



The Messenger



September 2023

Selah United Methodist Church

Mark's Remarks

We're starting a new Sunday evening class after Labor Day. It will be a group study of *Charismata*. That's a New Testament Greek word referring to the gift of God's grace given by the Holy Spirit to every Christian. That includes you! I hope you'll join us for this interesting study on Sunday evenings.

This word shapes our understanding of how the Holy Spirit comes alive in each one of us. When you look at the word, you may see the resemblance to the word Charismatic. *Charismata* and Charismatic are closely related to each other and to our Christian faith. The stereotype of a charismatic Christian is one who prays or speaks in strange tongues. That is only one manifestation of the many *charismata* or spiritual gifts described in the New Testament. In 40 years of ministry, I have only known three members who truly had the spiritual gift of speaking in tongues. There are many other spiritual gifts that are more common among the members of the United Methodist churches of which I have been a part. These gifts include teaching the faith, servanthood, compassion, healing, leadership, wisdom, and many others.

Each time the gifts are listed in the New Testament, the lists are slightly different, depending on the congregation to which the author is writing. There are 20 gifts easily identifiable in the New Testament epistles written by Paul. There are another 10 or 12 that are also mentioned in descriptions of New Testament churches.

God equips us for the role each one is meant to play as a member of the body of Christ as we open ourselves up to the work of God's Holy Spirit in our lives. The way the Holy Spirit works through each one of us is unique to each one of us. An important part of discerning the unique mission and ministry of Selah United Methodist Church is identifying and understanding the spiritual gifts entrusted to our members. Our awareness of spiritual gifts evident in our members, those who already belong and those who come to join, helps to shape our sense of God's unique mission for our future.

The class will run for 5-8 weeks, depending on the enrollment and the pace of our conversation. I'll be mentioning this in worship over the next few weeks. Join us on Sundays to learn more about yourself and the ways the Holy Spirit works in and through you.

I'll see you in church,

Pastor Mark



MISSION OUTREACH

Selah Food Bank

We did not exceed our target of 75 pounds of food donations in August, but we sure filled the Selah Food Bank grocery basket with lots of baking and other food items. More than 25 packages of cookie and muffin mixes. That is a lot of cookies and muffins! Thank you for *all* your donations. The food bank volunteers and directors are gratefully looking forward

to joining our Harvest Fest next month in recognition of the Selah Food Bank and all that they do to serve and feed the Selah community. At the start of this new school year, they need peanut butter and soups of all kinds, canned or packaged.



September is Peanut Butter and Soup Month, all kinds

Remember our Little Food Pantry, too. You might be surprised at how many people nearby who depend on something, anything from our pantry when they are hungry. Just a box of cereal or a can of soup means a lot.

Camp Hope

While the caring Camp Hope staff helps the 200 residents each day with their many needs, they are also looking to the future and the expansion of their on-site mental health services. Sturdy shipping containers are in place and ready to be combined and refurbished as a healthcare facility. Last month, Wesley prepared another delicious meal of chicken and rice casserole, coleslaw, vegetables, brownies and milk. Over 100 adults and children received a plate full of good food. There was not one crumb left over for latecomers. This is unusual as we often can leave some small amounts for those missing the 6:00 p.m. serving time. We are truly blessed to be able to serve these appreciative residents.

Rod's House

On August 2nd, Rod's House broke ground for the new youth and young adult emergency overnight shelter for young people between 13 and 24 who are struggling with homelessness. The facility will offer 8 beds for 13-17 year olds and 10 beds for young adults up to 24 years old. Mickala King, Outreach Case Manager for Rod's House, says "This shelter opening up will mean a lot to the youth who have nowhere to go, nowhere to sleep. They don't have a pillow, a blanket, nothing, and it will feel really great to have someplace to call home." That's a heartwarming image. Thank you to the SUMC friends who continue to donate clothes and warm bedding to these youth.



WORSHIP TEAM REPORT

The worship team did not meet in August, so there isn't anything new to report. Except, that while Pastor Mark is on vacation on September 3 and Kevin will lead the worship service. The next meeting of the Worship Team will be held on Wednesday, September 13th at 6:00 pm.

