

THE CLARION

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



*A Christ-centered, inclusive
and loving community*



"Pillars of Faith" Lenten Devotionals

Good news! The Lenten season of 2022 will be enriched by the publication of a Lenten devotional booklet, which will be available to the KFUMC congregants at no cost.

For this year's devotional booklet, Phyllis Koschik has compiled a number of offerings that appeared in booklets from past years, all of which were written by KFUMC "Pillars of the Faith" who have passed on. What a joy it will be to read these devotions again, remembering these dear friends and being strengthened by their faith and wisdom.

Phyllis, with help from Cynthia Bement, Jim Deatherage, and Barb Helton, is working to complete this project. The booklets will be ready for distribution at the worship service on Sunday, February 27, in time for Ash Wednesday, which is on March 2 this year.

We are forever grateful to Phyllis for her faithful work to bless us with these devotionals. Wherever you are on this journey of life, our prayer is that these meditations will nourish your soul and strengthen your faith.



This month

African American History Month
Valentine's Day, February 14
Presidents Day, February 21
Transfiguration of Our Lord, February 27



2022

Soul Soup

Despite the rising number of cases and infection rates of the Omicron variant of COVID 19 virus, Soul Soup has continued to serve 25 to 40 guests each week. We are providing masks as needed, including N95 masks (a gift from Lynnaie Wright). We practice the same COVID protocols at Soul Soup as we do in our worship services (masking, social distancing, sanitizing).



Gloves, socks, hats, bedrolls, and blankets continue to be in demand along with a good meal. We have benefited from donations of canned and prepackaged foods for distribution along with our weekly supply of fresh bread products from Panera.

Please keep our guests and volunteers in your prayers as we all attempt to avoid exposure to the virus and its consequences.

The Apostle John reminds us: "My dear children, let's not just talk love; let's practice real love. This is the only way we'll know we are living truly, living in God's reality." *1 John 3: 18-19, The Message*

God, when you call me to a task this month, help me to respond like Isaiah: "Here am I; send me!" (6:8).



World Relief Donations

We would like to thank everyone who responded to the call for World Relief donations as the agency welcomes Afghanistan (and other) refugees to the area. During the month of January, we posted needs of the agency to which you responded with donations of gift cards, cash, sheets, blankets, towels, cleaning supplies, and more. World Relief is very grateful to our church and other area churches that are providing what is needed to re-settle the large numbers of refugees coming to the Tri-Cities. In the October 2020 through September 2021 year, World Relief received only a small number of refugees compared to what they will receive in the October 2021 through September 2022 time period.

Here is the response from the director of World Relief when asked about where the agency is in terms of refugee numbers:

"By the end of January we will have received 71 Afghans, all of whom were forced to flee last August when the Taliban took control of their country. Welcoming all these people has been a stretch for our office, since we'd only received 28 refugees during the prior year. However, along with these Afghans we've welcomed an additional 49 refugees from Ukraine, Sudan, Syria, El Salvador, and Burma. All in the past 4 months. We are expecting to see roughly 20-25 people coming every month through the end of the year. We are still suffering through some growing pains, but none of this could be accomplished without your support and the support of other churches and organizations here in the Tri Cities."

Again, thanks to all who were able to help with this important mission effort.

Mary Lynn Arter and Susan Sandmeier

Better together



Racial reconciliation is a hot topic among Christians these days. In Sikeston, Missouri, which has a history of segregation, two church bodies recently decided to live out the gospel's message of unity by merging.

Kenny King, pastor of the mostly black Smith Chapel, and William Marshall, pastor of the mostly white Trinity Baptist, had become friends. They realized both churches, while healthy, were undergoing transitions, so they joined forces. The new congregation's name, Grace Bible Fellowship, represents God's grace and the grace we extend to others — no matter their skin color.

"We want to ... give people the benefit of the doubt instead of letting these issues divide us," King says. "The gospel of Jesus Christ has the power to keep us together and not keep us separated."

New Date!



Jr. & Sr. UMY

Rock-a-Thon

The Rock-a-Thon fundraiser has moved to the spring!

As soon as the sun sets on April 22, the Jr. and Sr. UMYers will be rockin' out until the sun rises on April 23! During the Rock-a-Thon, the youth will have fellowship and fun with their friends and leaders while raising money to support the UMY program and their upcoming summer trips. Stay tuned for how you can give Rock-a-Thon pledges and donations to support the UMYers!



Church Women Keep Caring

UMW welcomes
February with hope!

. . . Hope that the virus loses its hold on the Tri-Cities.
. . . Hope that the sun shines more.
. . . Hope that our UMW is able to meet in friendship and continue to serve in a myriad of ways.

Women of the church will come together at 10 AM, Wednesday, February 23, to discuss UMW plans for the year and share in a program on prayer and reflection. UMW board members will serve as hostesses in the Susanna Wesley Room.

