

# THE CLARION

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



As a way of getting to know one another and building friendships, we have begun having a meal together each quarter at Kennewick First. This quarter we will be having a "Thanksgiving themed" meal.



*A Christ-centered, inclusive and loving community*

**November 24**  
**12 noon**

Bring your favorite side dish or dessert to share, and the church will provide the turkey and gravy. Come and join us for a practice run at Thanksgiving dinner to warm up for Thursday's holiday feast. After we finish the meal, we will decorate the church for the Advent and Christmas season. The youth and kids will head downstairs to decorate their classrooms and ministry areas, while the rest of us will help decorate the sanctuary and other areas of the church. Mark your calendars and join us for a fun afternoon of meeting new friends and decorating for the holiday season.

*Live . . . From Kennewick First . . .*

**SNL** **It's Saturday Night Life!**

November 9—Christopher Becker  
November 23—Kristi Miller Myhrum  
Music by Clear Waters & Friends

6 pm at the church!



## Lay Shepherd Training

Please contact Cynthia Bement in the church office if you are interested in becoming a Lay Shepherd. A Lay Shepherd at Kennewick First is a care giver to the soul. Lay Shepherds pray, write caring cards, make hospital and home visits, and make phone calls to parishioners . . . Lay shepherds are free to choose to participate in any or all of these activities. We really need more folks to help care for hearts at Kennewick First, most especially some men to visit men . . . and couples to call on couples.

The training is approximately 3 hours long. Our next scheduled daytime training will be:

Lay Shepherd Training  
November 21  
1:00-4:00 pm

We will host an evening class as needed.

Looking forward to seeing you!

◇◇ Cynthia Bement  
and Naomi McDermott

Daylight Saving Time ends  
at 2 am on November 3—  
remember to turn your  
clocks back!





As of writing this month's newsletter article I have officially been your pastor for 115 days.

When I first arrived I had a rough plan of things to do and learn in my first 100 days. Things like

- ◇ learning and understanding what things are important to the members of Kennewick First. What are we passionate about? Why do we show up?
- ◇ trying to understand the needs and concerns of the neighborhoods and city we are a part of and finding common ground between our passions and those needs.
- ◇ finding a rhythm in worship that connects with my strengths and the patterns our church is used to.
- ◇ but most of all, learning names and faces and slowly training my vocabulary to turn from "you" to "we."

A week ago, we had our Church/Charge Conference. I will fully admit that Charge Conferences and church "business meetings" in general are my least favorite part of being a pastor. It's not that I don't appreciate that they are needed or even the need they fill in the church and the institution. I dislike them because they can so easily become merely "survival strategies" for an institution. Numbers can be "crunched" and policies adopted and motions made that sometimes seem removed from the faces, lives, and community those very numbers represent. BUT Tuesday's gathering didn't feel anything like a "survival strategies meeting" to conserve resources for a failing institution. I left the meeting feeling encouraged and excited about not just our church, but about who we are as a group of people. Sure, there are issues that cause

concern. On the list are things like aging facilities, concerns about how the denomination is going to look in the years ahead, and a neighborhood and congregation that look, act, and value things much differently than we have been used to. But I heard a genuine excitement from those of us in attendance about projects, friendships, and a desire to be a voice of grace and hope in Kennewick. Our staff shared stories of ways our congregation cares for one another, of ways we are in ministry with kids and adults. We read a report from our Leadership Council reminding us why we exist: "We believe everyone is a beloved child of God and can experience God's Spirit. Jesus invites us to be part of a Spirit-filled community and use our time, talent, and treasure to create a world that reflects the reign, justice, and grace of God." That's why we are a Christ-centered, loving, and inclusive community... right?

There is a great story in John Chapter One of Jesus attending a family wedding in a small little town east of Nazareth. At the wedding, the family hosting it ran out of wine, but Jesus quickly stepped in and provided not only what they needed to save their reputation but allowed the celebration to continue. In my brief time with you . . . check that . . . in the brief time WE have been together, I am excited to see a desire and a willingness to be disciples of Jesus in the Tri-cities, a community I have loved since I was a child. And I pray that Jesus supplies all we need to do that and do it with joy!

