

THE CLARION

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



Vacation Bible School

Due to recent events, KFUMC will not host a traditional VBS this summer. Instead, this year we will be handing out back-to-school backpacks along with VBS materials and activities to do at home. If you were a student in Sunday School this year (toddler - 5th grade), we will be reserving a backpack for you.

Bags will also be available to the local community for ages preschool through those entering 6th grade. There will also be a limited number of Toddler bags available to the community as well.

Distribution will take place in August, please keep a look out for the official date and time.

School Supplies Needed!

We have a goal of supplying over 250 backpacks for VBS this year and need your help to fill them!



Here's how you can help:

-You can make a special cash donation to VBS, and we will use your donation to purchase supplies. You can do this via Pushpay by typing in VBS in the "other" section (you can find Pushpay on the Kennewick First website). You can also mail a check with a note indicating that you want your



A Christ-centered, inclusive and loving community

donation to go toward school supplies for VBS.

-Later this summer when school supplies start hitting the shelves, you can start collecting items. We will then find a safe way to collect them from you and get them added to the bags. This may be in the form of a pick up or a special drop off day at the church.

-For those wanting a stay-at home option, you can always order supplies on-line and have them shipped directly to the church office (421 W Kennewick Ave). Please make the office aware of the expected delivery date.

We will be accepting any items the kids can use at home or school: crayons, scissors, glue sticks, ruler, notebooks, pencils, calculators, etc.

Kennewick 1st United Methodist Church

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

Worship Schedule

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

Church Office Hours

8 am - noon
Monday through Friday
BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



One of my favorite books of the Bible is the story the Apostle Luke wrote to record the earliest days of the Christian Church which we have named “The Acts of the Apostles” (or Acts, but it might more correctly be named the “Acts of the Holy Spirit”... but I digress). In this book, we see the message of the Gospel of Jesus, a message about forgiveness, grace, sacrifice, justice, and love, begin to replace an understanding of God as Lawgiver, wrathful, judgmental, and legalistic.

In truth, I think we begin to see the origins of the church when Jesus meets two men on the road to Emmaus. That story, told in Luke 24, recounts that Jesus ... “²⁵ said to them, “How foolish you are, and how slow to believe all that the prophets have spoken! ²⁶Did not the Messiah have to suffer these things and then enter his glory?” ²⁷ And beginning with Moses and all the Prophets, he explained to them what was said in all the Scriptures concerning himself.”

Jesus “explains” to them... gives them a new understanding... of what the message God has been delivering for centuries all the way back to Moses and the prophets is truly about. The message of a suffering servant, sacrifice, and grace. In the 17th Chapter of Acts we have a story about a group of people called the Bereans. We don’t hear much about them. There is a reference in the Old Testament that tells us that they sent soldiers to help King David, but in the Acts passage we read, “¹⁰ As soon as it was night, the believers sent Paul and Silas away to Berea. On arriving there, they went to the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ Now the Berean Jews were of more noble character than those in Thessalonica, for they received the message with great eagerness and examined the Scriptures every day to see if what Paul said was true. ¹² As a result, many of them believed, as did also a number of prominent Greek women and many Greek men.” Why do I bring this up you may ask? The phrase

“more noble character” is intriguing. What makes their character more noble? Why were they so willing to hear and believe a new understanding of God like those men on the road to Emmaus? I think it is because they “studied the scriptures everyday to see if what Paul said was true.” I think their eagerness to hear the message of Jesus was because they read the scriptures (which, I might add, were only the history and prophets of the Old Testament at that time) to see if Paul was speaking truth... rather than reading scripture to justify the tradition they had been given.

I’m a firm believer that the scriptures of our Holy Bible are divinely inspired to give us God’s message of truth and to impart an understanding of who God is and who we are. It is always a challenge to read those sacred words with a heart open to God’s truth, especially when we have so many religious, national, and geographical traditions that affect our understanding of... well... everything. My prayer is that we would all be more like the Bereans; reading and hearing the words of Scripture with a heart open to truth that reveals the Gospel of forgiveness, grace, sacrifice, justice, and love.

See you at church my friends!

Pastor Mark



Please continue to keep the Jr. and Sr. UMY and the youth group leaders in your prayers as we continue to meet on Zoom during this season and plan for alternative summer opportunities.



