

**SPOKANE VALLEY
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**
115 NORTH RAYMOND ROAD
SPOKANE VALLEY WA 99206
509 924-7262

Return Service Requested

Non Profit Org.
US Postage
PAID
Permit No. 69
Spokane, WA

Sundays

Traditional Service 9 a.m.
Contemporary Worship 11 a.m.
Youth Group 6 p.m.

Staff:

Congregation: Ministers of the Church
Mike Graef: Pastor
Noreen Duffy: Church Secretary
Ed Poblete: Custodian
Alyssa Arnold: Children's Ministry
Kyra Straub: Youth Ministry
Jessica Lunceford: Nursery
Betsy Pletscher: Piano & Organist
**Tracey Partridge: Contemporary
Worship & Choir Director**
Margie Manfred: Hospitality Director
Nate Dunigan: Technical Ministry

Volunteer Staff Position:
Shirley Porter: Lay Leader

Church Office: (509) 924-7262
Office Hours

Monday-Friday
9:00am to 3:00pm
Closed Noon to 1:00pm

Church Website:
www.spokanevalleychurch.org
Church E-mail:
secretary@spokanevalleychurch.org



OUR PURPOSE: *Spokane Valley United Methodist Church is here to invite people to: follow Jesus, love others, and transform the greater community through the grace of God.*



CONNECTIONS

February 2020

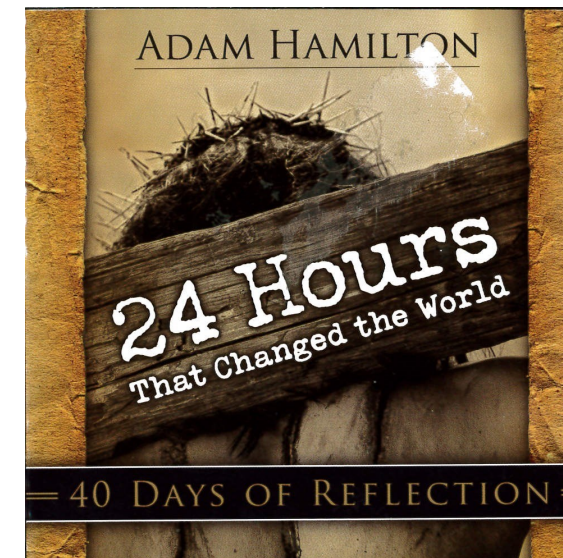
Chasing Adventures, March 7th

Doors open at 4:45 p.m.
Dinner from 5:30-6:30.

Tickets go on sale February 23rd:
\$15 adults, \$7 children, children under 5 free

**Please note: auction donation forms should be
turned in by February 14, 2020.**

Questions?
Please contact Roberta Headley at 238-6583.



LENTEN BIBLE STUDY

A Lenten Bible Study will begin the first week of March and meet once a week for 7 weeks. The study will be Adam Hamilton's book and video, "24 HOURS THAT CHANGED THE WORLD." The study begins with the Last Supper and final session is the Resurrection. Leading the group will be Shirley Porter, Lay Leader. To sign up stop at the JUST ASK ME DESK on February 2nd and 9th or call Shirley at 924-2830.

ASH WEDNESDAY is February 26th

This Ash Wednesday the congregation of Opportunity Presbyterian Church will be joining us. They in turn have invited us to worship with them in their building on Maundy Thursday, April 9th. Service starts at 6 PM. Nursery care will be available.





Prayer is a priority at Spokane Valley United Methodist Church. It supports the needs of the Church, individuals, community and our world. For all of your prayer requests contact Margie Collin at (509) 922-8371 or email: prayer_svumc@yahoo.com

DID YOU KNOW?

Did your recent statement reflect what you gave last year? If you put cash in the plate we have no way of knowing who gave. If you put your money in an envelope with your name on it, we can credit the giving to you.



The Senior Lunch Bunch

will meet on Sunday, February 9, 12:30 p.m., (new time) at Twiggs in the Valley Mall for a delicious meal, conversation and laughter. At Twiggs, we will go to the Banquet Room to the left of the main entrance. The Senior Lunch Bunch is a new group designed for fellowship and for a support for those experiencing grief and life's challenges.

Reservations are required so that we can give the restaurant an accurate count. Please sign up at the Just Ask Me Desk by Sunday, February 2. If you need to cancel or have questions, please contact Nancy Ashworth, 509 993 9074 or nancya53@live.com.