Here's looking to great days ahead,

*Pastor Mark*





## An Old Fashioned Christmas

is just around the corner! On Saturday, December 7, we'll join the Downtown

Kennewick Hometown Holiday celebration ~ first, by being in the parade at 10:30, then by welcoming the community into our building to share our style of hometown hospitality from 11 am-2 pm. There will be something for everyone - strolling carolers, entertainment, goodies, and more, including a visit with Santa. We'll complete the afternoon by singing Christmas carols together.

Let's show our neighbors some genuine hometown hospitality! We need parade riders or walkers, greeters, singers and security. Contact Sherry Arnold 542-0226.

## May we pray for you?



In addition to the prayer cards in the pew racks, we are also inviting worshippers to the prayer chapel for a time of individual prayer. Each Sunday following worship, the prayer chapel will be available for you to use to pray privately, with someone available to pray over you if you wish. If you would like to assist the Lay Shepherd prayer team by staffing the prayer chapel following services, please contact Cynthia at the church office.

*Generous God, you have blessed me with your loving presence in all life's ups and downs. What can I say but "thank you."*



M&Ms will meet on Monday, November 18, for potluck lunch at noon, when Pastor Mark will be sharing about himself. Bring a dish to share and come enjoy good food, fellowship, and a word or two from Pastor Mark.

We start setting tables about 10. If you have time and are able, your help would be appreciated. Everyone helps with clean up, and we are usually finished by 1:30-2 pm.

Remember, M&Ms will not meet in December; the next get together will be held on January 20, weather permitting. Our January program will feature Joe Lusignan who will be telling us about the Young Marines.

## UMW to Offer Thanks November 20



Women of the church and their friends are invited to join UMW in observing an international Thank Offering at its Wednesday, November 20, meeting.

Joy Circle will provide delicious treats at 10 am for friendship time in the Susanna Wesley Room. UMW members with Thank Offering Boxes, given out a year ago, are asked to bring them.

Plans will be discussed for the Sunday, December 8, Holly Daze encore, and reports for other UMW activities will be offered. President Kathy Wertman will welcome all.



Hello from this year's 2nd Grade Sunday School class— Sawyer, Lily, Ryan, Claire, and teachers Kristi and Starlite. We have had a great

start to the year. Due to the basement renovations, we have been combining with Kinder-1st grade and have enjoyed our time together. 2nd grade is the class of the month for November, and we will be collecting new or gently used coats, hats, and gloves for those in need, so keep an eye out for details on that. We will also be greeters on November 10, so come by and say hi!

## Can you play Piano? or Guitar?

The Children's Sunday School is looking for a new musician to help out during Praise and Song Sunday mornings at 9:00. We usually sing a couple of songs each week and are in need of an accompanist. If that sounds like a calling you would like to pursue, please contact Starlite Buchholz through the church office at (509) 582-2163, or email [starlite@kennewickfirst.com](mailto:starlite@kennewickfirst.com).



## Funday is November 3 and 17!

3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are welcome to join Mikayla and Rachel for an afternoon of devotion, fellowship, games, crafts, and, of course, fun! Meet in the 4th and 5th grade room from noon to 1:30 pm. Bring a sack lunch and your friends!



## BUTTER BRAIDS ARE BACK!

The Jr. and Sr. Highers are selling Butter Braids to raise money for the youth program. The delicious pastries come in an assortment of flavors, including cinnamon, cherry, apple, cream cheese, raspberry, and



more! They can be purchased until November 17 and will be available for pick-up on December 11. Please contact Rachel at (509)582-2163 if you

are interested or order them in the church office. Thank you for your love and support of the youth program!

## Chocolate Advent Calendars



At the Holly Daze Bazaar, the Jr. and Sr. Highers sold chocolate Advent calendars to raise money for the youth program. If you didn't pick one up at the bazaar and are interested in purchasing a chocolate Advent calendar, please contact Rachel at (509)582-2163. Otherwise, we will be selling the remainder of the chocolate Advent Calendars at coffee hour and in the church office until the Advent season begins! Again, thank you for your love and support of the youth program!





## ***Hundreds of Visitors Come to Holly Daze For Fun, Friendship***



The day was windy and rainy, but attendance and spirits were high at Holly Daze, October 19.