- Kevin Dow

Selah United Women in Faith



New Meeting Day and Time: The Selah United Women in Faith will start meeting in person the **3rd Sunday of every month after Church around 12:15 p.m.** Our first meeting will be Sunday, September 17th. Please bring a salad to share with the group for lunch. Curious about or interested in learning more about United Women in Faith? Come and join us the 3rd Sunday in September. Thank you for all the donations for Voices for Children. they are greatly appreciated.



Seven Rivers District Annual Meeting is Saturday, September 16th from 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m. at Wesley UMC in Yakima. Guest speaker will be Elaine Harvey. Elaine has worked for Yakama Nation Fisheries since 2006 and served as the Environmental Coordinator prior to recently accepting a position as the Watershed Manager for the Columbia River Inter-Tribal Fish Commission.

United Women if Faith have a new General Secretary/CEO Sally Vonner. Sally Vonner oversees the development and supports the implementation of United Women in Faith's strategic plan to positively impact the lives of women, children and youth. She supervises United Women in Faith executives for Membership Engagement, Membership Mobilization, and Public Relations and Marketing. Prior to this role, Vonner has served in many areas of The United Methodist Church—leading women's retreats, as a jurisdictional conference delegate or alternate for three quadrennia and in immigration assistance and reform, community development and dismantling racism initiatives at jurisdiction and conference levels. Vonner is a graduate of Perkins School of Theology with an M.Div. and Women's Studies certification. She graduated from East Texas State University with a B.S. degree in Biology. She currently serves on the boards of The Wesley Campus Ministry at Texas A&M University—Commerce and New York Justice for Our Neighbors.

-Tressa Cummings, Selah UWF President



Ladies Circle

The first meeting for Circle will be Thursday Sept. 7th at 1:00 PM. Not knowing about the weather or heating/cooling situation, we will meet downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Lots of parking is available in back of the church for easy access.

We invite all ladies of the church for a fun relaxing time. Come see what we are all about.

-Donna Ruud

We Be Back!!!

YUP!!!

**P.B.& J. BIBLE STUDY GROUP
IS COMING BACK!!!**

STARTING WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 6, 2023

AT 10:00 am

ALL ARE WELCOME

HOPE TO SEE YA THEN!!!

SHIRLEY PEDRAZA

509-305-1676



Harvest Fest Fun Slated for October

Craft vendors, children's activities, music, food vendors and the famous Community Days Chicken dinner all will be part of Harvest Fest at SUMC. Hosted by the church, Saturday, October 14, 10 a.m. - 3 p.m., the event will benefit the future Selah Naches Food Bank facility.

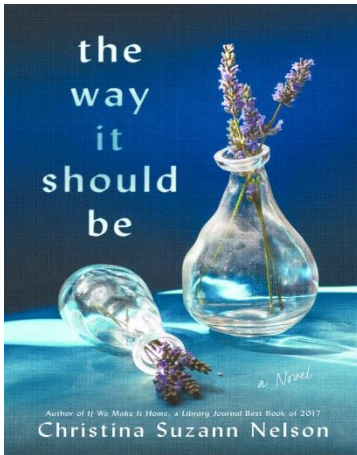
Planning is underway, vendors are being recruited. The plan is to invite the community to a family-friendly event aimed at reaching out to the Selah community and supporting the food bank building project. Local vendors of high-quality, handcrafted items are being sought. Activities for adults and children are being organized. And, a variety of community organizations are being invited to host information tables during the outdoor event.

If you have ideas to share, want to help or want more information, contact one of the Harvest Fest planning committee members: Linda Drew, Debbie Jespersen, Becky Johnson, Rebecca Kennard, Laurie Knebusch, Chuck Natland, Cindy Parkey or Lisa Williams. If you know of a vendor that might be interested, let Cindy Parkey (509-728-2050) know.

—Lisa Williams



BOOK BUNCH



Remember to scoop up your copy of the next book before the September 26th meeting. You'll find *The Way It Should Be* (2021) by Christina Suzann Nelson in print, audio or digital formats from the library and many booksellers.

This novel is the 2021 Christy Award winner for general fiction and widely praised by readers. The story revolves around twin sisters on different life paths. One sister, a drug addict who is losing custody of her children, turns to the other in desperation for help.

