

THE CLARION

February 2018



Service of Ashes
February 14
6 pm



Come One...Come All!
Sunday Night, February 11
6:00-7:30 pm
Ida Payne Fellowship Hall
All Church Event!
Popcorn - Pop - Prizes



February 4 is more than Super Bowl Sunday—it's SOUPER Bowl Sunday! Our youth will be at the sanctuary doors with soup pots after both worship services, ready to collect your monetary donations for our local food bank. In the midst of our football celebrations, let's share our blessings with our neighbors in need — please plan to donate generously.

We'll also report the totals on the food collected in January by the youth and Missions Committee that has been donated to the Food Bank!



Mardi Gras Cake / Dessert Auction

Sunday, February 11
2—3 pm

Ida Payne Fellowship Hall
Hosted by Phd, the Young Adult Group

Come on down for this fun event and enjoy fellowship with your church friends, yummy desserts, and the chance to help the Phd group raise money for their favorite mission projects and fund the group's activities!

Table groups will pool their money and bid in a live auction for cakes that they will share among themselves, while a silent auction will feature other desserts. Several tables will be hosted, but **you needn't be part of a pre-arranged table to take part—please come, there will be a place for you!** There will also be gluten-free options available, as well as drinks and other light snacks.

Calling all bakers! If you have a decadent, homemade, out-of-this world cake (or other dessert) that you are willing to create and donate, please contact Lindsay Koval (509) 221-1715 or Jeff Varzandeh (509)845-0999 by February 9 with your donation information. We'll need your cake (or other dessert) between noon and 1:30 pm on the day of the auction. If you need to drop it off prior to that time, please make arrangements with Lindsay or Jeff.

You may also contact one of them if you are interested in sponsoring/hosting a table of 8.—they'll give you all the info!



IN HIS GRIP

Dear Friends,

February is the month of Super Bowl, Abraham Lincoln's (12th, 1809) and George Washington's (22nd, 1732) birthdays, Valentine's Day (14th), and one more: Ash Wednesday, this year

also on February 14. That last important day starts the Christian season of Lent, which comes from a word meaning "to lengthen," which connects with the season of spring. I invite us to reflect on what God might want us to learn and to receive from Him this month and during the season of Lent; Lent continues until Easter, which falls this year on April 1, yes, April Fool's Day.

For a moment I want to go back to a word I used in the last paragraph: REFLECT! Of the various definitions to be found, I want to point us to one in particular - "to think, ponder or meditate." That is the polar opposite of being constantly distracted, immediately attending to the latest idea or product of our culture, the culture of acquisition and selfishness in which we find ourselves. Lent provides us an opportunity to "stop and smell the roses." Because He has more for us to receive, this spring, as followers of the Way (remember, Jesus said "I am the way, truth and light"), we will again review Jesus' life as He gradually and purposefully walks toward Jerusalem where He willingly will give up His earthly life to make a way for us to have a heavenly one.

During the Lenten season, I will preach a series of messages about Jesus' experiences. To the point, I want us to glimpse where Jesus, all the while teaching, feeding, healing, and entralling the people, sticks up for the underdog, the one that the people have ignored or condemned. Jesus' life is not only fascinating and riveting, but a quick review of his encounters with Zacchaeus and his stories

about good Samaritans, feuding brothers, and others will make Easter a richer and more holy day for us all.

Four more comments: first, on February 4 and 11, I will conclude a series that was earlier entitled, "Jesus and Harvey Weinstein," about a Christian response to the challenges of sexual misconduct and abuse today.

Second: Beginning on Monday, February 5, I hope (at this writing my enrollment seems likely but not yet achieved) to be taking an online class from United Seminary in Dayton, Ohio, on United Methodist Doctrine. It's possible I might be finished by Easter. We'll see.

Third: I have been deeply disturbed by the recent suicide of Tyler Hilinski, backup WSU quarterback. His funeral will be February 3 in Laverne, CA. What a loss! He is one of many this year who have left us so tragically. Pray for his family and for us as we seek to help others choose life.

