

# THE CLARION

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



## Children's Sunday School starts September 13

Sunday School for ages 2 years old through 5th grade will meet over Zoom each Sunday at 9 AM starting September 13. If your child has attended Sunday School in the past, we will be emailing you a Zoom link. If you do not get the link or if you are a new family and want to join in, please contact Starlite Buchholz at [starlite@kennewickfirst.com](mailto:starlite@kennewickfirst.com) or call the church office at 509-582-2163. We are continuing with the Gospel Project, a curriculum that has been walking us through the Bible for the last few years.

### *Special Dates this Month*

Patriot Day, September 11  
National Grandparents Day, September 13  
Hispanic Heritage Month, Sept. 15–Oct. 15  
First day of autumn, September 22

#### **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



*A Christ-centered, inclusive  
and loving community*

## The Breakfast Club

Young Adults are welcome to join Rachel Loomis on Zoom for Bible study time, prayer, and fellowship. Please feel free to grab your favorite morning beverage and breakfast food while we gather together! The Breakfast Club will be meeting every other Sunday at 11:30 AM, beginning September 20.

For more information about The Breakfast Club and how to get the Zoom link, please call the church office at (509)582-2163 or email Rachel at [rachel@kennewickfirst.com](mailto:rachel@kennewickfirst.com).

We are so excited to be starting this Young Adult group and can't wait to see you!

*For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others.*

—Romans 12:4-5



“Every tomorrow has two handles. We can take hold of it with the handle of anxiety or the handle of faith.”

—Henry Ward Beecher



Hi friends!

As I sit down to write this month's note, I have officially become a full-time resident of Kennewick! Over the last few weeks, I've made several trips back and forth to Spokane to get my wife, Jennifer, and daughter, Adeline, with all the "stuff" that Jennifer and I have accumulated over our years together. I remember when everything we owned fit in the back of a Pontiac hatchback! I'm so happy to be back in the Tri-Cities, a community I have always considered home, and to be serving a wonderful congregation like Kennewick First for another year.

Because of the obvious limitations on holding large gatherings, our Annual Conference meeting has been postponed to early September and will happen in a virtual way to accomplish the work that we need to get done. As I was registering for that online event and reflecting on the miles I have driven back and forth to Spokane, I was reminded of another long traveling week some years back that revolved around our Annual Conference meeting in Puyallup. On that trip, I made the trek to the west side of the state and made a quick one-day stop in the Portland/Vancouver area to see some good friends. I drove about 1300 miles and was behind the wheel of my trusty Dodge Dakota for about 16 hours (and astride a friend's Ducati motorcycle for another 300 miles while in Vancouver!).

Anyway, travel, especially driving, for me is an interesting endeavor. While being alone in a car for long periods of time tends to spark my creativeness, it can also numb other parts of my brain. Have you ever had that sensation of driving for a while and then realizing you don't remember any of the last 30 minutes while you were on cruise control pounding miles under your wheels?

I had a similar experience on that trip. While traveling through the Columbia River Gorge, I stopped at one of my usual pit stop spots, the Chevron at Hood River. It was still early so I got a coffee and that perfect breakfast food, Chocolate Fudge Pop Tarts! I got back on the road and headed east. About an hour later, I had finished one of my Pop Tarts and started to grab the second one from the pouch, but it was gone - I had already eaten it! The problem was I was so distracted by driving and thinking about other things I didn't remember eating it! I didn't even get the satisfaction of my Pop Tart!

When we are a church, it's easy to be distracted by a variety of things that shout for our attention and resources, and we can easily forget the reason we are a part of it. It's easy to grow numb to the joy that surrounds being part of a community of faith like ours. And especially in challenging times like these when we have been meeting together in virtual ways, the novelty of those gatherings starts to wear off and it's easy to forget why Kennewick First is such an important place . . . let me rephrase that because we have all been learning that Kennewick First isn't merely a place, it's a . . . Thing . . . a community . . . a relationship that is strengthened and bound by the Holy Spirit and our desire to be disciples of Jesus.

