

# THE CLARION

KENNEWICK 1ST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, CORNER OF DAYTON ST AND KENNEWICK AVENUE,  
KENNEWICK, WASHINGTON



## **Jr. UMY Rocks**

January 19-20



This month, the Jr. UMY will be rockin' out during the annual Rock-a-Thon fundraiser! The youth will rock

for about 15 hours, having fellowship, worship, and fun with their friends and leaders while raising money to help fund their 2019 activities.

You may be receiving a phone call as they canvas the church congregation, as well as their families, friends, relatives, coaches, and teachers, for Rock-a-Thon donations. If you do, please remember that these young people are all around 12 years old and for many, this will be their first fundraiser. They may be nervous to talk to you and to ask for a donation; please be patient and understanding. This is the only major fundraiser for the Jr. UMY, so please support this enthusiastic and energetic group of Christ-filled young people!

Be sure to stop by to see them rocking before or after church on the 20th. You may pay your pledge or donation at coffee hour that day, or we will send you a postcard reminder the following week. As always, thank you so much for your continued support of these young people!

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*Learn to light a candle in the darkest moments of someone's life. Be the light that helps others see.*

—Roy T. Bennett

Our new  
KFUMC  
website has  
gone live! Still  
located at



<https://kennewickfirst.com/>, the site has a more modern feel and is easier to navigate. One new feature enables online giving, making it easier and more convenient than ever to keep your giving up-to-date.

Parts of the new website are still under construction, specifically the sections for past sermons and access to historical Clarion newsletters.

Check it out!

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*Live from Kennewick First, it's . . .*

**SNL** *Saturday Night  
Life!*

*January 19  
Message by Pat Walker*

*Music by Clear Waters and Friends!*



## The Church of Perpetual Generosity

Your Missions team is pleased to report that for Christmas last month, this church provided an Amistad Elementary School family with total of 29 gifts, including over \$315 in grocery gift cards to Winco and Grocery Outlet!!! You have been blessed to be a blessing and a blessing you have been.

The ten-year old, Brando, and his 16-year old sister, Karen, were home when we made the delivery. They were exceedingly surprised and very excited by it all. They helped to unload the car, so we got up close and personal right away. Both young people were thankful and almost disbelieving of what was happening. Kind of like what our response to grace should be!!

Additionally, you provided 54 gift cards for the middle school- and high school-aged youth who spent Christmas at the Women's and Children's Shelter at Union Gospel Mission. These gift cards totaled more than \$400 and offered access to McDonald's, BK, Subway, Roasters Coffee, DQ, and Fairchild movie theaters.

But beyond the gifts is the thought and love for those who so often seem forgotten or left behind. Even though we don't know all of those who received our gifts, we know that they are God's children who are greatly loved by Him. Let us praise God that we have been allowed to be the ones He has called to be His presence in these many lives.

Thank you for once again stepping forward in faith and love.

Your Missions Team,

*Susan Sandmeier, Micki Perry, Lee Scott,  
Pat Walker, Nancy Osborn, Sherry Elvik,  
Kathy Bryson, and Bob Kelly*

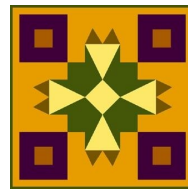
PS – We are a small team and are looking for more partners. Join us!!

Thank you to the 42 church members who volunteered to write a meditation for the 2019 Lenten booklet.

Meditations were due January 2; if you have not yet returned your submittal to Phyllis, please do so at [eckpakzzz@charter.net](mailto:eckpakzzz@charter.net).



The booklet will be available on Sunday, March 3. We are to read a meditation each day beginning on Ash Wednesday, March 6, through Easter, April 21. Wherever we are on our life's journey, may these meditations nourish our souls and strengthen our faith through the Lenten season.



### PIECEMAKERS

Piecemakers recently delivered 43 quilts to Warm up America, Tri-Cities Union Gospel Mission, Trios

Hospital, and Tri -Tech's teen pregnancy class.

Our meetings will resume on January 9, when we will gather from 10 am to noon in the 3rd grade classroom (we always meet on the second Wednesday of the month, same time, same place). Come join us, we have lots of fun and fellowship, no skills are required to tie quilts, sew up "tummies," or sew on labels. Hope to see you there.

M&Ms meet on the third Monday of every month at noon! On January

21, Robin Duncan will share a Powerpoint of her family's trip to Peru.



Please come with a dish to share, and enjoy the program and the fellowship. We begin set up at 10:30 am; if you have time and wish to help, we will appreciate it.