Fourth: This month I begin my seventh year as your pastor. What a privilege I have had to share life with you these past six years! We have more growing to do. May we REFLECT Jesus' as we live each day.

In His grip,





M & Ms will meet on February 19 for our monthly potluck. Our program in February will be Trica McFarlan from Mirror Ministries. Her topic is Human Trafficking in the Tri-Cities.

We have programs for every month except April. In March, Joetta Ruppert, Homeless, will join us and in May, Miss Tri-Cities, our own Hannah Mowry will be our guest. (Hannah may have to switch to April which is why that month is left open for now.)

We will begin setting up for our February meeting at about 10:30, so if you have time to come help it would be appreciated. Should the weather be bad, we will cancel so stay tuned. Stay safe in the winter weather! God Bless.



Seaside Escape Women's Retreat!

Mark your calendars for our second annual women's retreat May 18 and 19 (Friday evening and Saturday morning). We will be serving up dinner and breakfast, snacks, and a whole boatload of fun! Come relax to the sounds of the sea, the happy voices of friends, and the Word of God! Those who wish may stay the night and have some fun with games, movies, and more. We are already assembling an awesome team to guide you through this event. Tickets and more information will be available soon.

Coming in May

Rummage Sale

May 11 and 12, 2018

8:30 am to 3:30 pm both days

UMW To Salute New Associate Pastor



At UMW's February 28 meeting, Associate Pastor Harriet Wilkin will share her personal journey to serve Jesus. All church women and their friends are invited to talk with her that Wednesday at 10 am in the Susanna Wesley Room.

Tuesday Morning Circle will provide treats, and the sharing gift will be groceries for the Food Bank. President Kathy Wertman will lead a discussion on UMW's role in hosting the District Meeting on March 17 at Kennewick First. "Volunteers are welcome to help," according to Kathy. Our UMW will serve coffee, snacks, and lunch.

Also, the 2018 UMW directory for our church will be distributed.

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Tuesday Morning Circle will meet a week early, on February 6, at 9:30 am in Ida Payne Hall, to make Valentines. Nancy Russell, the circle chair, invites all interested to bring card decorations and stickers and join in the annual project that brings cheer to church and community members. **The UMW board will meet at 9 am on the 6th, just prior to this workshop.**



Ash Wednesday Prayer

Merciful God, you called us forth from the dust of the earth; you claimed us for Christ in the waters of baptism. Look upon us as we enter these Forty Days bearing the mark of ashes, and bless our journey through the desert of Lent to the font of rebirth. May our fasting be hunger for justice; our alms, a making of peace; our prayer, the chant of humble and grateful hearts.

-Catholic Household Blessings and Prayers



Toby Mac Concert February 15

Toby Mac will be on his 2018 Hits Deep Tour with special guests Mandisa, Danny Gokey, Finding Favour, and Ryan Stevenson playing a 7 pm concert in Kennewick at the Toyota Center on Thursday, February 15. Get your \$25 ticket(s) for the show at the church office, which has only 10 more tickets available!

SNL

Saturday Night Life will gather one time this month, February 17, at 6 pm, in the Youth Chapel. Come for a time of worship with great music and a speaker we will all enjoy, Chris Becker.



Family Library

We have new bookcases (thank you Dave Miller!), many new books and DVDs, and a new look for the 'children's library. There are books for children, tweens and teens, and some great new parenting books. Check out our comfy new places to sit and good lighting . . . come on down to Wesleyan Hall and see what's new!



Mark Your Calendars!
All 3rd through 5th graders are invited to attend Funday on February 4 & 18, 2018.

Invite your friends to join you. Rachel and Sydney have fun activities planned for each month. Meet in the 4th & 5th Sunday School classroom from noon to 1:30 pm and don't forget your sack lunch!



