

# THE CLARION

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



"May is the month of expectation, the month of wishes, the month of hope."

Emily Brontë



*A Christ-centered, inclusive  
and loving community*



## Youth Sunday May 18 10 a.m.

Join us in worship on May 18 at 10 a.m. for our Youth Sunday celebration! We will be honoring our graduates, Max Buchholz and Josylyn Olson; our Sunday School teachers; nursery caregiver; Youth leaders; and every volunteer and parent who helps keep the youth and children's programs running.

The Youth Praise Band will lead us in worship, as our youth lead the service. We hope to see you there!



- ✓ Pastor Shirley will be on vacation May 23 – 27.
- ✓ Summer office hours will begin on June 2: 8 a.m. – 1 p.m., Monday – Thursday and closed on Fridays.
- ✓ The office will be closed Monday, May 26, in observance of Memorial Day.

May 18 is the last day of Sunday School for children and youth this year! A big THANK YOU goes out to all the volunteers who have taught and supported our children and youth in Sunday School programs this year. You are such a blessing to the families of our church! We also want to say thank you to all of the substitute teachers and parents who pitched in to help throughout the year. We look forward to seeing everyone back in the fall. Have a blessed summer!



**Youth Sunday School Teachers:**  
Alex Amegashie and Claressa Elvik

**Children's Sunday School Teachers:**  
Cheri Baker, Phyllis Merrill, Sandi Montague, Becky Phillips, Starlite Buchholz, Sierra Hogg, Gracee Glesener, and Reneé Glesener

Thanks

A VERY special thank you goes to **Jim Deatherage** and **Bob Kelly** for their faithful leadership of our Adult Sunday School class, which will finish up in early May. We appreciate you both! 😊



## Invitational Luncheon To Bring Joy May 17, 11:30 a.m.

United Women in Faith invites you to our annual salad luncheon to hear from our distinguished speaker, Conner Sullivan, a third-generation fruit farmer who works hard to preserve and enhance the agricultural heritage of his family. With a deep understanding of the intricacies of farming and a passion for sustainable practices, our speaker brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to share at this event.

Over the years, their farm has thrived, producing some of the finest fruits that grace our tables. The journey from the farm to your table is a fascinating process that Mr. Sullivan will unravel, giving you an inside look at the meticulous care and dedication that goes into cultivating, harvesting, and delivering fresh produce to consumers.

But farming is not without its challenges. In today's volatile economic landscape, local farmers face numerous hurdles that impact their livelihoods. Sullivan will delve into these issues, sharing insights on how economic fluctuations affect small-scale farmers and exploring the strategies they employ to navigate these turbulent times.

Prepare to be enlightened and inspired as we learn about the farm-to-table journey and gain a deeper appreciation for the resilience and innovation of local farmers in the face of economic adversity.

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All UWF units throughout the Seven Rivers District are invited and will be warmly welcomed to the 11:30 a.m. luncheon festivities.

If you plan to attend (and we hope you do!) please let President Kathy Wertman know by May 9. Her phone number is 509-308-2904. Kathy, of course, will be the mistress of ceremony.

Two caring UWF members, Phyllis Koschik and Nita Kamphuis are coordinating the event. Deb Reeve will give the devotion. **All Kennewick First attendees are asked to bring a salad.**

Set up will be at 2 p.m. on Friday, May 16, for all who can help. Joy Fellowship, led by Debie Britton, will provide table favors and the centerpieces. Joy members will meet at 7 p.m. on Thursday, May 8, in the home of Lynnaie Kelly to create the special gifts for the luncheon guests.

In other UWF news, **Holly Daze** enthusiasts will start off the month with a **workshop on May 3** in the Susanna Wesley Room from 9 a.m. to noon. Those attending will paint Christmas trees and wooden turkey feathers for pumpkins. The crafters will also hand stitch on pillow covers and decorate Christmas stockings.

