

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

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

Return Service Requested

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

Tranessa Davie: Church Secretary

Ed Poblete: Custodian

Desiree Forster: Christian Education

Kyra Straub: Youth Ministry

Jessica Lunceford: Nursery

Kelsey Martin: 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.*



**Spokane Valley United
Methodist Women
Takeout**

Annual Harvest Dinner

November 7th (Saturday) from
2-5 pm.

Reservation Required
Details inside

CONNECTIONS

November 2020



**Spokane Valley United
Methodist Church Council will
meet via zoom Monday evening
November 16th at 6:00 PM.**



**District Superintendent Gregg
Sealey has set the Charge
Conference for Spokane Valley
United Methodist Church to be
Sunday, November 22nd at
1:00 PM, via zoom.**

From Our Pastor, Mike Graef

Dear Valley Methodist friends,

It gives me great pleasure and pride to dedicate this month's pastor column to honoring one of the best church staff colleagues I've ever worked with. Kyra Straub you will be missed on our staff. We all look forward to the next chapter of your ministry and service as a volunteer. The entire congregation of Spokane Valley United Methodist Church, and this pastor, love you and honor you – as do the lives of hundreds of God's kids who've been blessed by your ministry! -- Mike G

Kyra retires this Saturday, October 31 -- after 19 years as SVUMC's Coordinator of Youth Ministries. This on top of 20 years prior to staff as a volunteer in our youth and children's programs. It is our privilege to honor, thank, and bless her this week!

39 years! of joyful, loving and faithful service – as Jesus blessed and guided the lives of hundreds of God's kids through our church, through her and her team – Craig Partridge absolutely, but Kyra especially. Kyra has also offered her musical talents and great singing voice to our worship team, been a key part of our Auction Team, Ministry Revitalization, Vacation Bible Schools, trained acolytes, taught Confirmation, and countless other programs.

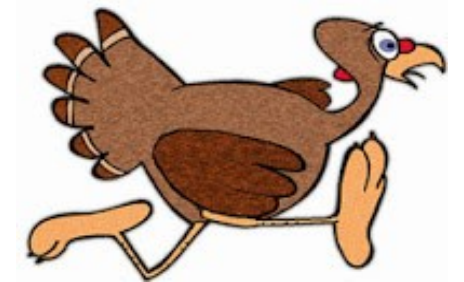
What can we say except “thank you!” Echoing the voice of the Eternal God who says, “well done good and faithful servant.”



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.

Spokane Valley United Methodist Women Takeout Annual Harvest Dinner

November 7th (Saturday) from 2-5 pm.



Adults - \$12
Children (6 – 12 years) - \$6

Turkey and Dressing
Mashed Potatoes and Gravy
Green Beans
Cranberries
Pumpkin Dessert

To make your takeout dinner order call Madelyn at 869-8213
Or email her at maddyb47@msn.com
Sunday November 1st through Friday November 6th between 9 am and 1 pm.

If you want more information about the Harvest Dinner, refer to your October Connections Newsletter or call Madelyn at 869-8213.

**Thank you for supporting the Harvest Dinner
All monies raised go to our pledge to mission.**



"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



"Coffee Chat Drive Thru Drive" benefiting Broadway Elementary School Update!
At total of **\$2,500** has been sent to Broadway Elementary School. WOW!!
Thank you to all who supported this event.

**Broadway Elementary School Teachers Luncheon During the Pandemic!
November 19th (Thursday)**

Call Madelyn at 869-8213, if you would like to help with this luncheon by providing soup, salad or cookies. Don't miss this opportunity to be in service to our neighbors.

**Mission and Service Drive Thru Drive "Coffee Chat" Cinnamon Roll Sale
Supporting Children at Risk in Honduras Update!**

A **\$1,000** was raised for "Children at Risk".

Thank you all for supporting Mission and Service 6th and final drive thru drive for this year.
Mission and Service will be making plans for 2021 at their January meeting.



**Blessed to be a Blessing
Our Annual Christmas Giving Event**
Last year this event benefited Naomi, Family Promise and
Mission Community Outreach Center

This year will be a little different

The annual Christmas Letter from the church will benefit
Naomi and Family Promise.