FINANCE COMMITTEE

Did you know that for KFUMC, 68% of the total General Fund budget is for payroll-related expenses? To keep our excellent staff somewhat on par with the cost of living increases, an allowance of 2% has been budgeted for staff payroll increases for 2018. This percentage is the equivalent of the increase in 2018 Social Security benefits. For the continuation of services as we know them, we, as a congregation, need to recognize the increased costs associated with staff, and in particular, the cost of medical insurance. Therefore, as you evaluate your own personal budgets for 2018, please consider increasing your church contributions to help cover the normal increases of cost to run the church.

Spread Joy



Jr & Sr High UMY February Schedule

Sunday, February 4

Souper Bowl Sunday
Souper Bowl of Caring Collection
No UMY in the evening

Friday, February 9

Jr & Sr Semi-Formal Dance & More
7:30—10 pm
Please bring a snack to share!

Sunday, February 11

All Church Event: BINGO – from
6:00 – 7:30 pm
NO UMY in the evening – the dance
was on Friday & BINGO is tonight!!

Wednesday, February 14

Ash Wednesday service, at 6:00 pm

Thursday, February 15

Sr High UMY: Toby Mac Concert,
Toyota Center at 7 pm
We will **meet at the church at 6 pm**
so we can drive over to the concert
together.

Saturday, February 17

Saturday Night Life! at 6 pm in the
Youth Chapel

Sunday, February 18

Jr High UMY only
Broom Hockey 6-8 pm

Sunday, February 25

Jr and Sr UMY, 6-8 pm
Self-Defense Training, with
Stephanie Bannworth

Sunday Evening Youth Praise Band Practice Schedule

No Praise Band practice on Sundays,
February 4, 11, 18
Sunday, February 25—4:45 pm Praise
Band.
Praise Band schedule is subject to change.

Sunday School

It's Retro-TV with Cynthia, Jim D. and
Pastor Harriet. They have been busy pick-
ing out TV shows to share with the youth.
As part of the learning, we will be tying in
Bible passages that relate to the episodes
and our lives. Meet in the Youth Chapel at
9 am on Sundays.

Cornerstone

Come on Tuesdays in February! Dinner is
served at 6 pm and small group time is from
6:30—8 pm.

Jr High Retro-Cornerstone meets in the 4 &
5th grade Sunday school classroom. A
“Thank you” to Kristi Thien and Brittany
Becker for leading the group.

Sr High meets in the Youth Chapel with
Pastor Harriet. Our focus is connecting mu-
sic and scripture. We are also planning the
Youth worship time for Sunday evenings.

This Week: Youth E-News

Each week, Pastor Harriet sends out the
Youth E-News via e-mail. If you don't
already receive the Youth E-News, please
e-mail her (harriet@kennewickfirst.com)
and she will add you to the group. The
E-news has an up-to-date list of events and
other important information.

Call or Text

Call or and text Pastor Harriet at 909-575-
8308.



**Special Donations
October 20 through
December 31, 2017**

Camperships.....	\$ 826.00
Prayer Shawl Ministry	430.00
Pastor’s Discretionary Fund.....	4,625.00
Food Bank.....	320.00
Missions—Coffee Project.....	477.70
PNW—Student Day.....	40.00
Koins for Kenya—Coffee Project..	256.65
Soul Soup.....	590.00
Special Donations—Christmas ...	6,500.00
Special Donations—Lazy F	250.00
Special Donations—Twinlow	250.00
Transportation Donations.....	2,112.50
Transportation Recycle Funds	833.55
Jr UMY	800.00
Sr. UMY.....	800.00
Music Ed Scholarship	1,800.00

**2017 General Fund Giving
Through December 31**

2017 Budget	\$459,000
Target Giving through 12/31	459,000
Actual Giving through 12/31	464,891
On Track Status.....	5,891
Apportionment Status	Paid in Full

Summary as of 12/31: Our giving was up in 2017. We ended the year with a positive balance.

**Caregiver
Support Group**



The Caregiver Support group meets once a month in the church Library, which is located on the lower level, off the fellowship hall.