Co-chairs Susan Sandmeier and Darryl Vaughn welcome both new ideas and new participants to this friendly group that creates items to sell for the Holly Daze bazaar in October.

The **prayer shawl group** will also meet the morning of **Saturday, May 3**, in the church's reception area. Annie Baker and Janet Shelton will warmly greet prayer shawl creators. New knitters and crocheters are invited, and patterns and yarn will be available. Please bring your finished shawls — shawls will be dedicated at the May 11 church service.

The **UWF Book Club** selection for May is *A Right Worthy Woman* by Ruth P. Watson. The readers will meet at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, May 20. All are invited. For details, contact Darryl Vaughn. The club will continue to meet over summer, too.



## **Easter Season Worship Series: Believing into Christ**

Throughout this season, we will explore themes from Revelation and the Gospel of John about what is possible when we believe. The book\* by Natalya A. Cherry, *Believing into Christ*, may be a helpful accompaniment to the series as we learn more about the power of our belief in Christ, how belief is not only an intellectual endeavor and assent to the power of God to transform, but also a process that helps us use our hands and feet in ways similar to how Jesus used his hands and feet to seek out and address the hurting ones, including our planet and its most vulnerable people and beyond-human creatures.

April 27      Embodied Believing  
Revelation 1:4 – 8  
John 20:19 – 31

May 4          Circling Toward Food Justice  
Revelation 5:11 – 14  
John 21:1 – 19

May 11        Springs of Living Water  
Revelation 7:9 – 17  
John 10:22 – 30

May 18        A New World  
This is Youth Sunday; the Youth may choose a different focus.  
Revelation 21:1 – 6  
John 13:31 – 35

May 25        The Tree of Life  
Pastor Shirley will be on vacation; the guest preacher may choose a different focus.  
Revelation 21:10, 22 – 22:5  
John 14:23 – 29

June 1          Becoming One  
Revelation 22:12 – 14, 16 – 17, 20 – 21  
John 17:20 – 26

*\*Pastor Shirley is reading the book, but she warns it is a dense read and an expensive purchase.*



The Buy-a-Brick Fundraising Campaign continues! This campaign will help

offset the cost of the church beautification project.

**The Buy-a-Brick committee members will have a paver campaign day on Youth Sunday, May 18,** where you may place your order for an engraved paver (brick) to be permanently installed in the Kennewick First UMC courtyard. **Following this event, your next opportunity at an in-person campaign event will be in September! However, you will still be able to order a brick through the office during office hours, and forms are available in the entryway and on the website. You may pay with cash or check, through PushPay, or by credit card.**

You are invited to purchase a paver to commemorate someone — a living or deceased family member or friend, or even yourself! The bricks are all one size with the same font (lettering). There are assorted icons that can be added to mark an event such as baptism, wedding, or membership date, etc., for an extra fee. The cost of each 6 by 12-inch paver is \$200; an icon is an additional \$25. The pavers will be laid in 2026, but the campaign is beginning now to help raise the funds needed to start the front courtyard project.

Funds raised will be used for both the church beautification project and future facilities projects. This project will add to the beauty of our neighborhood and will help those who see and enter our building feel the holy presence of God.

Questions? Call Cynthia at 509-582-2163 or Reneé at 509-308-2627.

## KFUMC Single Senior Support Group



**May 1 at 10 a.m.**

Kennewick Flower Shop &  
Tri City Coffee Company  
604 W. Kennewick Ave, Kennewick

Whether you are widowed, divorced, or have always been single, we would like to invite you to gather with other Seniors from your church to share life's joys, concerns, and faith. The group meets monthly and informally at the Kennewick Flower Shop — which houses the Tri City Coffee Company, where you can purchase a cup of coffee or the like and chat with friends. May this be a place where friends gather to lend encouragement, laugh, and share stories with each other.

