

# THE CLARION

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



Kennewick  
First United  
Methodist  
Church

*A Christ-centered, inclusive  
and loving community*



## Easter Week at Kennewick First

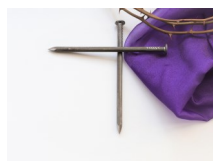
Come celebrate the risen Christ!

**Palm Sunday Parade, April 2,  
9:45 AM**

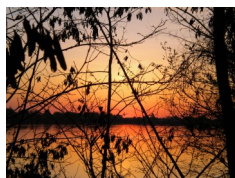
**Palm Sunday Worship Service,  
April 2, 10 AM**

**Good Friday  
Tenebrae  
Service, April 7,  
7 PM.** This

service leads us through the  
scriptures presenting the Passion  
of Jesus and His final moments  
before facing the cross.



**Easter Egg Hunt, 9 AM on Saturday,  
April 8, on the church lawn - for  
children 5th grade and younger.**



**Easter Sunrise  
Service, April 9 at  
6:30 AM—Join us at  
the Columbia Park  
Gazebo, near the  
Edison Street entry to the park.**

**Easter Sunday Sanctuary  
Worship Service, 10 AM  
on April 9.**



## Palm Sunday Parade

**April 2 - 9:45 AM**

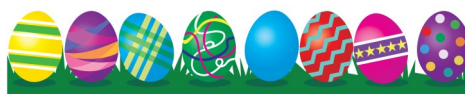
For all who wish to participate in our tradi-  
tional Palm Sunday Parade, please gather  
downstairs in Wesleyan Hall where we will  
get our palm leaves. The parade will begin  
at 9:45 AM; plan to be in Wesleyan Hall in  
plenty of time so you don't miss out! After  
we parade through downtown Kennewick,  
we'll enter the sanctuary for the 10:00 AM  
service.

## Easter Egg Hunt

**April 8, 9:00 AM**



The annual Easter Egg  
hunt is open to all children from birth to 5th  
graders. Children will hunt according to  
age group, and while you wait your turn,  
there will be a few pre-hunt activities avail-  
able inside to participate in! Please invite  
family and friends for this fun Easter event!





## KFUMC April Funday

**For Grades 3-5  
11:15 AM—12:30 PM**

**Funday will meet on the 16th**

**Bring a sack lunch and  
we will provide the  
activities!**

All are invited to the  
Easter Egg Hunt  
Saturday, April 8, at  
9 AM



*Leaders- Gracee & Reneé Glesener*



On Sunday, March 19, all six of our Confirmands joined the church and Kaylee Klages was baptized! Our worship was enhanced by their participation. The group attended classes taught by Pastor Mark and Cynthia on Wednesday evenings from 6 - 7:30 PM for 6 weeks, including an overnight retreat. On Saturday evening, March 18, a dinner was held in their honor; their parents and sponsors were in attendance to help celebrate their faith journey.

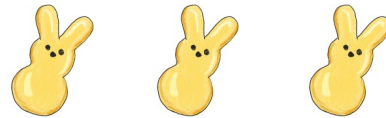
Congratulations to our new members!

Angelica Amegashie  
Daisy Buchholz  
Max Buchholz  
James Dreier  
Kaylee Klages  
Paige Phillips

**SUNSHINE  
STATE, HERE  
WE COME!**



On March 5th, the Sr UMY hosted a Dessert and Silent Auction to fund their summer mission trip to Ft. Myers, Florida. The Harlem Heights neighborhood in Ft. Myers has identified over 300 homes that need to be gutted and rebuilt due to flood damage from Hurricane Ian last September. So far, a dozen of us are committed to going to Florida to be a part of the cleanup and rebuilding opportunity. We are beyond grateful for the outpouring of love and generosity to help fund the trip. Thank you to those who attended, gave merchandise, gave money, hosted a table, brought dessert, and ate dessert! We hope you had fun at the fundraiser that brought in just under \$23,000 for the trip, the cause, and the group for the program year. We look forward to sharing about our trip after we get home at the end of June! Please keep us in prayer.



