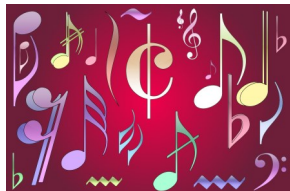


# THE CLARION

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



*A Christ-centered, inclusive  
and loving community*



## Clear Waters Concert May 9 To Welcome All Music Fans

What a musical treat!

To celebrate our UWF's many missions, Clear Waters will present a joyous concert Tuesday, May 9, at our church.

All are welcome to the 6 PM performance of contemporary Christian, country, soft rock, and folk songs by the quartet: Sherry Arnold, guitar and vocals; Kurt Conrad, cello; Vic Reeve, bass; and Dave Hare, guitar, mandolin, ukulele, percussion.

During the intermission, a cookie reception will be hosted by UWF members, who want to thank Kennewick First and community friends for their great support throughout the year, particularly for Holly Daze.

Clear Waters, which plays for Sunday services at our church monthly, also provides music for many church picnics, potlucks, and special services.

Sherry, a lifelong member at KFUMC, first sang at our church when she was four. Raised in a musical family, she began playing guitar in grade school. She also writes songs and regularly performs at weddings, memorials, and many community events.

Kurt took up the cello in grade school and went on to play in many orchestras, chamber groups, jazz choir, and community theater groups.



Vic has played bass for 35 years, mostly in churches in Eltopia and Connell, at Kennewick First Presbyterian, and here at KFUMC. He especially enjoys contemporary Christian, rock ballads, folk music, and all songs that bring joy.

Dave is not only an excellent guitar player, he switches easily to other stringed instruments. Taking part for nearly two decades in praise bands at KFUMC, he was also a member of Highland Drive, which performed at many venues throughout the greater Tri Cities area. His favorite music is 70s Classic Rock.

Clear Waters gives the four musicians the means to share their passion for music and for sharing with their church community. As Vic said, "Playing music is a joy, and playing with a church group is one of the best fellowships. If you think that the music feels good in the pews, you can only imagine how it feels in the group."

Questions about the concert? Contact, Lori Butler, who is coordinating the event for UWF.



**Mother's Day is  
May 14!**



## **ALL CHURCH CLEAN-UP MAY 20**

It's Spring Cleaning time and, since we missed a few years due to Covid, our church is really in need of a good deep cleaning! There will be a job for everyone even if you have some limitations. Those able to wash windows, polish woodwork, or dust shelves will be on the indoor team. If you are a gardener or love nature, there will be old leaves to rake, grass to trim, and weeds to hoe with the outdoor team. We'll work from 9:00 AM to noon on Saturday, May 20. The Facilities

Ministry Team will have coffee and muffins to energize you so come when you can and leave when you wish. We will appreciate any helping hands for any length of time! Bring your favorite tools for the job, cleaning supplies will be provided. See you then.



## **LAWN MOWERS NEEDED**

Darryl Lamberd is looking for people to help him mow the lawn at the church during this mowing season. If you are able to help, please contact him at 509-619-4305.



## **Fields of Grace Leader Coming To UWF May 24**

Feeding the hungry is a mission all can support. At UWF's unit meeting Wednesday, May 24, the generous local contributions of Fields of Grace will be explored.

The new Fields of Grace director, Ettie Blankingship, will be speaking at 10 AM in the Susanna Wesley Room. She will talk about the progress and success of this wonderful organization, which "gleans God's Harvest for the Mid-Columbia."

A mother of two, Ettie was a volunteer manager at Second Harvest and holds a BS degree in Environmental Studies from the University of Oregon.

Cheri Baker is coordinating the program, to which all church women and their friends are invited. She reports that Ettie is excited to be with us and share her enthusiasm for helping those afflicted with hunger and food insecurity. Fresh produce is often the hardest item to deliver effectively to food banks. With Second Harvest's help, Fields of Grace provides tons of fruits and vegetables to local food banks.

Our UWF president, Kathy Wertman, will lead a short business meeting. Treats will be provided by her board. The Sharing Gift will be for Doctors Without Borders.

The new UWF book club, organized by Darryl Vaughn, will meet after the regular UWF session. If you love to read, why not check it out?

Joy Fellowship's May meeting will be Thursday, the 11th, at 7 PM at the home of Lynnaie Wright. Debie Britton reports new members Sherry Arnold, Debbie Logan, and Vikki Keel joined in April. Call Debie if you have questions.