**The group meets the first Thursday of each month at 10 a.m.**



## *Living In Faith Together*

The LIFT Bible Study will end for the program year on May 28. Thank you to our leaders: Peggy Puryear, Cynthia Bement, Reneé Wilhelm, Michelle Hare, and Sheryl Dyer for bringing the devotional word with scripture and to Gladys Amegashie for bringing us baked goods on a regular basis!

“There is nothing in a caterpillar that tells you it's going to be a butterfly.”

—Buckminster Fuller





## **KFUMC and Tri-Cities Community Connections (TCCC [www.tricityesc.org](http://www.tricityesc.org) ) in Partnership**

We bring our building, our place in the community, and our volunteers. They bring experience, networks, and money. Together we will support our neighbors in need through educational and economic development.

### **Summer Camps**

Beginning July 14, Monday – Thursday mornings at KFUMC, we will host three weeks of Summer Camps for children, Middle School, or Elementary School, depending on the type of camp.

Since food-insecurity in our neighborhood is high, KFUMC will provide a substantial and healthy snack. The teaching will be done by young-adult missionaries hired by TCCC. The program will be supported by KFUMC volunteers.

Check your calendar and save your mornings in July. **The details are still being finalized, and when they are, we will put out the call for volunteers.** Background checks are required for volunteers.

#### **YOU CAN HELP**

- Pray for this ministry and the people it will bless.
- Contribute to the special offering on Youth Sunday. Traditionally received for Camperships, this year the offering will first fund snacks, with the leftover going to Camperships.
- Volunteer.

### **Sewing Center**

The double classroom on the balcony overlooking Ida Payne Hall is being prepared for the sewing machines and cutting tables to move in. The first class will begin in September. The class schedule will include two 5-week sessions per quarter, Fall-Winter-Spring. Classes will happen on Saturdays, with open sewing time scheduled during the week.

Eventually the classes will be taught by community members in the languages of the students. The first class might be taught by one of our own volunteers in English to members of our church — whatever it takes to get us started. Later teachers will be hired through grants acquired by TCCC. Registration for the classes will be required and limited to the space and machines at hand.

#### **YOU CAN HELP**

- Pray for this ministry and the people it will bless.
- Set aside fabric, notions, tools, and other sewing supplies you no longer need.
- Tune up sewing machines you no longer want and prepare to donate them for sewing students from the community to take home.
- When the donation bins are ready, bring your things and trade them for tax-receipt.

Pastor Shirley



Soul Soup continues serving about 80 meals each Thursday (sometimes more), and every third Sunday we prepare 160 burritos for distribution by Carol Allenbaugh and her street ministry.

submitted a \$30,000 grant request to Wild Horse Foundation. If approved, the funds would become available on July 1. In the meantime, if you can assist with a donation, please do (checks to KFUMC with Soul Soup in the memo line). We continue to receive in-kind donation, but are still spending about \$200 a week for food and supplies.

*Thank you*

The Soul Soup account, managed by KFUMC for all the participating ministries, is declining rapidly. In concert with the Kennewick Kiwanis Foundation, we have



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## Church Campout at Boardman Marina Park

Friday Afternoon, August 15 – Sunday, August 17,  
at Noon



The church has reserved camp sites at the Boardman Marina Park. Please check your calendar and reserve your site by calling the church office and mailing a check for \$125 for an RV site or \$45 for a tent site. The RV sites offer water, electricity, and sewer, and the grassy tent sites have water and a picnic table. Cynthia will confirm your reservation and mail you information regarding your site number and park specifics. This is a wonderful opportunity to gather with your family surrounded by your church community in a beautiful, casual setting.