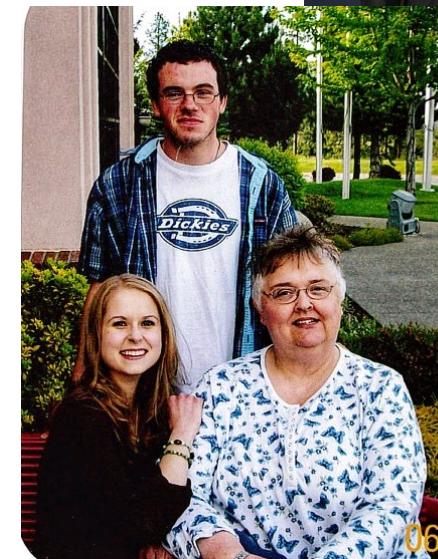
**Blessed to be a Blessing will benefit
Mission Community Outreach Center "Children's Christmas Joy"**

We will only be collecting New Jeans and Tops for Boys and Girls
(sizes 10, 12 and 14)

Bring you unwrapped gifts to the church office between 9 am and 3 pm
November 16—20 (M-F), November 23—25 (M-W) or on November 30 (M)

**During this Pandemic Mission & Service has seen
such an amazing time of support and generosity to our neighbors.
Thank you Church!**

From Our Pastor, Mike Graef Continued



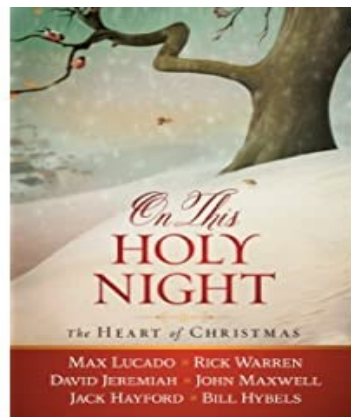
UPCOMING ADVENT BIBLE STUDY

An on site five week Advent Bible Study beginning Tuesday, November 23, from 10:00 am until 11:15 am is being offered. It will be held in Room 115, which as met all CDC standards including the wearing of masks, 6 foot distancing and limited class size..

The study will be from the book, **THIS HOLY NIGHT**, exploring the heart of Christmas. Each chapter is by a different Christian author including Max Lucado, John Maxwell, Rick Warren, etc.

I will be leading the study. If interested or have any questions please contact me at 924-2830. Cost is \$6.00 for the book. This study was used by two of the small groups last year and well received. . .

Shirley Porter, Lay Leader SVUMC



Spokane Valley United Methodist Church Council will meet via zoom Monday evening November 16th at 6:00 PM. The meeting will be chaired by our Lay Leader Shirley Porter. Primary business of the meeting will be to receive, reflect, and vote upon the Finance Team's motion to set the 2021 budget. Council members please attend via zoom, congregation members are most welcome to zoom in as well. Zoom instructions will be forthcoming.

District Superintendent Gregg Sealey has set the Charge Conference for Spokane Valley United Methodist Church to be Sunday, November 22nd at 1:00 PM, via zoom. Church Council members only please. The meeting's business will be – among other things – to elect church leaders for 2021, set the pastor's salary, and receive the 2019 financial audit.



Christian Education

CHILDREN MINISTRY

We have an exciting opportunity to partner with Moran Prairie United Methodist Church until we hire our Sunday School Teacher.

HOW??

Moran Prairie Sunday School Teachers make a video every week of the Sunday School Lesson and craft project and place on their website and YouTube channel.

Every 2 weeks, I would put together a bag containing the craft supplies that are needed for the upcoming weeks and get them to you in advance. Then you would access the Moran Prairie website or YouTube Channel and watch the weekly lesson and complete the craft project.

All I need to get this started, is to hear from all the parents of our Sunday School children, that you want to join in this partnership. Please email your willingness to participate by November 16th at: christianeducation@spokanevalleychurch.org

In the meantime, I will continue to email the weekly Sunday School lessons.

Our Sunday School Teacher position is posted on Indeed.com, Gonzaga and Whitworth job boards and our SVUMC website.

YOUTH MINISTRY

We have a similar opportunity for you!!

In partnership with Manito, Cheney, Audubon Park, Moran Prairie and Highland Park United Methodist Churches, we are offering a monthly Youth Sunday School virtual event via zoom! By combining our youth groups, we have a wonderful opportunity to be part of a larger group of youth that want to continue to grow in their faith, share new thoughts and ideas, develop new connections and make new friends.

HOW?

Each participating church will take turns creating, hosting and facilitating the zoom event which will occur the last Sunday of every month from 2:00-3:00 pm. Youth just need to join the zoom event.

We have our first event scheduled for November 29th at 2:00, hosted by Katy Shedlock, Creators table and Audubon Park UMC Pastor and Alissa Bertsch, Cheney UMC Pastor.

To confirm that our church will participate, I need to hear from all our Youth Sunday School parents, that you want to join in this exciting and new partnership. Please email me your confirmation by November 16th at: christianeducation@spokanevalleychurch.org

I am very excited for both of these collaborative ideas and hopeful all of you will be willing to give these opportunities a try!!

When God gives you a new beginning, it starts with an ending. Be thankful for closed doors. They often guide us to the right one