

Return Service Requested



## connections

november 2024

SPokane VALLEY  
UNITED METHODIST  
CHURCH  
115 NORTH RAYMOND RD  
SPokane VALLEY, WA  
99206

**Sundays**  
**Traditional Service 9 am**  
**Sunday School & Nursery**  
**9am**

**Pastor**  
Rev. Alissa Amestoy  
**Piano & Organist**  
Betsy Pletscher  
**Director of Music**  
Luke Henderson  
**Director of Hospitality**  
Margie Manfred  
**Technical Ministry Co-  
Coordinators**  
Lexi Shay & Logan Tiedt  
**Children's Ministries**  
Samantha Wallace  
**Nursery Care**  
Cassandra Strickland  
**Sunday School Teacher**  
Jackie Florian  
**Church Secretary**  
Mackenzie Draper  
**Lay Leader**  
Zack Reiber



Check out  
our website!



Scan our new QR  
code for easy  
online giving!

Church Office: 509-924-7262  
Office Hours:  
Mon-Thurs  
8 am - 11:30 am  
Friday  
8 am - 2 pm

Church website: [www.spokanevalleychurch.org](http://www.spokanevalleychurch.org)  
Church email: [secretary@spokanevalleychurch.org](mailto: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.*

### **Generous: A Four-Week Stewardship Series on Growing in Grace and Generosity** **November 3 to Celebration Sunday, November 24, 2024**

Many of us were taught as children that it is important to share with others, but did you know that, increasingly, studies of the human brain are showing that we are actually "hardwired" to thrive through actions of generosity? There is an increasing amount of research that shows that being generous is good not only for those who receive, but for those who

give! Yes, a growing number of the world's leading universities and medical centers are discovering, through the study of brain science and other fields, that being generous is good for both individuals and for society.



At the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Femida Handy teaches a course called, "The Science of Generosity: Do Good...Feel Good!" based on the most current research. Research has found that individuals that practice generosity, whether through financial gifts, volunteer service, or advocacy, regularly have measurable positive outcomes in terms of health, stress reduction, and improved relationships.

A lot of people are suffering in this world because of money - either they (Cont. on pg 2)



(Cont. from pg 1) don't have enough, or they work hard for their money and are exhausted, or they are worried about holding on to what they have. In this worship series, we'll be rethinking our relationship to money and especially how to find contentment with what we have and how we can be a conduit for God's generosity using the resources we have been blessed with. We get lots of messages about what is important, what the "good life" is, and everything we need to do – and have – to achieve it. Still, so many of us remain unsatisfied, chasing after the next thing in search of fulfilment. But there is good news for us! God desires for us to have lives of contentment, freedom from worry, and joy in abundance. And Jesus shows us the way there. As we learn how to find our contentment in God, we will also discover the beauty in giving. Our lives will be evidence that the good life is the generous life – a life through which the grace of God flows into the world.

As we enter the traditional season of stewardship in the month of November, we will be studying how God has created us to be generous. Through a four-week series from November 3 to November 24, we are going to focus on ways of being generous through worship and an optional daily devotional. This series is designed to help individuals and families reflect on God's generosity and then in turn understand that we are in fact woven together as human beings, created in the image of this generous God for community with one another. It is no wonder that when we are generous, our very health, relationships and well-being increases and our communities and God's world benefit. If you can think of anyone who might benefit from the side effects of generosity, consider inviting them to this series!

In the coming days, you will either receive in the mail, or have the opportunity to pick up from the church, our annual Stewardship Letter and 2025 Pledge Form along with resources to help guide you in prayerful discernment of how best for you and/or your family to reflect the generosity of God back to the world.

Plan now to join us weekly for this grace-filled worship series that will involve our entire congregation. Mark your calendars as we're planning a special Celebration Sunday during worship on November 24 where you'll have the opportunity to offer your 2025 Pledge Forms and have them consecrated for our coming year of mission and ministry.

Our goal for this season of stewardship is that each of us and our entire church family will grow deeper in relationship to God and in gratitude, and then take steps to grow in being generous. We are literally made to give in relationship with God, each other, and God's world!

# NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS


- |       |                  |       |               |
|-------|------------------|-------|---------------|
| 11/01 | John Kirkland    | 11/24 | Don Fox       |
| 11/04 | Bob Prow         | 11/25 | Art Headley   |
| 11/05 | Tim Henderson    |       | Bessie Mott   |
| 11/08 | Caryl Kaelin     |       | Clark Shay    |
| 11/10 | Margaret Chesley | 11/29 | Bonnie Powell |
| 11/18 | Barbara Schuller |       |               |

# NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARY

- |       |                          |
|-------|--------------------------|
| 11/07 | Theresa & Brandon Meckel |
|       | Chris & Chandra Reiber   |
| 11/21 | Art & Roberta Headley    |



# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ready to help elementary-aged children deck the halls and make merry? Sign up to bring cookies to decorate at Broadway Elementary School on December 6th! You can drop cookies off at the Connect Desk Sunday November 10th, 17th, and 24th. Questions? See Madelyn Bafus at the Connect Desk.