*Sunday School  
Mother's Day  
Tea Party*



Mark your calendar for our first ever Sunday School Mother's Day Tea Party, May 14, at 9 AM.

Come and enjoy a special tea party with us. All Sunday school children and youth are welcome to invite special guests (even multiple guests!) to that day's Sunday School event, when we will all come together in fellowship over tea and special treats. Come as you are or dressed in your fanciest tea attire (hats encouraged)!



***Be Aware!  
And Come  
To the Next  
UFW***

***Meeting on April 26***

Safety at church, and in general, will be discussed by Kennewick police officer Roman Trujillo at the 10 AM April 26 UFW meeting.

All women of the church and their friends are invited to the Susanna Wesley Room to hear his presentation, titled "Neighborhood Watch: Be Aware of Your Surroundings."

Our UFW president, Kathy Wertman will lead a short business meeting, Joy Fellowship will provide refreshments, and the sharing gift will be for the UFW Legacy Fund.

Also, expect an update from Lori Baker on UFW's plans for a benefit concert by Sherry Arnold in May. UFW is blessed that Sherry and her group want to celebrate UFW before the community.

Other UFW activities in April will include:

- Tuesday Morning Fellowship, led by Nancy Russell, on April 11 at 9:30 AM.
- Joy Fellowship, which will meet at 7 PM on Thursday, April 13, at the home of Kathy Harris. Questions: contact chair Debie Briton.
- A Holly Daze workshop on April 1 in the Susannah Wesley Room at 9 AM, led by Darryl Vaughn and Susan Sandmeier.

"Please let all know that they are welcome, as are craft ideas," Susan said, adding, "Be ready to have a good time connecting with other crafters."

In March, nearly two dozen enjoyed UFW's delicious lunch, catered by Grace Kitchen. Cheri Baker coordinated the event, and attendees were greatly pleased.

To make last month's meeting even more special, Mary Lynn Arter presented an "awesome" program on the history of the church's stained-glass windows.

The windows in the back of the sanctuary were made in Germany and commissioned by the Mueller, Amon, and Williams families. Other windows have little plaques identifying those who contributed toward them. Those in the alcove were a gift from the Payne family.

Two of the Chapel windows are in memory of the Miller/Edwards family. One was commissioned by Audrey Simmelink to honor her husband Cork. The window in the stairway/overflow room was ordered by the Kittson family and is filled with symbolism of church, family history, and activities. The three windows in the Youth Chapel were made by Cynthia Bement and Barbara Helton along with Geoff Helton and the youth.

UFW members also learned that the huge cross above the choir loft was made by Carl Laney in his basement. It took five men a long day to get it out of the house and into its church home!

Following the great program and lunch, the new UFW Book Club, started by Darryl Vaughn, met. So far, the club members have read "Cousins" and "Fire Keeper's Daughter." For questions about the next book, contact Darryl.



"For most of us, the prayer in Gethsemane is the only model. Removing mountains can wait."

—C.S. Lewis



Soul Soup continues to serve about 70 meals each week and we continue to see new faces. There is an easy rapport with those who attend more or less regularly – 15 to 20 each week.

It is really difficult to lose one of our guests, but we received word this past week that a man who had attended in the past died of a fentanyl overdose. We had not seen him in about 3 months and none of our other guests had much contact with him. He was local – family in Richland. He suffered from mental health issues as well as drug-related issues. A hard life for all concerned.

We prepared our second Sunday meal for Carol Allenbaugh's ministry in Angus Village. We do this the 3rd Sunday each month as a way to support her and the people living on the street in that neighborhood. Since we don't get a Panera Bakery donation for this Sunday ministry, we could use help with cookies as a dessert. If you would be willing to bake a couple of dozen cookies for this 3rd Sunday meal ministry, please contact Bob Kelly at 528-9254 or rkellyzx@gmail.com. We will put them to good use!

Thank you for keeping our volunteers and guests in your prayers.

## **KFUMC Single Senior Support Group**



Thursday, April 6  
10 AM

**Kennewick Flower Shop**  
604 W Kennewick Avenue

Whether you are widowed, divorced, or have always been single, we would like to invite you to gather with other Seniors from our church to share life's joys, concerns, and faith each month.