PEEK AT THE PRESENT

Time for a change at Coffee Chat!



Featuring Tom Sawyer's Country Coffee, we will now be using Tom Sawyer's Country Blend (Fair Trade!)

The new system will mean new procedures, so Mary Picken will be happy to offer a training course. Directions will also be posted in the kitchen.



United
Methodist
Women

FAITH • HOPE • LOVE IN ACTION

United Methodist Women shall be a community of women whose purpose is to know God and to experience freedom as whole persons through Jesus Christ; to develop a creative, supportive fellowship; and to expand concepts of mission through participation in the global ministries of the church.

Congratulations to Spokane Valley United Methodist Women for beginning their 6th year as a member of the Charter for Racial Justice Club!

Racial justice is an ongoing focus of United Methodist Women's mission work. The United Methodist Women's Charter for Racial Justice was created and adopted by the Women's Division in 1978 and successfully adopted by the whole denomination in 1980. If you would like to see a copy of the charter, visit the Just Ask Me Desk on Sunday, February 16th. Linda Hansen, Inland Missional District United Methodist Women Social Action Coordinator will be at the desk to answer questions and share information about the Charter and United Methodist Women. To become a member of this club a unit must read and study the Charter and then complete activities relating to Racial Justice. Each year we must do one activity to keep our membership current. This year besides revisiting the charter in each circle we will be supporting Broadway Elementary School's Game Night on February 21st. The circles will be providing and selling cookies during the event. No matter how much money is raised the unit has assured Broadway PTO \$200 which will benefit the Broadway children.



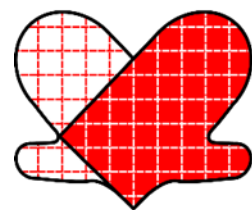
Sarah Circle – February 3rd at 6:30 pm in the Fireplace Room
Esther Circle – February 4th at 12:30 pm in the Fireplace Room
Rachel Circle – February 13th at Noon in the Fireplace Room
Rebekah Circle – February 18th at 11:00 am in Room 115
Daughters of Dorcas Quilting – Every Wednesday at 1:00 pm in Room 125.

When Did Everybody Else Get So Old? Indignities, Compromises, and the Unexpected Grace of Midlife By: Jennifer Grant

What is considered midlife? Forty, Forty-two, or Fifty? Is midlife ahead of you, or is it long past? This book examines the physical, spiritual and emotional changes unique to the middle years. Jennifer Grant is a working mother of four, who writes a humorous and tender account of her life that transitions from sippy cups and soccer games through the challenges of dealing with teenagers and their struggles to become responsible adults to the sagging efforts of aging. She also shares about her sister's depression and cancer and grief over her death. This book will invoke lots of laughter and some tears.

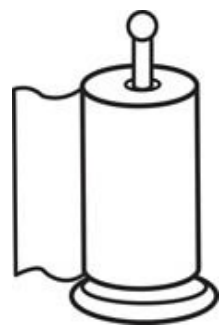


-Sue McGovney smcgovney@gmail.com



Helping Hands
serving one another in love
GALATIANS 5:13

Final Results for Tree of Giving
100 bus passes for Naomi & Spokane Valley Partners
70 Gas cards for Family Promise
43 pants, 43 shirts, 24 socks and underwear for 86 children for Mission Community Outreach Center



Naomi Paper Product Collection
Paper Towels & Toilet Paper
February 2nd & 9th
Bring to the Just Ask Me Desk



So far we have received \$1,475 from the Christmas Letter

The money benefits The Unaccompanied Refugee Foster Care program and the Human Trafficking program at Lutheran Community Services.
If you still wish to donate, it is not too late!

A check for \$2,094.95
was sent for this year's Covenant Relationship with Katherine Parker
Thank you for your generosity!

(Visit the Mission Table in the Welcome Center to read a Christmas Card Note from Katherine.)

And Now

Mission and Service will begin again to raise the money for our 2021 Covenant Relationship with Katherine Parker, our support for Children At Risk in Honduras, our support for Emany at the Jamaa Letu Orphanage in Africa. How do we do this you ask? We do this by selling our famous Cinnamon Rolls.

Cinnamon Roll Sale
February 23rd
Don't miss it!



