

# THE CLARION

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



**Vacation Bible School (VBS)**  
**Monday, July 8, through Friday, July 12**  
**Dinner served each evening at 5:00**  
**VBS 5:30-8 pm**

## Escape to Athens with Paul!

Imagine leaving a life of privilege, power, and influence to face angry mobs, agonizing imprisonment, and chain-breaking earthquakes—all to share the life-altering truth of God's heart for humanity. Hear the awe-inspiring story of the Apostle Paul . . . straight from Paul himself! Paul's life and teachings in the midst of an ancient "anything goes" culture will inspire kids to share the truth of God's boundless love! God's Word comes to life as the children engage with Biblical history.

There is a registration and volunteer sign up booth in the church entryway, or you may stop in the church office to register. Those who register before July 1 will receive a free VBS T-shirt. T-shirts are \$5 for those who register after July 1.

VBS, including dinner, is free! You won't want to miss experiencing the truth of God's immeasurable love at VBS!



## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY— JUNE 16

"I'm as lucky as can be, for the world's best dad belongs to me."



June/July 2019

## All Church Camp Out August 16-18 Hood Park



Let's Go Camping!

Plan to join your church family for a fun weekend of camping at beautiful Hood Park campground near Burbank. Everyone is welcome at the fellowship and worship events, including those who don't plan to camp overnight. Please contact Cynthia Bement at the church office to reserve your spot and for more information; there are RV and tent spots available. The weekend will end on Sunday with outdoor worship at the Amphitheater in the park.

Cost for the weekend is \$40 per site, and **registration will begin on June 1** through the church office.

## Upcoming Worship Services

June 1—SNL at 6 pm in Youth Chapel

### *Sanctuary worship:*

June 2—Pastor Jerry

June 9—The Rev. Tom Adams, Director of  
Chaplaincy Services at Tri City  
Chaplaincy

June 16—Pastor Jerry

June 23—Jim Deatherage

June 30—Independence Sunday—Cynthia  
Bement, as well as highlights of the  
senior high mission trip to Colorado

July 7—Communion with Pastor Mark  
McMurray



Dear Friends,

On July 1, your new pastor, Mark McMurray, comes on duty. Since he grew up in Richland, some of you have known him a long time. I met him a few weeks ago, like him already, and pray for him and his family often.

As I prepare, somewhat haphazardly, for my departure, a part of me wants to exit in the dead of night. (Inside this professionally extroverted pastor lurks an introvert.) That's partly because goodbyes rarely satisfy. With people we have grown to love and appreciate, we don't want to say goodbye. The older I grow, the more I value the long-term view I believe God has about life, which is 'In the long run we will all be together.' The Saints, those who called on Jesus as Savior and Lord while on this earth, are in Heaven ready to welcome us "Home" in order that we might spend Eternity together praising God in the power of the Spirit. Instead of spending dark hours mourning the departure of beloved friends when they move away or die, I try to focus on the living reality that we will see them again and for a long time to come. That focus helps cut the pain of leaving friends, but not entirely. Therefore I would prefer to say "Farewell until we meet again."

In my second Clarion article (published in April 2012) I quoted the Rev. Heidi Husted Armstrong, a veteran colleague, who wrote: "I'm convinced that one of the more difficult things in life is saying goodbye to a pastor. And trust me: being the pastor who is saying goodbye is no piece of cake, either." I've done it eleven times over the past thirty-nine years. She adds, "Even though we pastors are aware it will come, at some point it still rattles us." Those of us who have served closely have felt Jesus knit our hearts together. I think that is one of the blessings of the Body of Christ, the Church, in the healthiest sense. So a part of me does

not really intend to say goodbye, because we will still be linked through the Spirit's mysterious connection. I don't think Jesus wants us to say goodbye either. When He left His disciples to ascend to Heaven he did not say 'goodbye.' He said he would be with them "to the close of the age" (Matthew 28:20). Certainly be clear that I'm not Jesus! But I think He sets an important example here for the Church going forward.

I will not mention particular highlights during our time together. Your lists are far more significant than mine, and any achievements have come via the effort of the Body of Christ serving together in the power of the Spirit, not of any one person alone.

My seven-plus years among you have enriched me. I enjoyed long-term ministry decades ago in Montana, and toward the end of my twenty-three years of transitional ministry, I prayed that God would allow me one more permanent assignment. You have been His answer. In the midst of all our adventures I have been blessed!

My special thanks to our staff, leaders, and fellow servants over the years!