The group meets regularly at the Kennewick Flower shop . . . it's quiet and those who come enjoy the lovely aroma!

May this be a place and time for friends to gather to lend encouragement, laugh, and to share stories with each other.



## **All-Church Campout**

Reserve your spot now for the all-church campout the weekend of

August 18-20. This year, we'll be gathering at the Boardman Marina Park. A two-night stay at the Park is \$110, which will need to be paid when you reserve your spot through the church office.

If you receive camping discounts and want to take advantage of that savings, please book your own site at the Boardman Marina Park ASAP and hang out with us during the weekend!!

Questions . . . call Cynthia at 509-582-2163. We have a limited number of reserved spots.





## The Fall of Big Blue

By Cynthia

My Grandpa Boice couldn't have known when he purchased a little potted Blue

Spruce in December of 1990 for his and my Grandma's Christmas tree that it would be his last. After Christmas, in January, he gave the little Blue Spruce Christmas tree to Jocelyn, who was only 3 at the time. His desire was for the tree to be planted in the yard of the home that we had moved into the previous July. In the spring, Brian and Jocelyn decided on the planting spot, Randy dug the hole, and into the ground the little tree went. Their Great Grandpa Boice saw it planted in the yard prior to his drowning several months later in July when he was 80 years old.

During wind storms over the years, we have lost trees and large limbs have fallen, but Big Blue just swayed back and forth, always bending, never breaking. Then, after standing in our yard for over 32 years, Big Blue, who was over 47 feet tall, fell in the last windstorm. A great sadness fell over our family as the great majestic tree laid across the yard and the space it had once filled stood empty. Big Blue went down perfectly without harming anything, and that is a miracle. The tree had been home to many quail families, squirrels, made great shade for the "prayhouse," and provided the backdrop for our family photos.

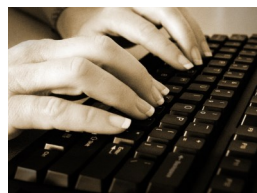
We'll plant a new tree in the empty space left by Big Blue, but it won't have the same meaning as Big Blue and will take years to "grow up." I feel the same way when I lose significant people in my life. The emptiness in the space they once filled and their wisdom cannot really be replaced. It takes years to grow up and begin to provide something useful for another. I have been told that "everyone is replaceable" and at

one point I may have even believed it, but it isn't true. Jobs or tasks can be done by another person, but because of the specific gifts or talents a person may possess, the task will be accomplished differently.

I have witnessed many of our church and family members go on to life triumphant, and the visions or areas of responsibility they once had went with them. But, like the empty space left by my old Blue Spruce, the empty spaces left by those who have joined the Church Triumphant become open spots for new growth. The new tree we plant in Big Blue's spot will not provide the same shade or quail hideout for many years, but it will grow and will bring its own joys to us. Just so, I can encourage others as Donna Troxel and Jacque Sonderman did for me, but I will do it in my own way, because I am not Donna Troxel or Jacque Sondeman; their gifts were uniquely theirs, just as mine are unique to me.

Let's be encouraged as we move forward in the Lenten season to remember that a tree had to fall so that Jesus could give His life, and in doing so, a spot was cleared for our new life. He was nailed on a cross, an old dead tree, and on that cross, He pointed us straight to heaven. That dark day on Calvary, it may have looked to the disciples like His going left a great empty space that would stay a hole forever, but He sent the Holy Spirit to fill that empty space! May we use our wisdom on this earth to share His love with others in our own way using the gifts provided to us from the Holy Spirit. You are not replaceable; the space you fill is valuable, you are a one and only, and the Lord is counting on you to stand up for the One who gave you life, until the great windstorm of heaven brings you down, and your work here on this earth is done and the Carpenter takes you home.

*He himself bore ours sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed. 1 Peter 2:24*



## *Message from your Lay Leader*

I have always been an avid reader, but only in the last four years have I begun to read Christian faith-based books. Some have been very inspiring to me, while others overwhelmed me with their references to parts of the Bible that I am not familiar with.

