

September 2024 Newsletter

Gresham United
Methodist
Church



From the Pastor's Desk...



Mother Teresa's *Anyway* Poem

People are often unreasonable, illogical and self centered;
Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true enemies;
Succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;
Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;
Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;
Do good anyway.

Give the world the best you have, and it may never be enough;
Give the world the best you've got anyway.

You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and your God;
It was never between you and them anyway.

Church Group Photo Ops!

Sunday, Sept. 1, and Sunday, Sept. 8, our church content creator, Brit, will be taking candid photos of the services and of our various church groups after the Sunday services. **Please remain in the sanctuary for your group photos.**

If you are a group leader or coordinator, please check below for the assigned date for your group to be photographed after the church service that Sunday.

September 1st

SPRC
Trustees
Prayer Team
Caregivers Support
Church Council
Finance/Treasurer
Race and Equity
United Women In Faith
Missions
Media Team
Solve-It Saturday
Affirmation & Equality
Lay Leader
Worship Team
Sharing Our Services
Groundskeepers

September 8th

Bell Choir
Gresham Choir
Brews and Bible
Ministerial Support
Knit One, Crochet Too
ReTell Book Club
SnowCap Volunteers
Office Staff
Benevolence
Women's Shelter
Kids Connection
Let's Do Lunch
Liturgists
Altar Guild

We're updating the directory!

After service on Sunday, Oct. 6, Brit will be taking photos for the directory. Please attend and wear your Sunday best. We ask that you meet Brit in the sanctuary after service when you're ready to have your photo taken.

De-escalation with Love Training

Bishop Laurie Larson Caesar of the ELCA's Oregon Synod is inviting Oregon-Idaho United Methodists to join their Lutheran siblings for a de-escalation seminar focusing on church safety.

September 4, 6:30-8:00 pm on Zoom.

Email the office for the Zoom link.



THE TIME OF SINGING (AND BELL-RINGING) HAS COME!

Fall is right around the corner and that means time for GUMC's music ensembles to begin their weekly rehearsals!

The Chancel Choir's season begins with a fall kick-off potluck picnic at Lynn Perry's on Wednesday, September 4th. Please bring a dish to share. Regular rehearsals will resume the following Wednesday from 6:45-8:15 pm. The choir also practices Sunday mornings at 9:15 in preparation for the worship service.

The GUMC Bell Choir will begin their rehearsals on Sunday, September 8th at 11:00 am. The bell choir plays for worship every few weeks.

Please make every effort to attend on September 8th. We will be having pictures taken by Brit Allen. Chancel choir will be wearing robes (hopefully the weather will be cool!) and Bell Choir does not need to wear anything special.

Both choirs are open to ANYONE age 10-110! The ability to read music is not necessary – just a willingness to praise the Lord with music and have some great fun and fellowship while doing it!

If you play a musical instrument or know someone that does and is willing to enhance our music program, please let us know.

Please contact Solveig at solveig@greshamumc.com for further information.



If you would like someone to pray with you, or pray about a situation, but don't want to put it on the prayer chain, please contact Tina Heal or Terrie Ham. They meet together every week to pray for the needs of the church and for many other concerns.

Please contact the church office to be connected with Terrie Ham, Tina Heal or Sandy Brooks.

Church Office: 503-665-1192 or prayers@greshamumc.com

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR LAY LEADER

Terrie Ham

THOUGHTS FROM YOUR LAY LEADER – SEPTEMBER 2024

“Let your speech always be with grace, as though seasoned with salt, so that you will know how you should respond to each person.” Colossians 4:6

In our current culture there are many times we encounter people who are upset, angry and difficult to communicate with. Many people seem to be very quick to react negatively to minor situations. My grandma would say, “they’re on their last nerve.” It could be a flare-up over a parking spot or even Uncle Joe getting riled up over a political candidate or issue. Occasionally people with a grudge or agenda find their way into a church with the intention of disrupting the service. All these scenarios are upsetting and can be scary. What do you say in the face of such an angry person?

We need all the help we can get to find the answer to this dilemma.

The Oregon-Idaho Conference of the United Methodist Church is offering a free opportunity to learn some new communication skills and de-escalation techniques. This seminar is targeted at church security, but the communication skills taught will be helpful in difficult situations where we may find ourselves with an agitated person.

The emphasis will be on safety and compassion.

The seminar will be presented by Mikaila Maher, a licensed clinical social worker at Providence and a specialist in de-escalation training.

The seminar will be on Wednesday, September 4, from 6:30-8 pm via Zoom.

Please contact the church office for the Zoom link.

Hope and Peace,

Terrie



UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH - WOMEN'S NEWS FOR SEPTEMBER - 2024

**September is HUNGER AWARENESS MONTH... so
United Women in Faith is challenging Gresham UMC to
FOCUS ON FOOD! with 2 food projects:**

1. PROVIDE A MEAL FOR THE WOMEN'S SHELTER- September 10th. There is a sign-up sheet on the Welcome Center for the side dishes and items we need to provide the evening meal for 80 women at the shelter.

