Wapato. You may have read that Noah's Ark was closed for security reasons in mid-August. Friends of the facility are working hard to make repairs and meet safety requirements so that it can be reopened soon. We all hope that in September the monthly meal will again include food for Noah's Ark.



- The Selah Food Bank with the help of the community and NW Harvest continues to provide food for Selah Area residents on Monday and Friday morning. Our Selah Food Bank is working hard to stay on top of the increased needs of the community; it is good to know that they are being supported in part with aid from the State. An article in the August 11 Yakima Herald-Republic read in part:, "the CEO of NW Harvest recently said that over a seven-month span during this crisis, we'll spend more on purchasing food that we have for the previous four years combined". Washington State has stepped up it's effort to warehouse food for any upcoming disaster. The story continued:

"Since the coronavirus crisis first rocked Washington in March, nonprofits and state agencies working in food assistance have been forced to draw a completely new road map for getting food to people who need it. The warehouse in Fife is part of a new model . . . The Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) began preparing to buy and stockpile tons of food to ward off a shortage in the months ahead. The new stockpile is driven by two major factors: a nearly doubling in demand for food assistance across the state and a national food supply chain that is bogged down amid an overwhelming surge in demand . . . We've been in this very desperate situation starting toward the end of March. We went into panic mode . . .and jumped in with both feet and started active procurement. " To illustrate, they have purchased or received



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194,000 jars of peanut butter - enough to make nearly 3 million sandwiches, pasta boxes stacked to the ceiling and large stacks of Tree Top products. Our Selah Food Bank is doing their part by monitoring our community needs and actively procuring those needs each week.

- Rod's House homeless teens and young adults are no longer in residence at the Unitarian Church. They are being housed temporarily in local motels until September 14th. The local Rod's House, which is closed, and a new facility in Sunnyside are being prepared to open again according to safe guidelines for the young residents where they will continue to receive food, some shelter, counseling, clothing and toiletries.

### ***Reimagining Life***



Yakima County has just been approved to move further into modified Phase 1 of opening allowing churches to offer inside worship services again at limited capacity with strict guidelines. When we are able to gather together for in-person worship service, life will be different. Worshippers will still be required to wear masks, use hand sanitizer, refrain from physical contact with others (like handshakes and hugs), and a lot of the things that make worshipping together meaningful are things that are hazardous (like singing, visiting after worship and sharing meals). The task force continues to work on developing the guidelines that will allow us to worship in person. The guidelines will need to be approved by our district superintendent. We are fortunate to have been able to worship together using Zoom with personal interaction during and after the service. Many of the video worship services offered locally have not had the personal interaction that we have enjoyed.

by Kevin Dow Task Force Chair

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## *Job Well Done*



A big thank you to Don and Connie Schramm and Bob Ruud for bring up the issue of the firepit seating ring and log benches. Don and Connie have taken on the project by recruiting some of the Scout Leaders and have the old rotten boards removed and it is



ready to install the new boards. Bob helped with getting the materials for the project. With the weather cooling down some they estimate the work will be completed this month. Don and Connie have also taken on the project of repairing the siding of the Church that has been damaged by nesting birds. A-1 Pruning will bring their lift to the Church and then will help with the repair work by putting the prepared patch boards over the holes. Don will have the board pre-painted and ready to go. A-1 will charge \$500 to bring the lift out but will not charge for the time and labor for placing the patches. Pretty good deal that Don and Connie put together for us. As if that isn't enough, Bob keeps the lawn nicely trimmed and Don and Connie continue to keep our irrigation system functioning well and the planter box in the front of the church has been lovingly cared for. THANK YOU!! Things continue to get done around our building even though we can't be there at this time.