A very dear friend bought me Max Lucado's book "Anxious for Nothing" four years ago when I was going through some very difficult health issues. This book was so inspiring to me that I read it twice in succession. So many of his references and examples in the book were direct hits to my emotional state and personality traits. Boy, did I get an eye-opener on my problems that didn't need to be problems. The problem was that I did not have enough faith in God. I did not truly understand the difference between believing in God and having faith in God.

My life has changed so much since reading that book as far as my Christian attitude and spiritual health is concerned. I have read many more faith-based books since then, and I plan to keep on reading them.

Our church has a library with many books that you may be interested in reading. You are welcome to check them out to read. Just be sure to return them for others to enjoy! God bless you all.

*Audrey Manley, Lay Leader*  
[almanley1@gmail.com](mailto:almanley1@gmail.com)

## *DID YOU KNOW.....*

... that our church changed its method of governance in April 2017? We changed to a simplified single-board governance in hopes of simplifying decision-making and making it easier for projects and programs to be approved. Our church is now led by a Leadership Council (instead of an Administrative Council).

This Council is responsible to discern and articulate the mission, vision, values, and boundaries for the church and congregation. This Council looks at "who we are," "how we function," and "what God is calling us to." This council focuses on the resources of the congregation to direct them toward the mission. It ensures that the other ministry teams have the tools and resources they need to carry out their duties.

When the change was made six years ago, it was recommended that this Leadership Council consist of at least six and no more than 15 members, and that it meet infrequently, only three to six meetings per year, up to four hours in length. (Presently the Leadership Council meets for quarterly scheduled meeting.) The simple governance model is meant to be flexible and to change as the church changes over time. Originally the council included a Chair, the Pastor, the Lay Leader, people with finance and facilities skills, people with skills in employment practices, and people representing the age, gender, and cultural diversity of the congregation. Members serve a three- to four-year term. As the Council has evolved over the last 6 years, the focus has been on nominating individuals to serve on the Council who display spiritual leadership within the congregation and inviting individuals to consult with the team on specific areas as the need arises. This allows the Council to focus on larger, long-term and "big picture" issues and discernment of the direction of the church, rather than being emmeshed in the day-to-day operations of individual ministries.

Current members serving on the Leadership Council are: Cory Manley, Chair, Pastor Mark McMurray, Audrey Manley, Jim Deatherage, Rich Nelson, and Dana and Kathy Bryson. We have recently had four members complete their term.

In addition to the Leadership Council, our church is guided by teams that do administrative and programing ministries. These include: Finance Ministry Team, SPMT (Staff Parish Ministry Team), Facilities Ministry Team,

*(Continued next page)*

## ***DID YOU KNOW.....*** ( continued from previous page)

Youth Ministry, Children's Ministry, Choirs and Music Ministry, United Women of Faith, and the Security Ministry Team, as well as other unique teams that organize and produce programs such as Soul Soup and other projects, including short-term projects.

As Lay Leader, I am automatically an "at large" member of these ministry groups. Having a strong background in business and finance, I am currently a member of the Finance Ministry Team. So let's start with this ministry.

The Finance Ministry oversees the financial expenditures and revenues of the church.

The Finance Ministry Team:

- works with all our church ministry teams on what their financial budget needs are
- works with the church bookkeeper monitoring actual vs budgeted expenditures and revenues
- assures financial computer systems operate appropriately
- audits prior years' financial records
- prepares the all-church budget, as well as individual ministry budgets
- invests financial reserves as needed
- monitors church personal property inventory
- assures property insurance is appropriate
- prepares the financial portion of the annual report to the Conference.

The members of this ministry team are: Rich Nelson, Chair, Cory Manley, Audrey Manley, Roberta Barcot, Jane Hunt, Carol Kerkow, Sharon Varzendah, Alex Amegashie, Loretta Curley, Scott Woodside, and George Block.

With Rich Nelson's educational and employment experience in finance and administration, he makes an efficient and effective chair for this ministry.

I plan to feature the remainder of the ministry teams in future Clarion issues.