Upcoming meeting dates are:

- Thursday, February 1, at 10 am
- Thursday, March 1, at 10 am
- Thursday, April 5, at 10 am

Caregiver, how is it with your Soul?

The Caregiver Support Group is for those caring for a loved one: a child, a parent, a spouse, 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. Be assured that what is said in the group is held in confidence.

If you know of someone who is a caregiver, but cannot attend at the day and time listed, please call Harriet (909-575-8308) to make other arrangements.

Safety is important, so if there is freezing rain or it is snowing so that you cannot attend, please call Harriet; she will be happy to set up another time to chat.



Please welcome Courtney Brown, the newest member of our staff! Courtney was introduced to us by Lindsay Kamphuis, an employment specialist at Service Alternatives.* Stop by the church office on Thursday mornings from 10—11:30, and you’ll see Courtney working away at her office assistant duties. She’ll be folding papers, stuffing envelopes, applying address labels, and performing other tasks under Lindsay’s guidance.

Courtney describes herself in her resume as being social, a people person and a hard worker. Please be sure to stop by and meet this delightful young lady!

**Service Alternatives is an organization that supports individuals and families of all ages, backgrounds, and abilities to realize their full potential at school, home, work, and in the community.*

IN OUR
Thoughts and Prayers

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

Carol Hardacre, Deana Ahrend, Todd Milton, Shelby Faught, Anita Knight, Don Hildman, Joe Kuhns, Jacque Sonderman, Patty Winston, Janice McIntyre, Ann Kelly, Terry Simmilink, Arlen Gadeken

Please pray for those who have recently lost loved ones . . .

Inie Pepiot died January 3. Her memorial service will be held at 5 pm on February 3 in our sanctuary. Please pray for her family and friends, remembering to thank God for her life well lived.



Thank you to all who sponsored and donated money for the annual Junior High Rock-a-thon. The event was a big success, and the youth had a wonderful time rocking the night away. A BIG thank you goes to the youth leaders for all they did to make the Saturday night into Sunday morning time come together.

To Kennewick First UMC,

Thank you for your faithful completion of shared giving for connectional ministry. Paying 100% demonstrates your desire to impact lives worldwide.

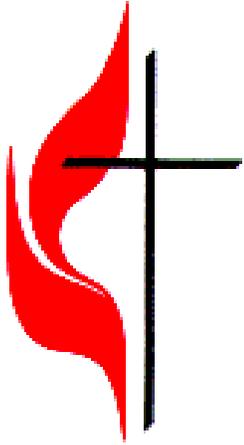
Blessings on your ministry in the coming year.

*Brant Henshaw
Conference Treasurer*



Richard Nelson	1-Feb	Vera Nickolaus	6-Feb	Andrew Tillman	21-Feb
Lili Westvik	1-Feb	Mary Jansen	7-Feb	Geoff Helton	23-Feb
James Canada	3-Feb	Ryan Bannworth	7-Feb	Micki Perry	24-Feb
Steve Tucker	4-Feb	Cheri Baker	8-Feb	A.J. Foster	25-Feb
Kathleen Ritter	4-Feb	Eric Berg	8-Feb	Cory Manley	26-Feb
Mark Hawley	5-Feb	Mandy Simmelink	9-Feb	Peggy Snyder	28-Feb
Jason Elvik	5-Feb	Maia Canada	9-Feb	Todd Milton	28-Feb
Anita Cochran	5-Feb	Debra Britton	13-Feb	Doris Brown	29-Feb
Judy Graham	6-Feb	Joanna (Puryear) Stranger	13-Feb		
Amy Basche	6-Feb	Sandy Warner	14-Feb		
		Izaiah Canada	14-Feb		
		Donna Parkes	17-Feb		
		Donald Board	18-Feb		
		Matthew Marquardt	18-Feb		
		Rita Shuck	21-Feb		





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

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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

Lark

Birds became prominent in Christian art during the Medieval and Renaissance eras. The lark came to symbolize the humility of the priesthood because it flies high and sings only when flying upward.



Articles for the March 2018 Clarion will be due on February 16.