Of course, Holly Daze workshops will continue on the first Saturday of each month from 9 AM to noon. All crafters and their ideas are welcome to join in the fun May 6.



## Join us for a Sunday School Mother's Day Tea Party, May 14 at 9 AM

All Sunday school children and youth are welcome to invite as many special guests as they would like to our Sunday School event, where 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).

Please RSVP to Starlite via email: [starlite@kennewickfirst.com](mailto:starlite@kennewickfirst.com) or text 5093964957. Let us know how many will be in your party so we can have enough treats for everyone. *Please note, if you forget to RSVP, you are still welcome to join us; we are just trying to obtain a general headcount.*



Adult Sunday School will meet for the last time this year on May 7. Thanks to Jim Deatherage and Bob Kelly! We appreciate the fun and learning!

May 21 is the last day of Sunday School for children and youth this year! A big THANK YOU goes out to all the teachers who have supported our Sunday School programs this year. You are such a blessing to the families of our church!

Youth Sunday School Teachers: Jim Door, Claressa Elvik, Adeline McMurray, and several UMY leaders who stepped in to assist.

Children's Sunday School Teachers: Cheri Baker, Phyllis Merrill, Sandi Montague, Becky Phillips, Starlite Buchholz, Linda Hawley, Sierra Hogg, Renee Glesener, and Gracee Glesener.



Join our Youth Sunday celebration on May 21! Our Jr. and Sr. High youth, including the youth praise band, will lead us in worship at the 10 AM service that day. A couple of our graduating seniors will be speaking about their faith and growing up in the church. Hope to see you there!!



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

**Funday families are invited to  
join their children for this  
special**

## **FUNDAY PIZZA PARTY!**

**We'll celebrate the close of a  
great Funday year with pizza,  
beverages, games, and more!**

*thank you* We want to thank our Funday Leaders, Gracee & Renee Glesener. We love you!

We also SO APPRECIATE those who served as UMY leaders during the year: Starlite Buchholz, Michelle Collins, Jim Door, Brandon & Claressa Elvik, Sierra Hogg, Sean Holloway, Adeline McMurray, Dick Nelson, Garrett Simmelink, and Jeff Varzandeh. You are awesome!



## Sr UMY Mission Trip to the Sunshine State

On Thursday, June 15, at 5 PM, the Sr UMYers who signed up to go on the mission trip, along with four adult leaders, will load up a church bus, gather for prayer, bid their families farewell, and depart for Seattle. The group will fly from Seattle to Ft. Myers, Florida, the next day, where they will serve the Harlem Heights neighborhood, rebuilding homes that were damaged during Hurricane Ian on September 28, 2022. Some of the projects they will be doing include demolition, framing, installing sheet rock, mudding and texturing, and anything else that needs to be done to help a family get back into their home. Over 300 homes need refurbishing, and to date, just 35 families have moved back into their homes; we hope to help several more as we serve June 17-23. We fly back to Seattle on June 24 and will drive back to the church the same day, arriving at about 5 PM. We are grateful for the funds that have come in from so many of you to help, and we hope to represent you and the Lord well as we respond to this invitation. Please continue to keep the team in prayer as we prepare: Teens, Angelica, Scott, Tim, Joe, Max, James, and Ellie; leaders, Cynthia, Sierra, Dick, and Dave.

A very special **THANK YOU** goes out to two people who put in an enormous amount of time and effort this year to ensure that our

youth were able to engage and flourish in our UMY programs. **Cynthia**, our Congregational Care Coordinator, and **Starlite**, our Sunday School Superintendent, have tirelessly planned and participated in/led weekly UMY activities and youth retreats, including the Twinlow Spring Retreat and the Jr and Sr Ski Days. They worked with the UMY leaders so that they were equipped to fulfill their leadership roles as well. Every activity was not only fun, but also furthered the spiritual growth of each of our youth.

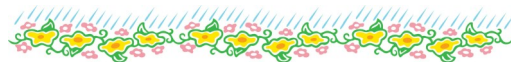
Cynthia planned and will lead the summer Sr High Mission trip. She also planned a great deal of the summer Middler trip before turning it over to Claessa, our new Youth and Education Director. Starlite led the Jr Ski day and plans to go on the Middler trip where she will be available to assist Claessa as she leads Middler for the first time.

