

# THE CLARION

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



Join our church family for Christmas Eve Services! Celebrate the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ, at either our 4 p.m. or 7 p.m. service. These services will also be available by livestream.



Join us at 6 p.m. on Thursday, December 16, for our Advent/Christmas Sing-along! We'll be gathering in the sanctuary, or you may tune in to the live stream. Either way, you'll be able to request the beloved songs and hymns of the season that you would like to sing once again, rejoicing together as we celebrate that God is with us! Lyric sheets will be available in the sanctuary for those who choose to attend this event in person. For those who participate via the live stream, the lyrics will be posted on the KFUMC website and songs may be requested in the live stream chat area.

## Advent/ Christmas Sing-Along



*"What can I give him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; if I were a wise man, I would do my part; yet what I can I give him: give my heart." (Christina Rossetti)*

December

2021

*A Christ-centered, inclusive  
and loving community*

# Funday

On Sunday, December 12, and Sunday, December 19, 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are invited to meet in the 4th and 5th grade room for an afternoon of devotion, fellowship, games, crafts, and of course, fun with Rachel and Gracee! We will meet together from 11:15 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Bring a sack lunch and your friends!



There will be no Children's Sunday School on December 26.



## Holly Daze Encore Is Here!

*Holly Daze Encore*

Looking for a gnome or a delicious sweet for Christmas? You're in luck! There is still time to order for the holidays at Holly Daze Encore. Through December 8, see the myriad of gifts, decorations, and treats at UMW's Internet site using this link: <https://www.facebook.com/mlarterwa>.

Scrumptious food items available include fruit-filled coffee cake, rum balls, truffles, cranberry-nut bread, brown bread, bean soup, bean soup with cornbread mix, fruity rice mix, oatmeal raisin cookie mix, and chewy brownie mix.

Orders can be picked up at church from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Saturday, December 11.

Holly Daze chairs Susan Sandmeier and Darryl Vaugh suggest you check out the Facebook site soon as many items sell out quickly, especially the treats. If you need help accessing the site or would like to talk with someone personally, contact Susan or send questions about specific items on the Facebook site.

UMW thanks church members and the community for supporting Holly Daze. All funds raised go for church, local, national, and international missions.



## UMW Members, Friends To Celebrate Christmas



UMW will gather on December 15 at 10 a.m. in the Susanna Wesley Room to share the joy of Christmas! Women of the church and their com-

munity friends are encouraged to share in the holiday festivities.

Phyllis Koschik is planning a special program celebrating the birth of Jesus. Marlene Jelsing will play carols; expect a surprise or two as well! Of course, there will be holiday treats.

UMW officers for 2022 will be introduced. A preview: UMW is grateful that Kathy Wertman has agreed to continue as president.

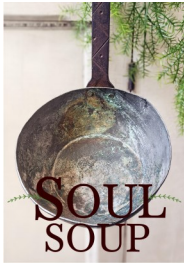
UMW's two friendship circles will also meet in December: Joy Circle on the night of the 9th and Tuesday Morning Circle on December 14. For details, contact Debie Britton (Joy) or Nancy Russell (Tuesday Morning).

Our UMW's sharing budget was approved by members in November. Thanks to Holly Daze, cutlery sales, Pepiot's bean soup mix, and member gifts, a total of \$12,145 is expected to be dedicated to missions and UMW work.

More than two dozen church, community and international humanitarian groups will be supported next year. Also included are camperships for our youth and donations to Grace Clinic, Second Harvest, Grace Kitchen, the Boys and Girls Club, and numerous other caring groups.

Nationally, UMW in the name of Jesus takes positions on social justice issues and works to change legislation, systems, structures, and practices considered unjust and oppressive. In the past, Methodist women advocated to end lynching, improve women's health, raise women's status in society, and organize for fair wages and benefits for families.

Today, UMW continues to work to end maternal mortality, attain a living wage for all, interrupt the school-to-prison pipeline, ensure energy that is just for all, and support the Charter for Racial Justice.



