

THE CLARION

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



Hi friends,

In almost 25 years of being an ordained United Methodist minister, I have spent lots of time, read many books, taken and taught graduate level classes, trying to understand what the church truly is. If the last month during the Covid 19 pandemic has taught us anything, it is that the Church is not simply a building or a worship gathering on Sunday morning. What we are rediscovering is that the Church is a community of people led by, and bonded together by, the power of the Holy Spirit. In this community we find a way to: worship together, serve others, grow in our spiritual lives and create meaningful friendships with one another. Finding ways to continue these functions of the Church have certainly been a challenge lately, but I am encouraged that we have continued to care for those friendships with one another and to find creative ways to worship God together, serve those who need our help, and grow in our faith while doing it. My prayer is that as we move back into a normal routines of life together, we will not lose the desire to be a Church that does these things and that we will continue to be a Church that creatively works to accomplish those goals.

With that in mind, I'd like to share an idea that was batted around in our Emergency Planning Team meeting. As we were talking about how we will begin to put normal routines in place when we are given the "all clear" to meet in person for worship, we realized that for a few weeks we will need to take precautions to keep each other safe as we ease back into life together. One precaution we thought might be appropriate is to have masks available for people to use as they chose and take home with them after



A Christ-centered, inclusive and loving community

our first few worship gatherings together. I know many of us have been sewing masks and donating them. The Benton Franklin County Health Department web page states:

"CDC does not routinely recommend the use of face masks by people who are not sick—either in the home or other community settings—as a means of avoiding infection from COVID-19.

Use of face masks by people who are ill: The use of face masks by ill people might be recommended during a severe pandemic when crowded community settings cannot be avoided.

Another example of when a mask might be appropriate is when ill people are in close contact with others and share common spaces. Face mask use by ill people might protect others from infection in these situations."

Our hope is to avoid a situation where someone may not know that they are sick
(continued on page 2)

Kennewick 1st United Methodist Church

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

Worship Schedule

Sunday Service at 10:30 am via
YouTube at <https://www.youtube.com/user/PiratesoftheColumbia/featured>

www.kennewickfirst.com
facebook.com/KennewickFirstUMC

From the Pastor *(continued from page 1)*

and may accidentally spread the virus. If we wear the masks, the risk of accidentally spreading the virus decreases. With that intent, we would like to set a goal of having 300 masks on hand for people to wear as they choose, when we begin to ease back into our routines of meeting in person. Our hope is that if you are in a high risk category you would use your best judgment when returning to large groups once the “stay at home” order has been lifted. Furthermore, we hope that none of us would knowingly put anyone at risk and that we would put every possible safeguard in place to keep us all safe.

If you would like to make masks and donate them toward the effort, you can download a pattern here: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/downloads/DIY-cloth-face-covering-instructions.pdf>.

Once you make 10 masks or more, call or email the church office and we will give you instructions on how you can put them on your front porch in a plastic bag for us to come by and pick up.

The masks are a simple project, but it gives many of us an activity to do, and a tangible way to help us stay as safe as we can as we prepare for the other side of this pandemic. Thanks for considering helping in this way.

Thank you my friends for all you have done for one another during this unusual time and for striving to “Be the church” not merely “Go to church.”

Now go wash your hands!

Pastor Mark



“Where flowers bloom,
so does hope.”
—Lady Bird Johnson

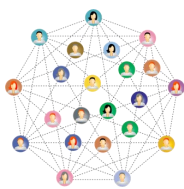
Not a great deal to report with shelter in place in effect. Soul Soup continues with sack lunches being the only option that



works given social distancing and no gatherings allowed. In the five weeks we have served this way, we have had 23, 50, 60, 28, and 42 guests. The lunch bag contains a bottle of water, sandwich, apple, bag of chips, granola bar, and rice crispy treat plus anything else that is donated. Many of the prepackaged items are being donated via Bethel Church, which has set up a collection system. We have seen 3 or 4 families each week along with many homeless. Please keep these all in your prayers. Audrey and Cory Manley have been dedicated volunteer sandwich makers!! Many have asked how to help Soul Soup, and I suggest donations to the food bank instead. Due to generosity from so many, Soul Soup is financially sound so it makes sense to help at the food banks.