When we baptize children in our church, we, as a congregation, pledge to help raise them in "the nurture and admonition of the Lord." Cynthia and Starlite have certainly helped us to do this every day. Please take a moment to say "thank you" to each of these hard-working ladies!



## COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Our church is known for doing things in our community, especially for helping East Kennewick. On Saturday, April 22, our Spiritual Leadership Council met for our 2nd quarter meeting. Our church had set aside \$15,000 to be given to a worthy cause in our community. Three possible organizations were discussed: 1) B5 Family Learning Center, which helps assimilate immigrants and refugees into our community; 2) Chaplaincy Services Network, which helps community members recover from traumatic events, such as losing everything in a fire; and 3) Hill-spring Church purchase of a nearby building, with hopes of turning it into a community center for those in need. The Council voted to donate 50% to B5 and 50% to Chaplaincy Services Network. Hill-spring will be considered in the future when they are closer to final plans for the building. We are so excited that our church can help make a difference in so many lives in our community.



*Your editor*





Sign up for summer camp today! See Cynthia for more information or go

to: <https://pnwcamps.org/camps/>.

Congratulations! We are pleased to announce that Newsweek has identified **Twinlow** as one of **America's Best Summer Camps of 2023!**

Newsweek, in partnership with Plant-A Insights Group, is set to release the premiere ranking of "America's Best Summer Camps" and we identified the best camps in America most recommended by parents and social media reviews. This is an outstanding achievement, and the ranking identified the **top 500** camps in the United States. The ranking is based on over **670,000** social media reviews and **114,000** camp reviews from **15,000** American parents based on US Census Data.



Summer hours for the Kennewick First office will start June 5:

Monday through Friday  
8 AM—Noon

## The Mess Tent

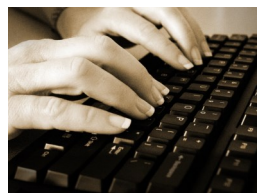
*From Cynthia*



I was not in the military, so what I have learned about mess tents has been from others who served or from watching the TV show M\*A\*S\*H. The term "mess tent" generally refers to a gathering place, sometimes portable, designed to shelter persons in a group setting (such as the military or camp) when they eat. We know that tents have historically had great significance, most especially during the Exodus, as a place where the people of God interacted with God at the "Tent of Meeting." Originally the Tent of Meeting was set outside the city (Exodus), but later was erected in the middle of the city (Numbers), becoming the heart or center of the community revealing God's presence to His people.

We are blessed to have a permanent "tent" on the corner of S. Dayton St. and Kennewick Avenue, and still we have a responsibility to reflect the light of Jesus Christ to each other and the community. I love the term "mess" to describe me as a Christian. I am most definitely a work in progress! My learning curve is sometimes steep, and I can often get in the way of God's good direction. While I often make a mess of things, I am reminded by the Lord of the beauty of Grace and its covering, like a tent. What if we thought of church more like a "mess tent" where the imperfect, messed up, flawed humans gather together in communion, to be fed by the Holy One in His tabernacle? I am a messed up, beloved child of God, and yes, I can be both at the same time . . . and I am! The Lord loves me anyway, I am redeemed and blessed. I come to the table on Sunday, face to face with others, and together we return thanks by singing, hearing scripture, and praying.

No matter where you are on the journey, I pray you find your way into the "mess tent" where you experience the love of God with folks who are also on the transformative road that leads to life eternal.



## *Message from your Lay Leader*

**I was not good at prayer.** I was one of those people who thought prayer was hard, that there was a method or rules on how to pray in order for it to be good. And then I read Max Lucado's book "Before Amen – The Power of a Simple Prayer."

Now, I pray all the time. God does not get tired of my incessant chattering like my husband does. Finally, a man who will listen to me all the time! Although I am still nervous about praying out loud in public on an impromptu basis, I will do it if I write out the prayer beforehand. Prayer is easy and should be just like having a conversation with God instead of like a regimented speech with a list of requests.

**I also used to be like a deer in the headlights when asked to be a witness.** I thought that meant going door to door and talking to the residents about God and the afterlife or standing on the street corner talking through a megaphone and holding a sign saying "Repent now, the end is near." Although I believed in God, I was afraid to talk about Him to others.

