

Upcoming Events:

Monday, February 17: Church office closed in observance of President's Day

Monday, February 17: M&Ms Potluck, Noon

Saturday, February 22: Saturday Night Life, 6 pm, Youth Chapel

Wednesday, February 26: Ash Wednesday Service, 6 pm

Hi friends,

I want to give a HUGE "Thank You" to our youth group who put on such a wonderful "Sweetheart Social" for us last Sunday! What a great time of sharing lunch and dancing the Hokie Pokie together! Thank you, Rachel, youth volunteers and youth group for putting that together for us!

In the spirit of Valentine's Day, I thought I'd share an "old preacher's story" ... "Driving through Southern California, I stopped at a roadside stand that sold fruit, vegetables and crafts. As I went to pay, I noticed the young woman behind the counter was painting a sign. 'Why the new sign?', I asked. 'My boyfriend didn't approve of the old one,' she said. When I glanced at what hung above the counter, I understood. It declared: Local Honey Dates Nuts."

Ba Dum Bump... I'm here all week... don't forget to tip your waitress...

I heard from our very own Kathy Bryson, who serves the PNW Conference of the United Methodist Church as our Early Response Coordinator. Kennewick First was a drop off point for a truck carrying two pallets of "Flood Buckets" from the United Methodist Committee on Relief Depot in Salt Lake City to help with clean up after flooding in Walla Walla County. Dave Hare and Bob Kelly took our Church trailer down to Walla Walla Thursday afternoon and delivered the buckets. (THANK YOU, DAVE AND BOB!) Kathy notified me that the American Red Cross (ARC) is setting up a "**Multi Agency Response Center**" (or MARC) at the **Walla Walla Fairgrounds pavilion this Friday, Saturday and Sunday (Feb 14, 15, 16) from 10 am - 5pm.** ARC case workers will be onsite as well as volunteer organizations providing information and resources for recent flood survivors. The PNW UMC Disaster Response has been invited to participate and distribute the UMCOR "Cleaning Kits" that arrived at KFUMC this morning. ARC anticipates 100-200 people will attend though they admitted the numbers could be lower.

We are looking for UMC volunteers to staff our table. I've done this before and know that most coming to the MARC will be in some stage of trauma. Volunteers with experience, as Stephens Ministers, medical professionals, or have worked in first response, disaster response and/or relief professions would be the best fit.

THIS IS A VERY QUICK TURN AROUND TIME SINCE I JUST RECEIVED THE NEWS TODAY, but if you would like to volunteer to help **call Kathy @ (509-539-2978) or email her at (brysonpnw@gmail.com) by Friday afternoon.** She will confirm your time slot and fill you in on details.

We're looking for two minimum, no more than three volunteers per shift. The morning shift will be 10 am - 1:30 pm, afternoon shift 1:30 pm- 5:00 pm.

Just a quick reminder to check out the Church web page and calendar (www.KennewickFirst.com) for upcoming events and activities in the week ahead.

See ya in Church my friends!

Pastor Mark