As fall rolls in and we begin the hard work of restarting our programs in new and creative ways, my hope is that we would all be reminded of what it's like to be welcomed by friends, new and old, and surrounded by a caring community that tangibly and practically displays the transforming love of God to us. I hope you join us in whatever capacity you can, whether it be attending a virtual Bible Study or joining us for Sunday worship on YouTube (by the way, there is no rule that says you have to participate at 10:30 AM; you can tune in anytime . . . even in your pajamas if you like!). I hope we are reminded what a wonderful place . . . Thing . . . community . . . Kennewick First can be!

Now, go wash your hands!

*Pastor Mark*

# UMY Orientation

Welcome to UMY! Youth programs at Kennewick First UMC offer opportunities for 2-year-olds to 12<sup>th</sup> graders to learn and practice Christian principles and participate in fun activities. It is our goal to provide a safe and structured environment where the children and youth feel welcomed and loved by the Lord and their teachers and leaders. In an effort to keep everyone safe, our children and youth will be meeting virtually on Zoom until further notice.



Jr and Sr UMY Orientation for teens and their parents is on Sunday, September 13! From 3-4 PM on that day, participate in the drive-thru packet pick-up at the church parking lot where you will collect one item from each leader. Please wear a mask and stay in your car. Then, from home that evening, join the Zoom meeting to see one another and discuss the packet, UMY registration, and additional information. The Jr UMY Zoom Orientation will be from 6-7 PM and the Sr UMY Zoom Orientation will be from 7-8 PM.

If you have not yet received the link for the UMY Zoom Orientation or know someone who would like to register for UMY, please call the church office at (509)582-2163 or email Rachel at [rachel@kennewickfirst.com](mailto:rachel@kennewickfirst.com).

Thank you to our amazing youth group leaders for serving the Lord and our youth program! Our youth are blessed to have such loving and fun adults to nurture and lead them in their faith and during this season.

Jr UMY leaders are: Mikayla Bateman, Starlite Buchholz, Sean Holloway, Nicole Loomis, and Dick Nelson.

Sr UMY leaders are: Jim Door, Sherry Elvik, Sierra Hogg, Sean Holloway, Danny Kuby, Kiauna Kuby, and Jeff Varzandeh.

Please continue to keep the youth and leaders in your prayers as we begin the 2020-2021 UMY year! We are thankful for all of your love and support and could not do it without you.

In Christ's Love,

*Rachel*

Director of Youth Ministries



## FUNDAY

3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> graders are welcome to join Rachel and Gracee on Zoom for an afternoon of devotion, fellowship, games, crafts, and of course, fun! We will meet together every other Sunday at 12:00 PM, beginning September 13.

If you have not yet received the link for Funday or know someone who would like to register for Funday, please call the church office at (509)582-2163 or email Rachel at [rachel@kennewickfirst.com](mailto:rachel@kennewickfirst.com).

We are so excited to start the Funday year again! See you soon!

In Christ's Love,  
*Rachel & Gracee*



### Hello from the 3rd Graders!

We are so excited to be starting up our year in Sunday school virtually! As in the past, our third graders will receive their Bibles in the month of September! Please pray for Ryan Angelo, Claire Phillips, Sawyer Glesener, and Lily Lehrman as they continue to learn and grow in faith, accompanied on this journey by their new Bibles and teachers Linda Hawley and Sierra Hogg! We can't wait until we can see everyone in church again!



## VBS – Back-to-School Backpacks

Thank you for all the financial contributions and donations of school supplies for our VBS/Back-to-School backpacks. We were able to fill 300 bags with school supplies, VBS crafts, and snacks! We had a great turnout for the giveaway on August 19, and many families in our community were blessed. Thank you again for your support. We have such a wonderful church family, and it was gratifying to be able to come together in this way and help those in need.

## JEAN LUCKE WILL BE CELEBRATING HER 95TH BIRTHDAY ON SEPTEMBER 18

Jean Lucke was a long-time member of our church for over 50 years. She and her brother, Bruce, moved several years ago to the Odd Fellows Home in Walla Walla.

Jean was an active member of United Methodist Women (Esther Fellowship) and served on many committees. When day Fellowships met in the homes, Jean's farmhouse was so warm and inviting and her luncheons were always special with delicious home-made cookies and fresh-picked fruit.

**Let's shower her with birthday cards** and well wishes for her 95th birthday. She is such a sweet lady and enjoys phone visits too.