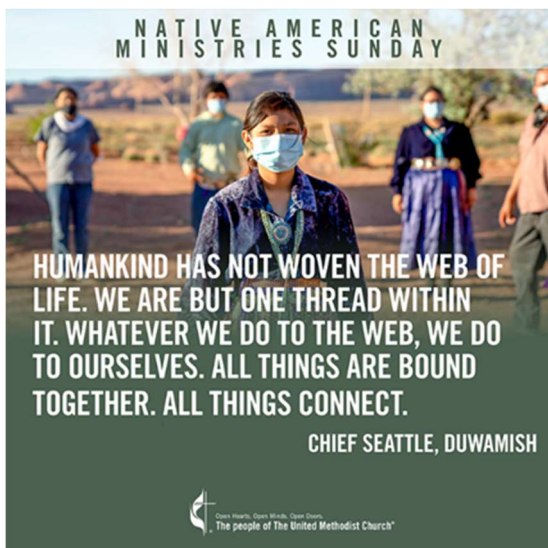
Go to the church website, print the Campout form, and mail it with the check or register by calling the office.

- Mail \$125 check to Kennewick 1st UMC, 421 W. Kennewick Ave., Kennewick WA 99336.
- Write "Campout" in the memo of your check, or you may send it electronically through "PushPay" and make a notation "Campout."
- Tent sites are allowed (2) tents; RVs that add a tent to their site are charged an extra \$10 fee.
- Pets are allowed on a leash.

Please reserve your spot now!! Questions? Call Cynthia at the church office 509-582-2163.

## May 4 – Native American Ministries Special Offering

United Methodists are called to recognize and honor the gifts and contributions made by Native Americans to our society and church. The United Methodist Church acknowledges a gap in understanding Native American life and culture, while affirming the sacredness of Indigenous peoples, their languages, their unique identities, and their contributions to the church and the world.



- 50% of the funds collected on Native American Ministries Sunday stay within the annual conference to support Native American ministries.
- 25% of donations fund scholarships for Native Americans pursuing ordained or licensed ministry at any approved theological school.
- 25% of donations collected are allocated to develop impactful programs in collaboration with established Native ministries to create new initiatives for Native American communities.

**The Greater Northwest UMC Circle of Indigenous Ministries, an example of such ministries, is committed to life-affirming and healing relationships with Native American and Indigenous peoples.**

## May 18 – Special Offerings

### *United Methodist Student Day*

United Methodist Student Day is observed to emphasize the value of education. Contributions received through this special Sunday support scholarships for United Methodist students pursuing undergraduate and graduate degrees. Through scholarship funding, we demonstrate the church's commitment to developing principled leaders for a worldwide community. This investment fosters community transformation and empowers future leaders. Thanks to your generosity, over \$200,000 was raised last year to fund scholarships for United Methodist students. Every dollar collected on United Methodist Student Day goes directly toward these scholarships.

KFUMC students have been recipients of these scholarships.

### *Summer Camp Snacks and Camperships*

The special offering on Youth Sunday is traditionally received for Camperships. This year we will first fund snacks for the Summer Camps; unused funds will go to Camperships. We have plenty of money banked to send our students to church camp, and we are excited to support this new effort to minister to our neighbors.



*This Photo by Unknown Author is Licensed*

## All-Church Roller Skating

Location: Rollarena Skating Center  
849 Stevens Drive in Richland

Date: Sunday, June 1, 2025

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 PM

*Hosted by the UMY and Sunday School Department*

Come and enjoy a Christian music skating night. The entry fee and regular roller skate rentals are on us!\* This is an all-church family and friend event.

Call the church office at (509) 582-2163 with any questions.

*\*If you want to upgrade to roller blades/speed skates, the cost to you will be \$2. The skate trainer for the little ones is \$3.*



## Youth Rally

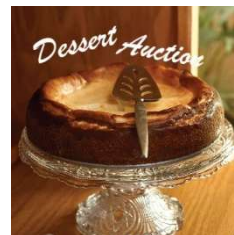
May 9, 6 p.m., through May 10 at 2 p.m., the KFUMC youth program will host other youth programs from across eastern

Washington at a Youth Rally. Please be in prayer for this gathering and those who attend as we join together in fellowship and devotion.

