

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

Sundays
Traditional Service 9 a.m.
Sunday School 9a.m

Staff:
Congregation: Ministers of the Church
Alissa Amestoy: Reverend
Betsy Pletscher: Piano & Organist
Luke Henderson: Director of Music
Margie Manfred: Hospitality Director
Amanda Johnson: Church Secretary
Nate Dunigan: Technical Ministry
James Gilreath- Youth Ministries
Samantha Wallace- Children's
Ministries
Britny Grovom- Sunday School
teacher
Cassandra Strickland: Nursery Caregiver

Volunteer Staff Position:
Shirley Porter: Lay Leader

Church Office: (509) 924-7262
Office Hours
Monday-Friday
9:00am to 12:00pm
1:00pm to 3:00pm

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

Return Service Requested



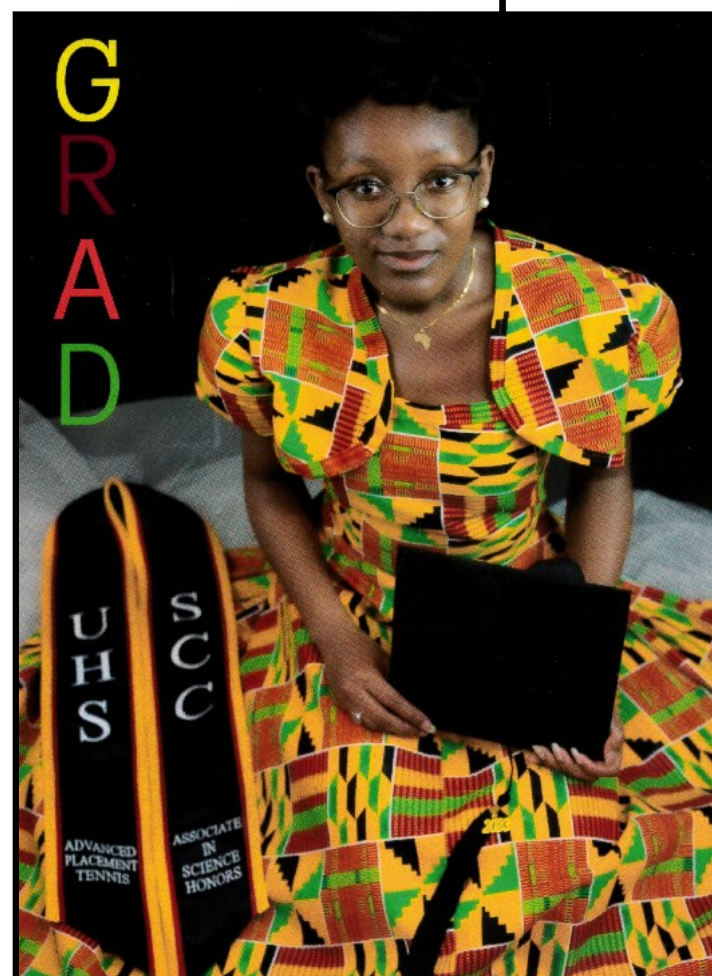
OUR PURPOSE: *Spokane Valley United Methodist Church is here to invite people to: follow Jesus, love others, and transform the greater community through the grace of God.*

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



CONNECTIONS

June 2023 



**Kiyah
Young- Wilson**
Class of 2023



After four years of hard work, we are thrilled to announce the graduations of our daughter Kiyah from University High School and Spokane Community College.

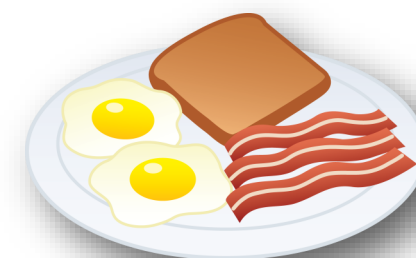
University High School Graduation:
June 10th, 12 Noon at Gonzaga University
Spokane Community College Graduation:
June 16th, 7:00pm at Spokane Veterans Memorial Arena
African Dress Designed and Made by Kiyah

Spokane Valley United Women in Faith
welcome

Reverend Katy Shedlock
She is preaching on June 18th for
United Women in Faith Sunday



**Father's Day Breakfast led by our
Youth Group to fundraise for
Twinlow summer camp.
Fellowship Hall 10:00 a.m.**



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

Have you ever wondered what the difference is between a disciple and an apostle?