Read a review of this Christian-inspired story of heartache, hope and healing: <https://www.goodreads.com/review/show/4263506586>

Discussions are on Zoom, usually the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 7:00 PM. The next meeting is 9/12. For details on what the Bunch is up to and how to get involved, contact Lee Hamilton.

-Lee Hamilton



Loving Our Neighbors...Walk to End Alzheimer's

Alzheimer's is a disease that has impacted many within our church family—members, loved ones & friends. A SUMC team is forming to participate in the Yakima Valley Walk to End Alzheimer's, October 7. Let's raise funds together and walk together to End Alzheimer's and support those we love.

The 2-mile walk will be held Saturday, October 7, at Franklin Park (2101 Tieton Dr., Yakima). To donate money or join the team, visit act.alz.org and search for our team, "Selah United Methodist Church." All donations are tax-deductible. For more information, contact Lisa Williams (509-539-6083)

I'm walking for my sister-in-law living with Alzheimer's, and a friend's husband who just died with Alzheimer's. Who will you walk for? —Lisa Williams



SUMaC HIKING CLUB

The dog days of summer are coming to an end, and it seems fitting that our thoughts turn to being in the great outdoors again. With that in mind, a group of SUMC hiking enthusiasts decided to share their knowledge of favorite hikes with those within the church community by launching the SUMaC Hiking Club.

The current vision is to offer a once or twice per month hike led by an experienced hike leader, to act as guide on predetermined hikes. The intent is to offer mid week hikes as well as Saturday hikes for those who work during the week. A “Turtle” hike will also be planned for those of us who enjoy a less strenuous path or may want to ease into hiking slowly. This is a great activity to invite friends, neighbors and family members to participate in....the more the merrier!

If you think you are interested in becoming a part of the SUMaC Hiking Club, there will be a sign up sheet located on the Narthex table as well as at the greeting table inside the door of the Fellowship Hall. Once we determine interest for the various weekly time slots, there will be a planning meeting to schedule hikes for the rest of the 2023 hiking season. If you would like more information, please contact Bill Walton or Jim and Laurie Knebusch.

Happy Hiking!

What’s in a name?



A lot! Using someone’s name and remembering their name shows a greater connection to who that person is. People feel valued and seen when their name is used and remembered.

Often we don’t wear our names on Sunday believing “everyone knows my name.” As a relative new person trying to learn everyone’s name...I’ve discovered there are folks in the congregation who know fewer names than you’d think.

Showing hospitality includes wearing a name tag. I encourage all of us to make an effort to wear a name tag Sundays. Wearing name tags will:

- Help those of us trying to learn names
- Serve as a reminder for those with memory issues
- Model name tag wearing for those new to the congregation
- Provide a welcoming presence for visitors.

—--Hello, my name is Lisa Williams



Reconciling Ministry



Some weeks ago, I agreed to write a piece for this newsletter reflecting my thoughts on our decision on becoming a reconciling congregation. I've had inspiration from a couple of things in the past few weeks: Kevin's sharing the teachings of Jesus, Mark's sermon Taken, Blessed, Broken, Shared, and the enriching experience of having folks from Camp Hope join our community of worship.

Raised in a family of non-church goers, I joined the United Methodist Church as a young teen, influenced by the teen-age son of a new pastor and an invitation to join the youth group. In the over seventy years since that time, I have been a member of Methodist churches in Lynden, Pullman, Kennewick, Columbus Ohio, Toppenish, and Selah. For all of those years I have been studying, listening, learning, questioning, sometimes despairing, but hanging in there as I attempt to forge an understanding of the deepest meanings of the Christian church. I've never been able to close my reasoning mind and "just accept" and some of the actions of the church in ancient and recent history, are horrific. My reason for sticking with the church is because of its foundation on the teachings of Jesus.

With Jesus as guide, we see his outreach and teaching was to all people, women, men, children, tax collectors, non jews, fishermen, members of the hierarchy. He did not discriminate and he taught a message of love. He recognized that we are all broken but worthy of compassion. He asked those of us without sin to throw the first stone, he told his followers not to turn the crowds away but to feed them all. His teachings and his example have endured thru the centuries and our lives are changed as we attempt to follow him.