Gail





From our District Superintendent, Joanne Coleman Campbell

### **Greetings Pastors, Clergy, and Laity**

In a time of crisis, it is always profitable to read the prophets. They suddenly seem more relevant and, well, prophetic. They warn the “faithful” – the Israelites – particularly those in political and economic power, but also the equivalent of the middle and upper middle-class folk. They point out the inequities that are increasing in the land. They cry foul on the people who take land from the poor, because “they can.” They are disgusted by those who give full and showy outward due to the Sabbath but plot how to increase their wealth and power as soon as the Sabbath is over. A particularly heinous crime, in the eyes of the prophets, was to take the land from the poor, which not only forced them into indentured servitude but interfered with their ability to worship God. For the ancient Israelites, their connection to God was deeply tied to their literal connection to the promised land. To stand barefoot in the dirt they felt God gave them, the holy ground, no longer slave but a free people, was essential to remembering who they were and whose they were. The “middle class” were not let off the hook, for while they may not have actually taken the land, the prophets decried that they did not use their position in society to challenge those who did. They profited by the status quo, and claimed they were helpless to change anything.

And so, we are told, God brought the Babylonians down upon the Israelites, and destroyed their temple, and took into captivity all the elite and middle-class Israelites. Removed them from their land, took away their power and wealth, and brought them into the very land of the enemy. Profane ground, leaving them (in their minds) unable to connect with God, to worship in any meaningful way. But God would not let them alone. Read Jeremiah 29:1-14. Read Micah 6:6-8. Read Isaiah 43:18-19. God tells them that God can be found anywhere, for those who seek in earnest. That what is required for worship is to do justice, love kindness, walk humbly with God. And that we should not consider the things of old, or dwell on former or traditional ways, but to look carefully, for God is doing a new thing.

Just like the ancient Israelites, we are in a prolonged time of crisis. Everything we consider normal, traditional, right, is being called into question or thrown out the window. Our world – and our church – is turned upside down. No longer do we have the luxury to “think about” changing the way we do church, the way we live out our lives as followers of Christ. We are being forced into knowing God in new ways, understanding worship and community and our baptismal vows in a new and harsh light. The harder we cling to the old ways, the longer we will draw out the crisis of our time. Pray that our young will have



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the vision and creativity to pull us through this time. Pray that the old – which is most of us in the church – will have the courage to lend our wisdom but not our fear, to follow bravely, or at the very minimum, to get out of the way. Pray that justice, kindness, and humbleness be our hallmark throughout the land. Pray without ceasing – and allow such prayer to transform us all.

Blessings,

Joanne

## September Celebrations

### Birthdays

### Anniversaries

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4	Breanne Mettie		
9	Dave Mettie	16	Don & Gwen Chaplin
13	Don Chaplin	17	Len & Lynn Hoselton
14	Sarah Hoselton	25	Sam & Amber Knox
15	Jan Towell	31	Dan & Sandy Shelton
22	Bryanne Nelson Hoffee		
29	Lane Brown		





## SEPTEMBER 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, during September unless canceled by Pastor Dirk.  
**See link on next page to join Zoom Meeting:**
- 3 Pub Theology via Zoom @ 6:00 pm Continuing every Thursday  
**See link on next page to join Zoom Meeting**
- 6 Bible Study with Pastor Dirk via Zoom @9:15 am  
Continuing every Sunday  
Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am;  
**See link on next page to join Zoom Worship**  
**Communion – remember bread & juice**
- 7 Labor Day Holiday
- 9 Book Bunch via Zoom @ 6:30 to 7:45 pm
- 13 Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am
- 16 Church Council Meeting via Zoom @ 6:00 pm
- 17 Virtual Annual Conference, live streamed on YouTube  
Two sessions: 3:30 - 5:30 pm and 7 - 9 pm
- 20 Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am
- 22 Camp Hope Dinner prepared and delivered by Wesley UMC.  
Watch for food requests from SUMC, if needed, the week before.
- 23 Book Bunch via Zoom @ 6:30 to 7:45 pm
- 25 **Newsletter articles due**
- 27 Sunday Worship via Zoom @ 10:30 am

Worship and meetings will be via Zoom until we have implemented procedures for reopening safely.



## SUMC Sunday Service & Bible Study

**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)

### ZOOM CHECK-IN WITH PASTOR DIRK

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

### ZOOM PUB THEOLOGY ON THURSDAYS

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

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/95829189054?pwd=cGJwYmw3M2UrTDk4MlITVUUySVI3QT09>

Meeting ID: 958 2918 9054 Password: 013652

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

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Pictures from the COVID-19 testing in our parking lot on August 29





## **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  
October newsletter are due  
September 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.”