

UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, August 23rd

Tim Anderson's Memorial Service

1 pm, Sanctuary/Ida Payne Fellowship Hall

Sunday, August 25th

Sunday Live Worship, 10 am, Sanctuary

<https://www.youtube.com/user/PiratesoftheColumbia>

(Click the "LIVE" link in the tool bar to see recent worship services, as well)

Thursday, September 5th

Single Support Group, 10 am

Kennewick Flower Shop

Saturday, September 7th

Holly Daze Workshop,

Susanna Wesley Room, 9 am

Sunday, September 8th (Homecoming Sunday)

Sunday School for Children Starts, 9 am,

Wesleyan Hall

Sunday, September 8th (Homecoming Sunday)

Community Carnival, 11:30 am

(See details below)

Wednesday, September 11th

LIFT – Ladies Bible Study, 6 pm, Youth Chapel

**Sunday, September 15th
Adult Sunday School Starts, 9 am, Susanna
Wesley Room**

**Saturday, September 21st
Quilt Show, 10 am – 4 pm, Sanctuary**

The Lord's Prayer – why try different versions?

For three Sundays (only three) we will use different words when we pray the Lord's Prayer. This is not to replace our traditional words, but to raise our awareness of what the words we use mean.

Often when words become extra familiar to us, we may stop noticing mean, miss fresh and meaningful insights. This happens to me sometimes when reading scripture. I begin reading and quickly think, "I know that passage—I don't have to read any more." But to know what God is saying to me *today* with those words of scripture, I must slow down, read and reread, and contemplate individual words and phrases. Sometimes the Holy Spirit sends me to look up a definition I think I already know, or what a scholar or musical artist has done with those scriptural words. It's like looking at a sculpture from many angles to see the whole work of art.

Try this exercise: write out the Lord's Prayer on a piece of paper, or type it on your tablet, computer, phone, etc.

- Did you remember all the words in their correct order the first time through? Were you more aware of some words than before?
- Did you look up the prayer in the Bible (Luke 11:2-4 and Matthew 6:9-13)
- What do you think about the different way we traditionally say in the Methodist Church? What do you think about our

use of *trespasses* instead of words like sin or debts like the Bible does?

- Did you know? Our last sentence of the prayer is not in the bible, but comes from an ancient document called The Didache, which was a manual on how to live a Christian life and included instructions on how to pray.

Below is another version of the Lord's Prayer, this one translated directly from Aramaic, the language Jesus spoke. Place it alongside the one you wrote out before and see how they reflect each other, and what new insights the Spirit gives you as you pray.

**O Birther! Father-Mother of the Cosmos,
Focus your light within us – make it useful:
Create your reign of unity now
Your one desire then acts with ours,
As in all light, So in all forms.
Grant us what we need each day in bread and
insight:
Loose the cords of mistakes binding us,
As we release the strands we hold of other's guilt.
Don't let surface things delude us,
But free us from what holds us back.
From you is born all ruling will,
The power and the life to do,
The song that beautifies all,
From age to age it renews.
I affirm this with my whole being.
Truly power to these statements –
may they be the ground from which all my actions
grow. Amen**

May you and God enjoy your prayer time together.
Pastor Shirley

Sacred Earth, Sacred Worth

When God began to create the heavens and the earth— the earth was without shape or form... and God's wind swept over the waters... God saw everything God had made: it was supremely good.

What if we lived life truly connected to the origins of Creation and the Creator? In the beginning God created all things and called them originally "good." In this series we will explore six essential ideas found in Creation Spirituality—a way of living within the community of earth that

deepens our reverence for life, participates in the creativity of the cosmos, and develops our passion for justice and human transformation. It compels us to lead lives of spiritual inquiry, creativity, and prophetic action as our sacred work in the world.