We have an opportunity to follow Jesus' teachings if we choose to go on record as a safe place for all persons to come, share, join our community. Each Sunday as our friends from Camp Hope join us in worship, we have some time to get to know and enjoy people from a different part of our world. The (maybe providential) need to meet around tables downstairs has certainly made it easier to move beyond just shaking hands during meet and greet time and to have conversation and sharing of ideas and experiences.

If we choose to become known as a reconciling congregation, we open ourselves to meeting more new people, to expanding our understanding of our world, and to showing that "they will know we are Christians by our love", words from a song I learned in that first youth group those many years ago. I suggest we ponder how Jesus would vote on this decision.

- Gwen Chaplin



S.O.A.P. BIBLE STUDY SEPTEMBER

- 1. Ezek. 15-16; Ps. 70; Rev. 6
- 2. Ezek. 17-19; Rev. 7
- 3. Ezek. 20-21; Ps. 111; Rev. 8
- 4. Ezek. 22-24; Rev. 9
- 5. Ezek. 25-28; Rev. 10
- 6. Ezek. 29-32; Rev. 11
- 7. 2 Ki 25; 2 Chr 36; Jer 40-41; Rev 12
- 8. Jer. 42-44; Ps. 48; Rev. 13
- 9. Lam. 1-2; Obad.; Rev. 14
- 10. Lam. 3-5; Rev. 15
- 11. Dan. 1-2; Rev. 16
- 12. Dan. 3-4; Ps. 81; Rev. 17
- 13. Ezek. 33-35; Rev. 18
- 14. Ezek. 36-37; Ps. 110; Rev. 19
- 15. Ezek. 38-39; Ps. 145; Rev. 20
- 16. Ezek. 40-41; Ps. 128; Rev. 21
- 17. Ezek. 42-44; Rev. 22
- 18. Ezek. 45-46; Luke 1
- 19. Ezek. 47-48; Luke 2
- 20. Dan. 5-6; Ps. 130; Luke 3
- 21. Dan. 7-8; Ps. 137; Luke 4
- 22. Dan. 9-10; Ps. 123; Luke 5
- 23. Dan. 11-12; Luke 6
- 24. Ezra 1; Ps. 84-85; Luke 7
- 25. Ezra 2-3; Luke 8
- 26. Ezra 4; Ps. 113, 127; Luke 9
- 27. Haggai 1-2; Ps. 129; Luke 10
- 28. Zech. 1-3; Luke 11
- 29. Zech. 4-6; Luke 12
- 30. Zech. 7-9; Luke 13

The S.O.A.P. Journal Method

- S**cripture – Read the passage & copy a verse, a work or a phrase that captures your attention.
- O**bservation – Write a brief summary of what speaks to you from the passage.
- A**pplication – Write down how this Bible passage applies to you right now.
- P**rayer – Complete your study time by writing a prayer based on your reading.

FINANCE REPORT

Below is how our giving the last two months compared to our expenses:

	June	July	Year to Date
Income:	\$9,720.00	10,171.95	\$72,548.65
Expenses	\$10,023.82	\$10,164.81	\$80,285.08
Plus/Minus	(\$303.82)	(\$140.99)	(\$7,736.43)

Our income in July continued the June trend of virtually equaling our expenses. Following a request at church council meeting, I added column for year to day income/expenses.





SUPPORT FOR MAUI

An UMCOR grant is providing food, water, hygiene items and tools to help survivors recover belongings. As first responders continue to provide initial aid, join us in prayer and support for the people of Maui in the aftermath of wildfires.



Support relief and recovery efforts
by donating to UMCOR.



UMCOR

Global Ministries | The United Methodist Church

September Celebrations

Birthdays

Anniversaries

- 4 Breanne Mettie
- 14 Sarah Hoselton
- 15 Jan Towell
- 22 Bryanne Nelson Hoffee
- 29 Lane Brown

- 17 Len & Lynn Hoselton
- 25 Sam & Amber Knox
- 31 Dan & Sandra Shelton

If you are relatively new to the church (began attending in last couple years) please let Becky know your birthday and anniversary so we can celebrate with you. You can email her at bjoh461@fairpoint.net or call 509-969-7565



ZOOM LINKS

SUMC Sunday Service Time: 10:30 a.m.