# Holy Spirit

## *house of worship*

**INEFFABLE.** The feeling that washes over you in worship or in a session meeting or at a community event in the church parking lot when you sense the presence of the Holy Spirit. Tangible, unmistakable, but difficult to describe exactly. Ineffable. The feeling that clings to you in worship or in a session meeting or at a community event in the church parking lot when you sense the presence of conflict, tribalism or indifference. Tangible, unmistakable, but difficult to describe exactly.

Hang around congregations long enough and encountering both scenarios is inevitable. But what makes the difference between Spirit-infused and Spirit-adverse churches?

It doesn't take long to ascertain which stance prevails in any given faith community. The greetings (or not) of the "greeter," the easy laughter (or not) in the congregation, the liturgical litany that is the weekly calendar printed in the bulletin, the content of the announcements, even the signage on the building and the literature in the pew rack reveal whether or not the people of God reflect the character of God, whether or not the church is a windmill generating power for the blowing Spirit or a steel wall built to prevent any divine wind disturbance.

Neither the size of the congregation nor the number of programs delineate the spiritual health of a church. It matters not if the art in the parlor is a priceless painting or a decoupage of Jesus made by the youth 30 years ago. Paraclete-powered communities look outward and evidence of that view is undeniable. Look at the lists on flip charts in classrooms, the scraps of paper left behind on the shelves in the pulpit and the remnants of preschool projects made from paper plates. No less than potsherds and tools found on an archaeological dig, these frag-

ments tell stories. In those places where the Dove's call beckons, all this ecclesiastical detritus shows a knowledge of, and concern for, the people and places outside the church walls.

Maps of Paul's journeys come alongside maps of contemporary places where mission partners are supported, clean water provided, refugees welcomed, medical care given. The halls in the education building are dotted with bins filled with food. Calendars list NA meetings and the dates for hosting those experiencing homelessness. Bulletin boards don posters of upcoming discussions on immigration, mental health and climate change. Spirit-infused congregations conduct energy that moves out into the streets, pushing and pulling disciples of Jesus Christ with it, all the while drawing others alongside.

Churches alive with the Spirit of the Living God embody levity and humility, flexibility and no fear of looking foolish. Reverence is not confused with seriousness. Tradition is not conflated with entrenchment. Moving the font to make room for the youth choir does not result in weeping and gnashing of teeth. The cigarette butts left by the back door after the 12-step meeting are not cause for a conversation about preserving the sanctity of church property. When tragedy or disaster strikes, leaders respond, resources are offered, members ask instinctively, thoughtfully, immediately: How can we help? Calculating the cost comes well after trusting God's ability to provide and Christ's call to serve.

The flames of the Spirit burn brightly in those places where heartfelt confession comes quickly. Repentance follows and forgiveness extends seven times seven times. Healthy churches aspire to fulfill Jesus' call to be perfect like his Father in heaven while realizing how often and spectacularly they fall short of the glory of God. Speaking the truth in love, committed in equal measures

*(Holy Spirit, continued next page)*

## Holy Spirit *(continued from previous page)*

to both truth and love, committed to staying in relationship, affirming our irrevocable unity in, through and with Christ casts a congregation's light well beyond its stained-glass windows.

Finally, but not at all lastly, those places with the undeniable, ineffable sense of the Spirit study Scripture together and alone, in classrooms, homes and bars. Worship is a priority as evidenced by its quality, intentionality, execution and energy. Prayer flows without ceasing - corporately and privately - because the faithful know they need to hone their vision if they are to see and follow the Holy Spirit, the Comforter who inevitably pushes us out of our comfort zones.

Grace and peace,

*The Rev. Jill Duffield*

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Outlook. Pres-outlook.org*



On Wednesday, February 6, from 6:30-8:00 pm, our church will host the first of seven Confirmation classes in which young people 7<sup>th</sup> grade and older will have the opportunity to grow and learn more about faith and their church. Classes will meet on Wednesday evenings.

Teachers for this seven-week series and a weekend retreat are Pastor Jerry Poole, Cynthia Bement, and Rachel Loomis. The classes will cover topics including who Jesus, God, and the Holy Spirit are, along with church history, what it means to be United Methodist, the early church, Faith Journey, and how to serve. In March, those who choose to do so will confirm their faith and become members of Kennewick First United Methodist Church.

Please keep our 2019 Confirmands and their sponsors in your prayers this winter!

## SWEETHEART SOCIAL



On February 10, from 2-4 pm, you are invited to an all-church Sweetheart Social! The Sweetheart Social is a dance sponsored by the Jr. and Sr. Highers. Come enjoy refreshments, dancing, and music from past decades! Guests are welcome! If you have any questions, please contact Rachel at (509)582-2163.



## Sr. High Snow Go



The Sr. High will travel to Kellogg, Idaho, on February 15 for a weekend of worship, fellowship, and playing in the snow! They will enjoy a day at Silver Mountain, Bible study, and small group time. Please pray for this active group as they retreat to God in the great outdoors and the sanctuary of a warm church!



