

THE CLARION



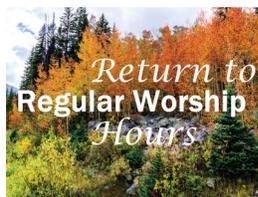
HOME COMING SUNDAY— SEPTEMBER 9



September

2018

The 2018-2019 program year kicks off on September 9!



Sunday Worship

Sunday worship will again be celebrated at two services—one at

9 am with a second service at 10:30 am.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School registration for children and youth will start on September 2. Forms/check-in will be available in the church entryway.

... for Children Sunday school programs for children will begin that day as well at 9 am. The children will begin the third year of The Gospel Project, and they have learned so much from this program. We hope that parents have been following us with the Bible story cards we send home.

We do have some new surprises. Praise and Song will be led by Brittany Becker. Brittany is excited and ready to bring new ideas and new energy. Merrienne will be performing her Sunday school Superintendent duties while Brittany leads the morning off in style.

Parents are invited to check out our children's library and see the new books and DVDs we have for kids, along with some great new books for parents.

... For Youth Sunday school for youth in grades 6—12 also begins at 9 am in the Youth Chapel.

* * *

We hope to have our new tech items soon. Some difficulties are slowing the process, but new things are coming. Anyone who has a desire to help with purchase or installation, please let Merrienne Door know.

We are also looking for volunteers for Sunday school as teachers or subs.

... For Adults Worship Warm-up meets at 9 am in the library for an opportunity to review and discuss the scriptures behind the morning's sermon. The group's leaders offer the results of their research into the chosen scriptures, which often enhances the understanding of the coming sermon . . . or sometimes veers in a totally different direction than Jerry's sermon! Either way, it's always good food for thought.

UMY Orientation

UMY Orientation is on September 9 at 6 pm with an ice cream social to follow! Youth and their parents are invited to meet the leaders and hear what the youth program is all about. Please extend an invitation to interested friends and their families as well!





IN HIS GRIP

Dear Friends,

As we turn the corner from summer into fall, which we likely are not starting to feel yet in our bones and our fingers, I want to note what I have seen and felt lately.

Some people assume that summer at KFUMC is lazy and casual, with hours here and there to sit back and watch flowers (and weeds) grow. Frankly I haven't once experienced that since my arrival six and a half years ago. This summer has felt like the busiest yet. Beginning with Easter on April 1, we quickly moved on to Youth Sunday, the auction, graduation, Annual Conference in Puyallup, and the senior high mission trip. Harriet left us to embrace her new appointment in Castle Rock, and Rachel Loomis stepped in as our new Director of Youth Ministries, (having grown up in our youth group). Until this summer, Rachel had been employed in mental health counseling at Lourdes.

Then our middle schoolers headed out for their annual training trip, to learn how to be successful in the coming years as they soon will have the opportunity to participate in mission trips.

While they were away, our remaining leaders and lay people led us in the Lord's Day worship, and last month helped us host men's and women's Walk with Christ weekends. More than one hundred people each weekend lived in our facility for three days and three nights, seeing how God blessed, surprised, and trained them. What phenomenal growing experiences each of those weekends proved to be!

Coincidentally, those weekends helped us cope with the summer passages. Children and grandchildren were born. Saints passed from this life to eternity, including Mac Mackenstat, Iman Wintz, Jacque Sonderman, and Todd Milton. How we will miss them! Until we see them again in eternity.

Now we step into September. Did you get

your needed summer break? What will you do with fall opportunities? Some will squander them. I hope you will not! In addition to weekly worship, we will have Sunday morning and Tuesday evening (Cornerstone) classes (and dinner at Cornerstone) this fall so we can keep growing. I challenge you to grow this fall. Eugene Peterson calls us from the book of Ephesians to "grow up!" in the faith, not to remain children in mind. We are called to be children at heart but grown-ups in our minds. My Tuesday evening inductive class (beginning September 25) is for beginners or veterans of the faith. What does inductive mean? We will ask questions of the text and seek whatever lessons God wants to bring to us. I'd like to see at least half of our class this fall be first-timers. Our lay leader, Jill Berg, is teaching a class on discovering our spiritual gifts and talents. Most of us would like to be better prepared to share our faith in the family, neighborhood, and workplace. We can offer skills.

All this time our servants have been feeding scores of hungry people on Thursdays at Soul Soup. Others have been mowing our church lawn and keeping our campus tidy. They, too, welcome newcomers to assist them. Training is always provided.

One last item: we felt encouraged to learn last January that we were beginning the year with a surplus. Some may have seen that as their signal to rest easy. Now, halfway through the year, our budget is in arrears. Without changes, we will finish the year in the red. Let's not allow that to happen. We can do better, especially in a year when our economy is said to be growing healthily.

What's your plan for growth this fall? Come join your church family on Sundays and or Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and/or Thursdays. . .

Last you may ask, what about me? What's in my plan for growth this fall? I have one! Wait 'til I tell you . . . soon!