Earlier in the month Joy Circle will meet at 7 PM, Thursday, February 10. Contact Debie Britton for details.

Also, Tuesday Morning Circle is scheduled to create Valentines at 9:30 AM, February 8, in the church library.

The co-chairs of Holly Daze always welcome church members and friends to their Saturday workshops and are eager to hear ideas for new projects. Call Susan Sandmeier or Darryl Vaughn for bazaar updates.

For those who like to read, Pat Walker keeps adding books to the UMW collection in the church library. Why not pick up one or two? One reader suggests that UMW start a book club. If interested, let Pat know.

There are many opportunities through UMW to spread kindness and care, and to learn. Our UMW president, Kathy Wertman, invites you to come to one or more of our February meetings and see for yourself the joy service can bring.

During worship on Sunday, January 23, we celebrated the many longstanding members of Kennewick First UMC! For decades,



devout community members sacrificed so that we can gather in a beautiful building and worship. Many came before us with a vision and did what was needed to make it a reality. Today, as a result, we enjoy a large gathering space where receptions are hosted, Sunday school classes gather, and basketball is played. In our more recent years, we installed an elevator allowing everyone access to all levels of the building, remodeled the downstairs, and created a one level entry to the sanctuary . . . again, the result of the vision of our longstanding members.

Through the years, these members have taught Sunday school and led classes; served on committees; updated and repaired our buildings; sung in choirs; played instruments; ushered; served as Sunday school superintendent; been involved with United Methodist Men and Women; played bells; served on reception teams and so much more! They honored their membership vows with their presence, leadership, service, and giving, and we appreciate them all! Many were baptized here, raised here, married here, and went on to raise their children in faith at Kennewick First.

If you were not present in worship on that day, but have been a longtime member/attender of approximately 50 years, please call the church office—we have a small token of our appreciation for you!





Beside Springs of Water

By Cynthia Bement

On a Friday morning during Advent, our small group gathered at Marti Meyers' home to continue our Adam Hamilton study on God's faithfulness to Joseph, Jesus' earthly father. Hot tea in hand, chocolates on side tables, and with a fire to warm us, our cozy get-together was completed by Marti's extremely rambunctious puppy, Jewel, who is always thrilled to see us! Suddenly, we became aware of a sound that halted our conversation and ultimately ended all thoughts of Bible learning for the day. It was a crashing sound from down the hall, perhaps like a picture falling.

Marti got up from her chair and went to investigate. The remaining three of us were still, listening, until we heard Marti scream . . . "WATER, IT'S SPRAYING EVERYWHERE!" Kathy, Peggy, and I ran to investigate and found Marti, hair already soaking wet, searching for a way to turn off the water that was springing forth. The valve to the toilet was elusive, and we tried turning the water off at the sink . . . which we thought might be the issue based on the trajectory of the geyser, but that didn't stop it. Water was spraying the walls and flooding out into the hall into the carpet. I raced outside, running around the yard with Kathy trying to find the main shut off valve. Peggy was inside, soaking wet along with Marti, trying to mop up water with towels and emptying the water-filled bathroom drawers. All the while, water continued to spray!! I finally found a shut off valve in the garage near the water softener . . . and after turning the lever, the indoor flooding ceased. In the meantime, Marti had called a plumber, and we located a shop vac in the garage, which Peggy used to soak up the water from the carpet and linoleum. Kathy called Shorty, who brought us a second shop vac to fortify our efforts, I located a couple of fans to begin drying the carpet, and Kathy continued to mop up!

Oh, and in case you think I've forgotten her, at some point in this madcap adventure,

we had needed to catch Jewel, and to her dismay, banish her to the back yard!

Anyone seeing us when the geyser was discovered and we began to "diagnose" the issue may have thought they'd stumbled into an episode of *I Love Lucy*, complete with *two* Lucys and *two* Ethels (I'll leave it to you to decide which of us was a Lucy and which an Ethel!), but within minutes we fell into our helping roles. All of us had enough information and experience to handle the challenge together. In the typical two relaxing hours that our small group meets, a crisis presented itself, and the crisis was handled, including the plumber completing the fix. We giggled when the excitement was over, our shoes, pants, and hair were all wet, just like the walls, floor, carpet, and extra rolls of toilet paper!! When we left Marti's house, the floor was mopped, the carpet was "sucked" as dry as could be, the fans were on, Kathy was taking the soaking wet towels home to wash, and the toilet was repaired (broken hose).

Stemming a flood was decidedly NOT what we had in mind that morning as we gathered to study God's word, but we were all so very grateful that this little issue happened when Marti had friends (extended family) on hand to help, who could put love in action. Small groups typically gather to learn, grow together, and to support one another, and ours is no different. Some days the healing waters look like a calm spring, or Baptism, or a cup of tea with a friend, or a soak in a hot tub, and some days the waters pour forth, rising up as living water as a geyser in a home, and it is in those moments that we have the opportunity to show compassion and how much we care!