Co-chairs Susan Sandmeier and Darryl Vaughn expect revenues, devoted to missions, to equal that of last year's record-breaking bazaar. The bakery was nearly sold out, including a beautiful ceramic child's tea set created by Janet Shelton.

Raffle winners were thrilled. Here is the list:

Seahawks Quilt — Kathy Bryson  
Intarsia Candy Cane Wreath — Mary Gadeken  
Ceramic Santa — Robert Marple  
Coffee Basket — Jo Haberstok  
Wood Holly Wreath — Jen Wichers  
Wood Cutting Board — Tony Riley  
WSU Tailgate Basket — Pat Schou-viller

The potato lunch, offered by Joy Circle, was a big hit. Holiday crafts and decorations drew many expressions of admiration and sold well. Visitors stocked up on Pepiot's Bean Soup Mix, the baking mixes, produce, and plants.

As usual, church members baked up an array of cookies, breads, candy, and cakes to help Tuesday Morning Circle fill the shelves in the Susanna Wesley Room. Also, the 50 delicious apple pies went quickly.

Vendors, who displayed their crafts, were pleased with the turn out, and United Methodist Women, who staged the event, sold an array of kitchen utensils.

Funds raised by UMW at Holly Daze support orphans, youth activities, and a dozen local and non-profits, including Grace

Clinic, My Friend's Place, Second Harvest, and Tri-City Gospel Mission.

The special annual bazaar is only possible because of the efforts of many church members and the wonderful leadership of Susan and Darryl. That is why UMW president Kathy Wertman says a happy thank you to all who stepped forward again this year. Your efforts will make a difference in many lives.



## **Prayer Shawl Makers to Meet**

The beloved Prayer Shawl group, led by Pat Walker, will meet at 10 am Saturday, November 2, in the Reception Area at church. Invite your knitting and crocheting friends.

Pat and her assistants, Janet Shelton and Annie Baker, welcome new or experienced knitters and crocheters to come to meetings the first Saturday of each month. They have patterns for both knitting and crocheting to share. Or, bring new yarn or patterns to be considered.

Shawls, blessed at church services, are offered to those who would like one for themselves, for a family member, or for friends or strangers, nearby or far away. And always, a few are kept in the church office for those who stop by for one.



"Do your little bit of good where you are; it is those little bits of good put all together that overwhelm the world."

—Bishop Desmond Tutu



Nathan Preston	1-Nov
Dallon Hare	2-Nov
Paige Phillips	2-Nov
Danielle Rhodes	3-Nov
Cynthia Glazier	5-Nov
Christian Tenney	5-Nov
Ruth Anderson	6-Nov
Michael Zabel	7-Nov
Joline Board	10-Nov
Gene Wertman	12-Nov
Patricia Cochran	13-Nov
Matthew Elvik	17-Nov
Cierra Faught	17-Nov
Agnes Mowry	18-Nov
Brooke Flodin	18-Nov
Nicole Loomis	19-Nov
Carol Kerkow	19-Nov
Ryan Coffman	20-Nov
Sierra Shiple	20-Nov
Jean Faught	21-Nov
Craig Mayfield	21-Nov
Tanner Butler	21-Nov
Lee Simmelink	23-Nov
Megan Austin	23-Nov
Jane Hunt	24-Nov
Randy Bement	24-Nov
Kayla Ebberts	24-Nov
Jared Hanson	25-Nov
Jolene Kuhns	28-Nov
Mary Lynn Arter	28-Nov
Mona Miller	28-Nov
Trevor Troxel	28-Nov



## IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

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

Ron Baker, Bob Scott, Shelby Faught, Peggy Snyder, Carol Hardacre, Jordyn Andrews, Kirk Higginson, Juli Reinholz, Julie Logan Hooley, Anita Knight, Joan Osborne, Pat Phillips, Terry Simmelink, Jennifer Bateman, Donna Troxel, Norma Williams, Don Meyers, Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, and our District Superintendent, Rev. Joanne Coleman Campbell.



### UMW Woman of the Year Announced

Peggy Puryear, long-time excellent editor of

The Clarion, is UMW's Woman of the Year.

UMW president Kathy Wertman presented the award and flowers to her during the October 13 church service in recognition of Peggy's service.