Her address is:

534 Boyer Street #301  
Walla Walla, WA 99362  
Phone: 509-524-4861



# SEPTEMBER

## Birthdays

Dean Mitchell	1-Sep
Robin Chase	1-Sep
Kennedy Taggares	1-Sep
Rick Kerkow	2-Sep
Rebecca Hildman	4-Sep
Sherry Arnold	4-Sep
Kristie Myhrum	4-Sep
Geneva Nevius	5-Sep
Deanna Dreier	7-Sep
Barry Merrill	10-Sep
Halley Becker	10-Sep
Nicholas Haberling	11-Sep
Jasmine Urban	11-Sep
Robert Basche	14-Sep
Annie Baker	16-Sep
David Miller	16-Sep
Cheryl Nixon	16-Sep
Daisy Buchholz	16-Sep
Marti Meyers	17-Sep
Tim Anderson	18-Sep
Bethany Dauncey	18-Sep
Karen Pfeiffer	19-Sep
Matthew Denise	21-Sep
Juli Troxel	21-Sep
Brad Bement	25-Sep
Marshall Westerfield	25-Sep
Ayra'Zonna Kennedy	25-Sep
Wesley Leathers	25-Sep
Evelin Choate	26-Sep
Steven Meline	30-Sep

## EARLY OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Hannah Mowry	1-Oct
Ethan Collins	1-Oct
Adam Berg	3-Oct
Ema Bruce	4-Oct
Deana Ahrend	5-Oct
Brooke Varela	5-Oct



## IN OUR Thoughts and Prayers

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

Ron Baker, Evelin Choate, Jordyn Andrews, Kirk Higginson, Rita McElroy, Muriel Smith, Juli Reinholz, Anita Knight, Joan Osborne, Pat Phillips, Terry Simmelink, Jennifer Bateman, Joe & Jolene Kuhns, Donna Troxel, Peggy Snyder, Don Meyers, Gweneth Russcher, Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, and our District Superintendent Rev. Joanne Coleman Campbell.

*Please pray for the family and friends of those who recently entered life eternal . . .*

**Don Worden** passed away peacefully at his home in Burbank on July 29. Cards may be sent to: Family of Donald Worden, 612 W. Sunset Drive, Burbank, WA 99323.



Amberley and Marshall Almarode welcomed their new son, Peter Jonathan, on August 6. Peter weighed 6 lbs. 9 oz and is doing great! Congratulations to the Almarodes!

The family of Joyce Edwards is pleased to announce the 2020 recipient of the Joyce Edwards and Family Music Scholarship, **Mikayla Bateman**.



Congratulations to this wonderful Kennewick High School graduate! Mikayla will be attending CBC to begin her studies in elementary education. She is a blessing to our church family with her presence and discipleship. Way to go, Mikayla!

Thank you to all who contribute to the scholarship fund!





## Our UMW UMW Still Trying To Meet 2020 Goals

UMW members are hopeful to meet their basic goals for the year, even though they have not been able to meet since early Spring.

Kathy Harris, UMW treasurer, says dues and other financial gifts from church members are being sent to her. Members of Joy and Tuesday Morning Circles may want to check with their officers about pledges.

UMW's 2020 budget includes local support for Grace Clinic, Tri-Cities Union Gospel Mission, Second Harvest, My Friend's Place, Boys and Girls Club, Cork's Place, and the Chaplaincy.

UMW also gives funds to our church's work, including \$2400 to youth activities and camperships, the Pastor's Discretionary Fund, and Piecemakers. More than \$7,000 is also budgeted for missions throughout the world.

Without the huge input from annual Holly Daze sales, it will be difficult to complete the budget this year.

Although the 2020 bazaar has been cancelled because of Covid-19, Holly Daze chairs Susan Sandmeier and Darryl Vaughn are striving for an abbreviated event. The church's many crafters and artists are continuing to work for this key UMW fundraiser.

Kathy Wertman, our UMW president, stays in contact with members and encourages others to reach out and offer friendship in this difficult time.

Nationally, UMW supports projects that benefit women and children and programs that never discriminate based on faith, ethnicity, race, or gender.

UMW's Harvest of Justice runs from Labor Day to World Food Day, October 16, and is a time for members to discuss the impact of climate change on farm workers. September also marks the Season of Creation, an ecumenical time to renew our relationship with the Creator and all creation through prayer and action for the earth.