On June 19, we were advised that our grant application to UMCOR for \$20,000 to assist the Boys & Girls Club with its project to feed 116

families has been declined. According to the notification, UMCOR has been overwhelmed with grant applications from around the world and is trying to have a positive impact on the most serious issues being submitted. We are disappointed but understand. We will try to find other ways to assist with this vital work. If you feel moved to help financially, you can donate to the Boys & Girls Club of Benton & Franklin Counties on-line at <https://greatclubs.org/>.

Check out what Starlite has to say about VBS – we are trying a new team approach to reach kids on the Amistad neighborhood through our revised VBS program with backpacks, VBS materials, and school supplies.

We continue to support iMPACT Compassion Center which is continuing its work with its clients. Executive Director Jennifer Felicitas reported the following to Sherry Elvik: “We have been operating this whole time, but have limited our in-person life guidance services until some of the social distancing restrictions are lifted. We still give out resource information (although most non-profits have been closed) and essential supplies. We can always use financial support to help with outreach and operations costs, as well as hygiene (shampoo, conditioner, soap, deodorant, toothpaste, tooth brushes, baby wash, feminine hygiene, hand sanitizer), cleaning supplies (laundry soap/pods, fabric softener, multi-purpose cleaner, dish soap), diapers, wipes, backpacks/duffel bags for homeless, non-perishable food (peanut butter and jelly, tuna/canned meat, canned fruits and vegetables, soups), bread, pasta sauce, noodles, cereal, and portable snacks for home-

less.” For more information, go to their website at: <https://impactcompassioncenter.org>.

We are excited that our church’s re-opening plan has been approved and look forward to moving to Phase 2 so the committee can look at a real meeting for ministry planning.



Faithful knitters and crocheters are using the extra time at home to make prayer shawls for church members, their

families, and their friends in the community.

Pat Walker, UMW's program resource chair, leads the Shawl committee. She welcomes being contacted for a shawl, or they are available at the church office, which is now open Monday—Friday, 8 am to noon; please call ahead for an appointment.

Also, Pat has yarn and instructions for anyone ready to create a shawl with love and prayer.

Her assistants, Annie Baker and Janet Shelton, are knitting every day. When it's possible, there will be a happy reunion workshop for them, Pat, and the rest of the committee.

And, don't forget, Pat also has UMW reading books to share.

“If you want to touch the past, touch a rock. If you want to touch the present, touch a flower. If you want to touch the future, touch a life.”

—Author unknown



 **JULY**
Birthdays

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

 **Early AUGUST**
Birthdays

Karen Green	1-Aug
Hailey (Boice) Vander Malle	1-Aug
David Thien	1-Aug
Daniel Thien	2-Aug
Mark McMurray	3-Aug
Rachel Cochran	3-Aug
Helen Mitchell	4-Aug
Dorothy Block	4-Aug
Eula Hagen	4-Aug
Maggie Dean	4-Aug
David Brown	5-Aug
Sydney Howard	5-Aug
Amanda Nelson	6-Aug

 **Thoughts and Prayers**

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

Ron Baker, Shelby 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.

Please continue to pray for the families and friends of those who have entered into eternal rest . . .

Gayle Adams Canada
Rev. Bruce Cornely
Nancy Lawrence

. . . and for all those families across the globe who have lost loved ones due to the Coronavirus infection.



Matt and Brooke Kaiser, along with big sister Paige, welcomed baby girl **Elliott Lynne** into their family on June 3. Mama and baby are doing well. Miss Elliott entered the world weighing 6 lb 7 oz and is 20 inches long with dark curly hair. Proud grandparents are Jim and Linda Deatherage and thrilled uncle is Bracken Deatherage.

Congratulation to Connie and George Boice, who celebrated 60 years of marriage on June 24!



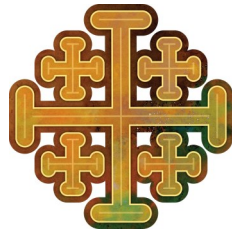


Trustee's Corner

Over the course of the past several months, while the church & church office have been closed to “in-house” meetings, a group of willing participants have been contributing their time and efforts to maintain the church campus by keeping the lawns mowed and edged and our sprinkler system operating. They’ve also weeded flower beds, trimmed trees, picked up trash, and swept sidewalks. Though they do these things to demonstrate their caring and concern for our church, it certainly wouldn’t hurt to let them know how much it is appreciated!