To God be the glory! Pray for Pastor Mark! The church's best days are ahead!

In His grip,



"Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ."

First Thessalonians 5:23

CONGRATULATIONS!



## **Congratulations Alexa Eisenbarth!**

On May 17, Alexa graduated with a Masters in Divinity from Garrett Theological Seminary in Evanston, Illinois. She will be commissioned on Sunday, June 9, at 11:00 am during Annual Conference at the Showplex Center at the Washington State Fairgrounds, 110 9th Avenue SW, Puyallup, WA. All are welcome to attend!

Alexa has been appointed to lead the Orting United Methodist Church near Puyallup, where she will take up her duties on July 1.

A reception will be held in her honor on Tuesday, June 11, from 6:30-8:00 pm at Kennewick 1st UMC in the fellowship hall, Refreshments will be served. Please come join us in celebrating her accomplishments!



Register now for summer camp! Camp is a wonderful time to focus on faith while enjoying the great outdoors and making friends!

To register, go online to [www.pnwumc.org](http://www.pnwumc.org). Under the heading Ministries, click on Camp & Retreat Ministries. Then click on your choice of the four PNW Camps. Under your desired camp, you can select an age-specific camp to attend . . . and then complete the registration!

Kennewick First gives camperships to all children, youth, and families who are active in the church. Please call Rachel or Cynthia in the church office to find out how much campership you will be receiving based on the camp you have chosen. Typically, the camperships are \$150 for a full week of camp, \$100 for a 3-day camp, and \$75 per person for family camp.

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

## **SNL Saturday Night Life!**

**June 1—Jim Deatherage  
Music by Clearwaters and Friends  
6 pm in the Youth Chapel**

This will be the last SNL worship of the season. This positive worship service led by disciples from Kennewick 1st will return in the fall; stay tuned for updates!



M & Ms met on May 20 for potluck with 11 people in attendance. Erna Sproul graciously stepped in to provide leadership, as the Fosters had another commitment. While Miss Tri-Cities, who was our anticipated program, was not able to attend, the group did discuss options for continuing in the Fall in light of our falling numbers. These options include the following: 1. People take turns being in charge of finding speakers; 2. One person taking responsibility for securing all speakers; 3. We skip having speakers, just do the potluck; 4. We meet less often; 5. We do not meet at all. There may be other suggestions as well. Please think about it over the summer, and come back in September ready to discuss the options.

Also at the September meeting, Jill Berg will share an "Update on General Conference for the UMC." Jill spoke to UMW earlier this spring on this topic, and additional updates will be welcome. One comment made during the May meeting discussion addressed a desire for more communication in the church with a suggestion that some of our leaders be invited to talk to us and give us the opportunity to ask questions; Jill's presentation will be a timely response to this comment.

Please give our options some serious thought; have a safe and fun summer.



Did you know that our council meetings are open for any to attend to observe the business of the church? If you'd like to present or speak on a topic of interest, you are welcome to do so, simply speak with Jill Berg, Lay Leader, to be added to the agenda of an upcoming council meeting.

We are pleased to say our pew moving project is complete! Enjoy the added space and accessibility. We knew there would be the possibility of some minor repairs to the floors and will be addressing that need.

We are looking for a new Communication Ministry Team lead; we thank Juli Troxel for her years of service and getting the new website up and running. If this is an area that speaks to you, please reach out to Jill Berg, for additional information.

The City of Kennewick will be repairing the heaving sidewalk along Dayton Street. The project is slated for this summer. The extent to which it will impact our property is still yet to be determined. Our facilities ministry is aware and planning for the potential impact to our brick wall and signage. As you see construction begin, step carefully and know that we will be working to address any repairs or reconstruction as needed.

Representatives from UMC conferences around the country met in May in two settings to determine pathways forward after many are feeling unsettled by the recent decisions of the General Conference. We remain uncertain of the options that lie ahead for both our PNW conference and our local church. Our church council continues to keep up with the developments, and I will share information as it's available. Mostly there is much that is unknown at this point. I'm hopeful we will know more after our Annual Conference in June. Stay tuned, and please reach out to me if you have concerns or questions.

To God be the Glory!  
*Jill Berg*, Lay Leader

## IN OUR *Thoughts and Prayers*

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

Ron Baker, Carol Bronson, Shelby Faught, Carol Hardacre, Kirk Higginson, Julie Logan Hooley, Ann Kelly, Anita Knight, Joan Osborne, Pat Phillips, Juli Reinholz, Terry Simmelink, Peggy Snyder, Donna Troxel, Juli Troxel, Norma Williams, our seminarian Alexa Eisenbarth, Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, DS Mary Huycke, and our incoming DS, Joanne Coleman-Campbell.

