

THE CLARION

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



Palm Sunday
Sunday, April 14, Sanctuary
Worship Services
at 9 and 10:30 am

Maundy Thursday
April 18, 6 pm
Potluck supper; please bring a
main dish, side dish, or dessert;
beverages and table service will
be provided.

Good Friday
April 19, 7 pm, Sanctuary



Resurrection Sunday,
April 21

Sunrise Service, 6:30 am at the
Gazebo in Columbia Park

Sanctuary Services
9:00 am Worship with sermon
10:30 am Cantata presented by
the KFUMC choir



PALM SUNDAY PARADE

APRIL 14TH

Meet in the Ida Payne Fellowship Hall
immediately following 1st service. We will
parade through downtown Kennewick and
into the Sanctuary during 2nd service.

There will be a cookie reception to follow the
parade when we are excused to go downstairs
following Time With Young Disciples!

*They took palm branches and went out to meet him, shouting,
"Hosanna!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!"
"Blessed is the king of Israel!"*

John 12:13



KENNEWICK FIRST UMC

EASTER EGG HUNT

Saturday, April 20th
9:30 AM-10:30 AM

Ages 0 - 4th grade are invited to hunt eggs!
5th grade and older are invited to help the little
ones!





Dear Friends,

As I write these words, we are in the fourth week of Lent. I wonder. . .

Why do we run the church through Lent each spring? Why not skip Lent some years? I've been reflecting

on, teaching, and preaching through Lent for thirty-nine years. Do school teachers teach the same lessons to the same students each year? What's the goal? Keep trying until all the students earn A's? If that were our reality we should not be surprised that our holy week services, especially Maundy Thursday and Good Friday, are not as well attended as Easter Sunday. Should we skip those? Before our minds wander even further from the point, let me clarify: Experiencing the season of Lent each spring is not at all like teaching the same lesson annually hoping the student will eventually "get it."

The early church fathers and mothers decided early on to design an observance of Lent into the church year for at least two reasons: 1) Taking a fresh look at Jesus' walk toward Jerusalem annually is good for us. It refreshes our memories and adds to our understanding of a difficult period for Jesus and for the church, and 2) Mysteriously, the Holy Spirit continually grows us in our understanding and our faith every time we enter a classroom or a worship experience. Every time we ask the Holy Spirit to transform us more and more into the people Jesus wants us to be, it happens. The mystery is that we usually don't see it, don't experience it, and don't notice it, so we assume such growth is not happening. We are wrong about that. We are growing every time.

What if we don't attend classes or weekend worship opportunities; do we still grow every day? I don't know. I suspect not, not unless we (or someone else) are often

asking God the Father, Son, and Spirit to keep us growing while we are striving as best we are able to learn about Jesus and the faith of the Bible through the people around us.

The Christian Church is not dying but it is shrinking in our nation and many of the nations of Europe. The church *is* growing in Africa, South America, and in other areas. Does that mean we should give up on the American church? In our prayers, let's ask God to re-fill us, that we may understand the present challenge the Church is facing from our secular culture and become part of the solution, rather than part of the problem. As we approach the last few weeks of Lent, let's ask God to show us God's truth and God's love more deeply as we try to walk with Jesus toward His sacrifice, even as many forces try to persuade us to avoid it. Each special service and class we offer is designed to draw us nearer to Jesus. Are you tempted to believe that while you are seeking to grow in your faith you are failing? Stagnating? That's what the world wants you to believe. For years as a young person and later as an adult, I did not have a sense that I was growing. But later I realized that I was. I could have stopped. Rather, I was carried along by the steady hand of the Spirit. People were praying for me. Who is praying for you?

Come closer, as we all seek to understand this mystery that is God's way of growing us into the faithful and even joyful servants we can, by God's grace, become. We have not a moment to waste.

In His Grip,





The Sr High Auction is on
Sunday, April 28!

Go Green to Grow Hope

Doors open at 2:45 PM

Silent Auction from 3:00 to 4:00 PM

Live Auction begins at 4:00 PM

You are invited to come enjoy food and fellowship while supporting the Sr High group and its upcoming Mission Trip in June!

The Sr High group will be traveling to Colorado to work on various projects to help restore a United Methodist church camp affected by wildfires. The youth will help with construction projects, renovations, and ground restoration.