As with other church groups, UMW depends upon Peggy to get the word out on meetings, Holly Daze workshops, special activities, and missions. Every month, Kennewick First members look forward to The Clarion for what we need to know about our church, our friends, and outreach into the community.

All in UMW salute Peggy and are grateful for her dedication to this church and its missions.



The Church Leadership Council has had a busy and productive year. We met monthly through much of the spring to keep up the momentum associated with the

transition of pastors. We said goodbye to Pastor Jerry Poole in June 2019 and welcomed our new pastor, Mark McMurray, in July.

In July, our leadership council met with Pastor Mark and we reconfirmed our simple governance structure, and the council has returned to quarterly meetings. Pastor Mark has initiated separate meeting opportunities to gather programmatic leaders and administrative leaders once per quarter to promote coordination of programs and ministries.

This October, the leadership Council had our annual fall retreat. At last year's retreat we developed the vision statement: "We are a Christ-centered, inclusive and loving community." This year we continued our work and developed the "Why" behind the vision for our church. We believe that everyone is a beloved child of God and can experience God's spirit. Jesus invites us to be a part of a spirit-filled community and calls us to use our time, treasure, and talents to bring about a world that reflects the reign, justice, and grace of God.

I believe God is at work in our church, and I look forward to where God's spirit leads our congregation regarding our spiritual growth, our worship, our service, and our friendships. I invite you to join me in listening for where God's spirit is calling you and Kennewick First.

*To God be the glory,  
Jill Berg,  
Lay Leader/Chair of Council*



If you have visited the church during the past couple of weeks, you have probably noticed the

dank smell. If you also visited the Wesleyan Rooms in the basement where many of our Sunday School rooms and the Youth Chapel are

located, you have seen the damage caused by the flooding from several weeks ago. This has been a wake-up call to us to realize that our facilities are aging and require much more maintenance than in the past. The waste water lines that have been in place over the years are made up of a combination of clay, cast iron, ABS and PVC sewer pipe and are in various states of decay. We are currently surveying the sewer system to determine what type of piping is located at what locations and the condition of the piping. We also have learned that much of the old flooring in the Wesleyan Rooms contains asbestos. Insurance is covering only a portion of the expected expenses (those areas directly damaged by the flood event). The remaining costs borne from asbestos removal and reflooring are the responsibility of the church.

The Facilities Team is doing a great job of getting the problems identified and prioritized and contractors secured to restore the use of our facility. They are developing a plan to resolve any systemic issues with the plumbing system of our church. The expenses are large. You can help cover the remediation of our facility by designating extra mile contributions to the BMR Fund (Building Maintenance and Repair). The flooding has been an unpleasant surprise. However, we all have to realize that our facilities are aging, and preventative maintenance and repair expenses will continue to rise as we try to keep our facilities in good condition. We solicit your support.

Dear Friends,

God works in mysterious ways. By now most of you have heard of the basement floods and some of the associated issues that have resulted. I would like to borrow some of your time and briefly describe the obstacles and share some insight that may not be readily apparent.

Our basement has suffered 3 major and 1 minor flooding events since May of this year. The first event was comparatively minor in that it affected only a small portion of the basement. The damage was mostly contained to the newer restroom at the bottom of the stairs and a smaller area in the Wesleyan Hall. This flood was quickly noticed and contained. Thus, the comparatively minor damage. The water was considered a Class B biohazard and the affected area needed to be decontaminated and restored before we could re-use the area. During the restoration process, the Facilities Ministry Team elected to install a wastewater clean-out in order to better access the plumbing from the affected area. This event was caused by human factors, but during the restoration it was noted that the wastewater system of the church is in various states of decay. Processes have been identified and plans made to minimize future systemic impacts.

The second flood occurred during the Women's Walk in late August. This event was caused by systemic factors and was much more severe. The primary flood area was in the Women's Restroom in the NE corner of the basement and Class B biohazard water reached into the Wesleyan Hall, Youth Chapel, Hallway, Superintendent's Office, and Youth Storage Room. The Walk organization and the Facilities Ministry Team attempted to isolate the leak but were unsuccessful due to the age of the main isolation valve (it would not completely close). The damage was much more considerable, water had seeped below the floor tiling which would require the removal of the tiling in order to completely decontaminate the area. Prior to removal, the tiling was tested for asbestos. The tests returned positive. This led to a "slow down" of the restoration. Members of the Facilities Team, Administrative Council, the Church Insurance Company, and the Restoration Company met to determine the scope, schedule, and budget for the project. Restoration work could not be started until the asbestos abatement was completed. The abatement process could not be started until the scope and costs were determined by the insurance company. Once these issues were identified and resolved, the work of restoring the basement was initiated (around the middle of September).