*They will neither hunger nor thirst,
nor will the desert heat or the sun beat
down on them.
He who has compassion on them will guide
them
and lead them beside springs of water.*

Isaiah 49:10



Richard Nelson	1-Feb
Victoria Keel	1-Feb
Lili Westvik	1-Feb
Chuck Smith	2-Feb
James Canada	3-Feb
Matt Kaiser	3-Feb
Steve Tucker	4-Feb
Kathleen Ritter	4-Feb
Mark Hawley	5-Feb
Jason Elvik	5-Feb
Kookie Graham	6-Feb
Amy Basche	6-Feb
Ryan Bannworth	7-Feb
Earl Pfeiffer	8-Feb
Cheri Baker	8-Feb
Eric Berg	8-Feb
Mandy Simmelink	9-Feb
Debie Britton	13-Feb
Joanna Puryear	13-Feb
Izaiah Canada	14-Feb
Donna Parkes	17-Feb
Don Board	18-Feb
Matthew Marquardt	18-Feb
Geoffrey Helton	23-Feb
Micki Perry	24-Feb
A. J. Foster	25-Feb
Jackson Koval	25-Feb
Emery Tenney	25-Feb
Cory Manley	26-Feb
Peggy Snyder	28-Feb

Becky Phillips	3-Mar
Altha Perry	4-Mar
Brooke Kaiser	4-Mar



Pastor Jerry and Polly Poole are celebrating the birth of new grandbaby Maddux, who arrived on January 20! Maddux, mom (Lauren), dad (Jordan), and big sister (Jayce) are all doing well! Congratulations!



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

Altha Perry, Ron Baker, Evelin Choate, Jordyn Andrews, Diana

Sundvik, Kirk Higginson, Muriel Smith, Pat Phillips, Terry Simmelink, Jennifer Bate-man, Jolene Kuhns, Buddy Fish, Peggy Snyder, Etta Ballard, Bishop Elaine Stanovsky, and our District Superintendent Rev. Daniel Miranda.



Our church community is mourning the loss of some very special saints, and yet we rejoice, knowing that they have been welcomed into Jesus' arms. Please continue to pray for the comfort of their families and friends . . .

On January 5, **Helen Mitchell** peacefully entered life eternal, with her husband, Dean, by her side. Her family, including children Lisa, Doug, and David and their spouses, and several grandchildren will greatly miss her presence in their lives. Her service will be held February 19 at 1 PM.

The life of our dear friend, **Donna Coordes**, will be celebrated at a memorial service on February 26 at 1 PM in our sanctuary. Donna passed on January 10, and her family and friends will miss her faithful witness in their lives.

Another of our longtime KFUMC saints, **Carol Mitz**, departed this earthly life on January 20. Carol was a young 98 when she passed! Please pray that her children, Oren, John, Christine, and Stephanie, and her other family members, will be comforted during this time of loss.

Cheryl Nixon, our church secretary, and her husband, Brian, are mourning the loss of Brian's mother, Patricia. Patricia is survived by her husband, Dan, to whom she was married for more than 65 years. Please keep the family in prayer.

Friendship SOUP

Make jars of Italian barley soup to share love and warmth with friends.



What you need:

- 1 cup pearly barley
- ½ cup sundried tomatoes
- 1 Tbsp dry minced garlic
- 1 Tbsp dry minced onion
- 1 veggie bouillon cube
- Glass pint jars with lids
- Cardstock
- Scissors
- Pen

What you do:

1. In order, layer the first five ingredients into the jar.
2. Trace the outline of the lid onto cardstock. Cut out.
3. On the card, write these directions: Remove wrapper from bouillon cube. Add contents of jar to saucepan. Add 4 cups water and a can of diced tomatoes. Bring to a boil over high heat, reduce to low. Simmer about 20 minutes, until barley is tender. Serve with parmesan cheese.
4. Place the card atop the lid. Screw on the canning ring to keep it in place.



Funday

On Sunday, February 6, and Sunday, February 20, 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders are welcome to meet in the 4th and 5th grade room for an afternoon of devotion, fellowship, games, crafts, and of course, fun! We will meet together from 11:15 AM to 12:45 PM. Bring a sack lunch and your friends!

We are so excited to see you!

*In Christ's Love,
Rachel & Gracee*

VALLEY—Valleys symbolize life's dark or low points; for example, Psalm 23:4 refers to "the valley of the shadow of death" (ESV). But valleys also symbolize people who find God's favor because they're lowly and meek. As a result, valleys can be places of blessing. God lifts his people out of despair and rewards their faithfulness. He also promises to "level" conditions by raising up valleys and bringing down mountains (see Isaiah 40:4).



Kennewick 1st United Methodist Church

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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

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