Tuesday evening  
Cornerstone dinner (6 pm)  
and classes (6:30 pm)  
resume on January 8.



## Lay Shepherding Ministry Resurrected

Life is messy and often painful. None of us can avoid the hurt, grief, sickness, and loss that happen in our lives. What we do to help each other through difficult times can be complex, yet so simple. As people of faith, committed to healing and wholeness, we may commit to offering prayers for intercessory healing or to sending written encouragement. Sometimes we can call or just show up and reach out with words of comfort or a listening ear. The ministry of Lay Shepherding is carefully designed to connect a Lay Shepherd with a parishioner who is in the midst of a difficult time. Lay Shepherds will work alongside, or under the direction of, the Pastor and/or the Congregational Care Staff to provide care for the soul. If you would like to participate in this ministry because of your gifts and graces in compassion, encouragement, prayer, and conversation, then we would like to invite you to the Lay Shepherding training to explore and further develop these gifts that could possibly be used to care for others in the program in a variety of ways.

### Lay Shepherd Training

Facilitated by: Naomi McDermott and Cynthia Bement  
Choose one of the two trainings offered that best fits your schedule

Thursday January 24 from 1:00-4:00 pm (snacks provided)

Thursday January 31 from 6:00-9:00 pm (snacks provided)



The Memorial Committee manages the funds people donate to honor our members who have entered eternal life. Some families prefer to have a specific project completed with the funds donated to honor their loved ones. In the past, these projects have included the bells, youth activities, and a music scholarship fund. When a request is received for a project, the committee members are called upon to approve the request.

There is also an undesignated category. The Committee suggests projects to be funded from this category; undesignated

monies have enabled us to repair the organ and helped to pay for the electronic sign on First Avenue.

Recently, the sound systems in the sanctuary and Ida Payne fellowship hall were updated using Memorial funds from the Walker family in memory of Clem; the Koschik family in memory of Gene; and the Myers family in memory of their son Bill Randolph. As Clem and Gene were both hearing challenged at times, the families fully supported these upgrades.

### Empowered

*The One who calls you to go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature is the One who by your consent, goes into all the world and preaches the Gospel to every creature through you!*

—W. Ian Thomas

*Katherine Parker is a UMC Global Ministries Missionary in Nepal.*

Dear friends and covenant partners,

As the weather turned cool and the trails dried up after a long, wet summer, I made a final visit for the year out to the villages of Shyala, Khadi and Patagau in the rural district of Rukum in western Nepal last week. As I've been reflecting on my appreciation for my Nepali colleagues and the progress made by the women's groups and child clubs in these villages, I also stand in awe of all of you who trust me enough to send me to accompany this process.

Most donors want tangible projects and things accomplished that can be counted, whether it is numbers of baptisms or numbers of toilets constructed. And yet, you have been supporting me in this nebulous process of community development. Some days I do feel like I am just faffing around, listening while others have what seems like the same discussion yet again. You are taking a risk in supporting this; I have plenty of frustrating stories where activities take years to come together or are only nominally completed.

But then I have an opportunity to meet with the women in the Jyoti {light} Parenting Group in Shyala village and I am reminded of the difference that comes when we, as church, participate in community development. Again, and again, women we spoke with last week talked about their appreciation for the Social Mobilizers in our project who met with them and encouraged them to learn new ways of relating to their children; the women spoke of finding voice to facilitate group discussions on gender-based violence and even opened-up conversations with their husbands. They told their own stories and learned from each other. They became advisors for community disputes and pooled their savings to purchase a piece of land for a community gathering place.

While we did budget some donations this year for activities like classroom improvements, when it came down to the specific improvements it was the teachers who decided what was needed. The creativity of the young entrepreneurs who won the business grant competition is inspiring in villages that are just now getting connected by a road that brings them within three hours of a market center. The child clubs purchased sports equipment to encourage kids to hang out at school rather than playing truant, started a kitchen garden at the school to supplement the World Food Program rice and lentils, and used part of their "social action grant" to purchase a blanket for a poor student.

So, I continue in gratitude for your trust and support that allows me to be here in Nepal as we slowly try to reorient how we do community development away from projects designed by the privileged {a.k.a. me} into ministries with communities that allow for spaces where women and children can find their voices and make substantive decisions about how their group will choose to use the donated funds to contribute to the transformation of Nepal. Your partnership, trust, and prayers are what undergird this process of radical reorientation towards God's preference for the marginalized. Thank you!