Tickets are \$5

Tickets will be sold during coffee hours on April 14 and 21 and will also be sold at the door on April 28



***Congratulations
to our
Confirmation
Class!***

Scott Almarode

*Joe Buchholz

*Koooper Glesener

*Arden Holloway - Baptised

*Ellie Nelson

On Sunday, March 24, these delightful teens participated in worship and confirmed their faith with the support of their teachers, families, and sponsors.

Rachel Loomis, Cynthia Bement, and

Pastor Jerry were teachers for the class.

Special thanks go to the sponsors: Bracken Deatherage, Sean Holloway, Debbie Hopkins, John Logan, and Kristi Thien.

We so appreciate Phyllis Merrill who, for over 25 years, has orchestrated the creation of a beautiful Confirmation banner for each class.

Thanks also go to Peggy Puryear for a lovely cake reception during coffee hour.

We are extremely grateful to Barbara Helton, who with the help of Dorothy Block and Diane Bruce, prepared the Confirmation dinner, as well as to those who served and cleaned up: Mike and Kelly Dean, Jill Berg, and Donna Kittson... Thank you!

*Denotes church member

Craft Work Day *Holly Daze Workshop Slated April 6*

The year-long efforts to prepare for Holly Daze with the creation of clever crafts will continue at a Saturday workshop on April 6. From 9 a.m. to noon in the Susanna Wesley Room, a dozen or more participants will wrap stuffed fabric pumpkins, paint shingle wall hangings, finish holiday gift bags, and start a new project or two. All are welcome to come. The only skill required is a love of fun.

As of now, Holly Daze workshops will be scheduled for the first Saturday each month. Of course, other dates for special workshops may be arranged before the UMW autumn event that raises funds for local and international projects.

If knitting or crocheting is your preferred craft, remember the Prayer Shawl Group, led by Pat Walker, that will meet the same morning in the Reception Area at church.

To share your ideas for crafts, come April 6 or contact Holly Daze chairs Susan Sandmeier and Darryl Vaughn.

Women to Learn About Investing April 24



On Wednesday, April 24, UMW will try once more to learn about investing as activists. Kriss Kennedy, who is with Edward Jones, will give the program, which was originally scheduled in February but was cancelled due to snow, at the 10 a.m. meeting that will be held in the Susanna Wesley Room. Treats will be provided by Joy Circle.

All women of the church and their friends are invited to this helpful, informative presentation.

(continued next column)

The sharing gift will be for missions. Remember, the purpose of UMW is to develop a creative, supportive fellowship and expand its service of love through global ministries.

If you have questions about UMW, President Kathy Wertman, 586-4669, will gladly answer them.

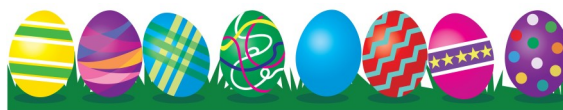
Other UMW officers include co-vice presidents Janet Shelton and Erna Sproul; treasurer Kathy Harris; program resources chair Pat Walker; spiritual growth coordinator Susan Sandmeier, outreach chair Nancy Russell; education chair Micki Perry; social action chair Edwina Kenoyer; and sunshine correspondent Bonnie Taylor. They, too, welcome your suggestions for UMW projects.



M & Ms met on Monday, March 18, for potluck and great fellowship after a long winter of being "snowed in." Laurie Jackson spoke to us about "End of Life" issues. Though, as Laurie put it, she was talking about death, she kept us engaged well past our time.

We will meet April 15, when Arlan Gadeken will introduce us to Navy Captain Gerald Coffee. Captain Coffee was a prisoner of war during the Vietnam war. He presents a very inspirational program.

Come, bring a dish to share, and enjoy great fellowship, good food, and an inspirational program. Potluck lunch starts at noon, however we will begin setting tables at 10:30; if you have time to help it would be appreciated.





RUMMAGE SALE 2.0

An effort to find new leadership for the Rummage Sale has been ongoing for months without any success. As a result, there will be no Rummage Sale in 2019. A group of interested persons met to discuss options, and this group supports the idea of joining in with the Kennewick Kiwanis Club to host a Goodwill donation trailer at KFUMC to gather materials for Goodwill. In turn, Goodwill will pay \$0.10/pound for the materials. The funds will be used to help Kiwanis provide programs at Amistad Elementary. Kiwanis is currently supports a variety of programs at the school designed to ensure all the children in grades K-5 are successful in school.