George Block and Dennis Arter also contributed two refurbished computers to Kennewick Kiwanis, which then makes them available to Amistad Elementary School. Working with the school counselor and the Community in Schools leader, the computers go to families who don't have them to assist their children with school work. So far this year, 12 such computers have been donated to Amistad via KFUMC and Kiwanis. The counselor reports that much of her time is now spent finding food for families out of work due to so many closed businesses. Hard times for them all. Another group to keep in our prayers.

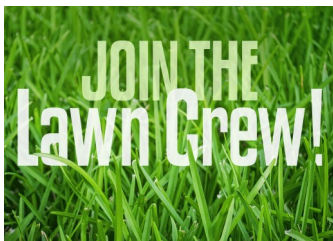




UMY and Funday Update

Thank you for the continued prayers for the United Methodist Youth and their leaders! We are continuing to be in community with one another several times a week on Zoom for Sunday school, youth group, and hangouts. The Youth Sunday School teachers, Brittany Becker and Jim Door, have continued to teach Sunday School with me on Zoom. We have enjoyed playing a scavenger hunt, trivia, Pictionary, Paint Night, we have baked Communion bread with one another, and in the future will do pancake art and make a quarantine time capsule! The 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders have also been meeting weekly on Zoom with Mikayla for Funday and have enjoyed playing games and being in fellowship with one another! Please keep the Fundayers in your prayers as well as! We love seeing each other on Zoom and I am enjoying the opportunity to deliver weekly devotions on Zoom, but we look forward to the day that we gather in the Youth Chapel and in the Ida Payne Fellowship Hall to worship and spend time with one another! Thank you again for all of your continued prayers!

In Christ's Love,
Rachel



Lawn mowing season has begun! If you're interested in spending a couple of hours a week or month, working at the church, there are many opportunities on the church grounds. Whether we are able to meet or not, regular mowing, tending flowers, weeding, raking and other jobs all contribute to keeping our campus healthy & beautiful!

The Church has tools for use; should you or someone you know wish to serve in this manner, please contact Bob Arnold and he'll get you set up.

With enough interest, teams will be formed, and a rotation created. If you'd like to be part of a team, (currently lawn care team works on Friday mornings usually about 2 hours: 9-11 am), contact Bob Arnold (509) 542-0226.

Praying for You and Yours

And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people. Ephesians 6:18

Our prayer chain is active and ongoing! Please continue to send your prayer requests to Cynthia@kennewickfirst.com or leave them with Cheryl by calling the church phone number 509-582-2163. You may leave a private request for the Pastor only, or one that can be shared on the prayer chain. If you are making a request that is not for you or a family member, please use the person's first name only to ensure we are respecting privacy.

If you would like to pray for the congregation and others, please let Cynthia know so that she can make sure to send you a copy of the weekly prayer chain e-mail. Let us continue to keep on praying for all the Lord's people!



MAY Birthdays

Linda Tucker	02-May
Lynnaie Wright	02-May
Debra Williamson	02-May
Brandon Elvik	05-May
Patrick Bannworth	05-May
Mikayla Mason	05-May
Joshua Troxel	05-May
Don Meyers	06-May
Joan Osborne	07-May
Darlene Nelson	07-May
Shelby Faught	07-May
Nathaniel Door	07-May
Nickolas Wilhelm	07-May
Joe Mosebar	09-May
Kiauna Canada	09-May
Rylee Mason	09-May
Larry Berg	11-May
Kasey Crowner	14-May
Gunnar Glazier	14-May
Tom McDermott	17-May
Shane Shiplet	17-May
Cory Hare	17-May
Ryan Shiplet	18-May
Kathy Meline	19-May
Austin Door	23-May
Molly Buchholz	23-May
Jeanette Hummel	25-May
Raygen Woodford	27-May
John Hunt	29-May
Russ Bechtol	29-May
Heather Ramirez	29-May

Early June Birthdays

Edwina Kenoyer	01-Jun
Kevin Loomis	01-Jun
Jill Nelson	02-Jun
Rachel Loomis	02-Jun
Amber Arnold	04-Jun
Brian Bement	04-Jun
Walker Taggares	06-Jun



IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

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

Ron Baker, Shelby Faught, Jean Faught, Evelin Choate, Kirk Higginson, Rita McElroy, Muriel Smith, Juli Reinholz, Anita Knight, Joan Osborne, Pat Phillips, Terry Simmelink, Jennifer Bateman, Donna Troxel, Peggy Snyder, Don Meyers, Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, and our District Superintendent, Rev. Joanne Coleman Campbell.