*My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Saviour, for he has looked with favour on the lowliness of his servant.*

Wishing you a Joyous Advent and a Merry Christmas,

*Katherine*

Gifts to support community development work in Nepal through UMN can be designated through The Advance:

Integrated Community Development project of the United Mission to Nepal:  
Advance# 3021568

Contribute financial support through the Covenant Relationship program that enables

Katherine to be in Nepal:  
Missionary Advance# 15187z

Send your gifts through The Advance to your conference treasurer or to **Advance GCFA, PO Box 9068, New York, NY, 10087-9068** with the Advance number clearly designated on your check. For more information or to donate online visit [www.advancinghope.org](http://www.advancinghope.org)



# IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

***Please pray for those in need of healing, comfort, and encouragement . . .***

*Carol Hardacre, Deana Ahrend, Shelby Faught, Anita Knight, Ann Kelly, Terry Simmelink, Julie Logan Hooley, Punkie Eddy, Peggy Snyder, Ron Baker, Norma Williams, Nathan and Jamie Preston, Joan Osborne, Pat Phillips, and Janet Shelton*

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

Juli Reinholz, our former District Superintendent, is in treatment for stage four cancer. Please remember Juli and her family in prayer.

*Please pray for the family and friends of those whose loved ones have recently entered eternal life . . .*

- ♥ *Terry Mitchell died on December 7, and his service was held in our sanctuary on the 22nd. Please keep his wife, Jeannette, and the rest of his family in prayer.*



Thanks to everyone who helped host our Old Fashioned Christmas on December 1. It was great to see many new faces as well as long-time friends getting together. To all the area leaders - thank you for saying yes and coordinating so many wonderful venues. To each person who served - you were the hands and feet of Christ to each person you served. To everyone who came and enjoyed an afternoon of fellowship - I pray you continue to spread that joy beyond the Christmas season. And to everyone who participated in the parade (with a special thanks to our shepherd driver, Ron Shuck), thank you for sharing the news of KFUMC with all those folks lining the streets. We have a story to tell to the nations.

*Sherry Arnold*

*At the start of a new year, we remember that God continually gives us new chances. What does Jesus say to a woman caught in adultery?*



- A. "Go, and from now on sin no more."
- B. "Not even in Israel have I found such great faith."
- C. "Peace be with you."
- D. "Tell no one what I have done for you."

*Answer? (See John 8:11)*



Pete Baumann	4-Jan	Blake Bonds
Kara Morris	5-Jan	Brian Bergum
Karen Alley	5-Jan	Roberta Barcot
Deana Harden	5-Jan	Pat Phillips
Marilyn Hockaday	6-Jan	Kristine Taggares
Dick Nelson	6-Jan	Chris Becker
Richard Glazier	9-Jan	Charmaine Harris
Jonah Shiple	9-Jan	Olivia Holloway
Melissa Nickolaus	11-Jan	Fern Whitescarver
Donna Troxel	12-Jan	James Choate
Jack St. John	12-Jan	Caleb Rhodes
		Emma Glazier
		Meghan Chase
		Ellie Nelson
		Annalise Becker

12-Jan	Eldon Cooper	25-Jan
14-Jan	Donna Coordes	26-Jan
15-Jan	Ruby St. John	27-Jan
16-Jan	Gus Kittson	28-Jan
16-Jan	Peggy Puryear	28-Jan
17-Jan	Daniel Nickolaus	28-Jan
17-Jan	Calley Hagen	29-Jan
17-Jan	Phyllis Koschik	30-Jan
18-Jan	Richard Door	31-Jan
20-Jan		
20-Jan		
21-Jan		
24-Jan		
24-Jan		
24-Jan		





First United Methodist Church  
Office: 421 W. Kennewick Ave.  
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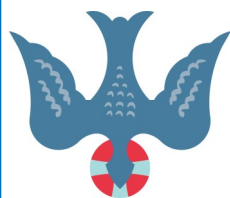
**Worship Schedule**

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

**Church Office Hours**

8:30 a.m. - noon and 1 - 4 p.m.  
Monday through Thursday  
8 a.m. - noon on Fridays

[www.kennewickfirst.com](http://www.kennewickfirst.com)  
[facebook.com/KennewickFirstUMC](https://facebook.com/KennewickFirstUMC)



**Descending Dove**

A dove is a prominent symbol of the Holy Spirit. When the dove is shown flying downward, it reminds us of Jesus' baptism, when, the gospel writers tell us, the Spirit descended on him in the form of a dove. Doves also symbolize baptism in general, because many Christian denominations teach that the Holy Spirit and its gifts are bestowed at baptism. Sometimes a dove is depicted with a three-ray nimbus around its head, indicating that it is a member of the Trinity. Doves are also commonly used as a sign of peace.

**Upcoming  
DEADLINE**

February 2019  
Clarion articles will be  
due on January 20.