Pray for our senior high youth and their leaders, who will be going on the senior high mission trip to Colorado, leaving June 15. Also, the Jr UMYers leave on the Mid-ler Trip on July 17; please include them, along with their leaders, in your prayers.



Our church will host a men's WALK weekend August 1-4 and a women's WALK August 15-18. If you are interested in attending, please contact Jim or Linda Deatherage or Cheryl in the church office. There is no charge to you for the weekend, but you will need a sponsor and the Pastor's signature on your application. This short course (interdenominational) in the Christian faith is spread over a three-day weekend with fun, growth, and surprises guaranteed. Many of our members and leaders have attended such a weekend and recommend making your Walk - you will be enriched, and our church will reap the benefits.

"Jesus, like any good fisherman, first catches the fish; then he cleans them."  
—Mark Potter



## New Option to Contribute to the Church

### You can now give online!

For those who have checked out our new church website <https://kennewickfirst.com>, perhaps you noticed in the top right corner of the home page there is a red button entitled "GIVE." If you key on that button, you will be shown another screen that will give several options which are as follows:

1. Give one time or set up a recurring gift (if recurring, you can select every week, every two weeks, every month, or 1st and 15th monthly).
2. Select a starting date and ending date for recurring donation.
3. Designate whether you want the gift to go to the General Fund, Building and Maintenance, or Other (if you chose "Other" you can designate a Transitory Fund such as Pastor Discretionary, UMY Jr. High, or any of the 50 accounts that the church maintains).
4. Provide your cell phone number where a security code will be sent to authenticate the transaction and you will be given a link: <https://pushpay.com/get>. This link will install an app on your phone that will enable a gift via your phone wherever you are located (this app is really slick and highly recommended).
5. Pay by credit card with an option to add 2.2% to cover the card fee or pay from your bank account.
6. Verify the gift and finalize by pressing the "Give" button. A receipt will be sent immediately to your email address.
7. It is a very simple process and works well. A record of your gift goes to the church office where your giving record will be updated. The cell phone app is

very convenient. It remembers your last contribution and personal information and asks if you want to repeat your last contribution or change the amount. You can actually make your gift on your phone while sitting in the pew at church while the offering plate is being passed.

Some of you may feel badly about passing the offering plate without putting anything in it even after you have contributed electronically. Just wave your hand across the offering plate when it passes because God recognizes your gift. Try it. You'll like it!!

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*Online giving is a very simple, convenient process that works well!*

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## HELPING YOU RECEIVE THE CLARION

Are you receiving the Clarion, our monthly newsletter, in the way you desire?

Most people receive it online, while some receive a copy via the US Postal Service. You may be one who receives a copy in both ways, e-mail and "snail" mail. We want to deliver the newsletter in the way that best suits your needs, at the same time being good stewards of our resources, both those of our planet and church. If an electronic version is your preference, but you are still receiving a hard copy, please inform us, and we'll no longer mail you the hard copy version.

We are glad to be able to bring our church news into your home but would prefer to bring it by the one method you most appreciate. Please inform us, through Sunday morning note, phone call, letter, or e-mail.

## ***June Birthdays***

Edwina Kenoyer	1-Jun
Kevin Loomis	1-Jun
Rachel Loomis	2-Jun
Corey Osborn	2-Jun
Rachel Mayhew	4-Jun
Amber (Arnold) McKonley	4-Jun
Brian Bement	4-Jun
Piper Hagen	5-Jun
Walker Taggares	6-Jun
Leslie O'Neil	6-Jun
Tyler George	7-Jun
William Osborn	7-Jun
Kevin Howard	7-Jun
James Dreier	8-Jun
Ann Kelly	8-Jun
Tazmin Milton	10-Jun
Jessica Perry	10-Jun
Dolores Conrad	10-Jun
Hailey Dreier	11-Jun
Kirk Higginson	11-Jun
Mark Harden	12-Jun
Brittany Becker	13-Jun
Brandon Williamson	13-Jun
Gloria Harden	13-Jun
Camden Simmelink	15-Jun
Brandon Mayfield	15-Jun
Jocelyn O'Donnell	16-Jun
Joe Sproul	16-Jun
Jill Door	20-Jun
Vickie Bergum	22-Jun
Melinda Newhouse	23-Jun
Larry Sehmel	23-Jun
Ron Shuck	24-Jun
Becky West	25-Jun
Thomas Cox	26-Jun
Noah Trump	26-Jun
Gloria Weible	27-Jun
Conner Simmelink	28-Jun
Jim Deatherage	28-Jun
Harriet Wilkin	30-Jun
Joel Housworth	30-Jun