"Do all the good you can, By all the means you can, In all the ways you can, In all the places you can, At all the times you can, To all the people you can, As long as ever you can." John Wesley

From Our Pastor, Mike Graef

Dear Valley Methodist friends,

I love this time of year, and not just for the snow skiing (which, as of this writing, I've done none of – but I am going Heli-skiing up in BC in February, for the first time in my life. I'm excited!). I love this time of year because of all of the exciting plans in the life of our church which unfold from February through the end of June. Here's just a sampling. Plans are still forming for some of these things.

Ash Wednesday and Maundy Thursday (Easter week Thursday) worship services, shared with Opportunity Presbyterian Church. Ash Wednesday here, Maundy Thursday there.

Our wonderful Auction March 7 to raise money to send every kid to camp with the beautiful scholarship.

I'll be preaching a Lenten sermon series called "They Met On The Way To Calvary" – Caiaphas, Pilate, Barabbas, and Simon, one per Sunday for four Lenten worship services. I'm excited about this series!

A new small group is forming in March, and will be launched by Shirley Porter with the Adam Hamilton "24 Hours" curriculum.

A Special worship emphasis/ crusade, with a worship attendance goal of 225 on one Sunday morning, is being planned for March 29! 9AM + 11AM = 225! we can do it. Fun!

The Palm Sunday April 5 Holy Week Cantata 10AM worship, here in our sanctuary. And that very afternoon at 4 PM, in downtown Spokane, a Spokane County-wide United Methodist worship service, the Cantata "Song Of The Shadows" as a fundraiser for Shalom Ministries.

Easter Sunday! Easter breakfast, Great music, Christ is risen, what could be better?!

Spiritual Gifts Discovery Workshop II will begin on Sunday with an introductory April 19 session, 4 PM-5PM. Six sessions will follow starting April 26, using a great new curriculum. Six classes total at that 4-5 PM time slot, first soup suppers will follow each week from 5-5:30 PM. Ends in late May or early June. I get to facilitate this time!

The United Methodist General Conference, May 5-15, in Minneapolis. This could be a game changer! Please keep this conference in your prayers.

June graduations of our very own College and High School students. And here at church, our Disciple Bible study Year 1 one and Year 3 classes will graduate. About 20 people who have been studying the Bible together all year long on Wednesday nights! Our whole church is stronger because people study the Bible together in our church every week in many ways.

June 14 after Sunday morning worship, our own youth group departs for a week long mission trip in Portland Oregon.

And that's just off the top of my head. Lots of things left unmentioned, not intentionally. Just so much to celebrate in the life of our wonderful congregation.

Will February roar back with another blast of Arctic air and snow? Will your hoped-for Super Bowl team win? What will March Madness be like for the Zags? Whatever changes may come in personal health, family dynamics, job gain or loss, "We know that all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called according to his purpose." Romans 8.28

The Lord has led me to set aside 20 minutes each day for prayer and meditation. It's a game changer every single day. I walk into that 20 minutes in one frame of mind, and walk out of it transformed. Really, this happens. And that's also my experience of Sunday mornings at church. The whole week is different because I worshiped with the congregation on Sunday morning. I encourage you to keep these two disciplines among the many that you do, to strengthen your Christian walk. 2020 will be a great year in many ways! And the best of all (as John Wesley said) God is with us! Grateful to be,

Your Pastor, Mike



Thank you to everyone who sent prayer requests, get well cards and good wishes to me after my recent surgery. Your thoughts and prayers were greatly appreciated. Sincerely, Anita Dawson

SOUP-ER Bowl and **SUPER Bowl** are both on February 2, 2020! Youth will collect your loose change after both services to help raise funds for **Family Promise of Spokane**. Last year SVUMC donated more than \$300.00! Let's fill the soup pots on Sunday, February 2nd



Spokane Valley UMC's own Bruce Butler says:

FOR THOSE 70-½ OR OLDER
HERE'S ONE GREAT WAY TO FULFILL YOUR YEARLY ESTIMATE OF GIVING

Are you age 70-1/2 or older? Do you have a traditional IRA (not a Roth IRA) to which you have contributed pre income tax monies? If so, you are probably familiar with the Required Minimum Distribution, or RMD, which is a calculated amount of money that you **MUST** withdraw each year from your IRA account. If you fail to do this, the IRS can and will fine you! Good IRA managers will inform you about the RMD requirement and amount, which changes from year to year. While the monies invested in a traditional IRA are pre-tax, the monies withdrawn, including RMD monies, are generally taxable.