We often interchange them as though they mean the same thing, but in the Koine (Common) Greek of the Bible, they had very distinct meanings. *Disciple* came to English by way of the Latin “discipulus” (a learner or student) and is derived from the Koine word *mathetes*, which means a pupil (i.e., of a teacher) or an apprentice (i.e., to a master craftsman). Apostle, on the other hand, is defined in English as “a messenger, envoy, or delegate - one commissioned by another to represent him or her in some way”. It comes from the Greek work *apóstolos*, meaning “one who is sent away”; essentially, a messenger and ambassador.

More carefully defined, it’s clear that a disciple and an apostle aren’t the same thing. During his ministry Jesus called people to follow him as a teacher and, therefore, become his disciples. While Jesus invited hundreds to be his pupils and learn from his teachings, the 12 disciples were being specially trained as apprentices. Jesus’ craft just happened to be “kingdom building” vs. your traditional carpentry or other trade skill. After his resurrection, Jesus starts to transition the 12 into the new role he has for them of being apostles: his messengers, ambassadors, and envoys of himself in the world. Then, once commissioned as apostles, they went forth to invite others to follow them as disciples until they were ready to be commissioned as apostles, and so forth.

This process of becoming a disciple, then being commissioned as an apostle, is one that has been repeated an innumerable number of times since Jesus and the original 12. In truth, it’s THE process by which all followers of Christ are encouraged to participate - becoming first a student who learns from someone more knowledgeable in the faith, and then, once ready, being commissioned as an apostle to go forth and be Christ’s presence in the world, mentoring others as they seek to become disciples and so on.

Our stated mission in the United Methodist Church derives from this formula: *to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world*. But here’s the truth - no matter what Christian denomination or church you’re a part of, discipleship is at the heart of everything we do because becoming a disciple doesn’t happen by

accident...which is why many congregations have an on-going emphasis on disciple-making and work hard to create disciple-making systems. Our church is no different! Because we (your pastor included!) take discipleship so seriously as a means by which we fulfill our mission of transforming the world, we’re going to spend the WHOLE summer exploring the pathway to being a disciple so we can both deepen our own commitment to following Christ *and* learn how to disciple others more effectively. Using resources from the UM Worship Team at *Discipleship Ministries*, we will accomplish this by embarking on a summer worship series called “**The Path of the Disciple**” which is made up of four sub-series who together are designed to help us consider the reason for being a disciple and why the apostolic mission is so vital to bringing forth change in our world. For eleven weeks, starting June 25th and concluding September 10 (with a one-week interlude July 9 for a special worship with our Covenant Missionary,



Children's Ministry

It has been a fun and hot month for the children! We had a lot of fun passing out flowers for all the mothers of our church.

We have some exciting stuff planned coming up for Father’s Day that we can’t wait to share.

Vacation Bible School is fast approaching this summer. Keep an eye out for more information that will be announced, there are a few changes that are being made. If you would like to volunteer please come by my office or send me an email so we can get you all signed up.

If you are wanting to help out with Children's Ministry be sure to come find me in my office after church for more information.

Samantha Wallace

Email:

Samantha.marie00@outlook.com



Pastor Alissa will be out of office June 12th through the 16th. If you have any questions please call the church office at (509)924-7262.



Please RSVP by June 1st
To Shelly Walters 503.508.8619
Swalters7948@comcast.net
(let me know if you have any questions)
No presents please – bring a card!



Spokane Valley
CONNECT
2023

Once again our church was happy to be a sponsor of the Spokane Valley Connect. It took place on May 18th at Opportunity Presbyterian Church. Sixty-nine vendors showed up to help the community. Which consisted of support groups, medical staff, free clothing, free food products, and free haircuts.

This was the biggest event so far we saw 389 people and served 250 lunches. We all are already looking forward to a bigger and better event next year.