Glorious Diversity

8/25/24

"Then God scattered them from there all over the world. And they had to quit building the city. That's how it came to be called Babel, because there God turned their language into "babble." From there God scattered them all over the world." Genesis 11: 1-9
Creation Spirituality rejoices in and courageously honors the rich diversity within the Cosmos which is expressed in every individual and embodies multiple cultures, religions, and ancestral traditions. Creation is rife with theme and variation and yet fear has driven us to try to tame, label and homogenize it. What do we lose when we privilege dominant voices and limit perspectives? Diversity is another name for God and should be celebrated!

Healing Relationships

9/1/24

"Dear friends, if God loved us this way, we also ought to love each other. No one has ever seen God. If we love each other, God remains in us and God's love is made perfect in us. This is how we know we remain in God and God remains in us, because we have been given a measure of God's Spirit." - 1 John 4: 7-21
We live in sacred relationship with every other living thing. Our food, our health, our homes,

our vocations are all part of an interconnected community. Creation hangs in the
balance
when we forget this connection. We acknowledge that our species and the entire earth
community depends upon the healing of harm already done, moving toward
sustainability
for the future, and harmony that offers live-giving coexistence for all. Can we embrace
our
responsibility to care? Now is the time, if we want a future.

Sanitizers Work Best When Used

Recently the Facilities Team noticed our standing Hand Sanitizing Dispensers were not working. After investigation and a thorough cleaning, they are now repaired and working properly, however we do need your help to keep them that way! There has been another spike in Covid recently, and there are also other bugs that can harm those with compromised immune systems. Our hands easily pick up germs from every surface we touch. Please protect yourself and others by using these dispensers each time you pass one. This will also keep them free-flowing and prevent clogs. A little dab will do, and better safe than sorry. Thanks for your help.

Community Carnival

September 8th is Homecoming Sunday, and the Children and Youth Programs are throwing a community carnival! Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to join us **from 11:30 am – 1:30 pm on September 8th.**

Food will be provided.

Quilt Show

Beautiful history will be on display in our church sanctuary on **September 21st from 10 am to 4 pm.** The colors are fantastic, (even the “elderly quilts”.) You can try to “pick” your favorite, but it will be very difficult! These family treasures show love, craftsmanship, and imagination. Come share the talents of our past.

ALERT!

Impersonation Attempts

This week, we’ve seen an increase in sophisticated impersonation and social engineering attempts. Be prepared to defend against these bad actors by staying informed and vigilant.

Overview

- Attack Methods: Emails, phone calls, and text messages are being used to attempt access to online accounts and sensitive information.
- Deceptive Techniques: Bad actors use Caller ID spoofing and voice generation to create a false sense of safety and familiarity.

Key Points

- No Personal Info Requests: We will never contact you by phone, email, or text to ask for personal information like your account number, verification codes, or online banking username.

Security Reminders

- Email Security
 - Verify the sender's email address by hovering over the name.
 - Avoid opening suspicious links or attachments.
 - Be wary of emails creating urgency or using scare tactics.
 - Phone Call Security
 - Do not trust caller ID; it can be spoofed.
 - If asked for sensitive information or if something doesn't seem quite right, hang up and call the trusted number for your banker or branch.
 - Text Message Security
- Your bank will NEVER ask for personal information via text.
 - Do not click links from unknown senders.

- Verify the sender before taking any action and delete suspicious messages.

Build Trust with Us

- Get to know your bank and our team better by visiting the branch. Familiarize yourself with our branch staff and get to know your banker. Building a personal relationship with us can help you better recognize legitimate communications and be more secure.

By recognizing these signs and staying vigilant, you can protect yourself and your family from potential scams and ensure your financial security.

For safety tips on fraud prevention, visit: <https://cfbhfg.com/security-and-fraud-prevention/>

Community First Bank is a member of the American Banker's Association (ABA). Their campaign of Banks Never Ask That continues to cover these critical topics. To learn more, visit: [Banks Never Ask That! Fraud Prevention](#)