The Soul Soup crew served a takeout dinner on Thanksgiving Day at our normal time of 5 p.m. The meal was hot and included turkey, mashed potatoes and gravy, dressing, and green beans. Delicious pumpkin bars were served

for dessert.

We are consistently serving 40 to 55 meals each Thursday. This includes some takeout meals each week for those who cannot attend for whatever reason. With the onset of colder weather, we are giving out bedrolls, blankets, gloves, hats, scarves, and disposable plastic ponchos. Fortunately, we are being provided with lots of blankets and quilts that are lovingly made with our guests in mind. On November 18, we gave out 5 quilts, two blankets, and three bedrolls. Blessings to all the saints who are making the quilts, blankets, and bedrolls. You know who you are –

First Presbyterian church volunteers visited us and brought a check for \$500 to assist with this ministry. They choose different ministries and non-profits in the community to contribute to on a regular basis, and Soul Soup was the most recent recipient.

Please continue to pray for this ministry and for our guests. Their lives are hard on so many levels.



“God goes to those who have time to hear him — and so on this cloudless night he went to simple shepherds.”

—Max Lucado

## January World Relief Collection



In the past, the congregation has collected needed items for World Relief in January and will do so again this year. The agency has been mostly shut down for the past 2 years with no refugees entering the country. In all of 2021, they welcomed 50 people to this area. For 2022, they are expecting 70 Afghans and 220 other refugees. So far they have received 5 Afghan refugees and planned to welcome 23 more before Thanksgiving. The agency seems to be working with the Tri-Cities Afghan Resettlement Support group, and the same interpreter is being used by both groups, which allows for coordination of available items from each group.

Some of the needed items would be difficult to collect at the church (furniture), but there are many items which church members can bring to the welcome area or to the church office. These requested items include:

- ◇ utensils and cookware
- ◇ sheets and blankets (queen or twin)
- ◇ towels
- ◇ Laundry and cleaning supplies
- ◇ diapers
- ◇ gift cards to Winco or Walmart
- ◇ men’s winter coats

Starting in January, there will be a large box available in the welcome area where you may leave your donations. If you are not attending in-person church, please take your donations to the church office. Let’s all support this important mission for World Relief.



By Cynthia Bement

flying reindeer, and an elf on the shelf, which can be magical and fun! I believe that Santa exists because not only have I received letters from Santa, *I've visited him at his house!* He lives at the Santa Claus House, at 101 St Nicholas Drive, North Pole, Alaska, and you can visit him there every day (except Christmas, when I'm sure he's getting a well-deserved nap)! As a child, the oats and carrots that were left for the reindeer on Christmas Eve were gone in the morning, and all that remained were reindeer hoof prints in the snow!!

While I enjoy the magic, love, and giving spirit that encompasses all things Santa, Santa is not where I place my trust. And while I believe the shiny things of this world exist, I don't put my trust and hope in them either. They are fleeting and easily pass through our hands, gone forever. Belief in Jesus is much, much more than a passing nod to His existence. The word "believe" is a verb, and the action of belief in Christ means to place our confidence and trust in the truth of Jesus Christ and who He is.

Advent is such a beautiful season of hope! It is a time set aside to be intentional about the One in whom we believe, the One in whom we place our trust.

During Advent, I would like to encourage you to ponder Jesus as a baby and the mystery that surrounded His humble existence. From the beginning, His life was in question and often in peril. But God, in His great wisdom, devised an astonishing plan, so that Jesus grew to manhood and overcame the world to give us life everlasting -

From greeting cards to home décor to advertisements, the word "Believe" is all around us - it is the word of the season. Children "believe" in Santa,

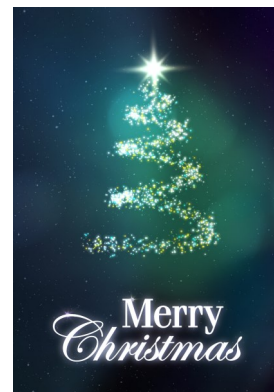
the gift that we enjoy the moment we put our trust in him, the moment we begin to believe.