However there is a way to avoid having to pay Income Tax on monies withdrawn from your IRA, including the RMD monies. This is legal if you make a QCD distribution. QCD stands for "Qualified Charitable Distribution". The key wording here is that the check from your IRA account **must be made out to the receiving charity** and it must be cashed by them in the same year that you are making the withdrawal from your IRA. A charity must be a 501(c)(3) organization to receive tax-free IRA charitable contributions.

This is a great way to fulfill your yearly estimate (pledge) of giving. You could make your QCD withdrawal monthly, quarterly, or semi-annually. Just don't wait until the end of December to do it!

Another caveat; if you itemize your tax return, you cannot claim a deduction for these QCD monies. This seems obvious; you already got a break by not having to pay income tax on that money.

Here is a link to an excellent article by Emily Brandon, Senior Editor, U.S. News & World Report: <https://money.usnews.com/money/retirement/iras/articles/how-to-donate-to-charity-from-your-ira>

The above is to generate interest only and is not Tax Advice in any way shape or form. Please consult your tax professional for Tax Advice.

YOUTH MINISTRY

COFFEE CHAT on Sunday, February 9th from 5:00 – 7:00. Each of us needs to bring cookies with Valentine's Day colors. We will all serve between services so please *be ready to stay for clean up after Coffee Chat*.

PIZZA NIGHT will be on Sunday, February 9th. Everyone should to sign up to bring an item for the pizzas. Sign-up is on Kyra's window. Craig the Chef will lead us all in this fun activity! Bring your own beverage.

February 16th from 4:30 - 6:00 will be the **delayed** annual **Formal Dinner and Gift Exchange**. **We will be eating at Dragon Inn at 12909 E Sprague. Wrap your gift in Christmas Paper. Do not pay more than \$12.00 for your gift.** Feel free to bring a friend with you to the Formal Dinner, but remember they have to follow the dress code and bring a gift for the gift exchange. **They do not need permission slips for this event.** Have your parents drop you off and pick you up at the restaurant. We should be finished with dinner and the gift exchange by 6:30 pm and ready for parents to pick-up their Youth at the restaurant at that time.

Sno-Tubing and Pizza on Sunday the 23rd!!! We will leave the church at 12:30 and return by 6:00. Sno-Tubing will be at Bear Creek Lodge – dress warm! After that we will go to Cheney's Restaurant and have pizza and soda. You **must** turn in a completed Release Form (get from Kyra) signed by your parents, your name **must** be on the sign-up sheet and \$5.00 cash toward the event **must** be paid to Kyra **no later than February 16th**.

02/02 SOUP-ER BOWL SUNDAY – collecting change from parishioners after both services
NO Youth Group

02/09 COFFEE CHAT – Valentine Themed Cookies

02/16 Youth Group at 4:30 – 6:00 FORMAL DINNER @ Dragon Inn - see details above

02/23 Youth Group will be Sno-Tubing 12:30 – 6:00 followed by Pizza & Pop see details above.



Redeem Your Bible Bucks! The next Bible Buck Sunday is March 29th, from 10:15 a.m. - 10:45 a.m. The children can redeem their Bible Bucks upstairs across from the elevator. Marlene McCoy will be by the glass case where the prizes are on display. Curious how to earn Bible Bucks for the store? Talk with a Sunday School Teacher and get an updated "How To" list! Here is the Bible Buck schedule for 2020:

MARCH 29TH

JUNE 15TH

SEPTEMBER 27TH

DECEMBER 13TH

February 2nd: Lesson: Jesus Calms the Storm

The Lord Jesus is always there to help, no matter where or when we need Him.

February 9th: Lesson: Jesus Heals the Blind

Jesus loves each of us very much and that He is willing to work in all our lives, no matter what our problems may be.

February 16th: Lesson: Jesus Walks on Water

With faith in Jesus, we can have the courage to do mighty things.

February 23rd:

Lesson: Jesus Raises Lazarus

This lesson shows the power Jesus has over life and death, which is miraculously illustrated when He raises Lazarus from the dead.

9am & 11am Sunday School + Nursery

***"Start children off on the way they should go, and even when they are grown they will not turn from it."* -Proverbs 22:6**