Steven Tucker and grandsons Josh & Sam Cowell
Rich Nelson
Darryl & Linda Lamberd
Dave & Mona Miller
Cory Manley
Gene Wertman
Bob Arnold

Jerusalem Cross



This complex cross, also called the Crusader’s Cross or Fivefold Cross, has several interpretations. The main cross is composed of four tau (T) crosses representing the Old Testament law. The four small Greek crosses symbolize the fulfillment of the law in the gospel. The five crosses together represent the church’s mission: to spread the gospel to the four corners of the earth. They’re also said to symbolize Christ’s five wounds (hands, feet and side).

All Church Camp Out



August 7-9
Hood Park

Plan to join the church family for a fun weekend of camping at beautiful Hood Park campground near Burbank. Everyone is welcome to come and hang out and worship, 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.

The re-opening phase that we are in on the campout date will dictate what activities we can participate in together. Note: If we do not receive at least 5 registrations for the campout prior to July 15th, the camp out will be cancelled.

For more information, go to kennewickfirst.com, **Links & Forms**, and then scroll down to **Miscellaneous**; click on **2020 Church Camp-out Form**.

Campout Schedule of Events

Friday afternoon after 2 pm – Campers may begin arriving and setting up

Friday evening at 7:30 pm - Stories and s’mores (depending on phase)

Saturday afternoon 1:00-4:00 pm - Water fun with kayaks, swimming, and boating

Saturday evening 6:00 pm—BBQ in the campground - lemonade provided...please bring a salad or dessert to share (depending on phase)

Sunday morning at 9:45 am - Worship in the park Amphitheater (depending on phase)

Sunday by noon—must be checked out of campground



Racial Justice Advocated By UMW

In this challenging time of national upheaval, it is important to remember that UMW created and supports The Charter for Racial Justice. In 1980 UMW successfully recommended adoption of the charter by the Methodist General Conference.

Local units of UMW, including at Kennewick First, pursue programs and missions to fight racism. Nationally, UMW recognizes that in the 21st Century, Christians living in this country are heirs to the legacy of racism.

UMW asks that, as Christians, we assess racial justice issues in our community, state, and nation. Our local unit also strives to learn about laws that limit the rights of immigrants, minorities, and the poor to public education, social services, and jobs.

Eddie Kenoyer, our own social action chair, presents a UMW program annually on Racial Justice.

More information on UMW's worldwide efforts for human equality is available at <https://www.unitedmethodistwomen.org/>.

Want an Upper Room?



The Upper Room daily devotional for July/August is now available. Please contact the church office at 509-582-2163 or email Cynthia@kennewickfirst.com if you would like one mailed to you.

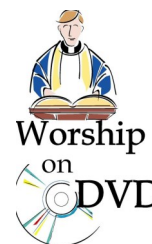


We want to pray for you!

Just a reminder...if you have a prayer request or joy to share, please contact the church office at 509-582-2163 or email Cynthia@kennewickfirst.com. Our prayer team and Lay Shepherds want to support you in this way.

Worship DVDs

If you are not able to receive livestream (online) Sunday morning worship services, but have a DVD player, please contact the church office at 509-582-2163 or email Cynthia@kennewickfirst.com and we will begin mailing them to you.



THE WEIGHT OF HATE

Word lovers, delight! The lexicon has tongue-twisting terms that describe hatred for just about anything.

According to Mental Floss, if you're a misodotakleidist, for example, you hate practicing the piano. Misogelasts hate laughter, while misopogonists hate beards and misophonists hate certain irritating sounds. There's even a word for someone who hates hatred (in the form of war or strife): a misopolemist.

Some of these words may make us smile, yet hate is deadly serious. No matter the target, hatred weighs us down and distracts us from Godly living.

That's why Paul instructs followers of Jesus to "put away from you all bitterness and wrath and anger and wrangling and slander, together with all malice" (Ephesians 4:31, NRSV). Once that hateful weight is gone, we'll be freed up to "be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven you" (verse 32).