Even if you do not attend UWIF meetings, you can help us with providing this meal. Bring your item to the church 5:15 - 5:30 September 10th in a nonreturnable dish. We will take it to the shelter for you. United Women in Faith will be providing fried chicken for the meal.

**2. ALL CHURCH FOOD COLLECTION FOR SNOWCAP'S PANTRY-
September 1st to October 6th**

During September and October we are asking everyone at Gresham UMC to donate food items for SnowCap. Currently SnowCap is serving about 12,500 clients a month with food sacks/boxes that provide families with supplements to keep nutritious food on their tables! It takes a LOT of food to keep up with this demand! So let's help our neighbors by helping to stock the pantry shelves at SnowCap!

Bring 1-2-3-4- items a week to the worship service and help fill the SnowCap barrel that will be in our Narthex. Think about our project when you go to the grocery store every week and add a few extra items to your grocery cart. Items can be canned, boxed (like cereals) or in plastic jars (like peanut butter). If you can't shop...or don't want to shop every week, you can make a donation and SnowCap will do the shopping for you! Make your check payable to **SnowCap Community Charities**, and we will see that it gets to SnowCap for pantry items.

After taking a summer break, most of GUMC's regular activities are beginning again.



- SEPTEMBER 9** **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH** meets at 1:30 to **Focus on Food! September is Hunger Awareness Month!** Women are asked to **bring items for the Snow Cap barrels Narthex.** A speaker from SnowCap will bring us up-to-date on the needs of their clients.
- SEPTEMBER 10** **UWIF PROVIDES EVENING MEAL FOR WOMEN'S SHELTER!** See details in article 1 above. (Kathy Kari will be on a well-deserved vacation. We are filling in for her while she spends time in Japan!)
- SEPTEMBER 15** **RETELL Book GROUP** meets at 10:00 to discuss "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn" by Mark Twain. For October the book to read is: "Remarkably Bright Creatures" by Shelby Van Pelt
- SEPTEMBER 28** **COLUMBIA DISTRICT ANNUAL MEETING - First UM Church downtown.** The program focuses on our LGBTQ+ community here In Portland. If interested in attending, contact Sue Andersen at 503-341-8697 or sueandsen@aol.com

PLANNING AHEAD TO THE END OF THE YEAR

- OCTOBER 14** **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH** General Meeting - 1:30.
Oct. 16 is World food Day; Women are asked to bring Healthy Snacks for Trunk of Treat (individual-packaged crackers & cheese or peanut butter, vacuum-packed fruits, peanut packages, etc.
- OCTOBER 19** **OREGON/IDAHO UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH ANNUAL MEETING - ALBANY, OREGON**
- NOVEMBER 11** **UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH** General Meeting - **12:00**
Bring Thank Offerings to the meeting. There will be a sandwich lunch with a pumpkin dessert. A free-will THANK Offering will be taken for the lunch. Thank Offering jars will be available `for those who do not have one!



DECEMBER 9

UNITED WOMEN IN FAITH General Meeting - SANTA'S

WORKSHOP - 1:30 stuffing stockings for shelters and shut-ins.

The Mission Committee will supply all the items necessary for this Christmas project.

GRESHAM WOMEN ARE THANKFUL WOMEN

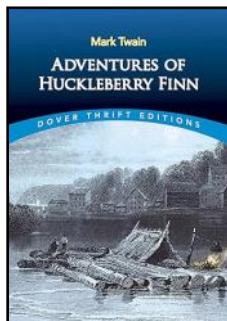
When I was a child my mother read a little book to me...MANY TIMES. It went something like this: A little girl was sitting at the kitchen table. Her mother just brought her a nice brown roll.

Jane looked at the roll before her and said: "Thank you, mother, for this nice brown roll." Mother said, "Don't thank me, Jane. Thank the baker at the grocery store". So Jane went to the the grocery store and said, "Thank you, Mr. Baker, for my nice brown roll." Mr. Baker replied. "Don't thank me, Jane. Thank the delivery man who brought me the flour to make the dough." So Jane went to the delivery man, and she said, "Thank you, delivery man, for my nice brown roll." But the Delivery Man said, "Don't thank me. Thank the miller who ground the wheat to make the flour that I took to the baker." So Jane went to the miller and said, "Thank you, Mr. miller, for my nice brown roll". But the miller said to her, "Don't thank me. Thank the farmer who planted the wheat that I ground to make the flour." So Jane went to the farmer and said, "Thank you, Mr. Farmer for my nice brown roll." But Mr. Farmer replied, "Don't thank me, Jane. I just put the wheat seeds in the ground and harvest the grain when it's ripe. Thank God for the sun and rain that caused the wheat seeds to grow and ripen." So Jane went back home and prayed, "THANK YOU, GOD, FOR MY NICE BROWN ROLL!"