Dennis Arter has completed the refurbishment of 2 laptops that will be donated to

Amistad Elementary School and

given to families that need a computer. Not sure of the exact count, but about 17 or 18 computers have been refurbished and donated thus far (also thanks to George Block). With school being virtual again this Fall, computers and internet access are critical to learning opportunities. Grades K to 2 will not have Chromebooks available until mid-November at the earliest. We have asked the principal to let us know if there are things we might be able to provide that will assist this age group as they start school. Just like the backpack giveaway, this could be a great way to assist our neighbors and make new friends.



Soul Soup continues each week and our numbers are increasing. The last two weeks we have had at least 57 guests, up from the 30-40 we had been seeing. We had our first homeless family with a new baby in August. They had just lost their housing. We provided information to Columbia Industries Empowerment Place, which can assist with housing, job searches, and other social services. Please keep all of those living without housing in your prayers.

# The “Prayhouse”

By Cynthia Bement

Psalms 71:18

*Even when I am old and gray,  
do not forsake me, my God,  
till I declare your power to the next  
generation,  
your mighty acts to all who are to come.*

Boardman, Oregon in the 1960s and 70s was not the thriving little city it is today. In fact, I remember the original town of Boardman, before it was moved to its current location as a result of the dams being erected along the Columbia River. I spent a lot of time in Boardman where my grandparents and many family members lived and where my mother grew up. The time I spent visiting my grandparents there could have been very boring (hence the nickname Boredom, Oregon), but I had grandparents who knew how to play . . . and how to pray! We played nonstop at our grandparents home with one exception: Sunday. Sunday morning was for church, afternoon was for dinner with prayer and then a drive for an ice cream cone at the C & D drive-in. In the late afternoon, play could resume.

Children who came to visit my grandparents' home had access to tricycles and scooters, trucks and digging equipment, a variety of dolls and buggies, acres and acres to run, hoses and metal tubs for water play, clothesline and blankets for building forts . . . and a playhouse! The playhouse was an old coal storage building that my grandpa updated and transformed and that my grandma decorated and filled. It was magical to all of us who got to play in it!

My grandparents understood the importance of play and that children learned and practiced life during play. We were taught how to play as they played alongside of us and taught us to take good care of the toys. Dolls were treated like people, and riding toys and trucks like automobiles. If we couldn't play respectfully with a toy, we didn't get to play with it and it was put away for a short time. We played make-believe restaurant, school, church, town, and house in the playhouse. It was a wonderful place to be creative, and the older I get, the more appreciative I am.

Because of the rich experiences of that time, I knew in my heart that when I became a grand-

mother (YaYa to my granddaughters), I would have a playhouse for my grandchildren. While I could not replicate what my grandparents lovingly provided for all of us, I came up with my own vision, one that would honor them and the Lord. And so, Randy and I are taking our turn to mentor playing and praying, as my grandparents did, with a play place at our home that we hope is an opportunity for treasured play and experiences for our granddaughters. We call it the “Prayhouse” because it looks like a white country church in our yard. Thanks to Dave Hare, it even has a child-size pulpit and altar table.

The first Sunday morning after the little chapel was built, with coffee in hand at 7:00 AM, we trekked out to the the prayhouse because our excited granddaughters could not wait to go play! Their parents, Uncle Brian, and Randy and I took our seats in the child-size chairs and pew and watched as 4-year-old nightgown-clad Camryn stepped up to the pulpit and preached. I'm not sure why we were surprised that she seemed to know what to do. I thought that the beautiful pieces of furniture that Dave created for the prayhouse were more about decorating the tiny church, but I was quickly reminded that children observe everything, and because she has attended church, she knew what the pulpit was for!

I learned from my grandparents the importance of playing and praying and how closely related they are. How daily living is an act of worship. That mentoring and teaching others about life and faith is important. That stepping away from our own agenda by honoring God with regular worship attendance at church on Sunday is a beautiful gift. I also learned that each generation has the joyous and loving opportunity to continue teaching and training the generations that follow. May we always honor God.

*Teach them to your  
children, talking  
about them when you  
sit at home and when  
you walk along the  
road, when you lie  
down and when you  
get up.*

Deuteronomy 11:19