**NOVEMBER'S SPRC MEETING WILL BE HELD IN THE FIREPLACE ROOM**

**11/5/24  
10:00 AM**




## November Worship Preview **Generous: The Beauty in Giving Stewardship Series**

### **November Worship Preview Generous: The Beauty in Giving - Stewardship Series**

**November 3** – *Generous: Living With Abundance* - Matthew 6:24-34  
What we focus on gets magnified. We are invited to seek the kingdom of God and experience a growing trust and freedom from worry.

Pastor Alissa preaching and The Great Thanksgiving

**\*\*\*Daylight Savings Times Ends - Don't forget to "fall back"!!\*\*\***

**November 10** – *Generous: Finding Our Contentment in God* – 1 Timothy 6:6-12  
When we find our contentment in God, we are freed for a changed perspective on money – no longer all-important for our happiness, but rather a tool to be used in our lives.

Pastor Alissa preaching

**November 17** – *Generous: The Flow of Grace* – Ephesians 3:5-12  
Just as God's grace flows from Christ to the church, we are called to be conduits of grace to bless the world.

Pastor Alissa preaching and *Ministry that Matter Moment: Naomi Community*

**November 24 Celebration Service** – *Generous: Abundance in Community* – John 6:1-14  
Though we may, at times, face scarcity, Jesus receives what we offer, blesses it and provides for us and through us.

Pastor Alissa preaching and consecration of our 2025 Pledge Forms

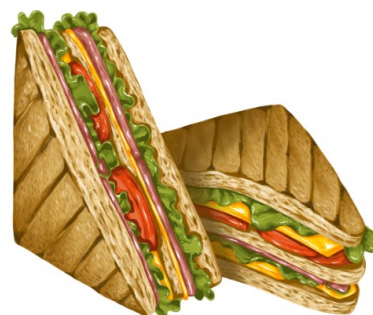
**DON'T FORGET TO FALL BACK.**

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS IS JUST AROUND THE CORNER. CHECK YOUR CLOCKS SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3.



## 2024 Charge Conference December 2

Save the Date! Please join us after Coffee Chat at 11am in the Fellowship Center for our 2024 Charge Conference Meeting. Church Council members required to attend but open to all!

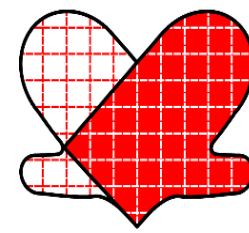


There is no 55+ Luncheon occurring in November due to the Thanksgiving holiday. The next 55+ Luncheon will happen on Thursday, December 5th, in the Fellowship Hall. Project Joy will be coming to play Christmas music and hot turkey sandwiches will be served. See you there!



# 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.*



# Helping Hands

serving one another in love

GALATIANS 5:13

*"Do all the good you can,  
By all the means 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*

SVUMC United Women in Faith invites all women of the church and their guests to...

## The Annual Christmas Celebration



We'll hear a timely message about mental health and wellness during the holidays with our very own Sue Macgrath, spiritual director, licensed mental health counselor, and prolific author.

RSVP at the Connect Desk and join us for a salad potluck, an autumnal dessert, holiday music, and fellowship!

Saturday, December 7th | 11:30 am - 1:00 pm | Fellowship Hall



### UWF BOOK CLUB

Spokane Valley United Women in Faith invites ALL (men, women, church members and not) to join us for our first Book Club meeting of the year. We will be discussing Michelle Obama's "The Light We Carry: Overcoming in Uncertain Times"

Copies of the book may be found in the UWF library in 201 or at the public library (see also one of Spokane Valley's fabulous independent booksellers for a copy, too!)

## Thank you Cinnamon Roll Sale!

Join us on Sunday, November 24th after the service for the final cinnamon roll sale of the year. We will be raising funds to support Missionary Joy Prim and her work with the migrant domestic worker community in Hong Kong.




### Join us in ensuring "Children's Christmas Joy" this year!



Mission Community Outreach Center needs your help! For Christmas, we are collecting NEW children's jeans and tops (sizes 10-12) for local kids in need. Bring clothes in to the Connect Desk November 10, 17, 24, and December 1.

### Broadway Teacher's Luncheon

Join us on Thursday, November 11th to show appreciation and support for the staff, faculty, and teachers at Broadway Elementary School! You can sign up at the Connect Desk Sunday, November 3 through Sunday, November 10 to volunteer to bring soups, salads, and cookies and to clean up afterward. See Madelyn at the Connect Desk for questions!



### Mark your calendar for the Harvest Dinner!

Pre-order from Sunday, October 27 - Friday, November 1 with Madelyn Bafus via phone (509-869-8213) between 9:00 am - 1:00 pm.

For takeout meals, have check or cash ready in a sealed envelope with your name. Takeout pick up will be at the back of the church by the double gym doors.

For dine-in, we will collect your money at the door. Saturday, November 2 is when the dinner will take place; dine-in 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm takeout 4:30-5:30 pm.