*Submitted by Audrey Manley, Lay Leader*



## **Time to Sign up!!**

I (Cynthia) will be going to Camp Twinlow again this summer to lead Primary 1 camp June 25 - 28 (primary camps are shorter due to the age of the children). Primary camp is for children entering grades 1 - 3. The other camps taking place that week are: Elementary Lake Camp for those entering grades 3 - 6, and Middle School Watersports for those entering 6<sup>th</sup> - 9<sup>th</sup> grade.

Parents transport their children to and from camp, but know that I will be present that particular week to welcome them and to help acclimate them to Twinlow Camp.

Camperships are available to help offset the cost of camp, so please inquire and give your children a great camp experience!

Age-level camps are scheduled through the summer! Our PNW Conference hosts four camps: Twinlow in Rathdrum ID; Lazy F in Ellensburg; Ocean Park near Long Beach WA; and Indianola in western WA . . . go to [pnwcamps.org](http://pnwcamps.org) to find a camp and register!

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*The disciples did not bother to try to understand the resurrection body. They doubted, and then they believed. They believed something so wonderful that it changed this broken, fragmented, beaten-down little group of men and women in a moment from depression to enthusiasm, from despair to new life, vibrant and unafraid.*

—Madeleine L'Engle, *The Rock That Is Higher*

## ***Q & A from your Lay Leader***

### ***What is the difference between a Lay Member to Annual Conference, Lay Leader, and Lay Shepherd?***

By definition in the UMC Guidelines:

#### **The Lay Leader**

- functions as the primary representative of the laity in that local church;
- fosters awareness of the role of the laity within the congregation and through their ministries in the home, workplace, community, and world; and finds ways within the community of faith to recognize those ministries;
- meets regularly with the pastor to discuss the state of the church and the needs for ministry;
- serves as a member of the charge conference, church council, the committee on finance, the committee on nominations and leadership development, and the committee on staff/pastor-parish relations;
- continues to be involved in study and training opportunities to develop a growing understanding of the church's reason for existence and the types of ministry that will most effectively fulfill the church's mission;
- assists in advising the church council of community needs and opportunities for more effective ministry in the community;
- informs the laity of training opportunities provided by the annual conference;
- attends training opportunities in order to strengthen his or her work;
- is urged to become a certified lay servant.

#### **Lay Member of the Annual Conference**

The lay member of annual conference, along with the pastor, interprets the work done by the annual conference session (which meets annually each June) to the congregation. They are the liaisons between the congregation and the general church and represent the congregation in the actions taken at the annual conference sessions. The lay member of annual conference

- participates in the annual conference sessions and votes on all matters except those pertaining to ministerial relations;
- reports to the congregation and to the church council as soon as possible, but not later than three months after the close of the conference;
- serves as a member of the charge conference, church council, the finance committee, and the staff/pastor-parish relations committee.

#### **Lay Shepherds**

Lay Shepherds are members of a congregation who offer and coordinate care-giving for those who have special needs within our congregation and neighborhoods. Lay Shepherds work closely with the Pastoral staff and provide support to families in times of crisis.



Jeff Varzandeh	4-Apr
Sherry Elvik	6-Apr
Terry Milton	6-Apr
Debra Reeve	6-Apr
Merrienne Door	9-Apr
Loretta Curley	14-Apr
Kathy Harris	14-Apr
Paige Kaiser	14-Apr
Vic Reeve	16-Apr
Bill Mandell	20-Apr
Victoria Kippes	22-Apr
George Block	24-Apr
Nancy Russell	25-Apr
Scott Biglin	25-Apr
Jadyn Rhodes	25-Apr
Camryn O'Donnell	26-Apr
Judith Mosebar	27-Apr
Bob Kelly	27-Apr
Kathy Wertman	30-Apr
Eva Walker	30-Apr
Isabelle Howard	30-Apr



Anikin Elvik	1-May
Linda Tucker	2-May
Lynnaie Wright	2-May
Debra Williamson	2-May
Eric Baumann	2-May
Patrick Bannworth	5-May
Mikayla Mason	5-May
Joshua Troxel	5-May