In His grip,



Fall Cornerstone classes begin on Tuesday, September 25. Dinner is served at 6 pm; classes begin at 6:30.

Spiritual Gifts Class

Maybe you've heard Pastor Jerry speak of serving out of your spiritual gifts. Do you wonder what gifts you have? What new ways may God be calling you to serve? Join Jill Berg for a Cornerstone class to discover your spiritual gifts. In the process you'll learn more about yourself and others as we endeavor to serve the Lord. For more information about the class, feel free to contact Jill at [627-3288](tel:627-3288). To sign up, please contact the church office so materials can be ordered.

Women's Study

The Women's Cornerstone class will be 'Finding Meaning in Ecclesiastes' with Merrienne Door. The cost of this class will be \$5 for everything, and the group will meet each week in the conference room. The ladies will pray, worship, study, discuss, laugh a lot, and find that nothing, with God, is meaningless. You can sign up with Merrienne or call the church office and tell Cheryl you are interested. Please come!

Inductive Bible Study

Pastor Jerry facilitates this weekly Bible study, and all are welcome to attend. Inductive Bible study is a valuable tool for understanding and applying the principles of God's Word and focuses on three basic steps: observation (what does it say?), interpretation (what does it mean?), and application (what does it mean for my life?).

Children and youth programs will be offered as well.

"No spring nor summer beauty hath such grace as I have seen in one autumnal face."

John Donne, *The Autumnal*

UMW to Welcome Fall with Emphasis on Youth



All women of the church and their friends are invited to the fall meeting of UMW at 10 am, Wednesday, September 26, in the Susanna Wesley Room.

The church's new Youth Director, Rachel Loomis, will talk about missions to and by teens here. Our UMW annually contributes \$2400 to Kennewick First youth activities and camperships, in addition to sponsoring two orphans in Africa. That means UMW supporters are eager to learn more about youth mission work.

Refreshments will be served by Joy Circle, and the sharing gift will be for the Boys and Girls Club.

Questions? Contact UMW president Kathy Wertman. She has all the answers!



We will begin our monthly potlucks for the season on September 17, 2018, at noon. Our own Bonnie Randall will explain to us the "Difference between a Child's Sandbox in 1950 and a Steamboat in 1856."

Our October program will feature Dr. Cory Manley, who will speak to us about medical missions in the Philippines. In November, Pat Walker will share the missionary work she and Clem were involved in. We will not meet in December. Robin Duncan will be with us in January, sharing pictures and narrative about her trip to Peru, and in February, we will hear from Laura Jackson about Advance Directives. Miss Tri-Cities will be our guest in May.

We are still looking for March and April programs; suggestions are welcomed. We also need help setting the tables, etc. We begin to set up around 10:30.



News from
Rachel

Hi, my name is Rachel Loomis, the new Youth Director! After balancing my time with two jobs this summer, I stepped into the Youth Director position full

time during the month of August. I am so blessed to have the opportunity to lead the youth program at KFUMC, a program that is so dear to my heart and faith journey. Having grown up in the youth program at KFUMC and being a volunteer leader for the previous two school years, I feel honored to be given this opportunity.

One of my favorite things about Kennewick First has always been the value the congregation places on the church family. Walking through the church doors and into the sanctuary gives me the feeling of hope, love, and belonging. One of my goals for the youth program, with the help from the Lord and Cynthia Bement as my mentor, is to provide a place for every youth and leader to feel they are loved and like they belong. I can't wait for this upcoming school year!

In Christ,
Rachel

Welcome Back!

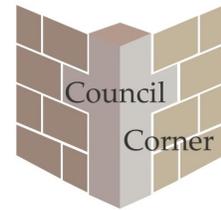
August 23rd was UMY Move Up Day! It was so much fun welcoming the upcoming sixth graders to the Jr. UMY group and the upcoming Freshmen to the Sr. UMY group. Both groups enjoyed each other's company while eating ice cream and playing get to know you games!



We grow up when we see our life and our role from God's perspective; when we thank God for the role he has assigned us and begin to see our cup as a gift instead of a cross; when each morning we ask, "God, how can I glorify you today in my given role?"

—Linda Dillow, Calm My Anxious Heart

As the fall church programs kick into high gear, the church council is busy as well. This fall the council will be meeting more frequently as it has been identified that



meeting quarterly is not sufficient. We will be taking a retreat to better acquaint ourselves with our fellow leaders, explore our spiritual gifts together, continue to discern what it means to be relevant in today's culture, including being a missional church, and continue to fine tune our new org structure. We continue to work closely with the Church Safety Ad Hoc team to promote safety awareness while continuing to be welcoming. This fall we, the council, will be educating ourselves in order to educate others and lead conversations with the congregation about the upcoming UMC General Conference vote regarding LGBTQI leadership in the United Methodist church. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me or anyone on the council if you have questions or would like to sit down for a great conversation. Together, with God's blessing, we can continue to be a vital church in our community!