When I first joined this church, Pastor Jerry Poole asked me what my gifts were, what could I do to for the church. Oh boy, did I panic. I thought he was asking me to go door to door. He just smiled at my look of panic and asked me what I liked to do, what was I good at. I told him I liked to cook, so he told me to check out Soul Soup.

*(continued next page)*

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

.....that the mission of UMC is to "*Make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*"? This is **WHAT** we do as Methodists.

**HOW** do we fulfill this mission? By offering opportunities to Celebrate, Serve, Grow, and Create Friendships.

**WHY** do we do this? Because "*We believe everyone is a beloved child of God and can experience God's spirit, and that Jesus invites us to be part of a spirit-filled community. God calls us to use our time, treasure, and talents to bring about a world that reflects the reign, justice, and grace of God.*"

For any of you who are interested in "THE WHY," there is a very interesting video to watch on YouTube regarding this. It is a TED Talk with Simon Sinek and it is only 18 minutes long. His words are powerful and have inspired many. The title is "Start with why – how great leaders inspire action." I encourage you to watch it.

Along the line of missions, our new Bishop for the Pacific Northwest Conference, **Bishop Cedrick D. Bridgeforth, Ed.D.**, has declared his theme for this year's Annual Conference to be "Go and do likewise" from the Parable of the Good Samaritan. This is a perfect theme to fulfill our mission of creating disciples for the transformation of the world!

I will be attending my first Annual Conference this June, albeit virtually. I am both excited and nervous, as I am a novice at this Lay Leader business. I hope and expect to learn so much more about how our church and entire conference are governed. I intend, at a future date, to update our congregation on what took place at this Annual Conference and how it will affect our church.

*(Continued next page)*

**"Go and do likewise."**

## ***Message from your Lay Leader***

(continued)

Since I already knew Bob Kelly, I figured it would be okay to talk to him about Soul Soup and go volunteer at least once so I could see it what it was all about. I really thought that this could be what I could do for the church. But I only wanted to be in the kitchen cooking, prepping, and serving. I was scared and nervous to actually go out and witness with the dinner guests. I didn't know how to do that.

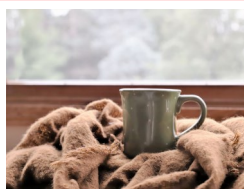
Now, after 8 years of volunteering at Soul Soup, I love interacting with all the guests, as well as with the other volunteers. We have become our own little family.

I learned that being a witness is really very easy. It can be something as simple as serving food to someone in need, giving clothing to someone in need, handing out the church bulletins to worship attendees, passing the plate, greeting attendees at the door, or any action or deed that is showing kindness to others.

***“Go and do likewise.”***

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

## **KFUMC Single Senior Support Group**



Thursday, May 4, 10 AM  
**Kennewick Flower Shop**  
604 W Kennewick Avenue

Single Seniors, enjoy a beverage and good conversation with your single friends during this monthly get-together!

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

(continued)

.....that our Facilities Ministry Team has been very busy keeping our historical church in good working order so that we all may continue to worship the Lord in a safe and comfortable environment.

Our Facilities Ministry Team is made up of: Bob Arnold, Chair, Dave Miller, Co-chair, Harold Baker, Darryl Lamberd, Debra Reeve, Darryl Vaughn, Ron Schuck, Chuck Smith, and Gene Wertman.

This Ministry Team has an overwhelming list of duties due to the size and age of our church, church office, and parsonage. Their many duties include:

- Repair and maintenance of the church, church office, garage, and parsonage, both interior and exterior

- Repair and maintenance of the landscaping of the church, church office, and parsonage

- Repair and maintenance of the parking lots

- Repair and maintenance of the buses

You may have noticed that the church garage, church office, and fence have all been re-painted recently. Also, the church roof has been repaired, lighting has been replaced in the parking lots, and some trees have been removed. It all looks so great, so when you see one of these Facilities members, please be sure to acknowledge them and their hard work.

The Facilities Team meets every month on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday at 6:00 PM in the Susanna Wesley Room. If you are interested in volunteering for this very important and crucial ministry team, please contact Bob Arnold or Dave Miller.