The collection will be taken May 7-14 (Tuesday to Tuesday). This is based on the availability of a Goodwill trailer. It will be positioned in our parking lot facing 1st Avenue. Our goal is to have the site monitored throughout the day so only acceptable materials are dropped off (see the list below). Between the Kiwanis club and our church, we should have no trouble getting volunteers to manage the trailer.

Additionally, we will collect computers, and Dennis Arter has offered to review and clean them up for distribution to families at Amistad who don't have a computer at home. We will work with the Amistad Counselor and the Coordinator for Community in Schools to identify the recipient families.

God leads us in ways we don't often understand. Losing the Rummage Sale is hard for many of us, but we have a new way to support those in need in our community through Goodwill and its many programs, as well as assisting Kiwanis with their

efforts at helping to make kids at Amistad successful in their education.

Here is what we **can** collect:

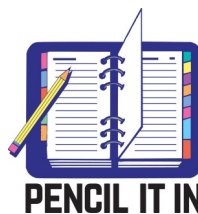
- Clothing and bedding
- Books
- Shoes
- Housewares
- Accessories
- Small electrical items

What we **can't** collect:

- Furniture
- Workout equipment
- Mattresses
- Pianos
- Appliances
- Mowers and weed eaters
- Paint/household chemicals

Kiwanis operates 13 different programs at Amistad at a cost of \$17,000/year to help the kids and staff maximize learning opportunities. With a focus on value development, these projects help replace lost library books, provide incentives for an accelerated reading program, encourage writing with a Pen Pal program, support 3 groups of Girls on the Run, develop a scholarship program for kids who attend Amistad and will go to college or trade school, provide field trips for each class, conduct an I Take Responsibility flag football program, mentor individual students at lunch, conduct a jog-a-thon each fall in conjunction with the PE teacher, and end the year with a teacher appreciation luncheon. With no PTA/PTO at Amistad, Kiwanis has become the next best thing.

Please pray for a successful collection. The kids at Amistad need our help.



**Mark your calendar for
the all-church camp out
at Hood Park,
August 16-18, 2019!!!**



As many of you already know, a special session of the General Conference of the United Methodist Church met in St. Louis at the end of February.

They gathered in search of a way forward out of long conflict over attitudes toward homosexuals and LGBTQIA people. In this session the church reaffirmed its assertion that “the United Methodist Church does not condone the practice of homosexuality and considers this practice to be incompatible with Christian teaching” (UM Book of Discipline 2016). It also intensified standards and punishments for bishops who ordain and appoint gay clergy and for clergy who perform marriages for same-sex couples.

Some of you may be wondering what impact this will have at our local church.

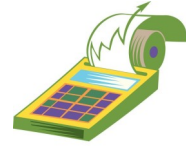
The way forward for our local church is not clear. The decision to increase severity of punishment made by the General Conference is being challenged as unconstitutional, and the Judicial Council is scheduled to meet in late April. More details will continue to become available after that time.

For now, the church council is reading and discussing information on this topic from our Pacific Northwest Conference. We attended the Table Talks on this topic hosted at our church in March and will continue to listen to our congregation’s voice. I’m grateful to all who attended our forum regarding the general conference in February. We will be hosting more forums in the future as more details and the impact to our local church come to light. I invite you to continue to be in conversation with us and pray for our church as we look to discern our future together.

To God be the glory,
Jill Berg
Lay Leader

Council Members: Jill Berg, Michelle Hare, Rich Nelson, Dave Hare, Kristi Thien, Sherry Arnold, Lori Butler, Bob Kelly, and Pastor Jerry Poole

Your Financial Picture



Years of rising home values and changes in the stock market have helped to put many U.S. households in good financial shape. Although personal assets are up, household debt is also up overall.

Calculating what would be left over if you sold all your assets and paid off your debts can help you see the big personal financial picture. Tallying your personal balance sheet each year can help you track your personal financial progress beyond simply looking at income or expenses and put your debt in perspective. It can also help you determine whether you’re saving enough to retire comfortably.