Jill Berg,
Lay Leader



**Church
FINANCES**

The financial results through the end of July 2018 are disconcerting. The General Fund giving totals \$256,723 through July versus our breakeven annual budget of \$501,473. If we match this 2018 pattern to the monthly giving pattern of prior years, we can estimate an end of the year General Fund total under budget by \$64,6213. There do not appear to be any outstanding reasons for the decrease in giving.

We encourage each of you to look at your own giving and see if you can catch up or increase your giving so the current deficit can be reduced. For the Bible says in Proverbs 3:9, *Honor the Lord with your wealth, with the firstfruits of all your crops.*

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

Please pray for those in need of healing and comfort . . .

Carol Hardacre, Deana Ahrend, Shelby Faught, Anita Knight, Ann Kelly, Terry Simmelink, Punkie Eddy, Norma Williams, Nathan and Jamie Preston, Joan Osborne, Pat Phillips, Phil Lamont, Don Shirey, Ron Shuck, and Barry Merrill.

Please continue to cover our church leaders in prayer, including Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, DS Mary Huycke, Pastor Jerry, and the rest of our church staff. Remember also to pray for our seminarian, Alexa Eisenbarth.



"Hear my prayer, O God; listen to the words of my mouth" (Psalm 54:2, NIV).

Caregiver Support Group



The Caregiver Support Group meets the first Thursday of every month in the church library. (The library is located on the lower level, off of the fellowship hall.) Our next meeting will be on Thursday, September 6.

The Caregiver Support Group is for those who are caring for a loved one: a child, a parent, a spouse, or even a family member you take to doctor appointments on a regular basis because of health issues.

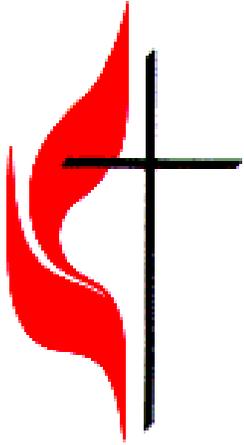
When we meet, we have a devotion and a time of sharing. What is said in the group is held in confidence.

If you are a caregiver who cannot attend at the day or time listed or know of another caregiver who cannot attend for similar reasons, please call Marti (586-4244) to make other arrangements.



 September BIRTHDAYS					
Robin Chase	1-Sep	Halley Becker	10-Sep	Bethany Dauncey	18-Sep
Dean Mitchell	1-Sep	Barry Merrill	10-Sep	Matthew Denise	21-Sep
Bob Scott	1-Sep	Timothy Nickolaus	10-Sep	Tyler Hanson	21-Sep
Kennedy Taggares	1-Sep	Conner Westvik	10-Sep	Juli Troxel	21-Sep
Rick Kerkow	2-Sep	Nicholas Haberling	11-Sep	Jim Koschik	24-Sep
Sherry Arnold	4-Sep	Delco Helton	11-Sep	Brad Bement	25-Sep
Allison Hagen	4-Sep	Jasmine Urban	11-Sep	Ayra'Zonna Kennedy	25-Sep
Kristie Myhrum	4-Sep	Rob Basche	14-Sep	Evelin Choate	26-Sep
Austin Roach	4-Sep	Tyler Whitney	14-Sep	Lynsie Miracle	27-Sep
Deanna Dreier	7-Sep	Annie Baker	16-Sep	Jared Haeg	28-Sep
Brenda Shine	9-Sep	Amy Biglin	16-Sep	Kaitlin Loomis	29-Sep
		Daisy Buchholz	16-Sep	Steven Meline	30-Sep
		Dave Miller	16-Sep		
		Cheryl Nixon	16-Sep		
		Marti Meyers	17-Sep		
		Tim Anderson	18-Sep		





First United Methodist Church
 Corner of Dayton St. & Kennewick Ave.
 Office:
 421 W. Kennewick Ave.
 Kennewick, WA 99336

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Non-Profit Org.
 U.S. Postage Paid
 Kennewick, WA
 99336
 Permit No. 59

Worship Schedule

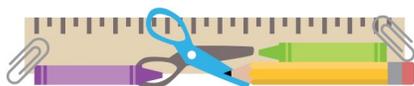
Services at 9 and 10:30 a.m.
 Sunday School at 9 a.m.
 Nursery provided
 Handicapped Accessible

Church Office Hours

8:30 am - noon and 1 - 4 pm
 Monday through Thursday
 8 am - noon on Fridays

(509) 582-2163

www.kennewickfirst.com
 facebook.com/KennewickFirstUMC



Seal

A seal is the mark of God’s promises to the believer and of the believer’s consecration to God. Old Testament priests wore a piece of gold against their forehead, as a seal, engraved with the words “Holy to the Lord.” For Christians, the sign of the cross serves as a seal of salvation. Paul declares, “He anointed us, set his seal of ownership on us, and put his Spirit in our hearts as a deposit, guaranteeing what is to come” (2 Corinthians 1:21-22, NIV).

Articles for the October
 2018 Clarion will be due
 on September 21.