This will be the first time in over 10 years that KFUMC has hosted a Youth Rally for the churches in the Seven Rivers and Inland Districts! I (Claressa) am very excited to be working on this in conjunction with other youth groups and youth directors in our district. Praise be to God that we can bring our youth together in this way!

*Jesus, you are the stable rock on which I stand, the warm water in which I float peacefully, the fragrant air that energizes my being. In you I rest and am strengthened for faithful living.*

Thank you to everyone who attended or donated to the Dessert Auction. This fun event brought in nearly \$18,000 and fully funded our 2025 Sr. Mission Trip and the program year!



We look forward to serving in Alaska June 14 – 22 and to the ways our hearts will grow as we serve those in need.



Registration for PNW camps is open NOW. The church is offering Camperships of up to \$350 for children and youth associated with the church.

Cynthia Bement will be the Twinlow Camp Spiritual Director June 29 – July 3; during that week, there will be a Primary camp, an Elementary camp, and a Jr High Watersports camp. Please call Claressa Elvik at the church office (509-582-2163) with any questions.





Anakin Elvik	1-May
Eric Baumann	2-May
Madeline Keaney	2-May
Lynnaie Kelly	2-May
Linda Tucker	2-May
Debra Williamson	2-May
Patrick Bannworth	5-May
Brandon Elvik	5-May
Mikayla Mason	5-May
Joshua Troxel	5-May
Nathaniel Door	7-May
Darlene Nelson	7-May
Joan Osborne	7-May
Nickolas Wilhelm	7-May
Kiauna Canada	9-May
Madilyn Haberling	9-May
Rylee Mason	9-May
Larry Berg	11-May
Ryan Young	13-May
Noah Baker	14-May
Austin Basche	14-May
Kathleen Crouner	14-May
Gunnar Glazier	14-May
Blake O'Donnell	14-May
Holly Bergum	15-May
Cory Hare	17-May
Katherine Meline	19-May
Diana Kuwa	21-May
Adah Kuwa	22-May
Molly Buchholz	23-May
Audrey Door	23-May
Wilma Muncey	26-May
Raygen Woodford	27-May
John Hunt	29-May
Heather Ramirez	29-May



Kevin Loomis	1-Jun
Alex Amegashie	2-Jun
Rachel Loomis	2-Jun
Corey Osborn	2-Jun



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

Jim Choate, Karen Irwin, Marion Sundvik, Lloyd Leathers, Dorothy Lyle, Rita McElroy, Joan Osborne, Buddy Fish, Peggy Snyder, Etta Ballard, Bishop Cedrick Bridgeforth, and our District Superintendent, Rev. Daniel Miranda.