To quickly see where you stand, you can visit a website like Kiplinger.com/links/networth. Use the calculator to run an inventory of your assets, from your savings and retirement account to investments and insurance policies, as well as your home and other property. You’ll be asked to enter any debts and liabilities, including a mortgage and household bills. It takes a little work to estimate real values of your real estate, vehicles, and other assets, but it is a valuable exercise. Once you have done this, you get a good feeling of your financial worth, which is helpful in estate planning. Doing this each year shows what assets grow and which decline in value.



Tuesday evenings
Cornerstone dinner (6 pm)
Classes (6:30 pm)



*It was a **DARK AND STORMY NIGHT** ...*

I always wanted to start a story that way. This is a true story that actually did start that way.

One rainy night in Boston a few years following the end of the Civil War, a small number of women unlocked the doors of their church, went inside, and secretly plotted.

What were they plotting? For what project did they hope their church would back them?

Helping the downtrodden in the world.

Did church missionary officials quickly say yes? NO. Did that stop those inspired few who came together that dark and stormy night? Of course not.

After that first meeting in March 1869, the word slowly spread from church to church to women who wanted to make a difference. They organized in small groups in many states to share their concerns about social and economic justice across the world.

It is not hard to see that God was with these women in their goals, even if at first some church officials or husbands or society were not. After all, at that time most women in this country were not allowed to have property or bank accounts of their own. They did not have the right to vote. They were not educated as men were. Truly they had very little control over their own lives.

The way forward, then, for that small group who wanted to make a difference was not easy. Yet, those inspired women encouraged each other to try.

They saved their pennies. They started a newsletter. They sent out the first single women missionaries to India. They studied issues. They took positions. There was no stopping the Women's Foreign Missionary Society.

Since then, the name has changed. The desire to serve has not. It grows stronger. Now, throughout the world, 800,000 of us are called United Methodist Women.

And truth be told, UMW leads the church in working for equality and human rights in the world, including in our own country where there are still biases, poverty, and social issues.

I use the word **work** deliberately and accurately. UMW is not a bunch of little old ladies who sip tea at lunches or debate the meaning of this or that particular Bible verse. We actually work

across the world, hand-in-hand with many peoples, in diverse cultures, to love others as Jesus so loved.

On this significant UMW anniversary (150 years!), it is good to pause and remember what has been accomplished . . . sending missionaries across the world; serving local groups that help women and children by operating schools and medical clinics; standing up for a healthy environment; offering compassion to immigrants and safety for victims of human trafficking; joining the effort to reform the criminal justice system; fighting for freedom of the oppressed; promoting education for all; and calling for equality under the law.

It is clear with this list that UMW recognizes the need today is not only for charity, but for advocacy.

Advocacy follows our understanding of how poverty and suffering are caused. That is why UMW studies issues and seeks to find positive change for the downtrodden. This is why UMW has fundraisers, such as our Holly Daze, to help the marginalized by offering them support to transform themselves and the world. In America that means missions to Native Americans and farm workers, responding to natural disasters, supporting inter-city missions, listening to diverse people's stories, feeding the hungry, and comforting the ill and grieving. It means actually living the motto over the door of our church: Open Hearts, Open Minds, Open Doors.

There are thousands of projects carried out by UMW units every year. In our own church, we take part in more than two dozen missions, bring in gifts for local charities, and support our district UMW projects, our own church outreach, and each other.

Together we achieve much that we never could achieve alone. That is the heart of UMW's success: women sharing their strengths, talents, and hopes to make a difference.

But UMW, nationally and even here, cannot be taken for granted. Sadly, there are Methodist churches that lose their UMW units. Even though women today don't face the same challenges those inspired women did in the 1800s, there are significant demands on their time.

Our prayer is that here at Kennewick First we will be able to hold on to that spirit of service, the courage of our convictions, and the determination to strive for social justice, as Jesus would have us strive.

IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

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

Deana Ahrend, Ron Baker, Carol Bronson, Shelby Faught, Carol Hardacre, Gloria Harden, Julie Logan Hooley, Ann Kelly, Anita Knight, Joan Osborne, Pat Phillips, Nathan and Jamie Preston, Juli Reinholz, Terry Simmelink, Peggy Snyder, Donna Troxel, Juli Troxel, Norma Williams, our seminarian: Alexa Eisenbarth, Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, our DS, Mary Huycke, and our pastor elect: Mark McMurray.

Renew!