Congratulations . . .

On Wednesday, April 8, Karlie (Barcot) and Brandon Hatch welcomed Scout RubyAnn, 8 lbs, 15 oz, 22 inches long! Cards may be sent to Brandon and Karlie Hatch, 2295 S 200 E Apt 3, Salt Lake City, Utah 84115.



“To the world you are a mother, but to your family you are the world.”
—Adapted from Dr. Seuss

HAPPY
Mother's Day

Congratulations, Seniors!

United Methodist Youth Class of 2020

To our Seniors,

We have loved watching you grow at Kennewick First, in faith, in wisdom, and in character. As you continue your journey with Christ, we pray that you always know that you are a beloved child of God and that you can do all things through Christ because of the strength that comes from Him. You will always have a home at Kennewick First. We love you and are so proud of you! Congratulations on your graduation!

In Christ's Love,
Your Kennewick First Church Family



Mikayla Bateman
Kennewick High School

"My favorite memory would have to be on our mission trip to Portland where we all played in the escape room together and had Cheesecake Factory right after!"



Adam Berg

Richland High School

“One of my fondest memories of my church tenure was on our last mission trip to Colorado. We were having our fancy dinner and my glorious friend Daniel Thein was sitting next to me and we were thoroughly enjoying having our leaders, Jeff and Sean, serve us food. Little did they know that Daniel and I were very picky eaters at the time; generally, we don’t really care what we eat, but it just so happened that on this night our palates were very particular. We continued to ask for things that we knew they did not have and signaled “Waiter!” more than the average person would. We did thank them for the hours and hours of work they put in to cook our already-made dinner by the camp staff. Dinner was good. Then came dessert, which I can only describe as the most refined desert I’ve ever had. We were offered three flavors of ice cream: strawberry, vanilla, and chocolate. As they handed us our flavor, we looked down upon the elegant beauty of the ice cream. The small plastic cup glistened with condensation and the wooden spoon on the lid of the ice cream was a cool balsa wood flavor, which complemented my choice of chocolate. After all was said and done, we had to help tear down the beautiful plastic tables as well as their decertifications, and we finally relented to let our leaders eat.”



Ayra'Zonna Kennedy

Kennewick High School

“Through all my years of UMY I have accumulated many fortunate memories from going on mission and Middlers to just crazy game nights in the Youth Chapel. It’s hard to pick just one, but the one that I will hold closest to my heart is the Portland mission trip. That trip was full of belly laughs and many hours of playing Phase 10. Kennewick First has always been good to me, and I am thankful for all the happy memories I will cherish forever.”



Ethan Nelson

Hanford High School

"My favorite memory is being able to help people while having fun at the mission trips!"



Walker Taggares

Richland High School

"I have so many amazing memories with UMY it's hard to pick only a few but if I must...the most vivid would have to be confirmation, the whole experience was transforming. I also for some reason loved the annual pumpkin patch adventure so much. Trunk-or-treat, vacation Bible school, and helping with yard work all stand out, too. But I must say my favorite memory was when we were serving at the California Dream Center during a mission trip and we spent the evening celebrating the senior class on the Santa Monica beach.

I'm thankful for the leaders, too! Merrienne, Brittany, Jim, Kayla, Rachel. However, Cynthia and Pastor Jerry were and still are a huge support to me.

Thank you!!"



Daniel Thien

Chiawanna High School

"My favorite memory from UMY is Rock-a-Thon, when we would stay up all night in rocking chairs. I remember all the board games we would play with each other and struggling to stay awake when we watched movies. The last couple hours would always be so hard because the rest of church would be there and we were so close to going home so we could sleep, but it was always a great experience."

Jasmine Urban

Hanford High School



Wherever You Go

Graduations bring a commencement, or beginning, of new things.

In 1990, Dr. Seuss published *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* This popular graduation gift tells in Seuss' inimitable style of all life's possible ups and downs, twists and turns. There will surely be excitement and slumps, fun and loneliness, purpose and confusion. And, yes, fear: "There are some [things], down the road between hither and yon, that can scare you so much you won't want to go on."

The sheer determination of the storybook's life-traveler moves him beyond trouble and fear. But God's children don't have to go it alone. Life cannot take us anywhere God hasn't been first. Furthermore, he walks beside us on every winding path and around every corner.

Graduates — and all Christians — can trust in the promise of Joshua 1:9 (NIV): "Be strong and courageous ... for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."