Katherine Parker), we will reflect on the joys and the struggles of following Jesus as we live out our faith in the world. Through it all, we will join together to worship God week by week, confessing and renewing and recommitting ourselves to being disciples of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ, while also taking up the commission to Invite others to join us.

After celebrating Trinity Sunday, Graduation Sunday, and United Women in Faith Sunday, we will begin with a two-part worship series called **“The Weight of the Call”** on June 25th.

In the Gospel accounts, Jesus said “follow me” more often than he said, “believe in me,” and through the witness of the Biblical narrative, we can be confident that there is a call to follow laid upon anyone and everyone who seeks to draw closer to God through Christ. Jesus never undersold this call - he never tried to convince us that following was an easy or a simple thing. Effort and sacrifice will be demanded of us as will the acknowledgment that struggle and lifelong commitment are needed. Thus, we begin our summer worship contemplation with consideration of the weight of the call. What is being asked of us, we who seek to be disciples of Jesus Christ?

To answer that question, we will return to the start of our ancient cycle of calling: when God called Abraham and Sarah to be the genesis of a new nation. Through their story, we will be reminded that the call to follow is often accompanied by the call to leave our old life behind and embrace a new way of living that invites us to be a part of the transformative work of God. As we start our journey on the path of discipleship, we will see that while it begins with following a call, it quickly involves living as witnesses to the one who does the calling!

I hope you’ll join us on our summer adventure along the path of discipleship and claim your own calling to follow Jesus Christ!



Peace-
Pastor Alissa

Worship Overview for June

June 4 - Trinity Sunday - “Go Therefore”

Pastor Alissa preaching on Matthew 28:16-20 & Psalm 8
Communion

June 11 - Graduation Sunday - “The Plans I Have For You”

Pastor Alissa preaching on Jeremiah 29:4-14
Hymnsing and Graduate Blessing

June 18 - Father’s Day & UWF Sunday

Rev. Katy Shedlock preaching on Mark 5:21-43

June 25 - The Path of the Disciple: The Weight of the Call - “Trusting the Unknown”

Pastor Alissa preaching on Genesis 12:1-9



**“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**

Update

Mission Community Outreach Center Toiletry Drive.

We now have a final count on the amount of toiletries we were able to sent to MCOC. Thanks to the generosity of both items and cash we gave them 1,000 items!



**The Connect Desk
will be on vacation in June**

Coming in July

**Katherine Parker, Missionary in Nepal will be
At Spokane Valley United Methodist Church
Leading worship on July 9 at 9 am**



Besides Katherine preaching on July 9 the Mission Team will also be holding a **cinnamon roll sale** to raise money for a project in Nepal called EVE—Ending Violence for Equality. You will not want to miss this Sunday—hearing from Katherine about her work in Nepal and having a delicious cinnamon roll!

Mission Community Outreach Center 13th Annual “School Shoes for Kids”

July 3, 10, 17 and 23 at the Connect Desk

We will be collecting kids NEW tennis shoes, sizes 1-3 and children’s socks
This event held every year helps families prepare for back to school by providing children ages K-8th grade with a new pair of shoes and socks.



**United
Women
in Faith**

United Women in Faith 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.

All interested people are invited to United Women in Faith Inland Missional District “Voices From the Field”

At
Spokane Valley United Methodist Church,



A workshop facilitated by
Katherine Parker, Missionary in Nepal
Saturday, July 8, 2023
10 am to 3 pm
(Registration begins at 9:30 am at the door)

Cost: \$5 donation for lunch at the door

This workshop will be “A Time of Reflection” around these questions:

Is God calling us to a fullness of life for all in a transformed society?
What does it mean to work together for a common vision?
What does it mean to work in partnership with those who do not come from this place of common vision?
What does it mean to be inclusive?
How can we be inclusive in living out our common vision?
How do we build respectful and meaningful partnerships with people in secular society while being grounded in scripture and holding on to our own identity as Christians engaged in poverty alleviation and social justice?



Registration due by July 1, 2023

E-mail: Maddyb47@msn.com

Phone: 509-869-8213

Information needed: Name, Phone Number, Any food restrictions?

A Free Will Offering Will Be Taken