The Renew women's event was a big success, with 37 women in attendance! We enjoyed an evening of wonderful food, fellowship, and worship. Thank you to the whole team, including Cynthia Bement, Linda Hawley, Rachel Loomis, Cheryl Nixon, Peggy Puryear, and many others, for making the event possible. We also want to thank Back Alley BBQ, who provided the amazing food, and Sherry Arnold, Donna Kunk, and Beverly Atwood for the fabulous music.



What do Muslims believe? Who was Muhammad? What is the difference between Muslim and Islam? What are the similarities between Islam and

Christianity? The answers are outlined in "Growing Up Muslim, Understanding the Beliefs & Practices of Islam," by S. Ali-Karamali.

Written by a Muslim woman who grew up in the U.S., this easy-read book answers a lot of questions we all have...and some we don't even think to ask! I came away with a better understanding of what our Muslim neighbors believe (and don't believe). I highly recommend this book to all who would like a broader understanding of one of the world's major religions. You might be surprised what you learn!

The book is part of the UMW Reading Program and is available to check out in the church library.

Enjoy a good read! —Lisa E. Williams



BIRTHDAYS Coming Up!

Samantha Koschik
Taylor Yount
Molly Kittson
Jeff Varzandeh
Christiaan Barcot
Dee Yount
Bethany Ahrend
Travis Koschik
Trevor Koschik
Terry Milton
Debbie Shirey
Kyle Hagen
Casey Enderlin

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8-Apr

Merrienne Door
Kathryn Thien
Paige Kaiser
Mercedes Haberling
Brittany Dyer
Cody Simmelink
Priscilla Botu
Brooke Canada
Brady Hagen
William Mandell
Victoria Kippes
Kathryn Eddy
George Block
Jadyn Rhodes
Scott Biglin
Bob Kelly
Donald Preston
Isabelle Howard

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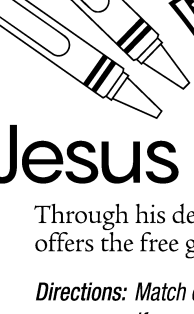
Eva Walker
Kathy Wertman

Jamie Preston
Eric Baumann
Debra Williamson
Linda Tucker
Joshua Troxel
Mikayla Mason
Carly Hagen
Patrick Bannworth
Bran-

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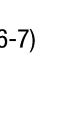













PUZZLE

Jesus gives us *life*

Through his death and resurrection, Jesus offers the free gift of eternal life.

Directions: Match each clue from Holy Week with the correct image. If you get stuck, look up the Bible verses.

People spread these on the road for Jesus. (Matthew 21:8)	
Mary pours this on Jesus' feet. (John 12:3)	
Jesus shares this with his disciples. (Matthew 26:26)	
This is placed on Jesus' head. (John 19:2)	
Soldiers may have used these to compete for Jesus' coat. (John 19:23-24)	
Jesus carries this himself for a while. (John 19:17)	
Marks caused by these help Thomas identify Jesus. (John 20:25)	
While on the cross, Jesus is thirsty and is given this. (John 19:28-29)	
This is rolled away from Jesus' tomb. (John 20:1)	
These are used to prepare Jesus' body for burial. (Luke 23:55-56)	
These remain in the tomb after Jesus rises. (John 20:6-7)	
Judas betrays Jesus for this. (Matthew 26:14-15)	

1. Fold the brown paper in half, short side to short side. Cut along the fold. On one half, draw and cut out a large half-circle (the tomb). On the other, draw and cut out a palm-sized circle (the stone).
2. Glue the brown tomb onto the blue paper.
3. Cut a black circle (the inside of the tomb) the same size as the brown stone and glue it onto the brown tomb.
4. Place the brown stone over the black half-circle; this is the entrance. Push the brad through one edge so the stone can move from side to side.
5. Cut out a cross from the yellow paper and glue it by the tomb.
6. Write "Jesus is risen!" atop the blue paper.



First United Methodist Church
Office: 421 W. Kennewick Ave.
Kennewick, WA 99336

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Corner of W. Kennewick Ave. and
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Office: 421 W. Kennewick Avenue
Kennewick, Washington 99336
(509) 582-2163

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
facebook.com/KennewickFirstUMC



**Church
Cleanup**



***Saturday,
April 13***

*Let's spruce up the
church this Spring!
No special skills need-
ed; bring tools and
gloves you think
might come in handy.*

**Upcoming
DEADLINE**

May 2019
Clarion articles will be
due on April 20.