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/692949701?pwd=LzINSWYyT1BGUzNhVHc0ME9ydnBLQT09>

Meeting ID: 692 949 701 Password: 021416

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

ONLINE MEETING LINK

<https://greaternw.zoom.us/j/669186246?pwd=NmsxRGsrNktoaUI1NWdKaUxhbnlNQT09>

Meeting ID: 669 186 246 Password: 848493

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

Please Be On The Lookout For Email Scams and Phishing Emails And Texts!

I have heard from a number of folks that they have been receiving text messages and emails from someone claiming to be Pastor Mark, asking them to reply, making requests for donations, requests for gift cards or asking you to click a link to “update your profile” or “provide information.” The emails usually indicate that it is a donation that needs to be made quickly or urgently.

**DO NOT RESPOND TO THOSE TEXTS OR EMAILS. DO NOT
CLICK THOSE LINKS!!!**

Neither I nor Selah United Methodist Church will ever solicit information or donations of cash or gift cards from you by having you click a link, ask you to provide personal information or passwords via an email or text. If you have a question about an email or text you received, please forward it to SelahUMC@gmail.com.

Our church is not the only one that is being used to phish for information. If you volunteer or are associated with any non-profit group, scammers will try and capitalize on your caring and generosity. Please be careful with your information when it comes to texts and emails and always verify any request by speaking in person with the individual supposedly making the request on behalf of the church.

-Pastor Mark



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

- 3 UMM men's breakfast @ 8:00 a.m.; location TBA; check with Bob Ruud
Sunday Worship @ 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and via Zoom
Holy Communion, 14th Sunday after Pentecost; use link on prior page to join via Zoom
- 4 Labor Day
- 6 Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m. in Simonson Room; continuing every Wednesday
Pinochle Group @ 1:00 p.m. in Simonson Room; continuing every Wednesday
- 7 Ladies Circle @ 1:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall (**note location change**)
Pub Theology @ 6:00 p.m. at Selah Spring Brewery; continuing every Thursday
- 10 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and via Zoom
15th Sunday after Pentecost, Grandparent's Day; use link on prior page to join via Zoom
Potluck after worship in Fellowship Hall
- 12 Book Bunch @ 7:00 p.m. via Zoom; use meeting link to join via Zoom
- 13 Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m. in Simonson Room
Pinochle Group @ 1:00 p.m. in Simonson Room
Worship Team Meeting @ 6:00 p.m. in Simonson Room
- 14 Pub Theology @ 6:00 p.m. at Selah Springs Brewery
- 17 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and via Zoom
16th Sunday after Pentecost; use link on prior page to join via Zoom
United Women in Faith meeting @ 12:15 pm in Fellowship Hall
- 20 Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m. in Simonson Room
Pinochle Group @ 1:00 p.m. in Simonson Room
Church Council @ 6:00 p.m. in Simonson Room
- 21 Pub Theology @ 6:00 p.m. at Selah Springs Brewery
- 22 **4th Friday Fun Night @ 6:00 p.m. in Fellowship Hall**
- 23 First Day of Autumn
- 24 Sunday Worship @ 10:30 a.m. in Fellowship Hall and via Zoom
17th Sunday after Pentecost; use link on prior page to join via Zoom
- 25 Newsletter Articles Due**
- 26 Book Bunch @ 7:00 p.m. via Zoom; use meeting link to join Zoom
Camp Hope Dinner organized and prepared by Wesley UMC cooks with help from SUMC
- 27 Bible Study @ 10:00 a.m. in Simonson Room
Pinochle Group @ 1:00 p.m. in Simonson Room
- 28 Pub Theology @ 6:00 p.m. at Selah Springs Brewery

Coming in October: October 14 – Harvest Festival

October 15 – David Nieda from the Faith Foundation will be at SUMC

October 25 – Church/Charge Conference

October 31 – Selah Business Trunk or Treat

Selah United Methodist Church

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Growing Into the Image of Christ

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Email: aha.experience@icloud.com

Newsletter articles for the
October newsletter are due
September 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.”