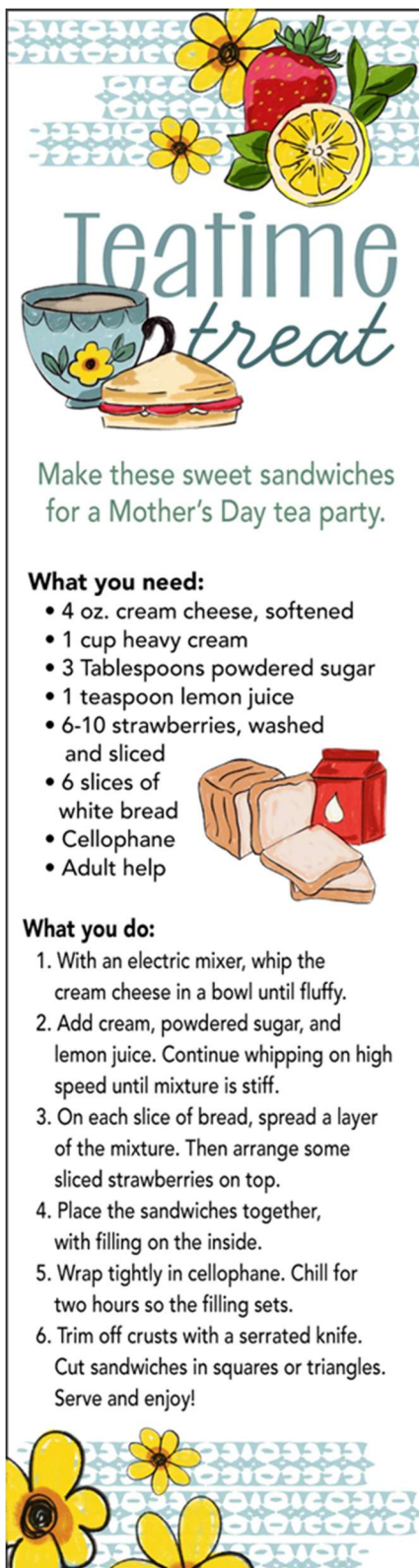
**Jerry Wilhelm** entered life eternal on Friday, April 11. Please pray for Reneé, daughter Brooke, son Nick, along with son-in-law Danny and grand girls, Ivy and Emilia. Prayers will also be appreciated for Jerry's brothers and his mother-in-law, Shirley Miller. Jerry was a man of God who served others, including as a UMY leader and driver of our Big Bus. A celebration of Jerry's life is planned for May 17 at 4:00 p.m. at the church.

A memorial service for **Wes Door**, who passed on March 24, will be held on Friday, May 30, at 11 a.m. Let's continue to be in prayer for Betty and the rest of Wes' family.

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*Praying at all times in the Spirit, with all prayer and supplication. To that end, keep alert with all perseverance, making supplication for all the saints.*

Ephesians 6:18



***Happy Mother's Day!***  
***May 11***

## ***Seizing holy opportunities***

In Holy Moments, Matthew Kelly discusses the world's need for more small (but sometimes large) instances of people caring for others, cultivating joy, encouragement and love instead of anger, envy, fear. Kelly defines a Holy Moment as "a single moment in which you open yourself to God. ... You set aside personal preference and self-interest, and for one moment you do what you prayerfully believe God is telling you to do."

This may mean mowing the lawn for a neighbor with a broken leg, praising a child on his artwork, buying a surprise snack for someone having a bad day, working extra shifts for a coworker with cancer so she can receive her full salary while out sick, paying for the next car's drive-thru order. Anyone can create a Holy Moment, because you don't need special skills, position or wealth. "If you want to see miracles, make yourself available to God," Kelly suggests.

He adds that God has a track record of collaborating with "the most unlikely people to make amazing things happen, and now He wants to collaborate with you." When we're open to God's leading, holy opportunities abound. And we will experience as much joy as the ones to whom we show care.

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

2 South Dayton

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

### **Sunday Morning Schedule**

Sunday School at 9 a.m.  
Sanctuary Worship at 10 a.m.  
Nursery Provided

### **Church Office Hours**





Monday–Thursday  
8 a.m. to noon and 1 to 4 p.m.  
Friday, 8 a.m. to noon

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



# UMY May Calendar



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Community Orchestra Concert 3pm
4 9am Sunday School  <b>Day of Service 4-6pm</b>	5	6	7	8	9 Youth Rally!!! <b>6pm</b> Overnighter See attached info	10 <b>Youth Rally Ends at 2pm</b>
11 9am Sunday School  <b>No Youth Group</b> 	12	13	14	15	16	17  Youth Sunday Dress Rehearsal <b>9:45am</b>
18 9am Sunday School  <b>Youth Sunday—Arrive by 9:30am</b>  <b>Softball 4-6pm</b> 	19	20	21	22	23	
25  <b>Mini Golf—Bring a water bottle!</b> <b>Drop off at the old Golf Universe Course</b> <b>off of Clearwater—\$5 per youth</b> <b>2-4pm</b> 	26	27	28	29	30	