*Please pray for those in need of healing, comfort, and encouragement including those grieving the passing of loved ones . . .*



Julie Logan Hooley, Aggie Mowry, Dean Mitchell, Dorothy Lyle, Larry and Karen Barcot, Eddie Kenoyer, Shelby Faught, Tim Anderson, Jaime Hildman, Joyce Norman, Altha Perry, Ron Baker, Mark Hawley, Diana Sundvik, Kirk Higginson, Rita McElroy, Joan Osborne, Pat Phillips, Jennifer Bateman, Jolene Kuhns, Buddy Fish, Peggy Snyder, Etta Ballard, Juli Reinholz, Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth, and our District Superintendent Rev. Daniel Miranda.

On March 6, **Muriel Smith** passed on to life eternal. She will be greatly missed by her family and friends, for whom we pray, but we rejoice that Muriel is with her Lord, where she so longed to be!



Our dear friend, **Evelin Choate**, died on March 30. Please pray for her husband, Jim, her family and friends. We thank God for this sweet lady's life and the joy she was to all who knew and loved her.

#### **Kennewick 1st United Methodist Church**

2 South Dayton

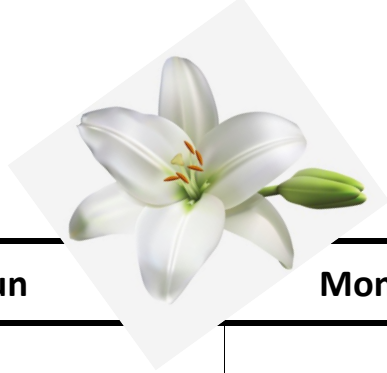
Office: 421 W. Kennewick Avenue  
Kennewick, Washington 99336  
(509) 582-2163

Sunday Worship at 9 and 10 AM  
Sunday School at 9 AM

Church Office Hours  
8:30 AM — noon and 1 — 4 PM  
Monday through Thursday  
8 AM — noon on Fridays

[www.kennewickfirst.com](http://www.kennewickfirst.com)  
[facebook.com/KennewickFirstUMC](https://facebook.com/KennewickFirstUMC)

*Articles for the May 2023 Clarion will be due April 20. Thank you for your timely submissions!*



# April



Sun

Mon



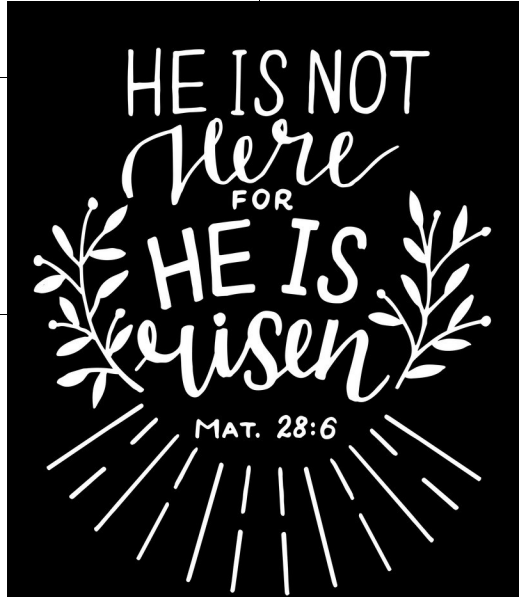
Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

						1
2 Palm Sunday parade after 9am Sunday School Jesus Revolution Movie Night 4-7pm Bring \$5 and any money for snacks	3 Please arrive promptly on the 2nd, as the movie starts at 4:20.	4 	5	6	7 	8 Easter Egg Hunt @ 9am Arrive at 8:30 to hide eggs
9 Sunday School 9 am Easter—Worship 6:30am at the park & 10 am No youth Group, spend time with your family Hallelujah! He is Risen!	10	11		13	14	15
16 Sunday School 9 am Praise Band 3pm Kickball 4-6 4-6 pm	17	18	19	20		
23 Sunday School 9 am Praise Band 3pm Minute to Win It 4-6 pm 30 Sunday School 9 am Praise Band 3pm Cops and Robbers 4-6pm	24	25	26	27		