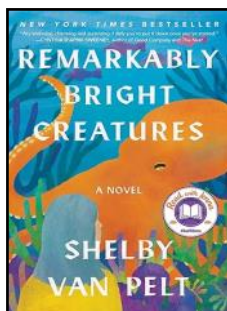
Thank you, Jane, for helping us remember where all our "nice brown rolls" really come from and all the people it takes to get them to our table!

**"FEED" YOUR THANK OFFERING JAR TODAY FOR OUR ABUNDANCE OF FOOD
and all the PEOPLE who makes it possible to get it to our table!**

ReTell Book Club



September: *Huckleberry Finn* by Mark Twain.
Continued from July... Hilariously picaresque, epic in scope, alive with the poetry and vigor of the American people, Mark Twain's story about a young boy and his journey down the Mississippi was the first great novel to speak in a truly American voice.



October: *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt
After Tova Sullivan's husband died, she began working the night shift at the Sowell Bay Aquarium, mopping floors and tidying up. Keeping busy has always helped her cope, which she's been doing since her eighteen-year-old son, Erik, mysteriously vanished on a boat in Puget Sound over thirty years ago.

The ReTell Book Club meets the 3rd Monday of every month at 10 am in Room 107.

- Sue Andersen

Food, Fun & Fellowship

Join us for Fellowship and hospitality after each Sunday service. Light snacks and refreshments are available to enjoy.

We are in need of volunteers to provide snacks and help with Sunday hospitality. Please contact Kathy Kari directly to sign up.



Join us for Fun and Fellowship
Faith Based Fitness Class
Monday and Thursday
9:30 to 10:30 am
Gresham United Methodist Church

A complete workout for body, mind and spirit
All fitness levels are welcome!

Questions? phone 503-665-1192
Or email office@greshamumc.com



Wellness Education Ministry



Volunteer at the SnowCap Clothing Closet

1st and 3rd Thursdays at 2 pm

We will be sorting clothing and re-stocking the clothing racks.

Contact Linda Bridges at lindajbridges@comcast.net for more info.

The Clothing Closet is located in Gresham Station at:
1271 NW Civic Dr, Gresham, OR 97030.
On the Southwest Corner of Civic Drive and NW 13th Street

THESSALONIANS

WAITING FOR THE RETURN OF JESUS

STUDY PAUL'S LETTERS TO THE THESSALONIAN CHURCH

During the early period of the Christian movement, Paul wrote letters to several communities who became established churches. Two letters to the church of Thessalonica have survived. These two letters reveal much about the early church; how they endured persecution, developed fellowship, and found faith in a gracious God.

There will be seven weekly sessions beginning September 10th at 4 pm. to consider the primary concerns of the two letters. Join in a refresher course in how to approach ancient texts in order to interpret how they can help us follow Jesus in the twenty-first century. For more information, contact the church office, or Robert Potter at robpot9@msn.com.

Knit One, Crochet Too

First Monday of Each Month
in the Fireside Room at 10:30

An illustration of a sandwich and a bowl of salad, framed by a green arch with a leaf.

Let's Do Lunch

Noon on Thursday,
September 19th
at Applebee's in Gresham

Brews and Bible



Second and Fourth Thursdays, at 6 pm
Black Bear Diner
on Burnside in Gresham

SOLVE-IT-SATURDAY
MEN'S MONTHLY BREAKFAST
FIRST SATURDAY EVERY MONTH



Birthdays & Anniversaries in September

Anniversaries

Larry Crawford/Loretta Woodrum
Carli and Bernadette VanDenHouten
Matthew & Christiana Harrison

Justin & Kadie Ross
Kay & Mark Grimsted

Birthdays

| | | | |
|----------------|--------------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Laura Kline | Cindy Wade | Joanne Stewart | William Benoit |
| Claire Horton | Jada Strathern | Cecil Miller | Kristin White |
| Alex Epp | Jeffrey Campbell | Evan White | Susan Daron |
| Wendy Hull | Korbin Bullock | Laurel Grimsted | Dave Jacobsen |
| Suzanne Symons | Kaylee Aalbers | Andrew White | Brenda Wilson |
| Ron Gustafson | Carli VanDenHouten | | |

United Women In Faith Women's Shelter Potluck!



Bring your side
dishes to the
church between
5:15 and 5:30 pm
on September 10th

Please sign up outside the sanctuary.

Grief Support



Contact Terrie Ham or Sandy Brooks
if you need to talk.

Caregiver Support Group

4th Mondays

@ 1 pm Room 107

*This group is for past,
present & future caregivers.*

Contact Amy Paynter or
Terrie Ham with questions



Kids Connection

The Second Sunday
of Every Month

Please contact
Sue DeFranco or Terrie
Ham via the Office,
503-665-1192 or
office@greshamumc.com