## ***July Birthdays***

Maxwell Buchholz	2-Jul
Mary Gadeken	4-Jul
Phyllis Merrill	4-Jul
Mirina Enderlin	5-Jul
Nancy Osborn	5-Jul
Cassie Dauncey	7-Jul
Lori Butler	9-Jul
Angel Trump	9-Jul
Harold Baker	10-Jul
Louise Gustafson	12-Jul
Tim Mowry	12-Jul
Beth Halsey	12-Jul
Alexa Eisenbarth	13-Jul
Lily Bruce	14-Jul
Kaylon Marquardt	16-Jul
Jeanne Alexander	16-Jul
Jim Foster	18-Jul
Dayna Enderlin	19-Jul
Cynthia Bement	20-Jul
Karen Barcot	21-Jul
Seth Solbrack	22-Jul
Jeanette Mitchell	22-Jul
Naomi McDermott	23-Jul
Mary LaMont	25-Jul
Joyce Norman	27-Jul
Jeff Jansen	28-Jul
Dianne Marquardt	28-Jul
Susan Bechtol	29-Jul
Jerry Poole	29-Jul
Susan Urban	29-Jul
Steve Kennelly	29-Jul
Sandy Perkins	30-Jul
Margo Cox	31-Jul





## The Sr. High Mission Trip is Quickly Approaching!

From June 15th to the 23rd, the Sr. UMY youth and their leaders will be traveling to and from and working at Buckhorn Camp in Colorado to help restore a United Methodist church camp, which has been affected by wildfires. The youth will help with construction projects, renovations, and grounds restoration. While a big part of the trip is serving, we recognize where our strength and inspiration comes from, so the group will participate in daily Bible studies and small group, worship, and devotion time. There will also be time for various fun activities! Please keep the Sr. UMY group in your prayers as they prepare their hearts and minds to go on the Mission trip. Please also pray for them while they are on the trip, that they have a fun and safe time of

serving and growth! Thank you again to all of you who helped to make this Mission trip possible. Your generosity and support continues to be appreciated!

## Looking Ahead to the Middler Trip!



The Jr. UMYers and their leaders are traveling to the Spokane and Wenatchee areas for the annual Middler Trip from July 17th – 21st! The Middler trip is designed as a Mission trip training for the youth, and includes team building activities and being in fellowship with one another. The week will include several opportunities for worship, devotion, Bible study, small group time, and fun activities in the Spokane and Wenatchee areas. Please keep the Jr. UMY group in your prayers as the Middler Trip approaches and also while they are on the trip!



**Thank you** for the continued prayers, support, and love throughout the UMY year! Our youth program would not be possible without the love and support of our church family!

The UMY year would also not have been possible without the love and support from all of the adults who volunteered their time and talents to the Jr. and Sr. UMY groups! Thank you to:

*The Sr. High Leaders:* Jim Door, Brandon Elvik, Sherry Elvik, Sierra Hogg, Truman Hopper, Sean Holloway, Lindsay Keel, Danielle Rhodes, and Jeff Varzandeh

*The Sr. High Praise Band directors:* Ryan Coffman and Forest Dexter

*The Jr. High Leaders:* Starlite Buchholz, Cynthia Bement, Forest Dexter, and Dick Nelson

*The Jr. High Praise Band directors:* Cynthia Bement and Forest Dexter

...and Bracken Deatherage, who taught Cornerstone with me!

You all go above and beyond to be helpful and are a huge blessing to me and to the youth! I couldn't do this without you. God Bless all of you!

In Christ,  
*Rachel Loomis*



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

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**Kennewick 1st United Methodist Church**

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

**Summer Worship Schedule**

Sunday Service at 9:45 a.m.  
Nursery provided  
Handicapped Accessible

**Church Office Hours**

8:00 a.m. - noon (begins June 10)  
Monday through Friday

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



Taylor Bailey  
Meghan Chase  
Izaiah Canada  
Victoria Keel  
Maddie Young  
Ezariah Zink



*This issue is a  
combined June and  
July edition. August  
2019 Clarion articles  
will be due on July 20.*