During the restoration process, two other leaks (1 minor and 1 major) were identified and fixed. Both leaks were caused by the age and decay of our system. Restoration work is continuing and is expected to be completed by the first week in November. I would like to publicly thank and acknowledge the work of Marco – Zion Restoration, Inc., Ivan – VIP Construction, and Jeff – Express 24 HR. Plumbing, the Facilities Ministry Team, Administrative Council, and the Youth Directors.

Now for some insight. With God's help, our church has continued our various ministries and programs. The Women's Walk, Soul Soup, Holly Days, Youth Group Activities, Adult and Youth Sunday School Activities, Ministry Team Meetings, Saturday Night Life, Sunday Services, and an All Church Conference have continued. Our community outreach programs have continued, including providing space for the Boy Scouts and an NA Group, and hosting a Disaster Preparedness Class, as well as a strategic planning event for the Benton County Historical Society. Personally, my faith that all things are possible through God has been re-affirmed. Our church body has rallied and kept the faith by continuing to do God's Work, even during our flooding debacles. As a result, we are taking advantage of opportunities to improve our systems and programs. We are resilient.

Thanks for all of your patience.

Davey Hare





Kennewick First UMC has preordered tickets for the  
Phil Wickham Singalong Tour  
with Kim Walker-Smith and Mack Brock on November 16!

In order to reserve your ticket, contact Rachel at (509)582-2163 ext. 110.  
Tickets cost \$20. On November 16, we will meet at the church at 6 pm  
and then ride the church bus to Bethel church, where we will have the opportunity to worship together! I hope you can join us!

Some of the music that Phil Wickham sings includes:

This is Amazing Grace  
Till I Found You  
Cannons

We will be singing other popular worship songs by other artists as well!



## A feast of praise

Throughout the Bible, God's people give thanks and praise for his goodness.



*Directions: Draw lines to match the scriptures (all NIV) with the correct speaker.*

"I thank my God every time  
I remember you." Philipians 1:3

Hannah

"My soul glorifies the Lord and  
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior."  
Luke 1:46-47

David

"He is my God, and I will praise  
him, my father's God, and I will  
exalt him." Exodus 15:2

Mary

"My heart rejoices in the LORD."  
1 Samuel 2:1

Paul

"I will praise God's name in song  
and glorify him with thanksgiving."  
Psalm 69:30

Moses

Answers: Philipians 1:3, Paul; Luke 1:46-47, Mary; Exodus 15:2, Moses;  
1 Samuel 2:1, Hannah; Psalm 69:30, David



Start a fun tradition by playing  
this game on Thanksgiving.

### What you need:

- M&M's or other colored candies
- A bowl
- The list below (adapt the colors, as needed)

**Red:** a need God has  
provided for

**Orange:** a gift you've  
received

**Yellow:** something you've  
recently learned

**Green:** something in nature

**Blue:** a special memory

**Brown:** someone you love

### What you do:

1. One at a time, people pick a candy and share what they're thankful for (according to the color).
2. Pass the bowl around and continue reflecting on God's goodness until all the candy is gone!



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

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**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

**Worship Schedule**

Sunday Services at 9 and 10:30 am  
Sunday School at 9 am  
Nursery provided  
Handicapped Accessible

**Church Office Hours**

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

8 am - noon on Fridays

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



**Alpha & Omega**

Alpha and omega are the first and last letters of the Greek alphabet. As John of Patmos greets the seven churches in Asia, he writes:

“‘I am the Alpha and the Omega,’ says the Lord God, ‘who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty’” (Revelation 1:8, NIV). “The Alpha and the Omega” is a metaphor that points to God’s eternal nature.

**Upcoming  
DEADLINE**

December 2019  
Clarion articles will be  
due on  
**November 20.**