Invest your life in the One to whom the Wise Men brought gold as a child, the One who is the True King, but who never lived like an earthly King. The One who knows your name and your heart and who gave His life so that you and I might live. There is nothing more powerful than God's love for His children, not darkness, war, famine, hatred, or evil. We are never more safe than we are when we choose to believe in and entrust our very lives to Him.

When we rest on Christ's love and care for us, we find that His ways and His desires become our own. As we grow in our faith, believing more and more in Christ, we may find ourselves naturally becoming everyday Santas . . . giving away what we have, bringing joy to all, spending time with others, and asking questions like "what would you like me to bring you?" - for those are *exactly* the things that Jesus would do. You know, it just might be possible that Santa learned to be a good giver from Jesus!

*Jesus answered and said to them, "This is the work of God, that you believe in Him whom He has sent."*

*John 6:29*





John Harden	1-Dec
Margaret Beesley	2-Dec
James Marquardt	7-Dec
Noelia Haberling	7-Dec
Val Alderson	9-Dec
John Cochran	9-Dec
Betty Baumann	10-Dec
Annika Noel Tenney	11-Dec
Audrey Manley	12-Dec
Holli Williams	13-Dec
Erica Ewing	13-Dec
Ty Haberling	14-Dec
Tom Yount	14-Dec
Joe Buchholz	14-Dec
Carol Kerkow	15-Dec
Marcus Wertman	15-Dec
Sean Holloway	17-Dec
Michelle Botu	19-Dec
Alice Loomis	21-Dec
Ron Baker	23-Dec
Joyce Scott	23-Dec
Kathleen Bryson	23-Dec
MikeThien	23-Dec
Colin Wertman	24-Dec
Claire Phillips	26-Dec



Pete Baumann	4-Jan
Kara Morris	5-Jan
Karen Alley	5-Jan
Deana Harden	5-Jan



*Please pray for those in need of healing, comfort, and encouragement and for those whose loved ones have recently passed . . .*

Altha Perry, Ron Baker, Evelin Choate, Jordyn Andrews, Kirk Higginson, Rita McElroy, Muriel Smith, Joan Osborne, Pat Phillips, Terry Simmelink, Jennifer Bate-man, Jolene Kuhns, Peggy Snyder, Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, and our District Superintendent Rev. Daniel Miranda.



Long time church member **Dolores Conrad** passed on November 9. Please keep her son, Kurt, and other family and friends in prayer.

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*Whatever happens today, dear Lord, help us remember that you are present. If we find ourselves in the shadows of disappointment or rejection or pain, let us see your comforting light. If we're in the radiant light of success or acceptance or wholeness, may we acknowledge your providence and grace. Wherever we are, grant us the assurance of your nearness. Amen.*



**Kennewick 1st United Methodist Church**

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

Sunday School—9 AM  
Worship Service—10 AM

Church Office Hours  
8:30 am - noon and 1 - 4 pm  
Monday through Thursday  
8 am - noon on Fridays

www.kennewickfirst.com  
facebook.com/KennewickFirstUMC

# All Church Gingerbread House Building EXTRAVAGANZA!



Sunday, December 19 at  
11:30 a.m. following Worship  
Ida Payne Fellowship Hall

Each person will get to build their own Christmas Cottage made from pop tarts, frosting, and candy!!

The church will supply all your building materials if you pre-register by calling the church office at 509-582-2163

Or by registering online at

<https://rsvp.church/r/yYVuCL14>

YOU MUST BE PREREGISTERED BY December 15  
to participate!

Please feel free to eat in advance or bring a sack lunch

Project Managers for the build will be  
Cynthia, Rachel, Cindi, & Michelle

