

## **Upcoming Events:**

### **Sunday, February 9: Sweetheart Social, Noon - 2 PM**

The Jr & Sr UMY invite you to the Sweetheart Social in the Fellowship Hall. Come enjoy dancing and music from past decades! Sandwiches and beverages will be provided. Please bring a side or dessert to share. Guests are welcome!

### **Saturday, February 22: Saturday Night Life, 6 pm**

Rachel Loomis will be the speaker and music will be provided by the Saturday Night Players.

### **Wednesday, February 26: Ash Wednesday Service, 6 pm**

Join us as we enter the Lenten Season for an Ash Wednesday Service. Traditionally Christian communities have gathered 40 days before Easter (not counting Sundays) to observe Ash Wednesday. We will gather here at KFUMC to observe this special service and be reminded of our own frailty and mortality and embark on the journey of Lent together.

Hi Friends,

Some important things going on this week at Kennewick First. On Sunday please remember that our Youth Group will be hosting our "sweetheart social" this Sunday after church. You don't have to have a sweetheart present to attend, just join us to listen to some fun music, find a dance partner if you like and share a meal with some great friends here at church. The Youth group will be providing the main dish, so bring your favorite side dish and/or dessert! If you ride one of the church buses to worship, we will be having buses available to take you home after the event if you would like to stay and participate!

The Youth group wanted to let you know that the congregation helped to donate nearly \$500 (\$498.51 to be exact) to local food banks on "Souper Bowl" Sunday. Thank you for your generosity!

Please be praying for our staff at Kennewick First, as we will be on our staff retreat Friday and Saturday at Twinlow camp in Rathdrum ID. We will be spending time together bonding as a team and working together to be in ministry together. We are incredibly fortunate to have the staff we do, and I am so grateful for each of them and the hard work they do on our behalf!

Finally, I received a notice from our District Superintendent about an opportunity being offered to people connected to our local United Methodist Churches who are interested in serving in leadership:

### **SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR LEARNING OR SHARPENING YOUR SKILLS TO BE A LEADER IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH SETTING**

*Are you being asked (or called) to consider assuming a leadership position in your church, one for which you may never have dreamed or asked, or one that is calling to you from within your spirit? Perhaps you are being asked to help lead worship, but you don't feel comfortable reading the Bible out loud. All the names and places that are hard to pronounce always come when you are leading, don't they?! Or after years of avoiding saying "yes" the time has now come when you feel you need to respond affirmatively for leading a work area or even the council/board of the church.*

*Is your church looking for new ways to do great ministry with fewer people, fewer dollars, and you are feeling the need to lead, speak and care for others in your church when you least feel prepared to be that leader? It certainly is possible to learn how to step into these roles with confidence, humility, and grace. Maybe you or someone you know needs a tad of training and a boat load of encouragement. Here's that opportunity.*

*The Lay Servant Ministries of the United Methodist Church, through the Discipleship Resources has produced a set of study books and we have the opportunity to form groups that can study together in person or through phone or computer (on-line) accessible opportunities. The time seems right to begin to explore together how we can continue to Be the Church right where we are, even in the middle of all the change in the world, our homes, families and communities. The first class is an overview of the types of Lay Servant Ministries trainings available: learning to Lead, to Care, and to Speak. There is a very good beginning to this class that helps us understand how our Methodist history, our doctrines and essential elements of faith come together to help lead us as we learn to become better disciples, people who help others become disciples, for the transformation of the world.*

**SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY FOR LEARNING OR SHARPENING YOUR SKILLS TO BE A LEADER IN YOUR LOCAL CHURCH SETTING**

*The sessions can be planned around the number of people who want to explore together, and around the distance between one another. There would probably be a 1-2 hour introduction (online or via cell phone), then a 2 week time of study on your own or in small groups locally, followed by a group meeting in person, with one last 1-2 hour (online or via cell phone). About 7 hours of group time, 5-10 hours of self-study, reading and reflection, total. Yes, there would be driving to at least one meeting that might be in another town, but fellowship, fun and food make all things better, right? Everything else can be done on your time.*

**WHAT DO WE NEED TO KNOW NOW? WHAT DO YOU NEED TO DO?**

*Let us know you are interested.*

*(Before February 14 please indicate interest. We won't begin until March)*

- *Let us know your name and a good contact phone and email if you have one.*
- *Let us know where you live and what church you attend and volunteer for.*
- *Let us know if these times work:*
  - *A weeknight time of 1-2 hours for phone conferences (7 PM – 9 PM probably)*
    - *Which nights work best (please give more than one option)*
  - *A Saturday (or Saturday evening to Sunday noon) for the group meeting*
- *Do you have access to either cell phone coverage or internet and a computer/tablet/phone?*

*You may reply by email or by phone to:*

*Rev. Kim Poole (just "Kim")*

*Pastor of Methow Valley UMC in Twisp*

*Cell phone: 580-732-0330*

*Email: poole.kim@gmail.com*

*Or mail:*

*PO Box 854*

*Twisp WA 98856*

*I hope you can take advantage of this opportunity!*

*See ya in Church my friends!*

*Pastor Mark*