***\*\*Mark your calendars! Saturday, May 20<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 AM to noon is the “All Church Clean Up Day.” We need your help in cleaning up the inside and outside of the church! Please bring any tools you feel you will need. If you have questions, please contact the Facilities Ministry Team. \*\****

*Submitted by Audrey Manley, Lay Leader*



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
Joan Osborne	7-May
Darlene Nelson	7-May
Shelby Faught	7-May
Nathaniel Door	7-May
Joe Mosebar	9-May
Rylee Mason	9-May
Larry Berg	11-May
Austin Basche	14-May
Blake O'Donnell	14-May
Holly Bergum	15-May
Cory Hare	17-May
Kathy Meline	19-May
Audrey Door	23-May
Molly Buchholz	23-May
John Hunt	29-May
Russ Bechtol	29-May



Eddie Kenoyer	1-Jun
Alex Amegashie	2-Jun
Corey Osborn	2-Jun
Rachel Loomis	2-Jun
Elliott Kaiser	3-Jun
Amber (Arnold) McKonley	4-Jun
Brian Bement	4-Jun



*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.



Please be in prayer for the family and friends of Janet Sadler, who passed on April 12, at 86 years old. Her graveside

service was held on Wednesday April 26. We give thanks to God for her life and witness.

*"Prayer is a moment of incarnation — God with us. God involved in the details of my life."*

—Paul E. Miller

#### **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

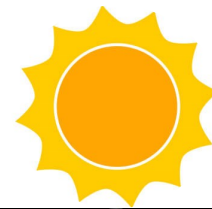
[www.kennewickfirst.com](http://www.kennewickfirst.com)  
[facebook.com/KennewickFirstUMC](https://facebook.com/KennewickFirstUMC)

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





# UMY May 2023



Sun

Mon


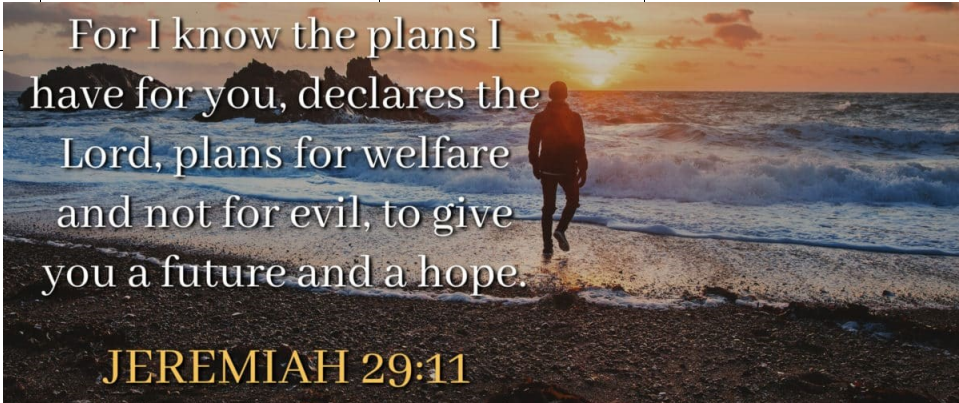
Tue

Wed

Thu

Fri

Sat

	1	2	3	4	5	6
<b>7 Sunday School 9 am</b>  <b>Youth Group 4-6pm</b> <b>Game Night ft. Giant Twister</b>  <b>Praiseband 3pm</b>	8	9	10	11	It has been a wonderful year of Sunday School and Youth Group. I want you all to know I appreciate the support I have received while learning how to be the youth director. Next year will be just as amazing! We will continue to prepare for Mission Trip and Middler over the next couple of months. I will also send out calendars with summer activities planned. Please know if you need anything over the summer I am here. I hope to see you all in church this summer. Claressa	
<b>14 Mother's Day Tea 9am</b> <b>Invite your Mother's or other special figures in your life.</b>  <b>No Youth Group—Celebrate with your mothers.</b>	15 	16	17	18 Praise Band Practice 5-6pm Youth Sunday Dress Rehearsal		
<b>21 Sunday School 9am</b>  <b>Youth Sunday!</b> <b>Softball Game 4-6pm</b> <b>Families Welcome!</b>	22	23	24	25	26	27
<b>28 No Sunday School</b>  <b>Mini Golf—Meet at Golf Universe 2-3:30 pm</b> <b>Please Bring \$5 and a water bottle.</b>	29	30	31	 <p>For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.</p> <p><b>JEREMIAH 29:11</b></p>		

